The **Centers and Greenspaces Map** is designed as a Greenway vision map to be used for larger scale studies across multiple municipalities and so that local plans can consider the surrounding context. The map stresses regional interdependence and the area’s primary connectors, including transportation corridors that link together settlement centers, the Hudson River and other waterways, and the continuous greenspaces of forests and farmlands.

Building from the bottom-up, this map began as a compilation of adopted town, village, and city plans, but sought to simplify mapping techniques and enhance common characteristics. It highlights four indispensable patterns, both centered and connected, for complementary natural and human ecosystems:

**Centers** are concentrated places of community life, commercial exchange, and cultural history, including cities, villages, hamlets, and potential emerging centers.

**Greenspaces** include natural areas, farms, and parks, combined in a continuous countryside and essential for food, recreation, and diversity of natural habitats.

**Greenway Corridors**, including waterways, floodplains, and wetland systems, offer critical connections for wildlife movement, recreation, and water quality.

**Greenway Routes** provide transportation linkages between centers, forming a landscaped network from trails to sidewalks and from parkways to main streets.

Municipalities can use Greenway principles and mapping techniques as a starting point to create local priorities and plans. The Centers and Greenspaces map to the left demonstrates how towns have refined the countywide version into more parcel-specific planning maps.

These locally generated Centers and Greenspaces maps still show larger land use patterns, but also provide detailed decisions on parcels considered a high priority for protection measures and areas targeted for potential new compact development in and around designated centers. See the **Rural Success Story** page for additional information.