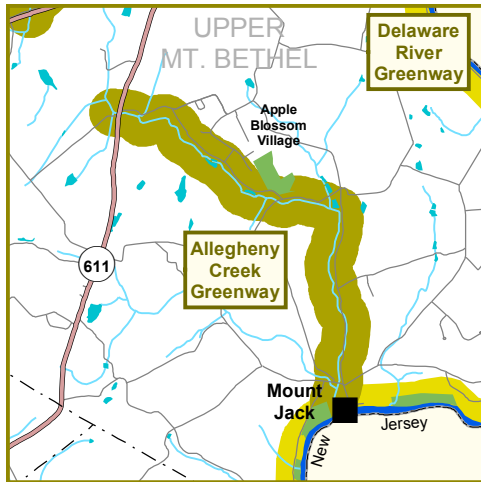


## Allegheny Creek Greenway

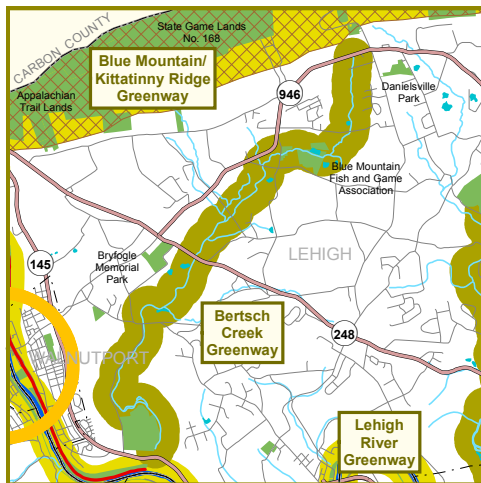


**Type:** conservation greenway  
**Length:** 4 miles

Allegheny Creek is located entirely within Upper Mt. Bethel Township, Northampton County. This conservation greenway begins near the creek's headwaters southwest of the intersection of PA routes 611 and 512 and ends at the Village of Hartzells Ferry where the Allegheny Creek enters the Delaware River. Much of the stream valley is wooded with adjacent lands primarily in agriculture with a scattering of rural residential development.

The greenway contains one identified natural area; the report *A Natural Areas Inventory of Lehigh and Northampton Counties, Pennsylvania* lists the Mount Jack Limestone Outcrop as one of the most important natural areas in Northampton County. The site is located on the bluff overlooking the Delaware River and is part of Northampton County's Mt. Jack property. Mount Jack currently serves as open space and is not used for recreation. This tract and the surrounding area have potential for a riverfront park in an area where public access to the Delaware River is limited. The only other recreation facility near the greenway is Apple Blossom Village, a privately owned, open to the public, sports and recreation complex that includes miniature golf, a golf driving range and batting cages.

## Bertsch Creek Greenway



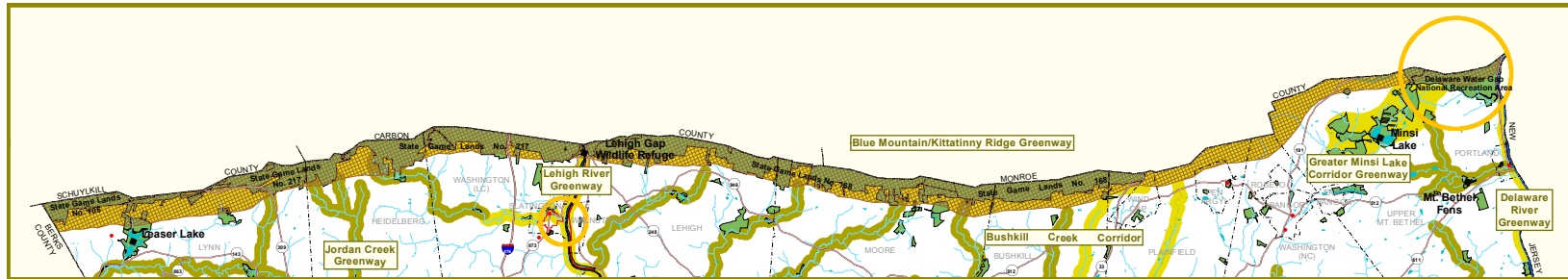
**Type:** conservation greenway  
**Length:** 6 miles

Bertsch Creek is located entirely within Lehigh Township, Northampton County. This conservation greenway extends from the Lehigh River northeast to the base of the Blue Mountain. Most of the stream valley is wooded with the adjoining landscape in agriculture or rural residential development.

The greenway contains one identified natural area; the Bertsch Creek Seep is a seep fed tributary to the creek that supports a population of rare plant species. The greenway's primary function is to establish a conservation corridor between the Lehigh River and the extensive woodlands found along the Kittatinny Ridge, one of two sites in the region considered to have special significance because of its biological diversity.

Recreational opportunities along the Bertsch Creek Greenway include access to the Lehigh Canal Park trail which continues north into the Borough of Walnutport and the Blue Mountain Fish and Game Association lands which provide hunting opportunities when permitted by landowner.

## Blue Mountain/Kittatinny Ridge Greenway



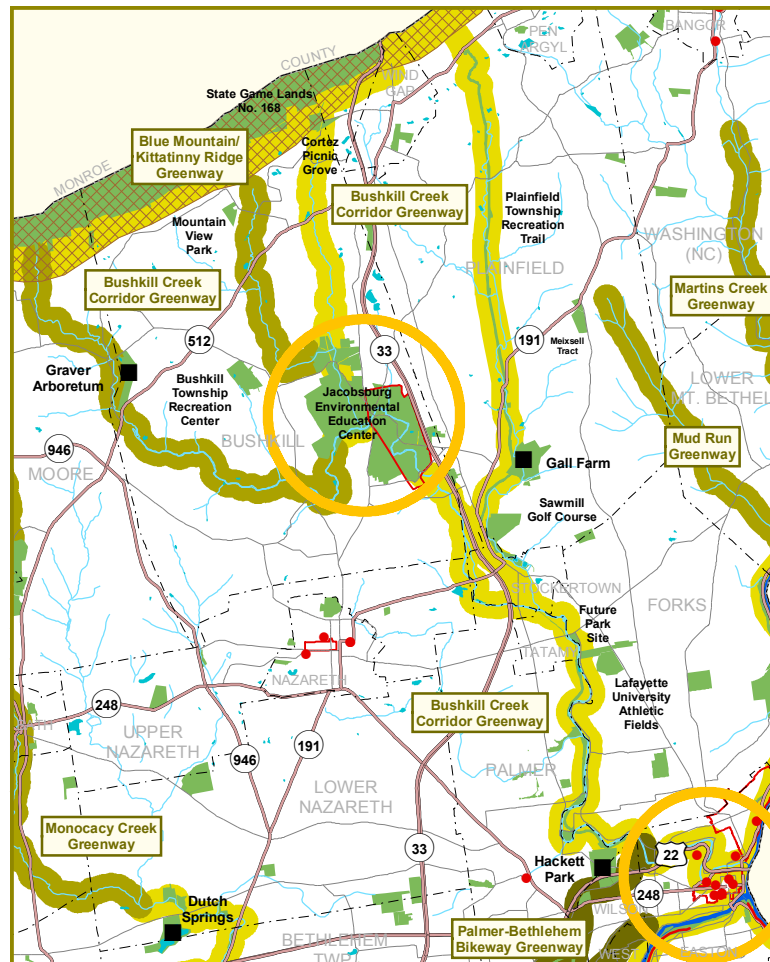
**Type:** multi-use and scenic greenway  
**Length:** 46 miles

The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) has identified the Kittatinny Ridge and the Appalachian National Scenic Trail (AT) as one of 34 major greenways in Pennsylvania. The Blue Mountain/Kittatinny Ridge Conservation Project is a collaborative effort organized by Pennsylvania Audubon that covers the entire 160-mile corridor through Pennsylvania and aims to draw public attention to the importance of the Kittatinny Ridge (known locally as the Blue Mountain). It has long been recognized as one of the major East Coast fall flyways for migrating raptors. The outcrops at Bake Oven Knob have been a major resource as a research station for collecting data on these migrations. Pennsylvania Audubon has designated the Blue Mountain as one of 81 Important Bird Areas (IBA) in Pennsylvania; to date, it is the only Important Bird Area in the Lehigh Valley.

The Nature Conservancy also identified the Blue Mountain as one of two exceptional natural features in the Lehigh Valley (the other is the Delaware River). Blue Mountain is the most extensive, relatively contiguous area of natural habitat in the two counties. It is also one of the major corridors for the movement of biota in eastern Pennsylvania. With its extensive forests, streams, seeps, vernal pools, rock outcrops and boulder fields, Blue Mountain is probably the wildest area remaining in southeastern Pennsylvania. Many other natural areas of statewide or local significance are found on Blue Mountain or at its base. An excellent example is Rismiller Woods in Bushkill Township; this unique natural area is known to have ephemeral natural pools of statewide conservation importance for wildlife.

Significant recreation areas along the Blue Mountain include over 10,000 acres of State Game Lands and the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area (1,200 acres) in Northampton County. The United States Government holds over 700 acres along the AT which provide hiking, nature study and sightseeing opportunities. Additional sites of recreational significance along this greenway include: Bears Rocks (Lynn Township), Lehigh Water Gap (Washington and Lehigh townships), and Totts Gap (Upper Mount Bethel Township). The Blue Mountain/Kittatinny Ridge Greenway connects with ten other greenways in Lehigh and Northampton counties making it a significant cultural, recreational and scenic resource worthy of further study and preservation.

## Bushkill Creek Corridor Greenway



**Type:** conservation/proposed multi-use greenways  
**Length:** 31 miles of combined corridor

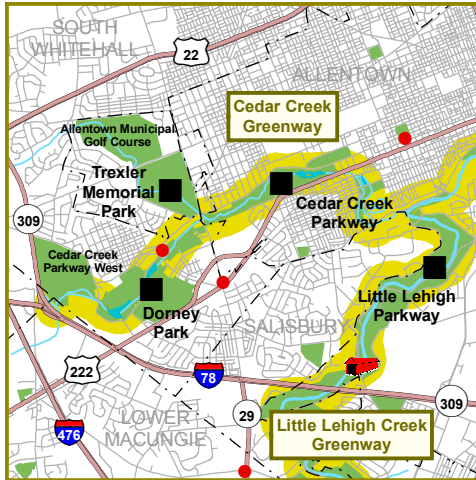
The Bushkill Creek Corridor extends from the Delaware River at Easton, north and west to the foot of the Blue Mountain in Moore, Bushkill and Plainfield townships. The Corridor includes Bushkill Creek, Little Bushkill Creek and both branches of the Sobers Run, all of which are designated as High Quality Waters by DEP.

The area through which the Bushkill flows from the City of Easton north to Stockertown Borough is mostly urbanized with minimal open space remaining in upper Forks Township and Tatamy Borough. Along this same stretch there is an abandoned railroad right-of-way along the west side of the Creek; this right-of-way will eventually become a rail-trail that connects the Palmer-Bethlehem Bikeway with the Plainfield Township Recreation Trail. North of Tatamy Borough the main stem branches off from the Little Bushkill and passes through an area of scattered farmland, woodland and residential development.

Important natural areas, identified in *A Natural Areas Inventory of Lehigh and Northampton Counties*, found in the Corridor include the Moorestown Wetland, Knechts Pools and Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center in Bushkill Township, and Easton Bluff and Binney and Smith Woods in the City of Easton. The Bushkill Creek Corridor establishes a connection between the Lehigh River and Kittatinny Ridge greenways.

The Bushkill Creek Corridor is a major part of the *Two Rivers Area Greenway Plan*. This plan, completed in January 2005 for the Two Rivers Area Council of Governments by Urban Research and Development Corporation, is the first of its kind to be accomplished in Lehigh and Northampton counties. The plan employs a comprehensive approach for the entire study area which consists of 17 municipalities within the Bushkill Creek watershed. The goals outlined in the plan reflect the input of numerous key individuals, including the Two Rivers Area Council of Governments and the Bushkill Stream Conservancy.

## Cedar Creek Greenway



**Type:** multi-use greenway  
**Length:** 4 miles

Cedar Creek is designated as a High Quality waterway that enters the Little Lehigh Creek west of the intersection of Martin Luther King Drive and 17th Street in Allentown. The stream extends west through the City of Allentown and South Whitehall Township to Schantz Springs, just west of Route 309.

The area through which this multi-use greenway flows is mostly urban and includes several large parks including Dorney Park and Wildwater Kingdom, Cedar Creek Parkway East/Cedar Creek Parkway West and the sports fields of Lehigh County in South Whitehall Township, and Trexler Memorial Park, Union Terrace and Cedar Creek Parkway in the City of Allentown. The Cedar Creek Parkway is an excellent recreation area that offers a variety of active and passive recreational opportunities including fishing, nature study, walking/jogging, bicycling, cross country skiing and picnicking.

## Cooks Creek Greenway



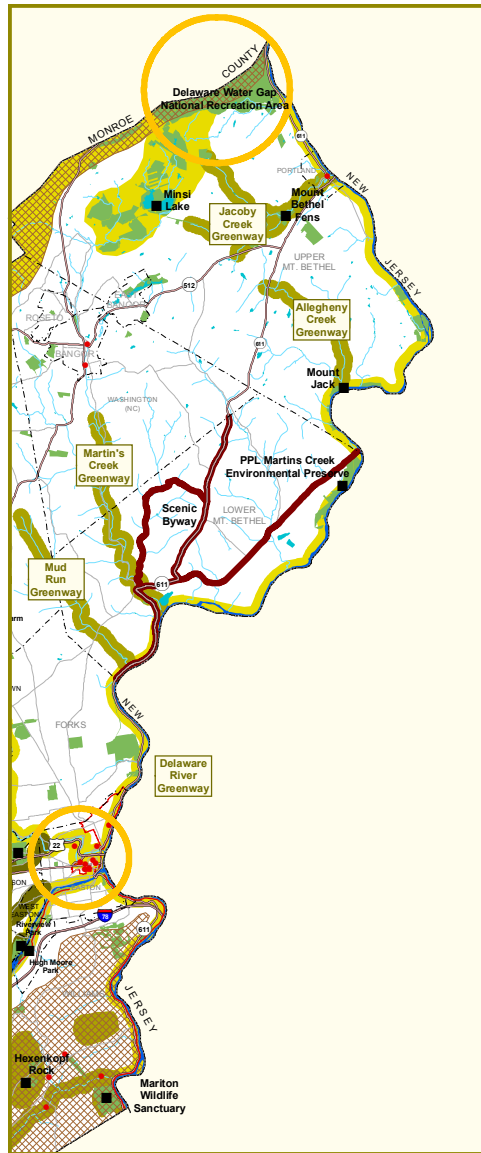
**Type:** conservation greenway  
**Length:** 2 miles

This greenway, the Lehigh Valley's smallest, is located in Lower Saucon Township, Northampton County. The Cooks Creek Headwaters has regional significance when combined with the entire Cooks Creek watershed that is located in Bucks County. Adding to its significance, the Cooks Creek is one of only two streams (the other is Slateford Creek in Upper Mt. Bethel Township) in the Lehigh Valley that are rated as Exceptional Value Waters by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. This designation constitutes about two percent of Pennsylvania's streams, provides unsurpassed environmental and aesthetic resources and promotes recreational and tourism opportunities.

The Cooks Creek Headwaters lie within the Springtown Marsh natural area and is part of the Pennsylvania Highlands conservation and scenic greenway corridor. Lower Saucon Township has targeted this significant natural resource for conservation in its 2005 *Mini Open Space Plan*. Goals set forth in the plan include the protection of Exceptional Value Waters through the protection of the headwater tributaries to Cooks Creek. The township has partnered with the Heritage Conservancy to begin preservation efforts in this priority conservation area. The first property funded by the Northampton County 21st Century Open Space Initiative was located in the Cooks Creek Greenway.



## Delaware River Greenway



**Type:** multi-use greenway  
**Length:** 35 miles

The Delaware River forms the boundary between and is a significant natural resource shared with New Jersey. The greenway extends the length of Northampton County from the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area in Upper Mt. Bethel Township beyond the Marlon Wildlife Sanctuary in Williams Township. The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) has identified the Delaware River as one of 34 major greenway corridors in Pennsylvania. The Nature Conservancy has also identified the Delaware River as one of two exceptional natural features in the Lehigh Valley.

In 2000, the Lower Delaware River was designated a National Wild and Scenic River. The section of the river covered by the designation extends from the Delaware Water Gap south to Bristol Borough. The National Wild and Scenic River designation identifies selected rivers in the United States for possessing “outstandingly, remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values.” With the ultimate goal of maintaining the rivers character, designated rivers are to be preserved in their free-flowing condition and are not dammed or otherwise improved.

Between the Delaware Water Gap and the City of Easton, the Delaware River flows through a river valley that is primarily rural with a scattering of residential development, a small borough, Portland, and the villages of Riverton and Martins Creek. This section of the greenway is particularly scenic and includes portions of a designated Pennsylvania Scenic Byway Pennsylvania Route 611, Martins Creek — Belvidere Road and Little Creek Road in Lower Mt. Bethel Township. From the City of Easton south to the Northampton — Bucks County line, the area through which the greenway passes includes several small villages, the Delaware Canal, scattered residential and commercial development along Route 611 and wooded hillsides. In 1988, Governor Casey designated the entire length of Pennsylvania State Route 611 as the Delaware River Scenic Drive.

A significant feature of the Delaware River Greenway is the Delaware River portion of the Delaware and Lehigh Navigation Canal (D&L) which extends from Bucks County to the City of Easton, a distance of about 60 miles. Route 611 parallels the Canal for its entire length through Northampton County. The Delaware Canal/D&L Trail is part of the D&L National Heritage Corridor and State Heritage Park.