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Edward G. Rendell, Governor

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Economic Impact Resources

The links below provide a sample of the Economic Impact Studies that have been completed to demonstrate the value of conservation and outdoor recreation.

[Trail Studies](#)

[Outdoor Recreation Studies](#)

[Benefits of Open Space](#)

Trail Studies

A Comparison of Five Pennsylvania Trails

This table was created to compare the expenditures of trail users while visiting the Schuylkill River Trail, Ghost Town Trail, Perkiomen Trail, Pine Creek Rail Trail, and the Great Allegheny Passage.

[Trail Survey Comparisons Table](#)

Schuylkill River Trail: 2009 User Survey and Economic Impact Analysis

This survey provides information on trail user characteristics, needs, trail maintenance strengths and weaknesses, and the economic impacts of the Schuylkill River Trail; a multi-use pathway that generally follows the course of the Schuylkill River from Pottsville to Philadelphia, PA.

[Summary - Schuylkill River Trail](#)

<http://community.railstotrails.org/media/p/6865.aspx>

Ghost Town Trail: 2009 User Survey and Economic Impact Analysis

This survey provides information on trail user characteristics, the economic impacts of the trail, area demographics, and user opinions of the Ghost Town Trail; a multi-use trail in western Pennsylvania traversing 36 miles from Ebensburg in Cambria County to Saylor Park in Black Lick, Indiana County.

[Summary - Ghost Town Trail](#)

<http://community.railstotrails.org/media/p/8037.aspx> or

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/brc/Publications/Pubs/GhostTownTrailUsersSurveyfinal.pdf>

Perkiomen Trail: 2008 User Survey and Economic Impact Analysis

This survey provides information on trail user characteristics, the economic impacts of the trail, area demographics, and user opinions of the Perkiomen Trail; a multi-use trail running along Perkiomen Creek in southeast Pennsylvania that connects to the Schuylkill River Trail.

[Summary - Perkiomen Trail Survey](#)

<http://community.railstotrails.org/media/p/12.aspx>

Pine Creek Rail Trail: 2006 User Survey and Economic Impact Analysis

This study provides information on trail user characteristics, the economic impacts of the trail, area demographics, and user opinions of the Pine Creek Rail Trail; a destination trail located in the north-central part of Pennsylvania, beginning at Ansonia and ending at Jersey Shore.

[Summary - Pine Creek Rail Trail Survey](#)

<http://community.railstotrails.org/media/p/11.aspx>

Trail User Surveys and Economic Impact: A Comparison of Trail User Expenditures

This report compares economic and demographic data from seven rail-trails in Pennsylvania and seven rail-trails in the northeast United States that were comparable to those in PA.

[Summary - Trail User Survey](#)

<http://www.railstotrails.org>

Trail Town Economic Impact Study (Phase I: Business Survey)

This study updated data from a 2005 economic impact study that was conducted before the Great Allegheny Passage was completed. The study focuses on the impacts the trail has on local businesses.

[Summary - GAP Trail Town](#)

<http://www.towncenter.info>

2008 Trail Town Economic Impact Study (Phase II: Trail User Survey)

This study was conducted to find economic and demographic data on trail users and how they impact the Great Allegheny Passage.

[Summary - GAP Trail Town 2](#)

<http://www.towncenter.info>

The Great Allegheny Passage: Economic Impact Study (Phase III: 2007-2008)

This report compares the differences in business operations and sales revenues during the time period of 2007 to 2008.

[Summary - GAP Trail Town 3](#)

<http://www.towncenter.info>

Outdoor Recreation Studies

The Economic Significance and Impact of Pennsylvania State Parks: An Assessment of Visitor Spending on the State and Regional Economy

This study presents data on the direct and indirect impacts state park visitors have on Pennsylvania's economy.

[Summary - State Parks Study](#)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/economicimpact/index.aspx>

2006 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation

This survey collects information on the number of anglers, hunters, and wildlife watchers; how often they participate; and how much they spend on their activities in the United States.

[Summary - Fishing Hunting and Wildlife Survey](#)

http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/NationalSurvey/nat_survey2006_final.pdf

Pennsylvania's Recreation Plan 2004-2008: Executive Summary

This report devises a plan to improve outdoor recreation opportunities throughout the commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

[Summary - Recreation Guide](#)

http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/brc/publications/Pubs/RecGuide_ExecSummary.pdf

DCNR Outdoor Traveler Study

This study calculates and explains useful market and economic data on Pennsylvania's tourism regions and the impacts outdoor recreation has on the state and regional economies.

[Summary - DCNR Outdoor Traveler Study](#)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/recstudy/outdoorsurvey.pdf>

Pennsylvania Heritage Tourism Study

This report provides market intelligence on Pennsylvania's Heritage Tourism industry and then compares the findings to those of the *DCNR Outdoor Traveler Study* that was conducted for the same year, 1997.

[Summary - Heritage Tourism Study](#)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/recstudy/finalreport.pdf>

Benefits of Open Space**Conservation: An Investment that Pays The Economic Benefits of Parks and Open Space**

The main focus of this paper is to discuss the economic importance of parks and open spaces to urban communities surrounding the open spaces.

[Summary - Parks and Open Space](#)

http://www.tpl.org/content_documents/EconBenefitsReport_7_2009.pdf

The Economic Benefits of Open Space, Recreation Facilities & Walkable Community Design

This research synthesis focuses on "private" benefits that accrue to nearby homeowners and to other users of open space.

[Summary - Economic Benefits of Open Space](#)

http://www.activelivingresearch.org/files/Synthesis_Shoup-Ewing_March2010.pdf

How Much Value Does the City of Philadelphia Receive from its Park & Recreation System?

This study discusses the importance of parks to the city of Philadelphia regarding property values, tax revenues, pollution control, tourism spending, consumer saving, and residential health.

[Summary - Philadelphia Parks](#)

http://www.tpl.org/content_documents/Philaparkvaluereport.pdf