
**SAWKILL-VANDERMARK CREEKS
WATERSHED CONSERVATION PLAN ~ PUBLIC SURVEY
~ June 2001 ~**

Dear Resident: Please take a minute or two to fill out the following questionnaire. Your responses will be considered and your suggestions included in the Sawkill Creek – Vandermark Creek Watershed Conservation Plan.

Name (Optional): _____
Address (Optional): _____
Tax Parcel Number (optional & if known): _____

1. Are you a seasonal resident? (Circle one) yes or no (Check one) ___ Rent or ___ Own
2. Are you a permanent resident? (Circle one) yes or no (Check one) ___ Rent or ___ Own
3. Do you live within 500 feet of a creek or tributary? (Circle one) yes or no
4. Please make an "X" on the map (page one) indicating where you live.
5. What township or borough do you live in?
___ Dingman Township
___ Milford Borough
___ Milford Township
___ Shohola Township
___ Westfall Township
6. Which of the following best describe your land and how it is used?
___ Residential use
___ Commercial use
___ Industrial use
___ Agricultural use
___ Governmental/municipal property
___ Open space (forest, uncultivated field)
___ Other (please specify) _____
7. How have you and members of your family made recreational use of Sawkill-Vandermark Creek and adjacent lands (Check all that apply):
___ Fishing
___ Hiking
___ Irrigation
___ Bird watching
___ Canoeing/kayaking
___ Hunting/trapping
___ Nature observation
___ Boating
___ Swimming/tubing
___ Bicycling
___ Other _____
___ No recreational use
8. What reasons most influenced your original decision to live or spend time here (Check all that apply)?
___ Rural atmosphere
___ Natural environment & scenery
___ Low taxes
___ Affordable housing costs
___ Quality of schools
___ Close to friends & relatives
___ Quiet and peaceful
___ Close to work
___ Job transfer
___ Born or raised here
___ Other _____

9. Please indicate which of the following might happen to your land within the next ten years (check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Remain under my ownership in its present condition | <input type="checkbox"/> Subdivide or develop |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transfer to heirs | <input type="checkbox"/> Put under conservation easement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sell | <input type="checkbox"/> Sell or donate to land trust or public agency for conservation |

10. If you live within 500' of a stream, why did you choose to own property on or near the waterfront? (Check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I like to live near a creek | <input type="checkbox"/> I enjoy river/creek recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I bought my property as an investment to later sell | <input type="checkbox"/> I inherited the property |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable |

11. Please check the three qualities or characteristics of the watershed that you feel are most important:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A good place to live | <input type="checkbox"/> Important for tourism and recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Home to many plant and animal species | <input type="checkbox"/> Many cultural and historical resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> An important resource for many commercial and industrial uses | <input type="checkbox"/> Relatively undeveloped |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> A place of great scenic beauty |

12. The list below includes some of the possible goals that might be included in the watershed management plan. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each possible goal.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Preservation of undeveloped land					
Increased residential development					
Increased shopping centers and retail areas					
Increased industrial growth					
Preservation of farmland and farming					
Increased Tourism (Historic & Prehistoric)					
Increased Tourism (Natural)					
Creek-based recreational opportunities					
Land-based recreational opportunities					
Preservation of historic resources					
Preservation of creek water quality					
Increased fishing opportunities					
Preservation of rural character					
Protection of wildlife habitat					
Maintaining biodiversity					

13. Indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements.

a. I support land use regulations and programs that would conserve/protect open land in the watershed.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- No opinion
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

b. I favor some development in the watershed.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- No opinion
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

c. I oppose any conservation effort that restricts land development in the watershed.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- No opinion
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

14. Please indicate the importance of each of the following aspects of the watershed.

	Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	Neutral / Undecided
Drinking water quality					
Air quality					
Wetlands					
Endangered species					
Mature forests					
Wildlife quality					
Stream corridor protection					
River access					
Waterfall areas					
Scenic views					
Historic buildings					
Architectural compatibility					
Other					

15. Conservation and management of resources may include zoning regulations that prohibit development in certain areas recommended for protection, regulations that require developers to do certain things to protect on-site resources, purchasing land for open space, and educating the public about the importance of protecting resources. With that in mind, who should have major responsibility for conservation and management of resources and near the Sawkill Creek – Vandermark Creek and their tributaries (you may check more than one responsible entity)?

- Local (municipal) government
- County government
- Conservation organization(s)
- Landowners and private citizens
- State government
- Federal government
- Coalitions of public and private organizations
- Other (please list below)

16. To what extent are government agencies meeting the need for conservation and management of resources on the Sawkill Creek- Vandermark Creek and their tributaries?
 Completely Moderately
 Mostly Not meeting needs

17. What do you think private citizens and landowners with creek-front property should do to help conserve natural, historical, prehistoric and recreational resources? (Check all that apply)
 Practice conservation on their properties Become more active in conservation efforts
 Learn more about conservation techniques Nothing, it's not their responsibility
 Urge better government planning Other (please list)
 Get involved with local planning _____

18. Should more open space be preserved throughout the watershed (circle one) Yes or No

19. How should more open space be preserved? (Check all that apply)
 Zoning Private funding (e.g., conservancies)
 Public acquisition (taxes) Other (please list)
 Public acquisition (agency grant money) _____

20. Prior to receiving this questionnaire, had you heard about the Sawkill & Vandermark Creek Conservation Plan currently being conducted by the Pike County Office of Community Planning & Human Development? Yes No

21. Through which of the following sources did you receive your information? (Check all that apply):
 I read about the study in the newspaper I heard about the study from a friend or relative
 I attended a meeting where the study was discussed Other (please specify)

22. Would you support any of the following funding initiatives to improve access and recreational opportunities within the Sawkill-Vandermark Creeks Watershed? (Check all that apply)
 Municipal Bond No, I am not willing to financially support capital improvements in the watershed
 Increased Taxes Other: _____
 Permits and/or User Fees

23. Do you have any comments regarding the study or the future of the Sawkill/Vandermark Creeks Watershed area? (Please use backside of this page for your comments).

24. Are you interested in any of the following? (Check all that apply)**
 Serving on a Task Group Being placed on meeting mailing list
 Doing volunteer work Participating in a field assessment

** If you've checked any of these, please be sure your name & address are legible on first page
Email: _____ Phone: _____

Thank you so much for your participation in the Sawkill-Vandermark Creeks Watershed Conservation Planning effort! Please return survey in the attached envelope to Pike County Planning & Human Development, 506 Broad Street, Milford, PA 18337, Earl Verbeek, (570)-296-3440.