

Landscapes3 Preservation Survey Results

Q1 Open space preservation is a priority in Chester County.

Answered: 459 Skipped: 2

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
44.66% 205	34.20% 157	5.88% 27	11.76% 54	3.49% 16	459	4.05

Q2 Open space preservation should be a priority in Chester County.

Answered: 459 Skipped: 2

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
87.80% 403	10.46% 48	0.87% 4	0.65% 3	0.22% 1	459	4.85

Q3 Additional funding should be allocated to open space preservation in Chester County.

Answered: 457 Skipped: 4

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
74.40% 340	18.60% 85	4.16% 19	1.75% 8	1.09% 5	457	4.63

Q4 Open space preservation is a valuable tool in land use management.

Answered: 460 Skipped: 1

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
78.26% 360	18.04% 83	2.83% 13	0.65% 3	0.22% 1	460	4.73

Q5 Open space preservation has a positive economic impact in Chester County.

Answered: 457 Skipped: 4

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
71.99% 329	18.82% 86	7.66% 35	1.09% 5	0.44% 2	457	4.61

Q6 Preservation of open space is critical to improving Chester County's economic and environmental resiliency.

Answered: 459 Skipped: 2

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
72.77% 334	21.79% 100	3.49% 16	1.74% 8	0.22% 1	459	4.65

Q7 Please prioritize lands to preserve with future open space funding. (1 being highest priority, 6 being lowest priority)

Answered: 452 Skipped: 9

Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	6	Rating Average	Response Count
Agricultural properties	122	78	53	52	47	49	2.93	401
	30.42%	19.45%	13.22%	12.97%	11.72%	12.22%		
Publicly accessible passive recreation areas (bird watching, state forest lands, walking trails, etc.)	70	97	93	90	45	11	2.94	406
	17.24%	23.89%	22.91%	22.17%	11.08%	2.71%		
Historic properties	106	65	49	79	75	38	3.16	412
	25.73%	15.78%	11.89%	19.17%	18.20%	9.22%		
Trails (walking and non-motorized multi-use trails)	30	85	84	77	98	42	3.61	416
	7.21%	20.43%	20.19%	18.51%	23.56%	10.10%		
Limited/no access non-recreational open space (nature preserves, protected wildlife habitat, etc.)	72	66	81	58	70	94	3.61	441
	16.33%	14.97%	18.37%	13.15%	15.87%	21.32%		
Publicly accessible active recreation areas (sports fields, playgrounds, multi-use trails, etc.)	41	36	56	47	65	161	4.33	406
	10.10%	8.87%	13.79%	11.58%	16.01%	39.66%		

Q8 Please rank the top five methods for preserving open space. (1 being most effective, 5 being least effective)

Answered: 417 Skipped: 44

Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Rating Average	Response Count
Non-profit ownership	61 16.80%	119 32.78%	67 18.46%	53 14.60%	36 9.92%	22 6.06%	5 1.38%	2.92	363
Non-profit easement	97 27.02%	68 18.94%	69 19.22%	44 12.26%	42 11.70%	27 7.52%	12 3.34%	2.99	359
Local regulation	66 18.33%	43 11.94%	64 17.78%	72 20.00%	83 23.06%	18 5.00%	14 3.89%	3.48	360
Public ownership	65 18.01%	52 14.40%	59 16.34%	86 23.82%	42 11.63%	32 8.86%	25 6.93%	3.51	361
Citizen action	65 18.47%	32 9.09%	62 17.61%	45 12.78%	64 18.18%	26 7.39%	58 16.48%	3.91	352
State regulation	17 5.21%	58 17.79%	32 9.82%	44 13.50%	65 19.94%	104 31.90%	6 1.84%	4.28	326
Federal regulation	37 11.42%	20 6.17%	37 11.42%	31 9.57%	38 11.73%	31 9.57%	130 40.12%	4.93	324

Q9 Natural resource preservation is a priority in Chester County.

Answered: 400 Skipped: 61

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
27.75% 111	39.50% 158	13.75% 55	15.75% 63	3.25% 13	400	3.73

Q10 Natural resource preservation should be a priority in Chester County.

Answered: 403 Skipped: 58

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
80.40% 324	18.11% 73	1.24% 5	0.00% 0	0.25% 1	403	4.78

Q11 Additional funding should be available for natural resource preservation in Chester County.

Answered: 401 Skipped: 60

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
69.08% 277	21.95% 88	6.73% 27	2.00% 8	0.25% 1	401	4.58

Q12 Natural resource preservation is a valuable tool in land use management.

Answered: 399 Skipped: 62

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
69.17% 276	26.32% 105	3.51% 14	0.50% 2	0.50% 2	399	4.63

Q13 Natural resource preservation has a positive economic impact in Chester County.

Answered: 397 Skipped: 64

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
64.23% 255	24.69% 98	9.82% 39	1.01% 4	0.25% 1	397	4.52

Q14 Preservation of natural resources is critical to improving Chester County’s economic and environmental resiliency.

Answered: 400 Skipped: 61

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
65.50% 262	25.25% 101	8.25% 33	0.75% 3	0.25% 1	400	4.55

Q15 Efforts in Chester County should evolve from a focus on natural resource preservation to an increased focus on natural resource restoration.

Answered: 396 Skipped: 65

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
32.83% 130	39.14% 155	21.46% 85	6.06% 24	0.51% 2	396	3.98

Q16 Please prioritize the top five functions and values provided by natural resources. (1 being highest priority, 5 being lowest priority)

Answered: 370 Skipped: 91

Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Rating Average	Response Count
Water quality	171	61	29	26	27	14	5	5	1	2.32	339
	50.44%	17.99%	8.55%	7.67%	7.96%	4.13%	1.47%	1.47%	0.29%		
Habitat diversity	65	64	56	57	35	14	20	6	3	3.32	320
	20.31%	20.00%	17.50%	17.81%	10.94%	4.38%	6.25%	1.88%	0.94%		
Erosion and sedimentation control	29	50	78	67	37	16	13	9	3	3.65	302
	9.60%	16.56%	25.83%	22.19%	12.25%	5.30%	4.30%	2.98%	0.99%		
Stormwater management	17	61	57	47	50	25	18	10	3	3.93	288
	5.90%	21.18%	19.79%	16.32%	17.36%	8.68%	6.25%	3.47%	1.04%		
Flood water retention	20	40	45	60	42	28	20	11	2	4.10	268
	7.46%	14.93%	16.79%	22.39%	15.67%	10.45%	7.46%	4.10%	0.75%		
Carbon sequestration	20	28	27	30	35	14	31	32	22	5.05	239
	8.37%	11.72%	11.30%	12.55%	14.64%	5.86%	12.97%	13.39%	9.21%		
Recreational opportunities	15	22	33	36	46	28	19	38	25	5.20	262
	5.73%	8.40%	12.60%	13.74%	17.56%	10.69%	7.25%	14.50%	9.54%		
Stable/increased property values	28	24	23	14	40	16	14	25	64	5.53	248
	11.29%	9.68%	9.27%	5.65%	16.13%	6.45%	5.65%	10.08%	25.81%		
Heat island mitigation	2	10	10	8	28	26	34	38	42	6.57	198
	1.01%	5.05%	5.05%	4.04%	14.14%	13.13%	17.17%	19.19%	21.21%		

Q17 Please rank the top five methods for preserving natural resources. (1 being highest priority, 5 being lowest priority)

Answered: 351 Skipped: 110

Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Rating Average	Response Count
Non-profit easement	67	53	64	48	37	20	10	3.12	299
	22.41%	17.73%	21.40%	16.05%	12.37%	6.69%	3.34%		
Local regulation	86	33	55	54	66	12	6	3.13	312
	27.56%	10.58%	17.63%	17.31%	21.15%	3.85%	1.92%		
Non-profit ownership	44	82	54	51	48	18	4	3.16	301
	14.62%	27.24%	17.94%	16.94%	15.95%	5.98%	1.33%		
Public ownership	46	39	51	70	43	20	24	3.62	293
	15.70%	13.31%	17.41%	23.89%	14.68%	6.83%	8.19%		
State regulation	20	82	34	37	47	70	3	3.79	293
	6.83%	27.99%	11.60%	12.63%	16.04%	23.89%	1.02%		
Citizen action	45	33	42	51	53	20	37	3.86	281
	16.01%	11.74%	14.95%	18.15%	18.86%	7.12%	13.17%		
Federal regulation	41	23	38	18	28	18	93	4.53	259
	15.83%	8.88%	14.67%	6.95%	10.81%	6.95%	35.91%		

Q18 Historic resource preservation is a priority in Chester County.

Answered: 376 Skipped: 85

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
22.34%	43.09%	14.89%	15.16%	4.52%	376	3.64
84	162	56	57	17		

Q19 Historic resource preservation should be a priority in Chester County.

Answered: 380 Skipped: 81

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
57.89%	35.53%	4.74%	1.58%	0.26%	380	4.49
220	135	18	6	1		

Q20 Additional funding should be available for historic resource preservation in Chester County.

Answered: 378 Skipped: 83

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
47.09% 178	33.33% 126	14.55% 55	4.50% 17	0.53% 2	378	4.22

Q21 Historic resource preservation is a valuable tool in land use management.

Answered: 375 Skipped: 86

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
41.07% 154	38.67% 145	15.47% 58	4.53% 17	0.27% 1	375	4.16

Q22 Historic resource preservation has a positive economic impact in Chester County.

Answered: 374 Skipped: 87

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
48.66% 182	37.43% 140	11.23% 42	2.41% 9	0.27% 1	374	4.32

Q23 Preservation of historic resources is critical to improving Chester County's economic and environmental resiliency.

Answered: 372 Skipped: 89

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
40.59% 151	36.02% 134	18.01% 67	5.38% 20	0.00% 0	372	4.12

Q24 Please rank the top five methods for preserving historic resources. (1 being highest priority, 5 being lowest priority)

Answered: 321 Skipped: 140

Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Rating Average	Response Count
Non-profit ownership	63	78	39	39	35	18	6	2.94	278
	22.66%	28.06%	14.03%	14.03%	12.59%	6.47%	2.16%		
Local regulation	69	39	50	49	64	5	8	3.17	284
	24.30%	13.73%	17.61%	17.25%	22.54%	1.76%	2.82%		
Citizen action	81	31	39	48	32	12	25	3.21	268
	30.22%	11.57%	14.55%	17.91%	11.94%	4.48%	9.33%		
Public ownership	37	44	48	49	46	22	18	3.61	264
	14.02%	16.67%	18.18%	18.56%	17.42%	8.33%	6.82%		
Non-profit easement	29	39	61	52	43	12	21	3.63	257
	11.28%	15.18%	23.74%	20.23%	16.73%	4.67%	8.17%		
State regulation	12	61	34	35	40	71	1	3.97	254
	4.72%	24.02%	13.39%	13.78%	15.75%	27.95%	0.39%		
Federal regulation	29	19	34	22	27	15	77	4.58	223
	13.00%	8.52%	15.25%	9.87%	12.11%	6.73%	34.53%		

Q25 Please rank the top five functions and values for preserving historic resources. (1 being highest priority, 5 being lowest priority)

Answered: 335 Skipped: 126

Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Rating Average	Response Count
Historic context	108	64	50	40	28	7	5	3	2.58	305
	35.41%	20.98%	16.39%	13.11%	9.18%	2.30%	1.64%	0.98%		
Community character	101	61	46	61	22	12	6	0	2.68	309
	32.69%	19.74%	14.89%	19.74%	7.12%	3.88%	1.94%	0.00%		
Education/Interpretation	37	68	58	40	41	18	11	7	3.40	280
	13.21%	24.29%	20.71%	14.29%	14.64%	6.43%	3.93%	2.50%		
Scenic character	17	42	54	50	40	35	25	11	4.15	274
	6.20%	15.33%	19.71%	18.25%	14.60%	12.77%	9.12%	4.01%		
Heritage tourism	21	34	50	35	47	24	14	23	4.19	248
	8.47%	13.71%	20.16%	14.11%	18.95%	9.68%	5.65%	9.27%		
Reuse of existing infrastructure	27	30	30	29	47	26	28	16	4.33	233
	11.59%	12.88%	12.88%	12.45%	20.17%	11.16%	12.02%	6.87%		
Quality design/architecture	8	20	26	39	51	24	33	18	4.82	219
	3.65%	9.13%	11.87%	17.81%	23.29%	10.96%	15.07%	8.22%		
Stable/increased property value	14	11	15	23	36	10	31	67	5.63	207
	6.76%	5.31%	7.25%	11.11%	17.39%	4.83%	14.98%	32.37%		

Q26 Open space, natural resource, and historic resource issues frequently overlap and should be considered more holistically.

Answered: 376 Skipped: 85

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
53.72% 202	38.30% 144	4.26% 16	3.72% 14	0.00% 0	376	4.42

Q27 Outreach and public education regarding preservation should be expanded.

Answered: 378 Skipped: 83

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
61.11% 231	34.66% 131	2.65% 10	1.59% 6	0.00% 0	378	4.55

Q28 Your municipality takes an active role to support preservation.

Answered: 375 Skipped: 86

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Weighted Average
20.53% 77	39.73% 149	17.87% 67	15.47% 58	6.40% 24	375	3.53

Q29 Please prioritize the need for outreach on the value of preservation to the following audiences. (1 being highest priority, 7 being lowest priority.)

Answered: 348 Skipped: 113

Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Rating Average	Response Count
Elected Officials	154	61	43	34	24	10	7	2.31	333
	46.25%	18.32%	12.91%	10.21%	7.21%	3.00%	2.10%		
Adults	72	73	109	31	33	11	1	2.75	330
	21.82%	22.12%	33.03%	9.39%	10.00%	3.33%	0.30%		
Young Adults	40	69	61	80	60	17	1	3.32	328
	12.20%	21.04%	18.60%	24.39%	18.29%	5.18%	0.30%		
Businesses	19	94	45	68	60	29	17	3.64	332
	5.72%	28.31%	13.55%	20.48%	18.07%	8.73%	5.12%		
Youth (K - 12)	55	20	38	42	61	51	43	4.16	310
	17.74%	6.45%	12.26%	13.55%	19.68%	16.45%	13.87%		
Seniors	3	19	36	62	46	78	56	4.96	300
	1.00%	6.33%	12.00%	20.67%	15.33%	26.00%	18.67%		
English as Second Language Community	4	5	6	15	42	71	140	6.04	283
	1.41%	1.77%	2.12%	5.30%	14.84%	25.09%	49.47%		

Q30 How are you involved in open space, natural resource, and historic resource preservation? (Please check all that apply.)

Answered: 368 Skipped: 93

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Student	3.5%	13
Elected official	5.2%	19
Owner of a preserved property	20.7%	76
Professional career	23.4%	86
Volunteer service	47.3%	174
Recreational use	50.0%	184
Interested citizen	84.2%	310

Q31 Any additional comments.

Representative comments are provided below, in order of submission. 94 comments were submitted. Comments were generally supportive of preservation, but the range of comments included submissions such as: opposed to additional tax dollars for preservation; discussion of specific parcels; discussion of areas where growth should be directed; discussion of specific points on open space, natural resources, or historic resources; and offers of assistance in the development of Landscapes3 or more broadly on preservation issues.

Representative Comments Submitted:

I think the county is putting too many resources into open space and land preservation, instead of improving our roads, and revitalizing communities like Coatesville, Parkesburg, Oxford, Spring City, etc...

Land preservation policies should be extremely active in discouraging development of rural land, and directing growth instead into our urban centers.

I am ready and willing to pay a tax specifically earmarked to purchase properties or development rights to retain the land as open space.

A large part of Chester County's appeal is that we have open space, farmland, & outdoor recreational opportunities.

More public transportation is needed.

The beautiful landscape of Chester County is why the area is so desirable to live and visit.

Preservation of historic properties and open space throughout Chester County needs to be a priority issue for our community and elected officials at the local, county, state and federal levels. We cannot allow overdevelopment and misuse of natural resources denigrate our beautiful county. Take action now to keep Chester County beautiful.

I'm a Fifth generation Chester Countian and I am saddened by the greed of developers exploiting the lack of coordination and oversight by municipalities. We need re-use and revitalization more than the destruction of farmland. As we lose our connection to the agrarian roots we cherish in chesco - we lose our dignity as a community.

Mechanisms should be created by the local government to ease the expense and difficulty of maintaining and restoring Historic Resources for the private owner (e.g., very low interest loans, identification of quality contractors with experience in working on older structures).

I have become very concerned with the quality of the water and air in our region. Preservation of our land and restoration of our water quality is very important to my family.

Emphasis should be on conservation and restoration, not just preservation. Emphasize linkages between blocks of protected land.

Please continue to strengthen Chester County's leadership in addressing climate change - it is a top threat that impacts our security, economy, and environment, and needs to be addressed at all levels of society.

I think enough has been spent on open space. Not "all citizens" benefit. But all pay the tax.

Natural resources need to be valued for the services they provide. The growth forecasts for this area are not to be taken lightly and appropriate planning is not currently in place.

As development pressures continue to impact our communities, it is vital that we devote necessary resources to the very assets that make Chester County one of the most desirable places to live on the east coast. I trust that our county officials and local legislators will continue to protect our incredible landscape and our rich history.

Not enough training done for historic commissions and HARB members who don't always realize the consequences of their rulings and actions.

I do not think any additional taxpayer money should be used for open space.

The county needs to encourage development in the small towns like Oxford, Kennett Square, West Grove, etc. and not along the Rt. 1 corridor.

Efforts in Chester County should include a focus on natural resource preservation AND an increased focus on natural resource restoration.