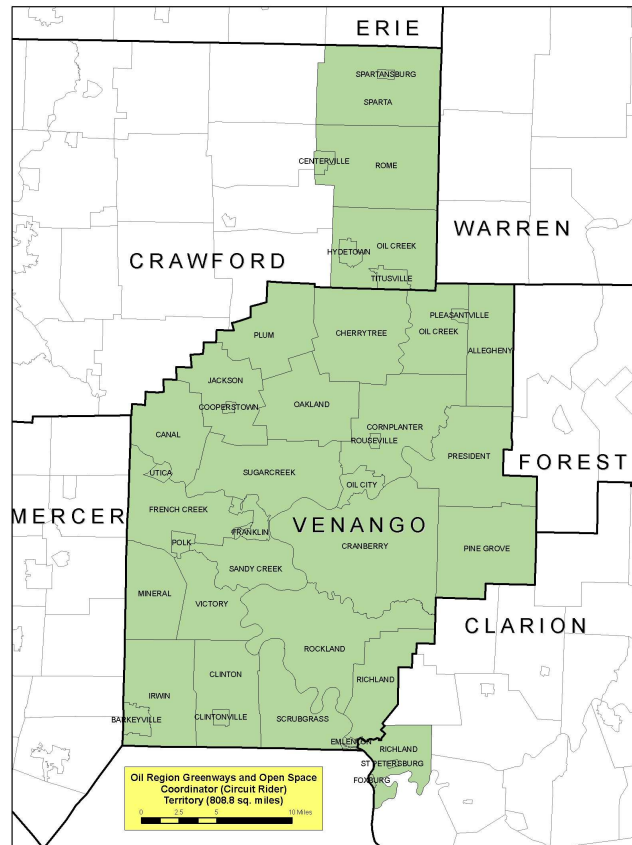


## Steering Committee Partners

Each partner contributes funding for operation and administration of the office and staffing with the Coordinator.

Allegheny Valley Conservancy  
Allegheny Valley Trails Association  
City of Franklin  
City of Oil City  
City of Titusville  
Clear Lake Authority  
Cornplanter Township  
Cranberry Township  
Crawford County  
Emlenton Borough  
Foxburg Borough  
Franklin Industrial & Commercial Dev. Authority  
Friends of Oil Creek State Park  
Oil Creek State Park  
Oil Region Alliance of Business, Industry & Tourism  
Venango County

*Serving the Oil Heritage Region and areas  
with contiguous greenways in  
Venango, Crawford & Clarion Counties.*



### Greenways & Open Space Coordinator

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## Greenways and Open Space in the Oil Region and neighboring communities

### Greenways



[www.ficda.org/greenways](http://www.ficda.org/greenways)

Recognizing the worth of natural, heritage  
and recreational resources . . .  
planning now, enjoying forever.



*This project is sponsored in part by funding  
from the Pennsylvania Department of  
Conservation and Natural Resources through  
their Circuit Rider program.*

## History and Purpose

Throughout 2007, those associated with trail and open space planning, development and operation throughout the Oil Heritage Region identified the need for a staff person to assist in the coordination of greenway and trail work as well as serve as a central point of contact and to give professional technical assistance. A partnership was formed by fifteen municipalities and organizations, and a Coordinator was hired to serve the area of the Oil Heritage Region and areas with contiguous greenways both to the north and to the south. A steering committee serves as the managing entity of the organization with one representative from each of the partners. It is responsible for coordination, prioritizing, planning, design, development, and maintenance of all the efforts related to greenways and open space in the Oil Heritage Region.

The steering committee works directly with affiliated organizations such as local municipalities, trail and conservation organizations, governmental agencies, private businesses, and non-profits to help them fulfill their objectives in greenway and open space planning, design, development, and maintenance. These organizations will provide direct input back to the steering committee concerning their interests as well. The Greenways and Open Space Coordinator can focus attention on bringing the appropriate agencies and nonprofit organizations to the table, interfacing with municipal officials and providing technical assistance where needed.

The goals of this partnership are to maintain and operate the premier greenways system throughout this region and to plan and implement projects that create and build on the groundwork for future acquisition, development and management of greenways and open space, natural areas, rails-to-trails, and river/watershed corridors. Technical assistance will be given to meet statewide and local needs and for educating the public on recreation and conservation opportunities.

## Assets & Initiatives

- ◆ A network of multi-purpose recreational trails used as models in other regions
  - \* 60+ miles of completed asphalt trail
  - \* Additional 15+ miles in planning or construction
- ◆ 2006 Trail Utilization Study showing 160,000 annual trail users with \$4 million economic impact
- ◆ Oil Heritage Region - State and National designations
- ◆ Allegheny Wild and Scenic River designation with the Allegheny River Trail
- ◆ The new Erie to Pittsburgh Trail Alliance effort will create and connect continuous trails from Erie to Pittsburgh and then connect to the Great Allegheny Passage which travels to the C&O Canal Towpath in Maryland which continues on to Washington, D.C. This local area will become a major hub in that system.
- ◆ Green infrastructure - defined as the network of greenways, open space, woodlands, wildlife habitat, parks and other natural areas which sustain clean air, water, and other natural resources and enrich citizens' quality of life.
- ◆ 900+ acres of private property conserved under conservation easement



## Needs

- ◆ “Fill in the gaps” in the current trail system
- ◆ Maintain, operate and promote current greenways and assets
- ◆ Protection, reclamation and enhancement of natural system green infrastructure

## Benefits of Greenways

- ◆ Protection of Natural Resources
- ◆ Protection of Water Resources
- ◆ Stewardship of Pennsylvania's Rural and Farmland Legacy
- ◆ Conservation of Historic and Cultural Resources
- ◆ Conservation of Scenic Resources
- ◆ Fostering of Public Recreation, Health, and Fitness
- ◆ Creation of Educational Opportunities
- ◆ Support of Economic Prosperity
- ◆ Promotion of Sustainable Development and Sound Land Use
- ◆ Provision of Alternative Transportation
- ◆ Building Partnerships

### Pennsylvania Greenways Vision

Pennsylvania and its many partners will develop an outstanding network of greenways across the Commonwealth, creating an asset highly valued by Pennsylvanians and enhancing the quality of life for all.

This network of greenways will connect Pennsylvania's open space, natural landscape features, scenic, cultural, historic, and recreation sites, and urban and rural communities.

Greenways will become one of the Commonwealth's most powerful tools to achieve sustainable growth and liveable communities.

- From *Pennsylvania Greenways: An Action Plan for Creating Connections*, June 2001

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