

## Susquehanna River Orientation & Safety Panels

The purpose of this project was to develop a unified orientation and safety signage system for over 500 miles of the Susquehanna River Water Trail (including the North and West Branches) in Pennsylvania.

Orientation and safety signage provides basic orientation, user and safety information. Unified signage was accomplished through the design of a sign template.



Paddlers enjoying the Endless Mountains section of the North Branch. Photo: Middleton Evans

## Partners

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### Project Manager:

PA Environmental Council

### Major Funders:

Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network,

National Park Service

PA Department of Conservation &

Natural Resources

### Provided In-Kind Installation Assistance:

PA Fish & Boat Commission

Local Property Owners/Municipalities

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

Endless Mountain Heritage Region

Lancaster County Planning Commission

Lancaster York Heritage Region

Lumber Heritage Region

Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy

North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning & Development Commission

Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program, National Park Service

SEDA-Council of Governments

Susquehanna Greenway Partnership

Susquehanna River Basin Commission

Susquehanna River Trail Association

### Graphic Design Consultant:

Kirilloff Design

### Fabricator:

Pannier Graphics

### Cartography Consultant:

Eureka Cartography

## Susquehanna River Orientation & Safety Panels



### Project Description and Information



Pennsylvania  
Environmental  
Council

**For More Information:**  
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## Panel Components

- **Headings**—The main heading was the same on every panel. The second and third lines were changes per river reach and access point.
- **Overview Text**—This text was repeated on every panel and included information relevant to the entire river.
- **Water Trail Map**—One of the most important components of the panels. This project used existing water trail maps that were created by local project managers. There were changes to the maps to make them appropriate for these panels. Some of the maps were horizontal and some were vertical.
- **Safety Information & Safety Image**—In addition to safety information provided by the maps, there was a clear safety message that was repeated on every panel.
- **Logo & Partner Recognition**—The partners determined a hierarchy for recognition on the panels that changed per reach.


### Susquehanna River Water Trail

West Branch — Lock Haven to Northumberland  
DCNR Milton State Park Access

The Susquehanna River is an American treasure reflecting the places and people of the Pennsylvania heartland. Enjoy your trip on the Susquehanna River Water Trail—an integral part of the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Susquehanna River Greenway networks. The Susquehanna Greenway is a place and a journey that connects people to the Susquehanna River. It provides both land and water based recreational corridors of open space and scenic byways. The Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network is a partnership system of over 20 water trails and 120 parks, refuges, museums, and historic sites in the Chesapeake watershed.




**The River and the Bay**  
With a watershed of nearly 28,000 square miles, the Susquehanna River supplies the Chesapeake Bay with fifty percent of its fresh water (24 billion gallons) on a typical day.




**Section 15**

Forested rolling hills.  
Steep mountains.  
Fertile farmlands.  
This region is part of the Lumber Heritage Region—which celebrates the area's rich history and heritage.

More than half of the region's population lives within the river corridor with convenient access to state forests, park and game lands, scenic river stretches, and hiking, biking and hunting opportunities. Anglers enjoy both warmwater and coldwater fishing. Increasing numbers of visitors use the Pine Creek Rail-Trail system linking Jersey Shore to the Pine Creek Gorge.





**For Your Safety & Enjoyment**

- ☑ Always wear a life jacket.
- ☑ Obtain proper instruction in boating skills.
- ☑ Know fishing and boating regulations.
- ☑ Be prepared for river hazards.
- ☑ Carry proper equipment.

**Plan Your Trip**

Tell someone where you are boating and when you expect to return.

Check the weather and know the waters where you will boat.

Stay away from hazards like dams and trees in the water.

Drinking and boating do not mix.

For more boating safety information visit [www.fish.state.pa.us](http://www.fish.state.pa.us).

**Leave No Trace**

Travel and camp on durable surfaces.


Dispose of waste properly.


Leave what you find.

Minimize campfires.

Respect wildlife.

Be considerate of other visitors.





- **Index Map & Watershed Information**—This information was the same on every panel. The specific geographic area of each map was highlighted in yellow.
- **Activity Image**—This image changed for every reach and was intended to give a feel for the type of activity taking place along that stretch of the river.
- **Reach Specific Text**—This text was change for each reach of the river.
- **Iconic Image**—Located at the bottom of the panel, this image was changed for each reach of the river.

### Phase I Accomplishments:

- 49 total panels
- 20+ project partners including landowners
- Six separate panel templates

### River Reaches:

1. Lower Susquehanna
2. Middle Susquehanna
3. West Branch (two templates)
4. North Branch (two templates)