#17-2016

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DAUPHIN COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CLEANING PENNSYLVANIA'S STREAMS & RIVERS

WHEREAS, the County of Dauphin, Pennsylvania, serves 270,000 residents; and

WHEREAS, the Dauphin County Board of Commissioners constitutes the chief governing body of the County, with legislative and policy-making powers that affect each resident's qualify of life; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Dauphin County has the responsibility to assure the fiscal health and integrity of Dauphin County and to plan and implement projects that accomplish and bring forth safe water resource management; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is estimated to have more than 83,000 miles of streams, nearly 4,000 lakes and 80 trillion gallons of groundwater; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's ability to attract growing businesses and to provide the quality of life this governing body seeks for its residents depends on the Commonwealth properly prioritizing clean water infrastructure and funding for stormwater management; without such an increase in prioritization and funding to address these issues, our rivers and streams will continue to be susceptible to pollution and the degradation of the Commonwealth's most previous resource – water; and

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution states that, "The people have the right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people"; and

WHEREAS, Dauphin County realizes that the Commonwealth is losing more forest, wildlife habitat, farmland and other open spaces to development than it is able to preserve; and that the Commonwealth has more than 19,000 miles of rivers and streams that do not meet basic water quality standards; and

WHEREAS, Dauphin County wishes to encourage greater investment of resources to clean Pennsylvania's rivers and streams through state programs, such as a reboot of the Growing Greener program, before irreversible damage occurs to the

places we live, work and raise our families. Clean water provides for greater health, stronger communities and thriving economies within our region.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that

- 1. Dauphin County supports increased state investments to be made by the General Assembly and the Governor with dedicated, sustainable and long-term funding sources, such as the creation of a Growing Greener III program focused on water quality, recreation, restoration and preservation; and
- 2. The signed Resolution shall be forwarded to the Governor of Pennsylvania and our respective State Legislators.

DULY ADOPTED, this 18th day of May, 2016.

DAUPHIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Jeff Haste, Chairman

ATTEST:

Mike Pries, Vice Chairman

Chad Saylor, Chief Clerk

George P. Hartwick, III, Secretary







Commissioner George P. Hartwick III Dauphin County Commissioners P.O. Box 1295 Harrisburg, PA 17108

Dear Commissioner Hartwick,

Did you know that the month of May will soon be designated as "Clean Water Counts" month in Pennsylvania thanks to efforts by State Representative Stan Saylor (R-York) and State Senators Richard Alloway (R-York) and Chuck McIlhinney (R-Bucks)?

These legislators recognize the great importance of protecting our rivers and streams across the Commonwealth. By designating May "Clean Water Counts" month, our goal is to bring greater attention to the water quality needs facing our state; whether they exist in the Susquehanna, Delaware, Ohio, Genesee, Potomac or Erie watersheds. We are one Commonwealth, working together, to effect positive change.

According to a 2014 report conducted by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, the Commonwealth has approximately 19,000 miles of rivers and streams classified as 'impaired.' And while we are making progress restoring clean water, we need to pick up the pace.

That is why the Pennsylvania Growing Greener Coalition, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, and nearly 100 additional organizations, groups and businesses including the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts, Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited, the Tri-County Conewago Creek Association, and the Central Pennsylvania Conservancy support this effort. A full list of supporters is included in this packet.

<u>We need your support.</u> We need to add Dauphin County to our growing list of supporters in order to send a message to Harrisburg that more must be done, on the state level, to help our local communities address their water quality needs.

Help us celebrate "Clean Water Counts" month by passing the enclosed resolution. This <u>draft</u> resolution may be altered to reflect the specific circumstances of your County.

And as we join our voices together, one potential solution for addressing our needs is for the state to pass a Growing Greener III program that focuses on water quality while providing additional funds to public recreation, land conservation, farmland preservation, and historic

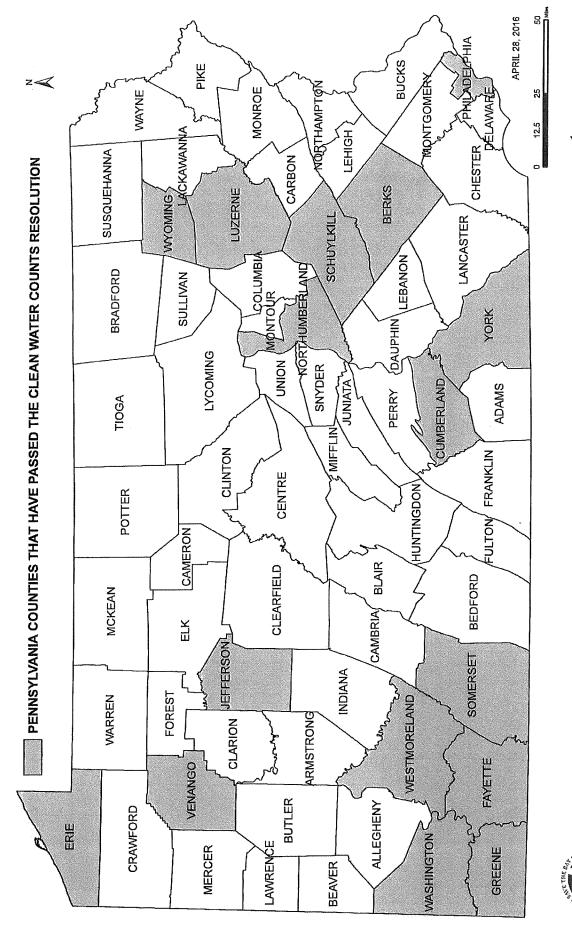
_____ COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

PROPOSED RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CLEANING PENNSYLVANIA'S STREAMS & RIVERS

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	WHEREAS, County realizes that the Commonwealth is losing more forest, wildlife habitat, farmland and other open spaces to development than it is able to preserve; and that the Commonwealth has more than 19,000 miles of rivers and streams that do not meet basic water quality standards; and
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NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that: 1. _____ County supports increased state investments to be made by the General Assembly and the Governor with dedicated, sustainable and long-term funding sources, such as the creation of a Growing Greener III program focused on water quality, recreation, restoration and preservation, and 2. the signed resolution shall be forwarded to the Governor of Pennsylvania, candidates for Governor, and our respective state legislators. DULY ADOPTED at the regular meeting of _____ County this ____ th day of _____, ____ COUNTY Chair ATTEST:

Secretary









PENNSYLVANIA