

Concord Township Comprehensive Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan

July 2022



Township of Concord
DELAWARE COUNTY

**Concord Township
Comprehensive Recreation, Park
and Open Space Plan**

July 2022

Acknowledgments

Concord Township Council

Dominic A. Pileggi, President
John J. Gillespie, Co-Vice President
John Crossan, Co-Vice President
Dana Rankin
Colleen Morrone
Vinita Deshmukh
Larry Mutschler

Township Manager

Amanda Serock

Steering Committee

Lesley Berkeyheiser – Historical Commission
John Crossan – Concord Township Council
Ken Hemphill – Township resident
Richard Julason – Township resident
Shawn Lawler - Concord Township Planning Commission
Scott Mayer – Garnet Valley School District Board
Paul Padien – Brandywine Youth Club
Amanda Serock – Concord Township Manager
Tony Shahan – Newlin Grist Mill
Mark Willcox – Township resident
Mary Beth Dostillio – Township resident

Prepared for:



Concord Township
43 Thornton Road
Glen Mills, PA 19342

Prepared by:



Pennoni
One South Church Street, 2nd Floor
West Chester, PA 19382



This study is financed in part by a grant from the Community Conservation Partnerships Program, Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund, under the administration of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), Bureau of Recreation and Conservation.



Township of Concord
DELAWARE COUNTY

COUNCIL: Dominic A. Pileggi, John J. Gillespie, John L. Crossan,
Dana M. Rankin, Colleen P. Morrone, Vinita Deshmukh, Larry Mutschler

RESOLUTION NO. 31-2022

**A RESOLUTION CLOSING OUT COMMUNITY CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIPS
GRANT PROJECT BRC-TAG-24-134**

WHEREAS, Concord Township has prepared a Comprehensive Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan for Concord Township, Delaware County; and, **WHEREAS**, the purpose of the Plan is to identify key opportunities and provide a wide variety of recommendations for ways the Township can protect and improve its parks, recreation, open space, and environmental resources to enhance the quality of life for current and future Township residents; and,

WHEREAS, the Plan was financed in part by a Community Conservation Partnerships Program grant under the administration of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation, under contract number **BRC-TAG-24-134**.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Council of the Concord Township that:

- a. The project was completed in accordance with the DCNR Grant Agreement.
- b. All project expenditures have been made in accordance with the DCNR Grant Agreement.
- c. The Plan and related materials are acceptable to Concord Township.
- d. The Plan and related materials will be used to guide future recreation and conservation decisions.

ADOPTED THIS 12th DAY OF July, 2022, by the

Township Council
(Name of Grantee Governing Body)

Dominic Pileggi
(Printed Name and Title of Chief Official, President, or Chairperson)

Dominic Pileggi

(Signature of Chief Official, President, or Chairperson)

Attest: 
(Signature and Title)

Table of Contents

1	Project Background	page 1
2	Existing Resources	page 7
3	Needs and Opportunities	page 41
4	Recommendations	page 47
5	Implementation	page 71
6	Appendices	page 85
	a. Planning Context	
	b. Open Space Grants	
	c. Open Space Scorecard	
	d. Voice Your Vision	
	e. Assessment of Needs	
	f. Survey Results	

1

Project Background

The *Concord Township Comprehensive Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan* sets forth a blueprint for how the Township can protect and improve its parks, recreation, open space, and environmental resources to enhance the quality of life for current and future Township residents. Changing demographics and growing demand for open space resources have prompted the need to improve facilities and programs, as well as to protect remaining open space and conserve sensitive natural resources. In order to promote the quality of life for future generations, it is necessary not only to assess current needs, but also to provide for future demands.

The underlying purpose of the Plan is to identify opportunities and set priorities for parks and open space enhancements in Concord Township, to guide future decision making and budgeting. It sets forth policy recommendations intended to inform the Township Council of issues and objectives of importance to Concord residents, and of strategies for achieving those objectives.

In pursuit of this goal, the Plan addresses the desire to maintain open space for both passive and active recreation, while planning for future growth. The expectation is that an enhanced park and open space system in the Township will improve the overall quality of life in the community, increase property values, and enhance the attractiveness of Concord Township to new businesses and residents.

The Plan is consistent with prior local planning efforts, and with stated goals of Delaware County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. It is in keeping with the Pennsylvania Environmental Rights Amendment (Article 1, Section 27 of the State Constitution) adopted in 1971, which states:

“The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic, and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania’s public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come...”

The Plan sets as long-range policies and priorities. It should remain flexible at all times, to react to changing needs and take advantage of unforeseen opportunities. The Plan’s recommendations should continually be re-assessed and updated periodically to reflect current conditions and aspirations.

The Plan should be referred to by the Township Council for guidance on setting priorities, allocating financial resources, and directing staff, volunteers, and outside professionals who may collaborate to implement capital improvements and conservation measures.

Goals of the Plan

**Conserve
natural
resources**

**Identify
opportunities to
expand walking
and biking trails**

**Provide for future
recreation needs
of the community**

**Provide activities
for all ages and
interests**

**Improve capacity
for programs and
maintenance**

**Develop an
effective
implementation
strategy**

The Importance of Parks and Open Space

There is no question that parks and open space contribute strongly to the quality of life of our communities. Numerous studies have shown that there are significant benefits to conserving open space, as it has the power to attract residents and business, promote tourism, elevate property values, and create a sense of place. More than just a pleasant amenity, high quality open space has direct and indirect economic benefits, such as:

- Increase nearby property values
- Help attract business and commercial development
- Energize economic development and neighborhood revitalization
- Promote health and fitness
- Build community spirit by providing venues to meet and interact with others
- Conserve natural resources and cultural heritage
- Attracts tourism



Plan Preparation and Organization

This Plan is organized in the following chapters:

- **Chapter 1: Background** – *What is the Plan?*
Overall project goals, objectives, and parameters.
- **Chapter 2: Existing Resources** – *What do we already have?*
Inventory of existing park and open space resources, recreation programming, and park management infrastructure.
- **Chapter 3: Needs and Opportunities** – *What more do we want?*
Identification of needs, wants, issues of concern, and opportunities for improvement.
- **Chapter 4: Recommendations** – *What should we do next?*
Opportunities to improve and protect parks and open space and to expand recreational programming.
- **Chapter 5: Implementation** – *How do we go about it?*
Action plan to outline a realistic approach to implement the recommendations, including costs, timeline, and responsible parties.



Township open space resources include parks, natural areas, and a wide range of recreation opportunities.

Recent Accomplishments

In recent years, Concord Township has been diligent in improving recreation opportunities for residents and expanding the inventory of public open space and protected land. Within just the last three years, Concord has preserved more than 125 acres of new land and committed more than \$8 million to open space preservation, trails, and parks. The Township now owns more than 320 acres of open space, which hosts a wide variety of recreation and community activities.

Among many improvements made since 2015, some of the significant accomplishments by the Township to improve facilities and acquire new open space include the following:

1. Constructed **new recreation facilities at the Municipal Building**, including pickleball and bocce courts.
2. Established **new walking trails** at Phipps Farm, Bush Hill Farm, Municipal Complex, and Smallwood Preserve.
3. Added features to the **Township Park** including a new playground, dog park, and beach volleyball.
4. **Preserved many properties** for open space, including Smallbrook Preserve, Featherbed Farm, and numerous others, which will provide opportunities for trail connections, passive recreation, and environmental conservation.
5. Supported and funded the protection of hundreds of acres in Beaver Valley which aided the expansion of **First State National Historical Park**.
6. Preserved and **protected many historic buildings**, including the AME Church and Newlin Log Home and Tavern.
7. Completed a Township-wide **Greenways and Open Space Network Plan** in 2016.
8. Planned and acquired funding for the **Octoraro Trail**, now in final design with construction of initial phases expected in 2023-24.
9. Developed a plan for the proposed **Garnet Valley Greenway**.
10. Acquired **conservation easements** in the Ivy Mills Historic District and for Featherbed Farm.
11. **Acquired properties** in the Brandywine Summit neighborhood on Beaver Valley Road that may serve as a future pocket park.
12. Coordinated with neighboring municipalities Chadds Ford and Bethel Township to explore potential for **multi-municipal sidewalk and trail connections**.
13. Coordinated with Delaware County on **potential trail connections** to Clayton Park.



Dog Park at Township Park, Smithbridge Road



Conservation easement for the Willcox property in the Ivy Mills Historic District



Pickleball Courts at the Municipal Complex



Garnet Valley Greenway planning



Newlin Log Home and Tavern, Beaver Valley Road



Smallbrook Preserve, Featherbed Lane



A wide range of open space and recreation improvements have been made by Concord Township in recent years, including construction of a recreation complex at the Municipal Building (above and pg. 3); trails at Phipps Farm, Bush Hall Farm, and Smallwood Preserve (top); new playground at the Township Park (see photo pg. 2); numerous planning and feasibility studies (pg. 5).

Planning Context

This *Comprehensive Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan* is consistent with and an extension of other recent and ongoing planning initiatives in Concord and the local region. For Concord to achieve its goals in sustaining and enhancing quality of life, it is important that a coherent vision for the future is expressed in public policy. The development of municipal planning documents which are consistent in their objectives is one way that this can happen. Some of the many relevant planning efforts that influence this *Plan* are listed below. See *Appendix i* for further information.

Local Concord Township Planning

[Concord Township Recreation & Open Space Plan \(1995\) and Plan Update \(2007\)](#)

The 1995 Open Space Plan established the need to balance development with preservation of open space, particularly environmentally and culturally sensitive resources. The plan recognized trails as an important component of community recreation and natural resource conservation and identified the development of a “linear open space system,” as an important objective. The 2007 Plan Update documented many of the overriding goals that remain important today, and advocated for a connected open space network.

[Concord Township Greenways and Open Space Network Plan \(2015\)](#)

This plan conceives a Township-wide network of public trails and greenway corridors and the potential to connect a wide range of meaningful attractions with a combination of on- and off-street trails which link together in an integrated network.

[Octoraro Greenway Feasibility Study \(2016\)](#)

This plan outlines the feasibility of a pedestrian/bicycle greenway along the alignment of the former Octoraro Railroad. This route represents an outstanding opportunity for development of a continuous trail across the entire township, connecting a variety of existing recreational facilities as well as the promise of broader connections to neighboring municipalities.

[Garnet Valley Greenway Feasibility Study \(2020\)](#)

In addition to the Octoraro Trail, the Garnet Valley Greenway is envisioned as a paved multi-purpose recreation trail that utilizes a PECO electrical utility right-of-way to connect many major community, civic, and open space destinations, including Clayton Park, Concord Township Park on Smithbridge Road, Garnet Valley schools, the Octoraro Trail itself, and numerous residential neighborhoods.

[Concord and Chadds Ford Route 1 and Route 202 Area Bike and Pedestrian Study \(2020\)](#)

Concord partnered with neighboring Chadds Ford Township on this study that promoted multi-circulation with a wide range of recommendations to improve pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure to and along the busy commercial corridors of Route 1 and Route 202.



Delaware County Planning

[Natural Heritage Inventory of Delaware County, PA \(2011\)](#)

This inventory focuses on the best examples living ecological resources in Delaware County, and contains information on the locations of rare, threatened, and endangered species and of the highest quality natural areas in the County. Several locations in Concord Township are highlighted for their ecological value. These are Beaver Valley Woods, Johnsons Corner (Naamans Creek Road), and Clayton Park/Shavertown Woods. (Also see *Chapter 2*)

[Delaware County Open Space, Recreation, and Greenway Plan \(2015\)](#)

The Delaware County Planning Department prepared this Plan to address all facets of parks and recreation planning in the county including municipal, public and private land, and trails. The Plan identifies three overarching goals, which closely reflect those expressed in Concord Township planning documents:

- **Conserve** the natural and cultural resources of the County
- **Enhance** the environmental and/or recreational value of the land
- **Connect** natural features and people through development of a greenway network.

This plan also represents the county's first true Greenway Plan. The Plan identifies 25 Primary Trails within the county, including two within Concord Township, the Octoraro Trail and the "PECO Right-of-Way Trail," which was later rebranded as the Garnet Valley Greenway.

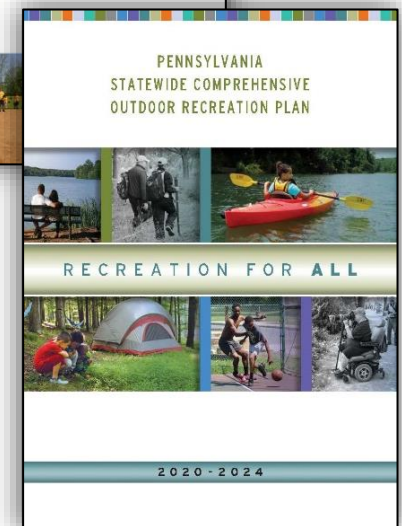
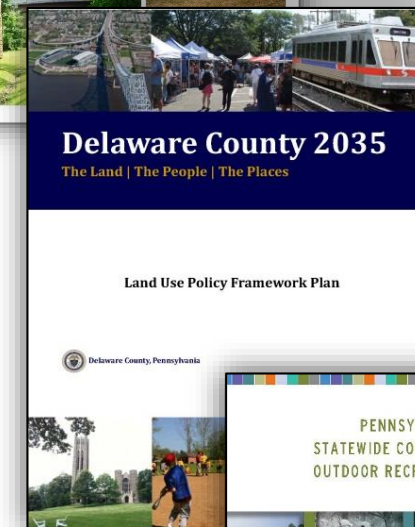
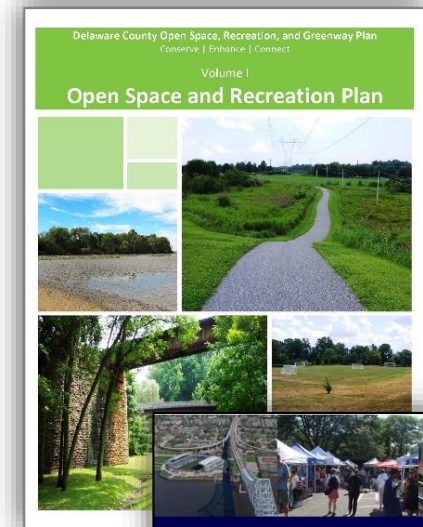
[Delaware County 2035 \(2013\)](#)

This Comprehensive Plan for Delaware County establishes an overall vision for the future and provides the County's 49 municipalities with a framework for the strategic use of public resources to improve the quality of life for all its residents. The Open Space, Recreation, and Greenway Plan noted above serves as the open space component plan of *Delaware County 2035*.

Regional and Statewide Planning

[Pennsylvania Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan \(2020-2024\)](#)

Pennsylvania's outdoor recreation plan helps to guide strategy for local governments, state government and other outdoor recreation providers. Maintenance of existing park and recreation areas continues to be the top concern of Pennsylvanians. Access to recreation programs is also highly important, as is building more greenways and trails, and protecting existing open space and wildlife habitat. These findings are very consistent with the findings of this *Concord Township Comprehensive Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan*.

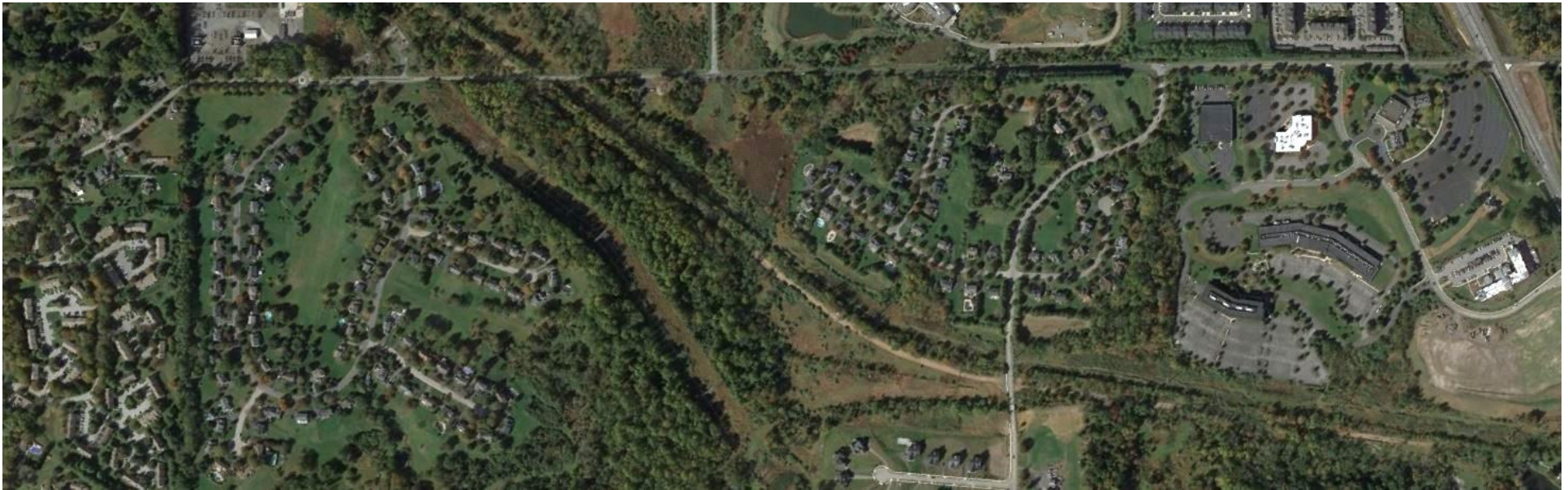
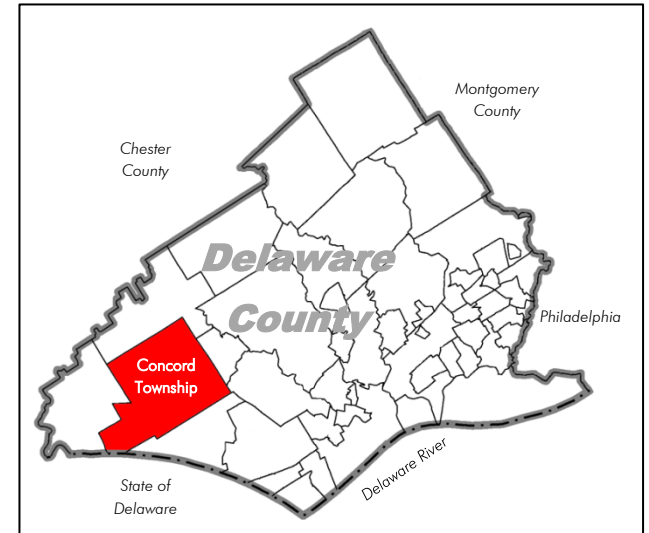


2 Existing Resources

Concord Township is an active and diverse community, with a thriving commercial corridor, leafy residential subdivisions, abundant parks, vibrant senior citizen community, and an outstanding public school district. The Township experienced a period of rapid development around the turn of the millennium, but the population has stabilized during the past decade and only modest growth is predicted in the coming decades.

Township Profile

Concord Township occupies 13.7 square miles and is situated about 20 miles west of Philadelphia. It is one of the oldest communities in the county, settled in 1660 and incorporated in 1683. It remained largely rural until the post-war period beginning in the 1950s. As suburbanization crept outward from Philadelphia in the early 20th century, population density increased first in the inner-ring suburbs closest to the city. The outward migration continued in the postwar years. Only in recent decades has significant growth reached the townships in western Delaware County such as Concord, as suburbanization pushed out from Philadelphia and gradually transformed what had been a rural landscape.



Along with neighboring municipalities, Concord Township saw considerable growth in the years surrounding the turn of the millennium. During that period, retail and commercial activity along Baltimore Pike and Wilmington-West Chester Pike increased significantly, and residential subdivisions replaced much of the original farmland. The Township population more than doubled between 1990 and 2010 but has since stabilized and is only expected to grow modestly in coming decades.

Despite the recent significant growth, portions of the original community fabric remain. Historic properties still feature prominently in the local landscape, and century-old development patterns are still very much in evidence. In the face of these development pressures, residents and Township officials have recognized the importance of conserving open space, and the Township has made strides to protect and acquire undeveloped property for future use as public open space and recreation land.

Demographics

The population of Concord Township is 18,295, according to the 2020 U.S. Census. An estimate of future population growth in the Township is made by the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), which estimates population for all municipalities in the greater Philadelphia region in 10-year increments. Between 2015 and 2045, DVRPC projects continued steady growth in population for Concord Township, more than 14% growth over that time span. A similar rate of population growth is projected for neighboring Chadds Ford, Edgemont, Thornbury and Bethel. Future growth in this western part of the county is expected to greatly outpace that of Delaware County as a whole (4.1% estimated), since areas closer to Philadelphia are more fully built out.

The U.S. Census Bureau also provides statistics that offers a look at how the current population is broken down in terms of age, income, race, and other markers. In general, Concord Township more affluent and less densely populated than the County overall.

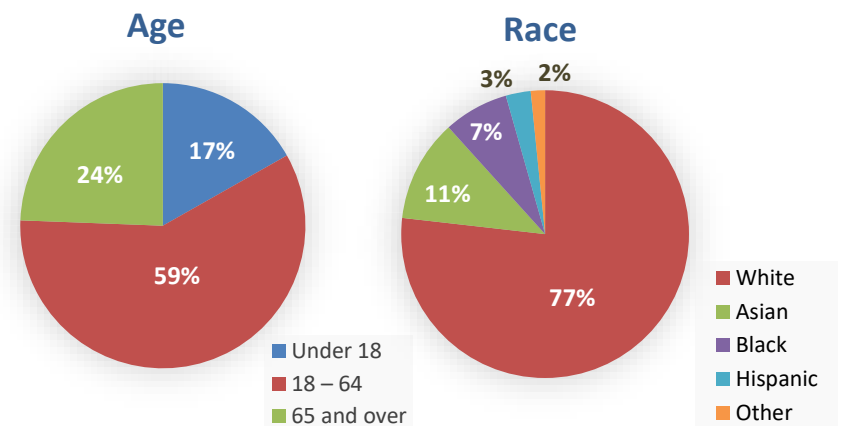
- Concord’s population is slightly older than the County. About one-quarter of Concord’s population is over 65.
- The average household income in Concord is almost 50% higher than the County.
- Concord is less racially diverse than the County. 77% of the population describe themselves as Caucasian, followed by 7% Black or African American, 11% Asian, and 3% Hispanic.
- Concord has a highly educated population. 93% have graduated high school, and 39% have a bachelor’s degree or higher.

Delaware County Municipalities Forecast of Future Population % change			
Area	2015	2045	% change
Delaware County	563,894	587,037	4.1%
Edgemont Township	4,069	4,823	18.5%
Chadds Ford Township	3,740	4,302	15.0%
Concord Township	17,663	20,201	14.4%
Thornbury Township	7,857	8,803	12.0%
Bethel Township	9,166	10,170	11.0%

Source: DVRPC, County and Municipal-Level Population Forecasts, 2016

Concord Township compared to Delaware County overall		
Area	Concord	Delco
Median Household income	\$ 110,592	\$ 74,477
Poverty Rate	3.0%	9.9%
Education: Bachelors or higher	50.7%	39.0%
Age: Persons under 18 years	16.8%	22.0%
Racial diversity: caucasian	76.8%	68.5%
Median home value	\$ 446,800	\$ 244,400
Population per square mile	1,265	3,041

Source: Census.gov/quickfacts (2020 U.S. Census)



Land Use and Zoning

Concord Township is characterized by a mix of residential, commercial, and institutional uses, along with remnants of natural undeveloped land. The historic town center (Concordville) is located at the crossroads of Baltimore Pike (Route 1) and Concord Road. Baltimore Pike has developed into a thriving commercial corridor, with shopping centers, destination stores and restaurants, and service-oriented businesses. Parallel to the Baltimore Pike retail corridor are expanding commercial office and light industrial zones immediately to the south and north.

Along the western edge of the Township, Route 202 is another thriving retail and commercial corridor connecting the Borough of West Chester with the City of Wilmington, DE to the south. Both corridors carry a high volume of vehicular traffic, and the intersection of Route 202 and Baltimore Pike is one of the busiest intersections in the region, handling an average volume of approximately 80,000 vehicles per day. A third busy corridor in the Township is the Conchester Highway (Route 322), which has evolved as a circulation route for through-traffic connecting to Interstate 95 to the south.

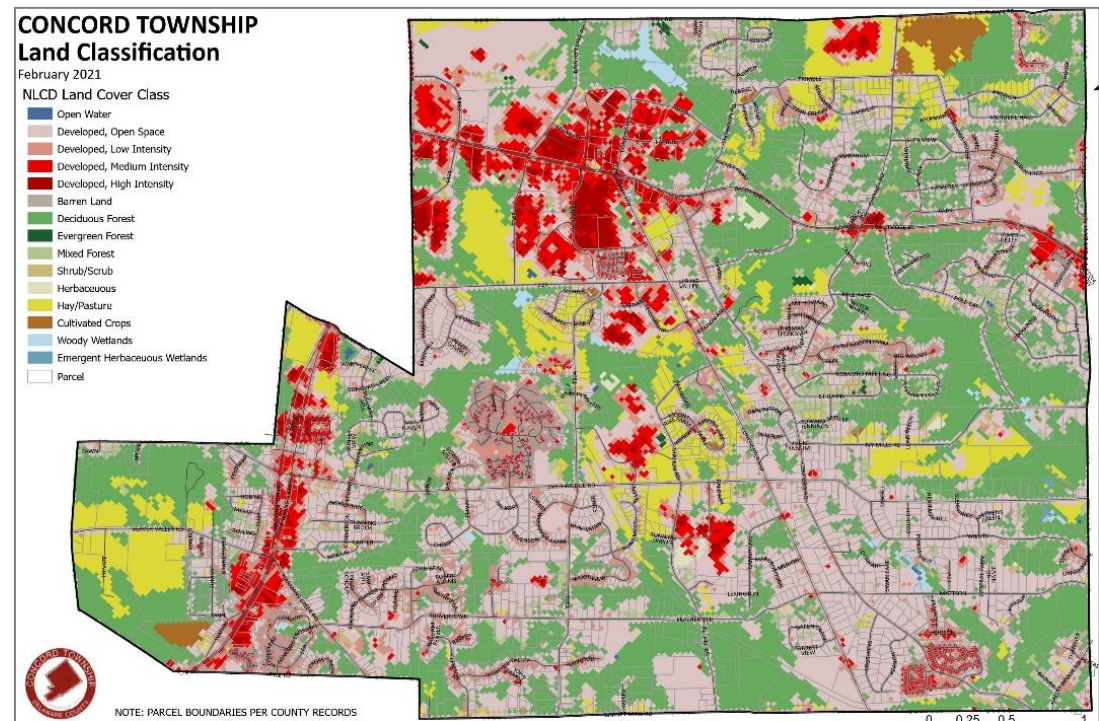
The great majority of the Township area is residential, and much of this is comprised of modern subdivisions and cul-de-sacs located mostly in the central and southern part of the Township. Despite recent growth, historic development patterns can still be seen along Concord Road, Pole Cat Road, Ivy Mills Road, Beaver Valley Road, and other areas.

Parks and institutional properties are congregated generally in the center of the Township. Newlin Grist Mill and the Municipal Complex form a pivotal anchor of open space along Baltimore Pike, as a protected green barrier to the commercial area immediately to the west. The Garnet Valley School District has a cluster of school buildings and recreational facilities along Smithbridge Road. The edges of the Township are bracketed by open space – Clayton Park to the south, Beaver Valley and First State National Historical Park to the west, and Concord Country Club to the north.

Remnants of former agricultural use do remain in the Township – on several parcels along Ivy Mills Road; lands owned by Delaware County along the northern edge of the Township; and lands making up part of the First State National Historical Park in the southwestern portion west of Route 202.

Concord Township Zoning Category by Area		
Category	Acres	%
Residential	7,247.5	83.1%
Commercial	621.0	7.1%
Industrial	562.7	6.5%
Municipal	283.7	3.3%
Special Use	5.9	0.1%
Total	8,720.8	100.0%

The majority of Concord Township land area is zoned for residential use.



Source: National Land Cover Database, United States Geologic Survey (USGS)

Natural Resources

Though density of development in the Township has steadily increased, there is a significant remaining presence of natural resources, including wooded areas, wetlands, floodplain areas, and natural flora and fauna habitat. These natural resources are documented in the *Township Comprehensive Plan*. It is likely that future trails may bring the public into close proximity to sensitive natural areas. This could be a strong positive feature of the open space system, providing the potential for educational and interpretive engagement of the public. However, such interventions must be handled sensitively to ensure the integrity of the natural resource. Protection and conservation of these sensitive areas should be a high priority.

Stream corridors and floodplain areas within the Township are protected as part of the Subdivision and Land Development, Stormwater, and Floodplain Ordinances. Concord Township lies primarily within Chester Creek watershed, except for the southwest portion of the Township, which is the Brandywine Creek watershed. While the Chester Creek itself lies to the east of Concord, and flows through Wawa, Lenni, and Thornton, a primary tributary – the West Branch of Chester Creek – flows through Concord, and can be seen in Newlin Grist Mill Park, along Pole Cat Road and flowing south into Chester Heights. Other streams are smaller tributaries of the West Bank Creek, including Concord Creek in the western part of the Township, and Green Creek in the southeast. The majority of the length of these streams are within the 100-year floodplain as mapped by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Distinct from floodplains, which are inundated intermittently based on rainfall volume, wetlands are areas that have standing water much of the time. Wetlands are important hydrological resources in that they act as water storage and recharge areas and help maintain water quality by filtering contaminants. They also provide critical habitat for a diversity of plants and animals. National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) has mapped a number of wetlands in low-lying areas within the Township, mostly associated with stream corridors.

Also associated with the stream corridors are other sensitive environmental features such as woodlands and steep slopes. Not coincidentally, these areas have escaped development because of the challenges these conditions pose to construction. Because the Township's native woodlands were cleared first for agriculture and later for development, most of what remains are in the wet areas or on the steep slopes alongside streams. The preservation of these remaining woodlands is essential for maintaining habitat, protecting water resources, and providing future recreational opportunities.



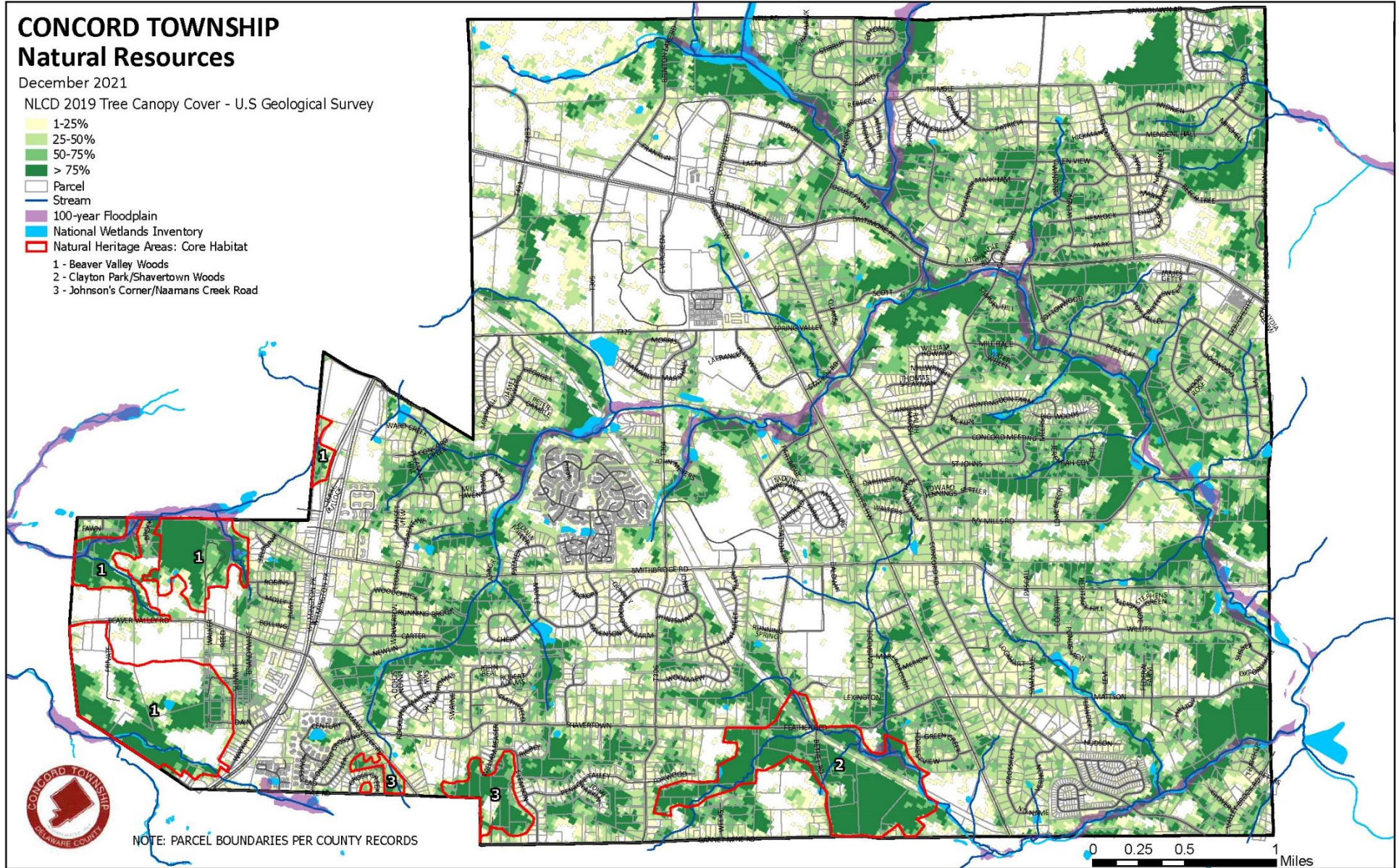
Natural resources in the Township are associated mainly with stream corridors, which are natural locations for future trails.

CONCORD TOWNSHIP Natural Resources

December 2021

NLCD 2019 Tree Canopy Cover - U.S Geological Survey

- 1-25%
- 25-50%
- 50-75%
- > 75%
- Parcel
- Stream
- 100-year Floodplain
- National Wetlands Inventory
- Natural Heritage Areas: Core Habitat
 - 1 - Beaver Valley Woods
 - 2 - Clayton Park/Shavertown Woods
 - 3 - Johnson's Corner/Naamans Creek Road



NOTE: PARCEL BOUNDARIES PER COUNTY RECORDS

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

Natural Heritage Areas

The most comprehensive survey of local sensitive environmental areas is the *Delaware County Natural Heritage Inventory* (NHI), which was published in 2011 and developed for the County by the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. Its purpose is to inform residents and local decision makers about the unique plants, animals, and habitats that are found throughout Delaware County. This inventory focuses on the best examples of living ecological resources in Delaware County, and contains information on the locations of rare, threatened, and endangered species and of the highest quality natural areas in the county.

Thirty-seven Natural Heritage Areas are recognized in Delaware County. Of these, three are located in Concord Township, which are Beaver Valley Woods, Johnsons Corner (Naamans Creek Road), and Clayton Park/Shavertown Woods (see *Natural Resources Map, page 11*).

Beaver Valley Woods: This large area in the southwest area of the Township includes adjoining habitats along Beaver Creek and its tributaries, and is roughly bounded on the east by Route 202, on the south by the Delaware State Line, and on the west and north by Ridge Road. The area is a mosaic of upland forest, forested wetlands, open wetlands, spring seeps, and successional old fields set within an agricultural and residential context. Forested habitats include several significant patches of interior forest, which is critical nesting habitat for many of Pennsylvania's neotropical migrant songbirds. The area is home to at least 7 plant species of concern. Portions of this area are protected as part of First State National Historical Park. Some of the forest patches are in the long process of reverting from past agricultural uses, while other patches exhibit a much more undisturbed and pristine quality. Though the forest was likely selectively cut for fuel wood and timber several times since colonial times, much of the existing forest has apparently been standing for well over 100 years. Some individual trees in the area may be 200-300 years old or older. Although there is invasion of exotic plant species into the woods the overall quality of the woods is remarkably natural.

Clayton Park/Shavertown Woods: This area along the southern edge of the Township includes parts of Clayton Park and the powerline and pipeline rights-of-way and Green Creek that pass through the park. The site is roughly bounded by Featherbed Lane, Route 322, Garnet Mine Road, and Kirk Road. This area is a mosaic of upland forest, forested wetlands, open wetlands, spring seeps, and successional old fields set within a residential context. Several springs originate in

the woods and Green Creek meanders through the forest. Vegetation maintenance of the powerline right-of-way has kept the linear corridor in an early successional stage of development, which is the preferred habitat of several of the plant species of concern at this location. Forested habitats include a 12-acre patch of interior forest, which is critical nesting habitat for many of Pennsylvania's neotropical migrant songbirds. The area is home to at least 8 plant species of concern. In recent years Concord Township has prioritized the protection of these and surrounding lands with strategic property acquisitions.

Johnson's Corner, Naamans Creek Road: This fragmented habitat is loosely bounded by Route 202, Shavertown Road, Ebright Road, and the Delaware state line. This area is at the drainage divide of three watersheds and hosts the headwaters of two tributaries of the West Branch Chester Creek and one tributary of Beaver Creek. The area is home to at least 17 plant species of concern. Once considered one of the top sites of statewide significance for the protection of biological diversity, this area has been severely impacted by accelerated development in recent decades. This natural wetness in this area has provided suitable habitat for numerous plant species, many of which continue to persist in scattered patches of suitable habitat. Of special note was the presence of a cranberry wetland, a very unusual habitat for this region of the state. Much of the surrounding area has since been converted to residential development leaving scattered remnants of habitat that in many cases still manage to support species of concern.



Shavertown Woods is designated a Natural Heritage Area, indicated high environmental value.

Historic and Cultural Resources

Significant examples of Township history remain with the presence of numerous historic properties. There are several local properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and many more that have been determined to be eligible. Several historic properties are along existing or proposed trails. The possibility of linking these properties as part of a trail network is a valuable opportunity to promote the area's cultural heritage. Notable historic properties include the following:

The **Newlin Grist Mill** complex dates to 1704 and is one of several working grist mills in Pennsylvania. The mill was originally built by Nicholas Newlin, a Quaker who obtained a 500-acre grant from William Penn. He brought his family to Pennsylvania from Ireland and built two water-powered mills along Chester Creek. The mill was in operation until 1941 and the original dam and mill race are still supplying power to the mill today. The mill's interior gears and machinery have been reconstructed to 1700 operational standards and is fully functional. The Philadelphia and Baltimore Central Railroad was built through the property in 1859; this allowed the mill to market its flour in Philadelphia and Baltimore. A railway station was built in 1868, which remains today as the current park office. The 160-acre property includes twelve historic structures, including the mill, station, warehouse, miller's house, Trimble House, and others.

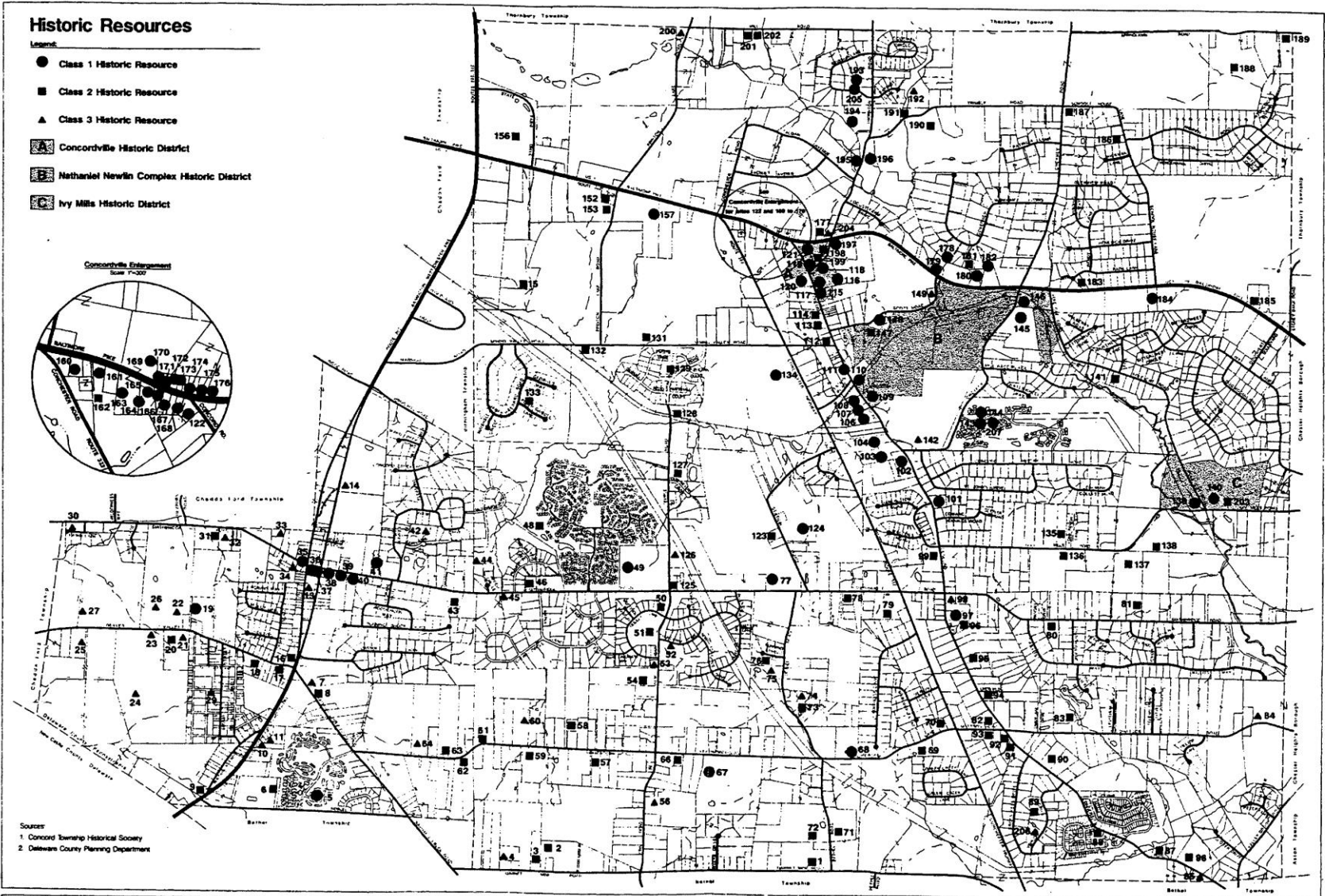
The **Polecat Road House** is an early tenant house for workers at nearby mills. Built prior to 1750, it is a simple, small, stone structure, originally built for two families. This house was donated to Concord Township in 1967 and restored by the Concord Township Historical Society

The **African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church** on Spring Valley Road dates to the 1880's and is a significant local historic building. In its early years the church was a focal point for the black community who worked on the area farms. The church was closed in the 1980's, and eventually was purchased by the Township in 2014 as part of its open space program. It is currently being renovated, and may have use as a community facility providing trail head amenities.

The **Maplewood Gymnasium** and **Dante Orphanage** were part of an early boarding school dating to the 1860s. The Gymnasium was built in 1898, and the Orphanage in 1920. It was temporarily used by Garnet Valley School District and Delaware County Community College. Today the Gymnasium is the Concord Community Center and the Orphanage is the home of the Concord Township offices.



Local historic buildings include:
Top: Newlin Grist Mill
Bottom Right: AME Church
Bottom Left: Polecat Road House



<h2>HISTORIC RESOURCES MAP</h2>	<h3>Concord Township</h3> <p>Delaware County, Pennsylvania</p>	<p>North</p>	<p>Thomas Comitta Associates, Inc. Town Planners & Landscape Architects West Chester, Pennsylvania 19380</p> <p><small>This base map was updated from the property 97% map depicting the zoning districts of Concord Township. It was updated using 1996 aerial photography and 1996 files of the Delaware County Tax Assessor's Office and Concord Township.</small></p>
---------------------------------	--	--------------	--

Concord Township Historic Resources (2005)

The **Ivy Mills Historic District** represents a significant period in the history of the township and county. The district includes two contributing buildings and one contributing structure. They are the ruins of the Ivy Mills paper mill, erected in 1829; the clerk's house, dated to about 1830; and the Ivy Mills Mansion House, built in 1837. The original paper mill was erected in 1729, and the original mansion house in 1744. Both of the original buildings were replaced in the early-19th century by the present buildings. The District was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1972. The Township has acquired conservation easements on portions of land comprising the Historic District.

In 2020, the Township purchased a property on Beaver Valley Road that includes the **Nathaniel Newlin Log Home and Tavern** constructed in 1775. The log portion of the home was later covered with wood clapboard siding. The Township has relocated it to the Newlin Grist Mill property where it can be rebuilt and properly interpreted and cared for.

Additionally, historic structures and remnants are present on several properties recently acquired by the Township, including Phipps Farm and Bush Hill Farm.

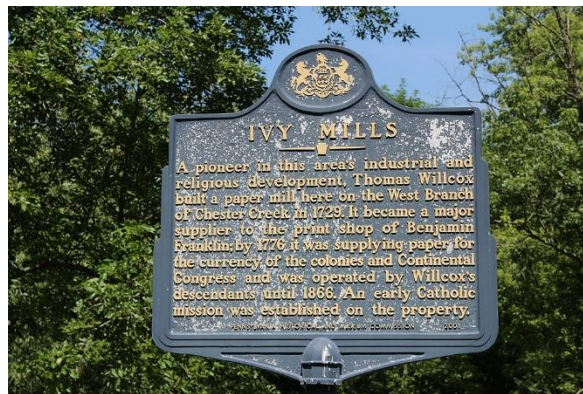
An inventory performed by the Concord Township Historical Society in 1997 noted more than 200 existing historic structures, which are documented in the earlier *Concord Township Open Space and Recreation Plan*. The complete inventory of historic structures can be found on the [Township website](#). Certain protections are afforded local historic resources in the [Township Zoning Code](#).



*Wilson Palmer Barn
at Bush Hill Farm*



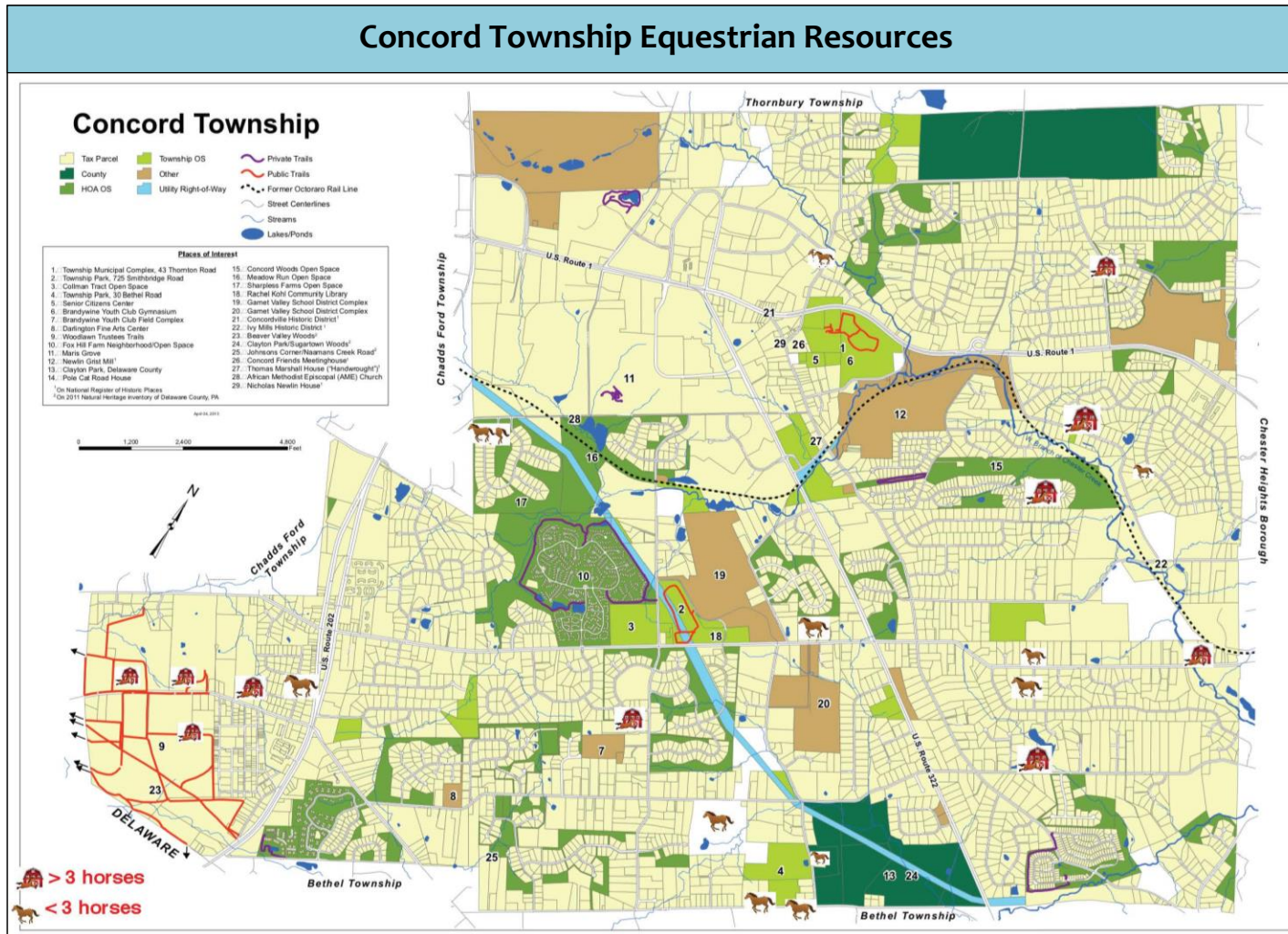
*Nicholas Newlin
Log House*



*Ivy Mills Historic
Mansion House*

Equestrian Resources

While much of the Township has been developed, pockets of agricultural landscape remain. Among these there is an equestrian community in the Township that keep and rides horses, with an estimated total of 100 or more horses. These are generally clustered in three areas of the Township – Beaver Valley, Ivy Mills, and the area around Clayton Park – with a few others elsewhere. The historic rural character is an important part of Township identity.



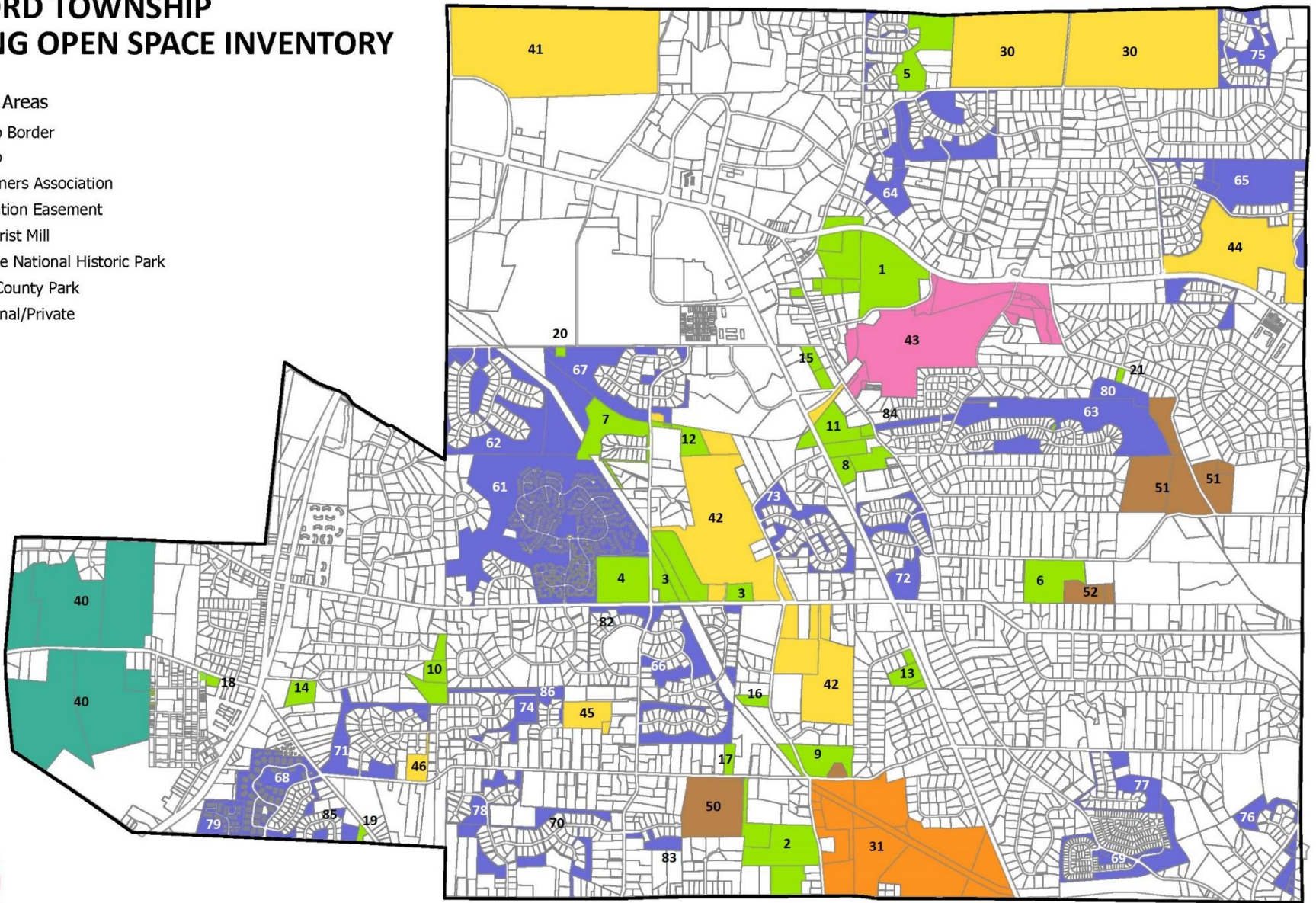
Many properties in the Township keep horses, particularly in the southern and western portions which retain some historic rural character. This map is courtesy of a Township resident familiar with the local equestrian community.

CONCORD TOWNSHIP EXISTING OPEN SPACE INVENTORY

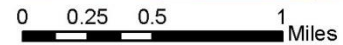
March 2022

Open Space Areas

-  Township Border
-  Township
-  Homeowners Association
-  Conservation Easement
-  Newlin Grist Mill
-  First State National Historic Park
-  Clayton County Park
-  Institutional/Private



NOTE: PARCEL BOUNDARIES PER COUNTY RECORDS



Concord Township Open Space Inventory

Key	Property	Acres	Key	Property	Acres	Key	Property	Acres
Concord Township Open Space			Delaware County Open Space			Homeowner's Association Open Space		
1	Municipal Complex	62.9	30	Delaware County Prison	193.0	61	Fox Hill Farm	106.8
2	Bush Hill Farm	39.7	31	Clayton Park	157.0	62	Sharpless Farms	68.9
3	Township Park -Smithbridge Road	31.3		Total County	350.0	63	Concord Woods	63.7
4	Phipps Farm	22.9	Private/Institutional Open Space			64	Mendenhall at Twin Creeks	52.2
5	Colonial Village/Patriot Lane	22.9	40	First State National Historical Park	245.2	65	Concord Chase	50.1
6	Bickley Tract	20.7	41	Concord Country Club	167.9	66	Concord Hunt	37.6
7	Temple Road (Waterford)	20.7	42	Garnet Valley School District	162.9	67	Meadow Run	33.8
8	Concord Road Properties	12.3	43	Newlin Grist Mill	128.7	68	Concord Crossing	31.5
9	Smallbrook Preserve	13.7	44	Edgewood Memorial Park	66.2	69	Riviera at Concord	23.4
10	Carter Way Properties	13.6	45	Brandywine Youth Club	12.1	70	Arborlea	23.3
11	Sewer Plant	12.7	46	Darlington Arts Center	5.8	71	Sweet Hollow	21.9
12	Temple Road (East)	7.7		Total Private/Institutional	788.8	72	Penns Grant	19.6
13	Cambridge Downs	7.7	Conservation Easements / Deed Restrictions			73	Estates at Garnet Valley	18.6
14	Carter Way/Wawa	6.3	50	Featherbed Farm	34.0	74	Smithfield Estates	16.7
15	Spring Valley Rd./Fellowship Dr.	5.3	51	Willcox, Ivy Mills Rd.	65.0	75	Pine Valley	16.2
16	180 Bethel Rd. (Greener)	3.0	52	Bohenek, 310 Ivy Mills Rd.	11.6	76	Valleybrook Chase	14.9
17	641 Featherbed (DeNenno)	2.9	53	Hall, 527 Featherbed Lane	2.0	77	Reserve at Garnet Valley	14.9
18	Beaver Valley Rd. (Zechman/Frail)	1.6		Total Easements/Restrictions	112.6	78	Reserve at Hunter's Creek	10.5
19	886 Naamans Creek Rd. (Carilla)	1.1				79	Laurel Brook	10.5
20	270 Spring Valley Rd. (AME Church)	0.9				80	Fox Valley	9.2
21	Pole Cat Road House	1.0				81	Trimble Mill	8.8
	Other Township	5.2				82	The Ridings	6.0
	Total Township	316.1				83	Kirkwood Glen	5.7
						84	Garnet Valley Woods	4.8
						85	North Chase	4.7
						86	Martin's Court	4.4
							Total HOA	678.8
Total Concord Township Open Space: +/-2,200 acres								

Existing Parks and Open Space

Today the parks and open space resources in the Township include dozens of separate properties totaling almost 2,000 acres of land. These resources accommodate a broad range of activities, including a variety of sports and active recreation, playgrounds and informal recreation, and simple passive recreation such as walking and bike riding. Other resources are unimproved and serve as important natural resources.

Aspects of Open Space

“Open space” is a general term that can take on different meanings and can encompass a very broad range of uses. Some key aspects of open space that will be referred to in this study include the following:

- **Intended Use:** “Active open space” refers to recreation areas, such as playgrounds or athletic fields, that engage the public physical activity. “Passive open space” most often refers to generally unimproved land used for natural conservation or interpretation. It is well suited for activities such as hiking, bird watching, and education, or simply ecological preservation.
- **Property Ownership:** Public open space, such as local parks, is often owned by a government entity such as a municipality, county, or state. While these may be the dominant opportunities for recreation, it is important to also take into account the full range of open space that may be available for use by residents of the community. This broader range may include private and institutional properties that are open to public use, and even public-inaccessible areas which nevertheless are preserved as green space. The term “quasi-public open space” refers to open space opportunities that are privately-owned yet generally accessible to the public.
- **Protected or Unprotected:** “Protected open space” is land that is permanently protected for parks and recreation, scenic, or environmental purposes by means of public ownership, deed restriction, or conservation easement. It can be publicly or privately-owned. Unprotected open space could potentially be developed at any time by its owner, within restrictions placed by local zoning and applicable ordinances.



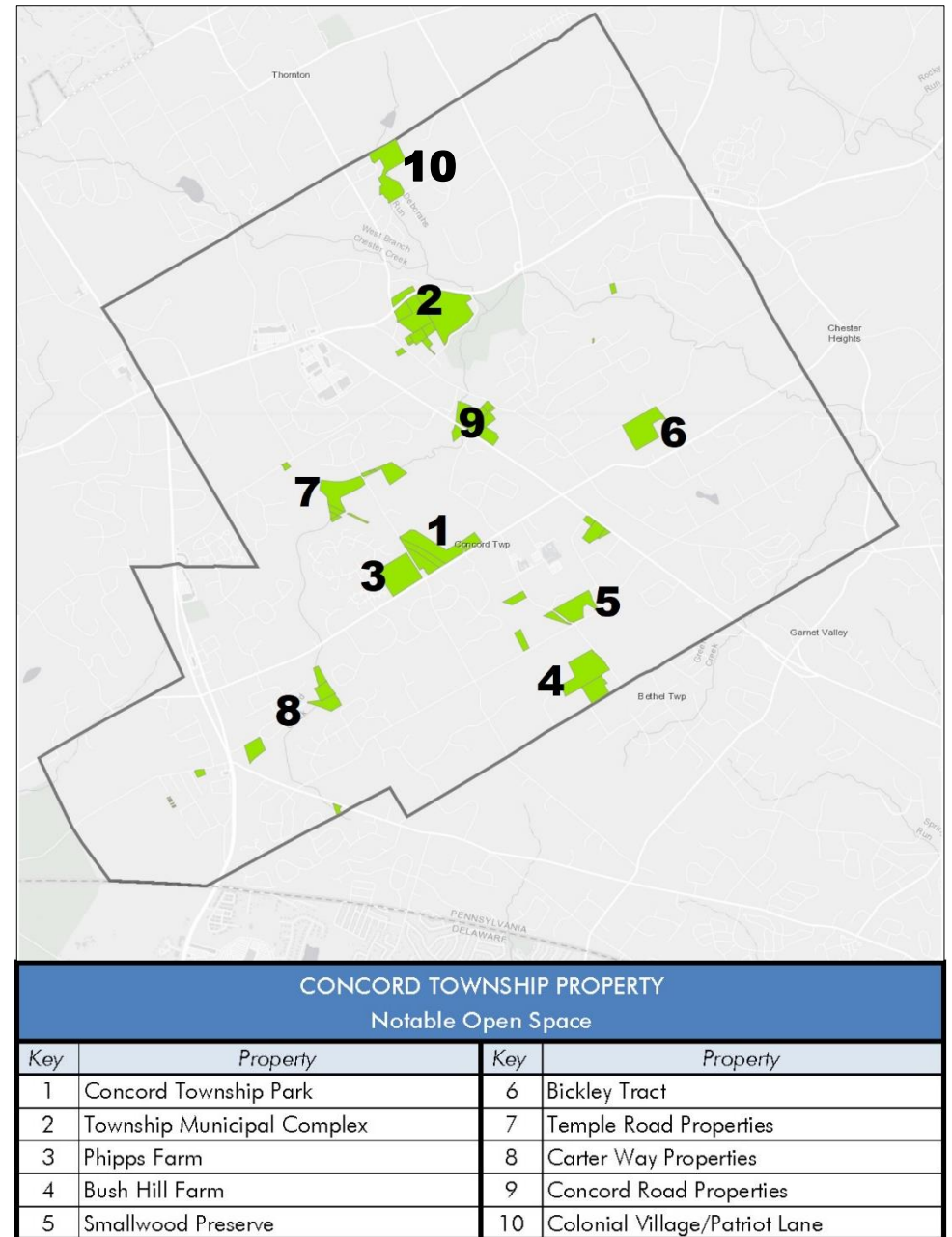
Township Parks and Open Space

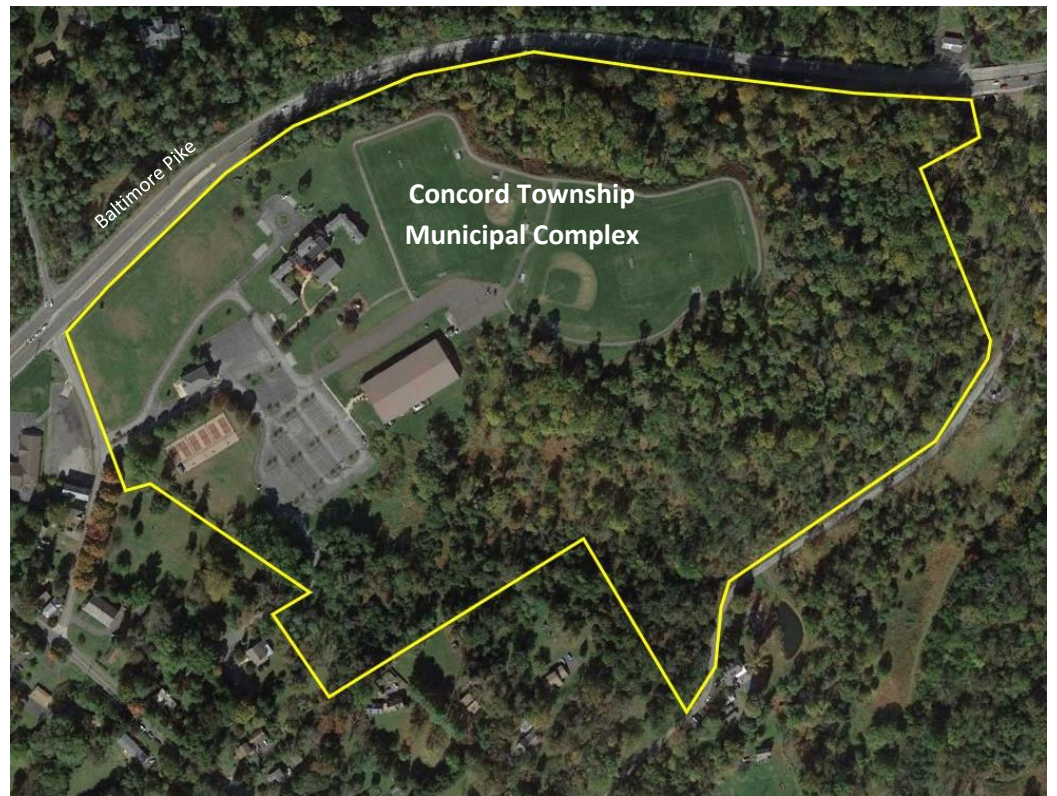
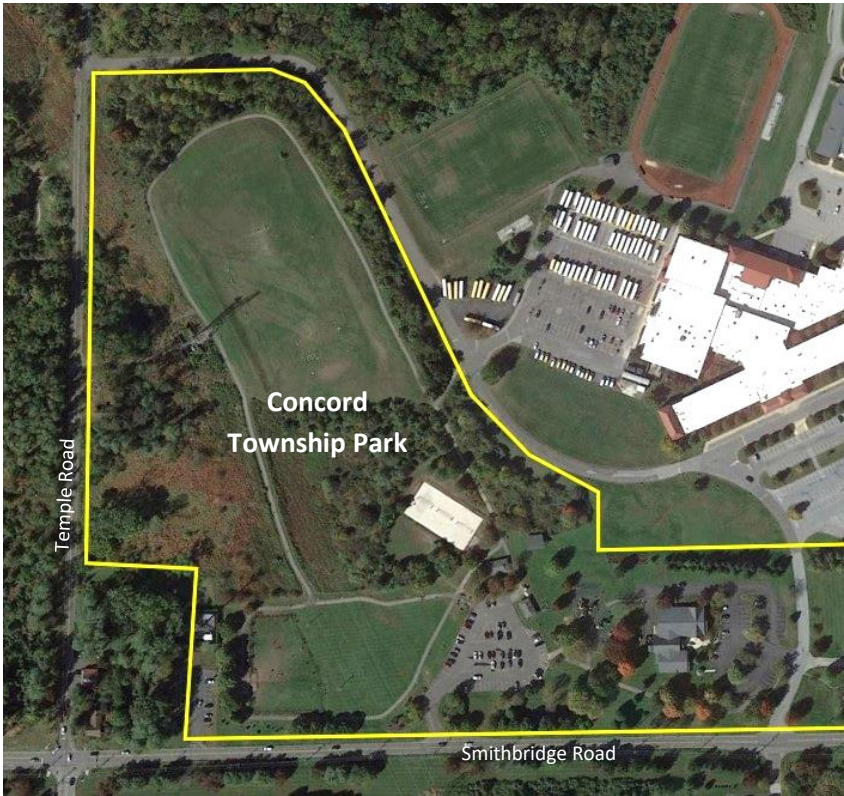
The Township owns more than a dozen open space properties. Some have been designated and improved for public recreation, some are intended for passive recreation with limited public accommodations, and others set aside for nature conservation and are entirely unimproved.

Active Recreation

At present, active recreation is primarily concentrated in two Township parks.

- **Concord Township Community Park** on Smithbridge Road is a principal hub of community activity, located adjacent to the Rachel Kohl Community Library, and the Garnet Valley Elementary and Middle Schools. The park has a variety of amenities, including a multi-purpose field, sand volleyball, paved walking trail, large children’s playground, picnic pavilion, dog park and bandstand. The Park hosts community events, and the walking trail is routinely overflowing with users.
- The **Municipal Complex** on Thornton Road is another hub of activity. In addition to the municipal building and associated civic functions, the property features a recreation area that includes two multi-purpose fields, two baseball/softball fields, paved and unpaved walking trails, pickleball courts, as well as the Brandywine Youth Club (BYC) O’Donoghue Field House, which houses basketball courts and other resources.





The Township Park (top left) serves as a hub of community activity and offers a paved walking trail, sand volleyball (left), and event space.



The Township Municipal Complex (top right) has pickleball courts (right), athletic fields, and paved and unpaved walking trails.

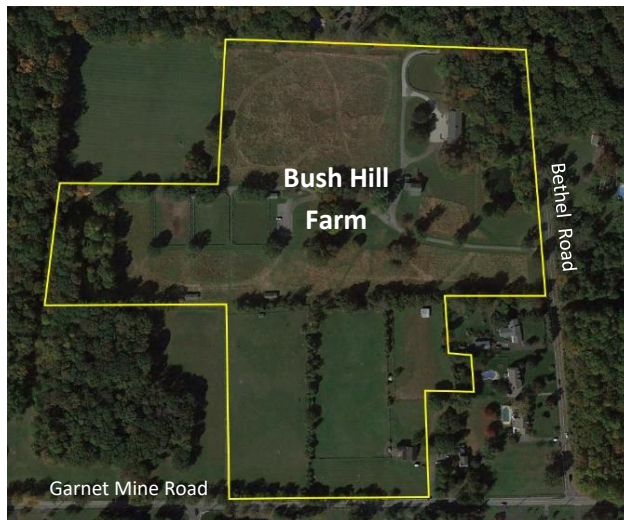
Passive Recreation

Several other township properties have been lightly improved in recent years for passive recreation, primarily consisting of unpaved walking trails.

- **Bush Hill Farm** is a 40-acre property on Bethel Road that features a dog park and ample open space lawn areas, undeveloped flexible open space utilized for a variety of community programs. Two historic barns and other outbuildings reflect its history as a working horse farm. An internal system of walking trails has recently been established and will provide up to 1 mile of mown trails.
- **Smallbrook Preserve at Hillsborough** is a 14-acre property on Featherbed Lane that was recently acquired for passive open space. Like Bush Hill Farm, this property is adjacent to Delaware County's Clayton Park, and serves to expand the area of contiguous open space in this southern part of the Township. Unpaved walking trails on the property were opened to the public in 2021.
- **Phipps Farm:** This 23-acre farmstead is located on Smithbridge Road adjacent to the Township Park. Walking trails have been established and other light passive uses may be considered. Due to adjacent residential neighborhoods, further outreach should take place when planning for future uses of the property.



Bush Hill Farm has walking trails and passive open space.



Bush Hill Farm (Bethel Rd.) - see also pg. 24



Smallbrook Preserve at Hillsborough (Featherbed Lane)



Phipps Farm (Smithbridge Rd. at Temple Rd.)

Unimproved Open Space Resources

Several Township open space properties are either unimproved or do not currently accommodate public access. These properties are nevertheless valuable open space which serves to protect and conserve natural resources such as floodplains, steep slopes, wetlands, stream corridors, and remaining agricultural land. These natural areas are critical environmental features and are important to the overall composition of Township open space. Passive recreation and other features may be considered in the future.

- The Township owns **two unimproved properties along Temple Road**. These occupy a key location along the proposed Octoraro Trail and at the juncture of the Octoraro and proposed Garnet Valley Greenway. Additionally, they have environmental value as home to wetlands and the Concord Creek stream corridor. These properties may have utility for a future trail head, passive recreation, and nature conservation.
- Two other unimproved Township properties are located in **the vicinity of Carter Way** in the southwest portion of the Township. These are in proximity to residential neighborhoods, and they may play a future role in enabling an off-road trail connection to the area of the Township west of Route 202 containing First State National Historical Park.
- The **Bickley Tract** is a 22-acre unimproved parcel located on Ivy Mills Road. The property is actively farmed and is part of the remaining agricultural legacy of the Township that is characteristic of the Ivy Mills Historic District.



Temple Road properties



Bickley Tract, Ivy Mills Road

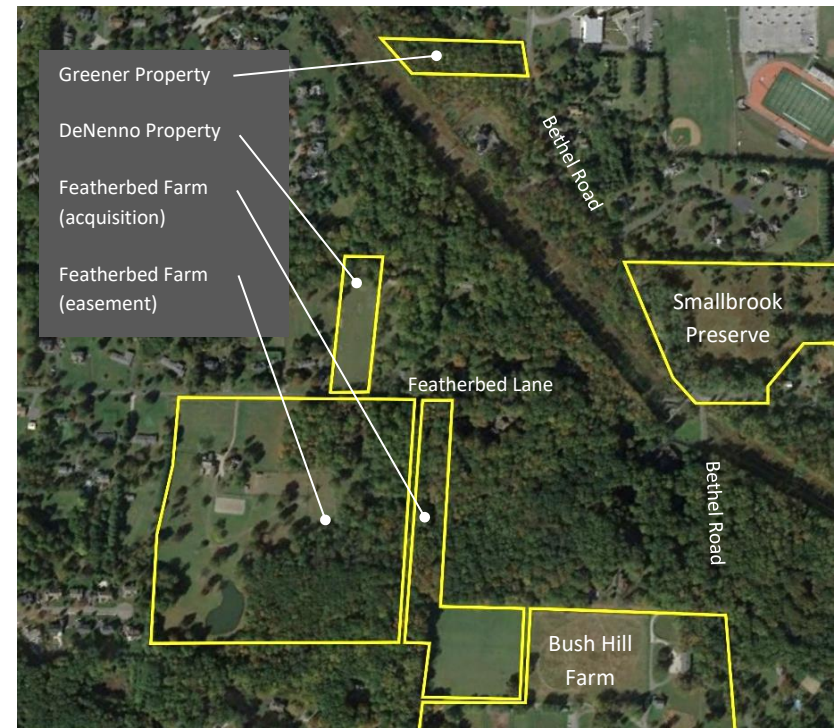


Carter Way properties

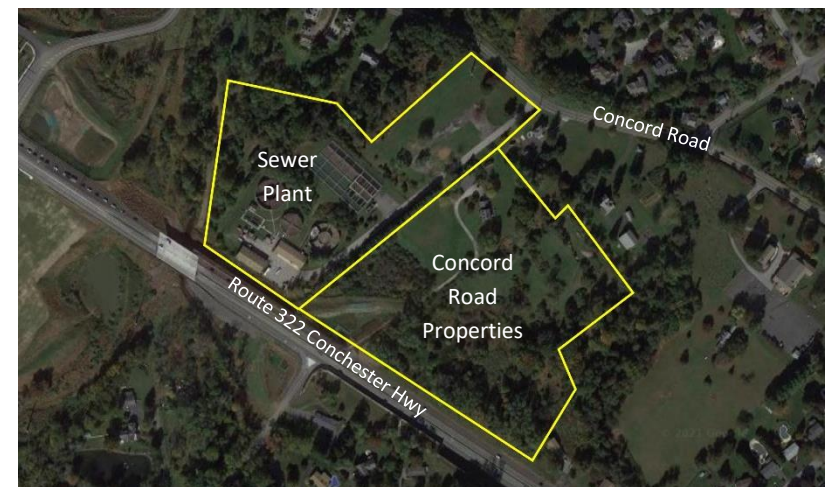
Other Recent Township Acquisitions

Since 2018, the Township has successfully capitalized on opportunities to preserve and acquire a number of other properties that are valuable to the as natural, historic, and potential recreation resources.

- In addition to Smallbrook Preserve noted above, several properties have recently been acquired and/or protected in the vicinity of Bush Hill Farm and Clayton Park, along Bethel Road and Featherbed Lane. This congregation of protected land is discussed further in Chapters 3 and 4. Properties include:
 - Featherbed Farm: In 2021, the Township announced an agreement to preserve the 42-acre Featherbed Farm. The Township will purchase 8.6 acres and will merge it with the adjacent township-owned Bush Hill Farm. The land will remain as open space and provides opportunities for trails and passive open space. The remaining 33.2 acres will be placed under a conservation easement managed by the Brandywine Conservancy. The property contains significant historical resources as well as portions of the Shavertown Woods cited as ecologically significant in the *Natural Heritage Inventory of Delaware County*.
 - Greener Property: This 3-acre property provides opportunities for trail connections adjoining the planned Garnet Valley Greenway.
 - DeNenno Property: This 3-acre property provides opportunities for trail connections and is a supporting landscape surrounded Shavertown Woods.
- Along **Concord Road**, several separate acquisitions have resulted in a block of Township property adjacent to the sewer plant. These parcels are largely free of environmental constraints and may be suitable for trails and passive recreation.
- The 1.6 acre **Zechman** and **Frail properties** on Beaver Valley Road, are in proximity to First State National Historical Park and have historic significance with the presence of a log home dating to 1775. The historic home is being relocated to Newlin Grist Mill. The properties themselves are an opportunity for pocket park and potential trailhead.
- The 2.0 acre **Carilla property** on Pyle Road, purchased in 2020, is a valuable natural resource at the headwaters of Concord Creek and as part of the core habitat of significance noted in the *Natural Heritage Inventory of Delaware County*.
- In October 2021, the Township acquired a **conservation easement** from the Willcox Family that will protect 50 acres in the Ivy Mills Historic District, at Ivy Mill and Polecat Roads. The easement will protect the historic mill house and ruins, and preserves a pristine landscape, viewshed, and portions of the Chester Creek watershed.



Bethel/Featherbed properties

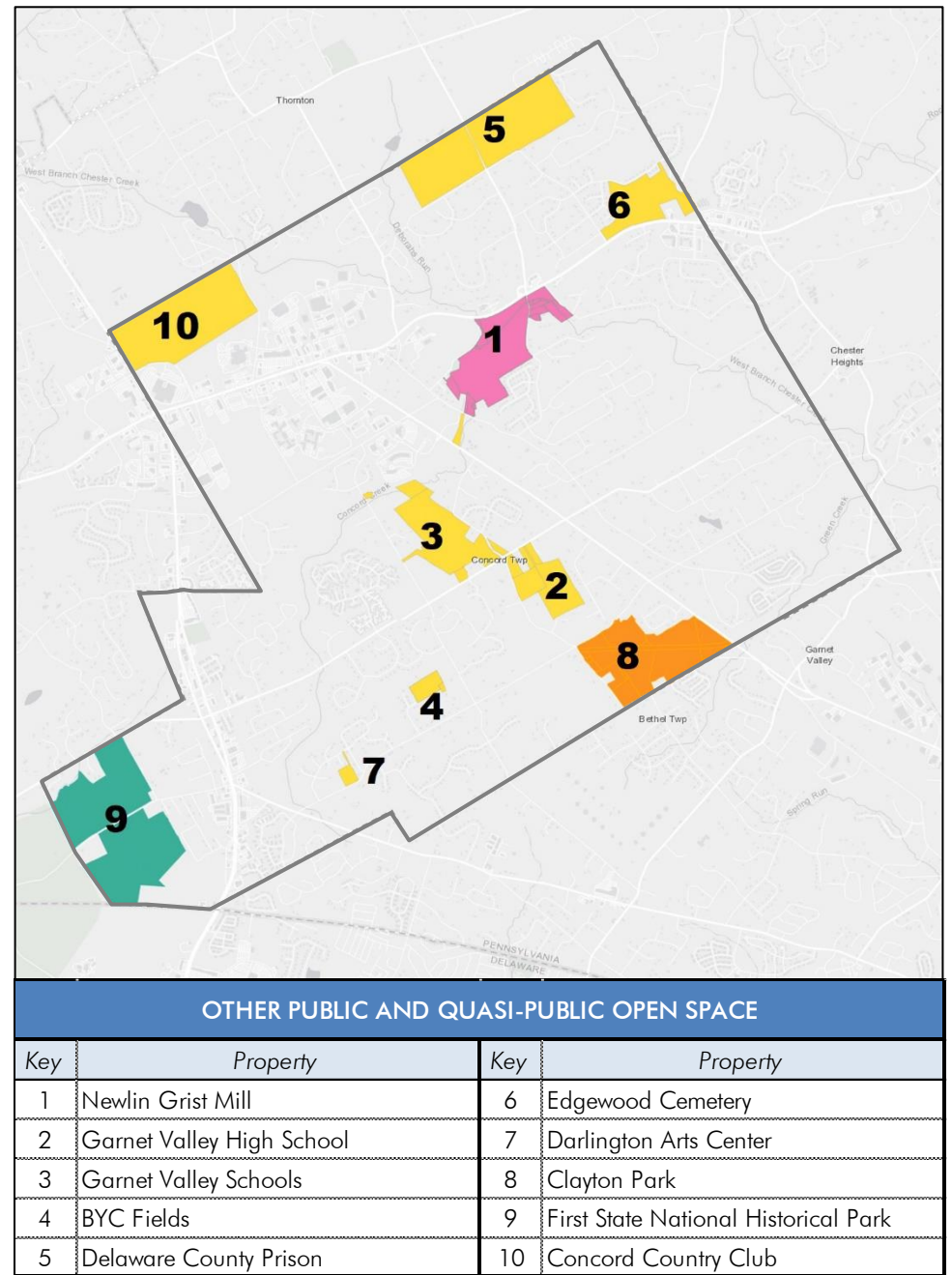


Concord Road properties

Other Public and Quasi-Public Open Space

Township residents also benefit from use of other public, quasi-public, and institutional properties that contribute meaningfully to the overall available open space in the Township.

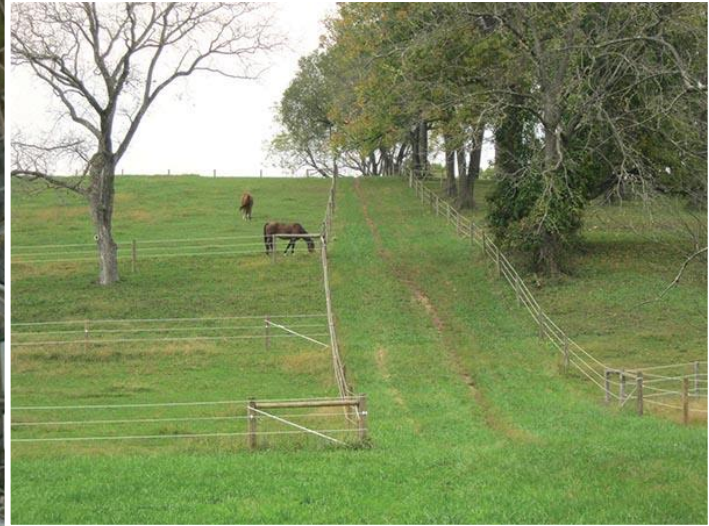
- **Clayton Park** on Route 322 is managed by Delaware County. This 170-acre park is the largest of the county's park and recreational facilities, and offers scenic woodlands, a nine-hole golf course, four playing fields, shaded picnic groves, nature trails and parking.
- **First State National Historical Park** includes miles of walking trails on more than 250-acres in Concord Township west of Route 202, which extends south into Delaware and connects with Brandywine Creek State Park.
- **Newlin Grist Mill** is a private non-profit historic site dedicated to historical preservation and environmental conservation. The Grist Mill offers a wide range of educational and environmental programs for all ages, and the park is open to the public with more than eight miles of walking trails.



- **Garnet Valley School District** operates four schools in Concord Township, which have multiple playing fields and playgrounds. These are available for use by the public and local athletic organizations, subject to schedule coordination and other limitations. Concord Township, the school district, and local youth athletic associations have cooperated effectively to share resources for public benefit.
- **Brandywine Youth Club** offers a wide range of organized youth sports and athletic activities, including baseball, basketball, football, and others. BYC maintains a large field complex on Kirk Road, as well as O'Donoghue Field House located at the Municipal Complex.
- **Concord Country Club** is a member-based, semi-public golf course offering a range of recreation amenities along with an 18-hole golf course.
- **Edgewood Cemetery:** Cemeteries should not be overlooked as an important form of open space in local communities, and they have a long history in America as part of the designed public landscape. At the very least, this 65-acre parcel is a visual amenity and valuable open space resource protected from development.



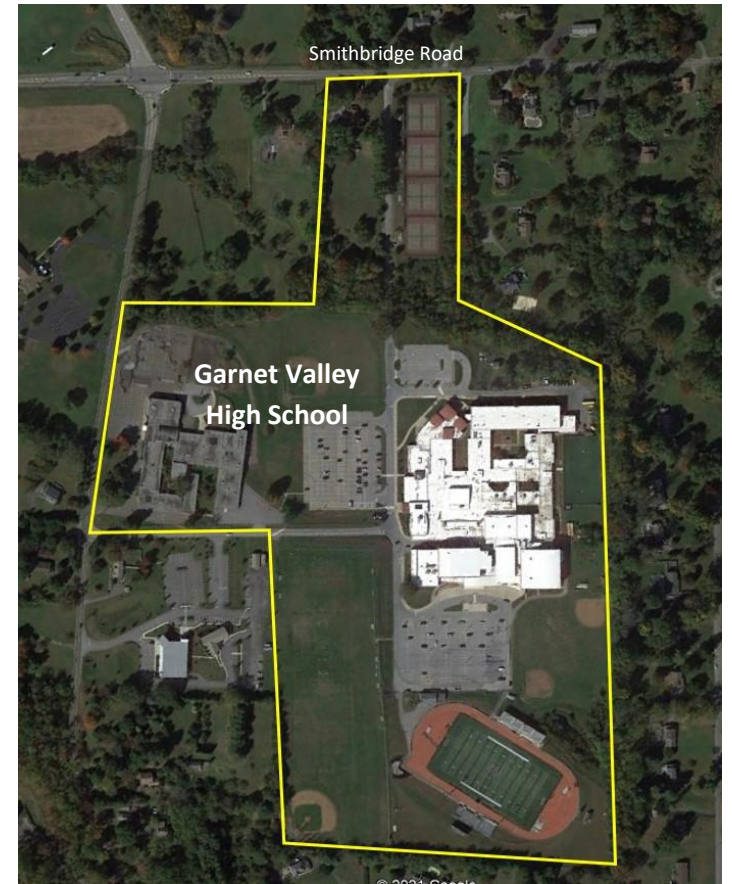
Clayton Park (above) is a 170-acre County park that offers golf, softball fields, miles of walking trails, and other amenities.



First State National Historical Park



Concord Country Club

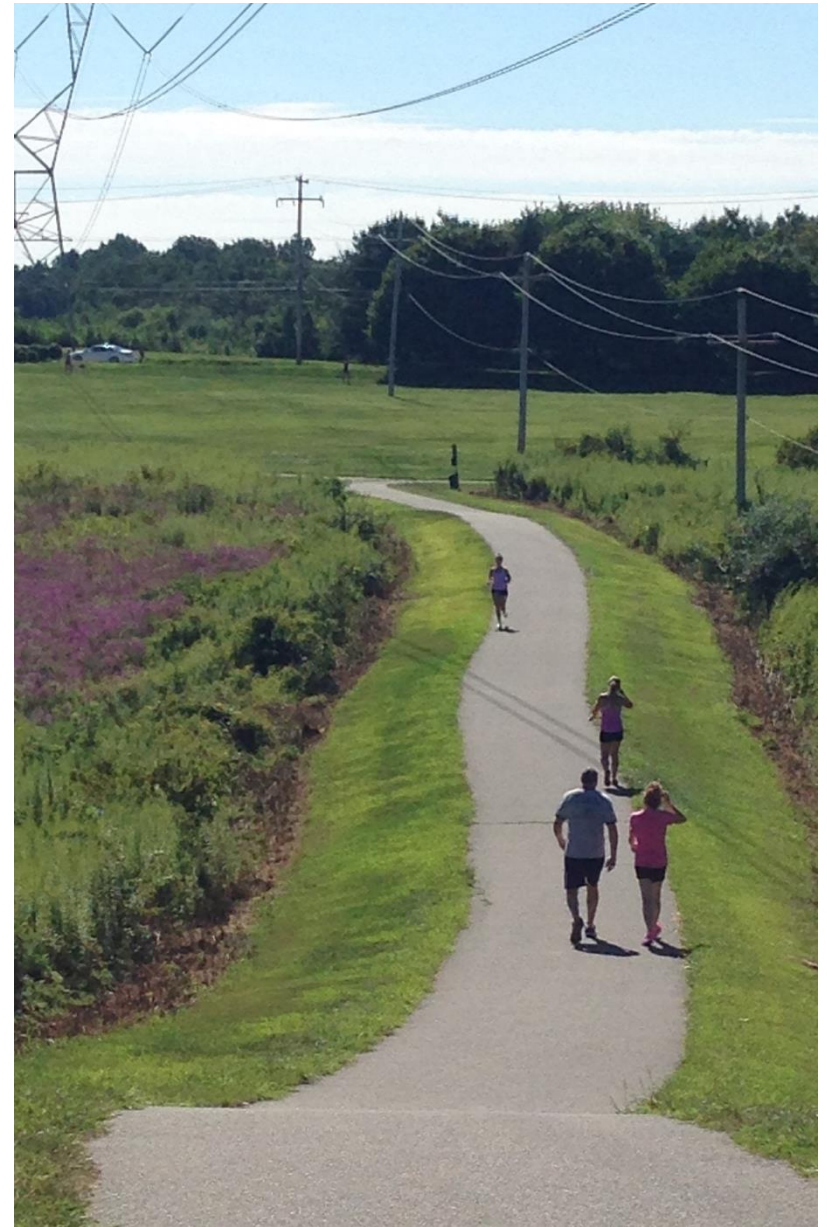


Newlin grist Mill (above), Garnet Valley High School (top right) and Brandywine Youth Club (bottom right) all provide resources for recreation that benefit Township residents.

Existing and Planned Trails in Concord

The Township has made a concerted effort in recent years to expand the options for public walking trails. Currently there are a number of highly popular walking trails in different parts of the Township, as well as several new opportunities currently being developed. It is the long-term goal to connect these together into an integrated trail system. Existing trails include:

- **Concord Township Community Park** (Smithbridge Road): Heavily-used paved walking trail 0.7 miles long. Ample parking is available, along with restrooms and many other amenities.
- **Collman Trail at Phipps Farm**: Located on Smithbridge Road adjacent to the Township Park, this property opened to the public in 2020 with an internal system of mowed walking trails approximately 0.5 mile long. These connect to the paved trails in the Township Park with a pedestrian crossing at Temple Road.
- **Township Municipal Complex** on Thornton Road: More than one mile of walking paths, including a paved trail around the athletic complex and wooded hiking trails. Ample parking is available, as are restrooms located in the Municipal building during business hours.
- **Bush Hill Farm**: Formerly known as 30 Bethel Road, Bush Hill Farm features a Township dog park and ample open meadow areas. An internal system of walking trails has recently been established, providing up to 1 mile of mown trails.



Concord Township Community Park, Smithbridge Road

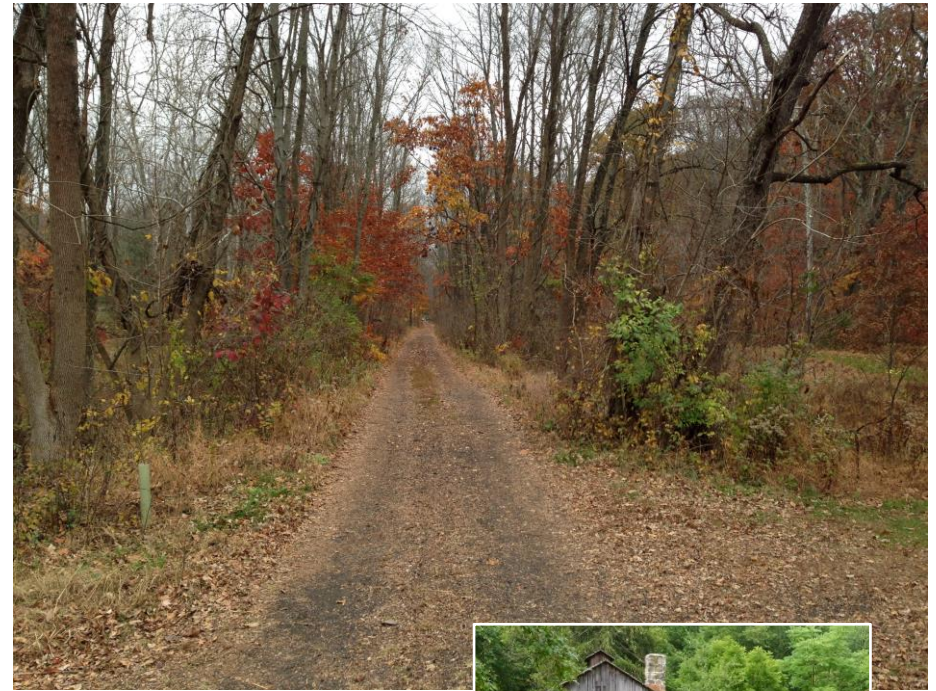


Phipps Farm, Smithbridge Road

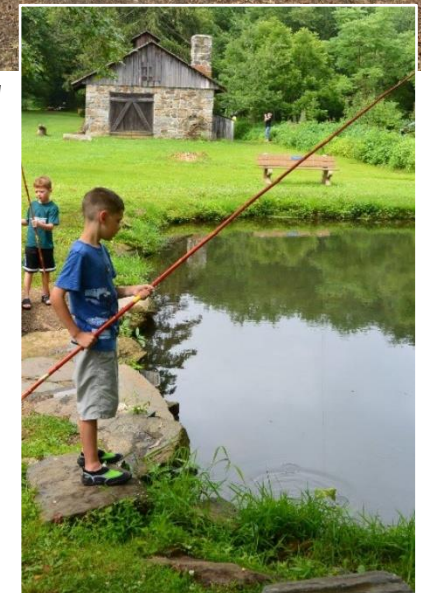


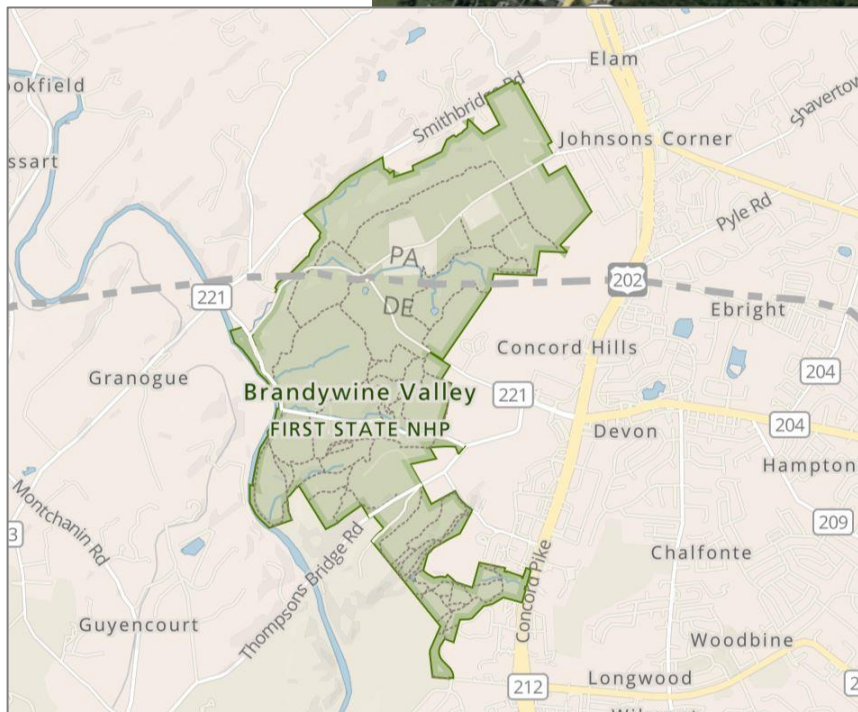
Bush Hill Farm, Bethel Road

- **Smallbrook Preserve at Hillsborough** is a former Christmas tree farm that offers 0.7 miles of mowed walking trails in a 14-acre natural meadow setting. A small gravel parking area is available at the entrance on Featherbed Lane.
- Public walking trails are available in the vicinity of Beaver Valley Road in the southwest corner of the Township within the **First State National Historical Park**. These connect to an extensive contiguous network of trails that stretches into Delaware and connects to the Brandywine Creek State Park and Delaware Greenway trail network.
- **Newlin Grist Mill:** Newlin Grist Mill contains more than eight miles of unpaved walking trails through woodland and meadow settings. There is the potential to connect these to the planned Octoraro Trail.
- The Township has also acquired multiple other properties in the vicinity of Bethel Road and Featherbed Lane, with the intention of developing trails and passive open space as part of an integrated network.
- Currently in a design stage, the proposed **Octoraro Trail** is planned to run along the alignment of the former Octoraro railway. The first phase of construction is planned to originate at Route 202 just south of the Brandywine Mill shopping center, and run eastward to Newlin Grist Mill, at Concord Road (see Chapter 4).
- Planning has begun for the **Garnet Valley Greenway**, a potential future paved trail spine that may one day connect the Octoraro Trail to Concord Township Park, Clayton Park, and other open space resources (see Chapter 4).
- Preliminary planning has been done to create **pedestrian and bicycle connections** to the commercial destinations along the main traffic arteries of Route 1 and Route 202. These will create important linkages between neighborhoods, recreation, and commerce (see Chapter 4).

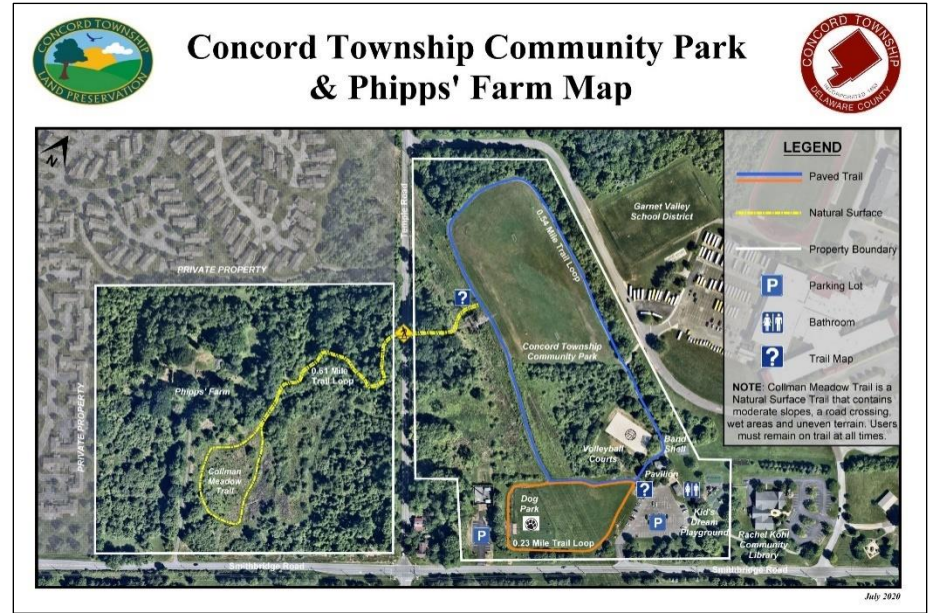


Newlin Grist Mill





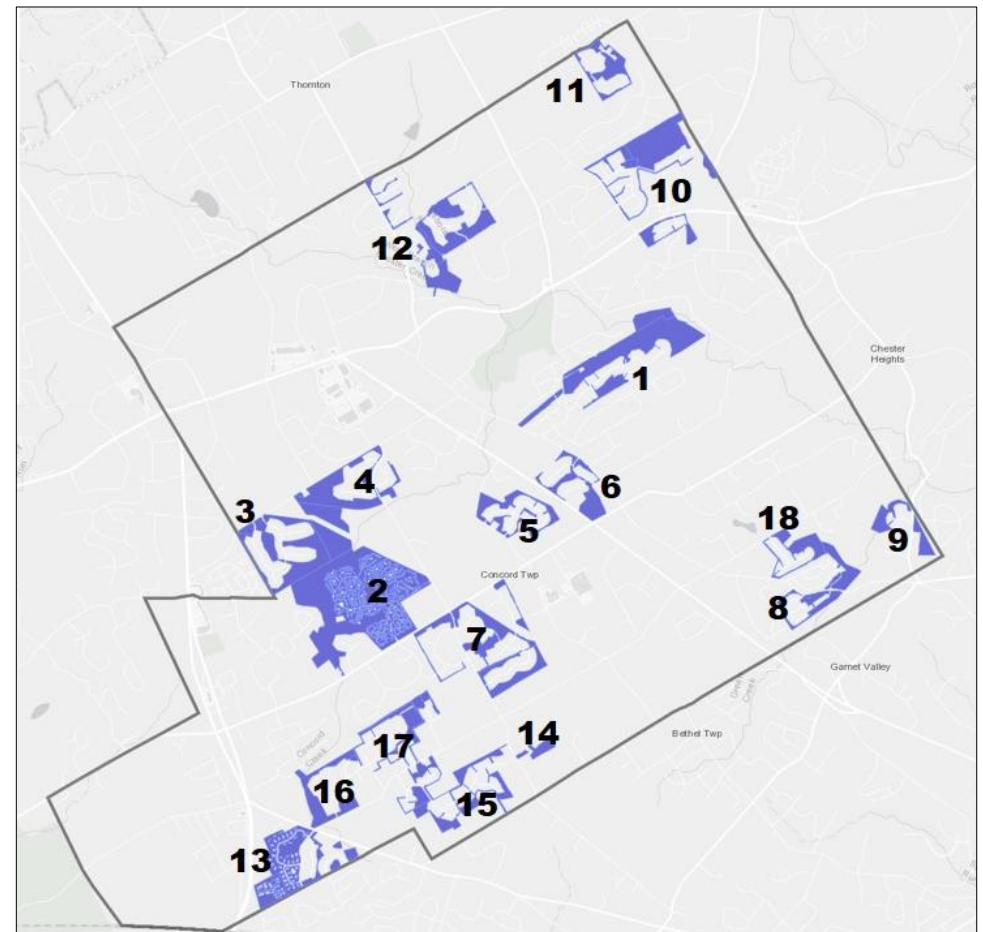
There are numerous walking trails available in Concord Township, including many at First State National Park (left), on Township properties (above) and at Newlin Grist Mill (facing page).



Privately Owned HOA Open Space

Some privately-owned properties in Concord are accessible to the public for recreational use, subject to limitations. Other properties may not be available to the public but are nevertheless protected from development to some degree. They may contribute to the scenic value of the landscape and serve an important role in conservation of natural resources. For these reasons, the public usually has an interest in seeing these resources preserved, even though they are in private hands.

In Concord, Homeowners Associations (HOA) provide a significant portion of open space. This is made up from land dedicated to open space as part of residential subdivisions. Currently there is almost 700 acres of dedicated open space located within HOAs. While the dedicated open space on these properties does not necessarily provide for access by the general public, it does provide a potential future opportunity for public use for recreational use such as walking trails, provided appropriate access easements can be negotiated. Currently the open space areas within Fox Hill Farm and Concord Woods contain walking trails, but they are not intended for use by the general public.



Homeowner Association Open Space

1	Concord Woods	10	Concord Chase
2	Fox Hill Farms	11	Pine Valley
3	Sharpless Farm	12	Mendenhall at Twin Creeks
4	Meadow Run	13	Concord Crossing
5	Estates at Garnet Valley	14	Kirkwood Glen
6	Penns Grant	15	Arborlea
7	Concord Hunt	16	Sweet Hollow
8	Riviera at Concord	17	Smithfield Estates
9	Valleybrook Chase	18	The Reserve at Garnet Valley

Vacant, Undeveloped and Underdeveloped Properties for Potential Future Open Space Needs

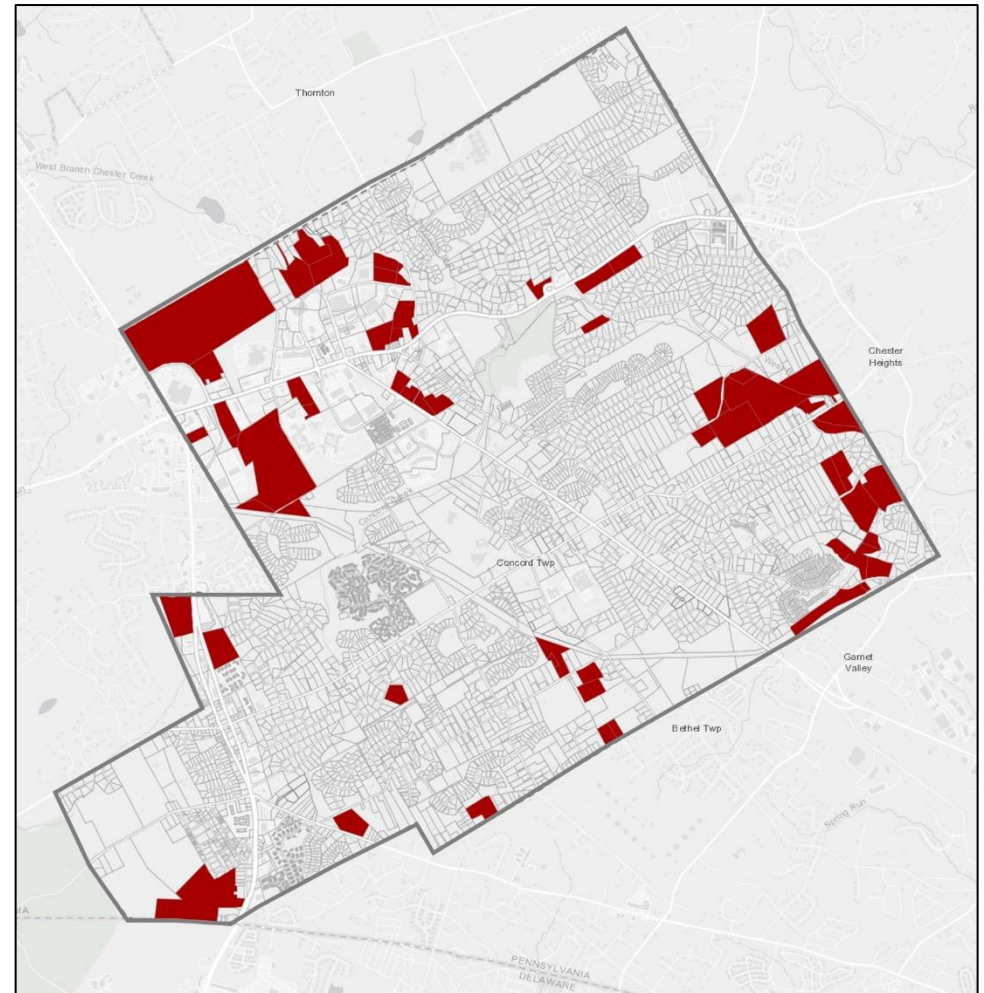
There are many undeveloped or under-developed properties that are not protected as open space and could potentially be developed at any time (though zoning does place certain restrictions on development). While these parcels are privately-owned, they represent potential future opportunities for expansion of public recreation and conservation of open space.

The map on this page identifies private properties that may be candidates for future open space protection in some form, such as conservation easement or outright acquisition by the Township. These properties have one or more of the following characteristics:

- Undeveloped properties larger than 5 acres in size.
- Under-developed properties that may be suitable for active or passive recreation.
- Properties containing sensitive natural resources such as stream corridors, woodlands, or notable flora/fauna habitats.
- Undeveloped properties adjacent to existing concentrations of protected open space.
- Properties that could host trail connections as part of the Township trail network.

In some instances, a portion of a property may be developed, but there is a significant undeveloped portion that may have value as protected open space.

Certain properties are residential homes on large parcels that contain stream corridors or other natural resources. In these instances, the natural areas could be protected by a conservation easement. One exception is the Concord Country Club, which is developed for active recreation. While this is a significant existing recreation and open space resource, the property is currently zoned for residential development, and it is not protected as open space.

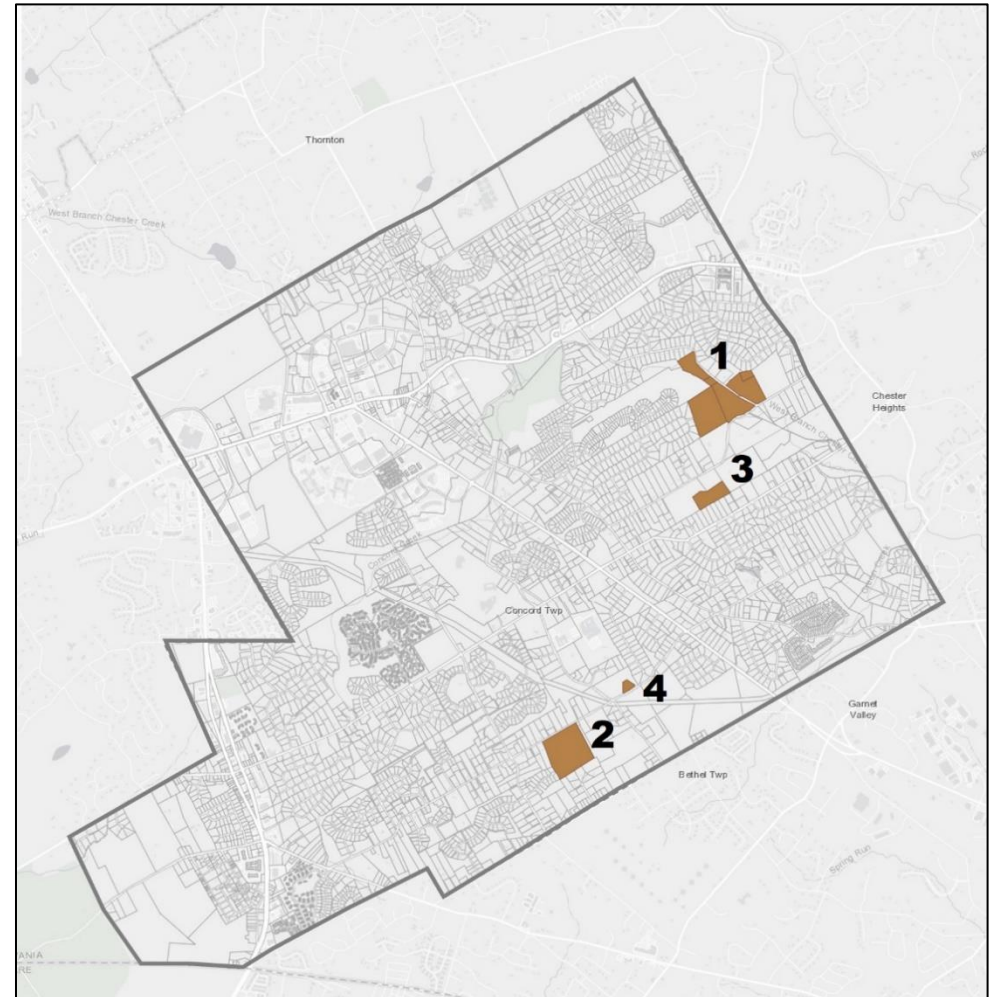


Conservation Easements

Several valuable open space properties in the Township are protected by conservation easement. Under these easements, the land remains in current ownership, but sells the rights to develop the land. The Township has partnered with the Brandywine Conservancy to manage some of these easements.

In 2021 the Township reached agreement to acquire two major new conservation easements. Featherbed Farm (33 acres) on Featherbed Lane was historically part of the original 200-acre land grant by William Penn to John Beal in 1683. The property contains Township Class I Historical Resources, including a stone house and barn dating to 1776 and 1830 respectively, which will be protected from demolition under the terms of the easement. The home is also listed on the Pennsylvania Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks. In addition to its historical significance, the land is ecologically important. This vast majority of the land, which includes a tributary of Green Creek, is cited as a “Core Habitat” and “Supporting Landscape” in the *Natural Heritage Inventory of Delaware County* for “Clayton Park/Shavertown Woods”.

The Township is also in the process of acquiring a conservation easement for approximately 50 acres of the historic Willcox property near the corner of Pole Cat Road/Ivy Mills Lane, which will add to a previous 15-acre easement for the historic Willcox home. The new easement encompasses land on the opposite of Pole Cat Road, including Class 1 historic structures such as the Clerk’s House and Mill Ruins. The property is part of the Ivy Mills Historic District on National Register of Historic Places. It also includes valuable environmental resources, associated with the West Branch of Chester Creek corridor.



Conservation Easements			
Key	Property	Key	Property
1	Willcox (Ivy Mills Rd.)	3	Bohenek (310 Ivy Mills Rd.)
2	Featherbed Farm	4	Hall (Featherbed Lane)

Open Space Opportunities Beyond Concord

While Concord Township boasts a healthy variety of parks and open space, it is not possible for every possible type of recreation facility to be available within the Township itself. Outside Concord, many popular types of parks and recreation facilities are available to Concord residents, and these should be accounted for as part of the overall available recreation resources. If certain facilities exist elsewhere, it may not be necessary to provide them in Concord. These are a few examples of resources available outside Concord. It is not intended to be a comprehensive inventory.

Community Parks in Nearby Municipalities

- Thornbury Park in Thornbury Township features basketball, tennis, softball, and extensive paved and unpaved walking trails.
- Upper Chichester Township Municipal Park on Furey Road features a skateboard park, along with playing fields and children’s playground.
- Other nearby open space and recreation opportunities include walking trails in Chadds Ford, and various public parks in Bethel, Chester Heights, and other surrounding Townships.



Upper Chichester Municipal Park

Other Types of Public Parks

Public outdoor areas are often owned and managed at the County, State, or Federal level. Several such parks and open spaces are in close proximity to Concord and are available for use by Concord Township residents.

- The nearest Pennsylvania State Park is **Ridley Creek State Park** in Edgmont and Middletown Townships. This park occupies more than 2,600 acres that are primarily wooded and bisected by Ridley Creek. Activities include hiking, biking horseback riding, picnicking, fishing, cross country skiing, and camping.
- **Brandywine Creek State Park** offers more than 14 miles of trail and a remnant old-growth forest within its 933 acres. The rolling meadows provide habitat to native pollinators, ground nesting birds and rare native plants. The Park also features disc golf, picnic pavilions and nature center, fishing, and is the site of Civil War reenactments in the spring.
- **Brandywine Battlefield Park** sits on 46 acres of rolling hills in Chadds Ford and includes the former Continental Army encampment, historic buildings, and a self-guided driving tour.
- **National Parks** are considered to have the highest level of scenic beauty or cultural importance to U.S. history. There are three national parks within 25 miles of Concord, which are First State National Historical Park (noted previously); Valley Forge National Historic Park in Valley Forge; and Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia.



Ridley Creek State Park



Brandywine Creek State Park

Other Activities and Facilities



Brandywine Creek



Tyler Arboretum

- **Swimming:** Concord does not have public swimming pool facilities. Swimming is available nearby from several member-based facilities, including Concord County Club and private swim clubs, the closest of which are Knowlton/Hidden Hollow Swim Club and Riddlewood, both located in nearby Middletown. Garnet Valley Middle School has an indoor swimming pool for use by students, with limited opportunity for use by the public.
- **Golf:** Several public and private golf courses are present in the area. The nearest courses open to the public are the Clayton Park Golf Course and Concord Country Club (both in Concord) and the Golf Course at Glen Mills.
- **Fitness:** Numerous private commercial fitness centers are located in the nearby vicinity, including Main Line Health in Concord. In addition, the Rocky Run YMCA offers a wide range of fitness and recreation programs for all ages. This is one of several YMCA branches in the region and is located about 5 miles away, in Middletown.
- **Boating:** Nearby Brandywine Creek is a popular setting for kayak and canoe enthusiasts. There are several public launch points within a few miles of Concord.
- **Recreational Camping:** Brandywine Summit Camp Meeting on Beaver Valley Road has campsites and cabins for rent, and offers a playground, swimming pool, and outdoor pavilion. It is adjacent to First State National Historical Park.
- **Bowling:** Several private commercial bowling alleys are located nearby, the closest of which is AMF Conchester Lanes on Route 322 in Upper Chichester.
- **Arboreta:** There are numerous Arboreta and Nature Centers in the nearby region which are open to the public and serve as outstanding resources for experiencing the natural environment. Those closest to Concord include Tyler Arboretum (Middletown), Palmer Arboretum (Thornbury), and nationally-known Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square.

Park and Open Space Programming

A strong sense of community, promoted and supported by meaningful local programs and events and recreation programs, helps to create desirable places to live and work. Low-cost activities for all ages provide opportunities for the everyone to be active and involved. Community programming also encourages a sense of unity, pride and appreciation for local traditions and heritage.

Township Community Events and Programs

Concord Township host a variety of public events throughout the year. The Township Park on Smithbridge Road is the principal location for these, however some also occur at the municipal complex, Bush Hill Farm, and other locations. Typical events include:

- Easter Egg Hunt, typically held at Bush Hill Farm.
- Summer concert series, with live music performances weeknight evenings at the bandshell in the Township Park.
- Summer movie nights, weekend evenings in the Township Park.
- Concord Community Day, a festival each fall with food, music, games, and other attractions.
- Harvest festival and Halloween parade, typically held at Bush Hill Farm.

CONCORD TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
presents **Summer Fun 2021**

Date	Time	Event
• June 5-12		Concord on the Move: Scavenger Hunt
• June 12	Dusk	Movie in the Park: Shrek (PG)
• June 18	7 pm	Concert in the Park: Navy Band
• June 19	11 am	Concord on the Move: Interactive Music with Zu
• June 24	7 pm	Concert in the Park: Belfast Connection (Rain Date: July 1 st)
• July 1	8 pm	Concord on the Move: Patriotic Pot Parade
• July 8	7 pm	Concert in the Park: Paul Downie & Friends (Rain Date: July 15 th)
• July 11	1 pm	Concord on the Move: Pie Baking Contest
• July 16	Dusk	Movie in the Park: The Wizard of Oz (PG)
• July 22	7 pm	Concert in the Park: The Yonder Hearts (Rain Date: July 28 th)
• Aug. TBA		Concord on the Move: Bird Watching & Nature Walk
• Aug. 5	7 pm	Concert in the Park: The Real Feel (Rain Date: August 12 th)
• Aug. 13	Dusk	Movie in the Park: Godzilla vs Kong (PG-13) (Subject to change)
• Aug. 19	7 pm	Concert in the Park: David Wilson & Friends (Rain Date: August 26 th)
• Sept. 17	5 pm	Concord on the Move: Sidewalk Picasso & Sand Art Competition
• Sept. 18	4 pm	Concord Community Day (Rain Date: September 25 th) Ashli Rice performs at 6:30 pm - Fireworks at Dusk

• Movies
• Concerts
• On the Move

*Note: All events held at Township Park - 689 Smithbridge Road



Local park events in Concord include the Easter Egg Hunt, movie nights, and outdoor concerts.

Brandywine Youth Club (BYC)

Organized youth sports are provided by the independent non-profit Brandywine Youth Club, which offers a wide range of sports and activities. Events are held at the BYC fields on Kirk Road, O'Donohue Field House at the Township Municipal Complex, Garnet Valley school facilities, and other local parks and fields. Sports and activities include basketball, baseball, cheerleading, football, soccer, lacrosse, softball, wrestling, and field hockey. The club also hosts events for families such as golf outings, Fun Runs, and other events.

Newlin Grist Mill

The non-profit historic site and 160-acre nature preserve offers a wide range of public education and recreation programs geared toward history and nature. Topics include birdwatching, archeology, naturalist programs, and historic interpretation. The Grist Mill also offers a popular Summer Discovery summer camp program for children ages 4-12.

Garnet Valley School District

The school district offers a wide range of age-appropriate sports and activities for students. A significant portion of school students are Concord residents, who benefit from school programs and activities. However, those programs and activities are offered at the discretion of the school district and are not specifically addressed within the scope of this study.

Community Organizations

A variety of established community organizations sponsor events, activities, and programs throughout the year, collectively appealing to a diverse range of interests and ages. Some of these organizations include Boys Scouts of America Concordville Cub Scout Pack 260 and Boys Scouts Troop 191, as well as many local churches, and local parochial schools.

Other Programs

Concord residents often take advantage of other nearby opportunities to meet their needs for recreation programs. Other than youth sports associations described above, a popular local source of fitness and recreation programming is the Rocky Run YMCA located about 5 miles away in Middletown. The YMCA offers an extensive range of youth and adult programs that are available to members. Programs include exercise and fitness classes, swimming lessons, a variety of sports, youth summer camps, and many other options.



GARNET VALLEY
SCHOOL DISTRICT



This page is intentionally left blank.

3 Needs and Opportunities

The previous chapter outlined the current open space resources available in Concord Township. This chapter envisions how the open space system in Concord could be *better*, by identifying issues of concern to residents, needs and wants for improved facilities and programs, and opportunities for future improvements.

It is important for Concord to plan its future open space according to its unique circumstances and to the priorities of its residents. With this in mind, significant public input was received, and extensive discussion took place with the Steering Committee and other stakeholders in the Township to assess perceived needs and wants for park facilities and resources. The outcome of these discussions is presented in four primary categories:

- **Current Strengths:** Positive attributes to be protected and enhanced
- **Issues and Concerns:** Problems that should be addressed
- **Needs and Desires:** Improvements and new features that would be beneficial
- **Opportunities to Improve:** Unique circumstances that will help make improvements possible

Public Participation

The public participation process was a guiding force behind the Plan by identifying needs and wants of the community and providing fresh ideas. This plan was developed through extensive outreach and dialogue with a wide range of stakeholders, including public officials, local institutions, property owners, and the general public. The Plan was shaped and guided by a Steering Committee that included representatives of civic organizations, youth sports associations, park neighbors, township officials, and residents.

Voice Your Vision

In July 2021, the Township hosted public workshops as part of its *Voice Your Vision* public outreach initiative, where local residents were encouraged to express their views and provide suggestions on a wide range of topics, which included open space planning, including land use, public spaces, events, and circulation.

Through these sessions and other related outreach, a broad community consensus emerged in support of open space protection, expansion of community events, creation of more spaces for gathering and recreation, and improved pedestrian and bicycle connectivity. The full report from these sessions can be found in the Appendix.

Public Opinion Survey

During spring 2021, Concord Township invited residents to share their thoughts related to recreation and open space. An elaborate online survey, created with the assistance of *MetroQuest*, asked detailed questions that polled residents' satisfaction and interest across a wide range of specific topics. A total of 1,552 responses were received, which is a remarkable level of participation. Residents were asked a variety of questions about their views of the current parks and open space in Concord, and their opinions on what improvements they would most want to see. Some questions were multiple choice, and others were open-ended to allow respondents to describe their opinions in their own words. Overall public opinions are incorporated into the summary of strengths, concerns, and desires outlined later in this Chapter.



Extensive public outreach efforts included online surveys, in-person visioning workshops, and stakeholder interviews.

A more expansive presentation of the survey results can be found in the Appendix. Highlights include:

Priorities

- When asked to rank the most important types of open space and recreation activities, the most highly ranked choice was **Trails**. Residents expressed a strong desire for both paved and unpaved trails, indicating a range of users looking for different types of experiences.
- Many other open space and recreation options were also looked upon favorably. The diverse variety of preferences is reflective of a diverse population with a broad range of interests.

Visitation

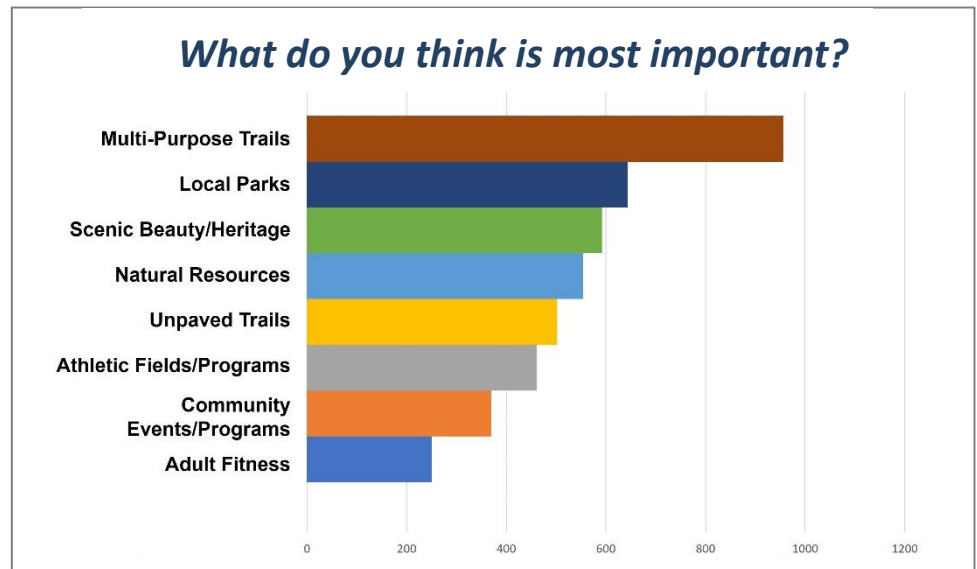
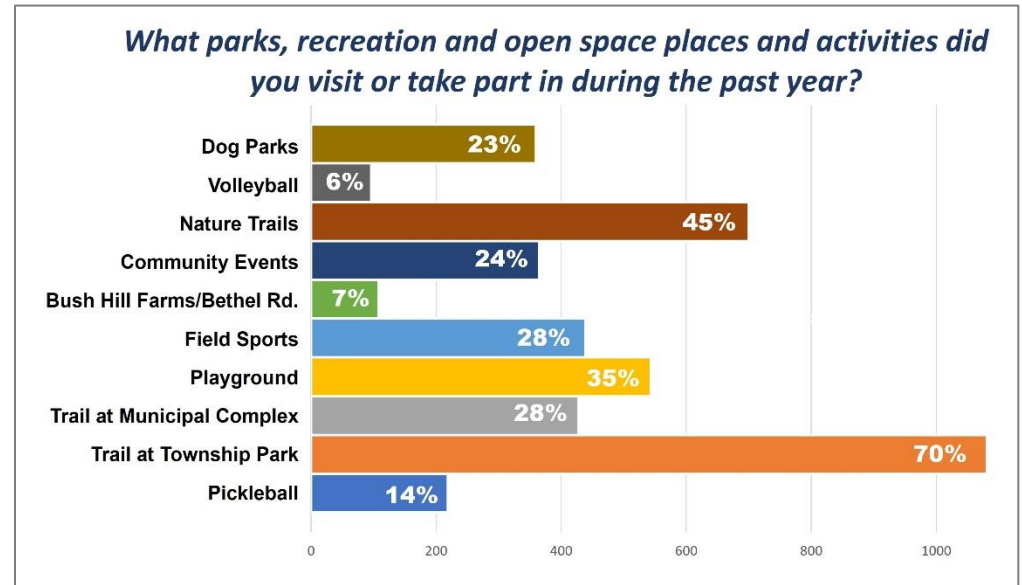
- 77% of respondents visit a Township park at least once a month, and 45% reported they do so every week. This represents a high level of engagement and familiarity with the existing resources and issues.
- 70% of respondents had used the trail at the Township Park during the past year. This is a highly popular recreation option for local residents.

Satisfaction

- 80% of respondents are satisfied or very satisfied with the variety of recreation options available in the Township.
- 90% are satisfied or very satisfied with the condition and maintenance of Township parks.

Needs

- More than half of respondents answered that the best use of limited resources is to acquire more open space, rather than spending that money to improve existing parks or provide more programs.
- When asked what types of new open space and recreation features should be added, trails were the most frequently mentioned item. Natural areas, sprayground, outdoor basketball courts, outdoor fitness activities, and community gardens were also ranked highly.
- Respondents placed high value on community events, scenic beauty, local heritage, and the natural landscape, as important parts of the open space system.



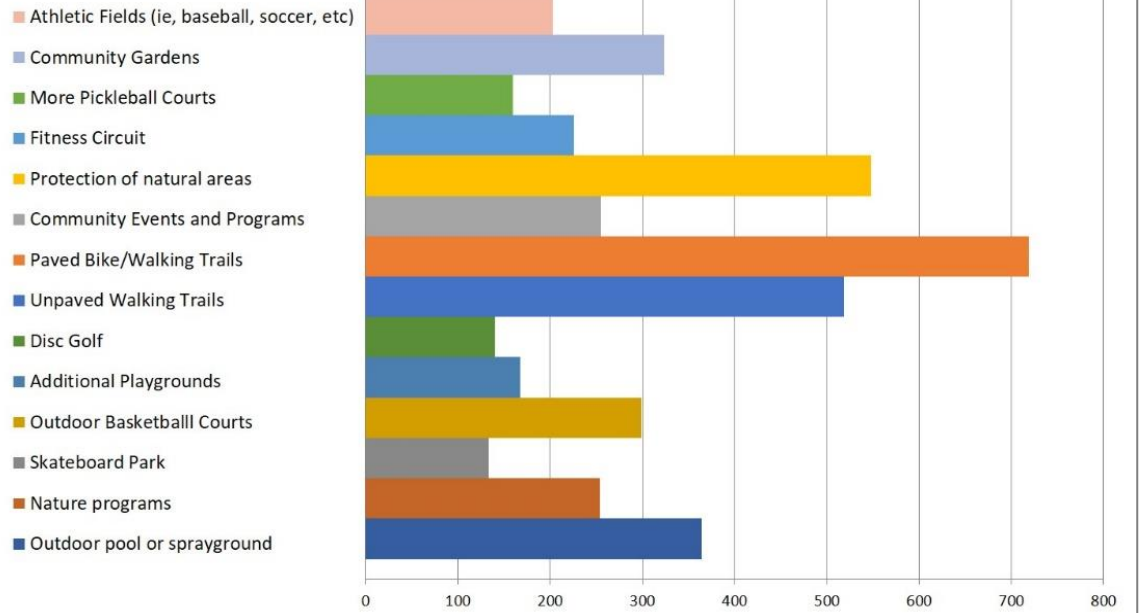
Sample comments from residents:

“We need to protect the riparian areas and create large enough natural areas to protect endangered species from human development.”

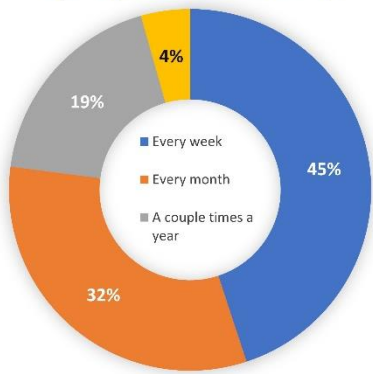
“Walking, hiking, and enjoying nature are huge mood boosters and essential for mental health. This is key and a big driver for millennials and their families.”

“Would love more themed events that are kid and family friendly...”

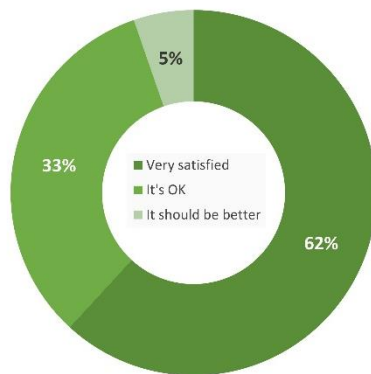
In the future, what types of recreation and open space features should the Township strive to add or improve? (choose 5 maximum)



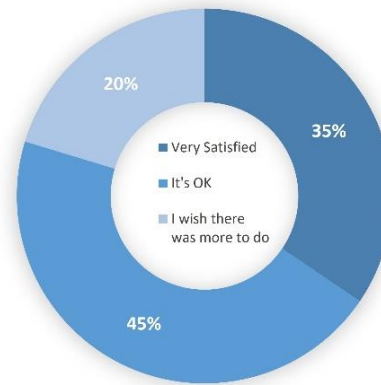
How often do you visit a park or open space in the Township?



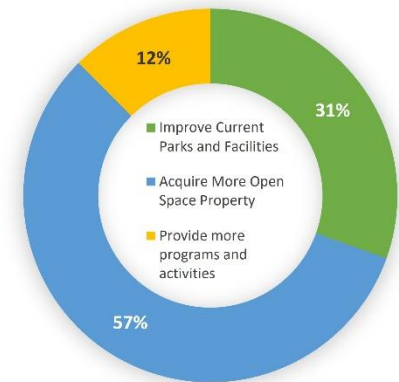
How satisfied are you with condition and maintenance of existing parks in Concord?



How satisfied are you with the variety of activities available in the Township?



The Township has limited resources to devote to parks and open space. What do you think is the best way to invest these resources?



Current Strengths

It is important to identify the perceived strengths of the current parks and open space system, in order to protect and enhance those aspects of the system that are already of high value. Notable current strengths include:

- **Community Events:** Concord residents enjoy the various community events hosted by the Township throughout the year and wish for more.
- **Trails:** Walking trails are currently the most popular physical activity in the Township. Residents wish for more trails, both paved and unpaved, and for these to be part of an interconnected system
- **Natural Areas:** Residents place a high value on undeveloped open space as part of the scenic character of the Township. The current undeveloped open areas of the Township are appreciated by residents. Woodlands, stream corridors, and wetland areas are the best place in the Township to experience the natural landscape up close, and they are also important elements of Concord's cultural heritage.
- **Youth Sports:** Residents are generally satisfied with the variety and quality of organized youth sports programs and facilities.
- **Cultural Heritage:** Many features of the Township's rural past remain evident and are highly valued by residents. These include historic buildings and places, as well as scenic and agricultural areas.

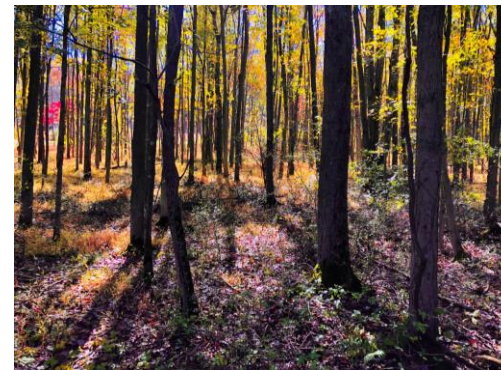


Youth sports are considered a local strength.

Current Issues and Concerns

While parks and open spaces in Concord are generally appreciated, the outreach process for this Plan identified perceived problems that should be addressed and ways that current parks could be improved. A range of issues and concerns emerged, including the following:

- **Township Park is Crowded:** Concord Township Park is a highly popular and valuable community hub. However, as a focal point of community activity and recreation, it is often overcrowded, and supporting infrastructure like parking and restrooms are insufficient.
- **Cost to Taxpayers:** Some residents worry that Township plans to expand and improve parks and open space might be overly ambitious and may result in higher taxes or increased costs that will be passed along to residents.
- **Private Development:** Some residents feel that private commercial and residential land development is gradually eating up important remaining open space. There is a concern that the visual character of the Township will be diminished if too much open space disappears.
- **Ability to Maintain Parks and Natural Lands:** In recent years the Township has increased its open space inventory by actively acquiring new property. While the Township's parks are well-maintained, the undeveloped natural areas should be more actively managed to preserve environmental quality. As new resources are developed, maintenance needs will grow accordingly.



Expanded open space inventory requires expanded maintenance capability.

Needs and Desires

As noted earlier in this chapter, based on public input there is a perceived need for different, enhanced, or new features, to meet the level of demand and address the interests of current and future residents. Prominent needs and desires include:

- **Trails for walking and biking** are the most commonly noted desire expressed by residents in the opinion survey and public meetings. Trails have appeal for users of all ages and abilities and provide an opportunity to experience the natural environment.
- Closely related to trails is an appreciation for the natural environment. Residents express a desire to **preserve open space**, to protect the scenic quality of the Township and to promote environmental sustainability.
- Potential new active recreation elements, including **sprayground**, outdoor **basketball** courts, and **adult fitness** equipment.
- While local youth sports are strong, recreation options for adults are more limited. There is strong desire for open space resources in Concord that **appeal to all ages**, including senior citizens. Recently-added pickleball courts, which appeal to older adults, are a highly popular example.
- Residents enjoy the opportunity for community events, and there is a desire for **expanded or additional public events space** that has improved facilities and supporting amenities such as restrooms.
- There is a local equestrian community that would utilize trails and places for **horseback riding**.
- **Community gardening**, recycling, composting, and other environmentally sustainable practices should be accommodated within the open space system.



A wide variety of new open space features and elements have been suggested by the community.

Opportunities to Improve

In considering ways to achieve stated goals, current circumstances present a number of opportunities to address current issues and needs. These include the following (specific recommendations for each are described in Chapter 4):

- The Township owns a cluster of properties **located along Temple Road** between Smithbridge and Spring Valley Road. Considered as a group, these have great potential to form a hub for trails and passive recreation, with direct close connection to the Township Park.
- The Township owns a second cluster of properties in the vicinity of **Bethel Road and Featherbed Lane**. These include Bush Hill Farm and Smallbrook Preserve, along with others. Together this group of properties can form a hub for trails and passive recreation, with the added benefit of direct adjacency to Delaware County's Clayton Park.
- The area surrounding the **Ivy Mills Historic District** and nearby vicinity is a valuable remaining example of Concord's historical legacy as a working agricultural landscape. This section of the Township has thus far largely avoided modern development and retains much of its early-American character.
- In addition to the clusters of Township property noted above, there are several **undeveloped Township open space** properties that can be better utilized to serve needs of active and passive recreation or protected and managed as natural landscapes having environmental value.
- **Active recreation** is generally concentrated in a few areas of the Township: the Municipal Complex on Thornton Road, the Township Park and Garnet Valley School grounds on Smithbridge Road, and the BYC fields on Kirk Road. One or more of these existing recreation hubs can be expanded with additional features, capitalizing on existing supportive infrastructure such as parking, restrooms, and amenities.
- Certain major **stream corridors** within the Township are largely undeveloped. These can play a key role in the open space system. They are valuable environmental resources, important for stormwater management as well as wildlife habitat. Many stream segments are already protected and dedicated as open space by Homeowners Associations. These stream corridors hold potential for possible trail connections, passive recreation, and nature conservation.
- Several **utility corridors** that have the potential for development as recreation trails. The former Octoraro rail corridor runs east-west across the Township and carries underground water, sewer, and fiber optic communications, along with overhead electric. A second corridor runs roughly NW to SE and carries overhead electric. Paved trails have been proposed for both these corridors.
- The recent establishment of **First State National Historical Park** represents a key opportunity to connect Township residents to more than 1,000 acres of open space and trails managed by the National Park Service.
- **Dedicated open space** belonging to Homeowner's Associations (HOAs) total almost 700 acres, representing a significant open space resource. While these areas are protected from development, there may be opportunities to better utilize them for recreation, or better manage them for natural resources.
- While private development has continued steadily over the past 20 years, many **private undeveloped parcels** still remain. Certain of these may have value as public open space, particular those which fit one or more criteria: (a) facilitate trail connections; (b) contiguous to other public open space; (c) contain sensitive natural features; (d) have scenic and/or historic value, and (e) possess other qualities conducive to recreation.
- The Township benefits from **strong local institutions and private non-profit partners**. There is an opportunity to coordinate these civic resources more closely to maximize efficiency to deliver high quality programs and facilities.

4 Recommendations

The underlying purpose of the *Concord Township Comprehensive Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan* is to identify opportunities and set priorities for ways the Township can protect and improve its parks, recreation, open space, and environmental resources.

The Township Council has demonstrated a significant commitment to open space, parks, and trails by allocating more than \$8 million since 2018, opening three new nature trails and two public parks and expanding recreation opportunities with pickleball, new playground, new dog park, and other features. The recommendations in this plan seek to build on that momentum.

The following recommendations represent a suggested course of action for Concord to follow during the next ten years, and represent the priorities set by the Steering Committee during the course of this study. They include a wide variety of actions. Some recommended projects are straightforward and relatively low-cost. Some are ambitious long-term initiatives that will require significant funds. Still others involve policy decisions that cost nothing, only the will to act.

There is no expectation that these recommendations can be implemented all at once. By prioritizing resources, the Township can proceed incrementally, starting with the “low-hanging fruit”, and working steadily toward more ambitious goals.



Guiding Themes

As a plan framework, the recommendations can be generally grouped into five broad themes:



Promote natural lands
CONSERVATION



Expand the local
TRAILS NETWORK



Establish hubs for
PASSIVE RECREATION



Enhance hubs for
ACTIVE RECREATION



Improve capacity for
LAND MANAGEMENT

Prioritize Open Space Hubs and Connections

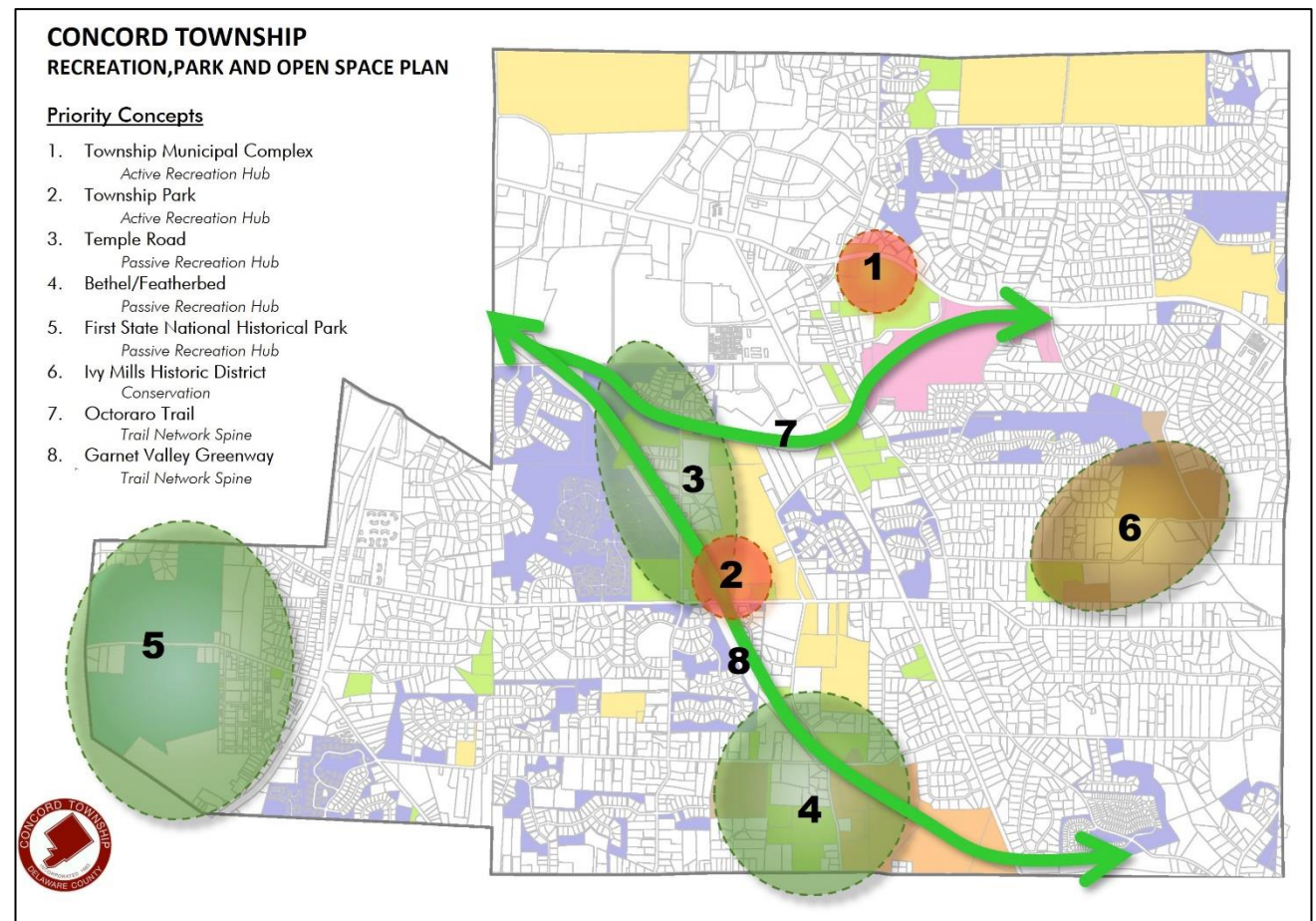
Recommendations of this Plan include a wide range of potential actions. Opportunities to improve open space and recreation can be found throughout the Township, and the intention is to capitalize on these opportunities wherever they may be. However, it is necessary to prioritize those actions that are likely to yield the highest public benefit. In certain areas in the Township, multiple open space resources exist in close proximity. This allows the potential to create a synergy between complimentary uses. These areas have the great potential to serve as **hubs** of activity and social interaction for Township residents.

Active Recreation Hubs can be enhanced at the Township Park and the Municipal Complex. There is a value to concentrating active recreation opportunities where these already exist, so that supporting infrastructure such as parking and restrooms can be shared.

Passive Recreation Hubs can be created in several locations, where there is a concentration of public open space of high environmental value that lends itself to trails and related activities. Careful management of environmental resources can bring people in contact with nature in a sensitive manner.

In addition to walking trails that already exist and can be expanded, there are opportunities for two longer **Trail Network Spines**. The Octoraro Trail and Garnet Valley Greenway can serve as connectors that link many individual open space, recreation, and civic destinations.

Open space is not only valued for recreation. The **Ivy Mills Historic District** represents the historic legacy of the Township and is highly valued for its scenic beauty and the cultural resonance. Conservation easements in the Ivy Mills district can protect these lands from development and preserve historic character.





Recommendations for **CONSERVATION**

Not all public open space needs to be devoted to public activity. Sensitive natural resources are valuable and deserving of protection in their own right, even if there is no recreational purpose involved. Public opinion of Concord residents is strongly in support of natural resource conservation. The Township should play an active role in promoting environmentally responsible stewardship of the natural environment.

Conserve Additional Open Space Property

Based on public input gathered for this plan, Concord residents are solidly in favor of preserving undeveloped open space. The Township should actively take steps to protect undeveloped open space from future development. These protections should be targeted toward properties that can provide for future recreation needs, conserve natural resources, and/or preserve the scenic and historic character of the Township for future generations. The Township should remain alert for opportunities to acquire or conserve undeveloped property as part of the open space system.

The 2007 *Concord Township Recreation and Open Space Plan Update* contained evaluation criteria for prioritizing potential new acquisitions. This set of criteria has served as a useful frame of reference when considering new opportunities.

Based on the goals and expectations for open space described in this Plan, an updated measuring stick for acquisition of new property is proposed. An objective metric such as this is often a requirement of grant funding programs, which may assist with acquisition costs.



The following important open space attributes should be considered in identifying priority lands for acquisition. A weighted scoring system is proposed for each category, with values assigned according to specific characteristics. The full score sheet can be found in *Appendix C*.

1. **Parcel Size:** Larger parcels have greater potential for public benefit, and to justify Township efforts to plan, acquire, and maintain.
2. **Development Risk:** Properties that are subject to imminent development pressure may become high priority for preservation.
3. **Proximity to Other Public Space:** Open spaces have more value when they can be connected and avoid fragmentation.
4. **Watershed Protection:** Benefits include groundwater recharge, flood resiliency, water quality, and wildlife habitat.
5. **Environmental Sensitivity:** It is important to preserve habitat for native plant or animal species listed as threatened or endangered.
6. **Connectivity to Trail Network:** Properties that can help to expand or fill gaps in the network should be prioritized.
7. **Scenic Value:** Properties that have high scenic value or contribute to a scenic viewshed are important to the local character and sense of place.
8. **Historic Value:** Properties that have historic and cultural value are important to preserve as part of the open space system.
9. **Suitability for Recreation:** Parcels that have characteristics suitable for recreation should be acquired to serve future needs.
10. **Overall Public Benefit:** Some factors are unique to the property or the Township's immediate needs may also weigh heavily in the decision to acquire land for open space and recreation.

Acquire Conservation Easements

Other than outright acquisition of property, in some instances it may be more practical and feasible to acquire conservation easements for the protection of open space. In 2021 the Township acquired two major new conservation easements. Featherbed Farm (33 acres) on Featherbed Lane and the Willcox property (50 acres) on Ivy Mills Lane are significant additions to the Township inventory of protected land.

The Ivy Mills Historic District located in the southeast part of the Concord is the most prominent remaining open space in the Township. It represents the historic agrarian legacy of the Township and is highly valued by local residents for its scenic beauty and the cultural resonance. The Township should look to acquire additional conservation easements on contributing properties in the district to protect these lands from development and preserve historic character.

Conservation easements should also be prioritized for lands that have significant environmental resources, such as stream corridors and sensitive plant and animal species.

Conservation easements place restrictions on development at a lower cost than fee simple acquisition. Under a conservation easement, land remains in current ownership, but the property owner voluntarily agrees to donate or sell one or more rights attached to the land. In the case of a conservation easement, the owner agrees to relinquish or limit their rights to develop the land. Continued use by the owner may be allowed in accordance with agreed-upon terms, such as when an owner continues to farm and maintain the property.

Develop a Land Management Plan for Natural Resources

Once open space property is acquired and protected from development, the condition of that property needs to be managed and maintained. Land is a living thing, subject to constant change and impacts from natural forces. As the Township inventory of open space increases, the requirements of managing that land increases in scale and complexity. This effort will be assisted greatly by development of a Management Plan to conserve and protect natural resources. This Management Plan should include guidelines to allow the Township to be responsible stewards of the natural landscape.

The Land Management Plan should assess each Township property for specific site conditions, existing and potential use of the site, problems to be addressed, immediate and long-term maintenance needs, and opportunities to foster environmental quality. It should include an operational plan for controlling invasive plant species, promoting native flora and fauna habitat, establishing and maintaining sustainable landscapes such as meadows and rain gardens, reforestation with native species, methods to provide streambank stabilization to prevent erosion, and other management best practices.



Conservation easements can help protect the open space associated with the Ivy Mills Historic District and elsewhere.



The Township should develop a plan to manage natural lands.

Prepare a Natural Resources Inventory

The most thorough investigation of local natural resources was done in 2011 as part of a county-wide study performed as part of the Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program (see *Chapter 2, page 12*). This study identified three locations in Concord Township as high in environmental value, based on endangered flora and fauna, habitats, and environmental characteristics worthy of protection and conservation. While the County-wide study was invaluable, a Township-wide survey could provide a greater level of detail and more specific awareness of important local environmental features. This knowledge can then inform Township decisions on zoning, land development, and protection of watersheds and open space

Strengthen Partnerships for Natural Lands Programs and Management

Established non-profit organizations are present in the region that offer public programs of various kinds geared toward environmental conservation and the natural landscape. The Township should strengthen these partnerships, to facilitate appropriate public programming on Township lands. Such programs can increase public awareness of open space resources and appreciation for the natural environment. Non-profit partners often have the capability and expertise to assist with management and restoration of natural lands. In recent years, collaboration with private sector partners for stewardship of public lands has grown to be prevalent, through sponsorships, programming, and other means.

Potential partners for natural lands programming and management may include:

- Brandywine Conservancy
- Newlin Grist Mill
- Darlington Arts Center
- Natural Lands Trust
- Delaware County Parks
- First State National Historical Park
- Local Health and medical community
- Local nature and outdoor oriented retailers
- Neighboring municipalities



The Township should better understand its sensitive natural resources, as well as engage partners to provide interpretive and educational programming. The private sector can contribute financial resources through sponsorships and other means.



Review Zoning/SALDO Ordinances

Township Zoning and Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SLDO) codes have been recently updated to strengthen protections for open space, water resources, and natural features. While these codes have been recently updated (2016 and 2018), they should periodically be reviewed and strengthened where possible to reflect the latest best practices for protection of open space and natural resources.

The Township may wish to require trails or other open space improvements, and in having more direct control over land that is dedicated for open space as part of the land development process.

Adopt an Official Township Map

To protect its interest in acquiring the properties and rights-of-way intended as future trails, open space, and protected natural resources, the Township can depict the proposed improvements on an Official Township Map. An “official map” is a combined map and ordinance designed to implement the goals set forth in the comprehensive plan. The official map shows the locations of planned future public lands and facilities such as transportation, recreational parks and trails, and open space. The official map expresses a municipality’s interest in acquiring these lands for public purposes sometime in the future. The authority to create an official map is granted in Article IV of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC).

Listing a parcel or portion of a property on an official map notifies developers and property owners that the area mapped is of interest to a municipality for public purposes sometime in the future. According to the MPC, designation of a property on the official map does not constitute a taking in and of itself. It simply gives a municipality an opportunity to negotiate acquisition of property, or rights thereto, where a public use would be beneficial before development or redevelopment occurs. Adoption of the Official Map and corresponding Ordinance are subject to public review and must follow an established process as required by the MPC.

Update the Township Comprehensive Plan

The recommendations of this *Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan* may be incorporated into the Concord Township Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan represents the overriding planning document that formally defines the community vision and articulate in detail the long-term community goals and objectives. The Comprehensive Plan serves as the basis for implementation of a wide range of municipal land use policies such as Zoning, and Land Development Ordinances. It also is a basis to justify major capital improvements such as for utility and transportation infrastructure. The *Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan* relates most closely to the *Recreation, Transportation and Natural Resources* elements of the Comprehensive Plan, and those sections may be updated to reflect the recommendations of this Plan.





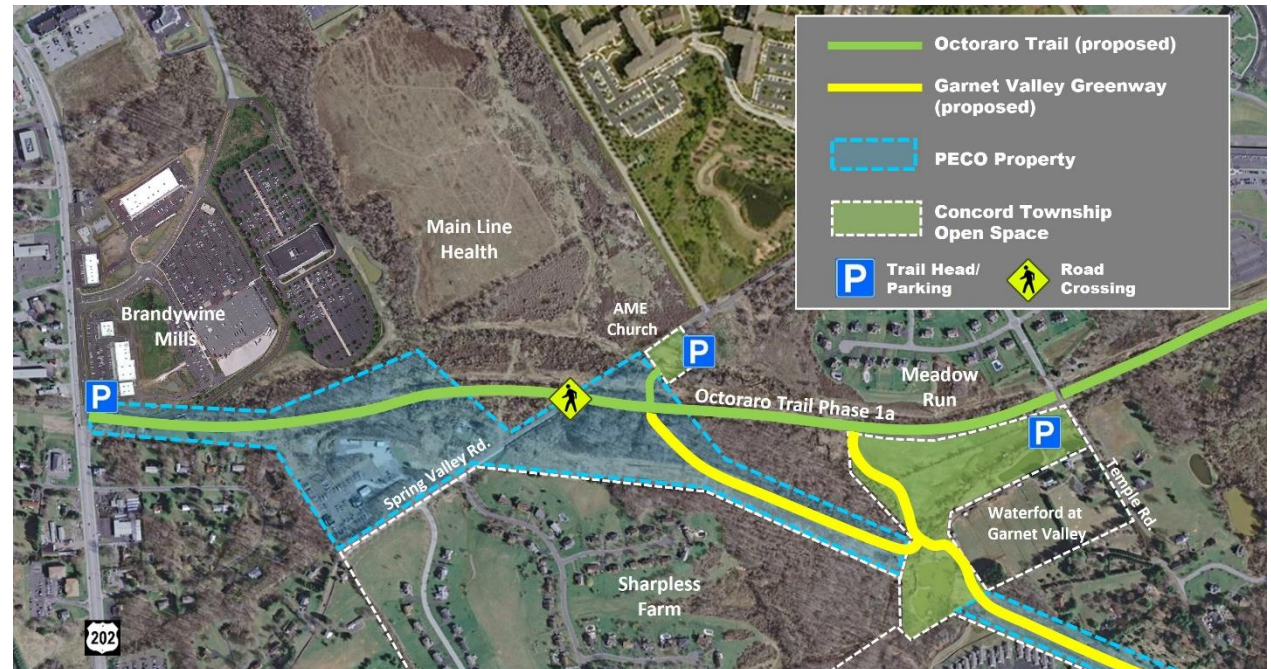
Recommendations for TRAILS

Construct the Octoraro Trail

Funding has already been secured to design and construct portions of the Octoraro Trail, per the goals of the Octoraro Greenway Feasibility Study. The Octoraro has the potential to serve as a major local trail spine and future link to the regional trail network. Currently in the design stage, the proposed Trail is planned to run along the alignment of the former Octoraro railway. The first Phase (1A) of construction is planned to originate at Route 202 just south of the Brandywine Mills shopping center and run eastward approximately 1 mile to Temple Road. The following Phase (1B) will continue the trail eastward for another mile to Concord Road, where there is the potential to connect to the existing trail network at Newlin Grist Mill, at Concord Road.

Phase 2 is envisioned to extend the trail through Newlin Grist Mill, for which careful planning and close coordination with the Newlin Grist Mill will be necessary.

The Octoraro is highly valued not only as a local resource, but also for its potential to connect to the broader regional trail network. The trail can connect to the planned Chester Creek Trail, now under construction in Middletown Township, and from there to other existing and planned trail segments that are part of the growing network. It could also connect to the planned SEPTA regional rail Wawa train station, allowing for a true multi-modal transportation connection.



The Octoraro Trail is planned to begin at Route 202 near Applied Card Way (top). The first phase of construction will run to Temple Road (above)

While partial funding for Phase 1A has been secured, it is necessary to continue to plan and seek funding for design and construction of future phases. Extensive community outreach will also be needed, including right-of-way acquisition to extend the trail eastward toward Chester Heights, and coordination with Chadds Ford Township on connection west across Route 202 into Chadds Ford.

The goal is for Phase 1A to be constructed within the next two years, and Phase 1B to be constructed within the two following years. For more information on the planned alignment and other details, see the [Octoraro Greenway Feasibility Study](#).



Phase 1B of the Octoraro Trail is planned to pick up at Temple Road and move east as far as Concord Road where it will connect to Newlin Grist Mill. An existing underpass will allow the trail to cross beneath Route 322.



Construct the Garnet Valley Greenway

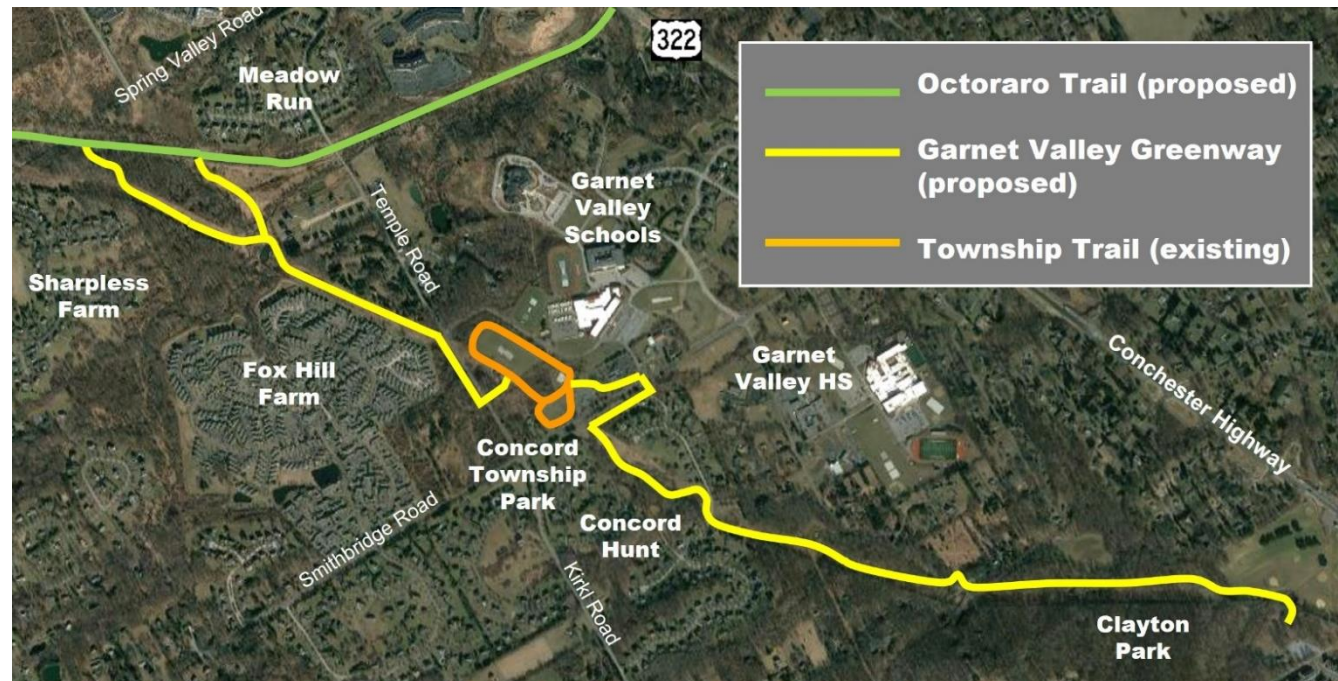
In 2020, Concord Township completed the grant-funded *Garnet Valley Greenway Feasibility Study*, a planned trail along the utility corridor occupied primarily by PECO electrical transmission lines. The route of the proposed Greenway is approximately 2.5 miles long from Spring Valley Road to Clayton Park. Additional recreation options will be enhanced by providing off-road linkages between other trails, parks and other public destinations. The potential trail route represents an outstanding opportunity to connect a variety of existing community facilities as well as several established residential neighborhoods. A recreation trail in this location would also help to expand the local and regional trail network, since it connects directly to the planned Octorara Trail.

Parks and community facilities that are along the Garnet Valley Greenway route include Concord Township Park, Rachel Kohl Library, Clayton Park, Garnet Valley Schools, and Bush Hill Farm, as well as the route of the planned Octorara Greenway. Residential neighborhoods that could be directly served by the Greenway include Fox Hill Farms, Concord Hunt, and Sharpless Farm.

The first phase of design and construction is envisioned to connect the Concord Township Park with the Octorara Trail to the north.

It is necessary to secure funding for design and construction, acquire right-of-way, and continue public outreach to potential trail neighbors. Portions of the alignment are on property owned by PECO Energy, and an access license agreement will be needed.

For more details of the alignment and implementation steps, see the *Garnet Valley Greenway Feasibility Study*.



The Garnet Valley Greenway is envisioned as a primary trail spine that will connect neighborhoods with multiple parks, recreation areas, and community facilities.

Expand Bethel-Featherbed Trail Network

The growing assemblage of Township land in the vicinity of Bethel Road and Featherbed Lane can be planned to form an interconnected network of natural walking trails (see also “passive recreation” below).

Natural grass walking paths have already been established at Bush Hill Farm on Bethel Road and at the Smallbrook Preserve a short distance away on Featherbed Lane. Both these properties are directly adjacent to Delaware County’s Clayton Park and have the potential for an expanded network of connected trails.

As noted earlier, the Township recognizes the value of protecting additional undeveloped open space in this area, and in recent years has acquired several contiguous parcels.

Future acquisition of properties can allow these existing trails to connect into an extensive network of “nature trails” that will have their own distinct purpose and character different from the more formal paved trails planned for elsewhere in the Township. The trails and associated open space comprising the Bethel-Featherbed hub will connect directly to the planned Garnet Valley Greenway, from there linking to a variety of community and recreation resources in the Township. (See also *Passive Recreation*, below.)



Walking trails in the vicinity of Bethel Road and Featherbed Lane can be connected to form an expanded trail network.

Develop Trail Connections to First State National Historical Park

Concord Township is uniquely positioned at the gateway of the Brandywine Valley to connect trail networks in Pennsylvania and Delaware. West of Route 202, the southwest portion of the Township known as Beaver Valley contains a network of paved and unpaved trails that are accessible to the public. These trails extend into the State of Delaware and nearby Brandywine Creek State Park. This area is part of the **First State National Historical Park**, which was established by the National Park Service to protect and conserve important historical and cultural sites across the state of Delaware.

First State National Historical Park (NHP) is made up of six sites spread throughout the state of Delaware. More than 1,300 acres of rolling agricultural fields, pastures, forested hills, and streams preserve the natural and cultural legacy of the larger Brandywine Valley in northern Delaware and southern Pennsylvania. There are more than 23-miles of recreational trails available, as well as horseback riding, biking, and kayaking. While primarily in Delaware, the Park includes more than 250-acres in Concord Township.

The Township has secured funding from Pennsylvania DCNR to study ways to connect First State to the existing trails and recreation resources in the heart of the Township. The growing Township trail network can extend west toward Route 202 by knitting together a combination of on-street trail segments, HOA open space, and isolated Township-owned properties. The study is scheduled to begin in 2022.

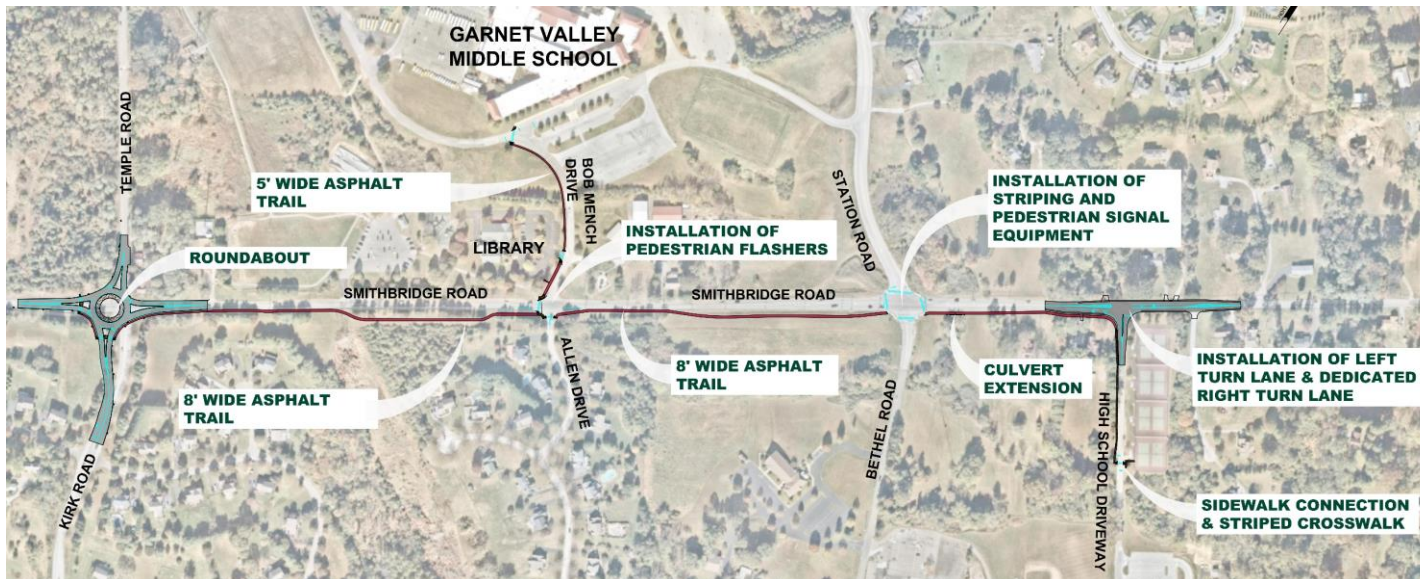


Concord will benefit from establishing trail connections to the existing open space resources of First State National Park.



Construct Smithbridge Road Pedestrian Connections

Significant improvements to Smithbridge Road are planned to include a multi-use asphalt path between Kirk/Temple Roads and Garnet Valley High School and a controlled street crossing to Concord Township Park. These pedestrian accommodations along this busy street will greatly enhance the ability to safely move on foot or bicycle between the Community Park and adjacent Rachel Kohl Library and Garnet Valley schools. They will also directly link to the planned Garnet Valley Greenway. The Smithbridge Road improvements are funded largely by state and federal grants and are currently planned for construction in 2022-2023.

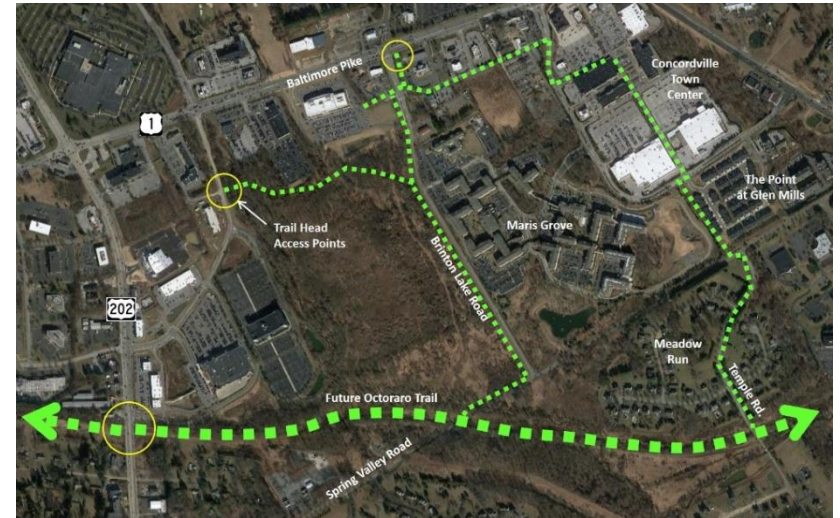


Pedestrian/bicycle improvements along Smithbridge Road will improve the ability to connect between the Community Park, Library, and neighboring schools.

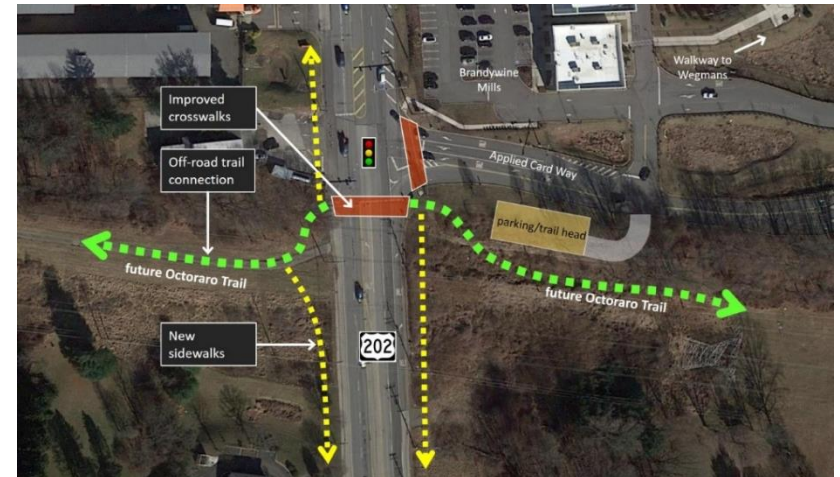
Develop Trail Connections Linking Neighborhoods to Recreation and Commerce

In addition to primary trail spines and secondary hubs that have been described in this Plan, additional smaller local trail connections are also possible to link neighborhoods, recreation, and commerce. The *Concord Township Greenways and Open Space Network Plan (2015)* noted a wide variety of other possible trail connections of various styles. Building upon that earlier study, the recent *Route 1 and Route 202 Area Bike and Pedestrian Study (2020)* recommends extensive sidewalk and trail connections linking neighborhoods to the commercial destinations along the commercial corridors of Route 1 and Route 202. Many recommendations of this study include the creation of direct linkages to recreation and trails, including:

- Just south of the Brandywine Mills shopping center, the planned Octoraro Trail is intended to cross Route 202 at the intersection of Applied Card Way. This is a key crossroads where recreation leads directly to retail and dining. The intersection can be designed to facilitate a more inviting connection so that residents will have an easy off-road way to reach shopping destinations.
- The planned Octoraro Trail can be connected to Baltimore Pike (Route 1) with an off-road connection along Brinton Lake Road. The Wawa at the corner can serve as a natural trail head. A second connector can be developed feeding into Concordville Town Center. This has the potential to connect residents in the Meadow Run and Sharpless Farms neighborhoods, as well as The Point apartment complex and Maris Grove retirement community.
- The Concord Township Municipal Complex is home to many of the Township's municipal functions and is also a nexus for community recreation. Existing Township trails at the Municipal Complex can connect to the adjacent Newlin Grist Mill trail network, which is planned to be an important access point for the Octoraro Trail.
- The high-volume intersection of Routes 1 and 202 poses a hostile environment for pedestrians and cyclists. As an alternative, a system of shared lane markings would provide a safe route for bicycles on the relatively low-traffic loop streets Brandywine Drive, State Farm Drive, Applied Bank Boulevard, and Hillman Drive. A continuous pedestrian sidewalk around the circumference of the loop will help connect retail/dining destinations with office and residential uses, as well as adjacent neighborhoods.



Supplemental off-street and on-street connections can be developed linking the Octoraro Trail to Baltimore Pike and residential areas.



The Octoraro Trail is planned to cross Route 202, which is a key crossroads linking recreation to retail and dining.

Develop Trail Connections to Concord Road Properties

Recent Township acquisitions along Concord Road have resulted in a 17-acre tract that may be suitable for trail connections. This tract is adjacent to the Township Sewer Authority property, and in close proximity to the planned Octoraro Greenway as well as the Concord Woods neighborhood. Neighboring St. John's Episcopal Church may be a willing partner on open space initiatives.

Outreach to Homeowner's Associations

Many potential opportunities for trails exist on dedicated open space controlled by Homeowners Associations (HOAs). In most cases, this open space consists of stream corridors that have a high degree environmental value. These linear corridors also are often ideal for trail development. The Township should continue dialogue with Homeowners Associations to explore the potential of using dedicated HOA open space for trail linkages as part of an interconnected network. These can be a valuable recreation and transportation amenity for residents. Under certain circumstances, the Township may be willing to accept dedicated HOA open space as part of the Township open space inventory.



Township property on Concord Road may be suitable for trail connections.



Recommendations for **PASSIVE RECREATION**

Several Township properties have been lightly improved in recent years for passive recreation in the form of natural walking trails. These include Bush Hill Farm on Bethel Road, Smallbrook Preserve at Hillsborough on Featherbed Lane, and Phipps Farm on Smithbridge Road adjacent to the Township Park. The recent Township acquisition of additional open space properties creates expanded opportunities for passive recreation. This may include connecting trail segments into a cohesive network, as well as other passive activities appropriate for the setting.

Improve Event Space at Township Park

In addition to its many recreation assets, the Concord Township Park on Smithbridge Road serves as a de facto community hub, and host to a wide variety of community events during the year. The Park is undergoing a general upgrade to improve its appearance and would benefit from site planning to better organize its current elements. This can be addressed as part of a comprehensive park Master Plan, as also noted under *Active Recreation*, below. Specific park improvements would enhance the ability of the Township to hold special events here. These improvements may include:

- Expanded parking
- Better pedestrian circulation and gathering areas
- Better spectator area for the bandshell
- Improved restrooms
- Higher quality materials and amenities such as lighting
- Shade trees and ornamental landscaping
- Clear and consistent signage

Develop Plans for Additional Gathering Space

While the capacity of the Township Park to hold events can be improved, there is a perceived need for a second primary event space elsewhere in the Township. This space would be to accommodate events of a size or type that could not easily be held at the Township Park. Such events may include large-scale festivals or performances, or events requiring more space. Further planning for Township properties can address the feasibility for such as space, including the adaptive re-use of existing structures.



The Township Park hosts a wide variety of events and performances.

There is a need for additional gathering spaces for community events.

Expand Bethel/Featherbed Open Space Hub

As noted above under *Trails*, above, the Township has been working to assemble a significant collection of contiguous open space properties in the vicinity of Bethel Road and Featherbed Lane, opposite Delaware County's Clayton Park, including Bush Hill Farm, Smallbrook Preserve, and Featherbed Farm. These properties have high environmental value as well as great potential for a range of passive recreation uses. In addition to the potential for a widespread network of nature trails (noted above), these properties have the potential to accommodate equestrian uses, for which there is a demand in this part of the Township. The Township should continue to investigate other potential passive recreation uses, as well as opportunities to expand this open space resource with strategic future acquisitions of additional open space properties. The first step will be a Master Plan for Bush Hill Farm, which is at the core of this open space hub, as noted above.

Prepare Master Plan for Bush Hill Farm

The Township acquired the Bush Hill Farm property with the intention of preserving open space and utilizing the site primarily for passive recreation purposes. Since that time, only minimal improvements have been made beyond basic maintenance. Public usage of the site has been primarily for the dog park established using former horse paddocks, as well as seasonal events such as the Harvest Festival and Easter Egg Hunt. The Township leases portions of the property to a tenant to keep horses and goats.

In 2021, the Township secured grant funding for and will begin preparation of a formal Master Plan for Bush Hill Farm. This study will seek to define clear programmatic uses for the property, and outline specific improvements needed to best adapt the property to those uses.



Properties in the vicinity of Bethel Road and Featherbed Lane can become a hub for passive recreation.

A Master Plan for Bush Hill Farm will begin in 2022.

Prepare Master Plan for Temple Road Open Space

Similar to the Bethel/Featherbed vicinity, the Township owns multiple undeveloped open space properties along Temple Road near the Concord Township Park. The intended future uses of these should be studied and planned jointly as part of a master plan to assess the feasibility to create a passive recreation hub.

Walking trails have recently been established at the Phipps Farm property, located at the northwest corner of Temple Road and Smithbridge Road. With a pedestrian crossing of Temple Road, these trails connect directly to the highly popular walking trail in the Township Park. Other passive uses may also be considered for Phipps Farm, such as historic interpretation, rehabilitation of the historic ruins, designed ornamental and/or community gardens, and other similar features. Given the proximity to the Township Park, supporting amenities there may be close enough to make these unnecessary on the Phipps property. Continued outreach will be needed to immediate neighbors such as Fox Hill Farm.

A short distance north on Temple Road, the Township recently acquired another open space parcel adjacent to the Waterford at Garnet Valley development. This open space occupies key location linking the Octoraro Trail and Garnet Valley Greenway and is ideal for development as a future trail head. The Greenway will provide a direct connection the Township Park to the south. This property also has a high degree of environmental value with the presence of wetlands, stream corridor, and pond. It is easy to envision nature trails here to facilitate environmental education and programs.

Just further to the north on Spring Valley Road, the historic AME church is being restored by the Township and has the potential to serve as a trail head entrance for the future Octoraro Trail and Garnet Valley Greenway. Across the street, Main Line Health has undeveloped property and may serve as a natural partner in promoting the health benefits of open space.



Open space properties along Temple Road should be studied and planned jointly as part of a master plan to assess the feasibility to create a passive recreation hub.

Strengthen Partnerships for Passive Recreation Programs

As for active recreation noted above, the Township should strengthen partnerships with outside organizations to provide programming for passive recreation. Potential partners include agencies and non-profit organizations such as First State National Historical Park, Newlin Grist Mill, Brandywine Conservancy, Darlington Arts Center, and others, as well as local nature and outdoor oriented retailers such as Trail Creek Outfitters and Wild Birds Unlimited. (see also *Conservation*, above.)

Events such as nature hikes and bird watching are planned in 2022 in partnership with Newlin Grist Mill and Wild Birds Unlimited. An expanded range of similar programs may be possible in the future.



The Township should engage partners to provide interpretive and educational programming on Township natural lands.



Recommendations for **ACTIVE RECREATION**

Township residents benefit from a wide range of available options for active recreation. These include strong local youth sports programs and relatively abundant athletic field and court facilities. The Township should build on this solid foundation by expanding the variety of available activities and strengthening partnerships with outside organizations for programming and other assistance.

Enhance Township Park and Municipal Complex as Active Recreation Hubs

Concord Township Park (Smithbridge Road) and the Township Municipal Complex (Thornton Road) are two of the primary locations for active recreation in Concord. (Two other primary locations - Brandywine Youth Club Gillespie Park and Garnet Valley Schools – are not managed by Township.) Both sites have space and capacity to accommodate additional facilities and activities. There is a value to concentrating active recreation opportunities where these already exist, so that supporting infrastructure such as parking and restrooms can be shared.

Master Plans for both Township sites should be developed that assess feasibility to add active new recreation features and account for expanded needs for parking and amenities to support increased usage, along with overall park landscape management. Based on public feedback, potential new active recreation features to be considered may include:

- outdoor basketball courts
- additional pickleball courts
- water sprayground
- adult fitness exercise circuit
- bocce courts
- disc golf

Both sites may also accommodate expanded features for passive recreation and trails, as well as a wide range of additional programs and activities.



Master Plans for the Township Park (above) and Municipal Complex (facing page) should determine the feasibility to expand active recreation at both sites.



Concord Township Municipal Complex

Strengthen Partnerships for Recreation Programming

While the Township provides high-quality recreation facilities at the two sites noted above, the Township does not have the ability to directly manage recreation programming. Organized recreation events and leagues are managed by outside non-profit organizations and clubs which may utilize Township facilities by agreement. Most notable of these is Brandywine Youth Club (BYC), which offers a range of youth sports. Similarly, the Garnet Valley School District makes district facilities available to the community under certain terms and conditions.

The Township should coordinate closely with outside recreation partners such as BYC and the school district to confirm facility allocation and plan for potential future growth. For example, if the Township is to consider adding new recreation facilities on its properties, it should be clear from the outside if user groups are intended to include organized programs, and agreements for use, operations, and maintenance be outlined in advance.

Designate Alternative Location(s) for Future Active Recreation

While it appears both the Township Park and Municipal Complex have room to support further recreation features, capacity is nonetheless limited, especially for larger playing fields. In the future, recreation needs may arise that cannot be satisfied at those two sites. Another site in the Township should be identified and designated for future active recreation. Ideally, this site should be relatively free of physical and environmental constraints that would limit the ability to develop, as well as have adequate space for the facilities and supporting infrastructure. Factors such as traffic impacts, available utilities, and impacts to neighbors should all be taken into consideration.



The Township should coordinate closely with local partners such as Brandywine Youth Club that provide recreation programs.

This page is intentionally left blank.



Recommendations for **LAND MANAGEMENT**

As the Township's inventory of open space property and facilities continues to grow, the duties of managing these resources becomes more extensive. The numerous recent, pending, and planned improvements will greatly increase maintenance demands. Even unimproved natural lands need to be carefully managed, since land is a living thing, subject to constant change and impacts from natural forces. The capacity for maintenance and operations will need to increase for the Township to be responsible stewards of its property and facilities.

Hire a Parks and Open Space Director

Responsibility for managing parks and open space needs in Concord has traditionally fallen within the many overall duties of the Township Manager. Presently, the Township has no full-time administrative staff devoted to parks and open space. To better address the increasing responsibilities of open space management, the Township has plans to fund a new position of Parks and Open Space Director to provide comprehensive oversight for issues relevant to open space property and recreation facilities. Duties may include:

- plan and direct capital improvements
- grant writing/fund raising
- liaison to programming partners
- liaison to public works for maintenance
- establish and coordinate parks volunteer efforts
- secure and manage sponsorships
- coordinate efforts for future acquisitions and improvements

Increase Public Works Capacity for Maintenance

With the increase in acquisitions and preservation of open space, in addition to the construction of physical improvements such as trails, playgrounds, pickleball and similar, a need for additional funding and staffing for Public Works is critical. The Township has done an excellent job maintaining its primary parks facilities, as recognized by the high level of public satisfaction expressed in the public opinion survey. The Township should review current operations, workload and budgeting to determine what is needed with regards to:

- Additional maintenance needed for new properties and capital improvements
- Added responsibility for implementing land management plans
- Increased budget for Public Works
- Public Works management and operational structure
- Specialized training in natural lands management
- Short and long-term maintenance needs

A detailed evaluation can assist the Township in ensuring proper maintenance of these resources.



As recreation facilities and open space areas increase, capacity to manage those resources should also increase.

Expand Administrative Structure for Open Space Management

The scope and ambition of the Township's Open Space plan may prove to be overly broad to be effectively implemented within the current administrative framework. The existing administrative structure for managing parks and open space consists of the following:

- **Township Council:** Sets policy, approves expenditures, and endorses recommendations of the Park and Recreation Board.
- **Park and Recreation Board:** Advises Council on priorities for parks and recreation initiatives, manages community events, and makes recommendations to the Council for budgetary expenditures.
- **Township Manager:** Oversees the hiring of professional consultants, oversees public works department in managing maintenance and construction projects, oversees preparation of grant applications and other fundraising efforts, manages budget.

It may be necessary to expand the Township administrative **open space management structure** to provide more effective stewardship of open space resources. In addition to creating a new full time staff position noted above, the role of current Park and Recreation Board may be expanded to incorporate all forms of public open space. Subcommittees can then be established to deal directly with specific issues. These committees can be populated with members that have specialized knowledge and interest in these relevant areas and would work closely with the Parks and Open Space Director. These may include the following, along with others as may be deemed appropriate:

- **Trails Committee:** Plan, implement, and coordinate trail improvements and maintenance.
- **Natural Lands Committee:** Oversee the management, maintenance, and programming for natural lands.
- **Recreation Committee:** Plan for improvements and maintenance of recreation fields and facilities, oversee event programming, and coordinate with programming partners.

As an alternative, Concord may also consider establishing an Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) to serve in an advisory capacity to help inform decision-making regarding the environment and related issues (see Chapter 5 for more information).

Work with Partners and/or Consultants to Obtain Grants

The Township should augment in-house staff capability with outside expertise in identifying and securing grant funding. Non-profit partners can provide valuable staff resources and lend credibility. Paid consultants can sometimes bring highly specialized knowledge and professional contacts that can pay dividends in successful grant applications.

Create Opportunities for Volunteer Participation

There is ample precedent in the region for public-private partnership for operations and maintenance of public open space. It is very common for parks and other public places to have "Friends" groups made up of local volunteers. These groups can provide supplemental services over and above the basic services provided by the municipality, such as volunteer labor, modest financial contributions, technical expertise, or other in-kind services. The Township should create a variety of opportunities to encourage volunteer participation to maintain and improve its open space.



5 Implementation

The previous chapters outline the *What?* - a broad range of recommendations for individual parks and open space intended to better provide for the current and future recreation and open space needs of the community.

This chapter concerns the *How?* - the steps necessary to implement the proposed improvements and bring these ideas to reality. This section is organized as follows:

- **Action Plan:** Specific tasks to be performed to implement the recommendations, along with recommended sequence and timing.
- **Open Space Funding**
 - **Anticipated Costs:** Estimated costs for planning, acquisitions, physical improvements, and maintenance
 - **Current Budget Resources:** Sources of revenue to fund recreation and open space expenses.
 - **Return on Investment:** Benefits of investing in public open space.
- **Implementation Tools**
 - **Funding Tools:** Potential sources of new revenue to fund expanded efforts.
 - **Acquisition Tools:** Methods and strategies to acquire open space property
 - **Planning Tools:** Policy and regulatory techniques to achieve open space goals.
- **Policy** recommendations are actions that are largely administrative and can be performed with existing staff using existing resources. Examples of policy recommendations are updating zoning ordinances or drafting an official map. Since implementation of policy actions does not require much in the way of funding, these can be undertaken almost immediately. The impact of policy changes may seem subtle, since they rarely result in tangible improvements in the ground that can be seen right away. However, policy changes are critical since they establish clear objectives for planning and development and set the legal framework for funding and management of improvement plans.
- **Planning** recommendations are those that clarify goals, investigate possibilities, and identify specific projects. Examples of planning efforts include drawing up master plans for future park expansion; feasibility studies to determine whether certain “good ideas” are really possible; public outreach to build broad support and understanding; coordination between the Township and its partners; and many other activities. There are many grant and funding programs for planning activities available to municipalities, which are described later in this chapter. Since the level of funding necessary is moderate, planning efforts can be undertaken in the near-term.
- **Capital Projects** are those involving acquisition of property or construction of physical improvements. Larger capital projects frequently require funding beyond the typical municipal operating budget. Concord Township should look to outside sources of funding, such as grants, bonds, or other techniques described later in this chapter. Since the process of raising capital funds is often laborious and time-consuming, these projects are usually seen as long-term.

Universal Design and Barrier-Free Accessibility

The Township's goal is to provide recreation facilities and experiences for all ages and abilities including the physically handicapped. This aligns with Pennsylvania's goal to provide "Recreation for All", as well as federal mandates outlined in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Access is one of the important factors influencing recreation participation. All people, including those with disabilities, kids and older adults, deserve safe and easy access to recreational facilities. As local populations age, accessibility of recreation areas to people with limited mobility or other physical conditions will become more important. These citizens will be looking for opportunities for healthy recreation in the outdoors, and facilities should be accessible to them.

Under federal regulations, when parks and recreation facilities are built or altered, they must comply with the ADA Standards for Accessible Design (ADA Standards), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability. It requires, among other things, that newly constructed and altered "places of public accommodation" be readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities. Facilities must provide accessible routes connecting all accessible elements and spaces within areas of indoor or outdoor sports activities.

The concept of "universal design" goes beyond the design requirements of the ADA and involves more than simply providing barrier-free routes for the physically disabled. Universal design principles emphasizing building places that can be accessed, understood, and used to the greatest extent possible by all people, regardless of their age, size, ability or disability. This includes the very old, very young, those with visual and auditory impairments, as well as those with physical or mental handicaps.

For walking trails, it is sometimes difficult to achieve barrier-free access, especially in wooded or naturalistic settings. In general, trails should be designed to comply with current standards for universal accessibility. Trails that do not offer ADA accessibility may not be eligible to receive state funding from PennDOT or DCNR.

However, some accessibility design standards may not be easily applicable to the natural environment. At the federal level, the United States Forest Service (USFS) has developed Forest Service Trail Accessibility Guidelines (FSTG), which are helpful because they "provide guidance for maximizing accessibility of trails... while recognizing and protecting the unique characteristics of their natural setting."

These guidelines encourage design for increased accessibility but recognize that accessibility isn't possible everywhere because of the limitations imposed by natural terrain, existing vegetation, or other constraints. Where terrain allows accessible slopes, a range of surfacing choices create levels of accessibility that respond to the character and desired use of the trail. While full accessibility may not always be achievable, design should always provide access to the greatest extent possible. Departures from specific accessibility guidelines are allowed where compliance would:

1. Cause substantial harm to cultural, historic, religious, or significant natural features or characteristics;
2. Substantially alter the nature of the setting or the purpose;
3. Require construction methods or materials that are prohibited by Federal, State, or local regulations or statutes;
4. Not be feasible due to terrain or the prevailing construction practices.



Parks and open space should be designed so they can be enjoyed by people of all ages and abilities.

10-Year Action Plan

With a focused and consistent approach, it is conceivable that a significant number of the Plan recommendations can be completed or underway within the next ten years. (See chart also, pages 69-70).

Years 0-2

Near-term actions should focus on tasks and projects that can achieve results quickly and effectively. Tangible results will build momentum and public support and demonstrate credibility with stakeholders and potential funding partners. Other short-term actions should involve continued planning for the more ambitious elements of the Plan. Bigger, more complicated projects take time, since they involve many steps and many stakeholders. **Near-term actions that could be initiated within the next two years include:**

1. Pursue additional open space property acquisitions and conservation easements, especially in key areas such as the Bethel/Featherbed hub, Beaver Valley, and Ivy Mills Historic District.
2. Municipal Complex: Construct additional pickleball courts and determine capacity for new active new recreation features and supporting infrastructure and amenities, along with land management needs.
3. Township Park: Determine new recreation features that may be added and install upgraded supporting infrastructure such as parking and other amenities, as well as to develop landscape management plan for naturalized areas.
4. Prepare Master Plan for Township's Temple Road open space and Phipps Farm property, especially feasibility to create and environmental conservation.
5. Bush Hill Farms: Complete Master Plan Study to clarify desired program elements and future improvements.
6. Smallbrook Preserve: Expand unpaved walking trail and add supporting amenities. Prepare Master Plan for expanded passive recreation uses and land management.
7. First State National Historical Park (FSNHP): Complete study to identify alternatives to develop pedestrian/bicycle connections from FSNP to the overall Township trail system.
8. Smithbridge Road: Construct planned pedestrian connections.
9. Develop management operations plan to conserve and protect natural lands (invasive species, meadows, etc.)
10. Garnet Valley Greenway: Complete design of Phase 1 (Township Park to Spring Valley Road, see *Garnet Valley Greenway Feasibility Study*) and continue outreach to PECO, neighbors, and other stakeholders for future phases.
11. Octoraro Trail: Construct Phase 1A and secure funding for design and construction of Phase 1B.
12. Clarify administrative responsibilities for implementing open space and recreation improvements. Consider adding additional management-level staff position, as well as advisory board(s)/commission(s).
13. Continue outreach to HOAs for potential trail connections on HOA open space.
14. Engage in active dialogue with programming partners including Garnet Valley School District, Brandywine Youth Club, Newlin Grist Mill, and Darlington Arts Center.

Years 3-5

In subsequent years, further steps can be taken to advance projects, and physical improvements can be made to high-priority sites identified during the community outreach and master planning phases. **During years 3-5, Concord Township should expect to undertake the following activities:**

1. Pursue funding for design and construction of future phases of the Octoraro Trail.
2. Pursue funding for design and construction of future phases of the Garnet Valley Greenway.
3. Design and construct recreation and infrastructure improvements to Township Park and Municipal Complex.
4. Develop plan for additional walking trail connections to fulfill goals of Trails Master Plan
5. Prepare Master Plan for passive recreation hub at Bethel/Featherbed, including further property acquisitions and connections to Clayton Park.
6. Design and construct first phase of improvements to Bush Hill Farm, per the recommendations of the Master Plan.
7. Prepare a formal natural resources inventory to identify species, habitats, and environmental characteristics worthy of protection/conservation.
8. Prepare and Official Township Map to designate future intended improvements.

Years 6-10





Long term goals should include implementation of recommendations made as an outcome of detailed near term planning studies. **During years 6-10, the following projects and activities are anticipated:**



1. Design and construct remaining phases of the Octoraro Trail.
2. Design and construct improvements to the Temple Road properties, including Phipps Farm.
3. Design and construct physical on- and off-road bicycle and pedestrian improvements to connect to Beaver Valley and First State National Historical Park, per the recommendations of the earlier planning study.
4. Design and construct improvements to the Bethel/Featherbed hub.
5. Institutionalize an effective and consistent program for the maintenance and management of natural lands.
6. Develop plan for additional walking trail connections to fulfill goals of Trails Master Plan.
7. Prepare updated Municipal Comprehensive Plan.

Anticipated Costs

As described in the previous Chapter, the Plan includes a wide range of recommendations. Some can be implemented at minimal cost, while others are very ambitious and will require significant financial investment. It is expected that funds for major expenditures will be sought from grants and other outside sources and will not be funded from the operating budget of the Township. Minor expenditures for small projects, planning efforts and specific maintenance tasks will be funded from the annual budget and should be planned for accordingly.

Ultimately, the total cost of planned improvements will be dependent on the exact nature of the work, which will need to be determined by a thoughtful planning process for each individual park site. Until such time as specific improvement plans are drawn up, potential costs are speculative.

	Acquisition	\$ less than \$10k
	Planning	\$\$ \$10k - \$100k
	Design	\$\$\$ \$100k - \$1 million
	Construction	\$\$\$\$ \$1 million or more

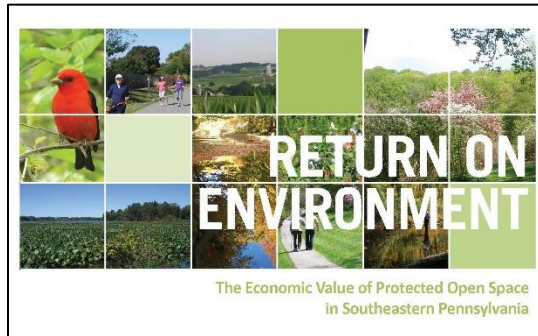
Concord Township Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan Implementation Matrix								
Recommendation	Next Step	Est. Cost	Timeline					
			2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	future
 CONSERVATION								
Acquire New Open Space Property	Acquisition	\$\$\$						
Acquire Conservation Easements	Acquisition	\$\$\$						
Natural Resources Inventory	Planning	\$\$						
Management Plan for Natural Resources	Planning	\$\$						
Strengthen Partnerships for Natural Lands	Planning	\$						
Review Zoning and SALDO	Planning	\$						
Adopt Official Township Map	Planning	\$						
Update Comprehensive Plan	Planning	\$\$						
 TRAILS								
Octoraro Trail - phase 1A	Design	\$\$\$						
	Construction	\$\$\$\$						
Octoraro Trail - phase 1B	Design	\$\$\$						
	Construction	\$\$\$\$						
Garnet Valley Greenway - phase 1 and 2 <i>Smithbridge Rd. to Spring Valley Rd.</i>	Planning	\$						
	Design	\$\$\$						
	Construction	\$\$\$\$						
Garnet Valley Greenway - phase 3 <i>Smithbridge Rd. to Bethel Road</i>	Planning	\$						
	Design	\$\$\$						
	Construction	\$\$\$\$						
Bethel/Featherbed Trail Network	Planning	\$\$						
	Design/Construction	\$						
First State NP connections	Planning	\$\$						
	Design	\$\$\$						
	Construction	\$\$\$\$						
Trails for Concord Road Properties	Planning	\$						
	Design	\$\$						
	Construction	\$\$\$						
Smithbridge Road connections	Construction	\$\$\$\$						
Additional Trail Connections	Planning							
HOA and Stakeholder Outreach	Planning							

Concord Township Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan Implementation Matrix

Recommendation	Next Step	Est. Cost	Timeline					
			2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	future
 PASSIVE RECREATION								
Event Space at Township Park	Planning	\$						
	Design	\$\$						
	Construction	\$\$\$						
Plan for Additional Event Space	Planning	\$						
Bush Hill Farm Master Plan	Planning	\$\$						
	Design	\$\$						
	Construction	\$\$\$						
Improvements to Bethel/Featherbed Hub	Planning	\$						
	Design	\$\$						
	Construction	\$\$\$						
Temple Road Master Plan	Planning	\$\$						
	Design	\$\$\$						
	Construction	\$\$\$\$						
Strengthen Programming Partnerships	Planning	\$						
 ACTIVE RECREATION								
Township Park Improvements	Planning	\$						
	Design	\$\$						
	Construction	\$\$\$						
Municipal Complex Improvements	Planning	\$						
	Design	\$\$						
	Construction	\$\$\$						
Plan for Future Recreation Needs	Planning	\$						
Strengthen Programming Partnerships	Planning	\$						
 LAND MANAGEMENT								
Parks and Open Space Director	Planning	\$\$						
Expand Administrative Structure	Planning	\$						
Increase Public Works Capacity	Planning	\$\$\$						

Return on Investment

In 2011, the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission and the GreenSpace Alliance prepared *Return on Environment - The Economic Value of Protected Open Space in Southeastern Pennsylvania*. This study quantifies the ways that access to local open space accounts for millions of dollars each year in savings, earnings, and avoided costs. Open spaces are productive assets that generate significant economic value. They contribute to our local economies and property values, and they help us save on everything from health care to recreation. They also naturally improve the air we breathe and the water we drink, reducing the cost of providing these basic needs.



To better understand how these investments specifically impact Delaware County, the County is embarking on a new study to identify how these trends apply specifically to Delaware County, expected to be completed by the end of 2021.

The DVRPC report defines the economic value of local open space, such as:

Open Space Enhances Home Values: Homes that are closer to open space enjoy a more significant property value increase.

- Open space adds \$16.3 billion to the value of southeastern Pennsylvania's housing stock.
- Protected open space generates \$240 million annually in property tax revenues to support county and municipal governments and local school districts.

Open Space Promotes Clean Air and Water: Although these vital services are provided naturally by the environment that surrounds us, they would be costly to replicate. If the region's open space were lost to development, we would need to spend more than \$132.5 million per year to do what our preserved lands already do.

- Southeastern Pennsylvania realizes nearly \$61 million in annual cost savings from protected open spaces' ability to naturally filter out pollutants and replenish water supply.
- The total annual benefit generated by natural flood mitigation services is more than \$37 million.
- Trees on protected open space are estimated to provide \$17 million in annual air pollution removal and carbon sequestration services.

Open Space Provides Low- or No-Cost Recreation that Saves Money and Improves Health: Outdoor exercise improves our health and well-being.

Improved health prevents nearly \$800 million in medical care costs annually.

- 41% of physical exercise is performed in a park or on a trail.
- Nearly \$577 million in benefits accrue annually to residents who participate in recreational activities on protected open space.
- Each household in the region saves \$392 per year by having open space available for recreation and exercise.
- The health-related cost savings resulting from physical activity on protected open space amount to \$1.3 billion per year including avoided workers' compensation costs and avoided productivity losses.

Open Space Creates Jobs and Attracts People Who Spend Money in our Communities: Parks, trails, and farms are destinations that attract visitors who spend millions of dollars in our regional economy.

Each year open space accounts for \$566 million in expenditures and almost \$299 million in salaries.

- Economic activity associated with protected open space results in more than 6,900 jobs and \$299 million in annual earnings.
- Total annual expenditures in the five-county region associated with protected open space equal \$566 million. Specifically \$174 million, or 31%, is attributable to spending associated with the management and maintenance of publicly protected open space; \$206 million, or 36%, accounts for agricultural sales associated with preserved farmland; and \$187 million, or 33%, is generated through tourist activity associated with protected open space.
- Economic activity associated with protected open space generates \$30 million per year in state and local tax revenue.

Potential Implementation Partners

Potential funding resources for acquisition, design, and construction of open space and recreation facilities can be found through a variety of federal, state, and local grants. Each has specific requirements and is subject to certain limitations. These grant programs are almost universally competitive and are awarded based on the merits of individual proposed projects and on the quality of grant application submissions. It is expected that grants such as these will be an essential source

Achieving the goals of this Plan will require the cooperation of a broad range of partners and stakeholders. Given the cost and complexities involved in land conservation, Concord Township can go it alone. Neighboring municipal governments, land trusts, non-profits, and private sector developers must forge public-private partnerships to help preserve valuable open space. The more broadly Concord Township can reach out to partners, the more successful these efforts can be.

Some potential partners are noted in Chapter 4. Additional potential partnerships may include these local and national organizations.

Natural Lands Trust: Based in Delaware County, Natural Lands Trust is a non-profit organization that saves open space, cares for nature, and connects people to the outdoors in eastern Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey. The Trust currently owns 42 nature preserves and one public garden across two states and 13 counties, totaling more than 23,000 acres. The Trust also assists municipalities and other non-profits to permanently protect natural areas through acquisition and land protection agreements (conservation easements), and by helping communities preserve more of their land.



Brandywine Conservancy: Based in nearby Chadds Ford, the Conservancy is a strong proponent of trails and open space conservation. The Conservancy provides conservation and planning services to private landowners and municipal officials in southeastern Pennsylvania and northern Delaware and has extensive experience working on the broadest array of conservation easements, including private land, working farms, sensitive natural areas, scenic landscapes, and historic sites and structures.



Newlin Grist Mill: The Newlin Grist Mill and the surrounding park is a critically valuable institutional open space in the Township. It features a working grist mill, public programs, and over 8 miles of nature trails. For more than fifty years, the Nicholas Newlin Foundation has served its community through the preservation of history and open space, conservation of plants, animals, and waterways, and as a place for both education and recreation. Today, the Nicholas Newlin Foundation continues to maintain the Newlin Grist Mill and Park along with its twelve historic structures and miles of hiking trails. Newlin Grist Mill is currently partnering with the Township to preserve and interpret the Newlin Log Home and Tavern and will be a key partner in expanding the Township trails network.



Delaware County: With its 2015 *Open Space, Recreation, and Greenways Plan*, Delaware County has taken a strong role in advocating for the expansion of the county-wide trail network. Through its Planning Department, the County can play an important role in coordinating the many independent planning initiatives that may be in play at a given time and identifying opportunities for synergy. Furthermore, the County plays an important role in determining funding allocations for regional trails programs.



The Conservation Fund: Since 1985, the Conservation Fund has helped protect more than 8 million acres of America's most important, at-risk lands and waters. In 2021, the Fund worked on more than 150 projects in 35 states conserving nearly 207,000 acres valued at more than \$323 million. Often this assistance comes in the form of loans to help purchase and protect valuable open space. In the local region, the Fund assisted the Brandywine Conservancy in purchasing and protecting the largest and most historically prized 100 acres within the Brandywine Battlefield National Historic Landmark in Chadds Ford.



Grant Funding Programs

Potential funding resources for acquisition, design, and construction of open space and recreation facilities can be found through a variety of federal, state, and local grants. Each has specific requirements and is subject to certain limitations. These grant programs are almost universally competitive and are awarded based on the merits of individual proposed projects and on the quality of grant application submissions. It is expected that grants such as these will be an essential source to fund most of the expense of expanding local open space resources.

Federal Programs

Grant programs sponsored by federal agencies (such as the Federal Highway Administration) are administered at the state level by various state agencies and at the regional level by the local Metropolitan Planning Organization, which for the southeast Pennsylvania region is the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC). Application for federal funding is made to the specific state or regional agency designated for each specific program.

Regional Programs

DVRPC - Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

DVRPC administers a range of funding programs to facilitate planning and design of trails and greenways. These programs evolve annually. In recent years, programs oriented toward multi-modal transportation have included the Transportation and Community Development Initiative (TCDI), Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ), and Regional Trails Programs (RTP). It is expected that programs of a similar nature will be offered in future years.



Pennsylvania State Programs

DCED - Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (GTRP)

The PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) administers this program, which allocates funds to the Commonwealth Financing



Authority (CFA) for planning, acquisition, development, rehabilitation and repair of greenways, recreational trails, open space, parks and beautification projects.

DCED and PennDOT - Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF)

The PA DCED and PennDOT each administer this program, which provides grants to encourage economic development and ensure that a safe and reliable system of transportation is available to the residents of the Commonwealth. Funds may be used for the development, rehabilitation and enhancement of transportation assets to existing communities, including lighting, sidewalk enhancement, pedestrian safety, bicycle circulation, connectivity of transportation assets and transit-oriented development.

PennDOT - Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program (TA)

The TA program utilizes federal funds authorized through the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) legislation. Funding is awarded by PennDOT, with program administration at the local region provided by DVRPC. Each County recommends its top priority projects requesting funding. TAP grants are intended for pedestrian and bicycle facilities, improved access to public transportation, safe routes to school, and trails projects that serve a transportation purpose, while promoting safety and mobility.



DCNR - PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

DCNR administers a range of grant programs to fund parks, recreation, and open space projects in local Pennsylvania communities. Most prominent among these programs are the federally-funded Recreation Trail Program and the state-funded Community Conservation Partnerships Program (C2P2).



- The Recreation Trails Program is designed to develop recreational trails and trail related facilities for trail users. Project examples include development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities and trail linkages and acquisition of easements or property for recreation trails.
- The Community Conservation Partnerships Program (C2P2) is designed to provide grants for comprehensive recreation and park planning and greenway planning. Potential projects include development of public park and trail recreation facilities, acquiring land for park and conservation purposes, site development planning, and feasibility studies.

Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP)

RACP is a Commonwealth grant program administered by the Office of the Budget for the acquisition and construction of regional economic, cultural, civic, and historical improvement projects.

The grant requires a 50% match, and eligible projects must have a total cost of at least \$1,000,000.



Delaware County Programs

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

Delaware County administers federal Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) funds for a wide range of activities such as housing rehabilitation, acquisition of real property, demolition, infrastructure and public facility improvements, and economic development. Funds are also used to expand economic opportunities geared to low-and moderate-income individuals and to improve infrastructure critical to community health and welfare. Seventy percent of each entitlement grant must be used for activities that benefit low-and moderate-income persons. Refer to program guidelines.

Green Ways Program

Periodically, Delaware County has offered funding to municipalities for trail development and associated activities through the County's Green Ways program. The objective of this program is to advance the County's goals of conserving green spaces, connecting the County with safe places to bicycle and walk, and enhancing public parks for people of all ages, interests, and abilities — for a more unified countywide system. The most recent round of funding was 2021. Future rounds have not yet been scheduled.

Private/Corporate Programs

PECO - Green Region Open Space Grant Program

Green Region grants are available to municipalities to cover a wide variety of planning and expenses associated with developing and implementing open space programs and capital improvements for passive recreation such as trails and greenways. The program is administered in partnership with the Natural Lands Trust.

William Penn Foundation

This private charitable foundation based in Philadelphia has long been a strong supportive of recreation, open space, and trails in the region, and periodically has funded trail-oriented initiatives.

Kaboom

This national non-profit promotes playscape equity with a variety of grants to build playgrounds and adventure courses. Funding is geared toward disadvantaged communities.

AARP Community Challenge

This grant program is part of the nationwide AARP Livable Communities initiative that helps communities become great places to live for residents of all ages. The program is intended to help communities make immediate improvements and jump-start long-term progress in support of residents of all ages. Since the program's debut in 2017, AARP has awarded more than \$6 million through 560 grants.

Property and Right-of-Way Acquisition Tools

There are several common mechanisms for the acquisition of open space land and right-of-way for future parks and trails, such as fee simple purchase, easements, and donations. They can be used separately or in combination with other techniques listed below to facilitate acquisition.

Fee Simple Acquisition: The most effective means of preserving land is through fee simple purchase. Fee simple ownership gives the owner complete control of the land, including all public access and conservation practice decisions. However, fee simple acquisition, particularly purchases at market value, can also be the most expensive. Therefore, many entities interested in land preservation, particularly public agencies or land conservancies with limited budgets, will usually explore more creative options to acquire open space.

Easements/Deed Restrictions: An easement is a mechanism by which a municipality or conservation organization can obtain a legal interest in private land for public use or conservation purposes.

Conservation easements place restrictions on development at a lower cost than fee simple acquisition. Under a conservation easement, land remains in current ownership, but the property owner voluntarily agrees to donate or sell one or more rights attached to the land. In the case of a conservation or access easement, it would be the right to develop the land. A conservation easement may also provide the property owner with federal income tax and estate tax benefits. Conservation easements are frequently used for environmental preservation without providing for public use of the land. The easement can be held by a municipality, county, or a private conservancy.

A conservation easement can also be combined with a **pedestrian easement** or **right of public access easement** to allow public access for walking, hiking, bicycling, and other activities. The easement language typically establishes rules and restrictions, such as limiting when, where, and how the easement may be utilized. PA Act 68, Recreational Use of Land and Water Act (RULWA), assures that the landowner is not held liable for any injuries, crimes, or death associated with public use of the land.

Purchase and Leaseback or Resale: An entity interested in preservation, such as a local government or a conservancy, can purchase land in fee simple, place restrictions on the deed prohibiting certain uses (e.g., residential development), and resell or lease the land to an interested party. The original buyer gains the potential for future use at the current price and may recover some or all, of the purchase price through leasing. The land is maintained in open space and may be developed as a park if and when future demand warrants. Resale of some or all of the land with deed restrictions may maintain open space levels, relieve the municipality of maintenance obligations, and return the land to the tax rolls.

Donation: Land or an easement on the land is frequently donated by a private owner, organization, or corporation. Local governments should encourage the donation of land or easements by pointing out benefits of such actions, including possible federal income and estate tax benefits and public relations value. In addition to land, corporations and other private parties also frequently provide cash donations for worthy causes, including land preservation.

Land Development Fees and Mandatory Dedication: In Concord Township, the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance requires that developers dedicate a portion of their property for recreation purposes or pay a fee-in-lieu of that dedication of land. This ordinance requirement has resulted in the various protected open space areas associated with residential subdivisions. The current ordinance requires that residential developments set aside 2,000 square feet of land for each dwelling unit. Non-residential developments are required to set aside 5% of the total land area.

Eminent Domain: When land for open space or trails cannot be obtained through negotiated fee-simple purchase or easement, a governmental entity (municipality, county, or other) can exercise its right to use eminent domain as a means to acquire land for public purpose. Eminent domain involves condemnation proceedings to acquire land in exchange for “just compensation” from an unwilling seller. The just compensation is usually equal to the fair market value of the condemned land. The condemner must pay all associated costs for acquisition. Eminent domain can be an effective tool for land acquisition; however, it is the acquisition method of last resort.

Land Conservation Tools

Zoning Ordinance: The current Township Zoning Ordinance has been recently updated and provides adequate provisions to meet Concord’s open space, recreational, and environmental resource protection needs. The Township should continue to monitor its needs, trends, and regulatory changes in those fields and amend the ordinance over time when applicable.

Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance: The Concord Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SALDO) has recently been updated and provides adequate provisions for natural resources protection. The SALDO should be reviewed and strengthened where possible to facilitate protection and enhancement of recreational facilities.

Stormwater Ordinance: The Concord Stormwater Ordinance has recently been updated. However, the Township should monitor future County and State code amendments and recommendations, and further update the Township ordinance as needed to remain consistent with overlapping regulations.

Cluster Development: Cluster development regulations are implemented through zoning ordinance and subdivision and land development ordinance regulations. Cluster developments can be designed to provide appropriate economic returns for the tract's owner, while preserving significant open space areas. Depending on the type of design and the regulations that apply to the cluster development, up to 75 percent or more of a site's land area can be preserved in permanent open space using a cluster design. The open space can include natural and historic resources, woodlands, recreational facilities, as well as agricultural activities, if appropriately located. The flexibility of cluster development designs can be used to locate development in the most appropriate areas of a site while using open spaces to provide buffering and screening for residents and between potentially less compatible land uses. Cluster designs typically result in lower infrastructure and maintenance costs due to shorter roads, sidewalks, and water and sewer lines.

Transfer of Development Rights: A TDR program separates development rights from a parcel of land that needs protection (the sending parcel) and transfers them to a parcel of land more appropriate for development (the receiving parcel). Through this process, the sending parcel is permanently restricted from development and the receiving parcel is granted a density bonus above what is allowed by its by-right zoning designation. Under a TDR program, development can be directed from undeveloped “greenfield” areas to areas with existing sewer, water, and transportation facilities that can more cost effectively absorb growth. For communities, TDR programs can help protect community character and limit sprawl by preserving important lands with agricultural, environmental, and historic resources.

Historic Resource Designation: The Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Code (MPC) enables local municipalities to “provide for protection of natural and historic features and resources.” Pennsylvania Act 167 (1961 PL 282) allows for the creation of a district that, after certification by Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC), provides local review of changes in the district. While the National Register of Historic Places is a well know tool that conveys historic status, it has regulatory power only where Federal funding is involved. Local municipal regulation is the best way to ensure a municipality identifies and protects their most valued resources.

A zoning overlay that includes identified resources can be adopted into the zoning ordinance. This overlay can apply regulations and incentives in addition to those of the base zoning. The review body for activities that take place within an historic overlay district is generally an historical commission. This is an appointed advisory board, but its general responsibilities can consist of more than its review function.

Planning Tools

Municipal Comprehensive Plan: The recommendations of this Plan should be incorporated into the Concord Township Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan represents the overriding planning document that formally defines the community vision and articulates in detail the long-term community goals and objectives. The Comprehensive Plan serves as the basis for implementation of a wide range of municipal land use policies such as Zoning and Land Development Ordinances. It also is a basis to justify major capital improvements such as for parks and recreation. This Plan may serve as the *Recreation* element of the Comprehensive Plan.

The latest update to the Township Comprehensive Plan was prepared in 2007. The Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Code recommends that comprehensive plans be updated every ten years, so the Township is due for an update.

Official Map: To protect its interest in acquiring the properties and rights-of-way necessary to establish future trails and parks, the Township can depict intended acquisitions and improvements on an Official Township Map. An “official map” is a combined map and ordinance designed to implement the goals set forth in the Comprehensive Plan. The official map shows the locations of planned future public lands and facilities such as transportation, recreational parks and trails, and open space. The official map expresses a municipality’s interest in acquiring these lands for public purposes sometime in the future. The authority to create an official map is granted in Article IV of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC).

Listing a parcel or portion of a property on an official map notifies developers and property owners that the area mapped is of interest to a municipality for public purposes sometime in the future. According to the MPC, designation of a property on the official map does not constitute a taking in and of itself. It simply gives a municipality an opportunity to negotiate acquisition of property, or rights thereto, where a public use would be beneficial before

development or redevelopment occurs. Once a property owner or developer notifies a municipality of their intention to build, subdivide or perform other work on land that is located on an official map, the municipality has one year to either purchase the land, come to a mutual agreement with the developer, condemn the land through eminent domain, or decide not to pursue the acquisition of the land. Adoption of the Official Map and corresponding Ordinance are subject to public review and must follow an established process as required by the MPC.

Environmental Advisory Council: Any municipality in Pennsylvania may establish an environmental advisory council (EAC) to tap the skills and volunteer energy of its citizens. An EAC serves in an advisory capacity to help inform decision-making regarding the environment and related issues. It may also undertake an array of on-the-ground conservation projects, planning of new conservation initiatives, and environmental education efforts.

If a municipality’s governing body chooses to create an EAC, it must do so by passing an ordinance. Neighboring municipalities may choose to form regional, multi-municipal EACs. An EAC’s potential mix of activities is authorized and limited by Pennsylvania’s Act 148, which states that EACs “shall have the power to:

- Identify environmental problems and recommend plans and programs to the appropriate agencies for the promotion and conservation of the natural resources and for the protection and improvement of the quality of the environment.
- Make recommendations as to the possible use of space.
- Promote a community environmental program.
- Keep an index of all open space and other unique natural areas, for the purpose of obtaining information on the proper use of those areas.
- Advise the appropriate local government agencies in the acquisition of both real and personal property.

This page is intentionally left blank.

Appendices

Appendix A: Planning Context

Appendix B: Open Space Grants

Appendix C: Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Acquisition Scorecard

Appendix D: Voice Your Vision

Appendix E: Assessment of Needs

Appendix F: Survey Results

Appendix A: Planning Context

Planning Context

This *Comprehensive Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan* is consistent with and an extension of other recent and ongoing planning initiatives in Concord and the local region. For Concord to achieve its goals in sustaining and enhancing quality of life, it is important that a coherent vision for the future is expressed in public policy. The development of municipal planning documents which are consistent in their objectives is one way that this can happen. Related plans and policy documents include the following:

Local Township Planning

Concord Township Recreation & Open Space Plan (1995) and Plan Update (2007)

https://www.townshipofconcord.com/government/maps__planning_documents/comprehensive_plan_update.php

The 1995 Open Space Plan anticipated the expected population boom by stating as an overriding goal the need to balance development with preservation of open space, particularly environmentally and culturally sensitive resources. The Plan established regulatory strategies to minimize the disruption and loss of open space, and to expand the open space network through strategic acquisitions and protections. The Plan also addressed the needs of a growing population for additional recreation opportunities, by improving existing parks, adding new park properties, and creating a linked open space network. The Plan recognized trails as an important component of community recreation and natural resource conservation and identified the development of a “linear open space system,” as an important objective.

The 2007 Plan Update documented many of the overriding goals that remain important today. “*The Township is committed to open space preservation,*” states the 2007 Plan, “*recognizing its value to passive recreation pursuits, resource protection, and the health, safety and welfare of residents.*” The plan advocates for establishing a connected open space network. “*To reduce fragmentation of open space, the Township can seek to acquire parcels that are adjacent to existing open space and recreation areas and that would form larger contiguous open space areas. These areas can be linked together by protected natural features... forming a network of open space.*”

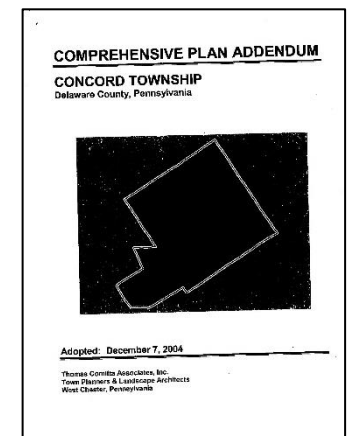
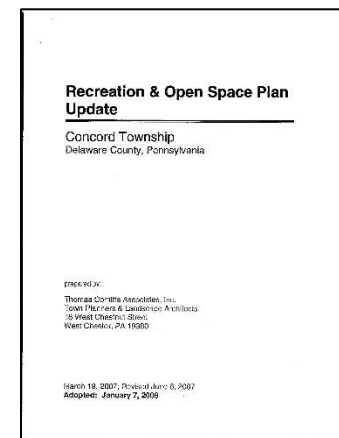
The Township has proceeded methodically to advance the goals of the 1995 and 2007 Plans and has been successful in implementing many of its specific recommendations. (See next page.)

Concord Township Comprehensive Plan (1988), Plan Update (2000) and Plan Addendum (2004)

<http://townshipofconcord.com/comprehensive-plan-update/>

The Concord Township Comprehensive Plan and Updates have consistently expressed the value of preserving open space and cultural and natural resources while still providing opportunities for development. The 2000 Plan Update warns of potential “*future dramatic loss of agricultural lands*” and recommends establishing “*large green areas where existing parks, recreation areas, institutions, and historic resources are maintained.*”

The 2004 Plan Addendum addressed specifically the Land Use, Housing, Water Supply, and Natural & Historic Resources elements of the Municipal Comprehensive Plan. These elements support the goals echoed in the Recreation & Open Space Plan, particularly regarding the importance of protecting sensitive natural resources such as floodplains, wetlands, watersheds, steep slopes, prime agricultural soils, and woodlands. The Plan recommended regulatory means to strengthen these protections.



Concord Township Ordinances

<http://townshipofconcord.com/the-code-of-the-township-of-concord-4/>

The *Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance* of the Township Code (160-52) provides that residential subdivisions must provide land set aside for recreation purposes and that provisions be made for trails and pathways, or pay a fee-in-lieu of land dedication. Other provisions of the Code regulate protection of natural resources such as trees, watercourses, wetlands, floodplains, and steep slopes. In recent years code requirements for stormwater management expanded the riparian buffer and added other protections.

Concord Township Greenways and Open Space Network Plan (2015)

https://www.townshipofconcord.com/document_center/Residents/Trails/DRAFT2-Concord-Township-Greenways-Plan_for-WEB_2015.12.30.pdf

This Plan identifies opportunities and a methodology for developing a Township-wide network of public trails and greenway corridors. The study addresses the balance between recent and future growth with the desire to maintain open space for both passive and active recreation, while planning for future greenway opportunities. Recommendations focus on the potential to connect together a wide range of meaningful attractions with a combination of on- and off-street trails, including a variety of individual trail segments and types, which link together in an integrated network. These include major trail spines, secondary trails, paved and unpaved trails, off-street and on-street trails, and primary trail head access points.

Octoraro Greenway Feasibility Study (2016)

https://www.townshipofconcord.com/document_center/Residents/Trails/Octoraro-Report_FINAL_Dec2016_WEB.pdf

A primary recommendation of the *Greenways and Open Space Network Plan* was to investigate the feasibility of building a pedestrian/bicycle greenway along the alignment of the former Octoraro Railroad. This route represents an outstanding opportunity for development of a continuous trail across the entire township, connecting a variety of existing recreational facilities as well as the promise of broader connections to neighboring municipalities such as Chadds Ford and Chester Heights. The Octoraro has for decades been considered to have high potential for a recreational trail. It is currently promoted by Delaware County as one of the highest-priority trail routes in the county and is included in the planned "Circuit" regional trail system. The Octoraro Trail would intersect with the proposed Garnet Valley Greenway at or near Spring Valley Road.

Garnet Valley Greenway Feasibility Study (2020)

https://www.townshipofconcord.com/document_center/Residents/Trails/Garnet%20Valley%20Greenway%20Study_Dec%202020_FOR%20WEB.pdf

In addition to the Octoraro Trail, prior planning efforts identified a second opportunity for a major trail spine through the Township. The Garnet Valley Greenway is envisioned as a paved multi-purpose recreation trail that utilizes a PECO electrical utility right-of-way to connect many major community, civic, and open space destinations, including Clayton Park, Concord Township Park on Smithbridge Road, Garnet Valley schools, the Octoraro Trail itself, and numerous residential neighborhoods.

Route 1 and Route 202 Area Bike and Pedestrian Study

Prepare in partnership with Chadds Ford Township, this study identified opportunities for an interconnected system of sidewalks, bicycle routes, and multi-modal corridors to safely connect origins and destinations along the Route 1 and Route 202 corridors. The study documents gaps in the existing pedestrian/bicycle network and recommends specific improvements contributing to a local multi-modal transportation network. These include paths, sidewalks, and trail connections, as well as support elements such as bus shelters, tree canopy, crosswalks, trail heads, signals, signs, and bike racks needed to provide convenient and safe non-motorized options for getting around.



Delaware County Planning

Delaware County Open Space, Recreation, and Greenway Plan (2015)

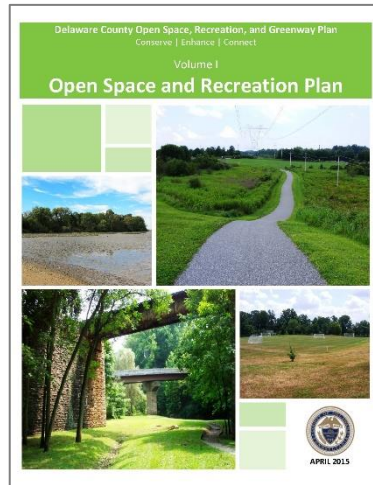
<https://www.delcopa.gov/planning/pubs/delco2035/OpenSpaceandRecreationPlan.html>

In 2015, the Delaware County Planning Department prepared a County-wide *Open Space, Recreation and Greenway Plan* to address all facets of parks and recreation planning in the county including municipal, public and private land, and trails.

Volume I of this plan provides a complete review of municipal, county, state, and federal open space within Delaware County. It includes an inventory of existing open spaces and natural resources, analysis of open space and recreational needs and opportunities, and an overview of implementation methods for municipalities and the County to utilize. The Plan identifies three overarching goals to guide the open space planning efforts in the County. These goals, which closely reflect those expressed in Concord Township planning documents, are:

- **Conserve** the natural and cultural resources of the County
- **Enhance** the environmental and/or recreational value of developed and undeveloped lands, and
- **Connect** natural features and people to community and regional destinations through development of a greenway network.

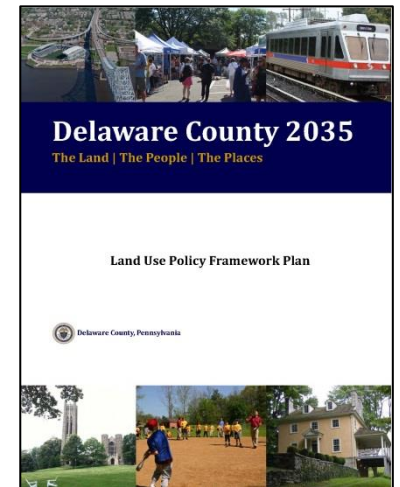
Volume II of this plan represents the county's first true Greenway Plan. The Plan identifies 25 Primary Trails within the county, including two within Concord Township, the Octoraro Trail and the "PECO Right-of-Way Trail," which was later rebranded as the Garnet Valley Greenway.



Delaware County 2035 (2013)

<https://www.delcopa.gov/planning/delawarecounty2035.html>

Adopted in 2013, this Comprehensive Plan for Delaware County establishes an overall vision for the future of the County through the year 2035. It also sets policies for development, redevelopment, conservation, and economic initiatives. The Plan provides the County's 49 municipalities with a framework for the strategic use of public resources to improve the quality of life for all its residents. In accordance with the Municipalities Planning Code (MPC), the plan "establishes objectives of the municipality concerning its future development, including, but not limited to, the location, character, and timing of future developments." *Delaware County 2035* consists of a central Land Use Policy Framework Plan and a number of related, interconnected, but more detailed component plans. The *Open Space, Recreation, and Greenway Plan* noted above serves as the open space component plan of *Delaware County 2035*.



Natural Heritage Inventory of Delaware County, PA (2011)

<https://www.delcopa.gov/planning/pubs/NaturalHeritageInventory.html>

The Delaware County Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) was developed for the County by the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. Its purpose is to inform residents and local decision makers about the unique plants, animals, and habitats that are found throughout Delaware County. This inventory focuses on the best examples of living ecological resources in Delaware County, and contains information on the locations of rare, threatened, and endangered species and of the highest quality natural areas in the County. Several locations in Concord Township are highlighted for their ecological value. These are Beaver Valley Woods, Johnsons Corner (Naamans Creek Road), and Clayton Park/Shavertown Woods. (Also see Chapter 2)

Regional and Statewide Planning

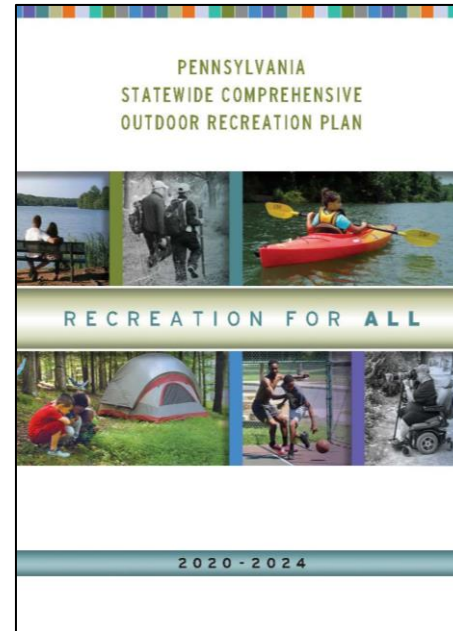
Pennsylvania Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (2020-2024)

<https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Recreation/PAOutdoorRecPlan/Pages/default.aspx>

Pennsylvania's outdoor recreation plan helps to guide strategy for local governments, state government and other outdoor recreation providers. Priorities, recommendations and action items delineate a course of action for five years and help to determine where best to make investments in recreation.

Analysis shows that maintenance of existing park and recreation areas continues to be the top concern of Pennsylvanians. Access to recreation programs is also highly important, as is building more greenways and trails, and protecting existing open space and wildlife habitat. These findings are very consistent with the findings of this *Concord Township Comprehensive Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan*. The Pennsylvania Plan identifies five priority areas to serve as the foundation for action. These are:

- *Health and Wellness*: Outdoor recreation is key to helping address some of today's pressing health care issues.
- *Recreation for All*: Ensure that all people feel invited and engaged in our outdoor spaces by developing strategies to overcome real and perceived barriers through enhanced access, amenities, and programs.
- *Sustainable Systems*: Balance the needs of our natural resources with the ever-changing demands of recreation enthusiasts through careful planning and design, innovative solutions and partnerships, and emphasis on stewardship by all.
- *Funding and Economic Development*: Increasing investments in outdoor recreation and expanding support for the outdoor recreation economy must be top priorities.
- *Technology*: Set the right balance on how we can use technology to our advantage without it being disruptive or destructive to nature.



Appendix B: Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Grants

Recreation, Trails and Open Space Grants

The Township has been highly successful in procuring grant funding for parks and open space initiatives. In recent years, the Township has received grant funding from a wide range of Federal, State, and local agencies, and these have funded acquisitions, planning studies, and capital improvements. Since 2014, the Township has received grant funding for trails, recreation, and open space totaling more than \$4 million.

Year	Agency	Project	Match %	Project Cost	Grant \$	Match \$
2014	DCNR	Township Trails and Greenways Master Plan	50%	\$60,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
2015	DCNR	Octoraro Greenway Feasibility Study	50%	\$80,000	\$40,000	\$40,000
2016	DCNR	Concord Park Playground	50%	\$477,000	\$238,500	\$238,500
2018	DCNR	Garnet Valley Greenways Trail Feasibility Study	50%	\$80,000	\$40,000	\$40,000
2018	DCNR	Octoraro Trail - Phase 1A & 1B Design	0%	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$0
2018	DVRPC	Octoraro Trail - Phase 1A & 1B Design	0%	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$0
2018	CMAQ	Smithbridge Road Corridor Improvement Project/Roundabout	22%	\$2,027,500	\$1,589,500	\$438,000
2019	ARLE	Evergreen Drive Pedestrian Improvements	0%	\$33,150	\$33,150	\$0
2019	DCNR	First State Trail Connector Feasibility Study	50%	\$70,000	\$35,000	\$35,000
2019	DCNR	Township Open Space and Recreation Plan	50%	\$80,000	\$40,000	\$40,000
2020	DCNR	Bush Hill Farm Master Plan	50%	\$45,000	\$22,500	\$22,500
2020	ARLE	Baltimore Pk/State Farm/ABB Pedestrian Improvements	0%	\$116,725	\$116,725	\$0
2020	DVRPC	1/202 Corridor Pedestrian Improvement Plan	20%	\$90,000	\$72,000	\$9,000
2020	TA S-A	Octoraro Trail - Phase 1A Construction	25%	\$1,580,400	\$1,162,400	\$418,000
2020	DCNR	Chetty (Featherbed Lane) Acquisition	50%	\$493,400	\$246,700	\$246,700
2021	Delco	Chetty (Featherbed Lane) Acquisition	50%	\$493,400	\$246,700	\$246,700
2021	Delco	Octoraro Trail - Phase 1B Construction	75%	\$1,500,000	\$367,750	\$1,132,250
2021	Delco	Hall/Hillsborough Acquisition	75%	\$870,000	\$217,500	\$652,500

\$5,245,125

ARLE = PennDOT Automatic Red Light Enforcement

DVRPC = Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

DCNR = PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

CMAQ = DVRPC's Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program

TA S-A = PennDOT's Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside

Appendix C:

Open Space Acquisition/ Conservation Scorecard

Concord Township Open Space Acquisition/Conservation Score Sheet

Based on the goals and expectations for open space described in this Plan, an updated measuring stick for acquisition and conservation of new property is proposed. An objective metric such as this is often a requirement of grant funding programs, which may assist with acquisition costs. The following important open space attributes should be considered in identifying priority lands for acquisition. A weighted scoring system is proposed for each category, with values assigned according to specific characteristics.

- 1. Parcel Size:** Larger parcels have greater potential to maximize public benefit, and to justify Township efforts to plan, acquire, and maintain.
 - 3 pts – More than 10 acres
 - 2 pts – 5-10 acres
 - 1 pts – 1-5 acres
 - 0 pts – less than 1 acres
- 2. Development Risk:** Properties that are subject to imminent development pressure may become high priority for preservation.
 - 3 pts – Known land development interest
 - 2 pts – Public water and sewer available at property
 - 1 pts – Public water and sewer within 500 ft.
 - 0 pts – Public water and sewer not available
- 3. Proximity to Other Public Space:** Open spaces have more value when they can be connected, to allow for greater impact and to avoid fragmentation.
 - 3 pts – Abuts existing Township open space
 - 2 pts – Abuts other public open space or community facility
 - 1 pts – Can feasibly be connected to other open space or community facility
 - 0 pts – Disconnected from other public or undeveloped open space
- 4. Watershed Protection:** Land conservation is an important part of watershed management. Benefits include groundwater recharge, flood resiliency, water quality, and wildlife habitat.
 - 3 pts – Contains water body, watercourse, or wetlands
 - 2 pts – Within 500 ft. of water body, watercourse, or wetlands
 - 1 pts – Within 1,000 ft. of water body, watercourse, or wetlands
 - 0 pts – Not in proximity to water features
- 5. Environmental Sensitivity:** It is important to preserve habitat for native plant or animal species listed as threatened, endangered or of special concern and/or an outstanding example of a native ecological community.
 - 3 pts – Located within one of three (3) identified Natural Heritage Inventory locations
 - 2 pts – Abuts other public open space located within a Natural Heritage Inventory location
 - 1 pts – Contains sensitive environmental features such as woodlands, steep slopes, or other
 - 0 pts – Does not contain known sensitive environmental features

6. Connectivity to Trail Network: Expansion of the local trail network is a clear public priority. Properties that can help to expand or fill gaps in the network should be prioritized.

- 3 pts – Contains or abuts an existing or proposed Township trail
- 2 pts – Can potentially be connected to the trail network
- 1 pts – May be suitable for an isolated trail not connected to the network
- 0 pts – Not suitable for trails

7. Scenic Value: Properties that have high scenic value or contribute to a scenic viewshed are important to the local character and sense of place.

- 3 pts – Possesses the highest degree of scenic value in the Township.
- 2 pts – Possesses a high degree of scenic value.
- 1 pts – Contributes to a an overall scenic viewshed or vista.
- 0 pts – Does not have scenic value.

8. Historic Value: Properties that have historic or cultural value are important to preserve and incorporate into the open space system.

- 3 pts – Listed on the National Register of Historic Places or determined eligible
- 2 pts – Has historic features or structures included in Township Historic inventory
- 1 pts – Has importance to local culture
- 0 pts – Does not have known historic or cultural value.

9. Suitability for Recreation: Parcels that have physical characteristics that can be easily adapted for active recreation should be acquired to serve future needs.

- 3 pts – Can easily be adapted for recreation purposes
- 2 pts – Can be adapted for recreational use with significant cost and/or effort
- 1 pts – Can host only limited or small-scale recreation uses
- 0 pts – Not suited for recreation purposes

10. Overall Public Benefit: Some factors are unique to the property or the Township's immediate needs may also weigh heavily in the decision to acquire land for open space and recreation.

- 3 pts – Provides outstanding public benefit on a regional scale
- 2 pts – Benefits a broad segment of the local community\
- 1 pts – Benefits a limited segment of the local community
- 0 pts – Minimal public benefit.

Total Points: _____

(maximum 30)

Assesment

0 – 10 Low priority for acquisition/conservation

11 – 20 High priority for acquisition/conservation

21 – 30 Ideal priority for acquisition/conservation

This page is intentionally left blank.

Appendix D: Voice Your Vision

Voice Your Vision

In July 2021, the Township hosted public workshops as part of its *Voice Your Vision* public outreach initiative, where local residents were encouraged to express their views and provide suggestions on a wide range of topics, which included open space planning, including land use, public spaces, events, and circulation. Through these sessions and other related outreach, a broad community consensus emerged in support of open space protection, expansion of community events, creation of more spaces for gathering and recreation, and improved pedestrian and bicycle connectivity.

More information about Voice Your Vision initiative can be found here:

https://www.townshipofconcord.com/resident_information/announcements/voice_your_vision.php



 **Voice Your Vision Initiative**

CONCORD CONNECTS

Concord Township Council
September 2021

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Voice Your Vision is an initiative by the Concord Township Council to enhance and expand upon the way it engages with the Concord community. **The seven month initiative was designed to identify and implement short-term actions that support community priorities.** The process and immediate outcomes, outlined below, lay the foundation for projects that will shape Concord's future based on what residents would like to see in their community. Ranging from micro-projects to long-term visions, the ideas and outcomes of the Voice Your Vision Initiative will be built into budgets and considered in future planning documents.

Working alongside the Council was Connect the Dots, a stakeholder engagement firm that works with municipalities to achieve community engagement that is inclusive, equitable, and open. They create processes that are informed by citizens, and provide many opportunities for communicative engagement that can achieve more than traditional public meetings. The customized consultation process began by listening to Council member's priorities and goals for engaging with the public. Connect the Dots then uniquely equipped each council member with tools to create exciting opportunities to meet community members where they are. By utilizing tried and tested engagement methods such as a community-wide survey, expertly facilitated listening sessions, and interactive events, Concord Council is now proudly at the forefront of the civic engagement movement and national best practices.

Concord Township Council is excited to announce the following short-term Voice Your Vision outcomes – coming to the Concord community this fall!

- **Bocce ball Courts** at the Township Building Campus
- **Welcoming program for new residents** with township materials and interaction with Council members
- **Communications improvements** like interactive 'On the Road' public meetings, heightened social media engagement, and more accessible meeting resources

Council is particularly looking forward to utilizing the valuable ideas and community insights to achieve long-term goals and actions, such as:

- Engage in a process to create a Concord Mission + Vision Statement
- Beautify the public realm
- Engage in a strategic planning process
- Continue promoting and constructing trail upgrades + expansions
- Develop an approach to incorporate sidewalks into future developments
- Build towards better roads + infrastructure
- Evaluate public space opportunities for more community gatherings

PROJECT SUMMARY

The Voice Your Vision initiative by Concord Township Council brought public, private, and community stakeholders together over the course of the last 8 months to discover immediate, short-term actions that can set the stage for interaction and engagement and grow in the coming years. The insights gathered and short term projects have planted the seeds for long-term improvements.

At the end of 2020, the leadership in Concord expressed interest in pursuing a new form of town-wide engagement that would allow them alternate ways to connect with community members about their priorities and issues. Council members not only sought to foster more openness and conversation with constituents, but to lay a foundation for community building and transparency across township affairs. **This process has been driven by Council's desire to hear more voices, understand the needs and values of its residents, and provide a more meaningful experience for residents to interact with township officials.**

Voice Your Vision Concord was designed to support the Concord community in creating a collective vision surrounding public amenities, programming, and township communications. Additionally, it was designed to reach more residents and provide clarity about Council's plans and thoughts for the township's future. The goal of this process is to collaborate with the public to help shape Concord's future decision making and engagement strategies. This means that all events, outreach, and communications from this initiative served the dual function of council-community collaboration and working towards action on identified community projects.

Why Connect the Dots?

Township Council contracted the stakeholder/community engagement firm Connect the Dots to assist in piloting a more accessible, collaborative, and transparent approach to public engagement in Concord. Council worked with Connect the Dots to practice alternative approaches for public engagement. The two groups worked together to come up with Voice Your Vision Concord, the critical first step to revamping strategies for including more residents in decision-making processes.

Connect the Dots has over 7 years of experience in facilitating public engagement processes in a way that honors and incorporates all backgrounds and perspectives. What makes their work different is that they work not just for their clients and engagement participants, but with them. They encourage collaboration through each phase of Voice Your Vision, and always lead with a cooperative spirit. We have designed and facilitated a wide range of engagement processes using our approach that begins with the participants and context at hand. As the Covid-19 pandemic changed the way we interact and engage with one another, Connect the Dots not only adapted to new normalities but shared their expertise with communities around the region.

WHAT WE ACCOMPLISHED

Initial Engagement with Concord Township Council

-- *Understanding Interests, Goals, Priorities*

At the beginning of Voice Your Vision, all seven township council members filled out a survey in order to co-design the engagement process and identify multiple topics for community discussion. They were asked to think of needs and opportunities within the town that they feel are necessary and feasible for them to address, particularly during the summer months. Connect the Dots then analyzed the abilities and insights from council members in order to design a community-wide public agenda survey.

Public Agenda Survey

-- *Finding Common Ground*

Next, the public agenda survey gave Concord residents the opportunity to share their needs and visions for the community. By gauging the importance of various topic areas, the survey was able to align the abilities and insights from council members with the goals of surveyed community members. In order to focus future discussions and decision making, Connect the Dots then narrowed down the points for discussion into three high-priority topic areas identified by the survey. Though there are numerous topics important to the future of Concord, prioritizing three topics allowed Council to focus their energy and ensure that their initiatives are actionable. Council members paired off into teams and each championed a topic of their choosing.

Voice Your Vision Kickoff Event

-- *Diving In*

The public kickoff event took place virtually on May 11, 2021. Facilitated by Connect the Dots, the event included a detailed presentation of key project information, survey results, and how the project team arrived at each of the three priority topic areas: Connectivity, Planning + Land Use, and Community Identity + Communication. Council members were able to dive deeper into understanding the public's vision and priorities through a series of listening sessions conducted in breakout rooms. Attendees self-identified which topic area they're most interested in, and were given the opportunity to share their thoughts and ideas with the Council members championing that topic. Residents heard directly from council members about their personal connections to these topic areas, and discussed some early ideas for action items and ways to work through township concerns. The kickoff meeting got the conversation going, and provided community members with space to ask questions and better understand township decision making. Resident ideas and insights were then used to inform the next phase of Voice Your Vision: interactive community events.

Ongoing Actions

-- *Efforts Along the Way*

Council members took time out of their busy schedules each month to regroup and touch base on the Voice Your Vision initiative. They met with staff members at Connect the Dots to discuss how to contribute their interests and strengths to the Voice Your Vision overall process. They periodically workshoped new ways to engage with Concord residents.

Summer Event Series

-- *Workshopping Ideas + Solutions*

Council members spearheaded two in-person community events. Each event focused on current township initiatives and brainstorming actions for collaboratively envisioning Concord's future related to Connectivity, Planning + Land Use, and Community Identity + Communication. Each event discussed current township initiatives and relied on public participation to brainstorm future actions and programming. Councilmembers Colleen Morrone and Vinita Deshmukh held their Community Identity + Communication event alongside that of Connectivity. The combined event covered how placemaking and events can create better community connections in Concord, while Councilmembers John Gillespie and Dominic Pileggi spoke about the future of Concord's sidewalks and trail connections. The final event of the series was held on July 27th, where Councilmembers Dana Rankin and Dominic Pileggi dove into issues of open space and zoning.

Stakeholder Interviews

-- *Additional Insights*

Following the summer event series, Council members evaluated event attendance lists to better understand what voices weren't well-represented at each event. We learned that the business and religious communities had not shared their insights at the kickoff or summer events. Connect the Dots then coordinated a series of stakeholder interviews. Questions for stakeholders included "What do you think Concord is missing?"; "What types of events have you enjoyed in Concord or surrounding townships in the past?"; "Where do you consider to be the 'heart' of Concord?"; "What are the important next projects?"

Final Report + Event

-- *Coming Together*

The Closing Event for Voice Your Vision was a virtual presentation and celebration of everything we've learned, and all of the upcoming initiatives the community can enjoy as a result of this engagement process. Connect the Dots presented this report - *Concord Connects* - detailing the Voice Your Vision goals, process, and outcomes. The final event served as the main opportunity for council members and the community to come together, check in, and assess the progress made so far. Community members also had the chance to comment on and discuss the path forward, ensuring that their ideas are being furthered and considered for implementation in the 2022 budget and incorporation into future planning.

WHAT WE LEARNED: Public Agenda Survey

Planning + Land Use

People generally believe there needs to be strategic, long-range planning that preserves open space for recreation, gathering, and environmentally-conscious programming. It's important to find a balance between managing growth, density, and tending to existing infrastructure. There's growing dissatisfaction with the scale of shopping centers, parking lots, when residents would rather preserve open space for nature and recreation. Some ideas coming out of the survey include updating planning documents, prioritizing land conservation, and sustainability initiatives.

Testimonials:

"As a community that has grown so quickly I'd like to see the reasons I moved here preserved, such as open space, wide manageable roadways, and the natural beauty of the area..."

"The unbelievable growth of the township has it pros and cons. Our family got to take advantage of great schools and I'm thankful. But since we've been here, there has been an explosion in development and there is overcrowding."

"We need to save what's left of contiguous open space for quality of life and for the economic vitality of our community..."

Connectivity

People who responded to the survey feel that there is a need for more opportunity to safely walk, bike, and hike throughout Concord. Due to its auto-orientation, there are very few physical connections between various parts of Concord. People were excited by the thought of more sidewalks and pedestrian connections, bike paths, and open space. People also want to experience less traffic and congestion, with better maintenance and improvements on existing roads.

It's important to note that the root cause of frustration with traffic congestion stems from roads that are controlled by state agencies like PENNDOT. These agencies pay for, plan, and maintain these roads, and the township does not have a lot of control over issues that occur on these roads. Rather than center the discussion around traffic and congestion, Council mentioned that they are working hard on their relationships with State agencies and continue to advocate for the Concord community.

Testimonials:

"If we are going to allow community to grow and expand, reducing open space and interjecting more businesses, then the infrastructure needs attention as well including roads, transportation, public safety."

"Walking through the business community is impossible because of disconnected sidewalks."

"Concord Township NEEDS sidewalks. We NEED connections to and from neighborhoods and trails."

Connectivity

There is a need for more communication between residents, and between council and residents. The Concord community wants to feel heard and listened to by its Council members, and would appreciate more transparency through various public engagement processes when it comes to financial and zoning matters. Residents also cited a need for developing a greater sense of community, potentially through more programming and higher participation in township processes.

As more development has come to the area and influenced the way Concord looks and feels, this sense of better collaboration and communication should also be reflected in the physical environment. Survey respondents mentioned that the feel and character of Concord is being shaped by big box stores, retail vacancy, and few spaces or opportunities for gathering. Respondents want more opportunities for community partnerships and greening, with an emphasis on sustaining small businesses.

Testimonials:

"Creating that nice quality of life where people want to move to, and not leave, comes from a community that listens to their residents, people need to feel that their voices are heard."

"We need more small business and less chain stores..."

High Priority Topics Identified by Community Members

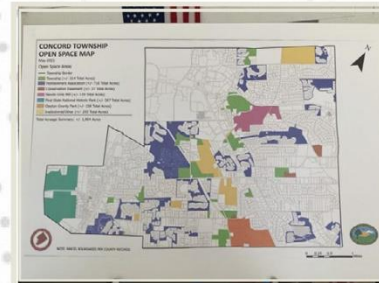
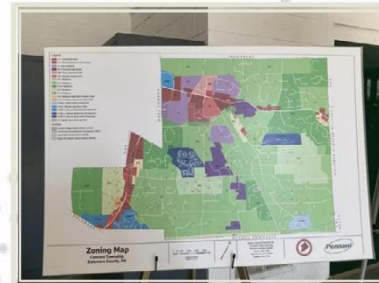
"Essential" Topics:

1. Environment/Open Space
2. Land Use/Zoning
3. Transportation
4. Public Safety
5. Community Engagement
6. Local Business/Economic Development
7. Operations/Services
8. Community Connectivity

"Important" Topics:

1. Community Engagement
2. Community Connectivity
3. Local Business/Economic Development
4. Operations/Services
5. Transportation
6. Public Safety
7. Land Use/Zoning
8. Environment/Open Space

Introductory page to the Voice Your Vision public agenda survey.



WHAT WE LEARNED: Kickoff Event

Planning + Land Use

Council members Dana Rankin + John Crossan

This group talked in depth about the various dynamics that go into land use and thinking about ways of guiding change in the future. There was a recurring theme discussing how deciding land use at the onset is critical. Community members had the idea of looking more deeply into the ordinances that describe valuable land / open space, and getting creative with zoning regulations and looking to precedents that preserved open space. Participants also discussed working with homeowners associations to efficiently utilize space that is managed collaboratively. All expressed that they would love to be involved in decision making, and at the very least would like to see resources that explain how tax money is being spent related to land use, and how it could be saved or spent more creatively for conservation.

Connectivity

Council members Dominic Pileggi + John Gillespie

Community members were most excited about expanding opportunities for walking through building trails, and also about making existing roads and infrastructure more friendly to pedestrians. Having the ability to walk and bike to/from township shopping centers would make a big difference to the community, as would traffic calming measures like speed bumps or roundabouts that would help pedestrians feel safer. Anything the township can do to encourage walking, biking, and cars sharing the road with pedestrians would be appreciated; examples include street redesigns and ensuring sidewalks are included in new developments, the way they have been recently. Community members also had questions specific to certain roads and trail projects in the works, and would like to be involved in those processes through public comment meetings.

Community Identity + Communication

Council members Colleen Morrone + Vinita Deshmukh

This general topic area includes community identity, communications, and placemaking, and is meant to encompass different facets of identity in Concord. The first is physical identity or how Concord looks and feels when you move around. Dynamics such as big box stores vs.

small local businesses, whether there are trees and plantings, whether there is art and signage about township history can all affect the feeling of place or community. There is also the social aspect of the town's identity, so whether there are opportunities or channels in place for people to gather, communicate, and share. This includes things like talking to neighbors, more chances to get together and discuss experiences, community events, things like newsletter, so everyone is on the same page. All of these facets work together to create a sense of community, which can be achieved through collective visioning and planning.

Participants in this group talked about a general identity crisis in Concord, and the feeling of uncertainty around whether Concord is a rural or suburban community. They felt that creating design guidelines specific to Concord was an achievable way to address the issue of identity. Discussion between community members and the council during the process of creating design guidelines would be an important way to foster more participation and get people talking to one another about Concord's identity. This group also acknowledged that there are groups that the township should work with in order to have more inclusive events and initiatives. The business community should be leveraged and play an active role in putting on events and fostering more of a sense of community, along with the large senior community that has very little programming dedicated to it. One idea was business owners coming together to sponsor a township partnered event.

Flyer, part of the communications + outreach campaign leading up to the Summer Event Series.

Voice Your Vision Concord

Concord Township Council Presents:
Summer Event Series!

This June and July, you're invited to attend three in-person community events / listening sessions that will focus on current township initiatives and brainstorming a collective vision for the future of Concord.

~~~~~ RSVPs Encouraged ~~~~~

|                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1) Community Identity</p> <p><b>July 20</b><br/>5:30-7:30pm<br/>Public Works Garage</p> <p>Placemaking   Public space   Township communications   Local business   Community gathering</p> | <p>2) Connectivity:</p> <p><b>July 27</b><br/>5:30-7:30pm<br/>30 Bethel Road</p> <p>Trail updates   Pedestrians   Sidewalks   Roadways   Township connections</p> | <p>3) Planning + Land Use:</p> <p><b>July 27</b><br/>5:30-7:30pm<br/>30 Bethel Road</p> <p>Open space   Land management   Mapping   Fiscal spending   Development</p> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

QR codes for <https://bit.ly/3p0p1> and <https://bit.ly/3p0p1>

CONCORD TOWNSHIP  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Connect the Dots

## WHAT WE LEARNED: Summer Event Series

### Community Identity + Connectivity *Combined Event*

#### Council members Colleen Morrone + Vinita Deshmukh + Dominic Pileggi + John Gillespie

Placemaking (Community Identity + Communications) and Connectivity held their combined event in the Township Garage on Smithbridge Road on July 20, 2021. Rows of tables and surrounding chairs placed community members in a semi circle facing the Council members hosting the event. Dominic Pileggi gave opening remarks, welcoming all to the event and thanking all for their time. After introducing each Council member, he spoke briefly about the goals of Voice Your Vision and introduced Alexandra Zazula of Connect the Dots.

Alexandra shared brief ground rules for the event, encouraging folks to share the floor and be respectful so that all in attendance could feel comfortable sharing their thoughts and ideas. She reiterated how this process has been enthusiastically driven by each Council member and their passion for their topic. The goal of the event was to have an open and interactive dialogue about gathering places in the community, and how to better connect Concord's various assets in a safe, sustainable way.



Vinita Deshmukh kicked off the first activity by introducing the various maps displayed in an open-house style in the front of the room. She highlighted the map including markers for various public spaces and amenities. Each table was equipped with the event agenda, pens and paper, and multicolored heart-shaped stickers. Vinita invited participants to place a heart sticker on their favorite places to spend time and gather in Concord – creating a map where the community's 'heart' lies within the township. Community members came up to the maps in two waves, and ultimately clustered their hearts around Concord's parks, as well as the site of the new community center currently being upgraded.

#### Key Takeaways | Community Identity + Communication

People enjoy and appreciate the existing events put on by the township. Folks appreciate activities like Community Day, Harvest Festival, and the Summer Concert Series, and want to see them continued and even expanded upon. Resident ideas for future events/activities include Food Festivals, outdoor fitness groups and tournaments, and Recycling Day with an environmental focus.

Folks are eagerly awaiting the Octoraro Trail addition, and are excited by ideas of the township having a potential amphitheater, swimming pool with water features for kids, or a cluster of businesses reminiscent of small downtown areas in nearby municipalities. Residents most enthusiastically suggested creating Bocce Ball courts that can serve as a fun, active gathering place for community members of all ages and abilities. People also expressed appreciation for the opportunity to have virtual events, noting more flexibility and ability to get involved.

The community would like Council to prioritize opportunities to be informed about upcoming decisions and developments, particularly those that could affect properties or taxation. People felt that the township newsletter should be more widespread/known in the community and could be utilized more effectively.



#### Key Takeaways | Connectivity

Council members Dominic Pileggi and John Gillespie stayed fairly "off-book," allowing the discussion to progress freely without direct prompts. Dominic shared many anecdotes about the history of the township in terms of transportation and connectivity, and responded with questions about the township layout with explanations and history lessons. General community feedback included sidewalks, vehicle and pedestrian access to developments, and the quality of roads in Concord.

People feel that there needs to be a better system of sidewalks, primarily for connections to different areas and for people and their children to feel safe as they travel. Residents observed that the designers of newer developments did not consider the ability to access these spaces from all surrounding roads and areas, nor as a pedestrian. People cited Spring Valley Road and Concordville Town Center as examples. The issue of cut-through traffic in the neighborhoods should be addressed as well.

Flooding is becoming an issue, meaning that assessing and updating road drainage should be a priority for future township improvements. Road widths and conditions should be evaluated for drainage as well as traffic calming improvements. Community members also observed that curbs are inconsistent throughout Concord while potholes are very common. Dominic responded with context about the Council's relationship and advocacy work with PennDOT, a working relationship that they will invest energy to continue improving over time.





## Planning + Land Use

### Council members Dana Rankin + Dominic Pileggi

Dana Rankin and Dominic Pileggi began the event by thanking everyone for coming out to the event, and provided context on the project and feedback that was collected during the survey and kickoff meeting. Residents spent time sharing comments, questions, and ideas about ways to preserve open space in the township.

### Key Takeaways | Planning + Land Use

Dana Rankin and Dominic Pileggi began the event by thanking everyone for coming out to the event, and provided context on the project as well as feedback that was collected during the survey and kickoff meeting. Residents spent time sharing comments, questions, and ideas about ways to preserve open space in the township.

They mentioned their desire to preserve existing trees and avoid building or laying asphalt on green areas. When a resident asked about the possibility for open space acquisitions (OSAs), Dominic Pileggi took care to explain that the referendum to provide funding for OSAs only came about within the past 17 years. As an example, he shared how Concord's Coleman tract was purchased immediately after funding was secured. Township Manager Amanda Serock responded to questions regarding funding for open space conservation and improvements, mentioning that there has been nearly \$3 million in grants for open space and trails in the past 10 years.

An added difficulty to securing open space is the reality that owners are not always willing to sell their land, even if the funding has been secured. Council should also continue working with developers to set aside open space as part of new developments. With proper and tactful negotiations, developers and community members may be amenable, even if only for a portion of the ask. For instance, Council was able to think creatively while negotiating with Main Line Health for their adjacent land zoned for both hospital and residential uses. Lastly, residents mentioned Bocce ball courts, a community center or pool for kids, and more shade along trails as potential improvements to green spaces like Smithbridge Park.

## WHAT WE LEARNED: Stakeholder Interviews

Connect the Dots worked with Council members to engage in a detailed stakeholder mapping process. The decision to hold stakeholder interviews towards the end of Voice Your Vision allowed the team to evaluate the attendance of each community event and discern which voices had not yet been represented. Council ultimately found gaps in the business and religious communities.

## Selected Stakeholders

- **Business** | Pete Getz of Concord Auto Body
- **Religious** | Pastor Eric of Valley Point Church

### Key Takeaways | Business Community

Getz first noted how much he appreciates everything about Concord, from how great the people are to work with to the open, uncongested feel of the township. He also shared how the increasing use of sidewalks will make a great difference for walkability and bikeability. He explored how the township could plan meetings and events in partnership with local businesses, to utilize their space and feed into the idea of having simple community meetings 'On the Road.' He also noted how businesses would be happy to sponsor different community events as a way to better collaborate and encourage local consumption. Lastly, he emphasized the importance of centering the family in community gathering opportunities, like Family Fun Day and expos or festivals. In terms of important next projects for the township, Getz mentioned the Statefarm property as well as how the Council should continue keeping things like overdevelopment and congestion in mind.

### Key Takeaways | Religious Community

Pastor Eric shared how he believes that the people in Concord are what make it such a special place to be. He's inspired by the deep love and devotion people have for their township and community. In light of the past year, he also believes that people should do their best to be more understanding and gentle with one another. He would love for him and all religious leaders in the area to be invited into conversations and meetings, as having a seat at the table is what brings people closer together. Much like Getz, he believes that anything new revolving around the family would be a win for the township and the community. He also feels that the school system and level of involvement people have in their children's education is a real benefit and potential asset for community building in the future - though **where** families, students, and residents gather is something that could be enhanced. He appreciates how much Council is doing to take advantage of open space, to enhance connectivity with trails and sidewalks, and would love to see Council pursue more opportunities to be face to face with people of all ages and backgrounds.

# CONNECTING VOICES WITH VISIONS

The following goals and outcomes serve as the ultimate culmination of the Concord community's vision for the future of the township. We distilled each community priority shared throughout the process into this collection of goals, recommendations, and outcomes. Alongside general community goals/priorities, we have developed short term and long term programs, projects, and improvements that will guide decision making and programming for years to come.

## Community Goals + Priorities

- **Prioritize + protect open space**
- **Maintain and expand upon community events + activities**
- **Create more spaces for gathering, recreation, and leisure**
- **Launch recreational programming + communications that build community**
- **Build towards sidewalks and improved pedestrian + vehicular access**
- **Monitor road quality issues + advocate for maintenance**

## Immediate Actions

*Immediate actions are **now in motion** thanks to the hard work of your Concord Township Council!*

### Bocce Ball Courts

Concord Township Council is excited to announce the construction of **Bocce Ball Courts at the Township Building Campus!**

As one of the first suggestions of the summer event series, Council hit the ground running and has laid the foundation for bringing Bocce ball to the community. The courts are expected to be completed in October.



*Future site of Concord Bocce Ball.*

## Welcoming Program for New Residents

As newcomers get to know Concord, the Council and interested residents will have the opportunity to engage with folks as they navigate their new community. **The program will share township information, provide welcoming materials, and include spending time with select Council members.**

## Communications Improvements

Concord Township Council has put together updates in how they will communicate with residents in order to **engage the community in new and exciting ways**, including:

- **Public meetings 'On the Road!'** - Council will plan several public meetings in different gathering spaces in the community, like parks or local businesses
- More engagement through **social media**
- **Accessible meeting resources**
- Better **communication with youth** in the township
- Ways to engage with your Council members outside of public meetings, such as **'Coffee with Council' + virtual chats**

## Long-term Actions

*Long-term actions will be incorporated into budgets and considered in future planning documents*

### Small-scale Improvements

Engage in a process to **create a Mission Statement for Concord**, bringing folks together to further envision the identity of the community.

**Partner with shopping centers and businesses**, using their spaces for township events and community programming.

**Beautification of the public realm**, with tree planting to enhance placemaking and bring added shade cover to trails, alongside landscaping for Concord's gateways.

Incorporate initiatives surrounding **sustainability and the environment** to foster a more connected and conscious community.

**Evaluate township committees** so that they feed into the future of Connectivity, Planning + Land Use, and Placemaking / Community Identity in Concord.

**Strengthen public-private partnerships** by working with local businesses and strategizing economic development support.

## Large-scale Improvements

**Implement a Vision Statement for Concord Township.** Council will use insights from Voice Your Vision to create a visioning statement, which will work in tandem to represent the priorities of the Concord community uncovered during the initiative.

**Enhanced and Improved Reporting.** Council will share regular updates using various media platforms on planning + zoning to maximize transparency and awareness on township issues.

**Engage in a strategic planning process** regarding connectivity, land use, and sustainability.

**Expand research initiatives by launching focus groups** and potential studies on issues such as open space, water management, quality of amenities.

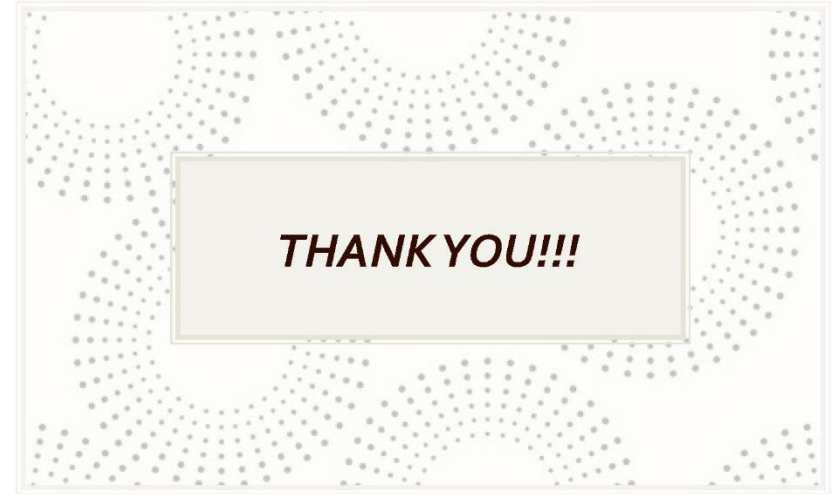
**Continue promoting and constructing trail upgrades and expansions,** with enhanced proactive communications about trails and process updates.

**Develop an approach to incorporate sidewalks into future developments.** Potential long-term actions include reviewing current guiding legislation and developing design guidelines that better incorporate pedestrian and vehicle connectivity in Concord.

**Build towards better roads and infrastructure** by continuing to grow the relationship and advocacy agenda between the township and PennDOT.

**Evaluate public space opportunities** to create more recreation for all, including a sensory garden and activation of community center facilities.

## THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY



*On behalf of your Concord Township Council and Connect the Dots, we would like to extend **our sincerest thanks to the wonderful community members of Concord** for standing by our side throughout this process!*

Your time, energy, and feedback will bring positivity to the community for years to come. **Though Voice Your Vision is ending, envisioning and bettering the future of Concord has only just begun.** Be sure to follow all Township communications for ways to get involved in our immediate, short-term, and long-term initiatives created by and for the Concord community.

## **Appendix E: Assessment of Needs by Acreage**

## Assessment of Needs by Acreage

In order to assess the demand for parks and open space in Concord Township, it is helpful to rely on objective criteria and accepted standards. There is not one universal standard that can be applied to all communities. However, it appears clear that by any measure, Concord Township currently has an ample amount of public open space and has planned recent property acquisitions to serve a growing future population.

At one time, park planning relied on numerical standards based on population to determine open space needs. For example, one accepted standard was that communities should have at least 10 acres of park land per 1,000 residents. These numerical standards, however, provide only a rough idea of how well a community’s park system serves the needs of its residents. Traditional numerical standards do not account for private open space, or lands owned and managed by institutions and school districts which share use of their facilities with the community, providing many of the same benefits as municipal parks. Nor do they account for age of the population, availability of natural resources, or specific local interests, or for the presence of nearby recreational facilities that happen to be outside the formal community boundaries.

In recent years, park planners have taken the view that the traditional fixed park and recreation standards were too crude and rigid to be applied uniformly to something as complicated and variable as recreation planning. The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) now emphasizes a systemic approach that accounts for unique needs and opportunities of a community.

Despite this trend away from numerical standards, the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) developed basic “parkland” standards based on population density (*Recreational Open Space Needs Analysis for the Delaware Valley, 2002*). According to the 2020 U.S. Census the population of Concord is 18,295. With an area of 13.7 square miles, the population density for Concord is 1,335 people per square mile. This places the Township in the “medium” density class. For this class, the standard park acreage needed is 8.0 acres per 1,000 population. Based on this formula, Concord Township would currently have a need for 146 acres of parks and open space. Projected further out to 2045, the population is expected to increase, and the need for park and open space will increase accordingly.

Today, the parks and open space parcels owned and maintained by Concord Township take up more than 300 acres. This does not include significant additional area provided by Garnet Valley Schools, Newlin Grist Mill, Brandywine Youth Club, Delaware County’s Clayton Park, and others.

| Parks and Open Space Area            |             |               |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
|                                      | 2020 Census | 2045 estimate |
| Concord Twp. Population              | 18,295      | 20,201        |
| Current Park Acres                   | 301         | tbd           |
| Total Park Acres Needed <sup>1</sup> | 146         | 162           |

<sup>1</sup> Based on DVRPC formula of 8 acres per 1,000 residents

*This page is intentionally left blank.*

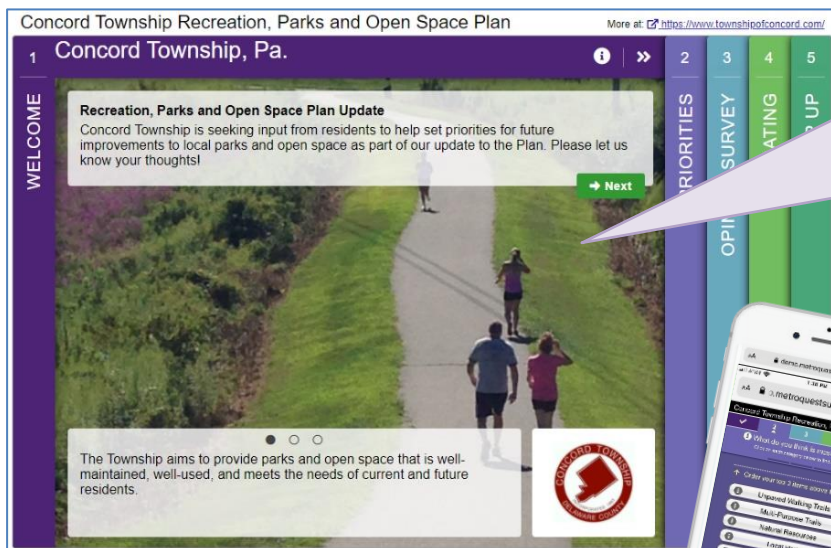
# Appendix F: Public Opinion Survey

# Public Opinion Survey

During spring 2021, Concord Township invited residents to share their thoughts related to recreation and open space. An elaborate online survey, created with the assistance of **MetroQuest**, asked detailed questions that polled residents' satisfaction and interest across a wide range of specific topics. A total of 1,552 responses were received, which is a remarkable level of participation. Residents were asked a variety of questions about their views of the current parks and open space in Concord, and their opinions on what improvements they would most want to see. Some questions were multiple choice, and others were open-ended to allow respondents to describe their opinions in their own words. These individual comments are presented later in the appendix.

## Page 1: Welcome

The first page of the survey described the project and the intent of the survey and invited participants to take part.



The online survey could be taken on a computer or any mobile device, such as a phone.

### Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan Update

*Concord Township is seeking input from residents to help set priorities for future improvements to local parks and open space as part of our update to the Plan. Please let us know your thoughts!*

*The Township aims to provide parks and open space that is well-maintained, well-used, and meets the needs of current and future residents.*

*Public open space includes not only parks and recreation facilities, but also environmentally sensitive areas such as streams, forests, habitats, and other areas that may be protected.*

*Your input will help set priorities for allocating financial and staff resources.*



# Page 2: What Do You Think is More Important?

The second page of the survey asks users their thoughts on the relative importance of many general categories of the local open space and recreation system. Users were asked to choose the three most important types and rank them in their order of preference.

**Multi-Purpose Trails**  
Wider paved trails and associated features, to allow for many types of uses, includes biking, walking, and possibly even horseback riding.

**Adult Fitness**  
Organized recreation and fitness programs for adults, such as pickleball, tennis, softball, yoga classes, or other activities.

**Natural Resources**  
Protection and management of valuable natural areas such as streams, woodlands, and wildlife habitat.

**Scenic Beauty & Heritage**  
Preservation of local places that have scenic, historic, and cultural value. These could include farms, historic buildings, scenic views, and other elements of the local landscape that contribute to the local identity.

**Unpaved Walking Trails**  
Unpaved trails for walking, such as in natural areas like woodlands, fields, or along streams.

**Athletic Fields and Programs**  
Providing fields for athletic programs such as baseball, soccer, lacrosse, basketball, and others.

**Community Events and Programs**  
This may include public community events such as festivals and celebrations, and organized programs and activities focused on nature, culture, history, or other topics.

**Local Parks**  
Expansion of the local parks system, as attractive places to play, walk, picnic and gather.

Concord Township Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan

More at: <https://www.townshipofconcord.com/>

2 What do you think is most important?  
Click on each category below to find out more.

WELCOME PRIORITIES

Order your top 3 items above this line

Please drag 3 of the items above the line in your preferred order.

You can add additional comments by clicking the comment bubble at the top right.

OPINION SURVEY RATING WRAP UP

Scenic Beauty & Heritage

Unpaved Walking Trails

Natural Resources

Athletic Fields and Programs

Local Parks

Multi-Purpose Trails

Adult Fitness

Community Events and Programs

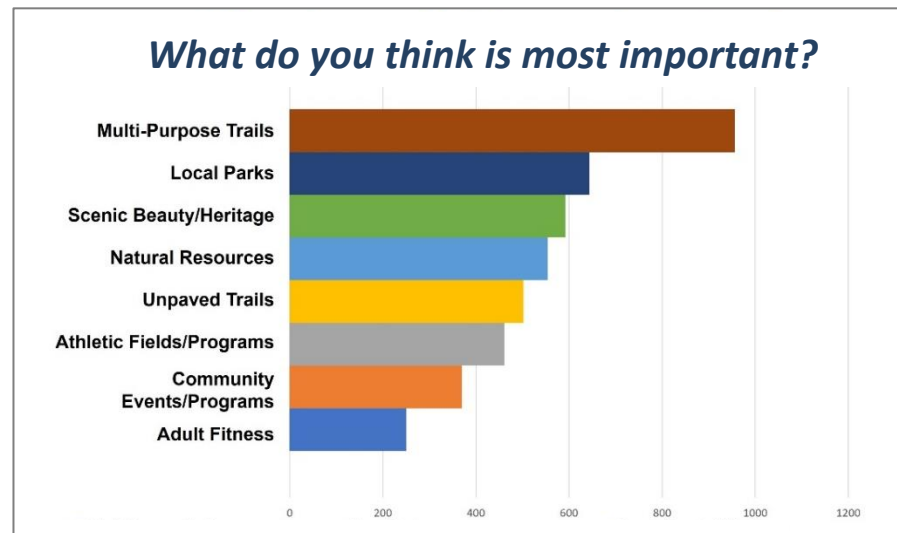
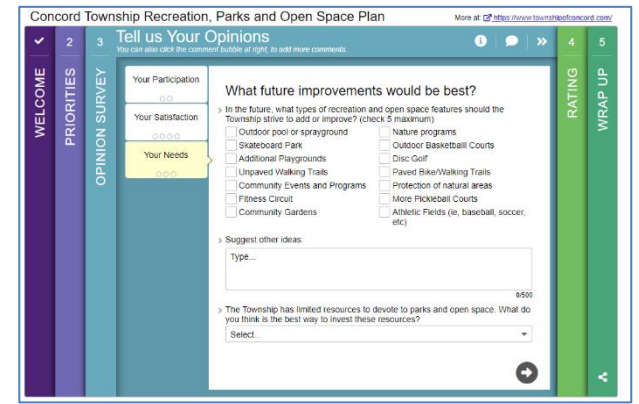
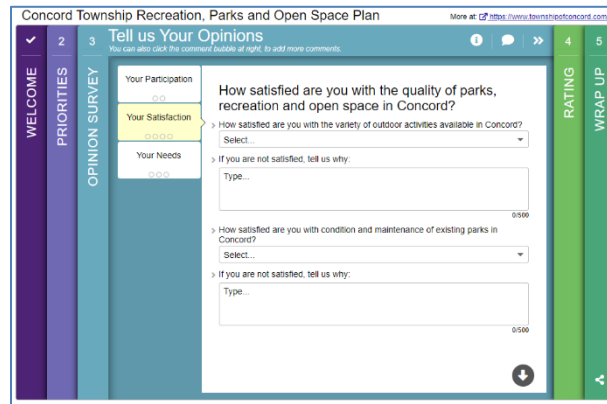
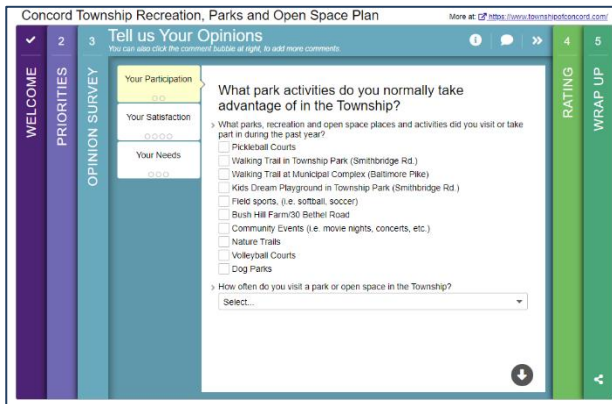


Chart indicates number of responders that ranked each feature among their top three.

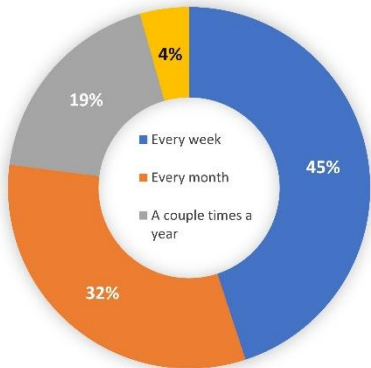
# Page 3: Tell Us Your Opinions

The third page of the survey polled respondents for their opinions on a range of topics.

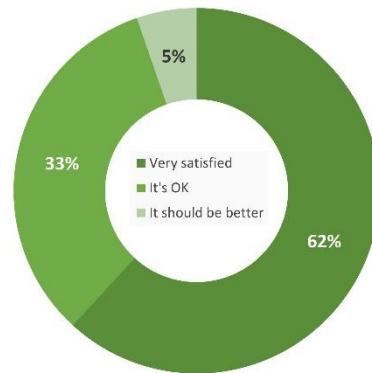
- **Your Participation** asked users how often they visit Township parks, and what activities they participate in. 77% of respondents visit a Township park at least once a month, and 45% do so every week. This represents a high level of engagement and familiarity with the existing resources and issues.
- **Your Satisfaction** asked how satisfied they are with the current variety and condition of parks and open space. A great majority of respondents indicate they are either satisfied or very satisfied.
- **Your Needs** asked for opinion on potential future improvements. Trails and protection of open space resources ranked the highest.



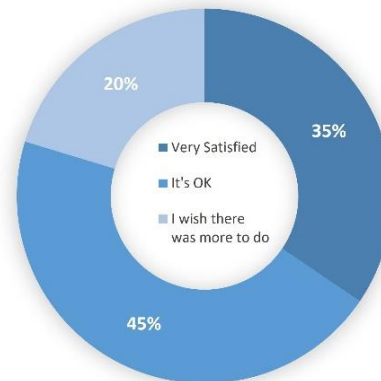
*How often do you visit a park or open space in the Township?*



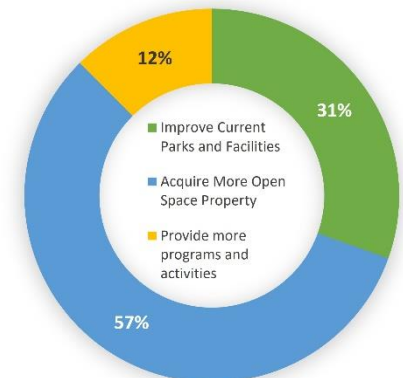
*How satisfied are you with condition and maintenance of existing parks in Concord?*



*How satisfied are you with the variety of activities available in the Township?*



*The Township has limited resources to devote to parks and open space. What do you think is the best way to invest these resources?*



**What parks, recreation and open space places and activities did you visit or take part in during the past year?**

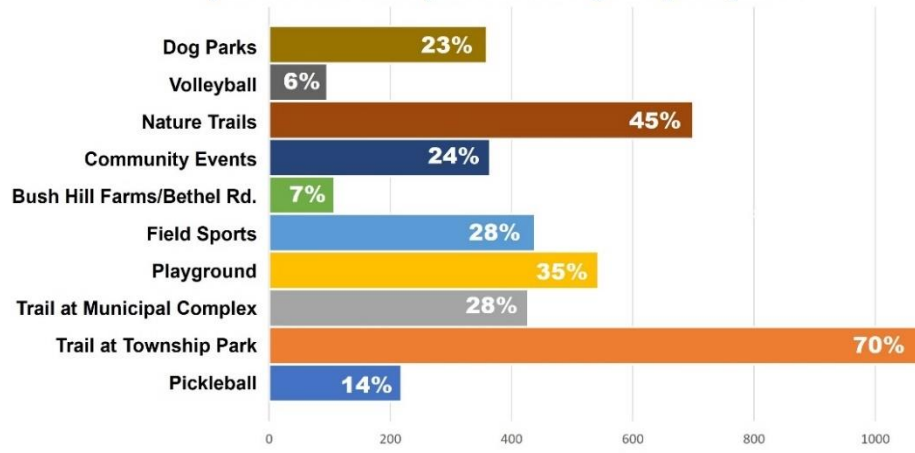


Chart indicates the percentage of respondents who took part in each of the listed activities during the past year.

**In the future, what types of recreation and open space features should the Township strive to add or improve? (choose 5 maximum)**

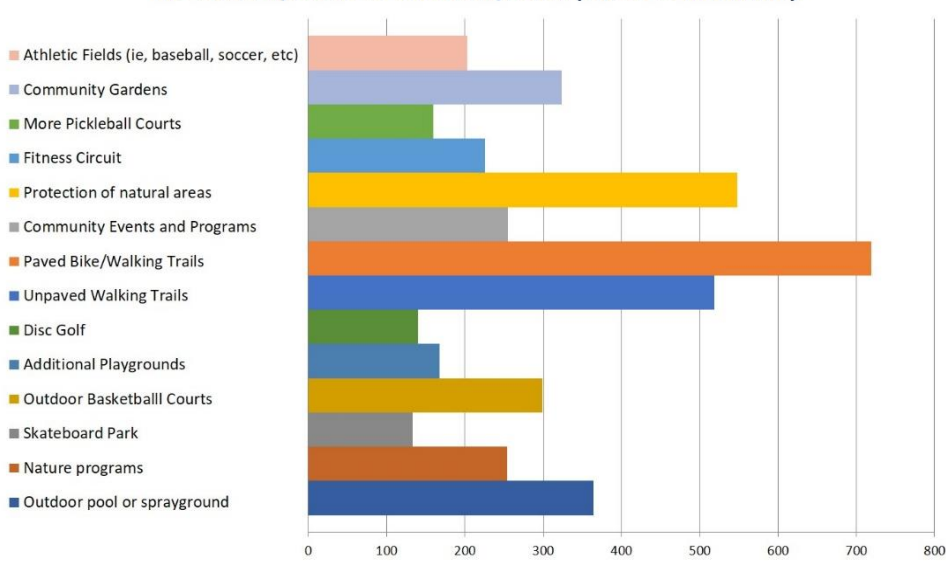
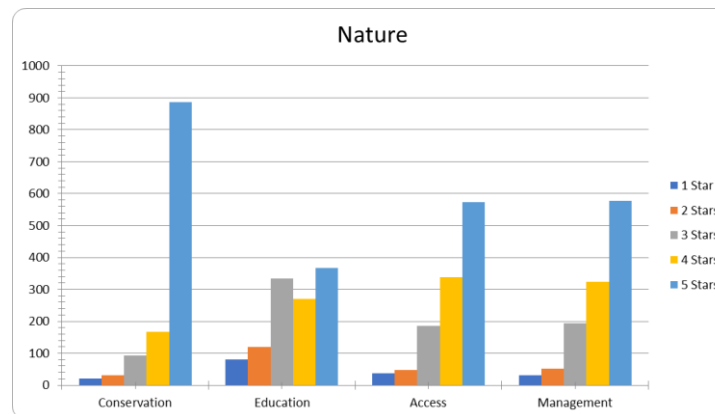
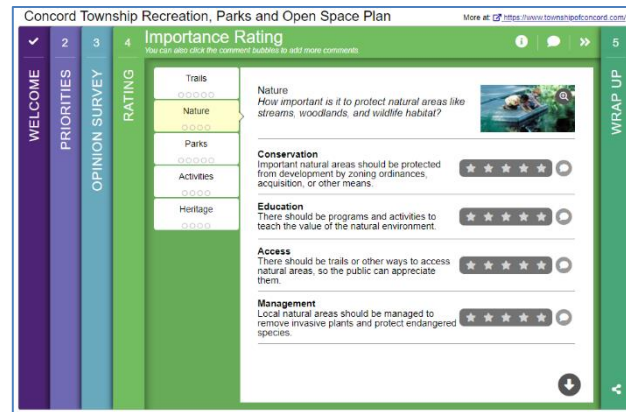
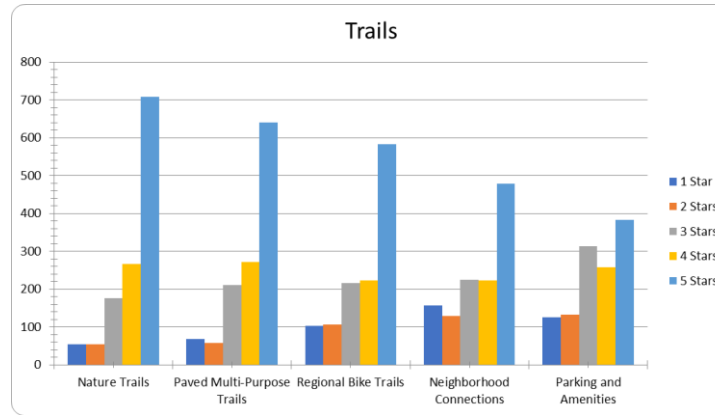
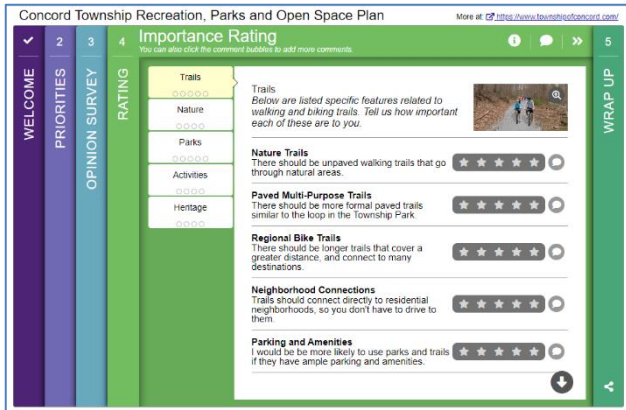


Chart indicates number of responders that ranked each potential new feature among their top five.

# Page 4: Importance Rating

The fourth page of the survey asks users to rank their thoughts on the relative importance of many specific features of local parks, recreation and open space and recreation system. In the charts and tables below, “5 stars” represents most important, and “1 star” represents least important.



Concord Township Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan

More at <https://www.townshipofconcord.com/>

**Importance Rating**  
You can also click the comment bubbles to add more comments.

WELCOME | PRIORITIES | OPINION SURVEY | RATING | WRAP UP

- Trails
- Nature
- Parks**
- Activities
- Heritage

**Parks**  
How important are these specific features related to local Township parks?

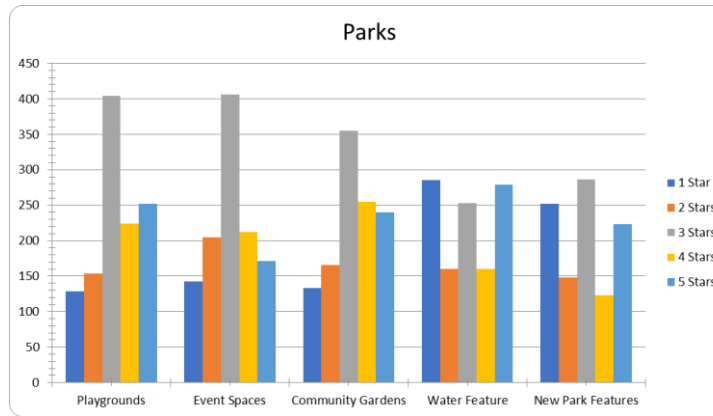
**Playgrounds**  
There should be more playgrounds for small children. ★★★★★

**Event Spaces**  
There should be more places to hold community and local private events. ★★★★★

**Community Gardens**  
There should be community gardens and other types of places for social activity. ★★★★★

**Water Feature**  
There should be a water feature like a "sprayground" so people can cool off during the summer. ★★★★★

**New Park Features**  
The Township should add new park features we don't already have (make suggestions in the comment button to the right). ★★★★★



Concord Township Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan

More at <https://www.townshipofconcord.com/>

**Importance Rating**  
You can also click the comment bubbles to add more comments.

WELCOME | PRIORITIES | OPINION SURVEY | RATING | WRAP UP

- Trails
- Nature
- Parks
- Activities**
- Heritage

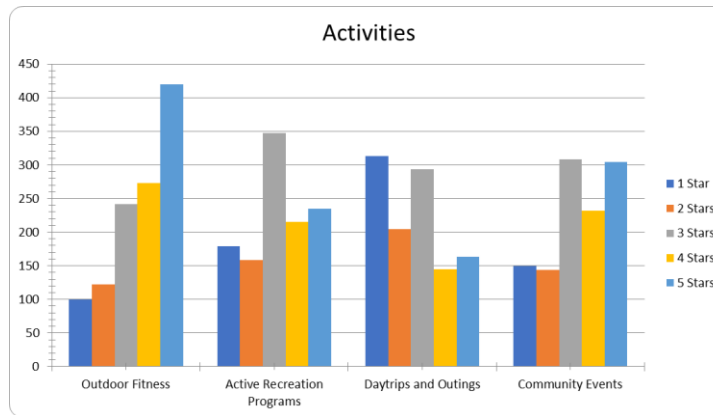
**Activities**  
How important are these specific features related to active recreation and sports?

**Outdoor Fitness**  
There should be outdoor activities and programs that appeal to all ages and fitness levels. ★★★★★

**Active Recreation Programs**  
There should be more organized athletic activities and sports. ★★★★★

**Daytrips and Outings**  
There should be organized field trips to other nearby outdoor, entertainment, or cultural destinations. ★★★★★

**Community Events**  
There should be more community events during the year, such as festivals, movies, and concerts. ★★★★★



Concord Township Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan

More at <https://www.townshipofconcord.com/>

**Importance Rating**  
You can also click the comment bubbles to add more comments.

WELCOME | PRIORITIES | OPINION SURVEY | RATING | WRAP UP

- Trails
- Nature
- Parks
- Activities
- Heritage**

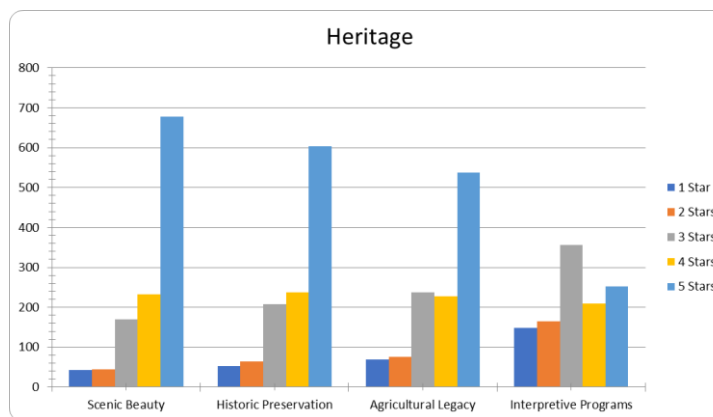
**Heritage**  
How important is it for the Township to take steps to preserve our local history, culture, and scenic beauty?

**Scenic Beauty**  
We should identify areas of scenic beauty in the Township and protect these places. ★★★★★

**Historic Preservation**  
We should identify historic buildings and places and preserve them as important artifacts of our local culture. ★★★★★

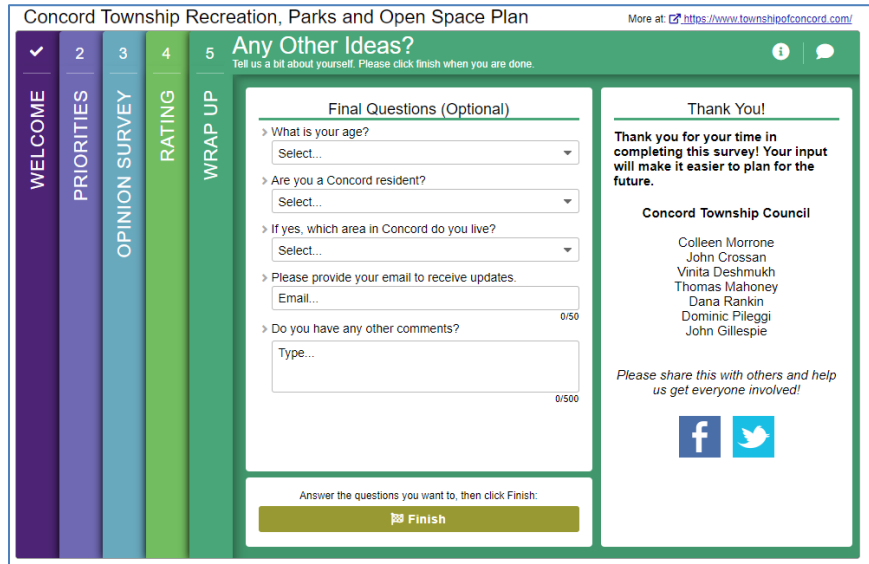
**Agricultural Legacy**  
Rural parts of the Township are an important part of local heritage, and those areas should be preserved if possible. ★★★★★

**Interpretive Programs**  
There should be organized programs and interpretive information that educates and explains the value of our local heritage. ★★★★★

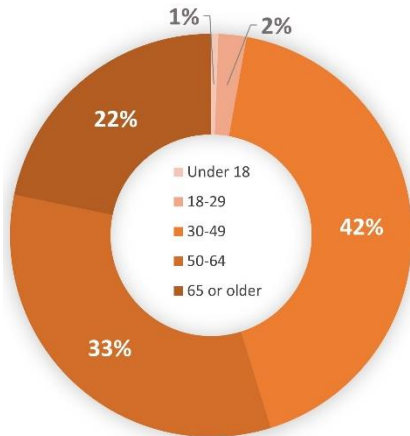


# Page 5: Any Other Ideas?

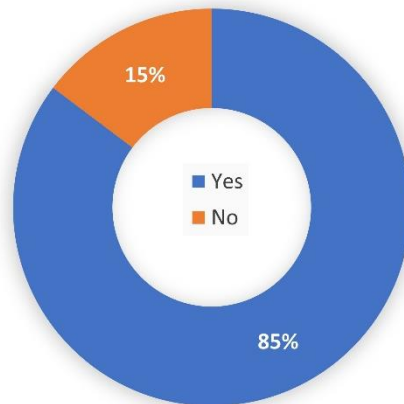
The fifth and final page of the survey collected basic demographic information on respondents, specifically age and geographic residence. It also provided a final opportunity to express unfiltered comments.



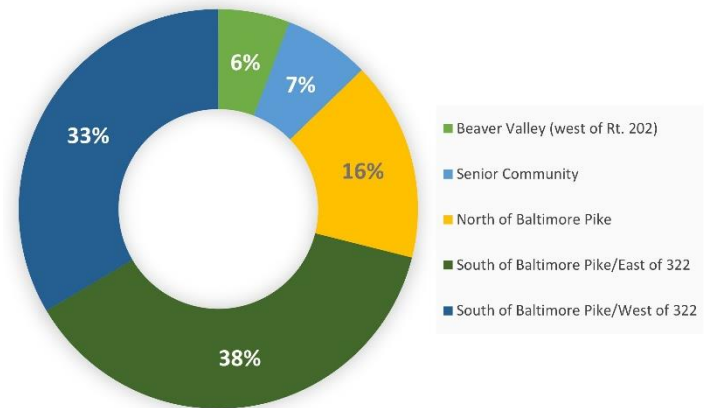
**What is your age?**



**Are you a Concord resident?**



**If yes, which area in Concord do you live?**



# Screen 2: What Do You Think is More Important?

## Individual Comments

| Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| I would love to see green space preserved and natural habitats created and preserved. Nature is such a great teacher to our children!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Why would we trust you when you all have paved over the township for the last 2 decades?!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| We need to preserve what open space is left. It's such a beautiful area and building is ruining it                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Community pool!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Open space is not bulldozed fields converted to soccer fields or small, disconnected fragments of property or wetlands that couldn't be developed anyway as our fair leaders think (or would have us think). It is preserved natural space and wildlife habitat made accessible for people to enjoy as passive recreation and scenery. It is too late to save significant space in Concord as for 20 years our officials have made their profits and sold out to their developer pals overdeveloping Concord. |
| Less athletic fields                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| The township has been talking about the Octoraro rail bed trail for years and nothing happens. Your poor decisions to add more businesses and high density housing have significantly increased traffic, congestion and crime to go with it.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Existing trail by Library is nice but the drainage after storms in BAD and really keeps me from even going to use it.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Need more pickleball courts! Also very much looking forward to completing trail from Gristmill to Wegmans.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Let's preserve the beauty of nature.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Need better access to and open trails for horseback riders. There are a lot of horses in CT.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Unpaved trail at Temple and Smithbridge is too muddy most of the time to use. Also walking trail at playground on Smithbridge needs to have people check more frequently the trimming of bushes that come out onto the trail. People do not clean the dog poop on the trail either. Maybe they should be banned from using the trail since the dog park is there now.                                                                                                                                         |
| Specifically think of more Pickleball Courts when I picked Athletic Fields.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| More pickleball courts are needed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| could use more pickleball courts based on the usage and popularity                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| add more pickleball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| More pickleball courts would be lovely. With trees for shade!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| More pickleball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| More pickleball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| A few more pickleball courts would be great!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Silver sneaker programs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| I think more pickleball courts as well as outdoor basketball courts (similar to Thornbury Parks courts) would be extremely beneficial to the adult and youth community at large and would be widely utilized! Thank you!                                                                                   |
| Love the new PB courts. Play 3 times weekly. Hoping additional courts can be added in next year                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Pickleball is a great way to stay fit. I am for more courts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Concord Twp must STOP STOP STOP developing our natural spaces. Period. STOP!                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Additional permanent pickleball courts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| More pickleball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1. Appropriately managed and preserved open spaces and natural resource areas is an attraction that brings people to the area.                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 2. I have used the Township's new pickleball courts frequently (1 or 2 times/week). Disclosure: I am not a Township resident. I love the facility, and see how extensively the courts are being used. There is clear growth potential by supporting the sport. I would be willing to pay for this benefit. |
| Pickleball is very important to me.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| more Pickleball courts are needed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Local Parks also                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| need more pickleball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Having trails come close to residential properties is an issue in regard to safety, littering, drinking by minors, trash. I did not move into the area to have to deal with these items which always follow trails for non residents                                                                       |
| I walk to stay fit. I have to drive to trails today. More trails means less driving.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sidewalks!! Outdoor basketball courts! The township needs safe walkways and bikeways so that residents, especially children, can transport themselves to various activities without a car and without risking injury and death. A walkway along Smithbridge Road from 202 to Valleybrook would be a start. There is no place for older teens to play basketball or street hockey.                                                                            |
| One of the biggest issues raising kids in Garnet valley is the lack of places for pick up basketball or street hockey games. Also, biking. There are few if any safe places to bike in Concord township. Ever try to ride a bike along Smithbridge road?                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| All are equal                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Paved trails are very important to me and many of the people I know. If they are meant for pedestrians and bikers, they need to be wide enough(for example, as wide as a one-lane road) to allow for walkers to not get run down or constantly jumping aside to allow bikers to pass.                                                                                                                                                                        |
| to make a safer place please close to bowhunting as a deer was killed on my property within 50 feet of where I was working outside- unsafe during hunting season October to February even on posted private property Need 150 foot from property line rule posted up around the township for hunters putting up illegal tree stands on posted properties or any property without permission. Your trails and open spaces are not safe during hunting season. |
| Hello, it would be great to have more pickleball courts. It's the fastest growing sport in the country. Great for all ages and all genders. Also paddle ball courts for winter time so people can play year round.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Enough of the commercial properties. Our taxes haven't improved since erecting these buildings.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Also, making the community more walkable                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| The addition of sidewalks in the community would not only add safety for residents and children, but also connect multiple neighborhoods and allow the community to interact more easily without the need for driving. Concord is a great town, but definitely lacks that neighborhood feel, and is more a collection of siloed developments. Sidewalks help tie the community closer together.                                           |
| Definitely need more multi-purpose trails to walk and bike on similar to the Chester Creek Trail and Chester Valley Trail. To many fast carson PA roads with little or poor shoulders to fully enjoy the benefits of biking on the roads.                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Multi-purpose trails do not accommodate those of us with mature feet which do not tolerate hard surfaces. The multi-purpose trails, such as Chester Creek, do not have unpaved parallel walking paths, and therefore are not truly multi-purpose. Same is true of your trails in public parks. with the one exception, your trail from ballfields to Scott Road. Unfortunately it ends at wrong location for connecting with Newlin Park. |
| I think that the installation of multi-purpose trails and/or unpaved walking trails are a waste of taxpayer money and would only lead to misuse and result in increased crime in the area.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |



## Screen 3: Tell Us Your Opinions

### Individual Comments

#### General Comments:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Why would we trust you when you all have paved over the township for the last 2 decades?!                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| As a Sr, I need walking paths with shade an occasional benches. There are many of us who like to walk in nature but there are usually no seats to rest when needed.                                                                                                                                                     |
| I go hiking often in to neighboring communities that have saved real open space. They come here to go shopping. So be it. It's done. too late to really save contingent, worthwhile open space, maybe an old farm or 2 is all that's left. Why don't you just bulldoze more fields for pickle ball courts and the like? |
| Again, my comment is fix the drainage at the Smithbridge trail and the appeal will rise bigtime.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Did not take advantage of activities due to Covid.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| I hope to get out more since spring is arriving.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| IF CONCORD TOWNSHIP COUNCIL PUBLICALLY ADMITS THEY HAVE LITTLE MONEY TO DEVELOP NEW PARKS THEN -STOP STOP STOP- THIS RIDICULOUS SPENDING!!!<br>Save our natural lands!                                                                                                                                                  |

|                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| I have a physical handicap, or I would participate in the walking trails and parks; however, it is just not possible right now.                                |
| Provide more open/green space (at least pockets) in other areas — particularly to change the “commercial” look. Provide more residents with pleasing views     |
| Sorry, it's been a pandemic year. I haven't been out much...                                                                                                   |
| My visit are greatly dependent on weather. When it's warmer, I'll walk or visit the park several times a week.                                                 |
| Sidewalks definitely.                                                                                                                                          |
| Also a long distance bike/run path (25+ miles) that's extends and maybe connects to other counties trails. This could maybe run along a railroad/train tracks. |
| I had a tough time answering invest question. Maintaining parks /open space both important but open space is something once lost affects the environment       |
| Having moved to Concord Twp just prior to pandemic, we have not had the opportunity to participate in any of the activities offered yet.                       |

#### If you are not satisfied, tell us why:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Please keep expanding outdoor activity areas. The pickleball courts and dog park are great but are always very crowded. There needs to be more things like this. The greenway idea was awesome and I hope you can make it happen. Not only for adults to get out and enjoy our open space but so kids have paved areas where they can walk and ride with some independence. |
| I think the dog park could use mulch or sand as it gets so muddy they use mulch in Talleyville                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Nice to have more tennis courts available other than at the school                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| N/a                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Why was the old dog park decommissioned....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The dog park, despite being new, needs some care to keep it nice. And, the Smithbridge Park continues to have safety issues with cars being broken into or having items stolen.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Walking Trail at Smithbrige Park near library needs to be replaced and wider.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| I wish there were ways of communicating the events further in advance                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| The paved walking trail needs to be recoated. It's now approx. 20 years old. It's also cracked in a few spots. The vegetation is over grown on the trail outside the volleyball courts. There is a major drainage problem there as well. The trees are over grown or dead in the front of the park. The trees and evergreens that was planted 20 years ago but never maintained. |
| There are signs at the smith ridge road park that have screws sticking out eye level . I have reported it and it still not fixed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| To many people in one area-not enough activities for tweens or teens. Basketball w lights. Skate board park.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Stop wasting our money on pickle ball and dog parks! Let the senior communities provide the courts, not the township!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Longer, more woodsy trails                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| I wish with all this space Basketball courts could be installed. Our kids go to the ones at Thornbury park and it's such a drive, they are beautiful and there's never any trouble at them. With all the kids that enjoy the sport, 1200 sign up for BYC Basketball across all age groups. It's a shame we can't provide the same on our side of rt1 for our kids with all the space that's been bought up and the excess money in the coffers. It's long overdue. |
| Walking trail has gotten too<br>Congested with other "stuff." Township took away the aesthetics by crowding it with the silly library pages (weren't even watertight!) and then a dog park in the middle of the walking area. Money would be better spent on drainage issues, paving the trail, and LIGHTING the trail so in fall/winter morning it's still usable.                                                                                                |
| Money goes toward growth instead of upkeep.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| We don't need activities...we need nature and natural places                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| We need more walking trails that aren't underneath power lines. The Bethel Dog Park needs to stay open. Keep the new dog park for the people who like it, but the old dog park is much better in many ways. Better for large dogs, larger crowds, much prettier (which is why we live out here), not on a road.                                                                                                                                                    |
| For such an affluent area, there should be more open spaces.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Would recommend adding more trees around Smithbridge park for shade.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Need more walking trails. Would like one at the open space on Ivy Mills Rd. But just need more options with the lack of sidewalks.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Concord Community Park on Smith bridge Rd was not plowed after each storm. This did not keep some people from using the park but leaves the township open to being sued if someone is hurt. If I have to clean my personal property within 24 hrs after the end of storm, so should Concord Twp take care of their parks.                                                                                                                                          |
| Parks are sometimes pretty crowded. Walking paths can be pretty narrow. Dog park at township park is small and often crowded and muddy. Thought dog park on bethel road was closed? Loved this park cause it was huge and even when there's a lot of dogs there's plenty of room for everyone. Would love this dog park spruced up                                                                                                                                 |
| More open space and natural trails would be great                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| More multi use trsils                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| I know with Covid it's been difficult. I'm hoping things will be different this year.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Not enough spaces. Too many homes.                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Jogging trails                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Not enough parks                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Needs a nice seating area for older adults                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Every rainfall brings puddles on the walkways at the park. Need better waterscaping.                                                                                                                          |
| We could use an outdoor pool!                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Dog waste visible                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Not enough open space. I don't need a park or athletic field, just stop tearing out nature to build more houses and shops                                                                                     |
| Most of the activities are geared for children not Senior adults, that live in the township!                                                                                                                  |
| There is a lot of trash along the walking trails. We have personally picked up beer bottles and dog waste in bags along the walking trails.                                                                   |
| Should be more things to do.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| I haven't very able to use your "open space" since COVID hit. I cannot give you an accurate response. Prior to Covid I was at parks several times a week.                                                     |
| Rails to trails program would be fantastic place for avid outdoor enthusiasts! Maybe solidify more Township involved Grist Mill trails                                                                        |
| Stop building and having ugly signs.                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Stop building stuff. Open space to me means natural conservation. I don't care about pickle ball. I don't care about digital signage. Actually invest in our "open space" instead of putting more junk on it. |
| More parks and trails would be nice. Areas to bike.                                                                                                                                                           |
| I want the old Dog Park reopened for people walking. I stopped going to The trail on Smithbridge Rd b/c too many people are jackasses who let their dogs run ahead of them & they interfere with my walking.  |
| Dog parks will need some work, maintenance                                                                                                                                                                    |
| You need some bridle paths                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Would love more trails                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| More space less construction                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| There is no "open space" in concord township. Concord township considers open space to be retention ponds on all the new developments.                                                                        |
| It would be nice to have more community events like carnivals, holiday themed events                                                                                                                          |
| You would need to tear down all the new cheap toll brothers house to restore any open space.                                                                                                                  |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| There are not many parks in the area. Kids Dream Playground is very nice but gets so crowded because there are not many other playgrounds to choose from                                                                                |
| Connect them get smithbridge and bethel done so people can walk between middle and high school<br>Do not disturb concord hunt with trails u der the electric towers do not need the traffic and other problems                          |
| I would like to see more hiking and biking trails, and I would like to see outdoor circuit exercise equipment installed near the walking track at Concord Township Park                                                                 |
| Fix more trails at Newlin Grist Mill                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Maybe a biking trail                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Love the trails and would prefer even more!                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Don't know about them                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| More trails                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| We need more trail space and areas to gain miles of walking distance- the trail at Concord Community Park is nice, but it is too small. We need longer trails!                                                                          |
| There are bathrooms but they are never open...what is the point? I know there are porta potties but I'd rather drive home than use one.                                                                                                 |
| Ore trails would be nice                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Need more pickleball courts. The six are always crowded. Loved Bethel dog park. My dogs won't go in the new one. Do enjoy walking trails nature trails with the dogs like the Grist Mill and Clayton Park. Volleyball courts are great. |
| Would love more walking trails and maybe exercise equipment outside.                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Need more public tennis courts                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Simply not enough for residents. When president of the council has "BUILD" as a license plate you have serious systemic problems.                                                                                                       |
| I think the Library book platforms were a waste of money. Wet most of the time and people don't want to stop and read a page while they are walking                                                                                     |
| The walking trail off of Smithbridge could use some work                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Sometimes dog mess in the trail                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| More trails; water play for kids; splash pad                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| It should be maintained as it has been. Upkeep of the prior park without removing existing fences                                                                                                                                       |
| Again no need to destroy Bethel Road park                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Walking trails to short boring need much more areas to walk                                                                                                                                                                             |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| parks are small and overcrowded - basing this on last year is hard as COVID changed use and being essential frontline employee I did nothing in the township as I was working or sleeping                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| There should be more community events centered around the parks.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| I wish there were more options for running trails, similar to Ridley Creek State Park                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| We need way more open space. Council has allowed this once scenic Township to become overrun with car dealers, banks, and retirement homes. We might as well be Springfield                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| When it snows, it would be lovely if the walking path at Smithbridge was plowed in some way!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Mimic the success Thornbury Township has with their parks program                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| I wish there were longer trails to walk, run and bike on safely. I REALLY wish we had sidewalks or a bigger shoulder. As an avid runner trying to get in a run longer than 3 miles becomes very monotonous on a .7 loop. We take our young children on hikes and walks at least once a week and they to are already bored by the same small loops. We find ourselves traveling out of our township to much better trails (longer, wider, more scenic and well maintained). |
| Dream playground is well maintained (other than the bathrooms never being open) but that's the only one. All the rest are not appealing at all. Waiting in the new trail off featherbed and bethel to get done. Why isn't there anything done with the "park" at featherbed/Clayton prerseve either?                                                                                                                                                                       |
| More paved and unpaved trails and paths to walk would be nice. Since no sidewalks in a lot of areas of the township we could use more nature trails and less townhouses.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| It would be great to have some turf facilities that were part of the community, like Haverford has at the Haverford Reserve.<br>It would also be great to have a community pool—we all have to go outside of our community.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| The dog park is always muddy. It would helpful for the dog park to have artificial turf so it's not always a mud pit.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Connectivity to places of interest and activity.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Too much available space is put to specific purpose. I want more nature, more green and more places to walk or ride a bike. Walking under transmission lines is not being in nature.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| More interconnected trails would be great                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Dog park fence should be higher.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Bike lanes & sidewalks are needed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| We need more sidewalks... concord road especially needs to be walkable. We also desperately need a pool!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Connecting, longer trail system                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| We need more clean up events in our township. I see a lot of trash on our roads , streams, and parks.                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| We need more pickle ball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Trash!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| More wooded nature trails with focus on local conservation and more programs to discuss climate change impacts and how we can help reduce the impact                                                                                                                                                                      |
| I wish there was a longer walking or biking path. We love the smithbridge walking oath but it gets pretty crowded. We want a nice path to ride bikes as the kids grow up                                                                                                                                                  |
| I'm a new resident so haven't been able to explore much with COVID then winter                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| The dream playground could have been a more exciting and creative place, possibly including some water play.                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| more weekend events for families.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| I wish there were more biking and walking opportunities.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| I would like clean public restrooms available                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| I wish there were sidewalks connecting spaces in the area. For example, Shavertown Road Kirk Rd., Smith Bridge Road.                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| It is too crowded                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| More family biking trails, pool.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Too many dogs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| We need more gathering spaces. Places to have picnics, with things to do.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| People don't always clean up after themselves or their dogs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Dog parks are heavily utilized and need to be maintained if possible. They remain mud pits                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Existing parks are too small to provide more than a few minutes of activity without becoming repetitive                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Parking lot at Smithbridge is not safe from vandals. Dog crap everywhere. Sections flood for days after rain/snow                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| The Octorara Trail to Wawa was proposed in 2015. Six years later, still no trail or the prospect of one. Seems like a lot of talk to give the appearance that something's being done.                                                                                                                                     |
| We need more open space and nature trails instead of overdevelopment. I have to drive to the Brandywine Creek State Park for trail hiking and nature when I should be able to do it in Garnet Valley. Additionally, I have to drive my kids to Thornbury Park to play basketball since there are no courts in Concord Twp |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| I wish the park system, open space and trails were all interconnected. The whole set up seems like a hodge podge or afterthought with no thought how these resources could be interconnected with safe walkways and isolation from noise and traffic. Let's face no plan has ever been put together in this township since the open space tax was enacted likely 20 years ago. The council has missed many opportunities with their poor management of open space fund, tree funds and park grants. |
| I feel there isn't much need for volley ball , athletic type of things. Rather have walking trails, nature preservation, etc                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| It is very difficult to bike around concord. I wish we could invest in bike lanes. The trails are nice and maintained but crowded and very short. I do think the proposed greenway is a very good idea and I am happy to hear whenever open space is preserved. I also believe we could use basketball courts, a skating park, and a water playground for the summer months.                                                                                                                        |
| I think it would be awesome to have a Community ice rink that could be used 6 months out of the year ice and and could be roller rink during spring and summer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Not enough present. I travel to other places to find the things I am looking for.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Variety of trails that are not muddy is lacking                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| I would love it if there were a place in all of Concord Township that didn't have dog poop surprises all over it.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| They get crowded and people can't follow the policies.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| We need a community pool.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| wish there were more multipurpose trails                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| A swim club would be nice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| We need a splash pad, and pool option! Also the new park at smithbridge isn't as big as it could have been.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| More trails in the open space would be amazing! We go to Brandywine Creek State park a LOT, having something in our own backyard would be awesome.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| a barrier/fence of some sort around the Kids Dream Playground is necessary especially since it is so close to a busy road! As a parent of multiple young kids, I get nervous trying to keep my eyes on all of them. The old playground had a great fence with limited access/exits.                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Would like a pool                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| More walking trails with parking.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Would love. A trail for bikes nearby                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Keep the open space and stop developing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Open Bathrooms needed!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| We go to long wood a lot with the kids - just because there doesn't seem to be that much to do outdoors in concord township. We LOVE grist mill and go there weekly in the summer!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Walking trail at Smithbridge should be plowed as it may be weeks before it can be used in a safe manner                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| multi-purpose trails that connect to other communities would be nice (e.g. Chester Valley Trail)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| I would like more unpaved nature hiking trails.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| While there are ample dog waste cans, not every dog owner is using them.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Need more pickleball courts. Unpaved trails are too few and have poor signage.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Need More walking trails                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Found signs pulled out of ground and under bushes on unpaved trails.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| I'm very upset that a dark park was put in along the walking running trail on Smithbridge. A separate area should have been created no where near kids and adults walking and running. Dogs are constantly jumping at people running and walking along the path. Although I understand people love their dogs there are many people out there with a fear of strange dogs.                                                                                                                                          |
| they are basic parks with no active community initiatives that draw the residents together or activities that residents can actively join                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| We need more natural areas and fewer paved multiuse trails that get crowded with bikes and dog walkers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Seems other areas have much better open areas. Longer trails, lakes, just beautiful                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Would like more clarification of WHERE all the trails are, where to park, maps                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| the grading in the walking areas could definitely improve. Its weak design is most evident when it rains, as there are areas that historically pool with active public new works around it ( ie the sand courts and dog park) but the walking trail still floods which degrades the utility of the park for many that visit and use the park. Flowers and colorful vegetation would also be welcoming bur is nonexistent. The teens accurately complain there is no place for them to gather, ie tiny library, etc. |
| Very satisfied if paved, if not, not the greatest                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Comparison to other areas. I am a member of many natural areas. Natural lands trust for one. Have to travel to enjoy any of these. Wish one was in our township                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| The trails are too short and there is not much variety or nature                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| I am concerned with security of vehicles and the shrubbery can get out of control. Trees hang over onto trail.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Concord should have a rails to trails where you can walk and ride a bike                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| More focus on senior needs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Could be more, I feel                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Sometimes the area are not cleared of litter                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Wish there were more flat trails on which to walk                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| I already did in the previous section but to repeat, obviously because although I do appreciate the parks, recreational areas, community area and playgrounds, they are not open space.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| More diversity of trails and locations for walking, being outdoors. Connecting trails would be valuable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Need more open space, unpaved trails for dogs and people. All walking paths should not have to be under power lines!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| A lot of trash and overflowing cans                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Sometimes, there is a bit of trash in the area next to the middle school                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| It would be great to have something like wood Chips at the dog park- a little less muddy after rain or snow.<br>Also basketball courts would be a great addition for the youth in the township.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Need to expand rails to trails                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| BYC users of the Smithbridge upper field leave a significant amount of trash. The new volleyball construction has cause frequency flooding of the paved walking path making it unusable. Publicly funded pickleball court usage should not be controlled by a private club. The "new" nature trail at Smithbridge is lined with big rocks making it unusable for smaller feet and dogs. Thank you for maintaining supply of dog poop bags at Smithbridge. The summer concert series is lovely. |
| More areas to choose from                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| I have been in this area for 66 years I would like to have more nature back. There are houses being built where I would be happy to see a woods with nature trails.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| I know we are on the process of trying to make these available to many types of people. And most people moving in want sports fields etc for their kids there are those who would like nature trails as well                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| You have to drive to get to places to enjoy. Would love more paths connecting neighborhoods with parks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Too much traffic and noise                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Need basketball courts. More scenic walking trails would be nice too.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Too<br>Much traffic already and now they are building all<br>These townhomes the schools are overcrowded                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| With cash on the bank - you would think we would have preserved much more. It is sad to those of us who were here when the school classes were small (approx 100).                                   |
| Would love to see markers explaining the history of the sites I visit                                                                                                                                |
| Phipps Farm needs a plan for clearing the underbrush and creating a total park experience there                                                                                                      |
| Need longer bike trails                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Longer, unpaved trails would be a nice addition.                                                                                                                                                     |
| Question phrased " in the last year". Due to COVID-19 I have not visited or attended any parks/ events in the last year                                                                              |
| would love more trails                                                                                                                                                                               |
| hate the power lines                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| If i want to exercise i go to other municipalities that have more to offer. Not a short unattractive loop under high tension wires.                                                                  |
| There is a great opportunity to encourage use of and link together the open space areas we already have in the township                                                                              |
| I feel they are inconsistent without a broader comprehensive theme.                                                                                                                                  |
| It's disappointing to see previously open land being used.                                                                                                                                           |
| Bethel and concord should be connected by bike trails                                                                                                                                                |
| Miss the wooden playground.                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Litter everywhere, parks, road sides, woods, everywhere                                                                                                                                              |
| There should be a park in Chadds ford                                                                                                                                                                |
| Pickle ball courts are monopolized by one group.<br>More walking trails needed.<br>Trails between schools would be great. Trails to shopping would be great.                                         |
| I do have a concern over how much money was spent on landscaping around the new dog park. There was way too much planted. Much of it died. When it all grows in it will be overgrown. Poor planning. |
| Drainage on the Smithbridge trail                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Except for the drainage at the Smithbridge trail. It's Bad and a bad look for our Township that has so much more going for it.                                                                       |
| I would love a safe running area that's longer than the 1/4 mile loop at smithbridge.                                                                                                                |
| would like a basketball court or skate park for kids                                                                                                                                                 |
| I would love to see more focus on planting native plants and reducing the amount of lawn and invasive or non native plants                                                                           |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| I would love to see more focus on planting native plants and reducing the amount of lawn and invasive or non native plants.                                                                                                                                                                                |
| They are too short and with the amount of open land we have we should have more trails And we should be adding open land instead of building                                                                                                                                                               |
| Our trails are not in natural environments.. Every trail has over head wires. I usually go to Darlington or Martins park                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Shabby bathrooms. Thornton does much better..                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Empty trash.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Great parks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Well cared for                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Too little space to move around in. Small parks are just skinny little spaces between acres and acres of development. Too much focus on activities and not enough passive open space to just enjoy nature.                                                                                                 |
| Well maintained but sterile and boring.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Less athletic space, more open space for walking or hiking.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Smith bridge Park is ok but under a cell phone tower + electrical towers? Pass.                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Limited open settings to allow for natural trails and beautiful surroundings. Options in township are small as compared nature preserves in neighboring towns, Cheslen, Stroud Preserve                                                                                                                    |
| Lack of choices, short trails, few areas available                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Need better bathroom conditions at smithbridge rd walking trail                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| you waste money on things people don't use. But they look good                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Need more pickleball courts and to finish bike trail to Wegmans.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| The parks are maintained well.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| A separate play area for elder kids. Parallel bars etc. Basketball court is a must. I am sure that more adults and teens will participate.                                                                                                                                                                 |
| The dog park is a hit. We recently got a puppy and looking to visit the park more.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Would like multiple miles of trails to choose from.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| We were very disappointed in the new dog park taking over our space and disrupting healthy kids running series particularly because there is already a local dog park. Otherwise we love the fields for soccer, we walk the trails including the nature trail, and we love that its an improved kids park. |
| Please try to fill the grounds more with sod/dirt to avoid mud slides.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Would really like to see a biking & hiking trail come through the township                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| More trails.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Too few walking trails. Dog park is small.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| The Bethel road dog park was great with the large layouts. Unfortunately with new Smithbridge park, people still go to old park and leave dogs unleashed outside the fences. Walkers and horseback riders are often approached by unleashed dogs.                                                |
| A dog park?! Is this really the best use of tax money?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| there is a constant growth of low hanging brush that cause detours on the Smithbridge road walking path including potholes and poor drainage. The grassy area on the side of the trail where applicable needs to be cut back another 3-4 feet. Also people are not cleaning up after their DOGS. |
| Facilities are too small and crowded for anything more than very light activity. As a runner who does a minimum of 4 miles, the township facilities are just not enjoyable.                                                                                                                      |
| Need more variety and more natural setting                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Please see bubble for comments on walking trails that we use.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| There should be more adult activities at the park on Smithbridge Rd. Appears it caters to people with children.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| More options, like more trails, would be welcomed. Especially since most of our streets do not have sidewalks. More walkable and safe space is needed.                                                                                                                                           |
| The Smithbridge road trail and dog parks are well kept but are too close together.                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| everything seems to be maintained                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| open space and parks, athletics etc seems to have always been in the plan...keep it going please                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Very good condition. We'll maintained                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Very accessible                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Need more Pickleball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Would like to see more pickleball courts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| More pickleball courts outside and return to indoor pickleball.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Too busy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| More pickleball courts, too crowded the ones you have                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| More walking trails                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| need more pickleball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| We need more Pickleball courts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| It would be nice to have interconnected trails to walk/bike to more areas in Concord township                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| I believe we have enough if not too much. We are becoming over crowded. Traffic is ridiculous. The commercial, and mass housing needs to stop. There's more than enough for what the schools and roads can handle. If someone can't move in and nothing is available, they'll just have to wait is all |
| concerts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Concord should offer more programs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Senior actives                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Clean areas                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| I would like to see an outdoor basketball facility (similar to Thornbury Park's courts) which would be utilized more than the volleyball courts are. Also, more pickleball courts would be nice!                                                                                                       |
| More wooded walking trails; more Pickleball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| More trails                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| "Open Space" is sometimes a stretch... Really? The small yard next to two homes on Naamans Creek Rd. at Pyle Road is considered "Open space"? We could also use Pickleball courts and multi-use trails                                                                                                 |
| Very disappointed with the disrepair of Bethel Rd. dog park.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Concord Township has again shown how they destroy natural lands. We did NOT need a new DOG PARK at all. STOP paving-over Concord Township!!                                                                                                                                                            |
| More construction of parks in Concord Township means more cost of maintenance. STOP!!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| New dog park needs higher fence, it's only a matter of time that tragedy will strike.                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Trash needs dumped more often, especially on Smithbridge walking path. Bees and vermin are being attracted to smelly cans.                                                                                                                                                                             |
| More biking trails, picnic areas, pickle ball,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Not enough open space. Town is dominated by housing developments.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| More walking trails would be great!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| We need more pickleball courts. If there were 12 courts - tournaments could be held. This would bring contestants who would stay in hotels and eat at local restaurants- good for local businesses.                                                                                                    |
| Would be great if there were more pickleball courts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| A longer trail would be great!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Not enough walking trails like Aston                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Too crowded                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Need longer trails/paths                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Need more pickleball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| If you are going to overtax everyone, you should have surveyed everyone before hand.<br>Need more trails that go somewhere more than a mile.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Need a skate park                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Township has neglected dog park and concord dog park letting fencing rot and start to fall apart. New park is unsafe, too close to the road, too small.... concord dog park is the perfect dog area and you are neglecting the upkeep                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Concord dog park needs attentions and not some random tree                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Need more pickleball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Parking for athletic fields is a mess, hard to navigate if you are in wheelchair, crutches.<br>Bathrooms near playground are never open or clean.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| More pickle ball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| It would be better if there were connected trails between parks and more playground (open play) available. Moving additional dog park cause increase in congestion at park/playground. Restrooms are always locked. For the taxes paid you could hire someone to maintain them if that's the issue.<br>Outdoor basketball courts are hard to find, skate park or bike trails.                                                                                      |
| Too many housing development and too much traffic                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| I wish there was a better biking trail network, the roads don't have good shoulders in many places and it isn't safe to bike on them.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| More walking / biking paths, maybe along the old railroad right-of-way would be great. What exists now is very limited, compared with other areas in PA and other states.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| More trails and sports courts needed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Poor drainage system at walking trails. Muddy mess after rain and standing water                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| I like to walk with my dog and would love yoga and outdoor exercise classes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Biking trails don't exist. Would be nice to bike/walk to our retail areas.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Too much land has been developed, not enough set aside other purposes.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| I like to walk the wooded trails on Beaver Valley rd and see nature                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Path near dog park is never paved when it snows.If it's above 32 degrees, park is a total mud slide                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| I am satisfied (again...disclosure....I am not a Township resident). I am only typing in this section to express the opinion that there is large potential pickleball attraction growth potential. I would like to encourage growth to the point that your township is a destination, and that there are programs and tournaments. Although the pickleball community is not there yet, there will be a time when people will be willing to pay for these programs. |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| It's a good start! Just don't want to have any more ball fields created. As "boring" as it may sound, need to keep more ground intact with bushes, trees; not grass and cement.                                                                    |
| I wish the volleyball nets were kept up all year around. Currently the nets are removed during winter months. I wish the trails could be exceeded beyond the park property and more spread out into community space rather than it be just a loop. |
| Would like more natural setting with native plants, less manicured settings.                                                                                                                                                                       |
| There aren't many places for bicycle riding. I would like to see some bike trails.                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Need flat hard bike trails                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Thank you for continued maintenance during the time when outdoor areas have been of utmost importance during COVID-19                                                                                                                              |
| Nothing is connected. Unpaved trails should connect outdoor spaces and even shopping areas to promote people walking/biking instead of getting in cars.                                                                                            |
| Pickleball courts are often full. Cars get broken into at Smithbridge park.                                                                                                                                                                        |
| More Pickleball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Regarding the farm, outdoor be better maintained                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| please add more pickle ball courts; please add tennis courts.                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| It would be nice if there were more picnic areas for tables for eating                                                                                                                                                                             |
| N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Not irrigated properly seems to always flood after rain or snow on the paths at the park off smithbridge.                                                                                                                                          |
| N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| more tennis courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| the trails were not available during the snow storms for a few weeks                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Lack thereof. Little to no recreation that I cansee. No open space. You built so many homes in Concord... you should be ashamed of yourselves.                                                                                                     |
| the gardens could be better. Use sustainable plants, include information about the plants and eco-systems                                                                                                                                          |
| There is not much for seniors who cannot walk very easily                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| There should be benches or a place to rest. I am surely not the only one with this thought                                                                                                                                                         |
| Better access/linking community areas ie library, parks, schools linked w a bike or multiuse trail                                                                                                                                                 |
| It would be nice to have adult programs (mens/womens/coed) in addition to the fantastic programs for kids.                                                                                                                                         |
| Trail at smithbridge is too narrow and could be cleared of snow                                                                                                                                                                                    |



|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The dog park on bethel road is beautiful I go there five times a week ! The maintenance is not kept up fences, gates for example . Other then that it doesn't need to change don't fix what's not broken!                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Need more walking trails, trails that are longer and connect places so we don't have to drive as far to go for a walk and stay fit. I use the paved loop trail at the Smithbridge site but prefer longer routes.                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| A multiuse trail linking other trails, neighborhoods, parks, and athletic fields would be a nice addition                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| I think you need to put in basketball courts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Too much trash and areas are not maintained                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| would like more walking and bike trails                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| windblown trash and refuse                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| The walking trail on Smithbridge is not maintained in winter. Why do we have a plowed parking lot but not a plowed trail. There were many days when it was impossible to walk there this winter. Also, after the melt and after heavy rains, the puddles are so deep that again it becomes unwalkable. Several spots are prone to flooding. It's great to extend walking trails, but how about maintaining the ones we already have? |
| See comments above. Also, kids dream playground needs some repairs on hand turn puzzles.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| There are areas where things needs to be replaced for example at Bush Hill Farm. I do think that things are getting done and there are goals in place..it all takes time, money and man power.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Tend to use thornbury park more than concord township.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| My only complaint is that the dog park has no shade on hot days and has been a mud pit since the bad weather hit. Not sure what can be added to the ground to make it more user friendly? Walking trails in the park have been fine.                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| I wish there were more for senior citizens                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| More playgrounds and variety. Dream playground often gets over crowded during weekends and even most week days.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Wish we had tennis courts. The GV ones are usually taken (understandably) by the high school. Thornbury has one, but it's for their residents. Lock n key in summer.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| More trails                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Looking forward to the walking trails connecting schools to smith ridge rd                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| The nature trail I use gets very overgrown in the summer. It's usable but the grass goes up to my knees and is somewhat uncomfortable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| I wish there were longer paved trails.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Would like separation from dog park.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Long running trail needed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| I wish there were more activities that interest me; concerts, Exercise groups, better audience facilities, stands & restrooms.                                                                                                                             |
| should be better restroom facilities, set-ups for organizations to do snack bar type things for fundraising.                                                                                                                                               |
| I would prefer that we prioritize adult fitness and community events over dog parks and recreational fields.                                                                                                                                               |
| More hiking trails and streams                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Would like to see more nature scenery                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Bicycling is not safe in Concord Twp. The athletic fields seem to be off limits for recreational play - I never see children playing pick-up soccer or tag football on the fields. There are NO outdoor basketball courts for teenage children to play on. |
| The restrooms at the township park should be open during daylight hours.                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| there are no open places for kids to play basketball and street hockey. There are few if any places safe to ride bikes in Concord township                                                                                                                 |
| I'm OK with the people and dog parks, but I'm not OK with all of our tax dollars being spent on bright digital signs. Don't turn Concord Township into a city.                                                                                             |
| More nature trails                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Things to do but they're not connected. Sidewalks and trails to connect neighborhoods would be nice.                                                                                                                                                       |
| Always room for improvement                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| The soccer field at concord township park needs upgrades. Can residents use soccer fields by township building for pickup games without permit?                                                                                                            |
| See above                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| I think the township should have an athletics department who set leagues for adults and young adults. After aging out of BYC, league sports are hardto come by. Many other townships have these and many of the people in our township play elsewhere.     |
| The use of funds for a dog park and video sign was wasteful.                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Would like more dedicated locations. I'm thinking along the lines of the Chester Valley Trail.                                                                                                                                                             |
| dog park needs grass/sod and another park separating larger dogs. Must have a 0-15lb                                                                                                                                                                       |
| We need more adult fitness areas. This is an underserved aspect of a modern upscale community. People love for this. Let's keep them here!                                                                                                                 |
| Additional nature trails would be nice!                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| My wife and I pick up trash during our walks every weekend. We had hoped that we would encourage others to do the same. But the progress we make in the winter is quickly gone during the spring months. It's a shame really. When I was in high school, we had a group cleaning up local parks and fields every weekend. It was fun and a great way to meet students from other schools in the area. |
| Prefer wooded nature trails with fishing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Would like more walking trails to connect to stores.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Would like more trails                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Need trails and safer crosswalks to parks and ways to connect neighborhoods. Biking trails and walking trails in other areas besides Smithbridge concord park would be great! Maybe walking bridges to safely cross for children.                                                                                                                                                                     |
| The bathrooms at concord park need to be left open for residents.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Too much building on open space causing congestion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Take a trip to east goshen park                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| The pickle ball courts are dominated by the league and are less accessible to the community. Enough has been invested in traditional sports- there needs to be more things that work for everyone.                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| The parks very crowded, and there is a lot of theft from vehicles.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| More natural walking trail                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| NEED TO STOP BUILDING ON EVERY PARCEL OF LAND.ROUTE ONE USED TO BE BEAUTIFUL TO DRIVE.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Path between walking path and school beyond library should be cleared when snow covered.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Youth need a place to play basketball outdoors                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Wish there were basketball courts for the kids, additional nature trails/ multipurpose ways to connect locations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| It would be nice to have a paved bike trail considering most of us do not have sidewalks to ride on.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| a bicycle trail would be great. Connected to other trails in the county... and a disk golf course, perhaps                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| The walking trails are not very long and are no tconnected. I used to bike the trail from Conshohocken to Philadelphia when I lived in Montgomery County. Really admire the commitment to have such a great resource for the people. Better facilities would probably help the community be healthier.                                                                                                |
| The golf course is in pitiful condition and in dire need of better grounds keeping.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| More connected trails to walk, run, ride bikes etc                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Are BYC fields included? If so, softball fields are run down and dangerous                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| We have more space that can be used.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| You have destroyed all of the "open space!" You have paved and bulldozed the natural beauty that was originally Concord when I moved here 25 years ago. People leave trash everywhere. The school buses behind the middle school are noisy and the diesel smell is awful. The buses truly cause a danger to the children and limit the parking during sporting events. People park along the access road and little kids are going to get hit by a schoolbus one day. |
| You messed up the natural beauty.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Need bike trails!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Would love to see more walking trails like the one at Smithbridge Rd park                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Would love to see the trails connected.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Open the bathroom s                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| N/a                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| A bicycle trail in the township, possibly tied into neighboring communities would be great.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Would like paved space for bike riding                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| connect the trail systems to sidewalks so we can walk out our front doors                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Many activities are for families which is nice, but we are just 2 ... no kids.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| I really do wish there was a biking/walking trail that was 3-4 miles in length that was easily accessible in our township.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| I'd love the greenway bike path project to move forward.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Would love another playground or splash pad                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| My family enjoys going to events and walking stroller family trails.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| I would like to see longer trails                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Supervisors are sell out.. we have lost the green spaces                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| There is none                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| There's no skate parks in this area.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Although I was excited about the pickle ball courts I find it intimidating that there is a club that encourages people from outside our area to pay a club fee to use our community courts... maybe there should be more transparency around that                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| They are always clean but not a fan of the new dog park location as someone who is anxious around dogs the placement in the middle of the loop makes the park less useful to me                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| We need more multi purpose trails for biking, running, and walking due to the limited sidewalks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| I wish there were basketball courts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Need a basketball court for children                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Trails are limited and short                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Athletic fields can be updated,<br>Perhaps more bike paths                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| I would like to see a more connected trail system throughout the area. I love using the brandywine state park trail system. I would love to see Concord Twmsp connect to that trail system, possibly under the power lines and connect that to the trails in Media.   |
| Wish there were basketball courts and more tennis courts. The new volleyball courts are amazing though.                                                                                                                                                               |
| The area is becoming extremely congested. There is very little natural open space left for public use. For this reason and taxes higher than neighboring townships (west gosehn/west chester) we are exploring moving out of the township after almost 30 years here. |
| They do a great job. if anything, maybe aerate and level out the lacrosse/soccer fields at smithbridge park. Someone is going to break their ankles trying to play on those fields.                                                                                   |
| more green areas. everywhere you turn they are building, and we can't even keep the current stores open                                                                                                                                                               |
| We NEED turf fields with lights at the municipal complex. We have excellent athletes in GV, but all go elsewhere because of programming and facilities. Turf and lights please!!!!                                                                                    |
| I wish there were more information on what trails were where. Especially connecting trails to areas near where we live.                                                                                                                                               |
| During a pandemic year, it was hard to have events, I understand that!                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Trash needs to be consistently removed no matter who "owns" the trash can.<br>Need more trees. The continuous removal of forests is terrible.<br>Stop approving housing developments that remove old forests.                                                         |
| Lack information and updates about the park                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| We had all of this open space opportunities at one time and have let them all get over developed. We should have more open community space. Disappointing                                                                                                             |
| See above. All trash cans needs to be regularly emptied.<br>If there is a problem, there is no response from the township to the email/phone call. Lots of finger pointing (not my job, not us, etc). If you get the call, send the message to the owner.             |
| The fields need watering system. They are burnt out half the year.                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Would be nice if they wete somewhat connected rather than dotted here an there. For example why is there not a clear connection from the Township trail onto the Grist Mill.<br>Would be nice if there was a. Easier transition                                       |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| All of the grass fields could be a lot better maintained especially for this kid's sports                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Would really like a good outdoor basketball court in one of the parks.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| More pickle courts ! An excellent addition that has already exceeded capacity                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| i believe the community has done much better recently integrating parks into the quality of life in the community, but i believe more multipurpose trails would make the community stronger for all ages.                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| The sports fields are in poor shape.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| More continuous bike trails are needed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Better lighting is needed - especially for the kids sports at night                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Most options overcrowded... walking trails, pickleball, etc                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Fields should be mowed; dog leash and feces laws should be enforced.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| The dog park is full of mud. It needs woodchips                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Would like more playgrounds with bigger space                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| The baseball fields at the municipal compkex should be maintained better or just turned to turf                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| I would like more safer bikable trails                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| More trails                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| We are trying trying to convince the township we need basketball courts..outside..im a mom<br>Who is driving everyone out of the township to get to courts..valley point church just gifted the area with some..but how can i be a part of the solution..we have space..we made a dog park..how about we invest in the mental health of our community..kids..by getting outside basketball courts<br>Marisa 4844797086 |
| Not happy at all with placement of new dog park- too close to road and while I like dogs not a fan of them so close to the walking track- should have kept it over off of bethel road                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Ball field is horrible for the kids. Our tax money doesn't do anything there obviously. Our kids may get hurt this season. We need so much dirt.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Would like an outdoor basketball court.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| I think the extra dog park and pickleball courts were an extreme misuse of township funds. Pickleball targets a certain demographic and doesn't benefit the community as a whole and there was already a dog park. The one that was built is a sad excuse for space that you think dogs especially larger breeds could use.                                                                                            |
| That dog park is an eye sore and the bathrooms near the playground are GROSS.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| We need additional Pickleball courts!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| would love more/longer walking trails                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| I would like to see outside basketball courts for the kids to play with friends                                                                                                                                                   |
| More basketball courts would be nice                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Basketball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Walking trails are very limited and short                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| The Gris Mill specifically has been under construction for months                                                                                                                                                                 |
| No basketball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Would love more walking trails                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| More nature walking trails preferred                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Soccer gets way too much of the township field space and time use. Baseball has to rely on private groups and schools                                                                                                             |
| Baseball fields are in poor condition                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Would like to see more bike trails                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| There should be more trees.                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| I would prefer more variety of open space. As it is now there are only a few smaller designated areas with the exception of the parks on smithbridge and by the fieldhouse.                                                       |
| we need more natural resources                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| The new dog park seems small and the money that was supposedly put into the park doesn't seem like it was utilized well. It seems more accommodating to smaller dogs. Fences are not very tall.                                   |
| There should be functional restrooms at Smithbridge park. There's usually overflowing trash on the walking track.                                                                                                                 |
| Would love to see more walk ability within the township connecting neighborhoods with sidewalks.                                                                                                                                  |
| More movie nights and concerts. A bike trail would be great.                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Compared to some other townships, Concord lacks legit trails and outdoor activities. There seems to be a lot of growth happening, but not much in the development of the land and activity. So I'm glad this survey is happening. |
| It's definitely not bad, but not great either. Just kind of park for the course.                                                                                                                                                  |
| I would like to see a trail linked to the Brandywine trails on the west side of 202 and into DE.                                                                                                                                  |
| Clayton Park is a mess. Really only one usable camp ground out of 9(?) and that floods or unusable in the spring. It needs to be cleaned out and new waterways created.                                                           |
| More walking trails to connect neighborhoods needed. Pickle ball courts are monopolized by 1 group.                                                                                                                               |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Would love to have badminton courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| I wish there were longer and better connected trails for biking or getting around without a car.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| I wish there were more sidewalks so that you could safely walk to these local parks!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Would like more scenic walking areas.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Need more multi-purpose trails for walking and biking as the roads are becoming more congested with distracted drivers to bike safely on the roads.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Too tight on space                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| It would be really great to have a place we could take our kids to ride their bikes.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| I'm aware that they are will used by the community.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| I would like to see biking trails in the township.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Wish there were outdoor basketball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Would like to see more nature trails like the one on corner of smithbridge and temple-even that property should have more trails.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Would like more sidewalks, longer trails                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| I wish there was a bike/ skate area for the kids. Also a water park.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| See my comment in bubble re. unpaved walking trails. Ironically, when we need to walk somewhere to shop, there are many sidewalks in from of new properties which lead to dead ends at "grandfathered" properties. this is especially true in walking from 322 to 202 along Baltimore Pike. this needs to be fixed by having the township construct and pay for sidewalks along the "grandfathered" properties, such as Styer's Nursery. |
| More trail options needed. Or, perhaps there are ample trail options and I do not know where/how to access them.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| We need basketball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Dog park is absolutely unnecessary when we have parents and teams competing for poorly kept fields. There are also few of any community events.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| More biking trails<br>Better intramural sports                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| I would love to see a paved longer walking/running trail in the township. While I've used both the Smithbridge Road oval trail and the one at the municipal building, it would be nice to have some scenic trails that are longer, like Applebrook Park in West Chester.                                                                                                                                                                 |
| more need for open space                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| More parks/trails. The only park I can think of is the one on Smithbridge Road.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Park should have a bathroom not a Port a Potty.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

|                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| I would like to see safe bike paths without cars and more tennis courts. I rarely can get on the high school courts the demand for tennis courts far exceeds the supply                       |
| No enough parks or open space.                                                                                                                                                                |
| Would like to see more places to walk in nature with paved walkways. If this were to be considered a wonderful place to live.. we would provide all sorts of outdoor recreation opportunities |
| More trails/sidewalks will be great!                                                                                                                                                          |
| Would love to use longer trails for jogging, biking, and walking.                                                                                                                             |
| Would like bathrooms at the playground for the kids — open year round.                                                                                                                        |
| Would love bathrooms open year round at kids playground, especially for kids!                                                                                                                 |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lack of communications focused on senior citizens.                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| we just moved to the area and just finding out about things                                                                                                                                                                            |
| No skateboard park and parks seem to cater to trendy things like pickleball                                                                                                                                                            |
| I looove the Bethel dog park, i looove being on that farm.. it is a little slice of heaven. The kids love watching the horses and running around. Its such a serene place. I just wish there wasnt land mines of dog poo everywhere... |
| The park in Chester heights needs to be kep up better and could use more equipment.                                                                                                                                                    |
| Activities are few and poorly publicized.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| More paved walking trails<br>Better, larger dog park                                                                                                                                                                                   |

### Suggest Other Ideas:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Thank you for including the skatepark idea. This school district caters so much to traditional athletics. A skate park would be a wonderful addition for the large percentage of kids who are not involved with a school team. It creates a safe space for kids to socialize and connect through out the year.                                               |
| Tennis courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Accessing the park on Smithbridge is dangerous for pedestrians because there are no sidewalks.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Lighting!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Walking trail on town land on Ivy Mills Rd. Could incorporate nature programs and community gardens there as well.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| No more paving. The entire township already has water management problems. No need to pave more paths through flood plains adding to the problem and ruining the natural habitat                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Additional dog parks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Good pathed places to jog                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Pump track and bike trails                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Tear down the cheap homes you allowed to cover the only open space we had.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Big outdoor spray ground or splash pad/outdoor water activities for kids                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| More food truck events with a lot of choices of places to eat. The trucks could line up in front of the middle school and a section could be setup in the parking lot with tables. Have parking at Concord and everyone can walk from there to keep the traffic away. People would love it since a lot don't want to eat indoors. Maybe every Friday night?? |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| More tennis courts<br>With posted rules<br>No time allotment rules on HS courts<br>No pros & lessons should be able to have a monopoly on courts for hours                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Maintain bethel park as a dog park. Keep Smithbridge as the walking trail                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| In terms of our "open space" efforts, I would love to see township funds used to slow the development around 202. For example, there is a plot of land across from Brusters that was for sale. While it's probably expensive, it would be great to just visually be owned by the township with some nice landscaping & slow the congestion of more building on 202. Even if the township pays \$600k for commercial space there, I would value that more than \$100k for a building off the beat & path. |
| Preserve land along Rt. 1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Long trails both paved and not. Fix up existing parks and maintain trails. Sidewalks and shoulders on our roads so we can bike and run on them. Use the large amount of excessive revenue from over taxing for past 10 years.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Paths, paths, paths. Miles of them.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Pool, pool, pool!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Outdoor hockey rink<br>Basketball courts at park on Smithbridge<br>Skatepark                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| More outdoor concerts/dance venues                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| A graden for plants and                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| There is no community gathering spot other than the schools and Peco park. A pool, skating rink, FREE pavillion would be welcome.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Tree plantings for local COVID deaths; one tree per person. The growing trees is improve the environment and be a lasting grove to remember the losses we suffered during the pandemic.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Bike lanes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Ice rink                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Think about it.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| The township has enough to do, it doesn't need more. Maintain what you have in a cost effective manner.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Swim club                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Most tax payers have to drive all the way to Delaware to use their pools. I can't understand how Delaware has several pools and we don't have any? It's desperately needed in this area. Please put our tax dollars to good use and highly consider this.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Pool and splash pad.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| A spray ground or pool is an amazing idea. I take the kids to Tinicum for the closest spray ground. It's a nice little park but obviously one in concord would be ideal!!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Definitely a paved bike trail. Right now I have to drive over to Chester Creek Trail, like to see a merge to another trail here in Concord Twp                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| The athletic fields should be turf. Too often practices have to be canceled to wet fields. Our kids fall behind other athletic programs that have turf.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| There are a number of bluebirds at the township complex and it would be nice to see bluebird boxes to encourage more birds. More effort is needed to keep our roadways clean of litter. Every so often we walk the roads near our home and collect as much trash as possible. I think township residents should contribute to keeping our community clean.                                                                                                                                                          |
| Fitness playground for older adults<br>Line Dancing<br>Other kinds of dancing for older adults                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| A walking path with benches for seniors.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Parks should be full of nature, greenery & all types groups (Garden clubs, nature preservation groups, scouts should want to gather routinely there). Well run & designed parks add value to the community for generations. There are talented and educated individuals in the community that would take on leadership roles for free to run events but the township does not make it friendly for these creative leaders to access resources. This survey is the 1st step living here that is forward thinking. TY |
| Adding back the summer camp                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| winter ice skating, love the summer concerts (don't need food trucks)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Nature trails and perhaps 4H for the kids who aren't athletic and have no interest in athletics                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Your resources are limited because you allowed too much growth. Some of the designated open space is useless for any practical application.                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Walking trails along roads and major arteries to connect disparate neighborhoods into one community                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| If you had a spot I'd suggest an Oval Track for runners. Could be less than a Quarter Mile maybe 330 yds or 220 yds. People like to run and it would give them a good place to do it.                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Volunteer projects for retired persons                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| A place for dirt biking or for wheelers. Kids do not have anyplace to ride and learn how to work on small engines and learn safe riding. Only doing video games.                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Don't let Pileggi and council let every open space turn into apartments or housing. Buy the properties and turn them into recreation areas or preserve them                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| more picnic facilities                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Open nature preserves, protects natural areas, provides relaxing place for residents, and improves property values                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| buy open space where it's usable. example a lot on main road with on access for the public                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Would really like to see the trails connected throughout the county.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| More community events that are kid friendly, we need to pull together more esp after covid for our local youth. Many communities have community centers and we should consider this on any available land where buildings like pennington school aren't used? A youth center is far more valuable than a dog park to help kids mentally and physically.               |
| Community gardens and teaching others about agriculture would be a good way to promote the townships history, and promote the health and well being of our residents.                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Need better access to horseback riding trails such as the power lines off Bethel road which goes for miles. Horseback riding crossing signs should be posted at several locations to advise drivers to slow down (like in Chester County). It's currently dangerous trying to cross Bethel road in several spots.                                                     |
| More open space/natural land                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Tennis courts instead of pickle ball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Additions to pickleball courts - in addition to courts - wind blocking screens and a cover over the brick walk between courts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Spotted lantern flies are located on Township wooded areas and need immediate control. We live in Fox Hill Farm and our property is flooded with many thousands of SLFs from Township land. It is most important to stop the SLF spread before it destroys trees & shrubs locally and crops nationally. Get rid of tree of heaven and spray infected trees this year. |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Keep more open space and provide access to more walking trails.                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Tennis courts hat aren't locked. Getting a kenos a pain and really do we need that?                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Concerts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Horses                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the country. Adding more pickleball courts would make the township one of the best places to play pickleball in PA.                                                                                                        |
| when the open space is gone it is gone forever                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Volleyball                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| I really think we need less "manicured" spaces and really need to focus on stopping the overdevelopment of everything here. Priority one should be protecting the woods and natural landscape that's left, not trying to come up with things for these spaces to "be" |
| STOP STOP STOP Paving-over Concord Township with stupid parks and development! STOP! We will run out of Township Council People to visit all of the stupid new parks! STOP SPENDING!!! STOP! Save our natural lands!                                                  |
| Upkeep of 30 bethel road                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Taxation is theft...keep that in mind. But, it you are going to repave roads, an actual shoulder for running/biking would be nice as well as trails.                                                                                                                  |
| Ninja warrior course for older kids. Treehouse playground, winter use ice rink, roller/skateboard rink and park. Let's get these kids outside again                                                                                                                   |
| Leave bethel park the same!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Shade structures and evening lighting.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| No more housing developments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Additional pickleball courts. The present ones are always crowded and the popularity of the sport is increasing.                                                                                                                                                      |
| Stop building up concord twp and leave it open space                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| More volleyball nets.. maybe some grass courts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| you did a GREAT job on the pickleball courts, would love to have more if any way possible. THANK YOU VERY MUCH for what you did, there's just so many people playing. thanks again don                                                                                |
| Our township has been built up too much! Traffic is now ridiculous in the township...has anyone noticed! We need less construction, less retail stores and more open space. Thank you                                                                                 |
| Living off Smithbridge Road and Kirk Road, it is very difficult to safely bike and walk along these roads. It would be great to widen roads wheneverre-paving is done to allow safe biking and walking along the roads.                                               |
| I don't feel any of these need to be added                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| tennis courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| BBQ and Cooking Classes/events                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| I already have above                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Would love to see an outdoor ice rink that could be used for public skating events, hockey games, and outdoor events in the off-season. Similar to Bethlehem, Pa.<br><a href="https://www.bethlehem-pa.gov/Recreation/Recreation-Activities/Ice-Rink">https://www.bethlehem-pa.gov/Recreation/Recreation-Activities/Ice-Rink</a>                                                                                  |
| Habitat signs. IE what lives in the open space areas.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Wind barriers for Pickleball courts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Fishing pond or stream                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| A sand pit area for kids to play behind the Volleyball Courts would be fun. Kids are always playing in the courts and it's really a safety issue when people play volleyball b-c the sand is uneven.<br>Would love to see a splash pad..these are wildly popular in parks all around!<br>Along the Nature Trail it would be nice to have a Wild Flower garden with a bench with bird houses and butterfly bushes. |
| More outdoor concert events                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Roller hockey rink                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Tennis                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Historic Days for the township to highlight the rich history of our area: The founding, Church, Revolution, Underground rail road, The railroad, Mills, etc.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| The new pickleball courts have been wonderful, but not enough courts for all the people who taking up the game now. And with Covid making indoor facilities unavailable for PB the outdoor courts have been super busy.                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Place for outdoor concerts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Safe biking places; street hockey rink; outdoor lighted basketball courts in accessible, visible location available 6a-midnight is so important for older kids.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Ice Hockey Rink....if done right could also be are venue generator for the township                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| better dog park                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Tennis courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Love adult fitness circuit programs!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| I love the bird watching tours, especially the owls and hawks. Any information we can feed to young adults is terrific.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Sustainable fishing/fly fishing in west branch of Chester creek; archery hunting off-trail in wooded open space                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| A splash area for the summer would be great!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Outdoor hockey rink                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Please stop spending my money. I like the parks but I would prefer lower taxes.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Would be very helpful to get lights on the GVHS tennis courts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Sidewalks on main roads for safety would be great!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| A tennis court with a wall for kids and people who are not as fit or able to run the whole half of the tennis court. It doesn't have to be an actual tennis court really -- just a paved ground and a wall for 1-2 people to hit the ball against. Maybe something on the sides to keep the balls from getting away so far.<br>A driving range would also be great.<br>Acquiring more open space STRATEGICALLY because of the ability to connect properties to make longer trails and parking along the way. |
| Leave everything as natural as possible. Asphalt trails are a danger to the wildlife.<br>Don't spend money and "acquire" more property. Learn to respect what is or I should say "was" here.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Rails to trails                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Preserve the open space but land maintenance is sorely needed. Bethel road on the way to thr high school is a disgrace. It also seems a tinderbox.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Just open space to enjoy nature not filled up with people                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| tennis courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| NO pool!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| I would not vote to spend more money or allocate more space to pickle ball but would suggest to balance the demographics for younger families with something like a skatepark and more areas to walk<br><br>Also with the increased density in housing I think community gardens would be a welcome asset, I would even be willing to rent a plot so I could be part of a larger grow effort                                                                                                                 |
| There should be access to Hunters to the open space we are being discriminated against once again why are my tax dollars pay for property that I cannot use so therefore it truly is not open space it is controlled and discriminating. It should be self-supported by those that use it not every taxpayer in the township probably only 10% of the township residents use it if that                                                                                                                      |
| This area DESPERATELY needs a community swim club                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Roller hockey court would be amazing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| It's a shame we don't have any outdoor basketball courts in the township. I have to drive the kids to Thornbury township to shoot hoops. It would be great if we had a community pool of our own as well, although that is not big on my list as my kids will be heading off to college soon.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Figure Skating / Ice hockey facility.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Kids would really like a water area in the summer, but not sure the cost                                                                                                                                                    |
| Turf with lights please                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| More tennis courts. Maybe some har-tru tennis courts.                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Keep trees! Keep forests! Maintain them.                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Community Pool is much need and long overdue in our community                                                                                                                                                               |
| Fishing pond with walking trails                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Tennis courts                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Platform tennis / paddle tennis courts for use in winter months                                                                                                                                                             |
| Putting a turf field at the municipal park would be my number one priority-having a non grass playing surface would be the biggest help to local sports programs(BYC). After that basketball courts would be next priority. |
| I would like to make sure it looks nature and concrete. Keep the beauty of the area and NO ADVERTISING or logos.                                                                                                            |
| weekly or monthly community newsletter or paper                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Volleyball Courts                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| soccer/lacrosse walls for throwing/catching/kicking/rebounding                                                                                                                                                              |
| I would like to keep the undeveloped land that way. The area is losing too many trees and fields.                                                                                                                           |
| Part of the reason I love it here is because itis not cluttered. If we continue to build more. We will become cluttered like springfield... horrible                                                                        |
| Skate park and fitness circuit are also great ideas. I love love love the idea of more features in the community! Thank you!!!! As a pe teacher in the district I am so pleased with this!!!!                               |
| Definitely outdoor basketball!!the kids te slways at concord school                                                                                                                                                         |
| If I see another pickleball court pop up I will literally scream and stage a protest. COME ON!                                                                                                                              |
| Paddleball courts for winter play when Pickleball courts closed.                                                                                                                                                            |
| more baseball space for adults                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| another dog park                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Per below - ACQUIRE MORE OPEN SPACE TO DETER MASS BUILDINGS as well as high density communities. This is a scourge to our township and rightfully declined every time. (when are we going to STOP?)                         |
| Improve what we have. Why are there bathrooms buildings when they are never open?<br>Clean up existing parks and make them useable.                                                                                         |
| Sidewalks definitely.<br>Also a long distance bike/run trail that would extend and connect to other counties (25+ miles). Maybe along a railroad or train track.                                                            |



|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Skatepark would be awesome adults have so much fitness options today kids don't have enough skateboarding is popular among kids and the closest park is in Chichester it's not that big and some times kids are a lot older and try to take over                                                      |
| Badminton courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Tennis court with wall for individual practice.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Outdoor Concert program on Sunday evenings in the Summer at Township Park on Smith Bridge Road please. Kids, families on grass, kids on playground, perhaps food trucks (dinner and music) or water ice. A nice vision, but takes planning and funds, I understand. I could volunteer to help. Thanks |
| Tennis courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Bird watching areas. We live in a bird migration area. Preservation of horticulture                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Keep the Beaver Valley Area Quiet, peaceful, beautiful and protect nature !!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

|                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| tennis. ti chi in the park and other programs for post 50 population would be nice we pay taxes but don't have children at home                       |
| It would be nice if the township produced a brochure of all things available. As a new resident, I wasn't aware that these things were offered.       |
| Teach local history at the high school                                                                                                                |
| More inter-connecting trails, walkways, paved sidewalks in Concord and trails that connect with the surrounding townships. Bike to work programs too. |
| Develop special interest groups by age or interests... to meet in our outdoor space                                                                   |
| Splash pad for little ones would be great!                                                                                                            |
| Splash pad for kids would be great!                                                                                                                   |
| Outdoor pavilion with stage for community events other than school related.                                                                           |
| Open space preservation                                                                                                                               |

## Screen 4: Importance Rating

### Individual Comments related to TRAILS

#### Nature Trails:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| As long as it doesn't impede on the private property of those who pay a fortune to live in this area. Seems the township wants to continue to add trails that back up to residents property who devoted they're entire life to live in privacy and not be bothered |
| And unlaced bike trails                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Can have a paved through nature                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| You are ruining animals natural habits by allowing people to trample through the woods                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Walking, hiking, and enjoying nature are huge mood boosters and essential for mental health. This is key and a big driver for millennials and their families.                                                                                                      |
| Worry about the safety of our residents walking in secluded areas.                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| very important to give public access for exercising, but unpaved to avoid disturbing natural area                                                                                                                                                                  |

|                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| People long to get out in nature and especially after cold Winters when they are longing to feel the sun and experience the outdoors.                                                    |
| We don't need as many unpaved, managed walking trails if we have sidewalks and bikeways.                                                                                                 |
| Paved....accessible to all and able to get to someone in an emergency                                                                                                                    |
| Really enjoy open, natural walking trails                                                                                                                                                |
| No more tax dollars should be put into these open space properties they discriminate against Hunters and 90% of the township does not use it why do100% of the people have to pay for it |
| Love the DE Brandywine trails                                                                                                                                                            |
| I do think these trails exist, just maybe need to put more of a focus on promoting/maintains them.                                                                                       |

#### Neighborhood Connections:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| I'd hate this!                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| That would be nice if it was safe to do so. No crossing streets, etc. Not sure how that would happen                                                                                             |
| I have to drive everywhere because I don't live in a development.                                                                                                                                |
| Less privacy for those who live along those trails. That's not fair to tax paying residence to have their privacy taken                                                                          |
| I live on Clayton Park Drive with no access to the preserve or park off featherbed. There is no safe connection since 322 has no sidewalk either.                                                |
| Yes!! Precisely why I mentioned concord road needs sidewalks.                                                                                                                                    |
| absolutely not - I don't want random people walking through my wooded back yard                                                                                                                  |
| STOP CONNECTING NEIGHBORHOODS IN CONCORD TWP TOTHE VIOLENT HOODS IN CEHSTER AND UPPER AND LOWER CHI. STOP! YOU CANNOT PROTECT US! How will Concord pay for the negligence lawsuits from victims? |
| I do not think the trails should enter neighborhood for safety reason                                                                                                                            |

|                                                                                                                                                                          |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Private Communities are not public park extensions ... Fox Hill Farm should not be an access point                                                                       |
| I'm not sure about this one..It has its perks but then again I'm not sure if I would want my house backing up to a trail where there was a lot of foot and bike traffic. |
| This would definitely benefit communitites and encourage staying healthy.                                                                                                |
| We'd probably always have to drive because Smithbridge Road is narrow and has no sidewalks to safely walk on.                                                            |
| Only if they are unpaved.                                                                                                                                                |
| Good idea!                                                                                                                                                               |
| More waste of taxpayers dollars also causing greater liability to the township what is plus the cost of insurance                                                        |
| This would be awesome                                                                                                                                                    |
| Would love our kids to be able to walk to friends house without having to walk on busy streets.                                                                          |

|                                                                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| FANTASTIC IDEA!! I would love some place to walk in my neighborhood that I didn't have to get in a car for and not just walk on the road. |
| That's a security and privacy risk. I don't need strangers walking through my back yard.                                                  |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| I would LOVE to see sidewalks or trails connecting neighborhoods. I live in the Sharpless Farm neighborhood and my children cannot walk or bike to friends houses because there are no sidewalks outside of our development. |
| Yes!!! Again this would be great! And goes along with adding/developing sidewalks!                                                                                                                                           |
| Disagree bc no one wants the trails next to their homes.                                                                                                                                                                     |

**Parking and Amenities:**

|                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Too many thefts. They need to put cameras in.                                                                                                       |
| I use them frequently already.                                                                                                                      |
| If the trails connect neighborhoods, would not require parking lots. Parking lots would only be required at trail heads.                            |
| Typically there is enough parking at smithbridge with school there.                                                                                 |
| STOP STOP STOP PAVING-OVER CONCORS TOWNSHIP! ARE THE COUNCIL PEOPLE PERSONALLY PROFITING FROM EXCAVATION, PAVING AND CEMENT CONTRACTORS? STOP!!!!!! |
| Bathrooms are key with clean water, soap, towels or dryer                                                                                           |
| no additional parking is necessary                                                                                                                  |
| Our park is widely used, parking looks like it is maxed out at times.                                                                               |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| No parking! If you cannot reach them from where you live, than parking lots will only bring in people from other townships.                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| The amenities I would like to see access for hunters being discriminated against once again why are my taxpayers dollars being used for open space when the one thing I wanted for I cannot use the open space for                                                                                                                     |
| I understand the need for parking, but if communities and neighborhoods were more connected, there would be less need for driving and parking. Certain parks/areas could have larger parking areas if there were used more for larger community events. But even still, connected neighborhoods would promote walking to these events. |
| parking is fine. Bathrooms are sometimes not open at the Smithbridge park though, and I'd like them to be open all the time.                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

**Paved Multi-Purpose Trails:**

|                                                                                                                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Paved trails ruin natural habitat, are an eyesore, and only add to water management and flooding issues                |
| Not necessarily paved but not muddy when it rains                                                                      |
| Don't ruin the beautiful scenery with pavement                                                                         |
| These are the worst investment of our money here. There's enough paved space. Just leave the nature we have left alone |
| STOP PAVING-OVER COINCORD NATURAL LANDS! STOP SPENDING THSI WASTED MONEY!                                              |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| These should be sidewalks and bikeways (on or adjacent to roads) that make bicycling and walking safer. The schools and parks and fields should be accessible without the need for a car.                                                                |
| Paved and trails is an oxymoron.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Paved walking trails more waste of taxpayers dollars which would also mean more maintenance of these paved trails and greater liability to the township at someone's to get hurt by Falling into a hole on a paved trail more waste of taxpayers dollars |
| Link existing Rail-to-trails together and other existing footpath trails.                                                                                                                                                                                |

## Regional Trails:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| I think that already exists, doesn't it? We just need to know more about it.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Bike trails would be my top choice!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Anything to keep the bikes off of our skinny roads                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| This is the most important to me.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Would love this. There are many surrounding towns that do this and allow for families to exercise and bike together. The loops can be crowded and are only good for little kids. As kids grow up, they need more distance. It is not safe to ride around surrounding neighborhoods, so this would be a huge asset.                                      |
| Throws in Concord Township are not safe to have bike riders on right now, but it would be very nice if you could connect through the area in ways other than driving a car. There should be sidewalks for kids to safely be able to ride bikes and walk from one neighborhood to another                                                                |
| I absolutely think there should be more of these to keep bikers off the roads. In my opinion its very dangerous for them to be on the roads with very little space.                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| This would be a dream come true!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Important but need to balance this with nature trails for natural habitats to thrive. We should take advantage of any space that is available currently.                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| same comment as above                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| STOP MAKING ANY PLANS FOR PAVED BIKE TRAILS! STOP THIS SPENDING and preserve our natural lands. How will you pay for the Liability of police patrol and public safety when these bike trails cannot carry police cars??! HOW will you prptect and rescue people from robbery, rape and thefts?! How will CONCORD TWP pay lawsuits from your negligence? |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| This would enhance the community so much! I see a great need for this. After the year we've had with Covid families are out and about on bikes and nature trails.                                                   |
| This would be great to have in our area.                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Do NOT convert Polecat Road or the neighborhood to a multi-use trail. The houses are way to close to the road for that. We are very opposed to this.                                                                |
| They will only bring in outsiders. No                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Oh bike trails would be desired but the hills are not welcoming - guess I could walk my bike                                                                                                                        |
| More waste of taxpayers dollars once again if they want to use the open space It should be pay-as-you-go or buy a membership 90% of the taxpayers do not use it why do 100% of them have to pay for it              |
| This idea is fantastic idea to get people out biking or even walking a great distance. We should learn from Covid the importance of exercise in our lives and be outside more and this gives us some place to go :) |
| Would be a great option bc we already have walking trails                                                                                                                                                           |
| DE has a great Greensways trail. We don't have any safe trails, bike paths or bike lanes on semi-major roads.                                                                                                       |
| Yes! This would be great!!                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Figure out a way to connect to The Circuit that branches in multiple directions from Philadelphia. Long-term planning with DVRPC.                                                                                   |

## Screen 4: Importance Rating

### Individual Comments related to NATURE

#### Access:

|                                                                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| And scare away the only wildlife left in the area? No thank you                                                                                |
| No, will go over private property                                                                                                              |
| And scouts in the community can help!                                                                                                          |
| just leave the nature we have left alone                                                                                                       |
| STOP EXPANDING ACCESS WITH STUPID PARKING LOTS(FEATEHRBED RD!) LEADS TO CRIME AND LIABILITY FOR CONCORD TWP! DESTROYS OUR NATURAL LANDS! STOP! |
| provided they do not lead into established planned communities                                                                                 |

|                                                                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| If trails are connected to residential areas, there is not need for additional parking areas and less impervious land covering.       |
| Once again too much waste of taxpayers dollars where is the open space for hunting?                                                   |
| Yes people can appreciate but also people who don't live here might not RESPECT the trails which would be unfortunate and dishearting |
| you figure it out                                                                                                                     |
| Public Access signage, similar to those at the beach, would help define and promote our natural resource areas.                       |

#### Conservation:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The residents in this area pay a fortune to live here and every year more and more businesses and roads are built that take away from the landscape and quality of life in the area.                               |
| We moved here for the "countryish" setting and it would be disappointing if that were to be lost.                                                                                                                  |
| No more building! I know the council wants more money, but it comes to a point whether you want to look like ridley park, or the beautiful place concord is. Do the right thing please. You don't need more money. |
| If land owner agrees                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Yes. And new building should be limited to 1 home per acre. No more cluster housing                                                                                                                                |
| Depends on where these areas are                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Please. Again, too built up. Why all this land on 202 built and then empty store fronts... Only for you to buy more and build more. Again, shameful.                                                               |
| This is extremely important, its now or never.                                                                                                                                                                     |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| People love to get out in natural areas..definitely need to preserve as much as possible.                                                                                                                                                          |
| We definitely want to limit commercial development in concord township. Several recent additions (hotel and high density housing near the shopping center at 322 and route 1) have really detracted from the natural beauty of the area.           |
| This is an absolute must. That has not been considered enough by the township.                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Yes. Leave everything alone. You have already ruined a lot of the natural beauty that was Concord.                                                                                                                                                 |
| There is already too much open space wasting taxpayers dollars                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| you figure it out                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| I have 5 acres of property that I've managed to keep but taxes are making that difficult                                                                                                                                                           |
| It might be helpful if there was ENFORCEMENT of existing pervious vs impervious regulations. Concord Twp seems to be teeming with development, and it does not seem that pervious surfaces are promoted or regulated (parking lots in particular). |

## Education:

|                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Yes, more youth and adult education.                                                                                                                                          |
| It would be good to have more programs regarding invasive plants and how to keep them out of our gardens, etc. Maybe the Penn State Extension can come and give some programs |
| Education and public awareness of the existence the facilities is very important                                                                                              |
| Maybe signs or on the web that tells the mileage, history..                                                                                                                   |

|                                                                                                                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sometimes just being in nature is education in itself. Make it easier to walk, bike and play outside.                                                      |
| Once again the open space already took cost too many taxpayers too much money but do not get to use it do not want to use it I should not be paying for it |

## Management:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Deer management should be highest priority. They are destroying our wooded areas and injuring/killing our citizens on the roads.                                                                                           |
| I'm fine with invasive plant control, but not concerned with endangered species. It's unfortunate for the latter, but animal species survivorship is something beyond the ability of a township to control.                |
| Could incorporate this with nature programs and educational volunteer projects.                                                                                                                                            |
| Our scouts can help here too! We work with newlin grist mill frequently.                                                                                                                                                   |
| We just had that conversation yesterday..some of the beautiful trees along the path are being overrun by invasive weeds and thorns..it would be great to preserve them and to keep the natural beauty as it's meant to be. |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Invasive plants and insects are inevitable. We need to protect the riparian areas, and create large enough natural areas (woodlands, wetlands) to protect endangered species from human development. |
| Such management should not be at the expense of the enjoyment of these areas. Different zones with different management priorities might be ideal.                                                   |
| No. You cannot even manage what is here. Do not ruin the natural beauty.                                                                                                                             |
| Even though it is important to remove the invasive species the township is once again creating a giant money pit for the taxpayers dollars. The animal is going out of control                       |

## Community Gardens:

|                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| This would be nice as long as you dont lose any of the current open spaces at the smithbridge park or municipal complex. Not a huge needle mover.                                           |
| WHY NOT STOP BUILDING STUPID UNNATURAL AREAS AND GARDENS WITH THE WRONG TREES AND PLANTINGS AND LEAVE CONCORD'S NATURAL LANDS ALONE!!!                                                      |
| Most homeowners have space to garden if interested this would be a waste                                                                                                                    |
| I'm unsure about this one..community vegetable gardens is a nice thing for a family to do but on our end we have to think of where it would be and how to keep the wildlife from eating it. |
| I think there is an opportunity here but would like to understand demand.                                                                                                                   |
| Everyone has plenty of their own property in this township. Me and my neighbors have our own. No need to spend more tax dollars to show off to other townships.                             |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Great idea                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Once again greater cost to taxpayers Greater liability insurance cost                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| I like this idea but I would ask Aston and Media (who have these items) what do they think, pros and cons.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| You have to think long term on this one. Fencing to keep out deer and most of the other wildlife (1-time expense), Raised beds for handicap access(1-time expense), installation of frost-proof yard hydrant(s) connected to water meter (1-time expense), native plant border (1-time expense), mulch for plots, tree chips for paths to eliminate mowing, LED lighting connection, total minimum # of plots at 100, annual plot fees (about \$25) should allow the TWP to break-even on the costs involved. |

## Event Spaces:

|                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Smithbridge is already a great spot to hold events.                                                               |
| We already have 2 nice areas                                                                                      |
| Not more space just more events                                                                                   |
| STOP BULDINMG UNEEDED EVENT SPACE - WE DO NOT NEED ANY MORE! STOP!                                                |
| Events should be on twp property so they can becontrolled better and not on private property disturbing residence |
| There is also need to have spaces for young adults; i:e teenagers community centers for young adults              |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| We have the bandstand and a Pavilion. I've seen where other parks have a few Pavilions, maybe adding another one would be nice especially when people want to rent space for parties.                                                                                                                  |
| I think if the space off of Bethel Road was used better, this would be a great place for more festivals.                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| NO! Get rid of the fireworks. All of that wasted money and taxes only to scare all of the wildlife, neighborhood dogs and pets. It brings in toomany people from outside townships that do not pay any taxes here. It is a fire hazard to the committees. I don't care how many fire trucks sit there. |

## New Park Features:

|                                                                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Basketball courtz                                                                             |
| Disc golf. Adult sport leagues!                                                               |
| Need basketball courts and more tennis courts                                                 |
| Nature programs and community gardens                                                         |
| Basketball courts for public use. Small turf soccer field.                                    |
| Paved walking trails                                                                          |
| Shuffle board court, concrete ping pong tables                                                |
| A township pool would be amazing!                                                             |
| Circuit Exercise Equipment                                                                    |
| Disc golf                                                                                     |
| The township doesn't have basketball courts that I know of                                    |
| Water park, pool, sensory playground.                                                         |
| Disc Golf                                                                                     |
| Community turf field and community pool                                                       |
| Basketball, skate board - things for older kids- longer, connected trails for biking, running |
| Pool                                                                                          |
| Basketball courts<br>Hockey rink<br>Rock climbing wall<br>Mini golf                           |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Basketball courts (full court, not just one hoop)                                                                                                                                                |
| interconnecting trails for parks and open space. Perhaps a scenic view area.                                                                                                                     |
| Pools!                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Pool                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Bike Trails                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Basketball would be great                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Plow paved walking trails so they can be used 365 days a year                                                                                                                                    |
| community pool                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Absolutely no more dark parks.                                                                                                                                                                   |
| I think cornhole would be a game that a lot of people would enjoy.                                                                                                                               |
| Areas where Teens can gather and feels safe to hang out- we just don't have them in the area and they NEED a space to grow and enjoy the area that we all want them to be proud they grew up in. |
| Spike all court                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Basket ball maybe bocce or horseshoes                                                                                                                                                            |
| skate/scooter/bike park                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Pool like the old Toland pool off concord road and it backed up to newlin.                                                                                                                       |
| Drinking water stations                                                                                                                                                                          |
| I would like to see some type of swimming pool or spray ground for residents.                                                                                                                    |
| Basketball                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Gravel trails (like at Bellevue State Park); more seating; wider trails.                                                                                                                         |

|                                                                                                                                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Basketball court!!!                                                                                                                        |
| Not sure where the space is but water features would be great like in Exton, or again a community center.                                  |
| more pickleball courts are needed                                                                                                          |
| pickleball courts with nearby bathroom                                                                                                     |
| A skatepark open to scooters, wheelchairs, skateboards, bikes, is a needed addition.                                                       |
| Pickleball- the new courts are so crowded. Tennis courts could also be for pickleball                                                      |
| Skate/bike parks, basketball facilities, gym available for public tumbling and play especially in winter and roller rink in summer         |
| More pickleball courts                                                                                                                     |
| Not sure what the new features might be so cannot vote yay or nay.                                                                         |
| inspiration from the playground in the gardens in Ocean City NJ                                                                            |
| An ice rink would not only generate revenue for the township but provide another outdoor activity for kids and adults together.            |
| Basketball court                                                                                                                           |
| this is asking too much, what the planning affords is more important                                                                       |
| I played basketball in our parks growing up as a kid and I really don't see basketball courts in GV                                        |
| Things like the new Volley ball courts, hosting tournaments, etc. perhaps other sports and activities could be highlighted.                |
| Outdoor, lighted basketball courts                                                                                                         |
| place for kids to play street hockey                                                                                                       |
| I have seen some townships have their own Gym or workout circuits. I think this would bring a lot of value to the community.               |
| Tennis courts                                                                                                                              |
| Zip line                                                                                                                                   |
| teeter totter, merry go-round, frog, turtle and toad ponds with bridges, benches and gazebo to listen to the frogs chirping and whistling. |
| Archery hunting and fishing. Fishing pond for kids would be amazing.                                                                       |
| Paved biking trail connected to other regional trails.                                                                                     |
| <b>BASKETBALL COURTS</b>                                                                                                                   |
| Tennis courts<br>Racket ball court                                                                                                         |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| All parks and playgrounds should be ADA compliant                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| A Garnet Valley Swim Club would be fantastic. Instead of spreading our residents across the many swim clubs in Delaware, it would be nice to have a swim club where all of Garnet Valley attended, and kids could spend the summers at the pool with their classmates, instead of Delaware residents. |
| Basketball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| A new wooden park, similar to our old park, would be amazing!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| I don't know what these would be, but like the idea of areas along trails to stretch and bend.                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Leave the parks natural. Look up the definition of a "park." A large natural green area.                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Maybe a horse pit & more pickle ball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Bathrooms                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Basketball courts and disc golf are great ideas!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Basketball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Once again greater waste of taxpayers dollars and greater insurance cost. Where is the open space for hunting. How about a shooting range for people that want to target shoot again discrimination                                                                                                   |
| Basketball courts please                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Community swim club                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Roller hockey court                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Outdoor Basketball Courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Fishing pond with walking trails                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Water pad/<br>Turf fields for Athletics                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| hammock Garden, dog agility course, amphitheatre for live music during the warmer months, concrete ping pong tables, shaded sitting areas                                                                                                                                                             |
| Outdoor basketball courts at the Municipal complex                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| An outdoor fitness area                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Outside basketball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| a community pool                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Basketball courts are desperately needed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| More basketball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Skateboard/Scooter Park                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Basketball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Outdoor basketball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |



|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tennis courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Skateboard/scooter park (West Chester has a great one), Chichester also has one                                                                                                                                                         |
| Basketball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| more trails, maybe water stations                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Outdoor basketball and tennis                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Walking trails from residential community to parks so we can walk to the park                                                                                                                                                           |
| Multi-purpose paved trails under most of the high volt power lines and interconnecting all or most of the parks or nature areas for bikers, walkers and hikers can enjoy a large area without having to drive to each park/nature area. |
| Skate park!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Rock climbing wall, roller skating ground, basketball court, camping ground, etc.                                                                                                                                                       |
| Basketball court                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| It makes sense that this would happen in spaces already available as the community input is requested                                                                                                                                   |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Basketball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| more tennis courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Larger museum for local history                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Mentioned previously - pavilion with stage, perhaps an outdoor amphitheater type location that could be constructed near existing parking, restroom facilities, etc. that would allow room for food trucks.                                       |
| I think there are enough features. The current parks are great, as long as we keep up with maintenance. Going forward, I would most like to see more trails. Other options are good too, and many would be a close second. Keep up the good work! |
| There arent many playgrounds with the focus on chikdten under 5 years old.. the new wooden playground is a nightmare because my toddler wants ti follow all of the big kids . The big kid section is very dangerous for him                       |

**Playgrounds:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| We have great playgrounds already.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| We dont need this over natural grounds but would be preferred over dog grounds.                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| STOP PAVING-OVER CONCORD TWP TO BUILD PLAYGROUNDS!! STOP!                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| The current playground is smaller -- and less fun -- than the previous one (which all children loved). We now have a smaller playground (less equipment) while we have significantly more your children in the township... The your children are being penalized/underfunded. |
| I feel that our playgrounds are sufficient.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| We currently have a good selection of playgrounds.                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| I think they're plenty of playgrounds in the township.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Not only small children but pre-teens as well                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| No more playgrounds. Kids can play in their neighborhoods and share each others back yards.                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| More waste of taxpayers dollars greater liability insurance cost                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| We have enough. Use, maintain and improve what we have. Stop removing natural growth.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| No we have a great playground already, we don't need more and keep up with the playground and add to that when needed. Concord is getting older and I would like to see something that I would enjoy as I live here. Perhaps improve the playground at BYC since that is a huge location of children |
| As a senior citizen I'm out of touch with families with small children so I don't feel qualified to know if there are needs.                                                                                                                                                                         |
| maybe in several different areas of the township                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| "Tot lot" similar to the one in media would be a great addition                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

**Water Feature:**

|                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Would love to have a sprayground! More so thanmore playgrounds.             |
| Yes!!!                                                                      |
| Please build a pool in addition to this. We all have to drive to Delaware!! |

|                                       |
|---------------------------------------|
| Like that hideous sign on 202? Um no. |
| I think this is not a great idea      |
| Sounds like a law suit coming         |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Who will pay for the water usage? Township or residents                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Pool but no spray ground                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| YOU RIDICULED THE STUPID WATER PARK PROPOSAL AFEW YEARS AGO, AND NOW YOU ACTUALLY WANT IT IN CONCORD?! ARE YOU FOR REAL? STOP THE BUILDING!!! Leave our natural lands alone!<br>WE DO NKT WANT OUR HOME AREA TO LOOK LIKE "NORTH CHI"!!! |
| A community pool is needed                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| I'm very much in favor of this!!                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| A sprayground is a maintenance money sink - butit would be fun. Basketball courts would be a better use of funds.                                                                                                                        |
| I am not a fan of a sprayground or pool facility.                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Spraygrounds and pools are a waste of money                                                                                                                                                                                              |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Are you kidding?? Everyone has air conditioning in this wealthy township. Stop spending and wasting money and resourses!                                                                                                                                                           |
| I think this would be the most important to myyoung family.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Once again greater Insurance liability and costto the taxpayers at a waste of water which is a precious resource at this point in time is there not a swimming pool at the high school the public should have access to that after all my tax dollarspay for it why can't I use it |
| It stinks we need to travel to Delaware to joina pool. It would be amazing if GV had one to join!                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| very much want the water to be chlorinated though.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| with playgrounds                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Too much liability.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

## Screen 4: Importance Rating

### Individual Comments related to ACTIVITIES

#### Active Recreation Programs:

|                                                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Not at taxpayers expense                                                                                                                                                     |
| Need more pickleball courts.                                                                                                                                                 |
| HOLD THESE EPROGRAMS INSIDE THE TOWN GYM! Stop Building and spending!!                                                                                                       |
| More pickleball courts                                                                                                                                                       |
| Pickleball events                                                                                                                                                            |
| For all levels and that are inclusive for people, especially children, with special needs and challenges. Programs specific to this demographic are limited or non-existent. |

|                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The BYC is fantastic. There are plenty of opportunities for organized sports. The township needs to make facilities available for informal sport play. |
| NO!                                                                                                                                                    |
| Once again greater increase the taxpayers cost and Insurance liability cost                                                                            |
| Turf and lights.                                                                                                                                       |
| outdoor Volleyball                                                                                                                                     |
| Need more options for the kids to play outside                                                                                                         |
| as a senior citizen and out of touch with the age group this affects I have no opinion                                                                 |

#### Community Events:

|                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| We need To bring back parades down concord road!!                                                                                                                             |
| You guys do a good job alreatd                                                                                                                                                |
| very nice                                                                                                                                                                     |
| STOP SPENDING ON STUPID FIREWORKS THAT POLLUTEOUR COMMUNITY! WE DO NOT NEED ANY SPENDING ON COMMUNITTY EVENTS. STOP STOP STOP!                                                |
| Would love more themed events that are kid andfamily friendly...pirate fest, princesses in the park, dog day, instagram/tictoc friendly event with photo ops to engage youth. |
| held on twp property only                                                                                                                                                     |

|                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| More music events                                                                                                                                                                  |
| NO! They are noisy and people leave a ton of trash! There are plenty of festivals all over the place. we don't need to bring in more people!                                       |
| Once again greater taxpayers cost and Insurance liability cost not necessary                                                                                                       |
| outdoor live music concerts, bring your own chairs type events                                                                                                                     |
| If the request by community is asking for more fine. I notice these things have been offed but I haven't participated. How well are they attended and what has been the feed back? |

#### Day Trips and Outings:

|                                                                                                                          |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Township is lacking in this area compared to other townships/communities in the area.                                    |
| STOP STUPID SEPNDING! MARIS GROVE HAS THEIR OWN Resident-Only programs!                                                  |
| Not necessary unless you live in retirement community or similar. Let people plan their own outings at their own expense |

|                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Once again greater taxpayers cost and Insuranceliability cost                            |
| Bus trips to nyc etc                                                                     |
| Pair with and/or combine with other townships such as Middletown (where we used to live) |

**Outdoor Fitness:**

|                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Not on my tax dollar                                                                                                  |
| Circuit training                                                                                                      |
| We need more pickleball courts. It's the fastest growing sport in America. And wind screens are needed on the fences. |
| pickle ball courts                                                                                                    |
| STOP BUILDING FITNESS AREAS!!!                                                                                        |
| Mire pickleball courts                                                                                                |

|                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Give people the space to do it and let them. We feel programs are not needed for everything                             |
| already have with BYC                                                                                                   |
| Pickleball                                                                                                              |
| There is plenty of walking here. I am not spending my taxes on others fitness. Join and pay your own money at the YMCA. |
| Once again greater waste of taxpayers dollars that insurance cost                                                       |

## Screen 4: Importance Rating

### Individual Comments related to HERITAGE

#### Agricultural Legacy:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Agree here. The township is getting very crowded and over developed. We are losing a lot of the natural beauty that brings happiness and cheer. We aren't a big city. That's why we live here and not in Philly. |
| Ay whose expense?                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Buy every piece of land we can-most wouldn't care if it meant a tax increase. We can't afford any more development. The infrastructure can't handle more traffic                                                 |

|                                                                                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Yes!                                                                                                    |
| What rural places are left?                                                                             |
| Not necessary already too much cost to Township taxpayers                                               |
| Encouraging community events that local produce can be shared or purchased offers a way to promote this |
| This seems to fit into the Historic category above.                                                     |

#### Historic Preservation:

|                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Many have gotten dilapidated and past the point of preservation. They become eyesores in some areas. |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The preservation historical buildings is important however they should not cause increase to taxpayers money already out of control cost |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

#### Interpretive Programs:

|                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Who pays???                                                                    |
| STOP SPENDING ON COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AND LEAVE OUR CONCORD NATURAL LANDS ALONE! |
| what is politically correct for consideration in this space?                   |

|                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Once again not necessary there's plenty of reading material for history don't waste any more taxpayers money      |
| interpretative information like signs, yes. I wouldn't really attend organized programs on local heritage though. |

#### Scenic Beauty:

|                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------|
| No more strip malls and new homes - we have enough       |
| What about the owners when they want to sell or improve? |
| How much scenic beauty is there even left to see?        |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| We definitely want to limit commercial development in Concord township. Several recent additions (hotel and high density housing near the shopping center at 322 and route 1) have really detracted from the natural beauty of the area. |
| Once again greater taxpayers cost add insurance cost if they want Scenic Beauty they can go to Longwood Gardens                                                                                                                          |

## Screen 5: Other Comments

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Many of us moved here because the area had a rural feel. The overdevelopment I have witness the In the past 15 years as a township resident is sickening. It has had a negative effect on traffic, road conditions, schools and overall appeal. I am committed to helping make my community strong and successful but often feel unheard. The burden of overdevelopment is felt every day in Concord Township. |
| If you could maintain and monitor the pecorino high lines for walking and mountain biking yet keep the ATV off off them it would be great                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Outdoor basketball courts please                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Limit any new development                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Bethel resident                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Thank you for the work you do! Let the negative comments that are bound to come roll off your back. You can't make everyone happy.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Provide more shade trees around the Smithbridge park.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Live in Bethel township                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Please stop building. Concord township is becoming a disaster. Put some money towards water management and help the current residents                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| The township has been overdeveloped. No more homes!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Yes, please stop building and stop pretending you care about parks and nature preserves. It's obvious you don't!!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Look at Boulder Colorado trails and community offerings as they are #1 in the country best communities.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Thank you for asking for resident input.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| A township pool would be amazing. However, the priority needs to be preservation. Also a regional bike trail would be an incredible asset.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Buy up the land for open space before the homebuilders do. We have enough housing and need to preserve a suburban feel vs becoming Upper Darby West                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Thank you for asking.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| The playground has many many families from allover Delaware County to our beautiful township. We need to preserve what we have for the enjoyment of township residents                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Parks and open green space is a great attraction to this area. My family and I enjoy these spaces almost daily and really hope to see thoughtful planning in using space instead of building stores or homes on them.                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Splash pad                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| I strongly oppose any plans of adding a paved trail through the township. My family is directly effected by this plan and it is very disappointing to hear the township is making such plans without consulting those who are impacted the most. You are stripping your residence of privacy and devaluing our real estate by putting a trail through our backyard. You are also welcoming crime right in your township.                                |
| please try and maintain the feel of Concord Twp - it is desirable to live here but if we continue to build on all land with high density we may as well be a suburb of Philadelphia                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| I love the idea of connecting communities through nature trails of some sort. For example, the end of conestoga farms backs up to another neighborhood on smithbridge - would be cool to have connectivity.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| I love Concord Township. BUT! Please stop the building! Protect open space! Create more parks and walking paths!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Why would we trust you when you all have paved over the township for the last 2 decades?!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Why would we trust you when you all have paved over the township for the last 2 decades?!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Been here since 1989. Helped build the Kids Dream Playground. Raised a son who played sports on the fields. Keep up the good work!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| I am very interested in the proposed series of trails from Clayton Park to our township park. If there is a committee or anyway that I can help with creating safer roadways for shared use (broader roads, large shoulders, sidewalks) that encourage lifelong fitness and walking rather than driving everywhere please let me know!                                                                                                                  |
| Please consider building a community pool. It's desperately needed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Love progress so far- keep it going!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Thanks for making this survey. Surveys are only good if the readers actually listen to them. You should have trandparency and share the results with the residents. We deserve to know what our neighbors as a collective whole desire.                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| I am all for preserving space and natural resources. Since I am fairly new, I can not give a fair assessment. For the places I have visited, the existing parks are nice, but a lot of empty space that maybe you could add to. We are a big hockey family so an outdoor rink would be great. We also travel to Upper Chichester for the skatepark. My boys (6 and 8) would love one here. A community pool and mini golf place would be great as well! |
| Even though I live in Bethel I use all the parks and playgrounds that Concord has to offer.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| We need more community events in the spring and summer like movie night in the park on a more regular basis as well as sidewalks and trails that safely allow the kids to go from one neighborhood to another. We also need outdoor activities in the winter so children can be more active and social. Right now, organize sports are the only way for kids to be able to connect and they need more unstructured outdoor playtime. |
| Thanks for all the land acquired and the markers! Please explain that I'm a post. Many people think it's just township limits signs.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Lets start spending some of the millions of tax dollars accumulated for open space. Lets spend the developer contributed tree fund. Improvements to the median on route 202 are laughable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Thank you for the opportunity to give my feedback                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| No, thank you for providing this opportunity                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Strongly against development of any current open space. Clayton, farms, ect...                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Please institute bike lanes! Thanks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| You know what would be a food idea... A public outdoor ice rink                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Bethel township<br>Resident                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Community pool would be amazing!! Nothing around here                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Stop building more homes - we need open space.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Please consider a pool!!!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Toooo much emphasis is given to open space. I believe it's important but not nearly as much as the township emphasizes.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Thank you for polling the community!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Pool please                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Very easy to use survey!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| I may not live in concord township but I do live in bethal township and my son and grandson go to GVS. There is nothing teens can do but either get in trouble or sit in the house all day and play video games. I feel we should think of older kids too. Younger kids have parks but older kids don't have much to do.                                                                                                             |
| Keep open space                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| More places for bike friendly rides.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Thank you so much for providing the sand volleyball courts. My friends and family use them multiple times per week!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| none                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Do not like to answer some question because it appears that the township want to restrict some private property against the owners wishes.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Leave the Township the same we don't need it to look like s Springfield or over Townships with side walks and street lights people move here because it is still some what country                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Leave Temple & Smithbridge Road with light.<br>NO TUTNABOUT AT THIS SECTION OF ROADS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| I appreciate you asking for community input. Concord Township is a great place to live!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Interconnecting trails should be a priority, I would be willing to pay higher taxes to accelerate.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Thank you! This is really important!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| I moved to Concord 20+ years ago for 2 reasons, the more rural and open nature of the township and the Schools. It is critical to maintain the rural feel and history of the township. I support parks also but developed parks and paved trails still make the area feel developed. Open/Natural preserved space is important also.                                                                                                                                          |
| What is the time table for the current trails under consideration? Will the neighborhoods that are close to these trails be updated on a regular basis?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| We could be so much more. Enough with the construction and over population. Becoming Springfield                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| More multi-use trails that connect neighborhoods, parks, and the Garnet Valley Schools.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Thank you for creating this survey, hopefully its information will result in real action.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| A little more literature about what is available. A booklet about all the recreation and trails, and all the different activities for the year would be helpful. Many times I "hear" the activities (firecrackers) before I even knew something was being held. Other townships publish a calendar for every person in the township. This would help with planning. To hear about an activity the week before does not work.<br>I appreciate the questionnaire. I hope dometh |
| No, not at this time                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Keep open spaces!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| No thank you.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Please work with our community library which is located in the middle of our park! Coordinate programs and activities. Foolish library isn't a part of this survey! Make our community shine by using all available resources which includes non profit ( Darlington art and newlin grist) plus the library for programs .                                                                                                                                                    |
| Need more family friendly events thru out the year!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Glad to have the opportunity to provide input.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Thanks for taking the pulse of the community                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| We need to slow the Development of this area. When we moved here 30 years ago there were so many farms. Now there are all development s and stoplights, seems like we're living in a small city<br>UGH!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Apologize for the tone of hostility but that's my opinion.Our town is too late to the open space party to preserve real open space, but politically it's a very politically advantageous calling card now. At any rate, who am I to talk? I live in a development on a former farm from the 1700's.The parcel would have made a wonderful agricultural legacy, linked to the grist mill 1/2 mile down Cheyney Road. But it's all gone now, like much of the townships' open space. Nevertheless I support your efforts. |
| Thank you for soliciting input. Land preservation and outdoor conservation is important, and, fiscal responsibility is equally important.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| While we don't take advantage of all that Concord Township has available, we feel strongly that local parks, community activities and exercise trails are very important.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| The parking lots need to be safer. Hear a lot of car break ins.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| NO MORE DEVELOPMENT. Concord is way to crowded already.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| You already have my email.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Twp doing a good job so far, more open space and preservation of the environment and our history would be appreciated                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Good job.<br>Spend the money to make our township great.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Active open space acquisition is a positive. Overall community provides opportunity for more integration and the combination of them both, while connecting to nearby state and national parks should be a priority.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Through the right connected trail rework, you can easily convert a “driving necessity” community to a “walking / biking friendly” connected community                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| We should have open areas for wildlife to exist.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Concord Twp has been a haven for developers. You sold us (the residents) out years ago. You’ve created gridlock on our roads because of the overdevelopment of retail and high density housing. NOW you ask for our opinion! Maybe you can put our interpretive nature exhibits in one of the dozens of empty retail spaces in the township. Or maybe you’ll just allow another zoning change to add another new strip mall. Thanks for giving the residents of Chadds Ford somewhere to shop.                          |
| Too many people = too much litter                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| No. Thanks for the survey.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Thank you for planning more trails for our community                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Having community service type township events would be nice like a clean up the trail event or tree planting event. I would love to see trees planted on that big open hill on the corner of station road and the schools.                                                                          |
| P                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Purchase historic homes in Concord to preserve our future and use as an educational guide for GVHS students.                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Protect the watershed area.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Please stop the developments. Update the zoning and make it more difficult for developers.                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Nature preserve with both paved and natural trails meets needs of all ages. Brings back the rural feeling of the area which we are loosing                                                                                                                                                          |
| There is not enough green space in the township. The Smithbridge park is the only real option and it is crowded (and now noisy with the dog park).                                                                                                                                                  |
| I think Concord Twp. has done a fine job of preserving open space despite development pressures. Keep up the good work! You are appreciated. The survey was not user friendly in format. I probably missed a lot of input opportunities. Sorry.                                                     |
| Adding fitness "stations" along our existing walkways at Smithbridge and the Township building seems like low-hanging fruit that could enhance the existing walkway system for a small investment:<br><a href="https://www.fittrail.com/10station.html">https://www.fittrail.com/10station.html</a> |
| Definitely would like to see more bike trails; important for the community to stay active, connected, and promotes well being.                                                                                                                                                                      |
| The most important improvement would be a biking trail to connects to other regional trails.                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Is there a lical townahip volunteer organization?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Limit new builds to 1 house per acre. Stop cramming houses into every inch of space.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Thank you for doing this survey! Please remember that agriculture is our townships heritage and its important to preserve for future generations.                                                                                                                                                   |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| I have not been able to use the walking trail during the pandemic because people are not wear masks. Ugh.                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Concord Township is a wonderful place to live.!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| only concord residents should be taking this survey                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| why are you asking if we are a concord resident? Shouldn't this survey only go to Concord residents?                                                                                                                                                                                                |



|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| I would love to see more natural/ historic properties preserved in my area. I also think there should be laws put in place to ensure more neighborhoods and commercial properties are not built. I have lived here for 24 years and highly dislike the amount of traffic and people that continue to relocate to this area which was once almost entirely farmland.                                    |
| I think the Park and Recreation Committee does a great job for the community.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| I appreciate the efforts being made in this area however the rampant development while the township has amassed millions of dollars of taxpayer money makes me wonder why this wasn't done 10 years ago. I only need to drive 12 minutes down 202 into DE and I have access to hundreds of acres of open space for hiking, much of it free. I hope you will keep this in mind going forward. Thank you |
| Keep up the great work!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| I have lived here 37 years & unhappy with how every drop of ground has been utilized. What can the board do to stop this. Other townships manage it why can't concord township?                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| The pickleball courts are important for actives eniors, for both activity and socialization. The new courts are great, job well done.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| GREAT JOB...let's keep it going. Thank you                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| A lot of the things suggested are very expensive and our taxes are high enough                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Keep up the new trail plan.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Need more Pickleball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| THANK YOU FOR ASKING FOR OUR OPINIONS ON THISIMPORTANT TOPIC!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| I think preserving Histoircal sites and heritage is most important and more community events to bring the community together.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| no                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Thank you for asking.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Thank you for this survey and the interest in developing our area keeping open spaces.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| I border Concord Township and use the pickleball courts and walking trails.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Adding more pickleball courts and putting windscreens on the existing fences would help. A great sport for seniors!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Pickleball is exploding throughout the country. We need more quarts so people of all ages and skill levels have resources.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| I live 6 minutes away and most of my friends live in Concord and appreciate what you have to offer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Thanks for all you do. Although I do not live in Concord Twp I live in the adjacent Twp and shop in Concord 3 times a week as well. Your pickleball courts have been a Godsend during Covid. Thanks!!!                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| important to preserve open land . not much left.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| I enjoy the walking trail and taking my grandchildren to the playground. My son who lives in Concord Township, as well, brings his dog to the dog park. We appreciate how well they are maintained.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| nope                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| more pickleball!!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Would like lighting on the pickleball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| The new Pickleball courts are a showcase element of the area.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Thanks for providing the opportunity to give input!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| great job on the Pickleball courts, hope you build more                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| I am glad you are considering this and looking for our input. I appreciate it.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| As stated in my individual comments this area is ridiculously over developed. I think the focus needs to be on saving what little rural and wooded natural landscape we have left. That doesn't mean all these areas needs trails or paths. Let nature be nature and leave it alone. It's becoming clear that there's an inherent lack of concern for preserving our community from becoming overcrowded and over developed. Focus on fixing that first!! |
| We are so appreciative if your pickleball courts and the Gherkins organization.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| The courts and the people at the pickleball courts are wonderful. It really brings the community together. We are at a point where 6 is not enough, definitely need more.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Stormwater management along Webb Creek is getting worse. Lived here 23 years, formerly it flooded once, last year we had 3 floods, completely destroying a fence. Something needs to be done now                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| STOP CONCORD PAVING-OVER OUR NATURAL LANDS! STOP WASTING OUR TAX DOLALRS ON PROGRAMS ON BUILDING AND PROGRAMS! STOP LINING YORU POCCKET WITH UNSEEN LOCAL PROFITS FROM YOUR CONTRACTING COMPANIES. STOP STOP STOP! THIS IS ALL JUST INSANE. THE NEW 322 SIX-LANE DITCH IS A REAL RAPE OF OUR LAND, IN YOUR SYYNICAL EFFORT TO DRIVE MORE DEVELOPMENT ANDCROWDING AND POLLUTION IN CoTow. STOP IT ALL!                                                     |
| -I am a 28 year resident, tax payer, every-election voter and deeply concerned American.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| It would be wonderful to have more trails that are not just a short loop and take residents through natural areas.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Please protect or area from being over built. No more new housing developments please. Our area is getting over crowded.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| We need more Pickleball Courts. It is the fastest growing sport in the USA and there are never enough outdoor courts. Players always waiting. The new courts are beautiful and more are needed now.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| What happened to all the money we already allocated to open space?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Thanks for permitting a non township resident how uses rec facilities to participate in the survey                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| A skate park would be a unique and very needed feature for the area                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| The new pickleball courts are great, but they are almost too popular. With all of the new players I've met and the surging interest, I think one the weather breaks they are going to be even more crowded than they were last year.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| More pickle ball courts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Stay classy, historic steer clear of modern upgrades ie new sign on smithbridge, it doesn't fit the community. creating a park system that links the land around each School with biker walking trails would be amazing.<br>Wider walking trail is also better so that people with dogs and bikes can all use the same space without having to adjust speed and location constantly. If you can figure out a way to get kids together on playing in an unorganized way that would be a game changer ie skate park |
| Love playing pickleball                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| I would like to volunteer to help in any way needed with the Rails to Trails initiative.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Good work. Keep it up.<br>Any community pools for those wanting to learn to swim to learn to compete as a swimmer, indoors or out?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| A community pool would be lovely more open space and less building ,traffic is terrible in our township                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Additional Pickleball courts are needed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Stop selling out to builders and save some of our open spaces. Look across the township line to West Chester if your not sure how it's done.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| I live in Edgmont Township, which I consider to be similar in open spaces and operational mind-set. I am not sure if there would be in synergy inworking together for mutual advancements.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Thanks for the opportunity to share my thoughts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| It is exciting to see that you are moving to improve our already wonderful community!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Thank you for asking, and for time spent volunteering as well as fulfilling office responsibilities.<br>I indicated the importance of safe biking and walking along many of our nearby roads, e.g., Smithbridge, Kirk/Temple, Valleybrook Roads so that we can ride to a biking/hiking trail.                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Continue to acquire open space. Stop overdevelopment along 202. Reduce townhouse development.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Residential developers should provide local parks.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Conserve funds.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Thank you for the dog park                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| No others. Read the ones within, please                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| We need more Pickleball courts and wind screen on the existing ones. The Pickleball courts and program are fantastic.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Thank you for taking my suggestions. Feel free to reach out if you need help with this initiative.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Concord Rd. and Smithbridge Rd. are always strewn with trash. I know, you are going to say that they are maintained by the state. No excuse. I am out most Saturday mornings picking up trash.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Create infrastructure not too many additional employees                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Way too much development in concord township. Destroying why people are attracted to the area                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| realtor                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| I think the Township is doing a great job                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| We need to add enforcement presence to the current parks/trails and be sure this is a component of any future work. Perhaps have county or Bethel police pass through current parks (such as dog park)... or revisit the need to add local police to Concord township. Also concerned about safety and trash if more trails and spaces are added. Suggest use of security cameras.                                                                              |
| I would really love to see a community pool in our area                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| We love grist Mills and if township provides funds they should provide more . Hard hit by weather storms. It's really wonderful and could use help.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Thank you for a great township community!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Thank you for requesting this input!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Would love to get more of our local musicians and artists to perform at our parks or outdoor events!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| I want to see the connection to the Chester Creek trail happen as soon as possible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| The most wonderful places to be have easy, safe pedestrian (sidewalks) and bicycling paths. They have places for young and older children, and adults to play outdoors. They have easy access to parks, natural areas and shopping, without a car. Think Sanibel Island, FL, Chicago, IL, or Sunnyvale, CA. Concord township is woefully deficient in places for unscheduled outdoor play for older children and has no opportunity for safe ways to get there. |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Improve the communication between township and residents                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Please no more video signs or dog parks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Thank you for soliciting this feedback.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| I like walking through wooded areas, without trails. I'd like to see more preservation areas, to give the wild animals a safe and comfortable place to live.                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Trail along west branch Chester creek should be natural, unpaved and be respectful of the environment and local residents. Fishing regulations on the creek should consider sustainable trout fishing/stocking as an amazing local recreation opportunity.                                                                   |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| BASKETBALL COURTS. PAVED TRAILS for bike riding between neighborhoods & safety. RECREATION CENTER WITH POOL                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| We drive to Delaware and Coatesville to access mountain bike trails. Would be nice to have local options                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| No tax increases for improvements, period. State and Federal taxes will be going up; the township already has adequate parks and recreation facilities for residents.                                                                                                                                                        |
| Township should better publicize what is already available.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| love living in concord twp.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Do NOT convert Polecat Road to a multi-use trail. Some of the houses are way too close to the road, and the existing rail goes through people's backyards. The residents here are very opposed to this proposal.                                                                                                             |
| None for now                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Basketball courts for kids                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| I don't think we need any more parks or anything. The existing parks are nice and I do appreciate them, but if I had to choose between them and even a small decrease in my taxes I would take less taxes.                                                                                                                   |
| Please make more sidewalks!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Thank you for asking our input and considering our priorities.<br>Kudos to the person or team who developed this survey. It's beautifully designed and intuitive.                                                                                                                                                            |
| Yes. What a mess. Please start cleaning and maintaining what this township already owns. The street that I live on is a mess. You have some really messy properties along Temple Rd. Some of the houses are messy and that landscaping business has a big trash dumpster. I have a list. I would love someone to contact me! |
| Just to say, I appreciate the questions & love my Township!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Thank you for taking this into consideration.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Preserve the open space but land maintenance is sorely needed. Bethel road on the way to thr high school is a disgrace. It also seems a tinderbox. Also, the area net the intersection of Bethel rd on Featherbed needs to be cleaned up. Lastly, why aren't those fences that were put up with the 322 road construction painted black so they would blend in? They did a nice job on the road but those fences are an eyesore!                                                                               |
| Wish for some lighted tennis court and a tennis practice wall in the community! On good days, the tennis court at HS is always full and hard to find spot.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| thank you for taking our input!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Buying up open spaces should be the first priority. How to use them the second. Once the land is gone you can not get it back.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| I am a resident of Fox Valley on Polecat Road. We do not support any rail trail or multi-purpose trail on Polecat Road. There is no room for this. We do not support this plan at all.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Love the continued investment in this area.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Would love to make progress on tieing into the local trail system. It would be awesome if people would be able to bike to the new train station being built as the traffic in that area will be insane in the years ahead. That will probably require the cooperation of the Wawa folks, which I realize is unlikely. I fear we are going to be even more choked by traffic in the next 5 years than we already are. And it's bad now...                                                                       |
| NO pool!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Please make a skatepark.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Long time resident, I believe there needs to be a consistent plan and transparency to our community development. There have been too many zoning concessions for increased density housing and shopping with little to no return to the investment in our community. the tax base wasn't increased enough to manage the influx of people and cars that we now have to manage. a proper, consistent, and transparent plan can help us to understand and support the direction we should take to improve concord |
| Hunters should have access to open space where you are being discriminated against why am I paying my tax dollars for property that I cannot and do not want to use because there is nothing there for me it is growing out of control to not buy anymore open space I do not wish my taxpayer dollars to support this anymore there should be a yearly membership fee or a monthly membership fee it should become a self-supporting program Rock paid for by the taxpayers                                   |
| I am a bethel township resident                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Thanks!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| sidewalks!! We need more sidewalks - especially along Smithbridge!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Love the pickleball courts. Need something to block the wind. And, possibly lighting for night play. What about adding a web camera so that you could see if people are playing before going to the courts.<br>The dog park could use some minor maintenance to the grass and maybe a couple additional benches.                                                                               |
| Thanks for asking this survey and look forward to more connecting trails, and more maps/websites showing existing trails.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Turf with lights :). It is a huge need in this area. There are so few turf fields in GV, west Chester, Chadds Ford, etc. if you build it, they will come.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Stop letting developers come in and build apartments and townhouses. We have enough                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Community Pool would be great.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Community Pool!!!!!!!!!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Bethel resident.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| things are pretty good                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| I like the idea that you are asking our thoughts before proceeding.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| moved recently to the other side of 322                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Concord Twp is a Great Place to Live. There really is a good amount of things to do, as Covid Quarantining has forced us to take notice. I would honestly focus on more Improving what is already there (75% of money and effort) vs. adding things (maybe 25% of the money and effort). That way we can ensure Top Notch Facilities and still being able to Add new things each year/2 years. |
| Outdoor basketball courts are important so the residents of Bethel don't have to drive to Thornbury to play with their friends.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| I'm in Bethel and appreciate the concord park near the schools and library                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Can you help us get outside basketball courts<br>Marisa Small 4844797086<br>Thank you for this survey                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| I think concord township is beautiful and really would hate to see it get cluttered more.. we have already seen so much change in the last 15 years. Some good and some bad. We definitely do not need any more homes or equipment. Let's focus on preserving this beautiful community. I do not want it to become anymore cluttered!                                                          |
| Please consider more for outdoor athletics                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Thank you for investing in this. I would love to take my PE classes biking on paved trails near the middle school!! Or my kids to the playground or team to basketball courts, etc. Thank you thank you                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Please also consider using the obvious overflow of money that the township has to improve general infrastructure - LIKE SEWERS.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Concord Twp is a nice place to live. Stop raising taxes you have a surplus.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Thank you for your dedication to improving our community.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Bethel Township resident                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| The nature should be preserved and protected as much as possible. I think the most important thing to do is plant more trees at the existing parks.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| STOP BUILDING HIGH DENSITY COMMUNITIES. This is not sustainable in our small township and undesirable to those who live here.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Bethel Resident                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| I would love to see more walkability within the township. Sidewalks connecting neighborhoods and extended bike trails                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| thanks for considering the opinions of residents of other nearby communities                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| I really think connecting the communities and neighborhoods with sidewalks and trails and safer busy road crossing, would be great.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Would love to have a tennis wall or some basketball courts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Plenty of areas to improve for Concord residents to get outside for health and enjoyment as long as our township and county taxes are used and allocated wisely after residents have reviewed and approved/voted!<br><a href="https://www.countyoffice.org/pa-delaware-county-dog-park/">https://www.countyoffice.org/pa-delaware-county-dog-park/</a><br>As Delaware County now has 3 dog parks similar to Chester County, I would not approve wasting anymore county or township tax dollars on any future dog related items. |
| Sidewalks for Kirk & smithbridge please!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| I've resided here since 1978                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Preserving and buying land should be the top priority.<br>Adding sports equipment, apparatus, even fences can come later. We need to get the land before it becomes another development or shopping center.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| I am on the Board at Windsor at Glen Mills and I hope the township council will come out to our community once it is safe to gather again. We always found your annual visits very informative.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| no                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Keep the Beaver Valley Area Quiet, peaceful, beautiful and protect nature !!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| There was not the kind of planning that makes this an attractive community. There could have been much more open spaces... woods... nature. So sad that a middle/upper middle-class burb is so poorly planned.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| How about more sidewalks?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Since i moved here in 2919 this area has experienced a great increase in traffic due to development. I would like noise reduction barriers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

|                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| How about plant auctions during summer months!                                                                                                                                                |
| Thank you for the improvements you've done so far!!                                                                                                                                           |
| Traffic and associated noise has worsened dueto massive development. Trees are destroyed for building and not being replaced around site                                                      |
| d.When outdoos Baltimore pike traffic is an audio nuisanc                                                                                                                                     |
| Why not join with other Delaware County municipalities that utilize an Environmental Commission as a voluntary community advisory group to provide research and direction to Council members? |

|                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Thanks                                                                                                 |
| Concord Township is rich with history that we all must work to preserve.                               |
| we just moved to the area and we are just finding out about different things                           |
| I would love to see expanded trails for running, walking, etc. like Applebrook Park in Chester County. |
| We need a spray ground for kids                                                                        |
| No                                                                                                     |