

Activity 2: *Comprehensive Plan Considerations*

Before developing a comprehensive plan, a community should examine its resources, needs and problems. The community should share the information with the county planning office to see how they could help. Here are some factors to consider before developing your plan for the future land use in Keystone Township.

1. Water Resources: Where are the water resources? Where is the watershed? Is there a source of drinking water? Is there need for a lake or reservoir? Do we need to consider developing a water source for future needs? How do you protect the water in the streams so they are safe for fishing and swimming? How do you want to protect the water resources?

2. Forest Resources and Green Space: Where are the forested areas? Why are they important? How do you want to protect the forest resources and wildlife habitat in the future? What type of recreation will you encourage in green space? Do you want to manage the forested areas for timber?

3. Farmland: How important is the farmland to the community and the region? Where should future farmland be protected? How could you encourage farmers to protect the land as farmland?

4. Slope, Drainage, Floodplain: Where is the land steep or flat, and how does this impact development? Where does the land drain well? Is there a floodplain? What type of development if any should be located in such areas?

5. Geology, Soils, Mining: What type of geology is in the valley? Is it stable? Has there been mining activity? Is there a potential for subsidence? What type of soils seem to be in the valley? What type of protection could be afforded to the soils?

6. Wetlands: Are there wetlands? Wetlands are valuable for ground water recharge, flood control, removal of toxins and are important wildlife habitats. How can you protect wetlands from future development?

7. Current Land Use: What is currently there? How can you preserve some of the qualities of the existing communities? How can you protect the history of the community? How can you protect the natural areas? What is happening in adjacent areas that could impact the growth of the township? How could you work with other communities? In what areas could you develop a multi-municipal plan?

8. Former Land Use: Determine if former land uses could lead to future land uses through development on old industrial sites or building tourism around historic uses. Could areas in town be revitalized to make them more attractive for people to live?