



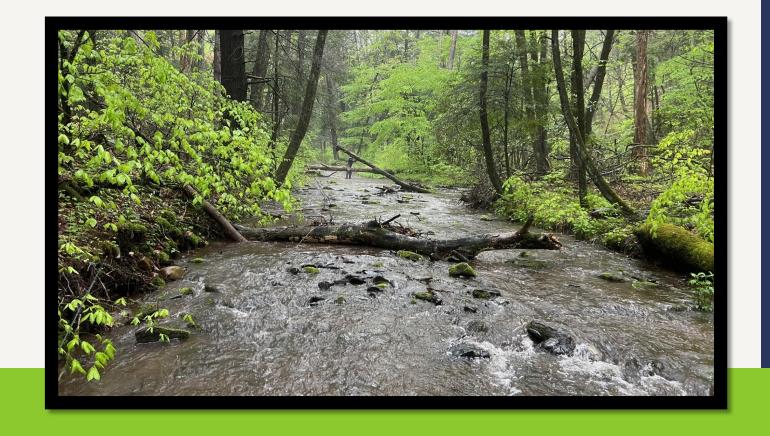
A network of 70+ partner organizations all working towards a shared goal:

Vision

Clean and clear water in Lancaster County by 2040

Mission

Collaborate, accelerate, and expand efforts to restore and sustain healthy waterways in Lancaster County.

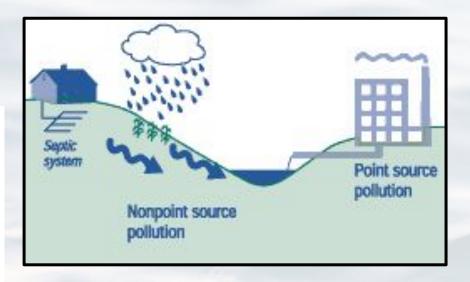


The Basics: Stream Health, Water Quality, and "De-listing"



Water Quality Background

- Point vs. Nonpoint Source Pollution
- Priority Pollutants
 - Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Sediment
- Designated Use
 - Exceptional Value (EV), High Quality (HQ), Cold Water Fishery (CWF), Trout Stocked Fishery (TSF), Warm Water Fishery (WWF)
- Stream Impairment (DEP/EPA)
 - ► Non-attaining/impaired streams the "list"
- Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)





To "De-list" is to Restore Stream Function & Meet Designated Use



- DEP sets water quality standards based on the Clean Water Act
- Water quality standards include the uses that streams can support, and goals established to protect those uses
- Uses include, among other things: aquatic life, fish consumption, recreation, and potable water supply
- Integrated Reports (Stream assessments) are provided to EPA and the public every two years



Criteria for Assessing Stream Health

Chemical

Dissolved oxygen, temperature, nitrogen, pH, copper, nickel, lead, arsenic, etc.

Biological

Insect populations/diversity (IBI scores), other aquatic community assessments, etc.

Physical

Bank/flow alteration and stability, bed substrate, cover, flow, features













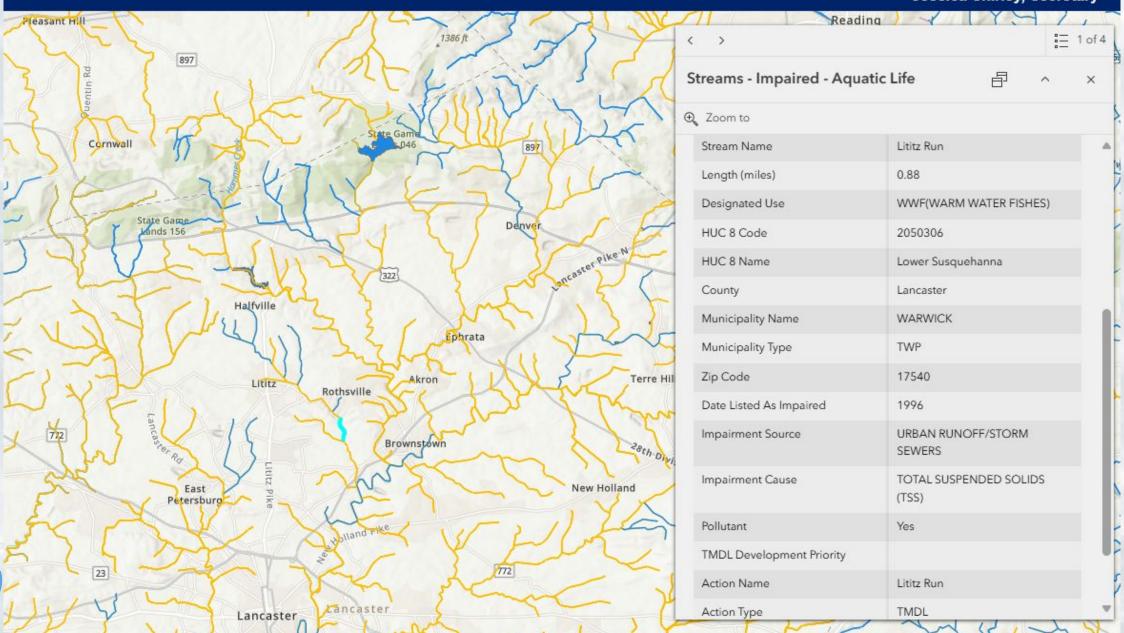


2024 Integrated Report Viewer





Jessica Shirley, Secretary



What can we do to improve impaired streams?

Reduce pollutants in runoff/discharges to natural systems

- Manage nutrient use on farms (application rates, timing, and placement)
- Upgrade wastewater treatment systems to reduce pollutants in effluent
- Apply less nutrients across commercial/residential landscapes
- Capture and treat pollutants using novel technologies/techniques

Reduce the quantity and speed of runoff/discharges

- Reduce volume and rate stormwater control measures
- Reduce volume and rate strategically place Ag BMPs
- Encourage on-site infiltration/slow-release outlet controls
- Reduced impervious areas where possible

Improve & restore natural riparian/stream systems

- Install, protect, and maintain vegetated riparian corridors
- Restore wetlands to improve biological treatment and volumetric capacity
- Restore/stabilize stream structure and floodplain capacity

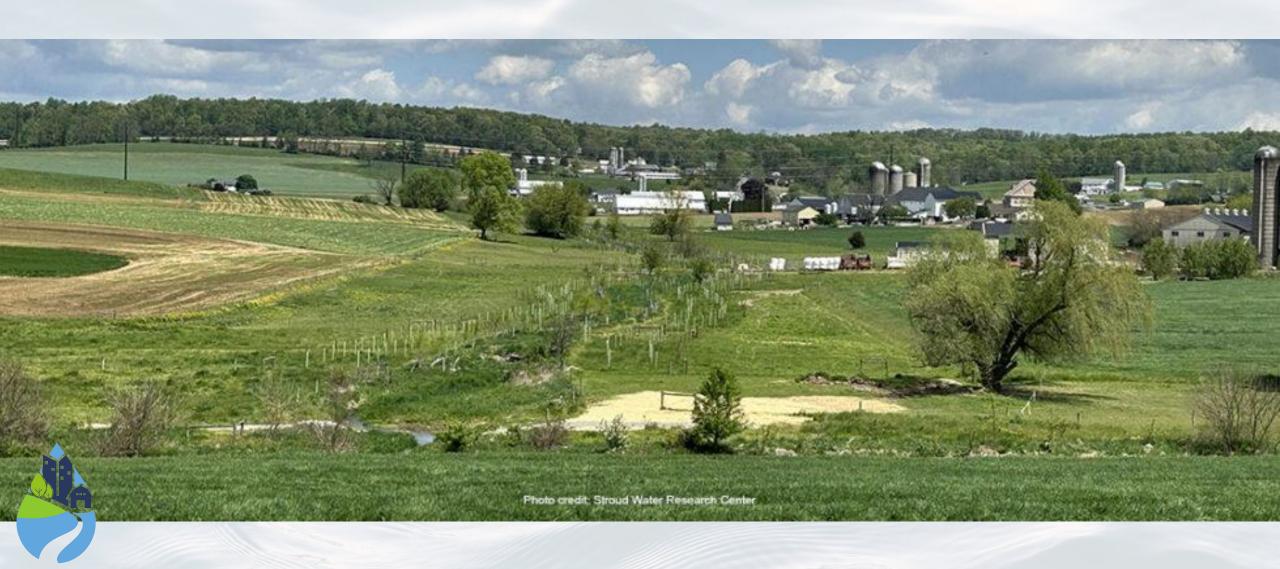








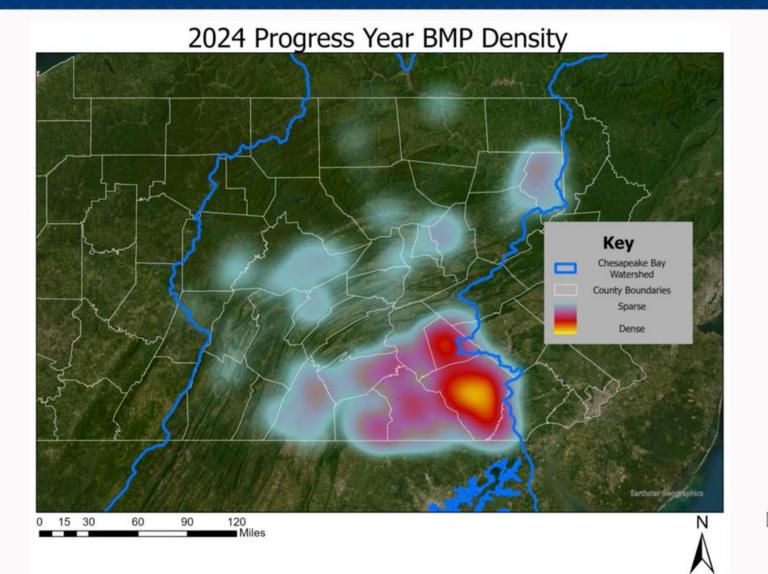
Success Stories Are All Over the Place!



PROGRESS!



The heat index map is comprised solely of BMPs reported to NEIEN/CAST with corresponding Latitude and Longitude coordinates for the 2024 progress year.



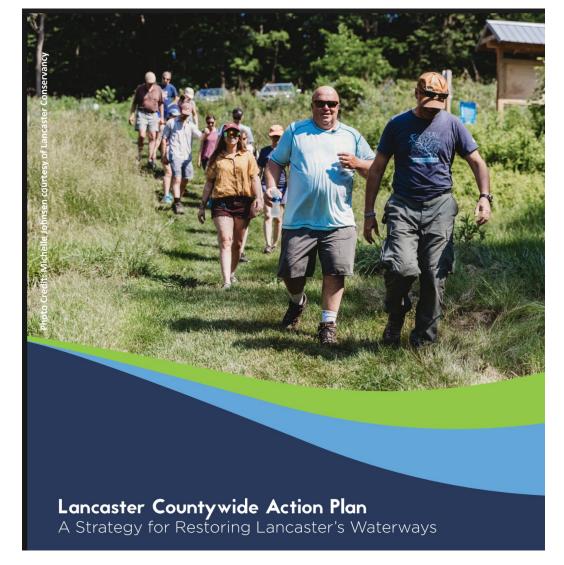


Countywide Action Plan (CAP)

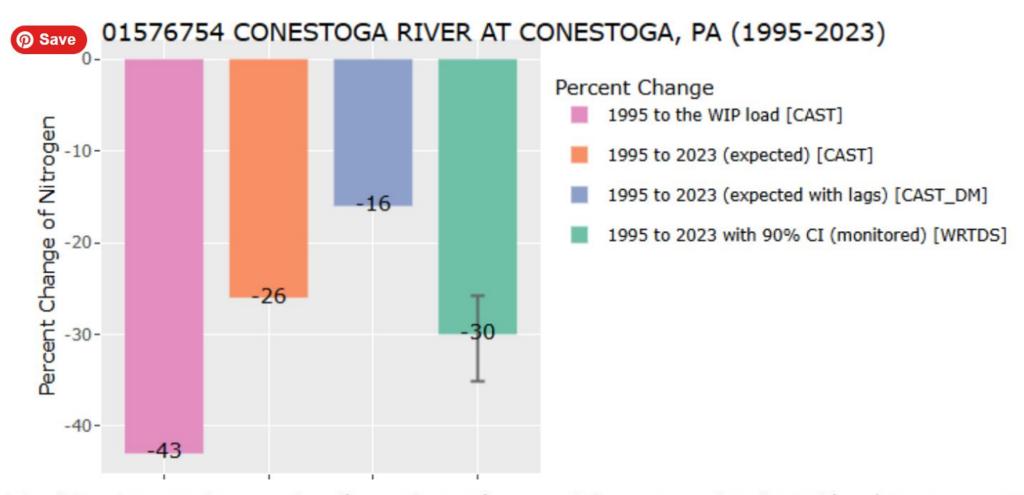
Since 2020:

74 projects

DEP has invested \$19,991,205 in the CAP Coordinator and Implementation Grant. And we have leveraged millions more!







The blue bar on the graph adjusts the estimate of the orange bar by taking into account the data reported for CAST, the monitored data collected at the station and other factors, such as land use changes, lag time and changing environmental conditions. This bar shows that nitrogen is estimated to have decreased here by 16% over the same time period. However, the monitoring data, which is the final green bar on the graph, shows that nitrogen is estimated to have decreased here by 30%, which is actually much better than expected!



2025-2026 Clean Water Fund, Large Implementation



The Lancaster CAP Coordinator Team has the opportunity to apply to DEP annually for implementation funding for projects that help to carry out the CAP. And we can creatively pool these resources with others for efficient distribution, strategic technical assistance, and faster implementation. We use a team of local advisors that evaluate the applications and make collaborative funding decisions.

For 2025-2026, the Lancaster Countywide Action Plan (CAP) Coordinator Team gave three options for project funding.

Option 1

Agricultural BMPs or stream project on Agricultural land that can feasibly be completed by April 2026. This also includes weather-related repairs for previous CAP-funded projects

- · Key Dates:
- . August 15 Application form due.
- September 5 Announce awards.
- . September 15 Agreement in place.
- April 30th, 2026 End date of agreement; no possibility for extension.

Detaile

Projects may include previously submitted but unfunded ACAP applications or new projects on agricultural land. Eligible practices include ACAP BMPs and supporting measures such as streambank stabilization, wetland creation, floodplain restoration, and stornwater practices—with required permits secured before applying. Projects must align with a farm's Conservation/Ag E&S or Nutrient Management Plan (updated plans required). Repairs to weather-damaged CAP projects may be eligible with justification. While match funds are not required, leveraging is encouraged. Projects should align with the Countywide Action Plan, and applicant performance may be considered. Agreements must be with a landowner, nonprofit, or municipality.



Option 2

Any BMP to achieve the CAP that can feasibly be completed by March 2027, with a preference for projects that will be completed in 2026.

- . Key Dates:
- September 15, 2025 Application form due.
- September 30, 2025 Notification of if we are including the project in Lancaster's application to PA DEP.
- Late December 2025 Notification of funding decision
- January 2026 If funded, agreement will be sent.
- March 2027 Project must be complete; end date of agreement.

Details:

Applications are due September 15, with notifications by September 30 if projects are included in Lancaster's request for DEP CAP funding. Final funding decisions will be announced by December 2025, with agreements executed in January 2026. Projects feasible for 2026 construction will be prioritized and must be included in required farm conservation plans (updates may be reimbursable). Match funds are not required but encouraged. Projects should align with the Countywide Action Plan. This process also prepares applicants for other programs like CEG and ACAP. Agreements must be with a landowner, nonprofit, or municipality, with up to 25% for design/administration.



Option 3

Technical assistance for agricultural BMP projects in the pipeline. This may include: stream stabilization projects on Ag land.

· Key Dates:

 August 5, 2025 – Prefer applicants contact Megan Blackmon at

mblackmon@lancastercleanwaterpartners.com indicating that you intend to apply for this opportunity.

- August 12, 2025 Simple application form is due.
- September 2025 Decision communicated.
- August 2026 If selected, design should be complete and you have a shovel-ready project for a future application!

Details

This opportunity supports projects without a technical service provider to help expand Lancaster's technical capacity and speed up implementation after farmer approval. Eligible tasks include design, engineering, site surveys, I&E development, and permitting (not plan writing/updates). Required plans must be submitted to LCCD by November 14 if selected. Implementation funding is not required at application. Projects must be on agricultural land, with preference for ACAP-eligible BMPs, but related practices like streambank stabilization, wetland creation, floodplain restoration, and supporting stormwater measures may also qualify.



Two grant applications for the work of one!



The Lancaster Clean Water Partners and Lancaster Conservancy are streamlining application questions and timelines. Organizations that have projects that may be a good fit for BOTH the Clean Water Fund and the Susquehanna Riverlands Mini-Grant programs can now more easily apply to both!



The Lancaster Clean Water Fund serves as a catalyst for increased collaboration to efficiently achieve clean and clear water in Lancaster County by 2040. It provides a unique opportunity to work with landowners, leaders, and communities across the county on education, restoration, and protection projects to improve water quality.

In 2025, 10 non-profit organizations and municipalities were awarded more than \$87,000 for clean water projects! Below are the grantees and their project descriptions.

Whoa!!!



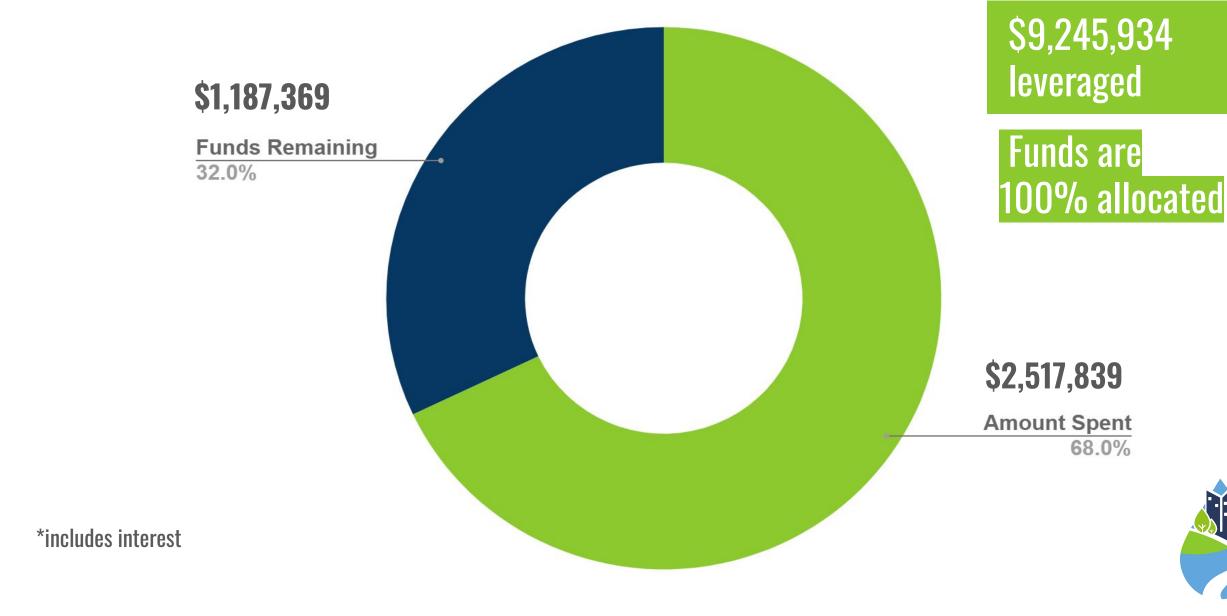
This historic win for the environment brought to you by:

LOWERSUSQUEHANNARIVERKEEPER.ORG

WATERKEEPERSCHESAPEAKE.ORG



ARPA Spending - 11 different partner projects





NFWF Assessment of their Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction (INSR) Program

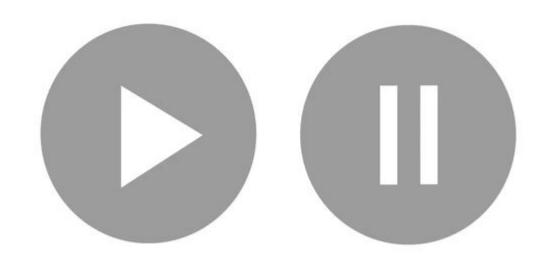
"I look at Lancaster Clean Water Partners, and the progress that Lancaster has made is phenomenal. Like it's changed the color on the map with respect to nutrient and sediment loading. I mean, they have seen huge impacts, not only in model load reduction, but in water quality improvements measured in streams." FIELD LIAISON (FOCUS GROUP)

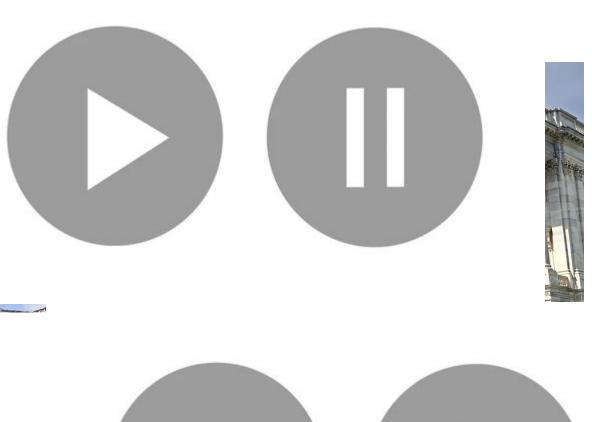
"We [Lancaster Clean Water Partners] are entering a third INSR grant. In the first grant, our collaborative mapping tool, Watershed Leadership Academy, action teams, and Clean Water Fund were established. We developed a delisting strategy and chose the catchments. Through the second INSR grant, we've been able to rally partners around delisting strategies, in addition to engaging municipalities. Acceleration means more BMPs in the same amount of time and/or shorter timelines for implementation."

COLLABORATIVE PARTNER (FOCUS GROUP)



The Reality of Government F













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Lancaster City Wins Grand Prize!



Congratulations to Lancaster City!
The wetlands project at Long's Park
won the BUBBA (Best Urban BMP in
the Bay Award) **Grand Prize!** The

nated by Ashley Garcia for a Good Measure Award. ormance is a core value of *The High Philosophy*, and we made a notable impression on your team.

alking the talk" and providing an example of how to be in your day-to-day activities. Thanks for providing an for helping to make *The High Philosophy* a reality at High.

Mark C. Fitzgerald
Ficer President and Chief Operat
High Real Estate Group LLC























FINDYOUR FUTURE

Nestled in the heart of Pennsylvania, Lancaster County offers the space and support to build a life that fits you. Here, career opportunities, affordable living, and a strong sense of community come together in a way that makes it easy to feel at home.

Whether you're drawn to energetic city life, the charm of small towns, peaceful open spaces, or outdoor adventure, Lancaster has a pace and place that lets you live life your way.

Let the next chapter of your life begin in Lancaster County—a place you can truly make your own.

YOUR FUTURE STARTS HERE.



2225 Sycamore Street

Harrisburg, PA 17111

Phone: (717) 233-8850

Email: james@susquehannapolling.com

www.susquehannapolling.com

James Lee, President

Top Line Survey Results Conservation Foundation of Lancaster County Conducted April 7 – 20, 2025

Sample Size: 617 Lancaster County/Adults/Registered Voters

[With Comparison to Adult Household Surveys from 2021]

LANCASTER COUNTY VOTER ATTITUDE POLL, TOP LINE REPORT AND QUESTIONNAIRE







SUNNYSIDE ENVIRONMENTAL **CENTER & NATURE PRESERVE**

Open House

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 6-7:30 PM Sunnyside Mennonite Church 337 Circle Avenue Lancaster, PA 17602

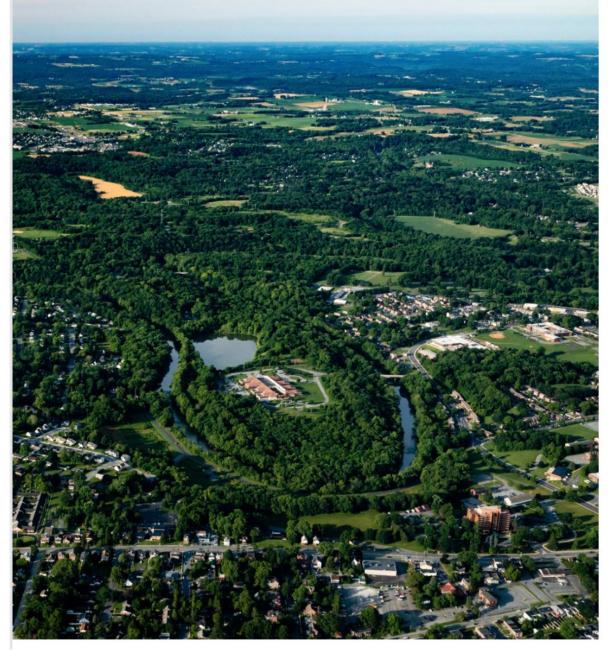
LANCASTER



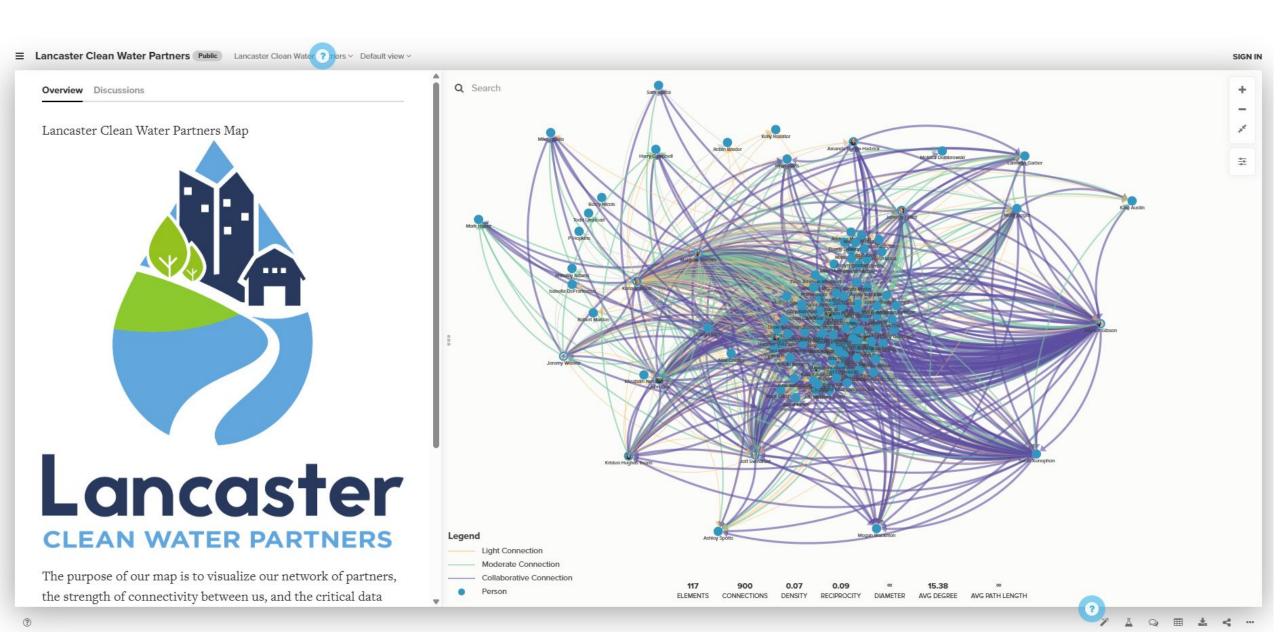
Come learn more about plans for a new environmental center and nature preserve on Sunnyside Peninsula.

Dinner provided. Presentation starts at 6:30 PM.





The Conestoga River flows through the city of Lancaster, Pa. (Photo by Will Parson/Chesapeake Bay Program with support from Southwings)





Municipal Stormwater Forum



Trusted Peer Liaisons - the results!

THANK YOU!

Ben Webber



Ben, a civil engineer with nearly four decades of experience, grew up in Manheim Township, where he developed a deep connection to local streams and nature. In recent

Terry Martin



Terry, a lifelong resident of Eastern Lancaster County, has dedicated his career to the Conestoga River Basin through roles in agri-business, construction, and local government.



Lancaster's MS4 Pollution Reduction Plan progress (through spring 2025)

Manheim Boro

Manheim Twp

7/1/2019

7/1/2018

49,412.94

488,499.00

6/29/2024

6/30/2023

Permittee	PRP Approval Date	Sediment Reduction (lbs/yr)	Implementation Deadline	% Complete (through 2024)				
Akron Boro	9/1/2023	35,299.16	8/30/2028	183%				
Brecknock Twp	12/1/2023	25,314.09	11/29/2028		1			
Clay Twp	1/1/2019	71,438.20	12/31/2023		Ī			
Columbia Boro	4/1/2018	59,181.00	Sali	sbury Twp	12/1/2020	63,642.00	11/30/2025	973%
Denver Boro	1/1/2021	44,148.00	Strasburg Boro		6/1/2018	52,594.00	5/31/2023	118%
Earl Twp	9/1/2018	43,935.00	Terre Hill Boro		4/1/2024	12,075.33	3/31/2029	
East Cocalico Twp	10/1/2018	-	Upper Leacock Twp		11/1/2019	99,782.00	10/30/2024	0%
East Donegal Twp	9/1/2019	100,553.00	Warwick Lititz Joint		4/1/2019	500,986.00	3/30/2024	346%
East Earl Twp	7/24/2024	155,573.37	West Cocalico Twp		5/1/2019	14,381.00	4/29/2024	201%
East Hempfield Twp	7/1/2019	740,992.00	West Donegal Twp		7/1/2019	135,424.00	6/29/2024	100%
East Lampeter Twp	8/1/2018	578,395.00	West Earl Twp		7/1/2018	92,353.00	6/30/2023	135%
East Petersburg Boro	6/1/2019	63,519.00	West Hempfield Twp		9/1/2019	139,461.00	8/30/2024	129%
Elizabethtown Boro	11/1/2020	17,325.00	West Lampeter Twp		12/1/2019	284,114.00	11/29/2024	116%
	100 100 100 100 100	SC CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR		Total require	d	5,123,832.32	Total Achieved	7,618,849.36
Ephrata Boro	8/1/2018	118,389.00			1			Ç.S.
Ephrata Twp	10/1/2018	70,694.00	9/30/2023	179%	4			
Lancaster City	8/1/2018	140,151.00	7/31/2023	101%				
Lancaster Twp	5/1/2022	118,797.00	4/30/2027	115%				
Leacock Twp	8/1/2018	41,590.66	8/1/2023					
					_			

342%

110%



PHASE I WPAC SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING OUTCOMES WOULD BE MOST BENEFICIAL FROM A PHASE 2 STUDY?

Ranking	Work that helps offset or reduce work for your MS4 permit or PRP.	A prioritized list of flood mitigation and stormwater runoff control projects.	Updated Stormwater Management Ordinance	A list of suitable locations for regional stormwater management.	Hydrologic modeling including new release rates.	Improved cooperation with your neighbors.
1	25	11	14	7	5	4
2	9	24	9	13	7	5
3	13	19	8	13	8	12
4	6	8	11	11	20	7
5	8	3	12	10	19	20
6	6	2	13	12	8	20



Municipal Reimbursement for Plan Development Participation and Adoption of Model Ordinance

Rev. 1/2025 3800-FM-BCW0059 Application SAMPLE

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION **BUREAU OF CLEAN WATER**



APPLICATION FOR MUNICIPAL REIMBURSEMENT UNDER THE PENNSYLVANIA STORM WATER MANAGEMENT ACT (1978 ACT 167)

Applicant Information

Municipality (Applicant) Name:













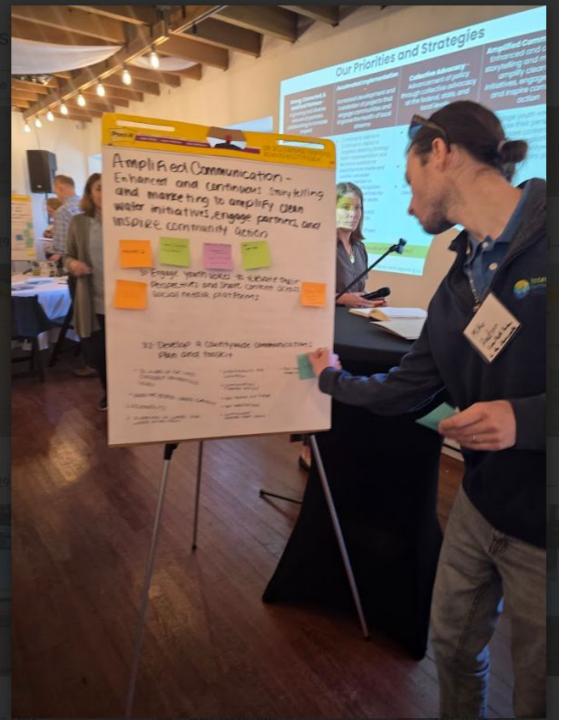
Resource Sharing - what did you bring to the table



Back in April 2025











Vision

Clean and clear water in Lancaster County by 2040

Mission

Collaborate, accelerate, and expand efforts to restore and sustain healthy waterways in Lancaster County.

Values

- **Collaboration not duplication**: We support and elevate one another to achieve greater impact together than we could alone, combining our unique strengths instead of duplicating efforts.
- Think big be bold: We operate with a bias toward action and innovation, driving results that build momentum for bold solutions and lasting positive change in our communities.
- Trust: The partners have confidence in each others' abilities and share a commitment to a community-based
 approach that fosters accountability and trust.
- Clean and clear water for all: Access to clean water is a fundamental right. Through collaboration, we amplify
 diverse voices and work to ensure equitable access for all, particularly for those who have historically been denied.
- **Transparency**: We communicate how decisions are made and operate with genuine openness and authenticity.
- **Responsive Leadership**: We are responsive to one another and our communities, adjusting our approach to meet evolving challenges and opportunities.

2025-2030 Priorities and Strategies

Strong, Connected, and Mobilized Partners:

A growing and diverse network of partners collaborating to increase impact.

- Share programs, practices, and lessons learned across the Network to strengthen alignment and accelerate shared progress
- Identify and grow the Network to include a broader range of sectors and individuals with lived experiences
- Expand existing Action Teams to connect and drive greater sector-specific impact
- Engage researchers and subject matter experts to ground our work in the latest data and science

Accelerated Implementation:

Increased development and installation of projects that engage communities and improve the health of local streams.

- Continue to deploy a targeted delisting strategy through landscape scale restoration in prioritized geographies
- Build implementation and technical assistance expertise both inside and outside Lancaster
- Remove barriers to landowner participation and provide incentives for investing and maintaining clean water projects
- Provide guidance and ongoing support for site-specific implementation of best practices

Collective Advocacy: A powerful voice for clean water to advance federal, state and local policies and processes that support implementation.

- Identify and prioritize high impact policy and process improvements
- Enhance partner communication and education on water quality regulatory standards
- Build collaborative relationships with and among regulating agencies to improve efficiencies
- Equip partners with tools, resources and opportunities to effectively engage in advocacy for restoration, one another and the Network

Amplified Engagement:

Broadened and enhanced involvement of community members in local clean water efforts.

- Analyze existing activities and audiences to identify gaps and opportunities to increase and expand community engagement across the county
- Provide tools and training to help partners meaningfully connect with new and diverse constituents and communities

Cross-Cutting Strategies (These apply to and advance all of the Priorities)

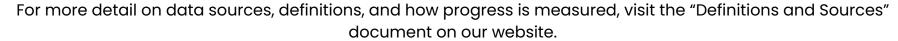
- Innovate to enable new and scalable solutions
- Enhance shared infrastructure to improve data gathering, analysis and reporting to communicate impact, including BMP implementation and water quality trends by watershed, inform decisions and drive action
- Acquire and deploy collaborative funding at the scale needed to achieve the priorities of the Common Agenda
- Enhance and provide continuous marketing and storytelling to amplify clean water initiatives

Our 2040 Result and Progress Indicators

Result: Clean and Clear Water in Lancaster by 2040

To achieve clean and clear water in Lancaster by 2040, the partners will track the following key population and watershed-level measures:

Water Quality	Land Management	Engagement and Capacity	
 20 streams changed from impaired to supporting aquatic life Positive trends at monitoring sites: 	 600 acres of high-quality wetlands restored and/or floodplains reconnected 	 75% of Lancaster residents have an accurate awareness of clean water issues in the county 	
 Decreased nutrient and sediment loading 	 90% of farms implementing effective runoff reduction practices 	 50% of people taking action for clean water 	
Less salt	 75% of streams buffered, stabilized, and/or restored 	 \$25M per year for the restoration and protection of Lancaster's waterways 	
 Lower temperature 	• 15% increase in tree canopy	A connected and growing network of	
 Higher dissolved oxygen in tributaries 	 30% of the county is permanently protected lands 	200+ active partners reflecting the diversity of Lancaster County	
Improved macroinvertebrate scores	60% of developed land treated by stormwater management practices		
\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\			



Who We Are V Get Involved V Resources and Tools V

A Common Agenda for Lancaster.

Aug 26, 2025 | Blog



- by Allyson Gibson

A Commitment we make together. A Common Agenda for Lancaster.

When people ask how we as a network function all together or what does collaboration actually mean in real life, every one of us can answer by describing relationships and values and tools we have access to. For the work towards clean water in Lancaster County, our Common Agenda is an especially important tool. But seriously, what is it?

It's not a strategic plan.

It's not a comprehensive plan.

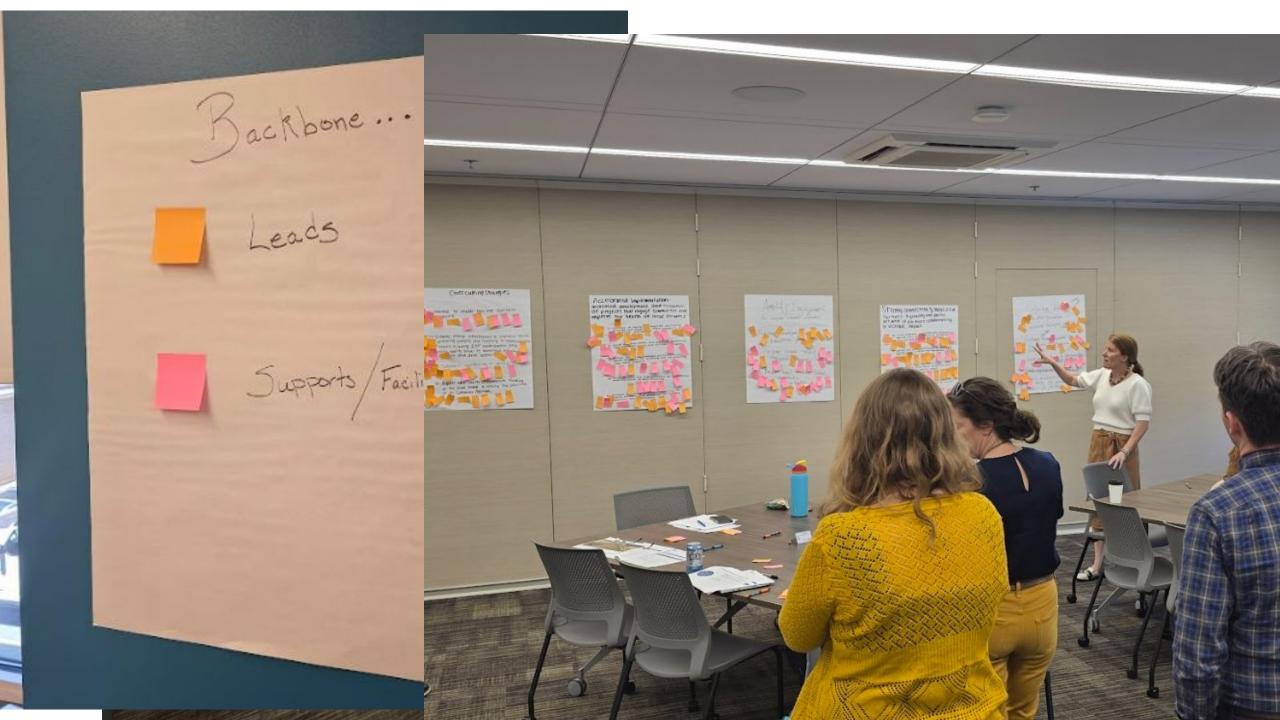
It is not a quick process to get one and it can't be done in a vacuum.

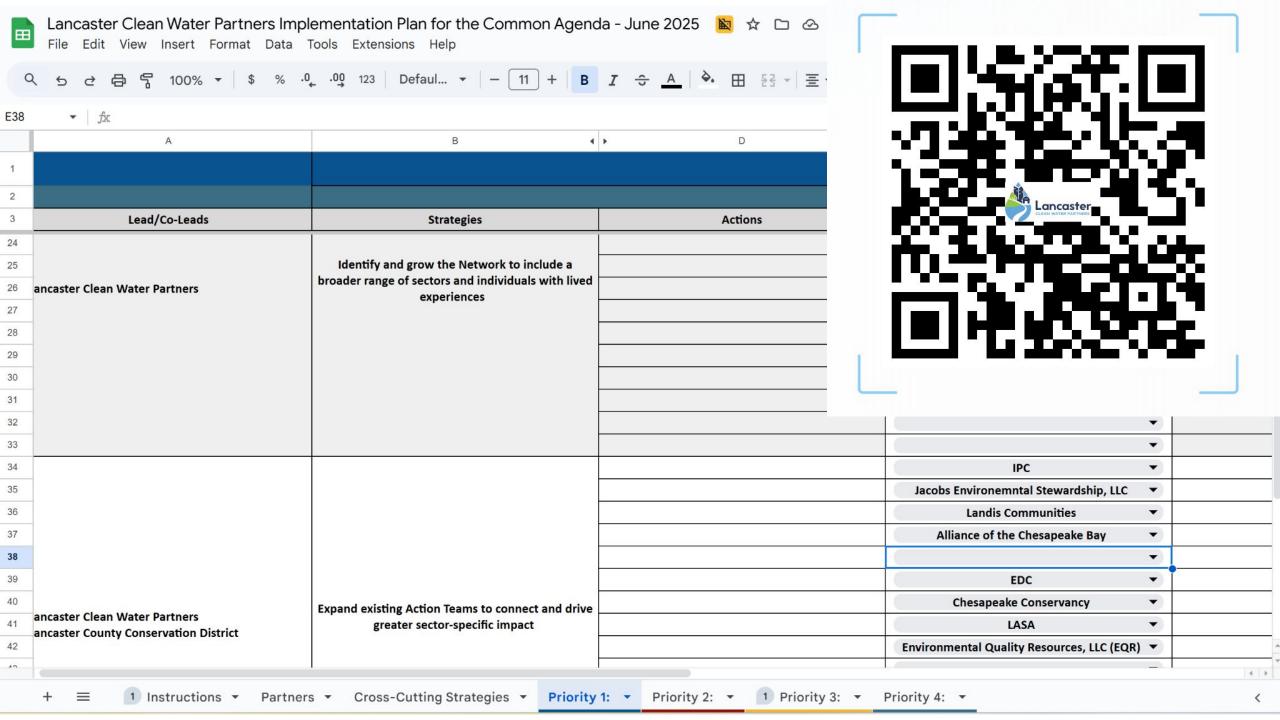
It IS a commitment to a shared goal with a roadmap of how we're all going to get there together. And for Lancaster that shared goal, our network's vision, is clean and clear water by 2040. We use a Collective Impact approach, rooted in our Common Agenda, a backbone organization, a shared measurement system, mutually reinforcing activities, and continuous communication to tackle complex environmental challenges. The Common Agenda keeps us all in accord with our goal.

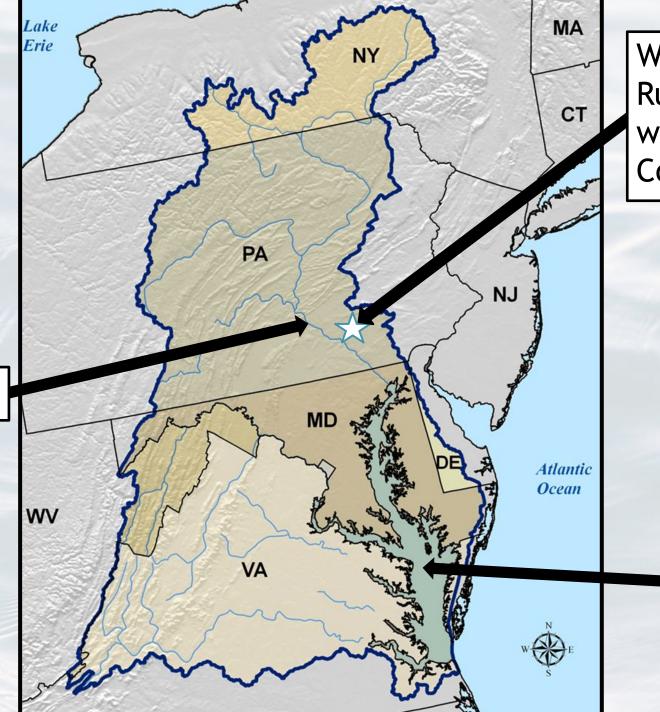
Paul Born writes that "a common agenda has three primary purposes, each as important as the other:

• First, it is a document of the key goals and strategies that a network of partners (the people who have joined together to change their community) have

Field testing with 20 minute conversations with state secretaries, individual partner orgs, funders, and more to ask "Is this bold enough? What's missing? Will you use this?"







We are in the Lititz Run Watershed, which flows into the Conestoga River.

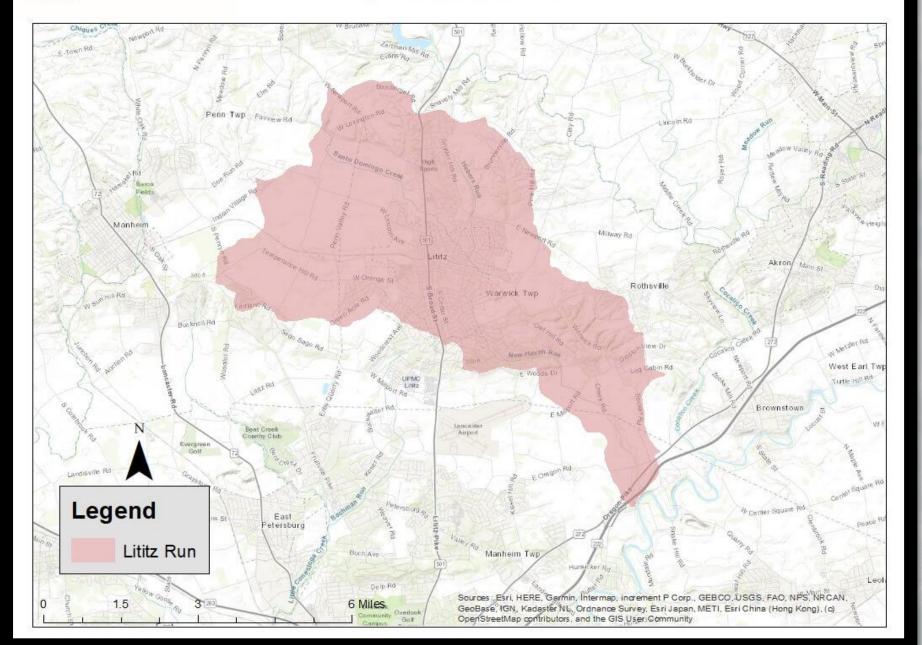
Chesapeake Bay



Susquehanna River



Lititz Run Watershed







On the road to healthy streams...

Welcome our Lititz Run panel!



Career Development

Launch your career in Chesapeake Bay restoration with our competitive career development program.



Work With Us

Internships

> Career Development

Career Opportunities

Get weekly updates or opportunities

Subscribe to our weekly newslett Brief, for information on job oppointernships, events and funding r Chesapeake Bay science and rest





Generational Stewardship



SAVETHEDATE

Full Partners Meeting

APRIL 14, 2026 8 - 10 AM

STAUFFER RUN
ST. JOSEPH'S UNIVERSITY
LANCASTER, PA

