Agenda

- Welcome & introduction
- Recap Discussion Session
- Workshop summary
- Environment & Open Space roundtable
- Natural environment presentation
- Open Space presentation
- Public Comment

	2020					2021												2022								
	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Background Data	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																	
Visioning		X				X	X	X		X		X														
Public Workshops Part 1								X	X																	
Public Input Online Survey									X	X	X															
Analysis and Development of Recommendations and Strategies										X	X	X	X	X	X	X										
Drafting and Revising Plan Document														X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Public Workshops Part 2																				X						
Public Review of Draft Document																							X	X	X	
Adoption																										X

Workshop Findings

Visioning Exercise | 28 Participants, 124 responses

The Questions:

1. What should we maintain or preserve?
   17 participants, 33 responses
2. What can we repair or reimagine?
   23 participants, 48 responses
3. What do you want to see in 2040?
   22 participants, 43 responses

Employment and Business Development

Key Points:

- Small businesses are a priority
- Businesses like flexibility in zoning
- Target vacancies, businesses benefit from neighbors
- Make business areas more community-oriented

Questions:

- Where can this happen?

Commercial Character

Key Points:

- Make Ridge Pike a more attractive, walkable place
- Help Evansburg to be more like Skippack village
- More options for dining, entertainment, event venues, and retail
- Reuse or redevelop vacant places
- Want to look more like a Main Street

Natural Environment

Key Points:

- Flooding issues located
- Work with state on recreation, flood mitigation, building maintenance, safety in the state park
- Maintenance and best practices on public land
- Education and resources for property owners

Walking and Biking

Key Points:

- Sidewalk gaps, roads without sidewalks, crosswalks are concerns
- Snow plowing causes access issues at corners
- Lighting and signage would help
- Connections between neighborhoods, commercial areas, recreation, community destinations

Traffic and Transit

Key Points:

- Congestion, walkability, and crashes are concerns at major intersections (e.g. Ridge and Trooper, Audubon and Pawlings, Egypt and Trooper)
- Lack of sidewalks and walkability is a concern
- Suggestion to look at traffic light timing

Questions:

- How could transit be made more convenient in the township?

Housing and Neighborhoods

Key Points:

- Lack of options for first-time homebuyers and 55+
- Interest in downsizing and staying local
- Good variety of housing
- Demand is a sign of a successful community

Questions:

- Where can new housing go?

Community Identity

Key Points:

- History, convenient location, distinct villages, parks and open spaces, community activities set Lower Providence apart
- School, youth leagues, community events, public engagement contribute to township's involvement and inclusion
- Celebrate history and diversity
- "A community of villages"

Vision Statement

Key Points:

- Develop the local economy
- Use what works, it doesn’t have to be original
- Embrace new ways, celebrate history
- Strengthen sense of community
- Respect differences, value diversity

Survey Update

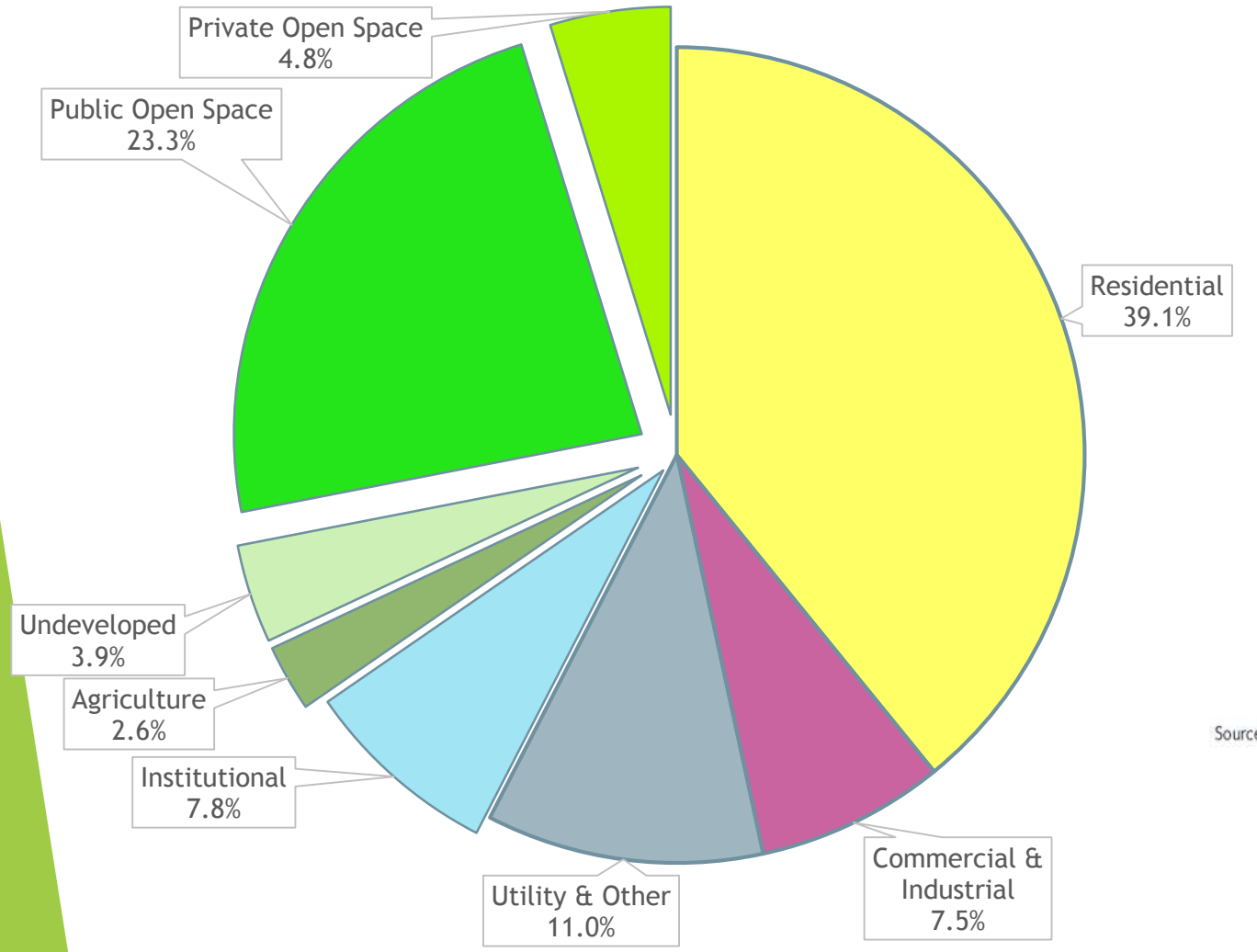
- 44 responses as of April 20 (41 answering "yes" as township residents)
- Averaging 10 minutes to complete
- No drop-off issues (leaving the survey incomplete)
- 56% to 100% response rate for open-ended questions
- Responses per week remain consistent after peaking with the workshop
- Keep promoting it! www.surveymonkey.com/r/lowerprovidence2040

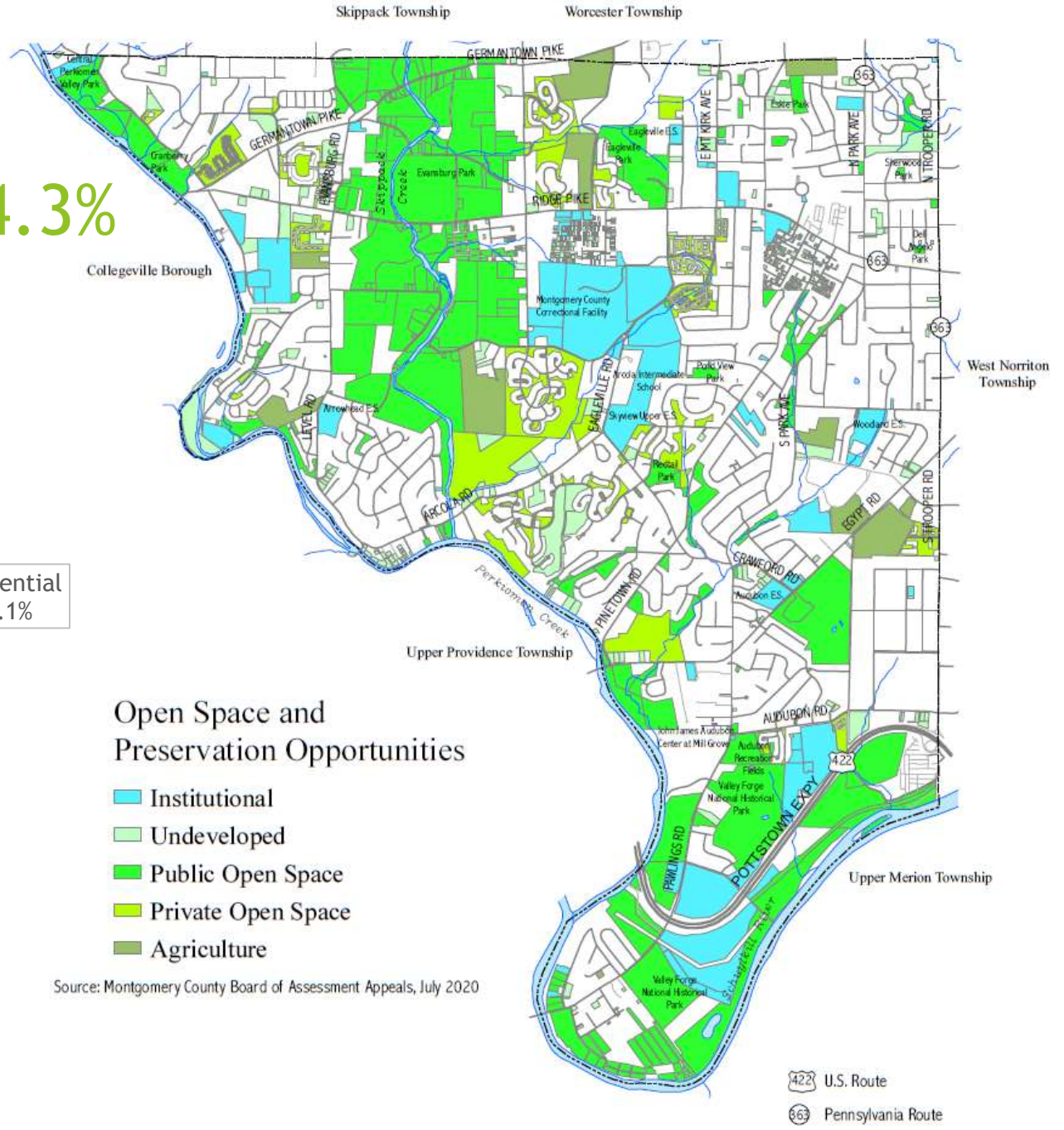
Natural Environment and Open Space

What comes to mind when you think of Lower Providence's natural environment?

What words, places, or ideas do you think of?

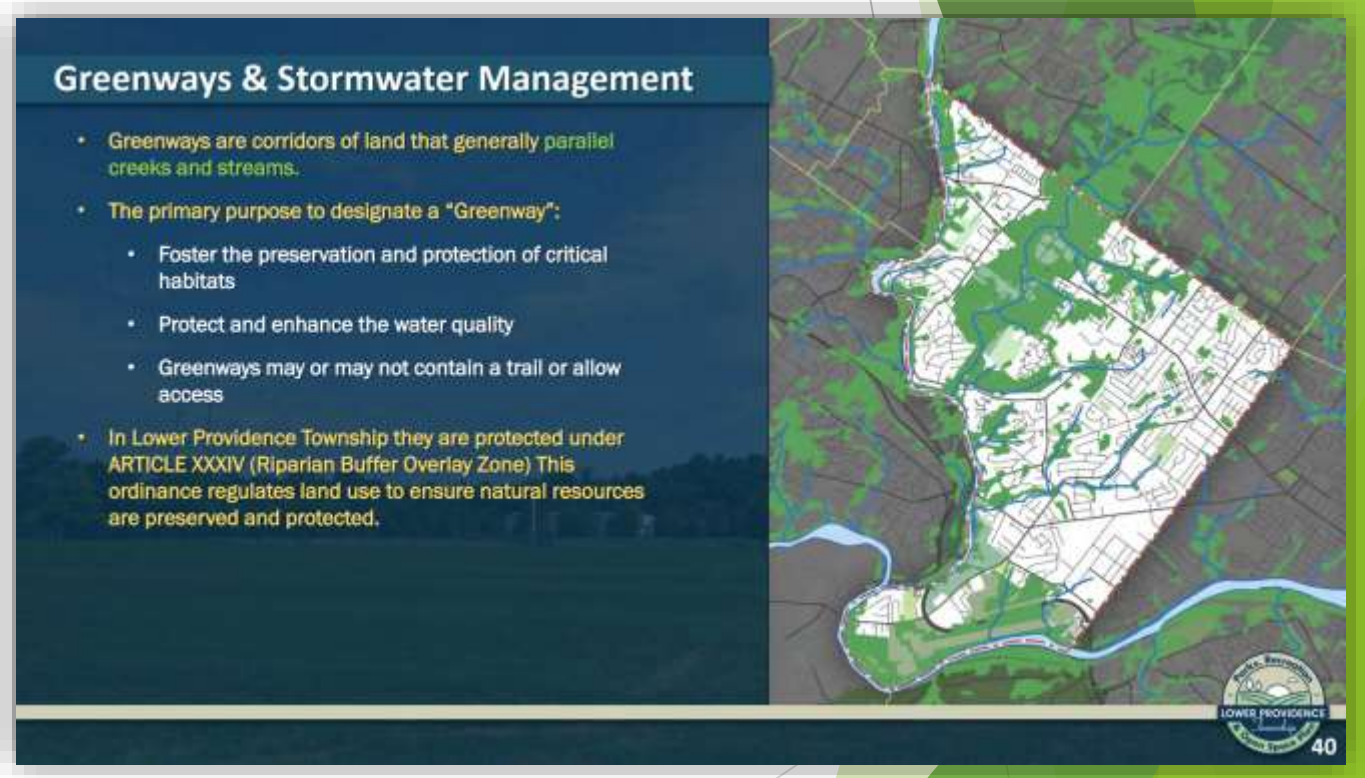
Preserved Open Space – 28.1%
Preservation Opportunities – 14.3%





Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Plan Update

- Park planning to meet future needs for recreation facilities
- Potential Open Space and Recreation Acquisition
- Greenways and stormwater management
- Walking and biking access throughout the township
- New trails and trail connections



Planning for the Natural Environment

- **Land preservation**
  - Some opportunities remain
- **Protection through ordinances**
  - Assess current ordinances
- **Land stewardship**
  - Care and maintenance of land and natural features

Protection through ordinances

<u>§123 Subdivision and Land Development (SALDO)</u>

- Design Standards – Article IV
- Open Space Residential Design Standards – Article XVII
- Natural Resources Protection – Article XXIII

<u>§143 Zoning</u>

- Floodplain Conservation District – Article XXV
- Steep Slope Conservation District – Article XXIX
- Riparian Buffer Overlay Zone – Article XXXIV
- Impervious coverage limits, design standards

What are your environmental goals for land development?

Land Stewardship

Township facilities

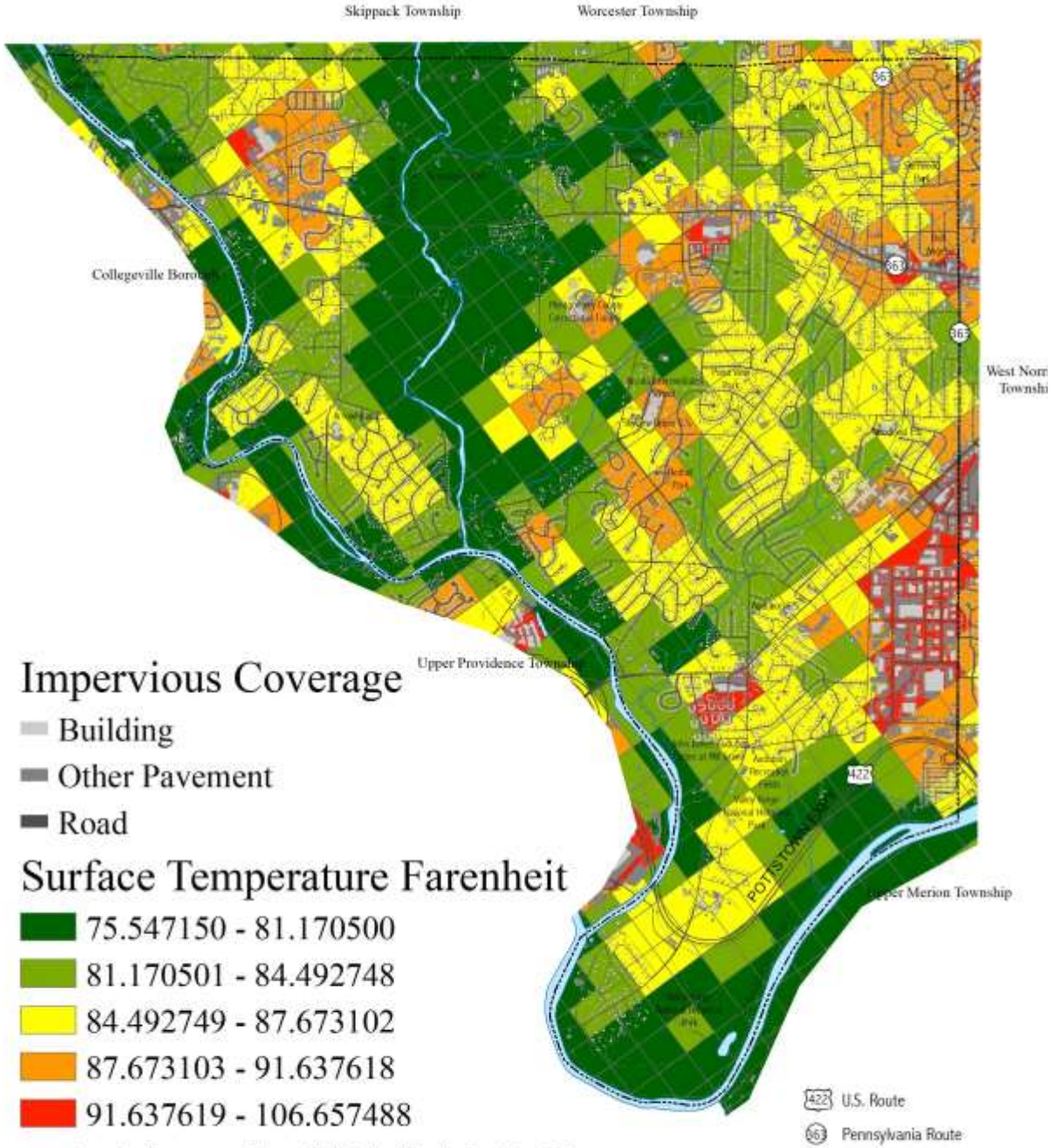
- Demonstrate stewardship practices in township parks and facilities

Property owners

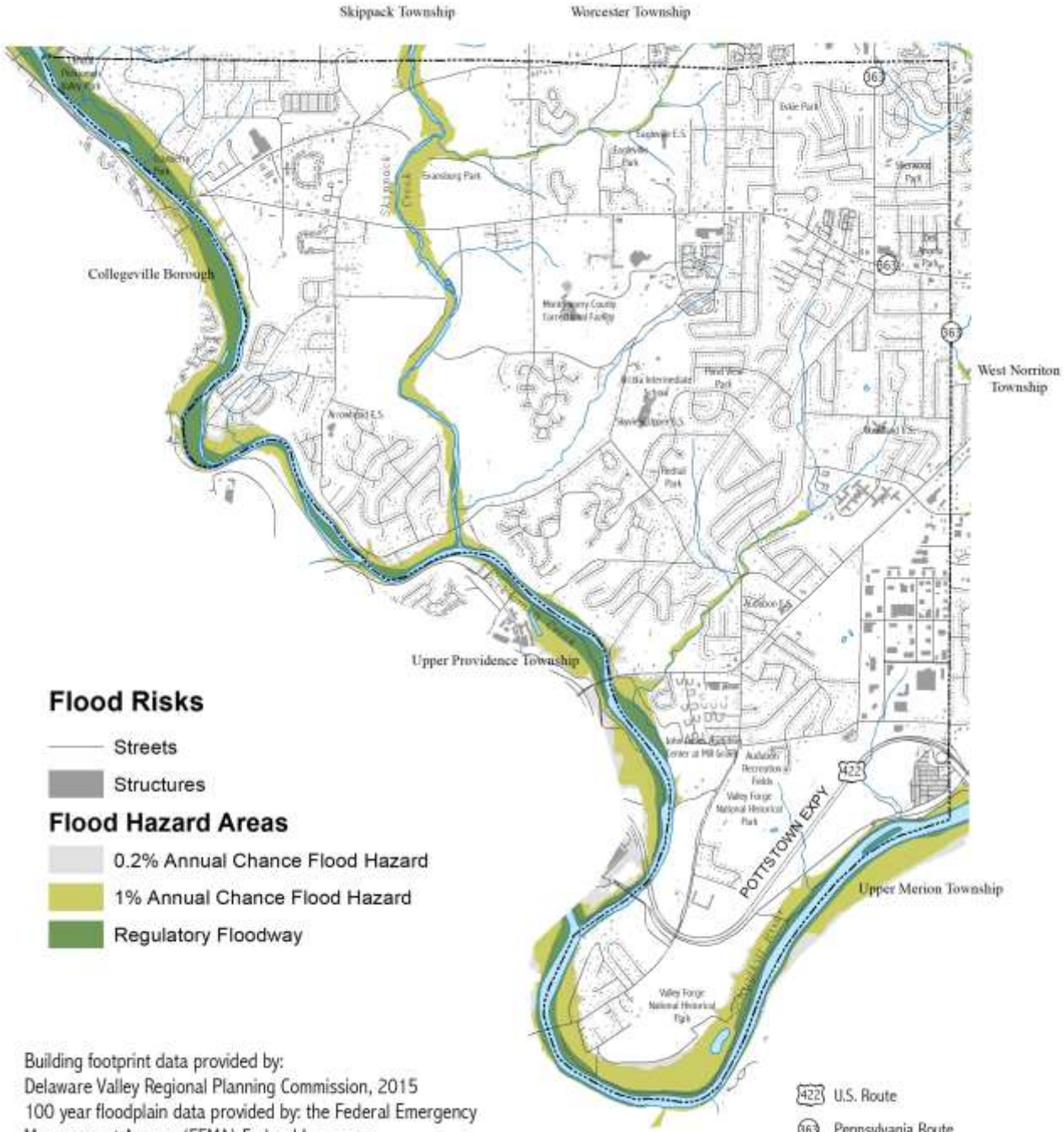
- Promote township resources and guidance
- Education and assistance programs

Are there stewardship topics you have wondered about?

What would help you to care for your land or natural features?



Impervious Coverge source: Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, 2015
Surface Temperature source: U.S. Department of Agriculture & University of Vermont, 2010



Building footprint data provided by:
Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, 2015
100 year floodplain data provided by: the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Federal Insurance Administration, Flood Insurance Study, 2015

Next Steps…

Reimagine Ridge Pike

- Call for entries ends on Friday
- May 10: Walk-through

Upcoming Meetings

- May 19: Related Plans and Setting Goals
- June 16: Commercial Character
- July 21: Traffic and Transit