

PENNSYLVANIA FARMERS:

Striving for a Legacy of Healthy Soils and Clean Water



USDA/NRCS

Farming is the backbone of much of Pennsylvania's economy and culture.

52,700 farms statewide, 97% are family owned

7.3 million acres farmed

43% of farms have cattle; 13% have dairy

\$132.5 billion a year in total economic impact

Farm conservation practices, like streambank fencing and streamside forests, are some of the most cost-effective solutions to Pennsylvania's clean-water challenges.



HEALTH HABITATS AND CLEAN STREAMS:

Vital to our Economy

USDA/NRCS

Hunting, fishing, hiking, boating, and camping are more than a pastime for many Pennsylvanians.

It's a core part of our culture, heritage, identity, and legacy. It's also a critical part of our economy.

A 2022 study found that the states' 1.2 million anglers, 780,000 hunters, and hundreds of thousands of outdoor enthusiasts generate:

\$58 billion in economic output (up 25% from 2016)

.....
Support for 430,000 jobs (up 16% from 2016)

.....
\$6.5 billion in federal, state, and local tax revenue (up 62% from 2016)



PENNSYLVANIA'S RIVERS AND STREAMS

Pennsylvania has over 86,000 miles of rivers and streams.

These waters and the lands that feed into them, impact the health, well-being, and quality of life of all Pennsylvanians.

27,866 miles (32%) are considered impaired in the 2022 state report.

Top 3 Identified Sources

SOURCE	TOTAL MILES (AGGREGATE)	COMMON POLLUTANTS
Agricultural Activities	7,921	Nitrogen, phosphorus, sediments, pathogens
Acid Mine Drainage	5,536	Toxic metals, acid
Urban and Suburban Runoff	5,476	Nitrogen, phosphorus, sediments, pathogens, oils and greases, volume

Healthier streams mean more brook trout and eastern hellbenders, cleaner drinking water, and more vibrant communities.