

# Bushkill Township Open Space Criteria Evaluation

Property Name: xx

Conducted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

	Acres	Percentage
Easement Area (total):		100%
- Farmland/Agric		0%
- Natural Area		0%

## Farmland Preservation

### Total Resource Values (Rate only farmed portion of property)

#### 1. Resource Values for Farmland Preservation *Select all that apply*

Prime Farmland Soils Class 1 and/or 2

Statewide Important Soils Class 3 and/or 4

Other:

- Actively farmed
- Enrolled in Bushkill Township's Agricultural Security Area
- Current Soil Conservation Plan

**-then add-**

#### 2. Additional Resource Values

*It is recognized that some of the attributes can not be determined at initial evaluation*

#### Linkages and Connectivity

Adjacent to permanently protected farmland, open space, parkland

Identified within Bushkill Township's Official Map Reserve Area

#### Ecologically Significant Habitat

Evidence of presence of animal or plant listed on PNDI or similar generally accepted study, or found on property

Identified in the *Lehigh and Northampton Counties Natural Areas Inventory*

*(i.e. Blue Mountain, Bushkill Creek Landscape Corridor, Knechts Landscape Corridor, Rismiller Landscape Corridor)*

#### Other Factors to Consider:

Property area to be preserved is >35 acres

Township acquisition of conservation easement or restriction on future development is below market value

Availability of additional state and county funds to leverage Township funding

Property area to be preserved will have public access for hiking, hunting, fishing, or low-impact, recreation and education

Property provides a significant view from adjacent preserved lands, greenway, and/or public road

#### Project Feasibility

Current or past uses have seriously diminished conservation values. *(invasive, debris, erosion, contamination)*

Difficult easement enforcement due to multiple ownership, restricted access, frequent incidence trespassing, irregular configuration, etc.

Existing Encumbrances that pose a risk to conservation values

Requested provisions/retained rights significantly diminish conservation values

Township does not have adequate financial resources to own and manage the property itself

Project timeframe is unworkable

### FARMLAND PRESERVATION

200 maximum points

TOTAL

Acres 100 maximum points

0

0

0

-Y/N

0

0

0

100 maximum points

-Y/N 40 maximum points

0

0

0

-Y/N 20 maximum points

0

0

0

-Y/N 40 maximum points

0

0

0

0

0

0

-Y/N - 90 maximum points

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

TOTAL POINTS

200 maximum points

0

<b>Natural Areas Preservation</b>			
<b>Total Resource Values (Rate only Natural Areas portion of property)</b>		<b>200 maximum points</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>1. Resource Values for Natural Areas Preservation</b> <i>Select all that apply.</i>	<b>-Y/N</b>	<b>65 maximum points</b>	
Woodlands (as watershed protection)		0	0
Wetlands (based on field delineation, known field condition, or major hydric soils (per USDA))		0	
Vernal Ponds		0	
Streams		0	
Within 300 feet of wetlands or streams		0	
Steep slopes (>12% slope)		0	
Floodplains		0	
<b>-then add-</b>			
<b>2. Additional Resource Values for Natural Areas Preservation</b>		<b>135 maximum points</b>	
<i>It is recognized that some of the attributes can not be determined at initial evaluation</i>			
<b>Linkages and Connectivity</b>	<b>-Y/N</b>	<b>50 maximum points</b>	
Adjacent to permanently protected farmland, open space, parkland		0	0
Identified within Bushkill Township's Official Map Reserve Area		0	
<b>Ecologically Significant Habitat</b>	<b>-Y/N</b>	<b>35 maximum points</b>	
Evidence of presence of animal or plant listed on PNDI or similar generally accepted study, or found on property		0	0
Identified in the <i>Lehigh and Northampton Counties Natural Areas Inventory</i> <i>(i.e. Blue Mountain, Bushkill Creek Landscape Corridor, Knechts Landscape Corridor, Rismiller Landscape Corridor)</i>		0	
<b>Other Factors to Consider:</b>	<b>-Y/N</b>	<b>50 maximum points</b>	
Property area to be preserved is >35 acres		0	0
Township acquisition of conservation easement or restriction on future development is below market value		0	
Availability of additional state and county funds to leverage Township funding		0	
Property area to be preserved will have public access for hiking, hunting, fishing, or low-impact, recreation and education		0	
Property provides a significant view from adjacent preserved lands, greenway, and/or public road		0	
<b>Project Feasibility</b>	<b>-Y/N</b>	<b>- 90 maximum points</b>	
Current or past uses have seriously diminished conservation values. <i>(invasive, debris, erosion, contamination)</i>		0	0
Difficult easement enforcement due to multiple ownership, restricted access, frequent incidence trespassing, irregular configuration, etc.		0	
Existing Encumbrances that pose a risk to conservation values		0	
Requested provisions/retained rights significantly diminish conservation values		0	
Township does not have adequate financial resources to own and manage the property itself		0	
Project timeframe is unworkable		0	
<b>NATURAL AREAS PRESERVATION</b>	<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>	<b>### maximum points</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>FARMLAND PRESERVATION - TOTAL POINTS</b>	<b>### maximum points</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>WEIGHTED RANKING</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>NATURAL AREAS PRESERVATION - TOTAL POINTS</b>	<b>### maximum points</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>WEIGHTED RANKING</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>WEIGHTED FINAL RANKING</b>	<b>### maximum points</b>	<b>0</b>