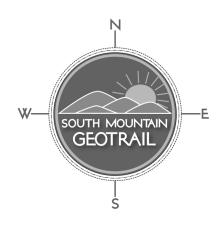
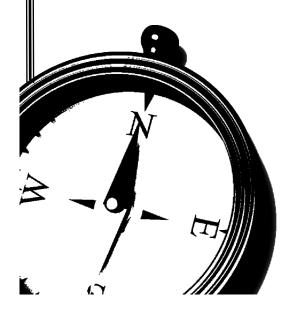
### SOUTH MOUNTAIN GEOTRAIL PASSPORT





#### **GETTING STARTED:**

All South Mountain GeoTrail sites are officially registered with www.geocaching.com. Participants will need to be registered on the site to get coordinates and other information, which is a free service.

#### To find official South Mountain GeoTrail caches:

- 1) Log onto www.geocaching.com
- 2) Click Hide & Seek a Cache
- 3) Go to Other Search Options
- 4) Under Hidden by Username, type in SMGeoTrail

Important Notes: The sport of geocaching is such that trails, locations, and game pieces are at the mercy of the elements and the non-geocaching public. All participants must understand that geocaching, as well as hiking, backpacking and other outdoor activities involve risk to both persons and property. There are many variables including, but not limited to, weather, fitness level, terrain features and outdoor experience to be considered prior to seeking a cache. Be prepared for your journey and be sure to check the current weather and conditions before heading outdoors. Always exercise common sense and caution.

**Disclaimer:** In no way shall the Capital Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area Council, Inc. nor any employee, agent, officer or volunteer of the South Mountain GeoTrail be liable for any direct, indirect or consequential damages arising out of, or in any way connected with the participation in the South Mountain GeoTrail Project.



For more information, visit:

http://smgeotrail.blogspot.com

# SOUTH MOUNTAIN & THE PARTNERSHIP

South Mountain and the area surrounding it originated millions of years ago when the land created from volcanoes and covered by oceans buckled and rose. Historically, communities surrounding South Mountain have thrived from the fertile limestone agricultural lands, the timber that fed the iron furnaces, the plentiful game and wildlife, and the abundance of pure spring water that is captured by the mountains' permeable soils and released into the valleys.

The South Mountain Partnership is a unified group of private citizens, business, not for profit organizations and governmental officials working to protect, preserve and enhance the South Mountain Landscape in Central Pennsylvania.

#### **OUR GEOTRAIL**

The South Mountain GeoTrail enhances a "sense of place" for residents and visitors, by linking agricultural, heritage and natural resources as well as promoting recognition and awareness of the importance of the selected "cache" sites. The GeoTrail provides a family-friendly outdoor experience that presents a unique opportunity to enjoy all that the area has to offer.

#### GEOTRAIL GUIDELINES

Each cache will contain a unique keyword to be recorded in your passport as proof of finding the cache. Once you successfully find 30 caches within the project area, you are eligible to receive a free one-of-a-kind geocoin. Take your completed passport to the Capital RC&D office (address below), where your passport will be validated and a geocoin will be awarded to you. Only one coin will be given per validated passport.

Capital RC&D Area Council 401 East Louther St. Suite 307 Carlisle, PA 17013 Phone: (717) 241-4361

Email: smgeotrail@capitalrcd.org

## SUPPORTING LOCAL AGRICULTURE

Local farm families in the region have a great connection to the land and for generations have provided the people around them with the bounty of their harvest at farm stands and markets. The partnership is working to maintain farming as a way of life in the region by promoting agri-tourism, increased demand for local foods, and preservation of farmland. We also strive to provide farmers with "best practice" methods that will help foster environmental stewardship and profitability on their farms.

## PRESERVING CULTURAL HERITAGE

Native Americans used the Cumberland Valley as a major travel and trade route. Iron forges manufactured cannon balls used during the Revolutionary War and the French and Indian War pockmarked the region with battles. Later, the civil war left a heavy imprint on the land. For many years, escaping slaves walked trails along the spine of South Mountain on the Underground Railroad. There are many layers of stories that the South Mountain Partnership is working to showcase and preserve.

Cache #	Keyword
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### NATURAL RESOURCES AND OUTDOOR RECREATION

An abundance of state forests and parks exist within the South Mountain region, which also boasts the halfway point of the Appalachian Trail. In the summer, the mountain becomes a recreational hub for vacationing out-of-state and local people alike. The partnership is working to grow current and new opportunities that promote respect and appreciation of the area's natural resources.

Cache #	Keyword
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