

About PASDA

The **Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access** system (**PASDA**) is Pennsylvania's official geospatial information clearinghouse. The PASDA clearinghouse, which serves as a digital library of GIS data, provides for the widespread sharing of geospatial data, eliminates the creation of redundant data sets, and serves as a resource for locating data throughout the Commonwealth through its data storage, interactive mapping applications, and metadata/documentation efforts.

PASDA was developed as a service to the citizens, governments, and businesses of the Commonwealth. PASDA is a collaborative program of the [Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection](#), the [Pennsylvania State University](#) and the [Pennsylvania Geospatial Information Council](#). Funding for PASDA is provided by the [Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection](#).

All PASDA services are **free**. These include:

- **Data Storage & Access**
- **Tools & Data Customization**
- **Metadata Development & Training**
- **Outreach & User Assistance**

Access Data

The data available on PASDA is the result of efforts by our partners in state, local, regional, and federal governments, non-profit organizations, and academic institutions who develop the data. This data is provided to PASDA, which provides free storage, as well as free access to anyone with an Internet connection.

Data partners include PADEP, PADCNR, PennDOT, PA Game Commission, PA Fish & Boat Commission, PA Dept. of Revenue, PA Dept. of Health, Chester County, Lancaster County, Mifflin County, Carbon County, Lycoming County, City of Philadelphia, SEDA-COG, Southwest PA Commission, City of Murraysville, EPA, USGS, USFS, USDA, NRCS, Delaware River Basin Commission, Susquehanna River Basin Commission, Chesapeake Bay Program, Penn State University, Wilkes University, Dickinson College.

There are currently 32,000 data sets and metadata records available through PASDA.

Explore PA

The Explore PA is being developed to provide an opportunity for PASDA users to explore facets of Pennsylvania by interacting with data through on-line mapping applications. This section is ideal for users who are unfamiliar with GIS, lack GIS software, or who wish to create maps of their own over the Internet. These applications include the PA Census Mapper, the Breeding Bird Locator, the PA Atlas, and the PA Watershed Explorer.

Outreach & Education

PASDA provides a wide variety of free outreach and education services. One of the primary goals of PASDA is to increase its' value to the Commonwealth by promoting the knowledge and use of GIS, geospatial data, and metadata. PASDA will provide metadata training, present seminars at conferences, schools, and other organizations, and will work with individuals and groups to provide assistance with accessing and using data available through PASDA. PASDA has worked to support GIS efforts in many organizations including state agencies such as PEMA, PA Dept. of Insurance, PA Dept. of Revenue, PA DEP, PA DCNR, PA OIT, local and regional governments such as the City of Philadelphia, Carbon County, Union County, Westmoreland County, Allegheny Township, Growing Greener and River Conservation Program grantees, non-profit groups such as the Natural Lands Trust, the Pennsylvania Environmental Council, the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, and the Heritage Conservancy, and K-12 schools such as the Londonderry School, Wissahickon Middle School, and Tyrone Area Middle School.

GIS Community

PASDA works with members of the Pennsylvania GIS community to meet goals, promote data sharing, form partnerships, and share information. PASDA also works to support state funded projects that rely on access to data. Without such support, many of these projects would need to recreate many of the facets of a data clearinghouse and store gigabytes of data at additional cost to the state. Some of these projects include Smart Conservation, Growing Greener, Rivers Conservation, and Explore PA History.



PASDA is a public service of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (www.dep.state.pa.us), which provides funding for the project, and the Pennsylvania State University. If you have questions, comments, or suggestions, or if you are interested in metadata training or meeting with a PASDA staff member or would like to share your data with PASDA, please contact PASDA via e-mail at pasda@psu.edu or by phone (814) 863-0104.