

PENNSYLVANIA

Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage



LWCF Funded Places in Pennsylvania

Federal Program

- Allegheny NF
- Allegheny Portage NHS
- *Appalachian Trail
- Brandywine Battlefield
- Cherry Valley NWR
- *Delaware Water Gap NRA
- Flight 93 NMem
- Fort Necessity NB
- Friendship Hill NHS
- Gettysburg NMP
- Grey Towers NHS
- Independence NHP
- John Heinz Tinicum NWR
- Johnstown Flood NMem
- Paoli Battlefield
- Upper Delaware SRR
- Valley Forge NHP

Federal Total \$ 126,400,000

Forest Legacy Program

\$ 13,400,000

Habitat Conservation (Sec.6)

\$ 262,000

American Battlefield Protection Program

\$ 4,400,000

Highlands Conservation Act

\$ 12,700,000

State & Local Program

Total State Grants \$ 174,100,000

Total \$ 332,000,000

*multistate project

LWCF Success in Pennsylvania

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has provided funding to help protect some of Pennsylvania's most special places and ensure recreational access for hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. Pennsylvania has received approximately \$332 million in LWCF funding over the past five decades, protecting places such as the Flight 93 National Memorial, Gettysburg National Military Park, Valley Forge National Historical Park, Appalachian National Scenic Trail and the Allegheny National Forest. Recently, LWCF funds were also used to help found the Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

Forest Legacy Program (FLP) grants are also funded under LWCF, to help protect working forests. The FLP cost-share funding supports timber sector jobs and sustainable forest operations while enhancing wildlife habitat, water quality and recreation. For example, the FLP contributed to places such as the Tree Farm at Michaux State Forest in Adams County and the Birdsboro Waters project in Berks County. The FLP assists states and private forest owners to maintain working forest lands through matching grants for permanent conservation easement and fee acquisitions, and has leveraged approximately \$11 million in federal funds to invest in Pennsylvania's forests, while protecting air and water quality, wildlife habitat, access for recreation and other public benefits provided by forests.

LWCF state assistance grants have further supported hundreds of projects across Pennsylvania's state and local parks including the Mt. Pisgah State Park, Ricketts Glen State Park, and the Delaware State Forest.

Economic Benefits

The Outdoor Industry Association has found that active outdoor recreation generates \$29.1 billion annually in consumer spending in Pennsylvania, supports 251,000 jobs across the state which generate \$8.6 billion in wages and salaries and produces \$1.9 billion annually in state and local tax revenue. The U.S. Census Bureau reports that each year over 5.4 million people participated in hunting, fishing, and wildlife watching in Pennsylvania contributing \$5.4 billion to the state economy.

Top: Gettysburg NMP Credit: NPS

SUPPORT FULL AND PERMANENT FUNDING FOR
THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

LWCF in Pennsylvania

Flight 93 National Memorial



Flight 93 National Memorial
Credit: NPS

On the morning of September 11, after hearing word about the hijacking of other planes and the horrific destruction in New York City and the Pentagon, the passengers and crew of Flight 93 made a collective and daring decision to take action. Working together, they fought for control of the plane, ultimately crashing it in a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania and thereby thwarting an attack on the U.S. Capitol building - its intended target. All aboard including 37 passengers and 7 crew members died bravely to save lives and prevent another deadly attack. Honoring the passengers and crew and marking their place in history has been essential for our collective healing, remembrance and inspiration. LWCF contributed \$10 million to the acquisition of the property on which the Memorial is located and scenic easements in the surrounding area.

Status of the Land and Water Conservation Fund

In 2019, permanent authorization of LWCF was secured as part of S. 47, the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act. Passage of the Dingell Act ensures that LWCF no longer faces the uncertainty of potential expiration, and that the unique structure and inflow of funds to LWCF is protected. The focus is now on permanent full funding for LWCF – ensuring that each year the \$900 million deposited into the LWCF account actually goes towards conservation and recreation priorities. Over the 55 years of the program, over \$22 billion has been diverted from LWCF to other, unknown purposes. That means that our public lands, waters, and historic sites have been put in peril. As open space continues to shrink, LWCF investments become even more critical to providing the outdoor opportunities for all future generations

The Land and Water Conservation Fund Permanent Funding Act – S. 1081 and H.R. 3195 – have passed through their respective committees and are ready for floor votes in both chambers.

LWCF is a simple idea: that a portion of offshore drilling fees should be used to protect important land and water for all Americans. These are not taxpayer dollars. Unfortunately, the promise of LWCF has been broken. The program is authorized to receive up to \$900 million each year—but most of these funds have been diverted elsewhere. Now is the time to fix this and ensure that funds retained in the LWCF account are used for their intended conservation and recreation purposes.

LWCF supports the acquisition of land and conservation easements to protect our national parks, wildlife refuges, forests, trails, and BLM sites, grants funds to the states for local and state park needs, protects critical wildlife habitat, watersheds and recreational access, and conserves working farms, ranches and forestlands that enhance local economies.



www.lwcfcoalition.org

LWCF Appropriations FY2000-FY2020

