

Keeping LANCASTER Current

AN HOURGLASS PUBLICATION

Lancaster County Growth Management Issues November 30, 2004

FYI

MULTI-MUNICIPAL PLANNING PASSED BY STATE LEGISLATORS - The legislature unanimously passed, and Governor Rendell signed into law, [House Bill 796](#), which amends the Municipalities Planning Code to provide contiguous municipalities participating in a multi-municipal plan to not provide separate plans if they are within the same school district.

ONLINE LAND USE DECISION-MAKING TOOL - In partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Region 5) and Purdue University, the [Local Government Environmental Assistance Network](#) (LGEAN) recently launched an **online tool to help local government planners measure the water quality impacts of land use changes**. Specifically, local governments provide information about their location, the proposed land use change, and the area's soil type. Based on community-specific climate data, the Long-Term Hydrologic Impact Assessment (L-THIA) model estimates changes in recharge, runoff, and non-point source pollution resulting from proposed development.

ENVISION LANCASTER COUNTY RECOGNIZES LOCAL SMART GROWTH PROJECTS – In the **Leadership category**, Rapho Township was honored for its village overlay zone, whose design standards protect local heritage; Newport Square Associates and RGS Associates, for their environmentally sound, varied-type-and-income housing, including rentals, in Warwick Township; and RLPS Architects and Warwick School District, for community-inspired improvements at Lititz Elementary School.

In the **Achievement category**, Ephrata Borough and Ephrata Performing Arts Center won a smart-growth award for the \$2.4 million renovation and expansion of their park playhouse; East Hempfield Township and Charter Homes, for adoption and implementation of ordinances that allow higher-density housing while preserving open space; Strasburg Borough and Strasburg Community Parks Foundation, for creating a 12-acre community park, with an amphitheater, pedestrian trails and wildflower meadows; Manheim Borough, Reifen Rubber Co., Restore 'N More and Slip Industries for their joint work to acquire, renovate and reuse the blighted former Agway Mill site; Community Basic Inc. and EG Stoltzfus Construction, for converting the former New Holland Machine Co. plant and headquarters into 56 units of affordable workforce housing; and Manheim Township, for expanding its historic overlay district to spur adaptive building reuse for residential needs.

The Lancaster Farmland Trust and the Lancaster Regional Medical Center received a **Certificate of Merit** for their cooperation in building a health center in Warwick Township and preserving 100 acres of adjacent farmland. -- *Intelligencer Journal* 11/16/2004

Did you know?

Lancaster County is the only South Central Pennsylvania County in which every municipality has a planning commission and zoning ordinances.

Planning commissions are agencies appointed to study and recommend steps to ensure orderly growth in a community;

Zoning laws regulate and control the character and use of property.

Source: PA DCED

We would like to hear from you –

In an effort to provide our readers with the most current growth management tools and information, please write to let us know how our newsletter is being utilized by you or your organization. Also, if there are other subjects relating to growth management that would be useful to you please forward your suggestions to us by writing to us hourglass.foundation@verizon.net.

We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

*Enabling informed growth management
decision-making for Lancaster County*

Call our office (717) 295-0755, or visit <http://www.hourglassfoundation.org>

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