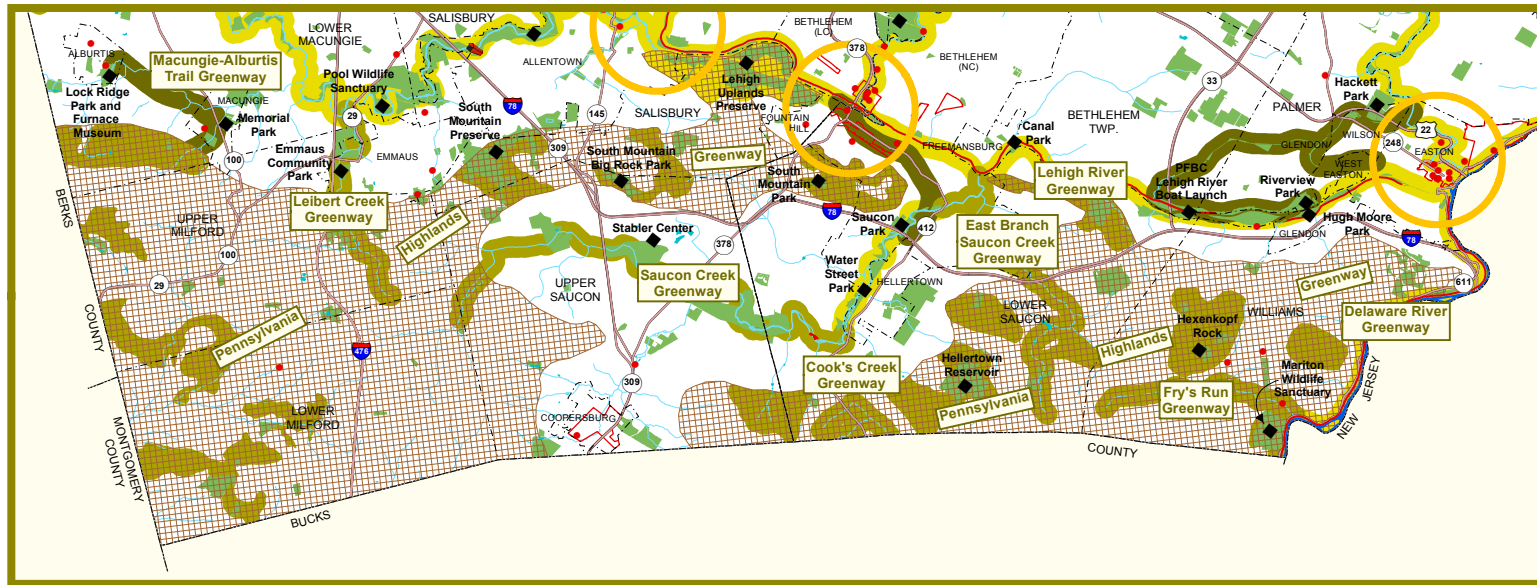


Pennsylvania Highlands Greenway (cont'd)

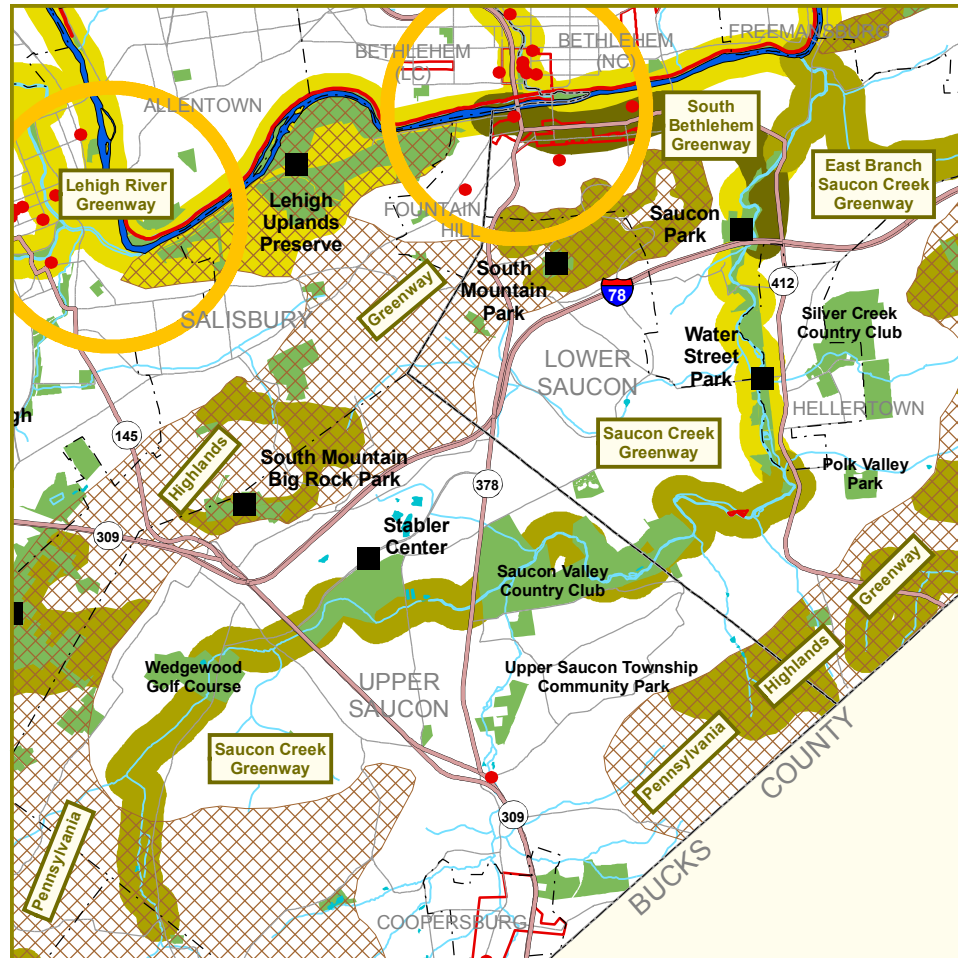


The Highlands Conservation Act of 2004 was signed into law on November 30, 2004. The Act designated the Highlands as “Nationally Significant” because it extends through four states (Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut) and has many exceptional natural resources which are threatened by suburban sprawl. Part of the Act authorizes the USDA Forest Service to conduct a study of the Highlands Region and produce a map of lands with high conservation value based on six key resources: water, forests, agriculture, biodiversity, recreational and cultural. At the time this plan was being prepared, the USDA Forest Service, the Appalachian Mountain Club and various universities were working to complete the requirements of the Act.

Several important natural areas are found in the Pennsylvania Highlands including: Hexenkopf Wetlands and Slopes and Mariton Uplands in Williams Township; Hellertown Area Vernal Pools, Focht Hill Vernal and Granite Hill in Lower Saucon Township; Hosensack Marsh, Lower Milford Marsh, and Mill Hill in Lower Milford Township; Indian Creek Floodplain in Upper Milford Township; and Macungie watershed in Lower Macungie Township and Upper Milford Township. The presence of these wetlands, slopes, uplands, marshes and woodlands makes the Highlands Region a particularly scenic area of the region. Additionally, the many isolated ridgetops provide a picturesque backdrop to southern Lehigh Valley.

The Pennsylvania Highlands scenic greenway connects with several other corridors including: the Delaware River, Fry’s Run, East Branch Saucon Creek, Leibert Creek, Cooks Creek, and Macungie-Alburtis Trail greenways. Many parks and outdoor recreation sites exist throughout the Pennsylvania Highlands (South Mountain Preserve, Center Valley Club, Water Street Park, Saucon Park, Lehigh Uplands, Mariton Wildlife Sanctuary), providing residents such activities as hunting when permitted by landowner, target shooting, golf, nature study and sightseeing.

Saucon Creek Greenway



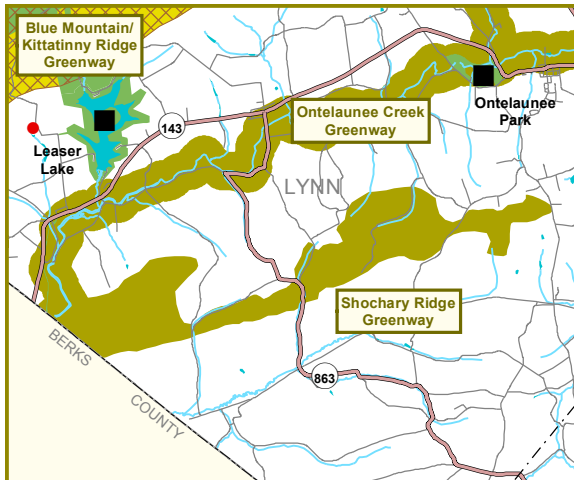
Type: multi-use and conservation greenway
Length: 15 miles

The Saucon Creek Greenway extends from the Lehigh River south and west to the Lower Milford Township border. The greenway is a mixture of residential and industrial development, farmland, parkland and an impressive acreage of golf courses. Agricultural conservation easements have been purchased on several farms within or adjacent to the Saucon Creek in Upper Saucon and Lower Milford townships. Many other farms in this area are eligible for acquisition.

Important natural areas include: Hellertown Marsh in Hellertown and Lower Saucon Township and Mest Marsh in Upper Saucon Township. The Saucon Creek connects with the Lehigh River, East Branch Saucon Creek, and the Pennsylvania Highlands greenways. Parks found within or adjacent to this cultural, recreational and conservation greenway include: Saucon Park in the City of Bethlehem; Grist Mill Park and Water Street Park in Hellertown Borough; Lower Saucon Creek Park in Lower Saucon Township; and Saucon Valley Country Club, The Center Valley Club and Wedgewood Golf Course in Upper Saucon Township. Recreational activities along this greenway include fishing, hunting when permitted by landowner, nature study, walking/jogging, field sports, basketball, tennis and golf.

Shochary Ridge Greenway

Type: conservation greenway



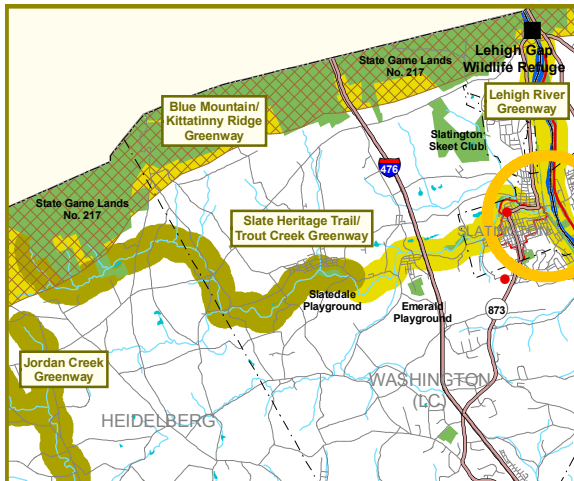
Area: 1,440 acres

The Shochary Ridge Greenway is located in Lynn Township, Lehigh County. The ridge extends out of Berks County across the central portion of Lynn Township. The highest point (1,060 feet) on the Ridge is known as the Donat located along the western edge of the ridge.

The ridge is primarily wooded, with some scattered farming activity taking place. Many of the farms on or near the ridge have been preserved and a number of other farms in the Lynn Township Agricultural Security Area are eligible. Lynn Township leads all 62 municipalities in the Lehigh Valley in preserved farmland. Much of this land is found in or near the Shochary Ridge conservation greenway. The Shochary Ridge connects with the Ontelaunee Creek Greenway near the Berks County border. Recreational activities along this greenway include nature study and hunting when permitted by landowner.

Slate Heritage Trail/Trout Creek Greenway

Type: multi-use and conservation greenway



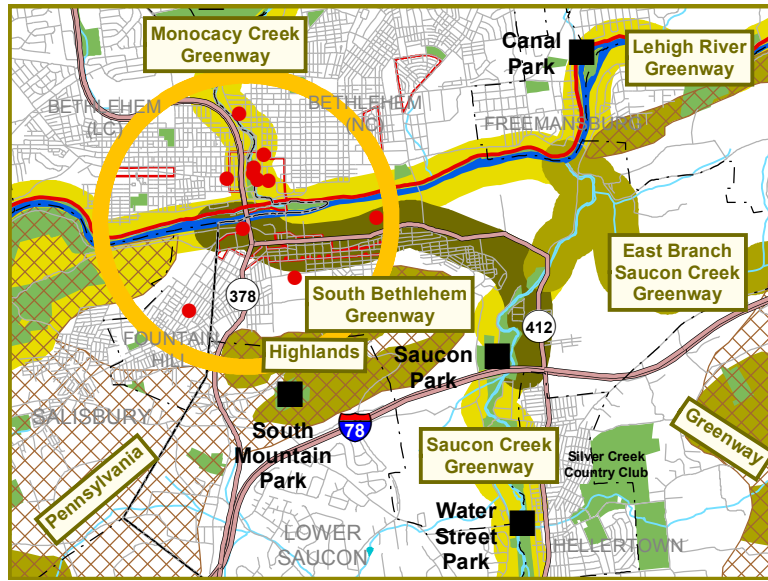
Length: 8 miles

Trout Creek enters the Lehigh River at a point just south of the Slatington – Walnutport bridge. The headwaters of the creek are located in Heidelberg Township at the base of Blue Mountain below Bake Oven Knob. Trout Creek flows through the Borough of Slatington and the Village of Emerald in Washington Township. West of the Village of Emerald, Trout Creek drains an area of mixed farmland and woodland.

The Slate Heritage Trail uses the abandoned right-of-way of the former Schuylkill & Lehigh Branch of the Reading Railroad. When complete, the Slate Heritage Trail will connect the Village of Slatedale with the D&L Trail in Slatington Borough. The first section of the trail, opened in 2004, extends from the D&L Trail west for 1.1 miles to the Trout Creek north of Church Street. The 2.2-mile Washington Township section of the trail is partially open, but trail improvements and a bridge over Trout Creek are needed before the trail is complete. Urban development and the remnants of a slate industry that has all but vanished characterize the eastern part of the greenway. This corridor contains the following parks: Kern's Mill Park, Slatedale Playground, Wildlands Tract on Trout Creek and State

Game Lands No. 217.

South Bethlehem Greenway



Type: proposed cultural/recreational greenway
Length: 3 miles

The South Bethlehem Greenway, once constructed, will provide a multi-use trail through South Bethlehem's urban core. The greenway will begin near the former Union Station at the western end and continue past the Minsi Trail Bridge, a distance of about 1.75 miles. Eventually, the greenway could extend to Saucon Park near Hellertown Borough.

The idea for this greenway became public in 2001 when the City of Bethlehem expressed interest in acquiring the 3.5-mile, 43 acre abandoned Norfolk Southern Rail Corporation right-of-way in South Bethlehem. Since that time, the City has been working on an acquisition package to acquire the right-of-way. This community renovation project could exceed \$5 million and includes: a public plaza; additional parking zones and a parking garage; repaired street crossings at greenway intersections; and the creation of new one-way streets to help enhance traffic flow.

The proposed greenway has the potential to connect with two other greenways — the Saucon Creek in the east and the Lehigh River in the west. There are no existing parks or other outdoor recreation areas located adjacent to the proposed trail; however, plans for a skate park, playgrounds and community gardens are all included in plans for the South Bethlehem Greenway Project. The greenway could connect some of the many proposals for South Bethlehem if they come to fruition. The greenway will provide a place where the people of South Bethlehem can participate in several recreational activities, such as walking, jogging and bicycling.

The City of Bethlehem has conducted extensive planning for the South Bethlehem Greenway. The *South Bethlehem Greenway Master Plan* identified the need for a phased approach to this project. Phase 1 extends from the Hill-to-Hill Bridge to the Lynn Avenue Bridge, Phase 2 extends from the Lynn Avenue Bridge to the city line, and Phase 3 would expand the width of the trail from the Lynn Avenue Bridge to the city line. The City intends to acquire land along this corridor to create linkages to other nearby recreational and cultural attractions.