Nature is serious business.

WHAT IS THE VALUE OF OUR CLEAN AIR, WATER, AND OPEN SPACE? WHAT HAPPENS TO OUR QUALITY OF LIFE IF WE CONTINUE TO LOSE FORESTS, STREAMS, AND WETLANDS?

The forested hills, streams, and scenic views provided by Perry County’s open spaces have been a major part of its residents’ natural heritage, culture, and pride since the area was settled almost 300 years ago. More than just pretty places, Perry County’s forests and stream valleys are productive assets that generate over $900 million annually in avoided costs for natural system services and air pollution removal, reduced healthcare costs, revenues from outdoor recreation and local and state taxes, and increased tax revenues from real estate premiums.

PERRY COUNTY’S MAJOR ASSETS INCLUDE:

// Adjacent to Harrisburg, while still maintaining rural character
// High-quality fishing waters
// Part of the Kittatinny Ridge, with beautiful mountain scenery
// Easy access to the Appalachian Trail and other local trails
// Historic river towns like Duncannon, Millersburg, Newport, Millerstown, Marysville, and Liverpool
// Convergence of the Juniata and Susquehanna rivers
// Great habitats for hunting
// Above-average incomes per household
// Significant amount of public land
// Important habitat for at-risk flora like the box huckleberry
// Thriving local artist community, with many cultural events
Our natural assets are essential to our everyday life.

PERRY COUNTY'S OPEN SPACES PROVIDE NATURAL SYSTEM SERVICES AND RECREATIONAL AND PROPERTY-VALUE BENEFITS THAT EXCEED **$900 MILLION ANNUALLY**

**$830.6 MILLION IN ANNUAL SAVINGS**

- **NATURAL SYSTEM SERVICES**
  - Pollination: $81.3
  - Biological Control: $17.2
  - Aquatic Resources: $11.5
  - Erosion Control: $1.5
  - Stormwater: $242.3
  - Habitat: $427.8
  - Groundwater: $41.0
  - Nutrient Uptake: $70.1

**$59.3 MILLION IN ANNUAL REVENUE**

- **OUTDOOR RECREATION**
  - Fishing: $3.3
  - Camping: $3.0
  - Kayaking/Canoeing: $3.0
  - Walking: $2.8
  - Mountain Biking: $3.8
  - Birding/Bird Watching: $4.7
  - Wildlife Watching: $5.1
  - Jogging/Running: $5.3
  - Bicycling: $7.9
  - Hunting: $13.5
  - Cross-Country Skiing: $1.3
  - Nature Study: $0.4
  - Hiking/Backpacking: $5.5

**$4 MILLION IN ANNUAL AVOIDED COSTS**

- Air Pollution Removal by Trees

**$9.9 MILLION IN ANNUAL AVOIDED COSTS**

- Carbon Sequestration

**622 ANNUAL JOBS CREATED**

- **OUTDOOR RECREATION BENEFIT**

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Encourage elected officials and policymakers to incorporate Return on Environment strategies into decision making
- Learn the principles of good land stewardship
- Consider the environmental impact of land development and economic growth
- Promote environmentally sustainable businesses
- Support incentives to protect and restore critical natural system services
- Participate in environmental education programs and community initiatives

DOWNLOAD THE FULL ROE REPORT AT KITTATINNYRIDGE.ORG/EXPLORE/ROE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT PERRYCD.ORG AND TCRPC-PA.ORG