

2010 Annual Report

Huntingdon County Planning Commission

March 2011

MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the Huntingdon County Planning Commission to develop and implement a positive vision for Huntingdon County; one that reflects economic prosperity, a rural and small-town atmosphere, protection of natural resources, centers-focused development, greenway corridors, improved highway and communication access and a high standard of excellence in both personal and community development.

Citizen Survey Receives Strong Response

According to Planning Director, Richard Stahl, 37%, or 667, of the 1,800 surveys that were mailed to County residents during the first week of November have been returned. Residents were encouraged to complete the survey and return it in a self addressed stamped envelope. County residents were provided an opportunity to participate in the identification of community development priorities through participation in the "Huntingdon County Citizens Survey 2010."

The Survey was designed to be easily completed with a check mark or circle. Space was also provided at the end of the Survey for the respondent to add comments.

A similar Countywide survey titled "Charting A Course for the Next Century: Huntingdon County Quality of Life Survey" was conducted and results were published in September 1999.

Information derived from the 2010 Citizens Survey will be used in the development of an update to the *Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan* over the next several years. State law requires Huntingdon County to develop and revise the *Comprehensive Plan* every ten years. The last complete revision of the *County Comprehensive Plan* was done in July 2000.

The County Comprehensive Plan is a set of goals and actions designed to make communities better places to live. It is essential that such an important document reflect the views of local citizens. The Citizen Survey is a scientifically valid method of gathering citizen input.

Survey results will be published early in 2011. A copy of the survey may be found on the Huntingdon County website - www.huntingdoncounty.net.

Inside this issue:

| 2010 Census Results | 2 |
|---|----|
| Agency Organization and Management | 4 |
| Work Program | 4 |
| Public Education and Information | 6 |
| Municipal Planning and Development Assistance | 7 |
| Coordination | 8 |
| County-Municipal Project Review | 9 |
| Federal-State Project Review | 9 |
| Subdivision and Land Development Reviews | 10 |
| County Planning and Development Assistance | 12 |
| Planning and Community Development Grant Summary | 14 |
| Subdivision Activity | 15 |
| Deed Transfers | 16 |
| Building Activity | 16 |
| Seasonal and Year-Round Housing | 17 |
| | |

2010 CENSUS RESULTS RELEASED

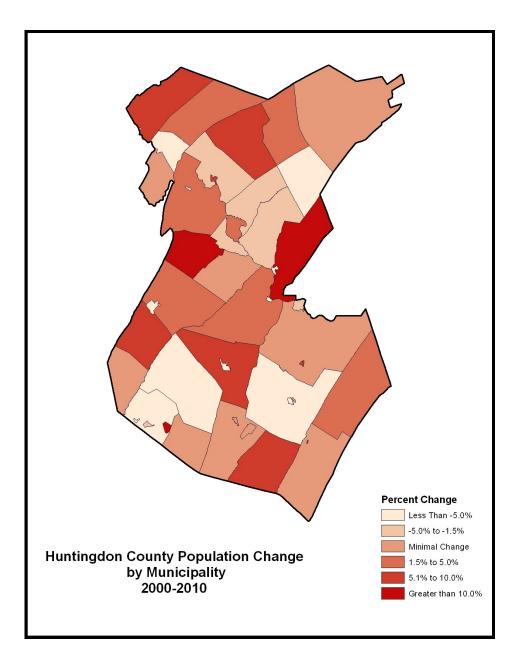
The first published figures from the 2010 Census reveal that Huntingdon County lagged behind the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in population growth with an increase of 0.7% versus 3.4% for the decade. This places County population at 45,913, a gain of 327 persons. Both growth rates pale in comparison with that of the United States, which grew by 9.7%.

Huntingdon County's modest growth places it between rapidly growing eastern Pennsylvania and declining western Pennsylvania.

Adjoining Centre and Franklin Counties were among the fastest growing in the State with 13.4% and 15.7% growth respectively. Bedford and Blair Counties lost -0.4% and -1.6% respectively while Mifflin County grew by 0.4% and Fulton County by 4.1%.

Municipal population change varies widely across
Huntingdon County, ranging from +17% to -17%. The fastest growing municipalities are Broad Top City Borough, 17.7%; Brady Township, 13.2%; Walker Township, 11.4%; Warriors Mark
Township, 9.8%; Shade Gap

Borough, 8.2%; and West Township, 8.1%. The top five municipalities by aggregate growth are Walker Township, +200; Huntingdon Borough, +175; Warriors Mark Township, +161; Brady Township, +137; and Broad Top City Borough, +68. Eight of the County's eighteen boroughs gained population between 2000 and 2010 and ten lost population. Sixteen of thirty townships gained population, while fourteen townships lost population.



Huntingdon County Population Change 2000-2010

| | Census: April 1, 2000 | Census: April 1, 2010 | Change: 2000 to 2010 | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Geographic Area | Number | | Number | Percent |
| Broad Top City borough | 384 | 452 | 68 | 17.70% |
| Brady township | 1035 | 1,172 | 137 | 13.20% |
| Walker township | 1747 | 1,947 | 200 | 11.40% |
| Warriors Mark township | 1635 | 1,796 | 161 | 9.80% |
| Shade Gap borough | 97 | 105 | 8 | 8.20% |
| West township | 528 | 571 | 43 | 8.10% |
| Shirleysburg borough | 140 | 150 | 10 | 7.10% |
| Springfield township | 612 | 654 | 42 | 6.90% |
| Lincoln township | 319 | 338 | 19 | 6.00% |
| Petersburg borough | 455 | 480 | 25 | 5.50% |
| Cass township | 1062 | 1,119 | 57 | 5.40% |
| Franklin township | 447 | 466 | 19 | 4.30% |
| Porter township | 1917 | 1,968 | 51 | 2.70% |
| Huntingdon borough | 6918 | 7,093 | 175 | 2.50% |
| Union township | 1005 | 1,029 | 24 | 2.40% |
| Penn township | 1054 | 1,077 | 23 | 2.20% |
| Tell township | 648 | 662 | 14 | 2.20% |
| Barree township | 460 | 469 | 9 | 2.00% |
| Saltillo borough | 343 | 346 | 3 | 0.90% |
| Dublin township | 1280 | 1,290 | 10 | 0.80% |
| Clay township | 920 | 926 | 6 | 0.70% |
| Orbisonia borough | 425 | 428 | 3 | 0.70% |
| Juniata township | 553 | 554 | 1 | 0.20% |
| Shirley township | 2526 | 2,524 | -2 | -0.10% |
| Hopewell township | 587 | 586 | -1 | -0.20% |
| Three Springs borough | 445 | 444 | <u> </u> | -0.20% |
| Wood township | 713 | 708 | -5 | -0.70% |
| Birmingham borough | 91 | 90 | <u> </u> | -1.10% |
| Jackson township | 882 | 872 | -10 | -1.10% |
| Morris township | 416 | 410 | -6 | -1.40% |
| Smithfield township | 4466 | 4,390 | -76 | -1.70% |
| Mount Union borough | 2504 | 2,447 | -57 | -2.30% |
| Logan township | 703 | 678 | -25 | -3.60% |
| Henderson township | 972 | 933 | -39 | -4.00% |
| Dudley borough | 192 | 184 | -8 | -4.20% |
| Oneida township | 1129 | 1,077 | -52 | -4.60% |
| Todd township | 1004 | 952 | -52 | -5.20% |
| Marklesburg borough | 216 | 204 | -12 | -5.60% |
| Cassville borough | 152 | 143 | -12 | -5.90% |
| Mill Creek borough | 351 | 328 | -23 | -6.60% |
| Mapleton borough | 473 | 441 | -23 | -6.80% |
| Cromwell township | 1632 | 1,510 | -122 | -7.50% |
| Spruce Creek township | 263 | 240 | -122 | -7.50% -8.70% |
| | 514 | 462 | -23 -52 | -8.70% -10.10% |
| Miller township Rockhill borough | 414 | | | -10.10% |
| = | | 371 | -43 | |
| Carbon township | 428 401 | 375 | -53 | -12.40% |
| Alexandria borough | | 346 | -55 | -13.70% |
| Coalmont borough | 128 | 106 | -22 | -17.20% |
| Huntingdon County | 45,586 | 45,913 | 327 | 0.70% |

AGENCY ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Huntingdon County Commissioners created the **Huntingdon County Planning** Commission in 1962 and hired the first planning director in 1971. The County Commissioners have directed the Planning Commission to prepare and maintain a comprehensive plan to guide growth and development in the County and to promote public interest in and understanding of planning and the Comprehensive Plan. Volunteers, staff, money and equipment are the resources needed to achieve the objectives of the Huntingdon County **Planning Commission.**

STAFFING

The Planning and Development
Department is headed by Richard
Stahl, AICP, Planning Director. In
addition to the Planning Director, the
2010 staff included Planner/Grant
Administrator, Maureen Safko;
Bookkeeper, Peggy Wilson; and
Secretary, Laurie Nearhood.
Michelle Krug and Elizabeth
VanBlarcom, Politics majors at
Juniata College; and Mark Secrest, a
Career Link WIA participant,
assisted Department staff during
2010.

Planning and Development staff frequently attend workshops and seminars to stay current with the latest planning and community development trends. During 2010, training activities included the Pennsylvania Planning Association Annual Conference, the Community Development and Housing Practitioners Annual Conference, CDBG-R Reporting, PA Conservation Works Training, Alternate Energy Workshop, Water Protection Workshop, Wind Energy Workshop, the Fish and Boat Commission's workshop on River Trails, and the Greening Historic Buildings workshop.

2011 WORK PROGRAM

County Assistance

Planning and Development staff will continue to assist the Board of Commissioners with managing projects such as office expansion, deployment of broadband, and information technology.

County Solid Waste Ordinance

Staff expects to assist the Commissioners in adopting a Solid Waste Ordinance to implement the approved *Huntingdon County Municipal Waste Management Plan*.

Community Development

Staff expects to focus on obtaining additional discretionary grant funding for County projects in 2011, including applications for CDBG Competitive funds for priority water and sewer projects. Work on implementation of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program and federal stimulus programs will also be continued.

Municipal Assistance

Assistance in obtaining funding and in developing comprehensive plans and ordinances is expected in 2011. It is expected that staff will customize model ordinances to meet municipal needs.

Citizen Survey

Tabulation, analysis and report on the Citizen Survey will be completed during the first quarter of 2011.

Comprehensive Plan

Staff will continue the process of updating the *Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan* in 2011.

Work will focus on updating background data: Employment Analysis, Demographic Analysis, Community Facilities Survey and Land Use. The Employment Analysis and Demographic Analysis will be done by a consultant, while other work will be done in-house.

Community Improvement Awards

The fifth annual Community Improvement Awards were presented at the Planning Commission's Annual Meeting on March 10, 2010. Recipients of the 2009 awards were the Allegrippis Trails at Raystown Lake, Special Merit; Subway/Snap Fitness, Commercial; Woods Mansion, Residential; and Stone Church of the Brethren, Public/Non-profit.

The Friends of Raystown Lake partnered with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the International Mountain Biking Association to create the 32 mile Allegrippis Trails at Raystown Lake.

Chris and Jackie Confer redeveloped a 14,000 square foot former hardware store into a Subway restaurant and Snap Fitness Center in downtown Mount Union. The building owners remodeled the space to meet the requirements of Ralph Parks, owner of the two new businesses, while retaining two current tenants.

Joel and Barbara Brown were honored for restoring the 1874 Italianate Woods Mansion in Huntingdon Borough.

The goal of the Stone Church Project was to provide handicapped accessibility to this 1918 church.

Presented at the Commission's Annual Meeting, the Community Improvement Awards are sponsored by the Huntingdon County Planning Commission, the Huntingdon County Chamber of Commerce and Kish Bank.

FINANCIAL REPORT

During 2010, the operation of the Planning Department was funded through the County General Fund (\$109,346.00) and through several state and federal government grant programs (\$88,839.00).

The 2011 General Fund budget increased by 2.2% from 2010; and the 2011 budget for Grants and Special Projects decreased by 1.27%. Overall, the 2011 budget is 0.67% higher than it was in 2010.

General Fund Budget Report

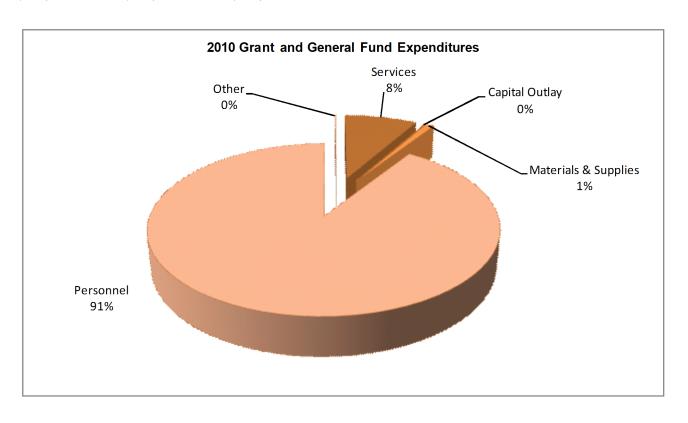
Grants and Special Projects Budget Report *

| | $2010 \\ { m Budget}$ | 2010 Expenditures | 2011 Budget | | 2010 Budget | 2010 Expenditures | 2011 Budget |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Personnel | \$90,296.00 | \$90,295.14 | \$92,295.00 | Personnel | \$80,639.00 | \$84,279.16 | \$83,314.00 |
| Services | \$15,050.00 | \$13,212.20 | \$15,500.00 | Services | \$2,250.00 | \$2,555.29 | \$2,450.00 |
| Materials & Supplies | \$2,500.00 | \$1,759.36 | \$2,500.00 | Materials & Supplies | \$450.00 | \$50.99 | \$450.00 |
| Capital Outlay | \$1,500.00 | \$91.53 | \$1,500.00 | Other | \$5,500.00 | \$235.31 | \$1,500.00 |
| Total | \$109,346.00 | \$105,358.23 | \$111,795.00 | Total | \$88,839.00 | \$87,120.75 | \$87,714.00 |

Grant & General Fund Totals

| 2010 | 2010 | 2011 |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Budget | Expenditures | Budget |
| \$198,185.00 | \$192,478.98 | \$199,509.00 |

^{*}Grants and Special Projects include Community Development Block Grant funds used for administrative purposes and Solid Waste and Recycling.



PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

It is a goal of the Planning Commission to provide information to the public concerning planning and development issues as well as local trends in growth and development. Staff fulfills this responsibility through the various methods listed below.

HUNTINGDONCOUNTY.NET

Planning and Development staff continued to maintain the County web site with the support of the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP), including regular data updates and organizing training for County and municipal staff.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Planning Director spoke to a variety of organizations in 2010:

- ⇒ coordinated and acted as moderator for a wind energy workshop;
- ⇒ gave a planning presentation to a Juniata College Environmental Science class at the Raystown Field Station;
- ⇒ gave a "Local Government and Planning" presentation to a Leadership Huntingdon County Class; and
- ⇒ attended the annual Township Convention, providing information about CDBG and the Solid Waste Plan.

Planning and Mapping staff hosted a booth at the Raystown Home and Garden Show to present planning and mapping activities and to answer questions about both topics.

The Recycling Coordinator gave "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" presentations at several school districts, senior centers, and health fairs; and distributed recycling information at the Huntingdon County Fair and Huntingdon Borough's May Fest.

WALK-IN REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

The Department receives an average of four inquiries per day concerning:

- ⇒ Municipal Contacts and Ordinances
- ⇒ Census Data
- ⇒ Flood Plain Data
- ⇒ Planning Studies
- ⇒ Grant Availability
- ⇒ Recycling Information
- ⇒ County and Municipal Maps

Most of these requests came from municipal officials, realtors, professional market analysts, residents of Huntingdon County, and those interested in relocating to Huntingdon County.

PUBLICATIONS

In 2010, the Planning and Development Department published the 2009 HCPC Annual Report and the 2010 Huntingdon County Land Development Guide.

Wind Workshop Draws Crowd

Over fifty people attended a wind energy workshop in September 2010. The Planning and Development Department worked closely with the Tell Township Supervisors to develop the workshop after Eon Energy began soliciting leases to develop a commercial wind farm in Shade Valley.

The Eon proposal would place 60 - 70 wind turbines along the top of both Shade and Tuscarora Mountains.

Three panelists with experience in dealing with wind projects presented information. Presenters included Brad Zearfoss, Somerset County Planning Director; Rob Kolmansberger, Noise Expert with Navarro and Wright; and Laura Jackson, SOAR. Planning Director, Richard Stahl moderated the session.

WEB MAP INTRODUCED

The Huntingdon County Mapping Department introduced a GIS powered Web Map application in late 2010. According to Mapping Department Director, Brian Young, "we feel that this will be a valuable resource for County staff and the public."

The user friendly internet-based mapping application is based on ESRI's software. It allows people without previous GIS experience to access County GIS data such as tax parcels and structure addresses without anything more that a web browser.

Most of the map layers on the site are from the Huntingdon County GIS system, which is the best resource for Huntingdon County mapping information. The application was developed by the Mapping Department staff with assistance from L.R. Kimball, County GIS consultant. ESRI ArcGIS Server software technology was used to create the mapping tool.

The application has custom search tools for finding addresses, tax parcel information, and voting polling places and precincts. Other mapping layers are included such as soils, floodplains, and contours. These layers can be turned on or off by the user to produce a custom map which can be printed from their PC. A help file is provided to assist users with the functionality of the site.

The Web Mapping tool is available as a quick link on the Huntingdon County Website's homepage and also on the Mapping Department's homepage. Users are required to register in order to receive a login name and password for access to this free public site.

MUNICIPAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

With the approval of the Huntingdon County Commissioners, the Planning and Development Department may provide assistance to municipalities upon request. Such requests typically involve development of subdivision, zoning and building permit ordinances; preparation and administration of grant applications; requests for proposals for professional services; and various planning studies.

MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE

Barree Township - Staff met with the Supervisors to offer assistance with development of a subdivision and land development ordinance and to finalize the ordinance for adoption.

Carbon Township - Staff met with the Supervisors assisting them in customizing the model subdivision and land development ordinance.

Huntingdon Borough - Staff assisted the Borough in transitioning their website from DSF to Microsoft SharePoint and provided SharePoint training to a student intern working on the Borough's website.

Mapleton Borough - Staff provided assistance in administering a DCNR

grant for Riverside Park and in coordinating trail issues. Staff met with representatives of PennDOT, the Borough and the Standing Stone Trail Association to view a safety hazard at the intersection of Oriskany Road and William Penn Highway, where the Trail crosses William Penn Highway.

Mount Union Borough - Staff assisted the Borough in transitioning their website from DSF to Microsoft SharePoint.

Spruce Creek Region - Staff continued to meet with representatives of the Spruce Creek Planning Region Task Force to discuss development of a multi-municipal plan. Municipalities involved in the Task Force include Spruce Creek and Warriors Mark Townships in Huntingdon County and Tyrone Township in Blair County.

Walker Township - Staff assisted the Township in transitioning their website from DSF to Microsoft SharePoint.

Warriors Mark Township - Staff assisted the Township in transitioning their website from DSF to Microsoft SharePoint and met with the Township Planning Commission to discuss proposals to update the Township's Zoning Ordinance and web site.

GRANT ASSISTANCE

The Department assists municipalities and non-profit organizations in meeting community development needs by applying for and administering various state and federal grants, including the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement Program.

CDBG funded activities that were substantially completed in 2010 include the Spring Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade; Penn Township Sewer Laterals; the Smithfield Township Juniata Avenue Stormwater Improvement Project; the Smithfield Township playground equipment project; the Petersburg Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation; the Affordable Housing project in Mapleton Borough; and the Shirley Home for the Aged Window and Exterior Door Replacement Project.

CDBG Funds Improve Safety in Smithfield

With the help of CDBG funds, Smithfield Township was able to resolve safety issues at Riverside Park and on Juniata Avenue.

Pools of stormwater were collecting on Juniata Avenue between 10th and 14th Streets. In winter these pools frequently froze, creating a traffic hazard.

The Smithfield Township Board of Supervisors resolved this problem with the installation of curbs, resurfacing and new catch basins. Total cost of the project was \$132,658, with \$115,411 from CDBG and \$17,247 from the Township general fund.

Riverside Park was a beneficiary of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds used for the installation of new playground equipment. Previous equipment was ordered removed by the Township's insurance carrier due to safety concerns.

With the receipt of CDBG-R (or Stimulus) funds, the Supervisors saw a way to correct the problem. Three handicapped accessible play sets were purchased from a Lewisburg company. The equipment is surrounded by handicapped accessible engineered wood fiber material.

The total budget for playground equipment and installation was \$43,793, with \$30,793 coming from CDBG-R and \$13,000 from CDBG.



COORDINATION

Coordinating the implementation of the *Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan*, with public and private organizations, is achieved through the following four processes: Agency Liaison, County-Municipal Project Review, Federal-State Project Review and Subdivision and Land Development Review.

AGENCY LIAISON

The Planning Commission and its staff coordinate the implementation of planning recommendations with many agencies and units of government. This includes staff participation in many committees and attendance at numerous meetings.

Agricultural Land Preservation Board

The Planning Director serves on the Agricultural Land Preservation Board as an appointee of the County Commissioners. Planning staff works closely with the staff of the Huntingdon County Conservation District, who administer the program.

County Planning Directors Association

The Planning Director was elected to serve as Chair for the County Planning Directors Association (CPDAP), an affiliate of the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania. The CPDAP provides input on State policy on environmental and land use issues to both the County Commissioners of Pennsylvania and to the Commonwealth.

Boomtown Committee

The Planning Director serves on the Boomtown Committee, chaired by Huntingdon Mayor Dee Dee Brown. This Committee, given the task of developing a community vision for the Huntingdon Area, has become known as the Boomtown Committee.

The Committee was formed to implement a strategy to make Huntingdon a 'boomtown.' Jack Schultz, author of "Boomtown USA, the 7 1/2 keys to Success," spoke in Huntingdon in the spring of 2007, encouraging the community to become a successful community, or boomtown.

Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission (SAPDC)

The Planning Director represents the County on several Southern Alleghenies committees - Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) and Transportation Technical Committee (TTC). The County Commissioners sit on the Executive Committee.

The TTC plays a key role in development of the Transportation Improvement Program.

Huntingdon County Business and Industry (HCBI)

The Planning Director serves on the HCBI Infrastructure Committee. One of the principle goals of this Committee is development of the Riverview Business Center and completion of Appalachian Corridor M. The Planning Director also serves as an ex officio member of the Enterprise Zone Revolving Loan Committee.

Juniata College Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership (JCEL)

Staff works closely with JCEL to implement the *Huntingdon County Economic Development Strategy*.

Juniata College has taken a proactive approach to business and community development through JCEL partnering with the County Commissioners and HCBI.

Major Changes in County Enterprise Zone

Three major changes occurred in the Huntingdon County Enterprise Zone Program in 2010. The Enterprise Zone was extended by two more years, or until 2012. The Zone was also expanded by 156 acres and administration of the Enterprise Zone was transferred from JCEL to HCBI, effective January 1, 2011. The Planning Director serves as the County liaison for the Enterprise Zone Program.

The Huntingdon County Commissioners requested and received approval to extend the normally seven-year program for two more years. This opens the possibility for additional State grants for both administration of the Zone and economic development.

In response to a business request, the Commissioners agreed to request changes in the boundaries of the Enterprise Zone for the second time. Previously, additional land was added in Porter Township.

Juniata College and Huntingdon County Business and Industry agreed to transfer the Enterprise Zone Coordinator position to HCBI. This change was agreed to by the Huntingdon County Commissioners and a new contract was drawn up between the County and HCBI.

Since its creation in 2003, the Huntingdon County Enterprise Zone has received \$1.1 million in State grants and made 14 loans. This permanent EZ Revolving Loan Fund has created 61 new jobs and retained 514 jobs.

COUNTY-MUNICIPAL PROJECT REVIEW

Section 303 of the PA
Municipalities Planning Code (Act
247) gives the Planning
Commission the authority to
review and comment on various
public facility projects, zoning,
subdivision and other land
development ordinances. In
addition, Acts 67 & 68 of 2000
provide an opportunity for local
municipalities and counties to
comment on the consistency of
state funded projects with county
and municipal planning and
zoning.

Local government and state agencies submitted 37 projects to the Commission for review and comment in 2010, including 1 municipal Act 537 Plan, 3 DCNR grant applications, 1 DCED grant application, 1 wastewater treatment plant upgrade, 1 sanitary sewer construction, 1 environmental assessment, 2 municipal subdivision ordinances, 2 municipal zoning amendments, 2 agricultural security areas, 2 SRBC permit requests, 1 Growing Greener/EPA grant application, 2 bridge restorations, 1 transportation study, 1 historic building restoration, and 16 DEP permit requests:

- Raystown Highlands Subdivision, completion of Phases 1 and 2, Todd Township
- Culvert Replacement, Walker Township
- 3. Westminster Woods Phase 9, Huntingdon Borough
- Shoup Run Stream Stabilization, Carbon Township and Coalmont Borough, PA Growing Greener Program and EPA Section 319 Program Grant Applications
- PA General Energy Company, LLC, Shannon Todd Pad A, Consumptive Water Use, SRBC Permit
- PA General Energy Company, LLC, Dudley Carbon Coalmont, Consumptive Water Use, SRBC Permit
- 7. Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Aughwick Creek streambank fencing and stabilization

- 8. Raystown Lake Forest Project Environmental Assessment
- 9. Pennsylvania Community Transportation Initiative, US 22/453 Study
- 10. Huntingdon Landmarks, Inc., Union Station Restoration
- 11. Huntingdon County Commissioners, St Mary's Bridge Restoration
- 12. Oil and gas well pad construction, Todd Township
- 13. Sanitary sewer construction, Cromwell Township
- 14. Shale Pit, DEP Permit, Shirley Township
- 15. NPDES Individual Stormwater Permit, Jackson Township
- 16. NPDES CAFO Permit, existing dairy operation, Porter Township
- 17. Solid Waste Operating Permit Renewal, Park's Transfer and Recycling Center, Inc., Shirley Township
- 18. Individual NPDES Permit, Warriors Mark Township
- 19. Individual NPDES Permit, Warriors Mark Township.
- 20. Lower Trail Erosion Protection, DCNR Grant Application
- 21. PA Business in Our Sites Grant, DCED Grant Application
- 22. Portstown Park Master Plan, DCNR Grant Application, Huntingdon Borough
- 23. Riverside Park Phase II, DCNR Grant Application, Mapleton Borough
- 24. Non-coal Surface Mine Permit, Hopewell Township
- 25. NPDES Permit Renewal, Saxton Borough
- 26. Bridge Rehabilitation, Porter Township
- 27. Wastewater Treatment Plant, Shirley Township
- 28. NPDES Individual Permit Renewal, Warriors Mark Township
- 29. Construction of new Huntingdon Area Middle School, Huntingdon Borough
- Title V Permit Renewal Application (Air Quality Program), Mapleton Borough
- 31. Smithfield Township Zoning Ordinance Amendment
- 32. Cromwell Township Act 537 Plan Amendment

- 33. Proposed Carbon Township Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance
- 34. Proposed Barree Township Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance
- 35. Todd Township Agricultural Security Area (New)
- 36. Penn Township Agricultural Security Area (Renewal)
- 37. Warriors Mark Township Zoning Amendment

Additionally, Act 14 requires those applying for water obstruction permits, water quality permits, or air quality permits to notify County Commissioners and municipal officials of all requests for State permits. The Commission received 17 State permit activity notices in 2010.

FEDERAL-STATE PROJECT REVIEW

The Planning Commission reviews projects that use federal funds for consistency with the *County Comprehensive Plan*, under the authority of Executive Order #12372.

Under the State-based Intergovernmental Review Process (IRP), the Commission reviewed the following 25 projects in 2010:

- 1. Huntingdon Fire Department, Inc., construction of a 24,000 sq. ft. facility, Walker Township, (\$2,500,000 preliminary budget), USDA Rural Development
- 2. FFY 2010 State Capacity for Implementation of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative in PA, \$464,831.00, EPA
- 3. FFY 2011 Nonpoint Source Implementation, \$5,680,000.00, EPA
- FFY 2010 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, \$47,719,200.00, EPA
- 5. FFY 2010 Clean Water State Revolving Fund, \$96,850,800.00, EPA
- 6. FFY 2011 2013 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Hazardous Waste Management Program, \$14,100,000.00, EPA

- FFY 2011 Air Pollution Control Grant (Section 105), \$6,188,181.00, EPA
- 8. FFY 2011 Water Quality Management Planning, \$815,000.00, EPA
- 9. FFY 2011 2012 Water Pollution Control 106 Grant–Base-TMDL, \$11,663,400.00, EPA
- 10. FFY 2011 State Indoor Radon, \$450,000.00, EPA
- 11. FFY 2010 State Energy Program, Strengthening Building Retrofit Markets and Stimulating Energy Efficiency Action, \$5,000,000.00, Department of Energy
- 12. FFY 2010 Chesapeake Bay Regulatory & Accountability Program, \$2,666,819.00, EPA
- 13. FFY 2010 Brownfield State Response, \$142,500.00, EPA
- 14. FFY 2011 Wetland Program Development, \$308,076.00, EPA
- 15. FFY 2011 2013 Underground Storage Tank Program, \$2,949,030.00, EPA
- 16. FFY 2011 2013 Leaking Underground Storage Tank Program, \$4,676,040.00, EPA
- 17. FFY 2010 National Dam Safety Program, \$141,999.00, FEMA
- 18. Saint Francis University Small Business Development Center -Rural Microenterprise Assistance Program, \$85,000.00, USDA Rural Development
- 19. FFY 2010 State Clean Diesel Grant, \$352,941.00, EPA
- 20. FFY 2010 Chesapeake Bay Program Non-tidal Monitoring Network, \$309,667.00, EPA
- 21. FFY 2010 State Energy Program Formula, \$1,069,000.00, Department of Energy
- 22. FFY 2010 Defense-State Memorandum of Agreement Cooperative Agreement, \$413,952.00, Department of Defense
- 23. FFY 2010 Public Water System Supervision Program, \$9,032,300.00, EPA
- 24. FFY 2010 PM 2.5 Air Monitoring Network, \$1,219,841.00, EPA
- 25. USDA Rural Business Enterprise Grant Application, \$99,000.00

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT REVIEWS

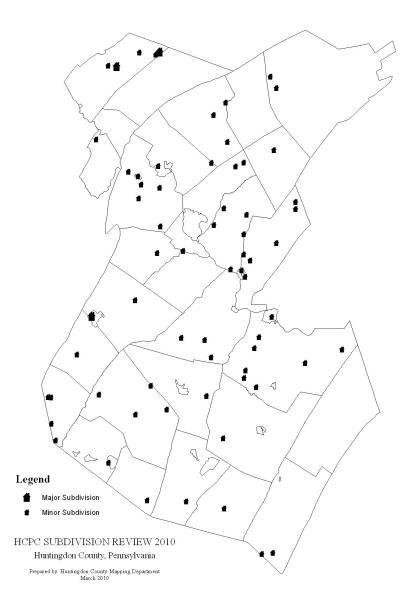
Section 502 of the PA
Municipalities Planning Code
gives the Planning Commission
authority to review and
comment on subdivision and
land development proposals
submitted to local
municipalities. The Commission
also comments on consistency
with Act 537, the PA Sewage
Facilities Act.

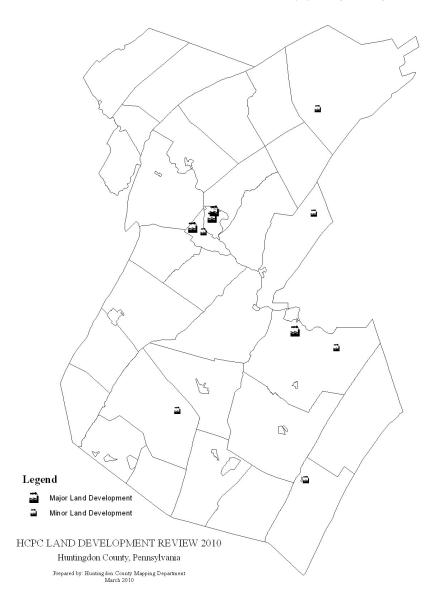
The Commission reviewed 80 subdivisions in 28 municipalities in 2010, down by 15 since 2009. These included 7 major subdivisions, 63 minor subdivisions, 4 major land developments, and 6 minor land

developments encompassing 221 lots and 1,721.728 acres. Maps illustrating distribution of these proposals are located on pages 10 and 11.

The largest subdivisions reviewed in 2010 were:

- the Gillbrook Farms I Phase IB, 2, 3 and 4 Final Subdivision with 137 acres and 51 lots in Warriors Mark Township;
- the Gillbrook Farms III Final Subdivision with 83.03 acres and 39 lots in Warriors Mark Township;
- the Arbutus Final Subdivision with 33.95 acres and 18 lots in Warriors Mark Township;





- the Gemstone Estates Phase I Subdivision with 144.38 acres and 14 lots in Warriors Mark Township;
- the Gillbrook Farms II Phase 2
 Final Subdivision with 31 acres
 and 13 lots in Warriors Mark
 Township;
- the Thomas E. and Sylvia P.
 McDowell Subdivision with
 155.13 acres and 7 lots in Porter
 Township; and
- the John Glantz Subdivision with 3.84 acres and 6 lots in Marklesburg Borough.

The 4 major land development reviews conducted in 2010 included:

- Westminster Woods Phase 9,
 Huntingdon Borough construction of 15 duplex units, a
 36 unit apartment building, two
 streets and parking;
- Pinewood Acres Revision, Shirley Township - construction of 18 mobile home sites;
- Graystone Court Revision,
 Smithfield Township construction of a 6 story, 108,864
 square foot, 80 unit apartment
 building; and
- New Huntingdon Area Middle School Revision, Huntingdon Borough - demolition of existing school building and construction of a new 80,794 square foot building.

SOLID WASTE PLAN APPROVED BY STATE

The Huntingdon County Municipal Waste Management Plan was approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection in September 2010 along with those from Bedford and Fulton Counties. The Plan was developed by the planning staffs of Bedford, Fulton and Huntingdon Counties with assistance from Gannett Fleming Engineers over a period of several years. A principle feature of the Plan is the inclusion of agreements with nine private landfills to provide the required ten year disposal capacity and continuation of a largely voluntary drop-off recycling program.

The second time was a charm with regard to obtaining municipal ratification of the *Huntingdon County Municipal Waste Management Plan*. In May, the *Plan*, which had been approved by the County Commissioners in January 2010, failed to receive ratification by municipalities representing a majority of the population. The *Plan* fell victim to municipal concerns about 'mandatory collection' and required adoption of a model municipal solid waste ordinance.

In response, the Commissioners referred the Plan back to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, which then recommended the following changes: 1. Elimination of the word 'shall' from the statement concerning the adoption of a municipal solid waste ordinance; 2. Clarification that municipalities are not required to adopt any specific model ordinance; and 3. Inclusion of a second model municipal solid waste ordinance with fewer restrictions. After the Commissioners adopted these recommended changes, the Waste Management Plan received approval by 95% of the 48 municipalities representing 92% of the population of **Huntingdon County**

COUNTY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

Many Department activities are Countywide in nature and benefit all municipalities equally. Some activities are done to assist the County Commissioners in nonplanning areas. Major planning projects in 2010 included:

LEADERSHIP PROGRAM ADOPTED BY CHAMBER

A four-way Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) paved the way for transferring both programmatic and fiscal responsibility for Leadership Huntingdon County to the Huntingdon County Chamber of Commerce at year's end.

The MOU was signed by the Chamber, Chamber Foundation, LHC Steering

Committee and the Huntingdon County Commissioners. The principle impact of the change will be removing responsibility for LHC finances from the County.

Leadership Huntingdon County was begun in 2003 with the active support of the Huntingdon County
Commissioners. Huntingdon County obtained a \$14,000 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission to start a community leadership program. Since the initial grant, LHC has been supported by tuition paid by individual class members.

The need for community leadership development was identified by the Huntingdon County Partnership for Economic Progress in their Strategic Plan.

The six leadership classes that have graduated since 2003 have equipped 96 people to become better leaders. Debra Gregory, Cooperation Extension, has served as both Chair of the Steering Committee and Facilitator for the monthly leadership workshops.

The Planning Director serves as Chair of the Leadership Steering Committee for 2011, with Debra Gregory continuing in the Facilitator role.

In addition to LHC, the Planning Director chairs the Y.O.U. Inc. Committee of the Huntingdon County Chamber of Commerce. Y.O.U. annually conducts a one day leadership workshop for approximately 25 high school sophomores, focusing on building teamwork, exploring local job and educational opportunities, probing leadership styles and diversity and listening to the community concerns of participants.

ENERGY ANALYSIS

During 2010, County staff continued to maintain a database of utility use in all County-owned or operated buildings. The study was done to 'benchmark' building energy use and to identify opportunities for energy conservation and cost savings.

Work on the database was done by Mark Secrest, Planning Intern, supervised by Richard Stahl, Huntingdon County Planning Director.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Planning and Development Department continued to play a role in developing the County's information technology infrastructure.

For the fourth time, election results were posted to the website. The County IT consultant, RBA, uploaded the most recent election results several times per hour.

RECYCLING AND SOLID WASTE

The Recycling Coordinator provides educational programs for all Huntingdon County schools and major events that occur within Huntingdon County.

Since 2008, SKILLS has agreed to allow residents to drop off electronics at their S. 5th Street office in Smithfield Township free of charge. During 2010, the Recycling Coordinator prepared several reports and grant applications: the County's Solid Waste Annual Report, a DEP 903 Grant for Recycling Coordinator expenses, a 902 Grant for new recycling equipment, and a DEP 904 Grant for materials that were recycled in 2010 through the Bedford-Fulton-Huntingdon County Recycling Program.

The Tri-County recycling program marketed 999.50 tons of recyclables with only 5% contamination. Huntingdon County sites collected 454.69 tons, 45% of the total. The Huntingdon County voluntary curbside recycling program collected 273.83 tons.

Querry Sanitation worked closely with the Recycling Coordinator at special events throughout the County to collect a total of 6,660 pounds.

County residents continued to strongly support the collection of Household Hazardous Waste, with the Fall collection bringing 7,425 pounds.

In addition to these activities, 7.96 tons of office paper was recycled from various County offices.

The Recycling Coordinator continues to be an active member of the Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania (PROP), serving on their Educational Committee; and is an active member of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee and Keep Huntingdon County Beautiful.

GRANT ADMINISTRATION

In 2010 the Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department administered a total of \$2,163,600 in State and Federal grants, including \$245,427 in Smithfield Township Entitlement CDBG funds.

Tables on page 14 detail each miscellaneous grant awarded and CDBG usage and planned allocations.

PARTNERSHIP FOR ECONOMIC PROGRESS

The Partnership for Economic Progress (PEP) developed new goals as part of a strategic planning process. These goals include:

- •Create a Third Prison or Rebuild SCI Huntingdon;
- •Capital Fund Drive for Business Development;
- •Cell Phone/Broadband Connectivity;
- Build Secondary Education Programs to Meet Employer Needs;
- •Targeted Market Campaigns Promoted Outside the Alleghenies;

- •Target Efforts to Help Grow Crossover Businesses;
- •Improve Visibility of Huntingdon County in Local/Regional Media; and
- •Lobby for Roadway Improvements.

The Planning Director and Secretary continued to provide support to the Partnership for Economic Progress (PEP) during the year. The County Commissioners chair this committee.

According to the PEP Strategic Plan: "It is the vision of the Huntingdon County Partnership for Economic Progress to improve the economic health and the quality of life of Huntingdon County residents by

fostering and enhancing community education and innovation, agency communication and coordination and promotion of a positive image of the County".

LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT

While the Local Governmental Grant program was eliminated by the State, municipal and county contributions totaling \$2,625.00 were administered for the Huntingdon County Arts Council in 2010.

Mapleton Borough Revitalization Underway

Mapleton Borough is receiving a major 'shot in the arm' with the help of the Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department and several State and Federal Grants. Federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program and Community Development Block Funds totaling \$223,372 are committed to removing blighted buildings, housing rehabilitation and infrastructure. With the addition of funds committed to Riverside Park and Habitat for Humanity,

\$434,822 will be invested in Mapleton over a two to four year period.



Three blighted properties were purchased in Mapleton Borough in 2010 with a variety of funding sources and partnering agencies. The vacant and tax foreclosed property shown here was acquired with \$9,900 in Community Development Block Grant funds. A grant of \$6,500 from the Neighborhood Stabilization Program paid for demolition of the house. Mapleton Borough is serving as interim owner until the deed is transferred to Habitat for Humanity. It is estimated that Habitat, a non-profit with a long history of developing affordable housing will invest \$110,000 in sweat equity and private funds to construct 2 new homes on the site. The new homes, which will be sold to income eligible families, will be the first two "stick built" homes constructed in Mapleton Borough in over 40 years.

Another vacant and foreclosed property purchased for \$14,800 through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program is now owned by Huntingdon County Housing Services (HCHS, formerly Weatherization, Inc.). HCHS will rehabilitate the house with a budget of \$35,750 in NSP funds and \$30,000 in HOME funds. The house will be sold to an income eligible family, with proceeds from the sale of the property to be reinvested in another blighted property in Mapleton.

Mapleton Borough acquired a highly visible blighted property at the 2010 Judicial Sale for \$1,561 through the CDBG program. The house has been vacant for over 6 years and has been offered at Treasurer's Sale two times with no buyers showing interest in the property. CDBG funds will be used to raze the house. The reutilization plan for this property involves acquiring the neighboring property and using the combined site for affordable housing.

Mapleton Borough Council and the Mapleton Volunteer Fire Company initiated this effort in 2008 when they turned to Huntingdon County for help in dealing with vacant and dilapidated structures.



Planning and Community Development Grant Summary

| Miscellaneous Grants | | |
|------------------------------------|--|-----------|
| New Communities Program | 2010 - Enterprise Zone Basic Grant | \$50,000 |
| HOME Investment Partnership | 2008 - Housing Rehabilitation | \$306,000 |
| Housing Preservation Grant | 2009 - Emergency Moderate Home Repair | \$60,000 |
| PA Conservation Works!* | 2009 - Shirley Home Energy Efficiency Improvements | \$206,405 |
| Emergency Shelter Grant | 2009 - Huntingdon House | \$56,992 |
| Neighborhood Stabilization Program | 2009 - Mapleton and Mount Union Boroughs | \$301,000 |
| CDBG-Recovery* | 2009 - Shirley Home Energy Efficiency Improvements | \$80,320 |
| CDBG-Recovery* | 2009 - Smithfield Riverside Park | \$33,470 |
| Smithfield Township Entitlement | 2009 - Entitlement CDBG | \$102,015 |
| Smithfield Township Entitlement | 2010 - Entitlement CDBG | \$109,942 |

*funds originating from American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (stimulus funds)

| CDBG Usage - Past Three Years | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Spring Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation ** | 48,828 | 0 | 0 |
| Shirley Home Energy Improvements * | 60,000 | 0 | 0 |
| Affordable Housing * | 28,852 | 0 | 0 |
| Penn Township Sewer Infiltration * | 25,000 | 0 | 0 |
| Penn Township Sewer Laterals ** | 25,000 | 0 | 0 |
| Mount Union Borough Building Accessibility | 0 | 80,000 | 0 |
| Dudley Area Water System Improvements * | 0 | 73,500 | 0 |
| Rockhill Stormwater Improvements | 0 | 30,000 | 0 |
| Mapleton Borough Revitalization | 0 | 39,000 | 50,000 |
| Huntingdon County Facilities Accessibility | 0 | 0 | 60,000 |
| Alexandria-Porter Sewer Laterals | 0 | 0 | 35,276 |
| Cromwell Township Sewer Laterals | 0 | 0 | 64,000 |
| Cromwell Township Tap Fees | 0 | 0 | 28,000 |
| Past Three Years Totals | \$187,680 | \$222,500 | \$237,276 |
| ** activity complete | | | |
| CDBG Usage - Next Three Years | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 |
| Huntingdon County Facilities Accessibility | 210,000 | 84,000 | 0 |
| Mary Alexander Outreach Shelter | 0 | 126,000 | 0 |
| Bricktown Senior Citizen Center Rehabilitation | 0 | 0 | 75,000 |
| Wood Township Stormwater Improvements | 0 | 0 | 25,000 |
| Mount Union Borough Building Phase II Accessibility | 0 | 0 | 110,000 |
| Next Three Years Totals | \$210,000 | \$210,000 | \$210,000 |

DATA MANAGEMENT AND ANALYSIS

Proper maintenance and implementation of the *Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan* requires continuous data collection and analysis. Data collected by the Planning Staff includes:

- Building and Subdivision Activity
- ♦ Deed Transfers
- ♦ Municipal Contacts
- ♦ Municipal Land Use Ordinances
- Population and Socio-Economic Characteristics

SUBDIVISION ACTIVITY

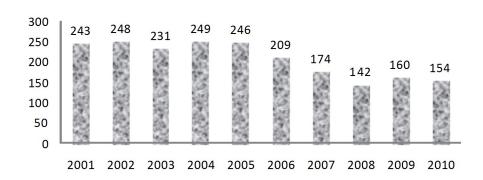
The number of new subdivision lots recorded indicates the level of land development occurring within the County. This information is valuable when determining the need for public services. Subdivision activity reflects the actual number of deeds recorded in the Courthouse (sale of lots) rather than the platting of lots referenced in the Coordination section.

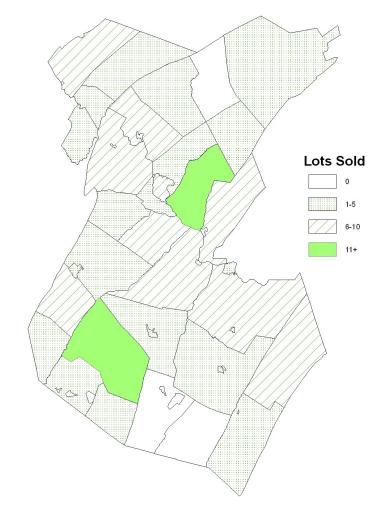
During 2010, 154 new lots were recorded in Huntingdon County. This is a decrease of 3.8% from the 160 lots created in 2009.

In 2010, the highest level of activity, 14 new lots, occurred in Henderson and Todd Townships. The table below shows the highest levels in 2010 and the map on this page illustrates the intensity of development experienced in each municipality in 2010.

| Municipality | New Lots |
|------------------------|----------|
| Henderson Township | 14 |
| Todd Township | 14 |
| Porter Township | 10 |
| Warriors Mark Township | 10 |
| Huntingdon Borough | 9 |
| Shirley Township | 8 |
| Tell Township | 8 |
| Union Township | 8 |
| Juniata Township | 7 |

SUBDIVISION ACTIVITY 2001 - 2010





SUBDIVISION ACTIVITY 2010

Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania

Huntingdon County Mapping Department - March 2011

DEED TRANSFERS

The number of deeds transferred for both new and existing properties is monitored as an indicator of the economic well being of the County. The chart on this page illustrates the number of deeds transferred over the past ten years.

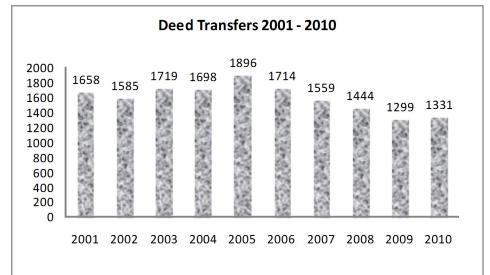
The Huntingdon County Register and Recorder's Office reported that the total number of deeds transferred in 2010, both existing and new, showed a 2.5% increase from 1,299 in 2009 to 1,331 in 2010.

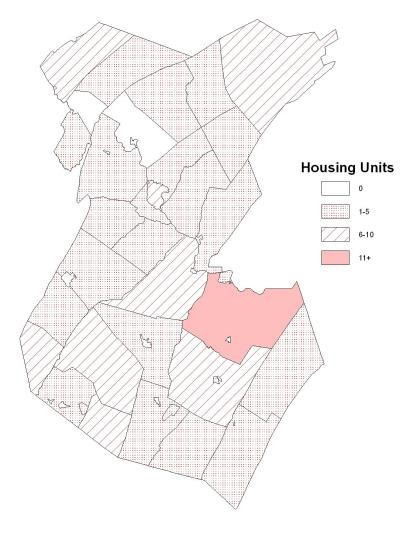
BUILDING ACTIVITY

In 2010, the construction of new houses decreased 4.1% from 2009, with 141 versus 147 in 2009. The number of new houses constructed is estimated annually. The Department uses electrical permits, from Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, and building permits to estimate new housing starts. Year-round housing activity increased by 4.2%, from 120 units in 2009 to 125 units in 2010.

The map on this page illustrates the level of building activity in each municipality in 2010. A ten-year housing starts trend is illustrated in the chart on page 15. Following are the municipalities that led the County in new housing starts:

| Municipality | New Homes |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Shirley Township | 13 |
| Todd Township | 10 |
| Union Township | 10 |
| Cromwell Township | 9 |
| Warriors Mark Township | 9 |
| Wood Township | 7 |
| Hopewell Township | 6 |
| Huntingdon Borough | 6 |
| Jackson Township | 6 |
| Penn Township | 5 |
| Springfield Township | 5 |





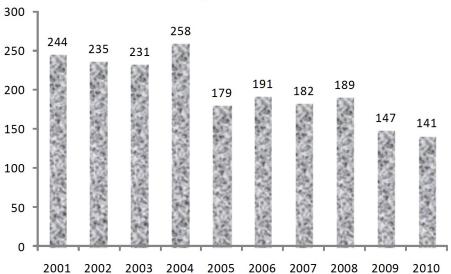
NEW HOUSING STARTS 2010

Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania

Huntingdon County Mapping Department - March 2011

2010 ANNUAL REPORT PAGE 17





SEASONAL AND YEAR-ROUND HOUSING

Valley Rural data also allows a comparison between seasonal and year-round housing starts. Based on this data, 16 units, or 11% of all new housing activity in 2010 involved seasonal housing. This data reveals a decrease of 40.7% from 27 seasonal units in 2009.

Mobile homes comprised 12.3%, or 9 units, of Valley Rural permits in 2010.

Following are the municipalities that led the County in seasonal and year-round housing starts:

| Seasonal Housing: Municipality | New Homes |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Union Township | 3 |
| Brady Township | 2 |
| Jackson Township | 2 |
| Todd Township | 2 |

| Year Round Housing: Municipality | New Homes |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Shirley Township | 12 |
| Warriors Mark Township | 9 |
| Cromwell Township | 8 |
| Todd Township | 8 |
| Union Township | 7 |
| Wood Township | 7 |
| Huntingdon Borough | 6 |
| Hopewell Township | 5 |
| Penn Township | 5 |
| Springfield Township | 5 |
| | |

4

Jackson Township

HUNTINGDON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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