

Acronyms

Definitions

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<b>AADT:</b>	Average Annual Daily Traffic (volume)
<b>ALLARM:</b>	Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring
<b>AMD:</b>	Acid Mine Drainage
<b>ASA:</b>	Agricultural Security Area
<b>CHP:</b>	Coldwater Heritage Partnership
<b>CIP:</b>	Capital Improvements Program
<b>COE:</b>	US Army Corps of Engineers
<b>CPI:</b>	Consumer Price Index
<b>CVMP:</b>	Citizens Volunteer Monitoring Program
<b>CRS:</b>	Community Rating System (supplemental to NFIP)
<b>DCED:</b>	Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development
<b>DCNR:</b>	Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
<b>DEP:</b>	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
<b>EMS:</b>	Emergency Medical Services
<b>EPA:</b>	United States Environmental Protection Agency
<b>FMA:</b>	Flood Mitigation Assistance Program
<b>FEMA:</b>	Federal Emergency Management Agency
<b>FHWA:</b>	Federal Highway Administration
<b>GED:</b>	General Education Degree
<b>GIS:</b>	Geographic Information Systems

<b>HAZ-MAT:</b>	Hazardous Materials
<b>HMGP:</b>	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
<b>IS:</b>	Information System
<b>ISTEA:</b>	Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act
<b>IU:</b>	Intermediate Unit
<b>LHVB:</b>	Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau
<b>LMA:</b>	Labor Market Area
<b>LQ:</b>	Location Quotient
<b>MATP:</b>	Medial Assistance Transportation Program
<b>MH/MR:</b>	Mental Health/Mental Retardation
<b>MPC:</b>	Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code
<b>NASIC:</b>	North American Standard Industrial Classification
<b>NFIP:</b>	National Flood Insurance Program
<b>NPS:</b>	National Park Service
<b>NRCS:</b>	Natural Resource Conservation Service
<b>NRPA:</b>	National Recreation and Park Association
<b>OLDS:</b>	On-Lot Disposal System
<b>PAC:</b>	Planning Advisory Committee
<b>PADEP:</b>	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
<b>PADOT:</b>	Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
<b>PEMA:</b>	Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency
<b>PFBC:</b>	Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission
<b>PGC:</b>	Pennsylvania Game Commission
<b>PHMC:</b>	Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
<b>PNDI:</b>	Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory
<b>PSATS:</b>	Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors
<b>PSAB:</b>	Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs
<b>PSP:</b>	Pennsylvania State Police
<b>PSU:</b>	Pennsylvania State University
<b>RCP:</b>	River Conservation Plan
<b>SARA:</b>	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986
<b>SC:</b>	<b>Somerset County</b>

**SCTS:** Somerset County Transportation System  
**SIC:** Standard Industrial Classification

**TEA-21:** Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century  
**TIP:** Transportation Improvement Program  
**TSA:** Township Supervisors Association  
**TU:** Trout Unlimited

**USDA:** United States Department of Agriculture  
**USDOH:** United States Department of Health  
**USDOJ:** United States Department of Justice

### Definitions

**Act 167 (also known as the Stormwater Management Act):** Pennsylvania regulation enacted to correct existing stormwater management problems and to prevent future problems through stormwater planning at the watershed level. See also Watershed Stormwater Management Plan.

**Act 537 (also known as the Sewage Facilities Act):** Pennsylvania regulation enacted to correct existing sewage disposal problems and prevent future problems, through proper planning of all types of sewage facilities, permitting of individual and community OLDS, as well as uniform standards for designing on-lot disposal systems (OLDS).

**Agriculture:** The production, keeping, or maintenance, for sale, lease, or personal use, of plants and animals useful to man, including but not limited to; forages and sod crops; grains and seed crops; dairy animals and dairy products, poultry and poultry products; livestock, including beef cattle, sheep, swine, horses, ponies, mules, or goats or any mutations or hybrids thereof, including the breeding and grazing of any or all of such animals; bees and apiary products; fur animals; trees and forest products; fruits of all kinds, including grapes, nuts, and berries; vegetables; nursery, floral, ornamental, and greenhouse products; or lands devoted to a soil conservation or forestry management program.

**Agricultural Operation:** An enterprise that is actively engaged in the commercial production and preparation for market of crops, livestock and livestock products and in the production, harvesting and preparation for

market or use of agricultural, agronomic horticultural, silvicultural and aquacultural crops and commodities. The term includes enterprises that implement changes in production practices and procedures or types of crops, livestock, livestock products or commodities produced consistent with practices and procedures that are normally engaged by farmers or are consistent with technological development within the agricultural industry.

**Arterial Highway:** A Principal Arterial provides land access while retaining a high degree of thru traffic mobility and serves major centers of urban activity and traffic generation. They provide a high speed, high volume network for travel between major destinations in both rural and urban areas. A Minor Arterial gives greater emphasis to land access with a lower level of thru traffic mobility than a principal arterial and serves larger schools, industries, hospitals and small commercial areas not incidentally served by principal arterials.

**Center for Local Government Services:** The Governor's Center for Local Government Services located within the Department of Community and Economic Development.

**Collector Road:** A Collector Road serves dual functions—collecting traffic between local roads and arterial streets and providing access to abutting properties. It serves minor traffic generators, such as local elementary schools, small individual industrial plants, offices, commercial facilities, and warehouses not served by principal and minor arterials.

**Commercial Land Use:** Land use type that generally includes those establishments engaged in retail trade or services.

**Community Park:** Focuses on meeting community-based recreation needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces; usually serves two or more neighborhoods and a ½ to 3-mile radius; and has an optimal size of between 20 and 50 acres, but should be based on the land area needed to accommodate the desired uses.

**County:** Any county of the second class through eighth class.

**County Comprehensive Plan:** A land use and growth management plan prepared by the county planning commission and adopted by the county

commissioners which establishes broad goals and criteria for municipalities to use in preparation of their comprehensive plan and land use regulation.

**Dwelling Unit:** A building or structure designed for living quarters for one (1) or more families, including manufactured homes which are supported either by a foundation or are otherwise permanently attached to the land, but not including hotels, boarding/rooming houses or other accommodations used for transient occupancy.

**Flood, 100-year:** A flood which is likely to be equaled or exceeded once every 100 years (i.e., that has a one (1%) percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year). A study by the Federal Insurance Administration, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the United States Department of Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service, the United States Geological Survey, the Susquehanna River Basin Commission, the Department of Environmental Protection, or a licensed professional registered by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to perform such a study is necessary to define this flood.

**Flood Fringe:** That portion of floodplain outside the floodway.

**Floodplain:** A floodplain may be either/or a combination of: (a) a relatively flat or low land area which is subject to partial or complete inundation from an adjoining or nearby stream, river or watercourse, during a 100-year design frequency storm; or (b) any area subject to the unusual and rapid accumulation of runoff or surface waters from any source.

**Floodway:** The channel of a stream, river, or other body of water, and any adjacent floodplain areas, that must be kept free of encroachment in order that the 100-year flood can be carried without increasing flood heights by more than one (1) foot at any point and without creating hazardous velocities.

**Forestry:** The management of forests and timberlands when practiced in accordance with accepted silvicultural principles, through developing, cultivating, harvesting, transporting and selling trees for commercial purposes, which does not involve any land development.

**Freeway:** Limited access roads designed for large volumes of traffic between communities of 50,000 or more to major regional traffic generators (such as central business districts, suburban shopping centers and industrial areas); freeways should be tied directly to arterial roads, with accessibility limited to specific interchanges to avoid the impediment of through traffic.

**Household:** A family living together in a single dwelling unit, with common access to and common use of all living and eating areas and all areas and facilities for the preparation and serving of food within the dwelling unit.

**Housing Unit:** A room or group of rooms used by one or more individuals living separately from others in the structure, with direct access to the outside or to a public hall and containing separate bathroom and kitchen facilities.

**Hydric Soil:** A soil that is saturated, flooded, or ponded long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part.

**Industrial Land Use:** This land use category generally includes: (1) establishments engaged in transforming raw materials into new products, usually for distribution to other regions and not on sale on-site, and (2) establishments engaged in wholesale trade, storage or distribution with little or no retail trade or service.

**Local Roads:** Those that are local in character and serve farms, residences, businesses, neighborhoods and abutting properties.

**Location Quotient:** The location quotient calculates the ratio between local industry employment and a larger reference region, returning a ratio that is indicative of local specialization or weakness.

A  $LQ > 1.0$  indicates that the local industry employs a greater share of workers than the reference region. When this occurs, it is assumed that the local economy has an excess of people working in this sector. A  $LQ < 1.0$  identifies local industries that do not measure up with their reference region, hence a smaller share of people are employed in the industry when compared with the reference region.

**Minerals:** Any aggregate of mass or mineral matter, whether or not coherent. The term includes, but is not limited to, limestone and dolomite, sand and gravel, rock and stone, earth, fill, slag, iron ore, zinc ore, vermiculite and clay, anthracite and bituminous coal, coal refuse, peat, crude oil and natural gas.

**Municipalities Planning Code (MPC):** The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, Act of July 31, 1968, P.L. 805, No. 247, as amended and reenacted, 53 P.S. \_\_\_10101 et seq.

**Natural Resource Production Uses:** A lot of land or part thereof used for the purpose of, but not limited to, mineral extraction and forestry operations. (See also definitions for Minerals and Forestry.)

**Open Space:** Any parcel or area of land or water essentially unimproved and set aside, dedicated, designated, or reserved for the public or private use or enjoyment or for the use and enjoyment of owners and occupants of land adjoining or neighboring such open space.

**Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC):** See definition of Municipalities Planning Code (MPC).

**Prime Farmland Soils:** Prime farmland, as identified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is the land that is best suited to producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops. It has the soil quality, growing season, and water supply needed to economically produce a sustained high yield of crops when it is treated and managed using acceptable farming methods. Prime farmland produces the highest yields with minimal inputs of energy and economic resources, and farming it results in the least damage to the environment.

**Prime Agricultural Soils:** Prime farmland has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce sustained high yields of crops economically when treated and managed with modern farming methods. It can be farmed continuously or nearly continuously without degrading the environment and will produce the most with the least amount of energy. This land is the most responsive to management and requires the least investment for maximum productivity.

**Principal Arterial Highway:** Principal Arterials provide land access while retaining a high degree of thru traffic mobility and serve major centers of urban activity and traffic generation. They provide a high speed, high volume network for travel between major destinations in both rural and urban areas.

**Public/Institutional Use:** Land use category that typically involves establishments or properties that provide educational, cultural, or social services for the community. This category includes uses such as public and private schools, municipal offices and grounds, churches, and cemeteries.

**Public/Quasi-Public Land Use:** Areas or buildings where the public is directly or indirectly invited to visit or permitted to congregate.

**Recharge:** The addition to, or replenishing of, water in an aquifer.

**Recreational Land Use:** This land use category typically includes public and private parks and recreation areas.

**Retail:** The selling of goods or merchandise to the public for personal or household consumption and rendering services incidental to the sale of such goods. [Comment: An important characteristic of a retail trade establishment is that it buys goods for resale.]

**Single Family Residential:** Consists of the following types:

1. Dwelling, Single Family, Attached (Row): A dwelling designed, occupied or used by one family, having two (2) party walls in common with other buildings and no side yards, commonly called row houses or townhouses.
2. Dwelling, Single Family, Detached: A dwelling used by one (1) family, having one (1) side yard, one (1) party wall in common with another dwelling.
3. Dwelling, Single Family, Semi-Detached: One building arranged or designed for dwelling purposes where two dwelling units exist, separate from each other by a party wall and having two (2) side yards.

**Slope:** The deviation of a surface from the horizontal, usually expressed in percent degrees. (Comment: Slope percent is calculated by dividing the vertical distance by the horizontal distance times 100.)

**Sustainable Agriculture:** Sustainable agriculture was addressed by Congress in the 1990 "Farm Bill" [Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (FACTA), Public Law 101-624, Title XVI, Subtitle A, Section 1603 (Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, 1990) NAL Call # KF1692.A31 1990]. Under that law, "the term sustainable agriculture means an integrated system of plant and animal production practices having a site-specific application that will, over the long term:"

- satisfy human food and fiber needs
- enhance environmental quality and the natural resource base upon which the agricultural economy depends
- make the most efficient use of nonrenewable resources and on-farm resources and integrate, where appropriate, natural biological cycles and controls
- sustain the economic viability of farm operations
- enhance the quality of life for farmers and society as a whole.

**Wastewater:** Water carrying waste from homes, businesses, and industries that is a mixture of water and dissolved or suspended solids; excess irrigation water that is runoff to adjacent land.

**Watershed Stormwater Management Plan:** Defined in the context of Pennsylvania Act 167, it provides the framework for improved management of the storm runoff impacts associated with the development of land. The purposes of the Act are to encourage the sound planning and management of storm runoff, to coordinate the stormwater management efforts within each watershed, and to encourage the local administration and management of a coordinated stormwater program.

**Wetlands (Freshwater):** An area that is inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances does support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions.

