

# AMERICA'S 55TH NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

## DESIGNATED: MARCH 12, 2019

### ENHANCING OUR REGION'S NATIONAL IDENTITY AND QUALITY OF LIFE

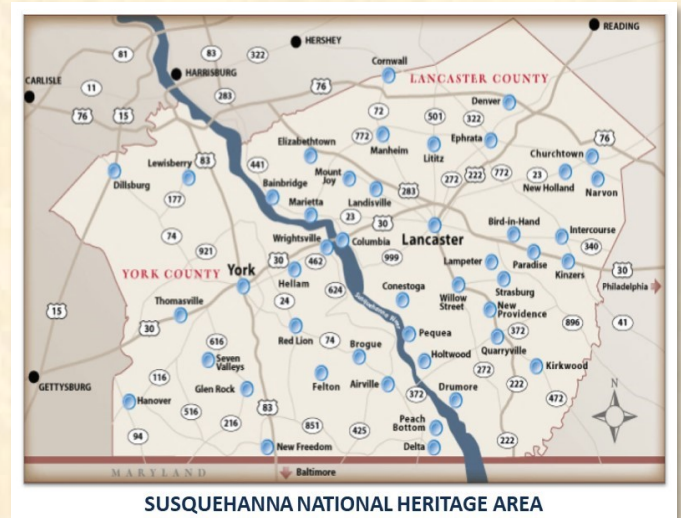
The Susquehanna National Heritage Area will boost visibility for the Susquehanna River and surrounding areas of South Central Pennsylvania as a national destination for heritage and outdoor visitors, help communities harness the economic power of tourism, create jobs, and improve quality of life. Our region will benefit from enhanced national identity, new National Park Service partnerships, and a fair share of federal funding committed to America's fifty-five National Heritage Areas.

### HONORING THE STATE AND NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE OF Our Area

Lancaster and York Counties together were officially designated as Pennsylvania's tenth State Heritage Area in 2001, with what is now the Susquehanna Heritage Corporation named as the non-profit management entity. State designation involved extensive community engagement to develop a study of heritage resources and a Management Action Plan to define goals, themes, and projects. The process highlighted our region's unique town and country landscapes, historic sites, and natural wonders and confirmed the key role our people played in advancing American freedom, agriculture, and industry. Upon completion of a Feasibility Study Report in 2008, the National Park Service found our region also meets the criteria for National Heritage Area designation by Congress.

### TAKING ACTION WITH OUR LEADERS IN CONGRESS

On March 12, 2019, the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act (S.47) was signed into law in Washington, DC after approval by the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives in February 2019. This national conservation legislation includes designation of Lancaster and York Counties as the Susquehanna National Heritage Area. The Act's signing was great news for the 10+ year effort to achieve this national honor for our region. We thank U.S. Senator Bob Casey for supporting this legislation since 2008 and securing an amendment to S.47 designating the Susquehanna National Heritage Area. Senator Casey's commitment to this effort has brought important national recognition to our region as America's 55th National Heritage Area. The Act named Susquehanna Heritage Corporation as Local Coordinating Entity for the National Heritage Area and authorized federal funding to carry out heritage projects and activities.



### BUILDING ON A TRACK RECORD OF SUCCESS

Susquehanna Heritage Corporation, doing business as Susquehanna National Heritage Area (SNHA), has a twenty-year track record of heritage and community development success in our region, with a special focus on placemaking and tourism along the Susquehanna River. SNHA has helped attract \$20+ million to advance heritage and conservation efforts and has ongoing public and private funding to match federal support. SNHA's Strategic Plan focuses on developing the river and nearby communities as a national destination for heritage and outdoor travelers and a sustainable economic generator for our region. SNHA's leadership is committed to this vision.



SNHA leads National Heritage Area activities from our historic riverfront home at the Zimmerman Center for Heritage in York County and the Columbia Crossing River Trails Center we manage in Lancaster County. The National Park Service has designated the Zimmerman Center as Pennsylvania's official Visitor Contact & Passport Station for the Captain John Smith Chesapeake Trail—America's first water-based National Historic Trail. National Heritage Area designation builds on this important partnership with the National Park Service to expand collaboration to the regional level.

***THE SUSQUEHANNA NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA HONORS OUR REGION'S IMPORTANT PLACE IN THE NATIONAL STORY AND BRINGS NEW RESOURCES AND ECONOMIC VITALITY TO OUR COMMUNITIES.***





# SUSQUEHANNA NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

[www.SusquehannaHeritage.org](http://www.SusquehannaHeritage.org)

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