

## WAY E-NEWS

*A coalition of stakeholders committed to being innovative leaders  
encouraging watershed-based planning, restoration and protection*



Monday, February 4, 2013

A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Volume 13, Issue 3

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## WATERSHED CONTACTS

COUNTY PLANNING – (717) 771-9870

CONSERVATION – (717) 840-7430

- Agricultural conservation planning
- Environmentally sensitive dirt & gravel road maintenance

- Environmental stewardship and watershed protection

- Erosion & sediment control

- Stormwater complaints

24-HR EMERGENCIES – (877) 333-1904

- Chemical and oil spills from transport trucks, trains and industrial facilities

ENVIRONMENTAL – DEP-SCRO

- General Info 717-705-4700

- Air Quality 717-705-4702

- Energy & Technology 717-705-4703

- Environmental Cleanup 717-705-4705

- Mining (800) 541-2050

- Radiation Protection 717-705-4704

- Waste Management 717-705-4706

- Water Supply Management 717-705-4708

- Water Management 717-705-4707

- Watershed Management 717-705-4704

FISHERIES – (800) 541-2050

- Wildlife (fish, reptiles, amphibians) nuisance problems or to report violations
- FISH KILL 1-855-347-4545

GAME &amp; WILDLIFE – (888) 742-8001

- Wildlife (mammals or birds) to report violations or nuisance problems

ILLEGAL DUMPING

- Illegal dumping on state forest and park lands (877) 772-3673

- Illegal dumping York County 840-7687

MUNICIPAL (Phonebook Blue Pages)

- Air pollution by burning household garbage

- Dumping waste in surface waters

- Floodplain disturbances

- Municipal and residential septic/sewage problems

- Stormwater management

NOXIOUS PLANTS – (717) 772-5209

RECYCLING – (717) 845-1066

WETLANDS – (717) 249-2522

Updated 4/27/2011

## WATERSHED ALLIANCE NEWS

### **Ag Land Preservation Board of York County** - [www.york-county.org/gov/AUTH/agri.htm](http://www.york-county.org/gov/AUTH/agri.htm)

- For information about farmland preservation in York County contact Patty McCandless at [pmccandless@york-county.org](mailto:pmccandless@york-county.org) or call 717-840-7400.

### **Carroll Citizens for Sensible Growth** - <http://carrollcitizens.com/>

- Contact: Deana Weaver at (717) 432-2211 or [admin@carrollcitizens.com](mailto:admin@carrollcitizens.com)

### **Codorus Creek Watershed Association** - [www.codoruscreek.net](http://www.codoruscreek.net)

- Jan 14 – Meeting of Members and Board, 7:00 pm, at York Water Co. (Mt. Rose Ave.)
- Contact: Jim Leaman at 843-2929

### **Codorus Endowment Implementation Committee** - [www.yccf.org](http://www.yccf.org)

- For more information, contact the York County Community Foundation at 14 West Market Street York, PA 17401-1203. Telephone: York 717.848.3733; Hanover 717.630.1843. Email: [info@yccf.org](mailto:info@yccf.org)

### **Codorus State Park**

- Contact: Manager: Warren Wertz, Codorus state Park, 2600 Smith Station Road, Hanover, PA 17331-8000. Ph: 717-637-2816; E-mail: [codorus@pa.gov](mailto:codorus@pa.gov)

### **Conewago Canoe Club** - [www.conewagocanooclub.org](http://www.conewagocanooclub.org)

- Club Meets bi-monthly at Mount Zion United Church of Christ, 7:00 pm, at Ridgewood Road in Pleasureville
- Questions or comments e-mail me [oc1mike@comcast.net](mailto:oc1mike@comcast.net), but remember you catch more flies with honey than vinegar.

### **Deer Creek Watershed Association** - <http://deercreekwatershed.com/>

- Contact Lee McDaniel at [ldmcdaniel@aol.com](mailto:ldmcdaniel@aol.com).

### **Farm & Natural Lands Trust of York County** - [www.farmtrust.org](http://www.farmtrust.org)

- Contact: Sean Kenny at Farm & Natural Lands Trust of York County, 156 North George Street, Suite 300, York, PA 17401. Phone (717) 843-4411 or e-mail [skenny@farmtrust.org](mailto:skenny@farmtrust.org)

### **Gifford Pinchot State Park** - [www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/giffordpinchot.aspx](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/giffordpinchot.aspx)

- Event calendar <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/Calendar/list.asp>
- Contact Elizabeth Kepley, Environmental Education Specialist, DCNR Bureau of State Parks/Gifford Pinchot State Park, 2200 Rosstown Road, Lewisberry, PA 17339. Phone: 717-432-5011

### **Gunpowder Valley Conservancy** - [www.gunpowderfalls.org](http://www.gunpowderfalls.org)

- Contact: Gunpowder Valley Conservancy, P.O. Box 9733. Towson, MD 21284. Or Assistant Project Manager Rachel Streusand [rstreusand@gunpowderfalls.org](mailto:rstreusand@gunpowderfalls.org).

### **Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education** - [www.hornfarmcenter.org](http://www.hornfarmcenter.org)

- Contact: Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education, 4945 Horn Road, York, PA 17406. Phone: (717)654-0571. Email: [info@hornfarmcenter.org](mailto:info@hornfarmcenter.org). Web: [www.hornfarmcenter.org](http://www.hornfarmcenter.org).

### **Izaak Walton League York Chapter #67** - [www.yorkchapter67iwla.org/](http://www.yorkchapter67iwla.org/)

- Club Open Meetings are held the Third Tuesday of each month at 7pm in the Clubhouse.
- Contact: York Chapter #67 IWLA, 7131 Ironstone Hill Road, Dallastown, PA 17313. Club Grounds Phone: 717-428-2000 \*Leave a message for the Committee Contact or Club Officer you are trying to reach. Committee Contacts & Club Officers are listed on the Club Information Page. If no phone or email address is listed contact club grounds phone number.

### **Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper** - [www.lowersusquehannariverkeeper.org](http://www.lowersusquehannariverkeeper.org)

- Contact: Michael Helfrich, Lower Susquehanna RIVERKEEPER®, York, PA. Cell phone: 717-779-7915 E-mail: [lawsusriver@hotmail.com](mailto:lawsusriver@hotmail.com).

### **Maryland's Upper West Shore Trib Team** - <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/waters/tribstrat/>

- Contact: Rupert Rossetti, Tributary Team Coordinator, e-mail: [RupertRossetti@aol.com](mailto:RupertRossetti@aol.com)

### **Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc.** - <http://www.masondixontrail.org/>

- Contact: James Hooper at 717/252-3784 or [j.e.hooper@ieee.org](mailto:j.e.hooper@ieee.org)

### **Mid-Atlantic Ecological Landscapes Partnership [MAEscapes]** - [www.maescapes.org](http://www.maescapes.org)

- Jan. 28 – Advisory Board meets at 6:30 PM, at the York County ANNEX
- Contact: 717-840-7408 or Connie Schmotzer at [cxs51@psu.edu](mailto:cxs51@psu.edu)

### **Peach Bottom Concerned Citizens Group Inc.** - [www.pbccg.com](http://www.pbccg.com)

- Contact Maria Payan by email [pbccg@hotmail.com](mailto:pbccg@hotmail.com) or mail: Peach Bottom Concerned Citizens Group, P.O. Box 307 Delta, PA 17314. PBCCG, Inc is a nonprofit organization supported solely by volunteers and donations.

### **Prettyboy Watershed Alliance** - [www.prettyboywatershed.org](http://www.prettyboywatershed.org)

- Contact: Nancy Shaper at [nshaper@ihmi.edu](mailto:nshaper@ihmi.edu)

**Sierra Club – Gov. Pinchot Group of PA** – <http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/pinchot/>

- Contact GVP Sierra Club, P.O. Box 606, Harrisburg, PA 17108-0606. [GVPSierraClub@email.com](mailto:GVPSierraClub@email.com)

**Shank's Mare Outfitters GO PLAY OUTSIDE!** – [www.shanksmare.com](http://www.shanksmare.com)

- Call Us: 717-252-1616. Email us: [Shanksmare@comcast.net](mailto:Shanksmare@comcast.net)

**Spoutwood Farm Center for Sustainable Living** – [www.spoutwood.com](http://www.spoutwood.com)

- Jan 18 – Board of Directors meeting, 6:30 PM, at Spoutwood Farm Center.
- Contact Rob & Lucy Woods at Spoutwood Farm at 717-235-6610 or [spoutwood@comcast.net](mailto:spoutwood@comcast.net).

**Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area** – <http://www.susquehannaheritage.org/>

- Contact Mark Platts, Susquehanna Heritage Corporation, 1706 Long Level Road, Wrightsville, PA 17368. Office: 717-252-0229. E-mail: [info@lyhr.org](mailto:info@lyhr.org).

**Trout Unlimited Codorus Chapter #558** – [www.codorustu.org](http://www.codorustu.org)

- Monthly Chapter Meetings 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., at Gander Mtn. (winter)
- Contact: Tom Finenze at 840-1372 or [tom@codorustu.org](mailto:tom@codorustu.org). Cancellations due to winter weather will be announced here, and on WSBA Radio, 910 AM.

**Trout Unlimited Muddy Creek Chapter #575** – <http://muddycreektu.org/>

- Chapter Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of month at Gander Mtn. (winter)
- Contact: Ron Heuston, President MCTU, 244-1851 or [Heuy1955@aol.com](mailto:Heuy1955@aol.com)

**Watershed Alliance of Adams County** – <http://www.adamswatersheds.org/>

- WAAC meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Wed, 8:30AM, at the Adams County Ag Center
- Contact: Adam McClain, Ph: 717-334-0636; E-mail: [stilden@adamswatersheds.org](mailto:stilden@adamswatersheds.org)

**Watershed Alliance of York** – [www.watershedsyork.org](http://www.watershedsyork.org)

- April 3, 2013 – Annual Meeting of WAY Board of Directors, 7:00 PM, at The York Water Co., Mt. Rose Ave.
- WAY E-News – Published by the Watershed Alliance of York, Inc. to inform the public about news and information that affect York County watersheds and beyond. PLEASE SHARE WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND E-MAIL LIST. Contributions of news, events and information relating to watershed education, funding, planning, restoration, protection, and stewardship welcome. Send contribution to and contact us for mailing list additions/changes to the e-mail address below. Distribution: electronic (1,850). Frequency: bi-weekly. Subscription: No charge. Editor: Gary R. Peacock.
- You can make [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and be sure to enter WAY as the charity you want to support.
- Contact: Watershed Alliance of York, Inc. (WAY), C/o York County Conservation District, 118 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402. Phone: (717) 840-7430. Facsimile: (717) 755-0301. E-mail: [gpeacock@yorkccd.org](mailto:gpeacock@yorkccd.org)

**Wecology** – [www.wecologypa.org/](http://www.wecologypa.org/)

- Contact: Wecology 130 E.Market St., York, PA 17405. Phone: 717-718-7554.

**Yellow Breeches Watershed Association** – [www.ybwa.org](http://www.ybwa.org)

- Contact: Deborah Goetz, at [deborah.p.goetz@gmail.com](mailto:deborah.p.goetz@gmail.com) or phone 717-697-4734

**York-Adams Regional Smart Growth Coalition** – [www.yorkadamssmartgrowth.org](http://www.yorkadamssmartgrowth.org)

- Contact Shanna Wiest, Government Affairs Director, REALTORS Association of York & Adams Counties, Inc. 901 Smile Way York, PA 17404. Phone: (717) 843-7891. Fax: (717) 854-0720. <http://www.rayac.com>

**York Audubon Society** – <http://www.yorkaudubon.org/>

- Contact Tom Smith at 717-246-9767 or [tls35@psu.edu](mailto:tls35@psu.edu).

**York County Conservation District** – [www.yorkccd.org](http://www.yorkccd.org)

- New Wildlife of PA Journal available for purchase \$24.95
- Board meets 2nd Friday, 11:00 a.m. (December-March) and 2nd Thursday, 7:00 p.m. (Apr.-Nov.), at the York County ANNEX
- Contact: YCCD at 717-840-7430 or [yorkccd@yorkccd.org](mailto:yorkccd@yorkccd.org)

**York County Parks & Recreation** – [www.YorkCountyParks.org](http://www.YorkCountyParks.org)

- Nixon Park Nature Center, 5922 Nixon Drive, York PA 17403. Phone: (717) 428-1961. E-mail: [NixonCountyPark@york-county.org](mailto:NixonCountyPark@york-county.org).
- For more information, contact York County Department of Parks and Recreation, 400 Mundis Race Road, York PA 17406-9721. Phone: (717) 840-7440. E-mail: [Parks@York-County.org](mailto:Parks@York-County.org). Web: [www.YorkCountyParks.org](http://www.YorkCountyParks.org).

**York County Planning Commission** – [www.ycpc.org](http://www.ycpc.org)

- Meets 1st Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., except Wed. Nov. 1 at 7:30 and Tues. Dec. 1, 6:00 p.m., at 28 E. Market St., 2nd Floor.
- Contact YCPC at 717-771-9870 or [planner@ycpc.org](mailto:planner@ycpc.org)

**York County Solid Waste Authority** – <http://www.ycswa.org/>

- Contact YCSWA at 717-845-1066 or

## **WATERSHED EDUCATION & OUTREACH**

### **16,599 Miles Of PA Streams Do Not Meet Water Quality Standards**

The [final 2012 Integrated Waters report](#) the Department of Environmental Protection submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Monday reported nearly 20 percent or 16,599 miles of streams in Pennsylvania do not meet federal water quality standards. 67,972 miles meet water quality standards. This represents a slight increase in the number of miles of streams not meeting water quality standards since the 2010 report. DEP reported [16,547 miles were impaired](#) two years ago. In 2008 DEP reported [nearly 16,000 miles](#) of impaired streams. The three major causes of water quality impairment in the 2012 report were listed as: agricultural runoff– 5,705 miles, abandoned mine drainage– 5,596 and urban runoff/stormwater– 3,482 miles. 3,482 miles are impaired from unknown sources. Of the impaired miles, 9,801 require Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) to reduce pollutant inputs and 6,490 have an approved TMDL and one-third– 3,311 miles– do not yet have approved TMDLs. An additional 62 miles are under compliance agreements and expected to reasonable amount of time. There are 80,525 acres of lakes assessed for aquatic life use and 43,194 acres are attaining that use, 37,331 acres of lakes do not. Of the impaired acres, 5,420 require a TMDL, 11,366 have an approved TMDL, and 20,544 acres are impaired, but do not require a TMDL because they are not affected by pollutants. The largest problem source is agriculture and largest stressors are organic enrichment/low dissolved oxygen. Currently there are approximately 1,318 miles of streams with fish consumption advisories in need of TMDLs and 704 with 4 approved TMDLs. Lake listings include 40,405 acres requiring TMDLs and an additional 5,664 with approved TMDLs. There is a statewide fish consumption advisory of no more than one meal per week for all waters to protect against the ingestion of unconfirmed contaminants. The report on impaired streams and lakes is the result of a ten year program DEP completed in April 2007 to assess all Wadeable Utilized a biological assessment of the aquatic life use. In addition to listing the impaired streams and lakes, the report outlines the programs and initiatives DEP intends to use to bring impaired waters up to federal water quality standards as required by the federal Clean Water Act. Among other programs, the report notes in July 2009, due to budget constraints, DEP began limiting its direct technical and financial support for volunteer monitors to specific projects that result in the generation of quality assured data related to DEP's highest priorities. Prior to 2009, DEP helped over 11,000 citizen water monitors feed data into its assessment process making those assessments much more comprehensive. And citizen interest in streams and rivers is very much alive, even with significant cuts to citizen support. Take, for example, voting for DCNR's [River of the Year](#). 25,450 votes cast in that process with the Monongahela River winning this year's honors. Rivers and streams in Pennsylvania generate a huge amount of interest and support, more than in any other environmental program. A copy of the [final 2012 Integrated Waters report](#) is available online.

### **SRBC Reports Positive Trends in Nutrient & Sediment Continue**

On December 1, 2012, Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) released its 2011 Nutrients and Suspended Sediment in the Susquehanna River Basin report. This is the annual "trends report" for water-quality data collected January 2011 through December 2011. This monitoring project is supported by DEP through the EPA Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant. The data collection network includes 27 sites, of which trend analysis is completed on six long-term sites. The results for the long-term stations continue to show positive progress and the "trend" of nutrients and sediment in the Susquehanna River continues to decrease. Since 1985, SRBC, USGS, DEP and EPA have supported this long-term project to quantify the amount of sediment and nutrients transported in the Susquehanna River basin. 2011 was a year of significant rainfall events throughout the year, historic high flows at lower basin monitoring sites, and drastic flooding due to Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee.

### **DEP Secretary Provides Update On Susquehanna Impaired Stream Status**

DEP Secretary Mike Krancer announced Monday DEP has submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency its [final 2012 Integrated Waters report](#), a biannual assessment of the state's rivers and streams required by the federal Clean Water Act. The report describes the health of various waterways in the state and, where needed, the state proposes listing waterways as impaired. "Our final report is firmly grounded in sound science, and we expect that EPA will agree with it based on the science presented," DEP Secretary Mike Krancer said. "Based on the science and law, we do not believe that the main stem of Susquehanna River should be proposed as impaired under the Clean Water Act. While we recognize that the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and others had requested that DEP propose to impair a 98-mile stretch of the Susquehanna River, as we have pointed out on many occasions before, that view is based on very limited, piecemeal data and is not supported by the existing data or the law. But DEP takes the concerns expressed about the Susquehanna very seriously and we are doing something about it. We will be taking, separately, a comprehensive and strategic approach to ensure that the Susquehanna River is protected. "My staff will be working with the Fish and Boat Commission, the Susquehanna River Basin Commission and the U.S. Geological Survey to ensure water quality and aquatic life are being protected in the Susquehanna River. In particular, we recognize that there are issues facing smallmouth bass, such as what is called young-of-year die-offs; lesions on adult bass; and inter-sexing of the species," Krancer said. Inter-sexed fish are males with female characteristics, and young-of-year are recently hatched bass. "The actual cause of these issues has not yet been determined or linked to any particular water quality issue, but DEP is dedicated to finding the answer through a disciplined scientific approach." DEP's work in this area has been underway for some time. Last summer, agency staff spent 187 combined days on the river collecting hundreds of samples to characterize the water quality in the Susquehanna and its many tributaries. Samples collected included fish, macroinvertebrates, algae, chemistry and data on the river's dissolved oxygen, pH and temperature. "Our scientists report that there does not appear to be any demonstrated cause and effect between water quality and the young-of-year die-offs, which, is contrary to what the Fish and Boat Commission has suggested is happening in tributaries outside of the Susquehanna, including the Delaware and Ohio river basins," Krancer said. "Within the Susquehanna River, this condition has appeared in a few tributaries and the impact is limited to smallmouth bass. "Our scientists also tell me that no cause and effect can be established right now between water quality and the tumors and lesions found on adult bass. It is not at this point clear how prevalent the tumors and inter-sex conditions are throughout the river, nor if they are related to the young-of-year die-offs," Krancer said. "It is important to note that the Fish and Boat Commission has not reported any diseased young-of-year in the lower Susquehanna this past summer. "We plan on keeping our efforts up," Krancer said. "We will continue sampling at 30 locations throughout the Susquehanna River basin to develop a very comprehensive set of data. We will continue to look at water quality issues facing the river, such as pesticide runoff; hormone-disrupting compounds and nutrients, such as phosphorus and nitrogen." The agency will also continue to consult with Dr. Hunter Carrick of Central Michigan University, a respected algal expert, and Dr. Vicki Blazer of the U.S. Geological Survey, a respected fish pathologist. Secretary Krancer also announced a veteran DEP staff member will serve as Susquehanna River Coordinator to ensure the continuing efforts with the river happen efficiently and with scientific rigor. "Should the data indicate that a

proposed impairment listing is called for in the Susquehanna or any waterway, we would do so," Krancer said. "In addition to this, we continue to move forward with a very comprehensive federally mandated Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), which is in part responsible for improved water quality across the Chesapeake Bay watershed that includes the Susquehanna."

### **Reaction**

Harry Campbell, Pennsylvania Executive Director for the [Chesapeake Bay Foundation](#) issued this statement following release of the state's 2012 Impaired Waters List--"While the precise sources or causes are being investigated, it's indisputable that the smallmouth bass population in the lower Susquehanna River is suffering from unprecedented disease and dieoffs. The findings by state and federal fishery scientists are so significant and widespread that some experts and anglers speculate the possibility of a collapse of this once world renowned fishery. "Addressing this problem is not only an environmental concern but one of considerable economic importance to the region. "The science is clear--smallmouth bass are diseased and dying in the River--and time is of the essence if we are to turn things around. " "CBF believes the federal Clean Water Act is clear--when a problem of this significance is found in our waters it warrants listing it as an impaired water body. According to DEP's newest report on the health of our waters, Pennsylvania already has nearly 16,500 miles of waters that do not meet standards and are impaired. Listing the lower portion of the River would have galvanized state, federal, academic, and nonprofit resources to study the problem and devise a detailed plan to fix it." CBF joined the Fish & Boat Commission, and American Rivers and PennFuture in petitioning DEP to declare a 98-mile stretch of the Lower Susquehanna as an impaired water body. DEP has denied the petition, excluding the River in its final report to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. A copy of the report submitted by DEP [is available online](#).

### **Supreme Court Clarifies Definition of "Discharge" under CWA**

The Supreme Court decided a case this month that everyone agreed the Ninth Circuit had gotten wrong – the scope of what constitutes a "discharge" under the Clean Water Act (CWA). The Court held that no discharge occurs when water flows from one portion of a river to another through a concrete flood control channel. None of the litigants in the case, *Los Angeles County Flood Control District v. Natural Resources Defense Council (L.A. County)*,<sup>[1]</sup> supported the Ninth Circuit decision<sup>[2]</sup> below, which had held the operator of a Municipal Storm Sewer System (MS4) responsible for pollutants detected at monitoring points within two rivers. The Court relied on *South Florida Water Management District v. Miccosukee Tribe of Indians*,<sup>[3]</sup> an earlier Supreme Court decision which held that transfer of water from one water body to another does not constitute a CWA discharge unless the two waterbodies are "meaningfully distinct." In the LA County case, since the water merely flowed through a manmade channel and back into the same river, the Court concluded no CWA discharge had occurred. L.A. County continues the recent trend of Ninth Circuit reversals in environmental cases – representing the seventh instance where the Court has struck down the Ninth Circuit on an environmental question in the last five terms.<sup>[4]</sup> Although the MS4 operator prevailed in the litigation, the case may have unwanted consequences for MS4 permit holders around the country. The Court indicated that the regulatory authority modified the MS4 operator's CWA permit during the litigation to require end-of-pipe monitoring at certain MS4 discharge points in addition to the centralized, in-stream monitoring points at issue in this case. As many other MS4 permits employ a similar strategy – centralized compliance monitoring – the decision could indirectly impact MS4 operators as permitting authorities around the country re-evaluate their MS4 permits in the wake of the decision. Read more... [http://www.martenlaw.com/newsletter/20130122-cwa-discharge-definition-clarified?goback=.gde\\_1183877\\_member\\_207816854](http://www.martenlaw.com/newsletter/20130122-cwa-discharge-definition-clarified?goback=.gde_1183877_member_207816854)

### **EPA Moves To Scrap Novel Turbidity Limit In Construction Stormwater Rule**

EPA is launching a rulemaking that will formally strip its landmark numeric limit for turbidity from its effluent limitation guideline (ELG) for controlling stormwater runoff from the construction sector, one of the major sources of water quality impairments, and address a host of other industry concerns over "non-numeric" portions of the rule. But EPA's agreement to formally withdraw the turbidity limit is likely to prompt pushback from environmentalists, who charge that a numeric limit for turbidity – a measure of water's clarity – is necessary to enforce sediment and other control requirements, and that the absence of such a limit hinders enforcement of the ELG. According to EPA's most recently posted "Action Initiation List" of new rulemakings, which was posted last month, the agency is crafting a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to "revise several of the non-numeric portions of the rule in response to litigation." The planned revisions would resolve a suit, *Wisconsin Builders Association v. EPA*, in which industry groups had challenged EPA's 2009 ELG over the first-time numeric turbidity limit and a host of other concerns, including buffer zone requirements and stringent soil stabilization standards, which the agency also agreed to revise as part of the settlement. The ELG set a limit of 280 nephelometric turbidity units (NTU), the first time the agency had proposed a numeric standard for water clarity. While regulators have long crafted numeric limits for sediment, many experts say a numeric turbidity criteria is needed to help enforce sediment and other requirements. "A maximum turbidity limit would establish definitive criteria as to what constitutes a direct sediment control violation and trigger an assessment for remediation and prevention actions," the National Research Council said in a landmark 2008 report calling for stricter stormwater rules. But in the midst of litigation in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit over the regulation, EPA was forced to temporarily withdraw the limit after the Small Business Administration pointed out flaws in EPA's modeling data. In response, the court stayed the litigation and remanded the standard to the agency for technical revisions. EPA completed the revisions but later withdrew the proposal from White House Office of Management & Budget (OMB) review, and in January 2012 sought data from industry to inform the new revisions. But efforts to craft reliable numeric turbidity criteria have so far been unsuccessful and may not be crafted soon. One researcher has said the science around sedimentation is so uncertain that it is "very hard" for EPA to craft an effective standard or one that will be supported by a court on review. Now, EPA has agreed to sign a revised NPRM by April 15, 2013 and a final rule by Feb. 28, 2014, according to a Dec. 21 status report and notice of settlement signed by the agency and industry plaintiffs National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), Wisconsin Builders Association and Utility Water Act Group. In a Dec. 26 order, the 7th Circuit stayed the litigation until March 25, 2014, ordering the parties to file a status report at that point outlining plans to proceed. Sean Rolland, Esq., Deputy Director, Association of Clean Water Administrators--"The Voice of States & Interstates", 1221 Connecticut Ave. , NW, 2d Floor, Washington, DC 20036. (P:) 202-465-7179. [srolland@acwa-us.org](mailto:srolland@acwa-us.org); [www.acwa-us.org](http://www.acwa-us.org)

### **Apply Now For 2013 Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp – Mar 31**

Applications are now being accepted for the 19th annual [Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp](#) being held June 16 –21 at the Allenberry Resort in Boiling Springs, Cumberland County. The highly structured curriculum is based on college level classes. The students are instructed in ecology, aquatic biology, geology, hydrogeology, erosion and sedimentation control, ichthyology, riparian corridor protection, watershed management, entomology and much more. Students also participate in a hands-on stream habitat improvement project. But it's not all work. Fly fishing and fly tying are included. Nationally known instructors teach the students fly casting, fly tying, stream etiquette, how to "read" the water, and of course there is fishing. The camp begins on Sunday and ends the following Friday The camp will be limited to 32

selected qualified students, ages 14 to 17. The applicants must have been born between June 21, 1995 and June 16, 1999. The thirty-two students will be selected through an application process where they must state why they want to attend camp and they must provide a reference from a science teacher or guidance counselor. The competition for admission is fierce. The camp began accepting applications for the 2013 camp on November 1 and all applications must be postmarked not later than March 31. The camp costs each student \$350 for the entire week. All meals and accommodations are included for the residence camp. A student need not be an accomplished fly fisher or a budding aquatic biologist to attend. All the student needs to be is highly motivated and willing to learn. The Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp was founded in 1995 through the efforts of the late Dr. John R. "Jack" Beck and the late Enoch S. "Inky" Moore, Jr., Pennsylvania Fish Commissioner. Their goal was to select thirty-two teenagers each year who are the leaders in their class. The thought is that today's leaders in high school become the leader of tomorrow's communities. In a few short years they will be the bankers, lawyers, realtors, municipal officials and the leaders in their communities. If the camp can implant a kernel of knowledge in today's students about the importance of clean water, when those students become the decision makers in their communities it may have a positive impact on how water resources are used. Alumni are welcome to attend the Thursday evening picnic and share their experiences since they attended camp. The highly successful camp has been emulated in Michigan, North Carolina, Maine, Montana, Washington, Arkansas, New Hampshire, Colorado, New Jersey, New York, Idaho, Illinois, Oregon, Tennessee, Vermont and Virginia/D.C./Maryland/West Virginia with other states looking to start their own programs. For more information or an application brochure contact the camp at: Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp, PO Box 71, Boiling Springs, PA 17007, or visit [the camp's](#) website. Join the camp group Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp on Facebook.

### **PA Wildlife Academy Seeks Students, Educators For Field Schools – Mar 1**

The [Wildlife Leadership Academy](#) seeks youth ages 14-17 and teachers to serve as adult mentors for an educational program focusing on wildlife conservation and leadership development. The Academy's mission is to empower youth to become ambassadors for wildlife conservation to ensure a sustained wildlife legacy for future generations. Participants attend five-day field schools and apply their knowledge through year-round service and outreach in their communities. Two field schools will be offered this year: Pennsylvania Bucktails focuses on white-tailed deer, and will take place at Stone Valley Recreation Area in Petersburg (Huntingdon County) on June 18-22. Pennsylvania Brookies focuses on brook trout and coldwater fisheries, and will take place at Sieg Conference Center in Hermitage (Clinton County) on July 9-13. The Academy is a cooperative initiative led by the Pennsylvania Institute for Conservation Education, with instructors from government agencies, nonprofits and universities including Kutztown University, Game Commission, Fish and Boat Commission, Pennsylvania State University, Quality Deer Management Association, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Participants learn about wildlife and fisheries biology, habitat management, research techniques and nature photography through classroom and field experiences. They develop communication and leadership skills through team-building activities, educational presentations, and mock town hall meetings. Brook Martin of York County described the program as "life-changing." He shared, "I was able to reach my full potential and find a career path that I feel will be very rewarding. It was an experience that I will cherish and remember the rest of my life." The field schools prepare youth to conduct service and outreach relating to environmental education, wildlife and conservation biology, art and/or media engagement. Each participant commits to completing at least three service and outreach activities during the year, and participants who complete the most are rewarded with field trips, opportunities to return as mentors the following year, and college scholarships. To date, Academy graduates have conducted over 600 service and outreach projects, engaged in more than 2500 contact hours with the public, and reached an audience of more than 10,000 Pennsylvania citizens across 46 counties in the state. Youth applications must be submitted by April 1, and adult mentor applications must be submitted by March 1. Participating teachers will receive room and board and 40 hours of Act 48 credits. Field school applications [are available online](#). For more information, contact Michele Kittell by sending email to: [mkittell@picweb.org](mailto:mkittell@picweb.org) or call 570-245-8518.

### **Essay Contest Deadline – Feb 15**

A quick reminder that only two weeks remain before the Friday, Feb. 15 deadline of the 2013 York County Student Essay Contest. Further information is available on our website at: <http://yorkcountypa.gov/county-administration/commissioners-office/2013-essay-contest.html>. The contest is open to 11th- and 12th-grade students from across the county. Even if you do not have a child that's eligible, please consider telling fellow parents, friends and neighbors. An incredible 28 students will compete for a prize pool totaling \$6,000. The first-place winner will receive \$2,000, \$1,000 will go to the second-place entrant and \$500 will be awarded to the third-place winner. Twenty-five other finalists will win \$100 each. These are cash prizes, not scholarships. The contest is organized by our Board of Commissioners and the York County Communities That Care initiative ([www.yorkcountytcc.org](http://www.yorkcountytcc.org)). The Memorial Health Systems Foundation has generously agreed to sponsor the effort. The children of county employees are eligible to participate (so long as the child's parents aren't directly involved in the judging or administration of the contest). Please contact me with any questions or concerns. Carl Lindquist, Director of Communications, County of York, Pennsylvania. Phone: (717) 840-2915/771-9866. <http://YorkCountyPa.gov>

### **The Wild & Scenic Film Festival is returning to central PA and needs YOUR sponsorship!**

Why Sponsor? Another Wild & Scenic Film Festival is happening on February 13, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in Camp Hill, PA. We hope your organization will join us & share your work as we learn about environmental issues and solutions from Williamsport to Indonesia. This year, the festival is being sponsored by the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay and the Maurice Goddard Symposium at Camp Hill School District's beautiful new Grace Milliman Pollock Performing Arts Center. Doors will open at 5:30 for folks to mill around at tables and talk to local groups about their work. We will also have an intermission half-way through the screening where film-goers can talk with sponsors. We are asking a non-profit donation of \$50 to help support the myriad costs of holding the festival—BUT feel free to talk with Cheyanne Zimmerman, project coordinator, about a smaller donation. As a "Friendship Partner" you will receive mention in festival program, 3 complimentary tickets, and tabling space at the event. Of course if you can afford more you can help support the arts and the environment! We hope to see you there!

#### **Sponsor Benefits**

- \$500 – Supporting Partner—Mention on all festival related material with logo, including advertising, programs, posters, Alliance website, banner displayed prominently at event, mention during event. Sponsors at this level will receive 10 tickets to event and ACB membership for organization. Prominent table space provided during event.
- \$100 – Community Partner—This level intended for small local businesses and nonprofit partners. Will receive mention in festival program, posters, Alliance website and 5 complimentary tickets, organizational/business ACB membership, and tabling space at the event.

- \$50 – Friendship Partner–This level intended for nonprofit partners. Will receive mention in festival program, 3 complimentary tickets and tabling space at the event.

To sponsor contact Donna Morelli at Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, 3310 Market St., Camp Hill, PA 17011. Phone: (717) 737-8622.

[www.allianceforthebay.org](http://www.allianceforthebay.org)

### **Penn State Conducting Online Survey of Opinions about Pennsylvania's Water Resources**

This is your chance to be heard on the value and importance of water resources in Pennsylvania! Researchers from Penn State along with several other partner agencies are conducting an online survey of Pennsylvania residents about the state's water resources. The objective of this survey is to collect opinions from a large number of Pennsylvania residents on the current status of our water and how to prioritize funding and other resources to best protect and manage our water resources. This informal survey is intended as a public engagement project and does not necessarily represent a statistical sampling of opinions. The five-minute survey can be completed online at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PaWater>. The survey is open to Pennsylvania residents who are at least 18 years of age. The survey will remain open until February 28, 2013 and a summary of results will be published on the Pennsylvania Water Resources Research Center website in Spring 2013 at: <http://www.pawatercenter.psu.edu/>. This survey is funded by the Pennsylvania Water Resources Research Center and Sea Grant Pennsylvania in partnership with Penn State Extension and the Pennsylvania American Water Resources Association.

### **Videos to Watch**

Fisheries Specialist Andrew Turner with the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Chesapeake Bay Office/Versar explains the importance of striped bass. In this video we emphasize the importance of recreational fishing in fostering stewardship for the Bay and its iconic fish species.

- [Bay 101: Striped Bass](#)

The Center for Watershed Protection and the Chesapeake Stormwater Network have developed a three part instructional video series on Low Impact Development construction, installation and maintenance of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for local government staff, homeowners and landscapers:

- [Maintenance](#)
- [Construction](#)
- [Inspection](#)



## **WATERSHED FACILITATION ASSISTANCE**

### **Green Infrastructure & Community Design: Rainwater Management – Feb 7**

Thurs., February 7th, 2 p.m. EST. Is your rainwater management design effective? Join industry expert Join [Paul Crabtree, P.E.](#), CNU-A, to explore how rainwater management based on good urban design principles can help to harmonize urban man and nature. Effective rainwater management requires a focus on the harmonization of man and nature AND the skill sets of several environmental and planning professionals (e.g., engineers, hydrologists, urban planners, landscape architects, public works officials, politicians, attorneys, environmentalists, and citizens). Too often, the reverse is true. The result – ineffective rainwater management plans, increased maintenance costs, and ultimately, redesign. Join Paul Crabtree to discuss rainwater management design that is closely connected with and based on good urban design principles, harmonizing man and nature and resulting in an effective and successful long-term rainwater management program. This webinar will cover the following principles of rainwater management and urban design:

- There are Principles of Green Infrastructure to help guide the design of BMPs.
- Settlement patterns matter.
- All scales are important - from watershed to region to community to neighborhood to block to site.
- Per/Acre AND Per/Capita impacts should be considered.
- Context-Sensitive Design and Regulations harmonize with good urban design.
- Community-Based (Shared) BMPs are key tools.
- Hydrology Science should be prioritized over Negotiated Settlements.
- Exemptions from regulations can unfairly move the burden, and result in compromised solutions. (There's nowhere to hide.)

[Green Infrastructure & Community Design: Rainwater Management](#)

### **Alliance brings award-winning environmental film festival to Central, PA – Feb 13**

The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay is bringing the largest and oldest national environmental film festival to Central Pennsylvania. Come on out to see eighteen award-winning films from directors all over the world, from Indonesia to Williamsport, PA about environmental triumphs and heart breaks. Be aware, be entertained and get motivated! This year, we are partnering with Goddard Symposium to hold the festival Wednesday, February 13th -6:30 at the Grace Milliman Pollock Performing Arts Center, Camp Hill. Rivers are a precious resource... but this one is running dry. Come see [Chasing Water](#) and other nationally acclaimed films The Colorado River has run from high in the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean for over a million years. Today, this river is troubled and fading. Chasing Water is a film that follows Pete McBride as he travels down the Colorado River, driven by his curiosity to see where his family's ranch water goes. Watch the trailer [here](#) to get a glimpse of just one of many great films that will be shown at the Wild & Scenic Film Festival. To see this and other great films in their entirety, come to the Wild & Scenic Film Festival on February 13th. The only thing that could make it better? Bring a friend! Bring your neighbors. Bring your hiking club, your gardening club, your fishing buddies, your bible study group and your book club! Visit our [website](#) for more information and to purchase your tickets today!

### **MD Land Conservation Conference - Call For Presentations – Feb 13**

The annual Maryland Land Conservation Conference will take place on Tuesday, April 23, 2013, in Linthicum, MD. This annual conference is the only state-wide land conservation conference and training workshop of its kind in Maryland. Proposals for conference sessions are now being accepted. If you're knowledgeable member of the land conservation community, have a unique experience you'd like to share or have an innovate solution to a current conservation challenge that you think will be helpful to other land trusts, submit a proposal to join us as a presenter. This year's theme is The Challenge of Perpetuity. Past workshops and session themes include: capacity building; agriculture and

working lands; stewardship; finance and fundraising; partnership opportunities; advocacy; policy and other conservation fields. The deadline for proposals is Monday, February 18, 2013. For a workshop proposal application, please see the attached form. If you know someone who would be interested in submitting a proposal, please pass this email along! This is also a perfect opportunity to exhibit your organization or materials on land conservation, environmental fields or educational resources. For more information about exhibiting, please contact Michelle Johnson at [mjohnson@dnr.state.md.us](mailto:mjohnson@dnr.state.md.us) . Questions? Contact Land Trust Assistance Coordinator, Michelle Johnson at [mjohnson@dnr.state.md.us](mailto:mjohnson@dnr.state.md.us) or 410-514-7908.

### **Land Use Webinar Series – Feb 20**

Penn State Extension's Land Use & Decision Making Education Team presents a series of webinars to help planners, elected officials, and concerned citizens come together to make better land use decisions. Through this Land Use Decision Making Educational Webinar Series, you can learn more about planning and current planning issues; about local regulations and how and why they are created; about planning tools and resources available to decision-makers in Pennsylvania; and about how you can engage in planning to benefit your community." Each webinar will air twice in the same day (12:00 - 1:00 p.m.) and (7:00 - 8:00 p.m.). For a more detailed listing of webinar topics, presenters, and descriptions, view the [Agenda](#):

- February 20, 2013: How Preemption of Zoning & Other Local Controls Impacts Planning
- March 20, 2013: Renewable Energy Implementation & Land Use Regulations – Is There Conflict?
- April 17, 2013: Developing More Effective Citizen Engagement: A How to Guide for Community Leaders
- May 15, 2013: Low Impact Development and Smart Growth: How are they best integrated and utilized in our communities?

Registration Cost \$25 for the Entire Webinar Series - watch as few or as many as you like! For more information, contact [Peter Wulfhorst](#) [To Register](#)

### **Live Webinar! Voodoo Hydrology: Pitfalls of Urban Hydrology & What You Need to Know – Feb 21**

Speaker [Andy Reese](#), P.E., LEED AP, AMEC Environment & Infrastructure. As a stormwater community, we have for years relied upon common urban stormwater hydrologic design methodologies and trusted their results. But, should we? Join [Andy Reese, P.E.](#), LEED AP, as he exposes the black box of urban hydrology and explores its common stormwater methodologies! In this webinar, Andy will, with his normal humor, "lay bare" the popular urban stormwater methodologies, as well as their key elements, assumptions, most common misuses, and proper application. Urban hydrology, as commonly practiced, is an inexact science at best. If we were omniscient, we could do an exact job of urban hydrology. Instead, we rely on engineering judgment and guesswork, ultimately striking a compromise between accuracy and data availability, and resulting in an answer that is close to correct. As such, understanding the inner workings of the black boxes of urban stormwater hydrology that we commonly use (e.g., computer packages) is essential to ensure proper application. Join Reese in exploring the inner workings of some of the most popular urban stormwater methodologies, as well as their common misuse and misapplications. Through discussion of the associated elements and pitfalls, you will gain comprehensive understanding of urban stormwater hydrologic methods and their proper application to employ in your urban stormwater hydrologic design. Learning Objectives: Webinar attendees can expect the discussion and education of the following learning objectives.

- Understanding of common urban stormwater hydrologic methodologies and elements.
- Understanding of the basis for common urban stormwater hydrologic methodologies.
- Understanding of the key assumptions, pitfalls, and common misuse and misapplication of urban stormwater hydrologic methodologies.
- Understanding of the limits of these methods, and the keys to successful application.

[Voodoo Hydrology: Pitfalls of Urban Hydrology & What You Need to Know](#)

### **2013 Great American Cleanup of PA – Mar 1**

Opening of the registration of the 2013 Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Great American Cleanup of PA! Attached is the press release that has all of the details. Last year, there were 4,421 events across the state with 141,264 volunteers. Volunteers collected 338,148 bags of trash or 6,762,960 pounds. They cleaned 13,589 miles of roads, railroad tracks, trails, waterways, and shorelines, and 14,046 acres of parks and/or wetlands. Additionally, volunteers planted 22,511 trees, bulbs, and plants in an effort to keep Pennsylvania beautiful. Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful thanks you for your efforts last year, and in past years, to participate and promote the Great American Cleanup of PA and we hope that you will participate and promote the event again this year. We very much appreciate your efforts sending this information on to all of your friends, groups, and contacts. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Michelle Dunn or myself at 724-836-4121. Thanks again for all of your support with this event! For assistance contact Todd Crouch, Program Manager, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, 105 West 4th Street, Greensburg, PA 15601. 724.836.4121 ext. 103 or [KeepPAbeautiful.org](http://KeepPAbeautiful.org). Learn more about our statewide signature events: [International Coastal Cleanup](#); [America Recycles Day](#); [Great American Cleanup of PA](#) . Visit [litteringiswongtoo.org](http://litteringiswongtoo.org) to write your wrong!

### **Spring into Science Education Expo – Mar 4**

Hosted by [EcoExpress.org](http://EcoExpress.org) and the [Philadelphia Math + Science Coalition](#). Monday, March 4, 2013, 4:30pm to 7:00pm, at the United Way Building ([1709 Ben Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, PA 19103](#)). The [3rd Annual Spring into Science Education Expo](#) is a FREE networking event and celebration for local educators. Educators of grades K through 12 will learn about inspiring resources and ideas that can be immediately brought back into the classroom! Highlights of the 2013 Spring into Science Education include:

- Screening of EcoExpress.org's Newest Documentary on Rain Gardens
- Exhibits by Local Environmental, Science, and Math Education Experts
- Hands-On Activity Demonstrations
- Refreshments
- Prizes
- And more!

Register at [EcoExpress.EventBrite.com](http://EcoExpress.EventBrite.com).

### **Workshop Registration Open - Maximizing Stormwater & Construction BMP Benefits – Mar 9**

CEDS and partner groups will be holding a series of workshops throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed to show volunteer and professional aquatic resource advocates how to enhance the aquatic resource benefits of existing stormwater Best Management Practices and construction site erosion control measures.

- Pennsylvania: March 9th, Northumberland County Conservation District, Sunbury, PA

To reserve your space at a workshop go to: [www.ceds.org/audit](http://www.ceds.org/audit) and click Register Stormwater & Sediment Workshops at the top left column. Space is limited so register today. To discuss scheduling a free workshop in your area, contact Richard Klein at 410-654-3021. All of the workshops are held on a Saturday, beginning at 10:00 am and end by 1:00 pm. Each consists of a 45-minute presentation, 30 minutes of discussion and an hour or so evaluating actual stormwater BMPs and construction sites.

### **Young Leaders Conference – Mar 20**

Wednesday, March 20 at the York County 4-H Center, 6-9 p.m. for youth ages 13-20. The “Young Leaders Conference” is being sponsored by CGA Law Firm/Attorney Tim Bupp and Brown’s Orchards & Farm Market. Contact Bruce Miller at 215-4103/bmiller@agchoice.com or Linda Spahr at 840-7145/ [lis4@psu.edu](mailto:lis4@psu.edu) for more information. Advance reservations required

### **27TH ANNUAL YORK COUNTY AGRICULTURAL RECOGNITION BANQUET – Mar 21**

THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2013. York Expo Center, Old Main Hall, York, PA. Social - 5:45 p.m. Dinner - 6:30 p.m. Program - 7:30 p.m. Hosted by the York County Agriculture Business Council. Keynote: “Legacy In Agriculture” Rhett Laubach. Returning from two years ago when our banquet night was the worst snowstorm of the season, we know the audience who braved the weather thoroughly enjoyed Rhett’s presentation. Rhett Laubach has changed the way thousands of people across the nation think about leadership. As a professional speaker, author, presentations coach, Personal Leadership Insight expert and founder of YourNextSpeaker, LLC, he has taught leadership skills for 20 years, His programs are high-energy and high-impact. Rhett’s primary focus is the development of Personal Leadership Insight; our ability to positively influence people and situations to create value and growth. Rhett lives in Edmond, Oklahoma and is a dedicated Christian, husband, father and community leader. As a seasoned veteran and an active member of the National Speakers Association, he guarantees to make you think, make you laugh and make you better! [www.YourNextSpeaker.com](http://www.YourNextSpeaker.com). Legacy Challenge! In memory of John T. Smith (1919-2012), who founded this organization 60 years ago, the Council encourages guests to contribute to the York County 4-H Endowment Fund. Contributions collected at the banquet will be matched by the Council, up to \$500. Laubach will also lead a

### **Save The Date: PA Watersheds Conference April 5 & 6**

The [Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds](http://www.FoundationforPennsylvaniaWatersheds.org) Monday announced the PA Watersheds Conference will be held April 5-6 at the Nittany Lion Inn, State College. Is your group struggling to keep its volunteers invigorated and engaged? Do you find it hard to get your message across to the community and your local legislators? Do you want to be active within your community, but don’t know how to ACT– Advocate, Communicate, Transform? The PA Watersheds Conference is the place to be!

### **York City TreeVitalize Urban Tree Canopy Planting – Apr 13**

A collaboration between DCNR, York County Conservation District, York City, and local partners.

- Planting of 1-2 inch caliper trees will occur in Farquhar Park and Kiwanis Lake.
- Planting starts at 8am Sat April 13th/rain date Sunday April 14th.
- Meet at the Band Stand at Farquhar Park (Lincoln Street and Penn Street)
- Holes will be mostly pre-dug. Please bring your own shovel(s) (a couple extra wheel barrows might come in handy but the city will work to place the appropriate trees at each hole prior to the event)

For additional information contact Matt Leisses at [mleisses@gmail.com](mailto:mleisses@gmail.com)

### **Upcoming Take-Back Day – Apr 27**

(10:00AM - 2:00PM) The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has scheduled another National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day which will take place on Saturday, April 27, 2013, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity for those who missed the previous events, or who have subsequently accumulated unwanted, unused prescription drugs, to safely dispose of those medications. In the four previous Take-Back events, DEA in conjunction with our state, local, and tribal law enforcement partners have collected more than 2 million pounds (1,018 tons) of prescription medications were removed from circulation. The National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposal, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of these medications. Shortly after DEA’s first Take-Back Day event two years ago, Congress passed, and President Obama signed, the Secure and Responsible Drug Disposal Act of 2010, which amended the Controlled Substances Act (CSA), allowing DEA to develop permanent, ongoing, and responsible methods for disposal. Prior to the passage of the Disposal Act, the CSA provided no legal means for transferring possession of controlled substance medications from users to other individuals for disposal. On December 21, 2012, DEA published in the Federal Register a [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for Disposal of Controlled Substances](#). These regulations would implement the [Secure and Responsible Drug Disposal Act of 2010 \(Pub. L. 111-273\)](#) by expanding the options available to collect controlled substances from ultimate users for purposes of disposal to include: Take-Back events, mail-back programs, and collection receptacle locations. However, until these regulations become permanent, DEA will continue to hold Take-Back Days. General Public Inquiries: Please check back April 1, 2013 to locate collection sites near you.

### **2ND ANNUAL REGION 3 STORMWATER CONFERENCE - REGISTRATION NOW OPEN – May 7-9**

Registration is now open for the Second Annual Region 3 Stormwater Permit Compliance Conference. This conference will be an exciting opportunity to learn and network amongst stormwater professionals in your region. This year’s event will be hosted by The John Heinz Wildlife Refuge in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and presented by The National Stormwater Center on May 7-9, 2013. This is an event you won’t want to miss!!! The conference will offer EPA Region 3 Compliance Officials, State Coordinators and many others to bring you the most up-to-date information on Stormwater Permit Compliance. Discussion topics will range from MS4 permit compliance to public participation. If there is a topic you would like added to the conference, just send us an email and we’ll do our best to accommodate the request. Space is very limited for this event. Last year’s event was sold out....please register soon!!! You can register online at [www.npdes.com](http://www.npdes.com), Fax, email or call us at 888-397-9414. A brochure is available with more detailed information on how to register and conference specifics. Register early to guarantee a space! NATIONAL STORMWATER CENTER, 817 BRIDLE PATH, BEL AIR, MD 21014. PH: 888-397-9414. [HTTP://WWW.NPDES.COM](http://www.npdes.com)

## WATERSHED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

### **Reminder: Foundation For PA Watersheds Grant Applications Due – Feb. 8**

The [Foundation for PA Watersheds](#) is now accepting applications for watershed restoration grants. Letters of interest are due on February 8. Applications are due March 22. The Foundation has a second round of grants available in the Fall. Letters of interest are due on August 9. Applications are due September 20. [Click Here](#) for more information

### **Coca-Cola, Keep America Beautiful Announce Recycling Bin Grant Program – Mar 4**

Keep America Beautiful and The Coca-Cola Foundation Monday announced a call for applications for the 2013 [Coca-Cola/KAB Recycling Bin Grant Program](#), a program designed to expand and support recycling in communities across America. The deadline for applications is March 4. The Coca-Cola/KAB Recycling Bin Grant Program is funded through a \$300,000 grant from The Coca-Cola Foundation, the philanthropic arm of The Coca-Cola Company. Since 2010, more than 29,000 recycling bins have been distributed through the Coca-Cola/KAB Recycling Bin Grant Program. Three-hundred organizations have received bin grants and 4.3 million people have been reached through this program. The bin grant program will include college and university focused grants as well as the traditional public space recycling bin grants. Eligible recipients for the public space grant include government agencies, civic organizations, schools and nonprofit groups. All colleges and universities will be eligible for the college-specific grant. Successful applicants will be notified by Keep America Beautiful in April 2013 to offer guidance, confirm their needs and solidify bin selection. Suppliers will deliver bins directly to the recipients throughout the summer. For more information, visit the [Coca-Cola/KAB Recycling Bin Grant Program](#) website.

### **Alternative, Clean Energy Program Funding Apps Now Being Accepted By CFA – Mar 8**

The [Commonwealth Financing Authority](#) is now accepting applications under its [Alternative and Clean Energy Program](#) for activities to promote the utilization, development and construction of alternative and clean energy projects, infrastructure associated with compressed natural gas and liquified natural gas fueling stations, plus energy efficiency and energy conservation projects in the state. Applications are due 60 days before each CFA board meeting. The application deadlines are: March 8, May 10, July 19 and September 15. Eligible applicants include a business, an economic development organization, or a political subdivision, includes municipalities, counties and school districts. About \$96 million is available under this program. Notify Your Legislators: If you plan to apply for funding under this program, PA Environment Digest strongly urges you to notify your local House and Senate member that you have applied and make sure they know how important it is to you. [Click Here](#) for program guidelines and application procedures. Eligible applicants are encouraged to contact Ryan Emerson at 717-787-6245 to discuss potential projects before commencing the application process.

### **WREN Announces 2013 Community Watershed Education & Source Water Protection Collaborative Grants Now Available! – Mar 22**

WREN projects help communities protect and improve our most precious natural resource, clean water. Grant Applications Due: March 22, 2013. Project Activity Timeframe: July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014. Learn more - Download Grant Guidance and Application Form at: [http://wren.palwv.org/grants/grants\\_wren.html](http://wren.palwv.org/grants/grants_wren.html). The Water Resources Education Network (WREN) has funding available to help launch community partnerships that raise awareness and educate citizens about ways to keep Pennsylvania water resources clean and healthy. As a WREN project leader, you can make a difference to assure that families will have clean water for generations to come through nature protection and sustainable development. WREN projects help residents and community leaders work together to take action that will reduce risk and prevent pollution of the aquifers, lakes, rivers, streams, springs, and the places we fish, swim and enjoy. Go to <http://wren.palwv.org/local.html> to see terrific projects we've already funded to get creative ideas. No need to re-invent the wheel. For 2013, WREN offers two separate funding tracks: Watershed Protection Education track (awards up to \$5,000) and the Source Water Protection Collaborative track (awards of up to \$7,000). WREN is a project of the League of Women Voters of PA Citizen Education Fund. Join us. You will make a difference. WREN also has some funding remaining for [Opportunity Grants](#) which are available to community groups to carry out water education projects related to reduction of nonpoint source pollution to Pennsylvania waterways. Grants from \$100 to \$300 are available for activities that take place before June 30, 2013.

### **Deadline For Submitting Host Municipality Inspector Reimbursement Apps – Apr 1**

The Department of Environmental Protection [published a notice](#) setting April 1 as the deadline for submitting reimbursement applications under the Host Municipality Inspector Program for municipal and hazardous waste inspectors. [Click Here](#) for applications and instructions.

### **DCNR 2013 Community Conservation Partnership Grants - Applications Due – Apr 10**

[Community Conservation Partnership Grants](#)

### **CFA Accepting Applications For Water Supply, Wastewater Infrastructure Projects – June 28**

The [Commonwealth Financing Authority](#) is now accepting applications for water supply and wastewater infrastructure projects under the [PennWorks Program](#). The deadline for applications is June 28 and the Authority is scheduled to act on the applications September 17. Eligible applicants include local governments, industrial development corporations, municipal authorities, investor-owned water or wastewater enterprises. Grants will not exceed \$5 million and are limited to 75 percent of eligible costs. Loans will not exceed \$5 million with a 2 percent interest rate and a repayment term of 20 years. Notify Your Legislators: If you plan to apply for funding under this program, PA Environment Digest strongly urges you to notify your local House and Senate member that you have applied and make sure they know how important it is to you. [Click Here](#) for program guidelines and application procedures. Eligible applicants are encouraged to contact Brian Eckert or Matthew Karnell at 717-787-6245 to discuss potential projects before commencing the application process.

### **Act 13 Abandoned Mine, Watershed Restoration, Greenways Grant Applications Due – July 31**

The [Commonwealth Financing Authority](#) is now accepting applications for grants under the Act 13 Marcellus Legacy Fund Programs covering abandoned mine drainage abatement and treatment, watershed restoration and protection, water quality data, greenways, trails and recreation and orphan and abandoned well plugging programs. Applications are due July 31 and will be considered at the CFA's November 13 meeting.

- Abandoned Mine Drainage Abatement: Eligible applications cover projects to restore and maintain stream reaches impaired by abandoned mine drainage and ultimately, to remove these streams from the Department of Environmental Resources Impaired Waters list. Grants will not exceed \$1 million and require a 15 percent match. [Click Here](#) for program guidelines.

- Watershed Restoration Protection: Grants to restore and maintain stream reaches impaired by the uncontrolled discharge of nonpoint source polluted runoff and ultimately to remove these streams from the Department of Environmental Protection's Impaired Waters list. Grants will not exceed \$300,000 and require a 15 percent match. [Click Here](#) for program guidelines.
- Baseline Water Quality Data Program: Grants to use the scientific principles and practices for water sample collection and analysis to document existing groundwater quality conditions on private water supplies. Grants will not exceed \$250,000 and require a 15 percent match. [Click Here](#) for program guidelines.
- Greenways, Trails and Recreation: Grants for the planning, acquisition, development, rehabilitation and repair of greenways, recreational trails, open space, parks and beautification projects. Grants will not exceed \$250,000 and require a 50 percent match, except for applications from municipalities with a population of less than 5,000 which requires a 20 percent match. [Click Here](#) for program guidelines.
- Orphan or Abandoned Well Plugging: grants to provide mechanisms to plug abandoned and orphaned wells that have the potential to cause health, safety or environmental concerns. Grants will not exceed \$250,000. [Click Here](#) for program guidelines.

Eligible applicants include local governments, watershed organizations, for-profit businesses (other than producers of natural gas), councils of governments or other authorized organizations (any entity involved in research, restoration, rehabilitation, planning, acquisition, development, education or other activities, which furthers the protection, enhancement, conservation, preservation or enjoyment of this Commonwealth's environmental, conservation, recreation or similar resources). Notify Your Legislators: If you plan to apply for funding under this program, PA Environment Digest strongly urges you to notify your local House and Senate member that you have applied and make sure they know how important it is to you. The CFA is scheduled to consider guidelines for two additional programs created under Act 13 at its March 20 meeting--Flood Hazard Mitigation and Sewage Facilities funding. There will be about \$14.5 million available under the Act 13 programs announced this week and the programs to be considered in March. For more information, contact Brian Eckert or Matthew Karnell at 717-787-6245 to discuss potential projects before commencing the application process.

#### **Federal Tax Benefits For Donating Conservation Easements Renewed – Dec 31**

Congress recently renewed a 2006 incentive that enables family farmers and other landowners to get a significant tax benefit for donating a conservation easement on their land. Landowners who act quickly to conserve their land can now enjoy these enhanced tax benefits, but they're currently set to expire December 31, 2013. Landowners who donate voluntary conservation easements to the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy are inspired by many things: they love nature, they feel connected to their land and they wish to leave a legacy for future generations. This inspiration is central to the Conservancy's work to permanently protect important natural places. But for almost all donors, donating a conservation easement is a major financial decision, and the federal income tax deduction that comes with a donation helps make easements possible for landowners. The enhanced incentive allows easement donors to: Deduct up to 50 percent of their adjusted gross income in any year (up from 30 percent); Deduct up to 100 percent of their adjusted gross income if the majority of that income came from farming, ranching or forestry; and Continue to take unused deductions for as long as 16 years (previously six years). As always, potential easement donors should consult their tax advisor to find out if this opportunity is right for them. For more information on conservation easements, contact WPC's Dawn Morrison at 412-288-2777 or send email to: [dmorrison@paconserve.org](mailto:dmorrison@paconserve.org).



## **WATERSHED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

#### **Determining Nutrient and Sediment Loads and Trends in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed by Using an Enhanced Statistical Technique**

Prepared by Robert M. Hirsch, Douglas L. Moyer, and Scott W. Phillips, U.S. Geological Survey (Released January 2013) ([PDF Version](#)) Effects of Nutrients and Sediment on Chesapeake Bay. As the largest and most productive estuary in North America, Chesapeake Bay is a vital ecological and economic resource. In recent decades, however, the bay and its tributaries have been degraded by excessive inputs of nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus) and sediment from contributing watersheds, and in 1998, the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries were listed as "impaired" under the Clean Water Act. Consequently, a Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) was established for nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment in 2010 (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2010). The TMDL requires that the seven watershed jurisdictions implement management practices to reduce inputs of nutrients and sediment to meet water-quality standards for dissolved oxygen, chlorophyll, and water clarity in the bay. Additional information on the TMDL can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/chesapeakebaytmdl/>. The Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) is a Federal-jurisdictional partnership that is working to meet water-quality standards in the bay. The CBP partners are pursuing an integrated approach to assess and communicate progress in water-quality improvements as the bay TMDL is implemented. This approach includes: tracking the implementation of management practices to meet the TMDL allocations for the bay; documenting trends in in-stream nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment concentrations as well as loads of these constituents entering the bay from all parts of the watershed; and reporting on progress toward achieving the jurisdictions' water-quality standards for dissolved oxygen, chlorophyll, and water clarity/submerged aquatic vegetation in the bay. This science summary focuses on results of a U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) study (Moyer and others, 2012) in which an enhanced statistical technique was used to estimate loads of nutrients and sediment to the bay and assess changes in those loads over time. Possible causes of the observed loads and trends are discussed, and ongoing and planned next steps are described. Read more... <http://chesapeake.usgs.gov/sciencesummary-enhancedstatistical.html>

#### **Recommendations of the Expert Panel to Define Removal Rates for Individual Stream Restoration Projects FINAL REPORT**

[http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel/files/18983/attachment\\_b1-urban\\_stream\\_restoration\\_panel\\_final\\_report\\_12062012.pdf](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel/files/18983/attachment_b1-urban_stream_restoration_panel_final_report_12062012.pdf)

#### **Stormwater and Rain Gardens**

Lisa Stiffler, Sightline Institute, dives headlong into describing the components and effects of polluted stormwater and how it interacts with rain gardens. <http://daily.sightline.org/2013/01/22/are-rain-gardens-mini-toxic-cleanup-sites/>

#### **NRCS 590 Standard Approved**

On January 7, 2013, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) updated their PA Technical Guide and the Nutrient Management Practice, Standard Code 590, which provides technical criteria for the proper application of plant nutrients and soil amendments. The "590 Standard" is significant to DEP, as EPA's agricultural programs, notably the Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations

program, references this USDA standard for addressing nutrient management planning for animal manure. USDA staff worked with Pennsylvania to ensure that the 590 Standard is consistent with Pennsylvania's Act 38 Nutrient Management regulations and planning guidance. Guidance has been developed to explain how to use existing Act 38 nutrient management technical guidance to meet 590 requirements. Current Pennsylvania Chapter 102 regulations meet the erosion criteria to protect water quality. Training events are being planned for updating planners and producers about the new Penn State guidance for managing nitrogen and future changes to the P-Index being developed by Chesapeake Bay regional partners.

**New National Wildlife Federation report on how climate change is threatening wildlife**

This new report documents how climate change is already affecting aquatic and terrestrial wildlife. Global warming is not something that is going to happen in the distant future. It's here and is already adversely affecting wildlife all across our country. And this is happening with only a 1.5 F degree temperature increase. Just imagine the future when the temperature goes up by an additional 7-11 degrees F as scientists predict. [http://NWF\\_Wildlife-Warming-World\\_Report\\_web.pdf](http://NWF_Wildlife-Warming-World_Report_web.pdf)

**Updated Climate Resilience Evaluation and Awareness Tool Available for Download**

An updated version of EPA's Climate Resilience Evaluation and Awareness Tool (CREAT) is now available for download at <http://www.epa.gov/climatereadyutilities>. The tool assists drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater utilities, in identifying climate change threats, assessing potential consequences, and evaluating adaptation options. Increasing climate readiness can help build resilience to extreme weather events. Developed under EPA's Climate Ready Water Utilities initiative, CREAT 2.0 builds on the capabilities of the first version of the tool by providing local historical climate data, as well as more comprehensive downscaled climate change projections. This new version uses a flexible framework, which allows utilities, regardless of size or type, to consider climate impacts at multiple locations and to assess multiple climate scenarios. Please email [CREAThelp@epa.gov](mailto:CREAThelp@epa.gov) with any questions or feedback.

**Updated Version of Consequence Analysis Software Tool Now Available**

An updated version of the Water Health and Economic Analysis Tool (WHEAT), which now estimates consequences for both drinking water and wastewater utilities, is now available. Developed in collaboration with water sector partners, the release of WHEAT 2.0 will provide utilities of all sizes with the capability to assess, plan for, and better respond to man-made threats and natural disasters. WHEAT is an intuitive, generalized, desktop software tool that assists utility owners and operators in quantifying public health impacts, utility financial costs and regional economic impacts of an accidental or adverse event. WHEAT can now generate consequence results for both wastewater utilities and drinking water utilities based on two scenarios: 1) release of a hazardous gas and 2) loss of operating assets. WHEAT is available for download: <http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/watersecurity/techtools/wheat.cfm>. A series of WHEAT training webinars are being offered, click on the "training" tab to register. Contact [WHEATHELP@epa.gov](mailto:WHEATHELP@epa.gov) for more information.

**PA Aquatic Invasive Species Field Guide**

It's finally here! The long awaited Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Field Guide for Pennsylvania is now available on the new PA Sea Grant website. The field guide, created by PA Sea Grant Coastal Outreach Specialist, Sara Grise, was designed to help identify new AIS infestations, and to help slow or stop their spread in Pennsylvania. It includes the following sections: tips on how to use the guide, how to prevent the spread of AIS, and how to properly collect and report specimens. The more than 50 "species profiles" highlight important characteristics to distinguish AIS from other species. Profiles are separated by taxa and include: aquatic and facultative plants, invertebrates, fish, pathogens, algae, and reptiles/amphibians. The field guide is available on the [PA Sea Grant website](#) where it can be downloaded for free. Limited hard copies will soon be available for purchase or you can request a free high resolution printable PDF. Contact [invasivespecies@psu.edu](mailto:invasivespecies@psu.edu) or call Sara Grise at 814-217-9020.

**Proposals Currently Open for Comment**

Date Published In PA Bulletin	Proposal	Comment Deadline
2/2/2013	Nutrient Credit Trading Program; Notice of Certification Requests <a href="#">PA Bulletin Notice</a>	2/28/2013
2/2/2013	Plan Approval and Operating Permit Exemptions <a href="#">PA Bulletin Notice</a>	3/19/2012

