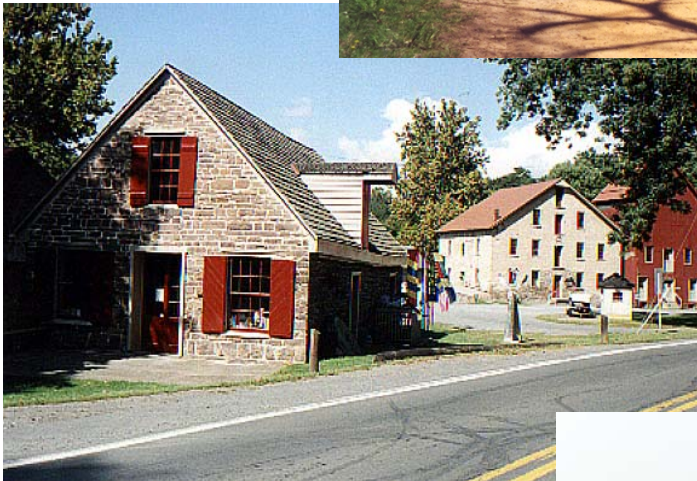


# New Jersey Scenic Byways Application



New Jersey  
Department of Transportation



# **NEW JERSEY SCENIC BYWAYS PROGRAM GENERAL INFORMATION**

## **INTRODUCTION**

A scenic byway is a transportation corridor of regionally outstanding scenic, natural, recreational, cultural, historic or archaeological significance. Each corridor acts as a representation of the uniqueness and diversity of the state and uses these intrinsic qualities to create a unifying theme to tell a story about New Jersey's heritage, recreational opportunities and beauty.

This manual gives general information about the processes involved in nominating and designating a potential scenic byway.

## **NEW JERSEY SCENIC BYWAYS ADMINISTRATION**

The Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation will make the decision on the designation of the scenic byway with the assistance of a multidisciplinary New Jersey Scenic Byways Advisory Committee.

## **ELIGIBLE ROUTES**

Scenic byways in New Jersey may include any public road, street, highway, or other travel way worth preserving by virtue of at least one of the following qualities: scenic, natural, historical, cultural, archeological, or recreational. Scenic byways have no minimum length requirement but should be dependent on the distance the visitor needs to travel on the byway in order to understand the theme of the byway and to consider the visit a valuable experience worth repeating.

## **WHO MAY APPLY**

A scenic byway can be nominated by local, county, state, or federal officials, an agency such as the Hackensack Meadowlands Development Commission, or a public or private sector such as a grass roots group looking to promote the corridor. However, the sponsor must be willing to assume the lead responsibility in completing the Scenic Byway Nomination Form and in preparing a Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan for a specified scenic byway. They must also present the nomination to the New Jersey Scenic Byways Advisory Committee, establish and maintain a Scenic Corridor Committee for the scenic byway, and coordinate the development and implementation of the Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR DESIGNATED ROUTES**

The sponsor who fills out the New Jersey Scenic Byway Nomination Form shall also be required to obtain conceptual approval from the authorities that have management or regulatory jurisdiction over the byway or byway segments including New Jersey Department of Transportation, County, City and/or Municipality.

The sponsor is also making a commitment to the preparation of a Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan after the traveled way becomes a designated New Jersey Scenic Byway. This plan will include a scenic inventory of the byway, long term management and maintenance recommendations, "view shed" management (including land use), economic benefits, funding needs and sources, and other relevant factors.

## **DESIGNATION PROCESS**

A completed New Jersey Scenic Byway Nomination Package submitted by the sponsor to the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation constitutes a request for nomination of the scenic byway. Following review and comment on the New Jersey Scenic Byway Application Package by the State Scenic Byways Advisory Committee, the Commissioner will approve or disapprove the nomination of the scenic byway. If nomination approval is given, the byway is designated as a New

Jersey State Scenic Byway. Once declared a State Scenic Byway, it is then the sponsor's responsibility to complete and submit a Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan. Upon completion and approval of the Corridor Management Plan, signage will be placed along the route and it will be designated on state maps and in the New Jersey Travel Guide. The following outline shows the general steps necessary in designating a Scenic Byway in New Jersey:

### **Designation Process**

- A sponsor group is created. Interest and support of the community is necessary. The sponsor submits the New Jersey Scenic Byway Nomination package to the New Jersey Scenic Byways Advisory Committee. It is reviewed by the committee and recommendations are given to the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation.
- The Commissioner approves or disapproves the nomination.
- If approved, the byway is designated as a New Jersey State Scenic Byway.
- The sponsor completes and submits the Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan. The Corridor Management Plan must be endorsed by the managing agencies regulating the right of way.
- The New Jersey Scenic Byways Advisory Committee reviews the Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan. If necessary, revisions are made to the plan. The Commissioner approves or disapproves the plan. If the Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan is approved, signage is placed along the route and it is designated on state maps and in the New Jersey Travel Guide.

### **BENEFITS**

Some communities nominate a scenic byway to increase tourism and bolster their economic base. Others use it as a way to conserve the intrinsic qualities of the byway corridor resources that reflect the community's character.

The benefits of designation are:

- Federal funding
- recognition
- increased tourism
- technical assistance in the scenic byway process
- planning for protection and managed growth
- consideration for financial assistance for plan implementation

### **SIGNS AND BYWAY INFORMATION**

The New Jersey Department of Transportation will supply the sponsors with the scenic byway marker signs. It will be the responsibility of the roadway authority managing the byway to install, maintain and replace the byway marker signs.

The sponsor will also be responsible for the promotion of the byway through brochures or pamphlets. The state will show the designated scenic byways on state maps and in the New Jersey Travel Guide.

### **FEDERAL SCENIC BYWAYS PROGRAM**

Byways that have been designated as state scenic byways may be eligible to receive Federal Scenic Byways discretionary grant funds. These funds are not available to byways that are not designated as state scenic byways. Federal categories of eligible activities which may receive funding include: state programs, corridor management plans, safety improvements, byway facilities, access to recreation, resource protection (including acquisition), interpretative information and marketing. An outstanding designated state scenic byway may also be submitted for nomination as a National Scenic Byway provided that the nomination meets the requirements of the National Scenic Byways Program. For further information on Federal Scenic Byways discretionary funds and National Scenic Byways, visit the National Scenic Byways web site at [www.byways.org](http://www.byways.org)

## **MONITORING OF ROUTES AND REVIEW OF DESIGNATION**

The overall State Scenic Byways Program is subject to continuous review and revision, to enable new designated byways and other new information to be routinely incorporated into the State's program.

Failure to prepare the Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan within five years of the designation of approval of the byway will cause the byway to be de-designated. De-designation will also occur if the route fails to conserve the scenic qualities that allowed it to be designated as a State Scenic Byway. Monitoring is used in order to guarantee that the scenic qualities listed in the Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan predominately remain in the same or improved condition. Thus, the Sponsor will be required to provide a status report to the Scenic Byway Coordinator of implementation of the Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan every three years. Failure to submit status reports or to document reasonable progress toward implementation may result in withdrawal of the designation by the New Jersey Department of Transportation Commissioner. It is understood, however, that the full implementation of the Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan is likely to span a number of years, depending on the magnitude of actions necessary and the resources available.

## **NOMINATION PROCESS**

The steps for nominating a scenic byway are outlined below. The New Jersey State Scenic Byways Advisory Committee will try to answer any questions that arise during the nomination process. To make the review of the scenic byway nomination easier, it is preferred that the information be submitted in a standard format. Answer each of the following sections on separate sheets of 8 1/2" x 11" paper. Each response should be complete, concise, and typed. Locate the section designation and heading at the top of the sheet. Answers may require more than one typed page and may require correspondence from other agencies verifying the reply. List the number of enclosures included for each section.

Fill in the cover sheet and place it at the front of the report. Place responses in sequential order in a binder following the cover sheet. Supporting material that does not meet the 8 1/2" x 11" format can be folded so that the material can be opened from the report or can be placed in a pouch located at the back of the report.

In addition, submit the report in PC digital format in Microsoft Word or PageMaker, if available.

## **WHERE TO SEND THE COMPLETED NOMINATION PACKAGE**

Submit ten copies of the completed nomination package to the New Jersey Scenic Byways Coordinator. Upon receipt of the nomination package, the New Jersey Scenic Byways Coordinator will forward the nomination package to the New Jersey Scenic Byways Advisory Committee for review. For more information about the program, contact the New Jersey Scenic Byways Coordinator.

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**NEW JERSEY SCENIC BYWAYS PROGRAM NOMINATION FORM**  
**SECTION A - GENERAL INFORMATION**

**SCENIC BYWAY NOMINATION**

1. Roadway being nominated (name of scenic byway): \_\_\_\_\_
2. Total length of byway nomination: \_\_\_\_\_ miles
3. Driving directions for traveling route: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Regulatory and management agencies with jurisdiction over the roadway: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Cities/municipalities located along nominated byway (list in order): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**SPONSOR INFORMATION**

6. Group(s) sponsoring byway (local, state, federal, private): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number, fax, e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_
8. Alternate contact: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number, fax, e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**PREPARER**

9. Person(s) responsible for completing application (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. Address: \_\_\_\_\_
11. Phone number, fax, e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B. Maps**

### **1. General Information** - Using a topographic map -USGS or comparable-locate the following:

- Proposed byway route including beginning point and end point (give mile post, if possible).
- Significant features within the area of the byway such as cities, rivers, lakes, rail lines, landforms, vegetation, electric lines, noise barriers, billboards, etc.
- Location of the intrinsic qualities (Scenic, natural, recreational, cultural, historic, or archaeological significance) along the byway or in the surrounding area. Include districts on the historic register, bike paths, parks, etc.

### **2. Resource inventory** - Using the above marked up map as a base map:

- Make an overlay and show the interaction between the existing located information that has been added to the map and the byway. Interactions or features that enhance and work positively for the byway should be marked in green. Interactions or features that are neither intrusions nor positive features to the byway should be marked in yellow. Major intrusions or negative features that dominate, degrade or obstruct the scenic views for the byway should be marked in pink.
- Add notes to this information where explanations would clarify this inventory using an abbreviated format.

### **3. Zoning** - A zoning map delineating the scenic corridor and showing allowable land use.

## **C. Narrative** - Prepare a brief narrative that describes the overall corridor. Identify the theme of the byway and the elements that support this theme. If there is a proposed theme name for the byway include it in the narrative with a justification for the name. Show how this road is unique and will be marketable to the traveling public. Discuss the intrinsic qualities and any other reasons or opportunities for people to visit and enjoy the byway and surrounding area.

## **D. Jurisdiction and approval** - List all regulatory agencies and regional commissions that have jurisdiction over the proposed byway route, the member to contact, and a letter of support from each of the agencies. (This includes local, county, state, and/or federal government, Pinelands Commission, etc. If help is needed in listing these groups, contact your local government officials.)

## **E. Visual interpretation** - Submit a set of snapshot-sized photos, digital images (with a CDROM) or a video log that supports the reasons that the nominated roadway should be designated as a State Scenic Byway. This visual interpretation should be characteristic of the corridor as viewed by the motorist. If photos are submitted, they should be approximately 3 1/2 by 5 inches in size. They should be mounted on paper or plastic and labeled with a brief description of each shot and the approximate location shown on an adjoining map. If a video log is submitted, a narrative should be used to identify the location of the areas being shown in the video.