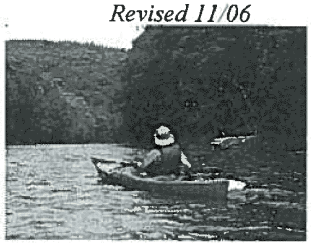
Revised 11/06



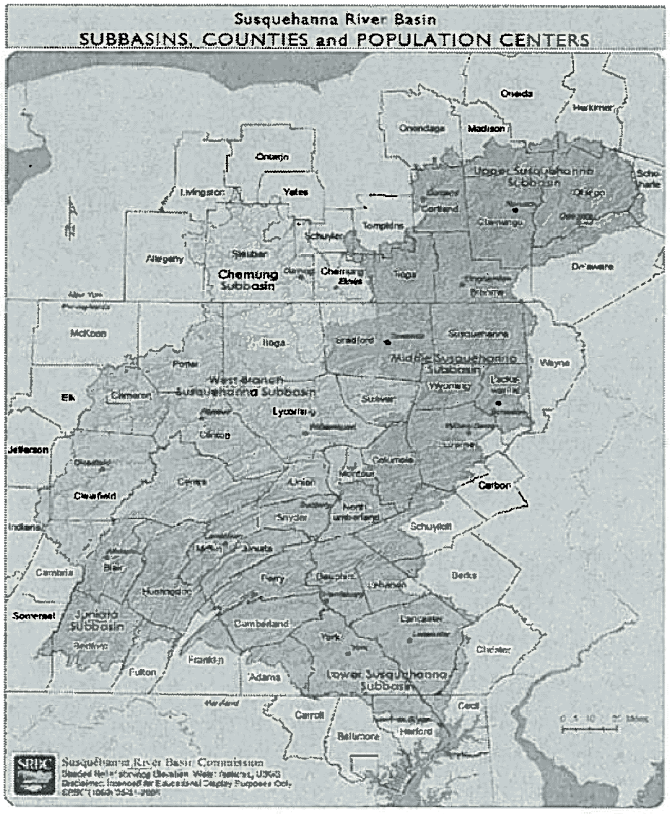
Susquehanna River Basin Commission
Information Sheet

SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN

The Basin:

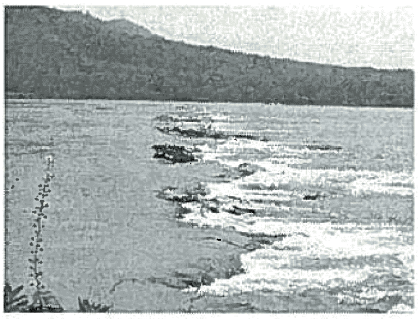
- Drains 27,510 square miles, covering half the land area of Pennsylvania and portions of New York and Maryland. Includes all or portions of 67 counties.
- Comprises 43 percent of the Chesapeake Bay's drainage area.
- Is comprised of six major subbasins.
- Has more than 49,000 miles of waterways – rivers, streams, creeks, brooks, runs, etc.[1]
- Is made up of 69 percent forest lands.[2]
- Has a population of nearly 4 million.[3]
- Is home of the native Brook Trout fish species.
- Is one of the most flood prone areas in the entire nation, experiencing a major devastating flood on average every 14 years. The basin's average annual flood damages is $150 million dollars.

[1] source National Hydrography Dataset, [2] source Chesapeake Bay 2000 landuse data, [3] source 2000 Census



The Susquehanna River:

- Flows 444 miles from its headwaters at Otsego Lake in Cooperstown, N.Y., to Havre de Grace, Md., where the river meets the Chesapeake Bay.
- Is the largest tributary of the Chesapeake Bay, providing 50 percent of its fresh water flows.



- Is the longest, commercially nonnavigable river in North America.
- Is the largest river lying entirely within the United States that drains into the Atlantic Ocean.
- Is almost one mile wide at Harrisburg, Pa.
- Flows about 20 miles per day on an average summer day.
- Has a normal flow of about 18 million gallons per minute at Havre de Grace, Md.

Susquehanna River Basin Commission, 1721 North Front Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102
717-238-0423, www.srbc.net, srbc@srbc.net