



Connecting Our Communities

MARCH 2025

Facilitating communication and exchange of ideas in local municipal planning



In This Newsletter:

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- **YCSWA Spring Cleaning**
- **Commissioner’s Corner**
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- **Transform Your Community**

Why Should We Invest Time in Developing Official Maps?

An Official Map is a combined map and ordinance designed to implement the goals and community vision set forth in the comprehensive plan. The map shows the locations of planned future public lands and facilities such as transportation, recreational parks and trails, and open space. It expresses a municipality’s interest in acquiring these lands for public purposes sometime in the future. They can be used by townships, boroughs, cities, and counties. The ordinance is the legal document that codifies the details and regulations regarding the map, acting as the governing rules for how the official map can be interpreted and used.

The Official Map is not to be mistaken for the official zoning map of the municipality.

The Official Map –

- can help focus limited financial resources on projects that meet and advance community goals;
- helps municipalities make improvements such as connecting and improving the local street network, intersection improvements, protecting important natural areas, and providing more green space, recreational facilities, trails, and sidewalks;
- saves time and money by informing property owners and developers of municipal goals and intentions in advance of development plans;
- is an effective negotiation tool for municipalities, helping to ensure that development is compatible with and supportive of public goals;
- supports other land use management tools(zoning, subdivision land development, etc.) by advancing the implementation of infrastructure and public spaces; and
- gives municipalities a competitive advantage in securing grants. [SEE MORE](#)

Spring Events



• **York Train Show**: A train show held at the York Expo Center.



• **York County Parks Native Plant Sale**: A chance to purchase native plants.

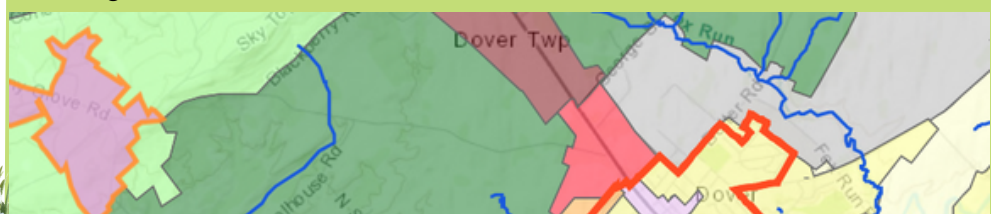


• **First Friday** Downtown York

• **Easter Egg Hunts**: Many locations will be holding Easter egg hunts, including **York City**

• **Go Green** Spring Clean Up

• **Northern Central Railway**



YCPC Project 25-007 - Fairview Twp Zoning Ordinance Amend
Map: Rural Living (RL) to Residential Mixed Use (RMU)
Residential Mixed Use (RMU) to Commercial Business (CB)

Adopt

Adopt

Adopt

YCPC Project 25-008 - Fairview Twp Zoning Ordinance Amend
Map: Village Business (VB) to Airport Business (AB)

Not Adopt

Not Adopt

Not Adopt

YCPC Project 25-009 - East Manchester Twp Zoning Ordinance Amend
Text: Accessory Uses and Structures, Portable Storage Unit, Roll-off
Dumpsters, Public Utility Facilities, Sign Regulations and Definitions

Adopt

Adopt

Adopt

As the mercury rises and plants begin to bloom, we naturally begin to think about how to freshen up our home. If you take advantage of the warmer temperatures to do some spring cleaning, feel free to access our website to learn how you can properly dispose of items that you no longer want or need. Simply use the search tool on our homepage at www.ycswa.com. You will have an answer within seconds.

Reworld™ and Goodwill Keystone Area have joined forces to provide free electronic waste recycling locations

Take advantage of this service at the following Goodwill locations:

- 965 Loucks Road, York
- 1120 Roosevelt Ave, York
- 450 Eisenhower Drive, Hanover
- 535 S. Main Street Market Square Center, Shrewsbury

Reworld



What electronics can residents bring?

What will be accepted:

- Computing and Peripheral Devices**
 - Computers, Monitors, keyboards, mice, printers, printer/scanner/copier all-in-one devices, networking equipment
- Entertainment Electronics**
 - Video Players (VCR/DVD/Blu-ray players), Gaming Systems, Audio Devices (stereos, radios, MP3 players)
- Communication Devices**
 - Telephones, Mobile Devices
- Visual and Imaging Equipment**
 - Cameras (cameras, video cameras), Televisions, Cable or Set-Top Boxes
- Small Appliances**
 - Toasters, Vacuum Cleaners
- Miscellaneous Electronics/Items**
 - Cables, Electronic Wiring, Answering Machines



YCSCWA
Facilitating Responsible Waste Management

What electronics should residents NOT bring?

What won't be accepted:

Loose Batteries, Bulbs, Smoke Detectors, Hazardous Household Waste, White Goods (refrigerators, ranges, water heaters, freezers, unit air conditioners, washing machines, clothes dryers and other similar domestic and commercial large appliances), Freon-Containing Devices, Devices Containing Mercury



RECYCLE THESE ITEMS



WHEN IN DOUBT → THROW IT OUT

- NO** Plastic Bags
- NO** Shredded Paper
- NO** Medical Waste
- NO** Food/Liquid
- NO** Clothing
- NO** Scrap Metal
- NO** Garden Hoses
- NO** Diapers
- NO** Styrofoam

Whether You Are Hosting a Backyard Barbeque or Coordinating the Largest Event in York County, You Can Borrow Easy to Use Trash and Recycling Receptacles From YCSWA For Free!



FREE
Household
Hazardous
Waste
Collection
Events

DATES:

Saturday, May 3rd and
Saturday, October 11th

TIMES:

9:00 am-1:00 pm



Visit www.ycswa.com/services/waste-disposal/household-hazardous-waste/ for more details.



*Registration is required!

The York County Agricultural Land Preservation Board (YCALPB) has completed another successful year of farmland preservation in our beautiful York County, as we were able to preserve 13 farms on 1,561 acres in 2024.

In the fall of 2024, YCALPB staff reviewed zoning ordinances for most municipalities, in relation to our ranking system. Customized letters for each municipality and zoning district were mailed out, detailing how municipal zoning affects the farmland preservation ranking system. Several municipalities have reached out since those letters were mailed to discuss the ranking system and how zoning affects it. YCALPB staff have attended several meetings in multiple municipalities to review this data, and several municipalities are making changes to their zoning ordinances to help farmers preserve their farms.

As we begin the new year in 2025, the YCALPB applied to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Farmland Preservation, for program recertification. State Law requires County Farmland Preservation Board's to certify their programs with the state in order to receive state funding. The YCALPB certified its program originally in 1992, and recertified in 1996, 2004, 2011, and 2018. At the State's February 13th, 2025 Review Board meeting, the YCALPB program was successful recertified, ensuring our continued eligibility to receive state funds through 2032.

An important milestone is also slated to occur for the YCALPB later in 2025; when the 50,000th acre is preserved by the board. While one farm will push our program totals over that prestigious mark, every one of the 350+ landowners who have preserved their farms in perpetuity own a stake in this achievement. It is thanks to each and every one of those dedicated farmers and landowners that our county is home to (almost) 50,000 acres of preserved farmland. This is a milestone that less than 10 counties in the country can lay claim to, and something that we should all be so very proud of.

York County Open Space and Land Preservation Program – Annual Report

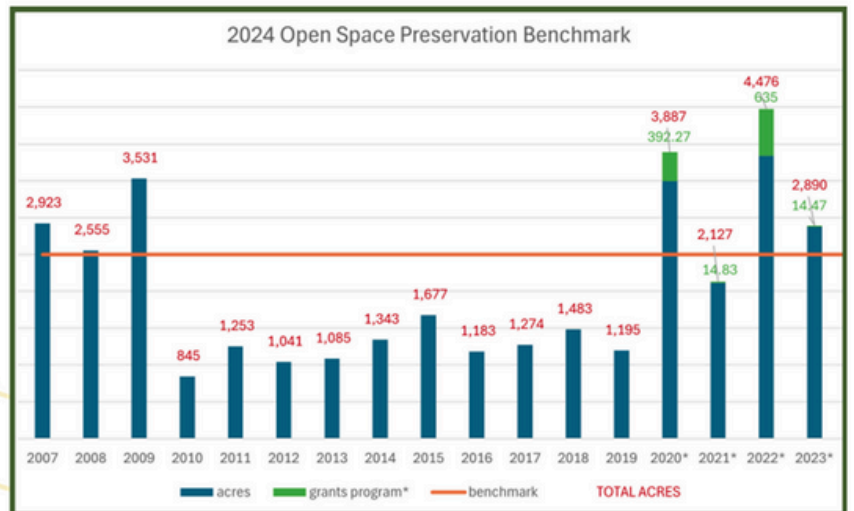
This year 2,993 acres of open space were preserved and protected in York County. The annual average amount of open space protected since the establishment of the York County Open Space and Land Preservation Program in 2020 is approximately 3,275 acres/year.

The Program includes grant funding that was used for 1 Land Acquisition project, 2 Planning projects, and 11 Improvement projects in 2024. The 2025 Open Space Grant Program opens on July 1st and runs through September 30th. For the full annual report or more information on the grant program, please click the Annual Report thumbnail or visit www.yorkopenspace.org



YORK COUNTY OPEN SPACE BENCHMARK

In 2006, York County established a benchmark to preserve an average of 2,500 acres per year. With the Open Space and Preservation Program beginning in 2020, the average number of acres preserved annually exceeds 2,500 acres.



Municipal Spotlight

West Manheim Township



West Manheim Township is located in the southwest corner of York County Pennsylvania, nestled against the famous Mason-Dixon Line. Our growing community of approximately 10,300 residents was founded in the mid-1700's and officially established as a township by the Commonwealth in February of 1854 by an Act of Assembly of Pennsylvania. Originally comprised of Pennsylvania Dutch family farms, the area is now growing into a diverse community of quiet, residential neighborhoods, recreational areas, and commercial interests. Presently, the township is made up of 19.9 square miles of land and 70 miles of Township-maintained roads. Within the township, there are two watershed areas with impounding dams used as public water sources. The Township also contains a 113 acres of recreational park area.

West Manheim Township is guided by five Supervisors. The Township employs eight administrative staff members, seven public works staff, 14 Police Officers, a Tax Collector and 15 EMTs. A volunteer fire department provides service to our area.

According to USA Today Network, in 2024 West Manheim Township was the second fastest growing township in Pennsylvania. Our community grew by 13.88% from 2020 (9,072 residents) to 2023 (10,331 residents). New business development is encouraged in selected areas. At the same time, it is recognized that the road system constraints and residential development patterns in West Manheim provide only limited areas that are suitable for new industrial development. West Manheim works with PennDOT and adjacent developers to improve safety and reduce congestion, while working to minimize through-traffic and speeds on local residential streets. In an effort to better serve our growing community, the Township's Police, Emergency Services, and Public Works Department has grown.

West Manheim is trying to maintain a rural landscape in most of the Township and works to strengthen the sense of community. An emphasis has been placed upon maintaining areas of natural beauty for future generations to enjoy, and to maintain a strong agricultural economy. West Manheim works with Hanover Borough to protect the region's water quality through continued preservation of the lands around the Hanover Impounding Reservoir and the Long Arm Creek Reservoir. West Manheim Township guides development and redevelopment to protect residential neighborhoods and important natural features.

In 2024, West Manheim Township developed a new Comprehensive Plan. During the planning process, the township worked with residents, to determine the needs and wants of the community. During this time the residential density allotments were adjusted in an effort to slow down residential development.

The Supervisors and staff will continue to revise the ordinances in an effort to better service this growing community.



For more information
please visit <https://westmanheimtwp.com/>



Enhance Your Transportation Planning Free Resources & Municipal Support!

Empower your municipality and its voice in local transportation: Join us for an interactive workshop where you can engage with PennDOT, collaborate with peers, and discover valuable resources to enhance your community.

Learn about:

- PennDOT One Map GIS Platform: The demonstration will provide an overview of PennDOT's GIS platform to gather data to assist with local planning efforts.
- PennDOT Local Bridge Inventory: The demonstration will introduce PennDOT's new inventory tool with information on local bridges.
- Free Transportation Planning Resources: The municipal outreach program has free one-on-one support, resources, newsletters, and tech sheets to support municipal transportation planning and land use development.

This workshop is intended for:

- Municipal officials, planners, and engineers.
- Community leaders and advocates.
- Anyone interested in improving their local transportation systems.

Don't miss out on this chance to:

- Network with other municipalities, learn from their successes, and find areas for collaboration.
- Network with PennDOT and county planning staff.
- Ask questions about PennDOT projects in your area.
- Access free resources and expert support to achieve your goals.

Attendance options noted for each district:

- In Person at District Office or Virtual (Go-To-Webinar)
- All Virtual (Go-To-Webinar)

To register [Click Here](#)

All sessions held at a district office will have a virtual attendance option through Go-To-Webinar. The sessions noted as all virtual will only be available through a virtual connection



The municipal outreach/peer exchange sessions will consist of an interactive workshop that engages participants in peer exchange and idea-sharing. Municipalities will have the opportunity to interact with PennDOT, their local metropolitan planning organization or rural planning organization (MPO or RPO) staff, and one another. Attending a PennDOT Connects Municipal Outreach session is an opportunity for communities to make connections, learn about resources, and improve transportation projects.

Note: The sessions will focus on the resources available to municipalities through the PennDOT Connects Municipal Outreach program and other sources and are not specific to projects on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) in PennDOT Districts.

The One Question That Can Transform Your Community

By Cathy Bollinger, Executive Director of Embracing Aging
York County Community Foundation

What if we told you there is one question that can improve the quality of life and place for all residents in your municipality?

This question can attract more commerce, increase visibility, earn you positive acclaim - even award funding!



**Curious what the question is?
You are in luck!**

York County Community Foundation's Embracing Aging is here to spread the word about how this question can create more inclusive, welcoming spaces. Whether it is shaping outdoor areas and public buildings or improving services, programs, and community culture, these eight words have the power to drive real change. "Does it work for people of all ages?"

You may wonder, how can we make such a bold claim? We manage York County's enrollment in the WHO/AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities. In this role, we were invited to participate in the Age-Friendly PA Initiative: a statewide effort bringing together the PA Departments of Aging and Community & Economic Development, AARP PA, Grantmakers in Aging, and community leaders across Pennsylvania. Together, we're working to secure Pennsylvania's membership in the Age-Friendly network. By earning this designation, we can strengthen existing communities already applying an age-equity focus and expand more Age-Friendly efforts across the state. This work aligns with Aging Our Way, PA, the Commonwealth's multisector plan for aging, ensuring Pennsylvania is a great place to live at any age.

That is why now is the perfect time for all stakeholders – especially municipalities, planners, architects, developers, organizers, and business owners – to start asking: “Does it work for people of all ages?” Looking at decisions through this lens before important decisions are made helps create more livable, inclusive communities that improve quality of life for everyone. Why? Because if something works well for both an 8-year-old and an 80-year-old, chances are, it will work for everyone. For example, a paved walking path that is wide enough for a stroller and a wheelchair to pass by or move side-by-side benefits everyone.

As leaders in Age-Friendly initiatives, our team is available to help you with this work. We speak at public events about the power of age equity - at work and in the community. From housing and transportation to healthcare, we highlight how ageism affects everyday life and what we can do about it. Through practical strategies, we help create Age-Friendly physical spaces, inclusive communication, and a culture where people of all ages thrive.

Visit www.yccf.org or contact Cathy Bollinger
Executive Director of Embracing Aging for more information.

Webinar Wednesday: Blowing Up Your Boards and Other Bold Ideas...

APA
PA WEBINAR
WEDNESDAY



Deadline to Register is April 1

**Please Note: CM credit s pending approval.
You must attend the webinar live in order to CM credit**

[Register Now](#)

Please sign up for our **Webinar Wednesday** event on April 2, from 12:00 to 1:15 PM. We are excited to bring you **Blowing Up Your Boards and Other Bold Ideas to Bring Your Comp Plan to Life** presented by Ian McMeans and Jenni Easton. How do you guarantee that your community's new comprehensive plan will see fruition? Operationalize its implementation. The presenters will explore fresh ideas for delivering on vision, highlighting an innovative accomplishment by the Municipality of Mt. Lebanon to completely restructure the community's appointed advisory boards to align with the key issues at the center of Ascend Lebo, the recently adopted comprehensive plan. Discussion will also focus on inclusive engagement strategies to discern shared values and build momentum for progress, as well as integrating the plan into the Capital Improvement Program.

If you're interested in sponsoring a Webinar Wednesday session or have a session for Webinar Wednesday please contact us. Send your request to admin@planningpa.org.

York County Community Survey - Open through June 22!

The York County Planning Commission (YCPC) launched a countywide community survey. The goal is to reach a high response rate for this survey, which will collect data on various topics important to daily life.

Additionally, after the survey closes, YCPC will be able to share data collected specific to each municipality. With your help in sharing this survey, YCPC will be able to provide you with beneficial information about respondents in your municipality. The survey is open through June 22, 2025.

Survey Link:

www.YorkCountyPASurvey.org

More Info Below

YORK COUNTY COMMUNITY SURVEY

QUICK, EASY, AND CONFIDENTIAL IN JUST 10 MINUTES

YOUR INPUT CAN SHAPE THE FUTURE.
TELL US YOUR EXPERIENCE
LIVING HERE.

Survey Opens
March 24

Survey Closes
June 22

The York County Planning Commission has launched a survey to identify the needs of the county.

Help improve York County by sharing what is important to you.

Scan Here



YOU MAY
WIN AN IPAD
OR A \$300
GIFT CARD.

YORK COUNTY
YCPC
PLANNING
COMMISSION

Survey is also available in paper format and select languages

ENGLISH • PREGUNTAS EN ESPAÑOL • ВОПРОСЫ НА РУССКОМ

中文问题 • KESTYON AN KREYÒL • أسئلة باللغة العربية

YORKCOUNTYPASURVEY.ORG

York County Community Survey – Open through June 22!

YCPC is asking for your help spreading the word! If you have access to digital media, community bulletin boards, alert tools (e.g., AlertMedia, SavvyCitizen), social media, newsletters, and other methods of outreach, it would be appreciated if you could share this information. A Toolkit of flyers, texts, images, and general information is available to share as best suits your community.

[YCPC Community Survey Tool Kit 2025](#)

Why Should You Participate in the York County Community Survey?

- Make your voice heard. By taking the survey, you can share your thoughts, ideas, and concerns.
- Help make decisions. Your answers can help influence important choices that affect you and your family.
- Contribute to change. Your feedback will help make improvements in the community.
- Shape the future of York County. Taking the survey will help identify areas that can be improved, such as jobs, schools, healthcare, and more.
- Help identify issues. Your answers can help leaders learn about your needs.
- Build a stronger community. Your input can help make the community a better place for everyone.
- Help improve policies and programs. The survey will help create new programs or make changes that help everyone.
- Improve services and access. Your feedback can help improve local services and make them more effective for everyone.
- Confidential and anonymous. Survey responses are anonymous, so your responses are kept private.
- Stay informed. By taking the survey, you'll learn about new projects and programs that affect you and your family.
- Win a prize. If you take the survey, you'll have a chance to win an iPad or \$300.

The survey will be available -

- Website: www.YorkCountyPASurvey.org
- Multiple languages are provided based on community feedback; all are linked on the website: YorkCountyPASurvey.org
- Paper format – available by request, 717-771-9870
- In-person at a variety of events through June.

