

New Garden Open Space Review Board 2020 Annual Report

Open Space Preservation Activity



2020 was a busy year for the Township’s Open Space Review Board (OSRB) to conserve land. Ongoing discussion with owners interested in preserving their land totals 178 acres. Negotiations added 33 acres to 288 acres of conserved agricultural land. Trail easements were discussed with several land owners potentially expanding the New Garden trail system by more than two miles and connecting existing trails and preserved lands.

Members of the OSRB volunteered over 950 hours to preserving open space; site visits, continuing negotiations from the previous year, informing interested land owners about conservation easements options, evaluating a potential property for its nature and wildlife quality and assessing complimentary characteristics such as land size, public access, historical features, development risk and proximity to existing preserved land. Trail negotiations continue to reconfigure the not-constructed twenty year old trail easement along the Candlewyck Community’s property.

Reports/Activities

- Steven Dooley joined the OSRB filling vacancy left by David Unger’s (now Supervisor).
- Expanded the total agriculture easements from 288 to 321 acres.
- Ten of the twelve OSRB meetings were virtual due to Covid restrictions.
- Developed an internal expenditure profile tool facilitating the analysis of funding sources for land conservation recommendations.
- Natural Lands presented a public review of twenty years providing professional guidance for New Garden Township and, since 2005, for the Open Space Review Board’s discussions with property owners on the mechanics of conserving their land and creating trail easements.
- OSRB members participated in Saint Anthony in the Hills 10 year Master plan.
- Incorporating the 2019 Trail Prioritization Plan in future trail easements connecting to Kennet Township, to St. Anthony’s in the Hills and expanding the White Clay Creek trail system.



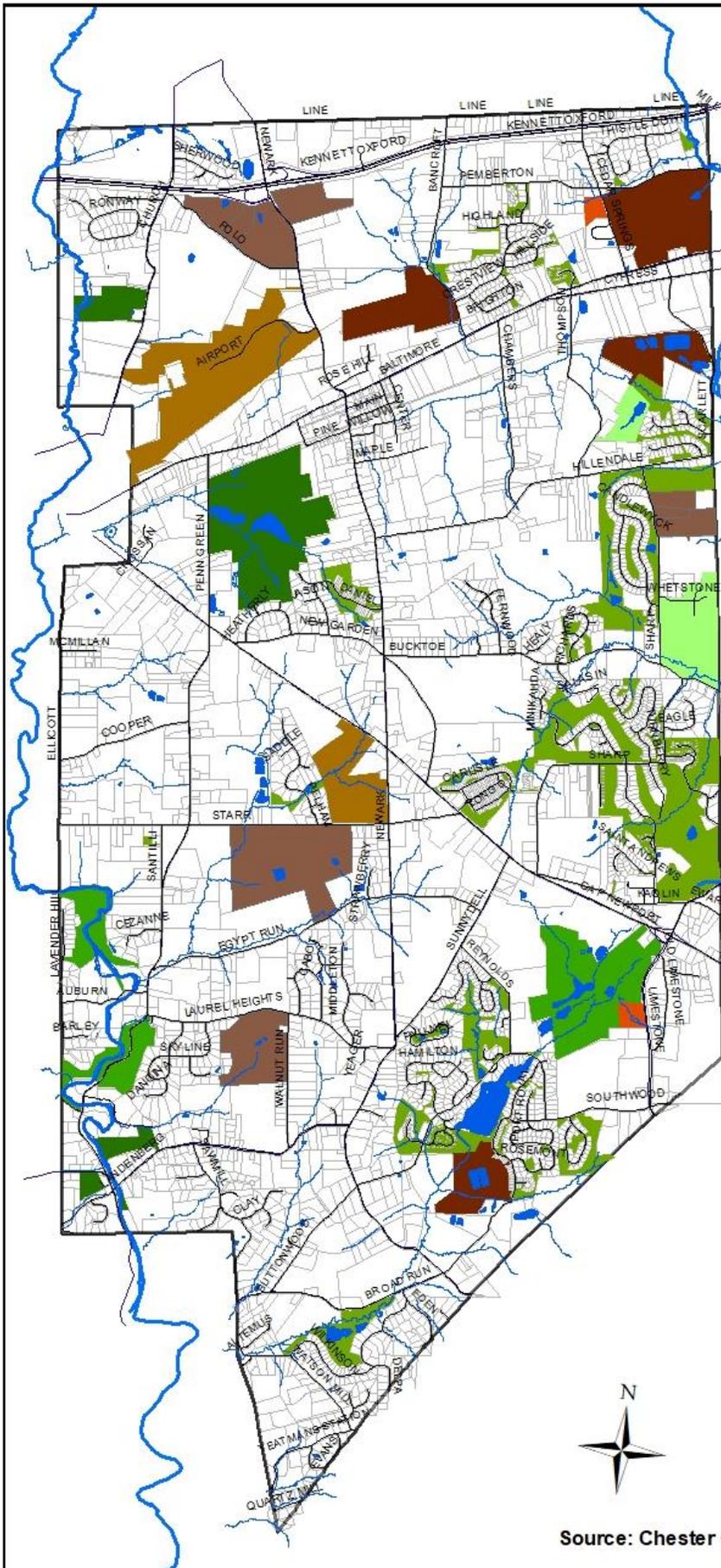
Open Space Review Board Members
Chris Robinson: Chair
Randy Lieberman: Vice Chair
Richard Meinzer: Secretary
Joe Miscione: Treasurer
Kecia Crowl
Suzanne Geouque
Steven Dooley
Kate Ramon: Consultant (Natural Lands)

Resources:

- [The Economic Value of Protected Open Space](https://www.chescoplanning.org/) (Chescoplanning.org)
- [Chester County Protected Open Space Tracking](https://www.chescoplanning.org/) (Chescoplanning.org)
- [Tools for Open Space](https://www.chescoplanning.org/) (Chescoplanning.org)
- [New Garden Trail Prioritization Plan](https://www.newgarden.org/) (Newgarden.org)
- [New Garden Greenways Plan](https://www.newgarden.org/) (Newgarden.org)
- [Natural Lands](https://www.natlands.org/) (Natlands.org)
- [The Land Conservancy](https://www.tlcforscc.org/) (Tlcforscc.org)

Maps below: “OSRB’s Protected Properties”, “Trail Prioritization Plan”, “Greenways Plan”, “Township Official Map”

New Garden Township Protected Properties 2020



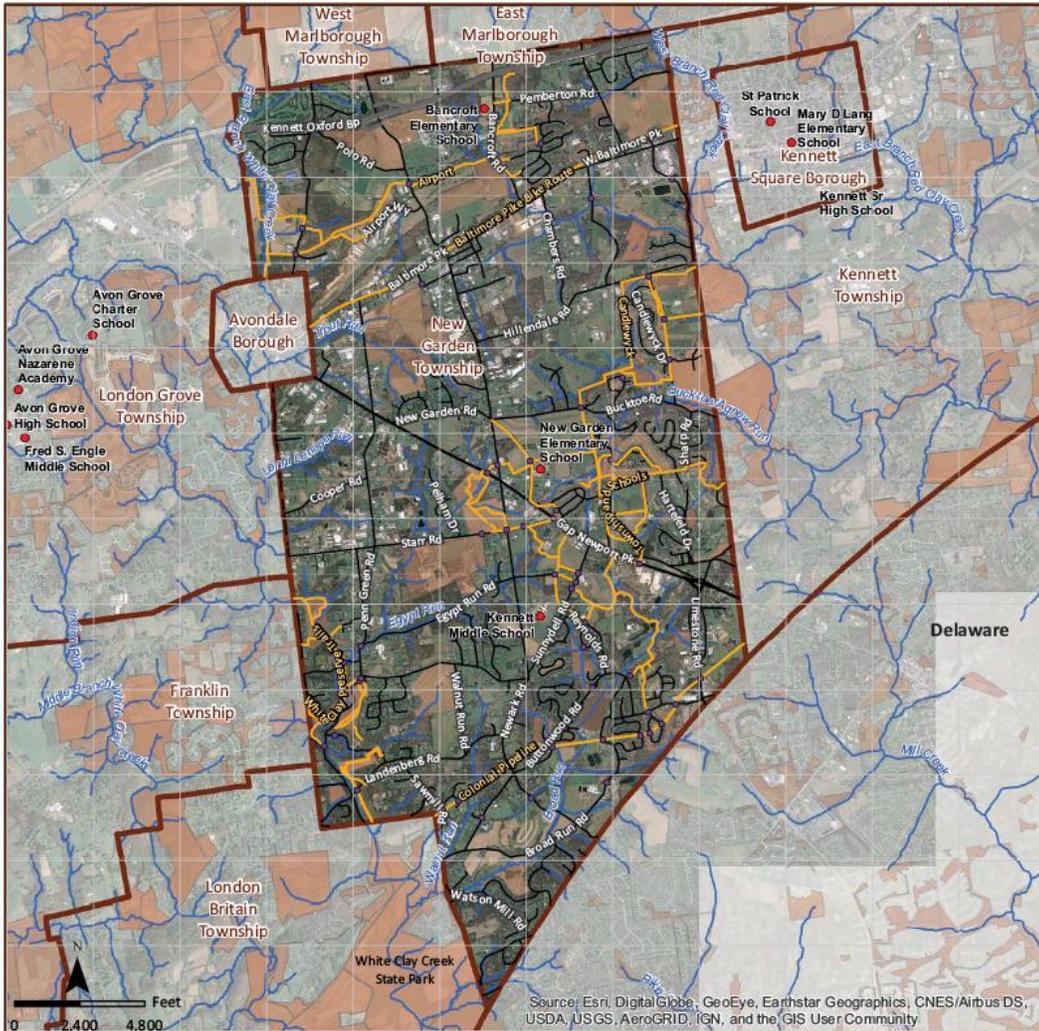
- 1,880 acres, or eighteen percent, of New Garden Township, are to a degree protected from development:
- * 225 acres under a conservation easement. Some with trails.
 - * 222 acres in preserves, some with trails.
 - * 244 acres contain the Township Park, Township Airfield and trails.
 - * Land Trust easements preserve 93 acres.
 - * Municipal undeveloped open space contains 15 acres.
 - * Four farm properties are under an agricultural easement totaling 322 acres.
 - * 263 acres provide land for sewer treatment.
 - * Though they may look gerrymandered, 497 acres are preserved by Home Owner Associations. (HOA)

Note: About 30% of Township land is in agricultural use (Act 515). Most are not highlighted in this map.

	NGTN Park & Airport (244 acres)
	Preserves (222 acres)
	Municipal open space (15 acres)
	Conservation Org Owner (93 acres)
	County Ag Easement (322 acres)
	Township Sewer Authority (263) **
	Conservation Easement (221 acres)
	HOA (497 acres)

** Sewer System sold December 2020

Source: Chester Cnty Landscapes2 & NGTN OSRB, February 2020



New Garden Trail Prioritization Planning

New Garden Township,
Chester County, PA

-  Existing and Proposed Trails
-  School
-  Road Crossing
-  Local Road
-  State Road
-  US Highway
-  Municipal Boundaries
-  Protected Lands
-  Waterways

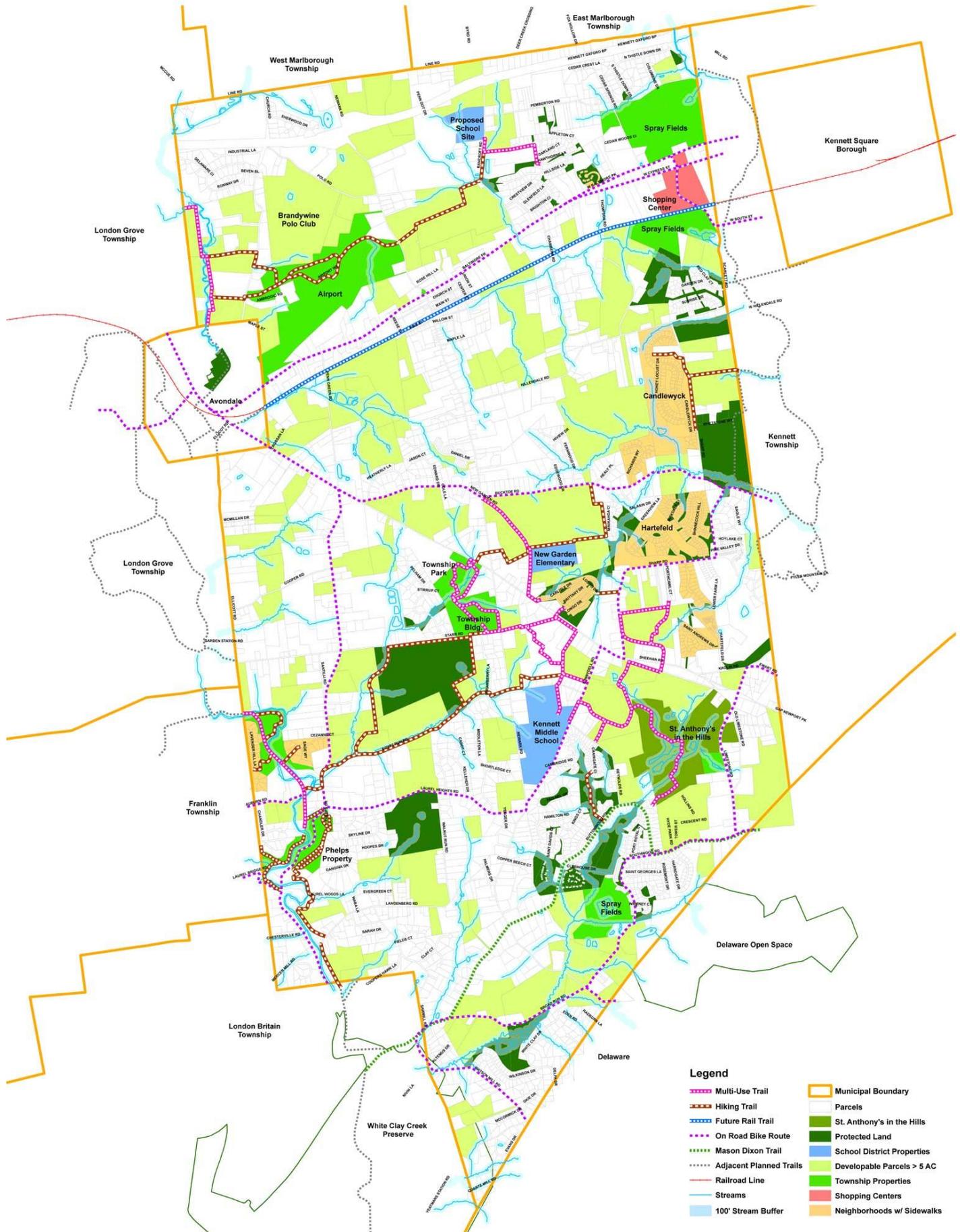


1031 Palmers Mill Road, Media, PA 19063
610-353-5587 | natllands.org

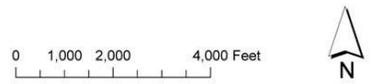
1. Aerial imagery courtesy of DVRPC (2010).
 2. Protected lands from Chester County (2018) and The Nature Conservancy (2005).
 3. Waterways and roadways from Chester County (2016).
- Compiled By: CMA 8/30/19

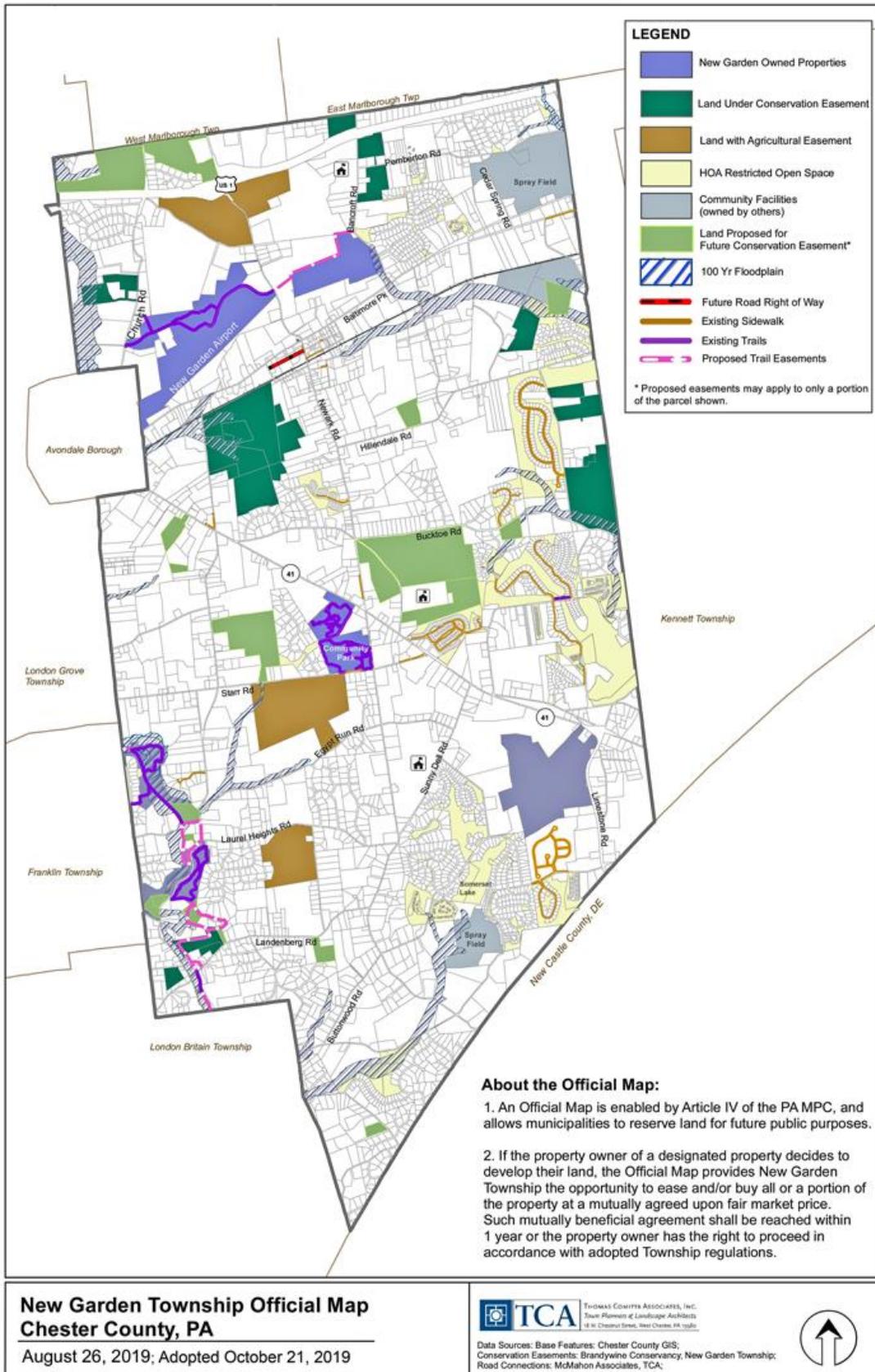
Disclaimer: This map is not a survey. The information imparted with this map is meant to assist Natural Lands Trust, Inc., describe the placement of certain retained, reserved, or excluded rights and to calculate acreage figures. Property boundaries, while approximate, were established using the best available information, which may have included: surveys, tax maps, field mapping using GPS, and/or orthophotos. Natural Lands Trust, Inc., makes no representation as to the accuracy of said property lines (or any other lines), and no liability is assumed by reason of reliance hereon. Use of this map for other than its intended purpose requires the written consent of Natural Lands Trust, Inc.

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community



Greenway Trails Plan
New Garden Township Greenways Plan
 New Garden Township, Chester County, PA
 SC #07089.10 - September 2008





Note: The OSRB meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the second Tuesday of each month at the Township building on Starr Road. The public session of the meeting are open to the public and all are welcome to attend. An executive session follows the public session where all Open Space Review Board discussions about proposed or ongoing property and easement acquisitions are kept confidential and privileged. The Board of Supervisors holds a public hearing for the proposed expenditure of open space funds for each proposed acquisition. The OSRB invites residents to attend its public session to learn about the Township's protected lands, trails, wildlife, agriculture, history and the process to preserve land.