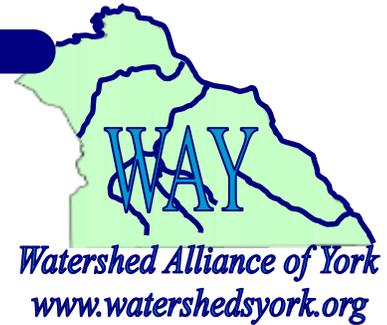


WAY E-NEWS

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



February 15, 2010

A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Volume 10, Issue 4

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

WATERSHED ALLIANCE NEWS...2

WATERSHED EDUCATION & OUTREACH...Page 4

- Question of the Week: What Are the Main Sources of Pollution to the Bay?
- SRBC Reports Nutrients and Sediment Susquehanna to Chesapeake Bay Continue to Decline
- Teachers Invited To 2010 Classroom Earth National High School Challenge – Feb 22
- Watershed Group Survey – Feb 28
- CBF ADULT Education Program (VoiCeS) Registr Opens-"Students" wanted! – Feb 18 &20
- New High School Curriculum: 'Citizen Climate'
- Chesapeake Bay Education Website BayBackpack.com Launched
- 'Schoolyard Habitat Project Guide' Released
- Creative Energy Challenge Deadline is Feb. 19
- New Issue of Sustainability Journal Available
- K-8 Botany and Gardening Inclusion Course Available
- NPS offers "A Socioeconomic Atlas for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and its Region
- Simple Acts Can Make Backyards "Bay Smart"
- Conserve Water This Winter

WATERSHED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE...Page 6

- Sue Wiseman Student Scholarship, Litter Hawk Youth Awards – Mar 31 & May 1
- Mini-Grants Available for 'Celebrate Urban Birds' Events – Feb 15
- Challenge Brings EE into High School Classrooms – Feb 22
- CARE for Toxic Pollutants in Communities – Mar 9
- Award Honors Excellence in Teaching Grades K-6 – Apr 1
- Mid-Atlantic Aquatic Invasive Species Panel Invites Grant Proposals – Apr 22
- Anheuser-Busch, Keep America Beautiful Award Dump Cleanup Grant In PA

WATERSHED FACILITATION ASSISTANCE...Page 7

- 2010 Municipal Officials Education Series
- Land Ethics Symposium Comes to Langhorne – Feb 18
- Summit on Expanding South Mountain Economy Using Natural, Cultural Resources – Feb 19
- JENNIFER BRANCH PRESERVATION PROJECT Family Friendly Kick Off Event – Feb 20
- Penn State to Host Forest Landowners Conference - Feb. 27
- PA Sewage Enforcement Officers 2010 Conference – March 7-9
- Highlands Summit Conference – Mar 7-9
- PAEE Conference Registration Now Open – Mar 11-13
- Using Civic Tourism to Create Healthy, Sustainable Susquehanna Communities
- Free Act 48 Workshop, 'PA Land Choices' - March 27
- 8th Annual Pennsylvania Land Conservation Conference – Apr 8-10
- Game Commission Launches 4th Round Of Deer Management Open Houses
- Save The Date: 2010 Watershed Summit In State College - May 1
- PA Water Symposium – May 6

WATERSHED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE...Page 9

- Fish & Boat Commission Urges Action On Susquehanna River Water Quality Issues
- ROADSIDE VEGETATION CONTROL (RS-M07) – May 19
- Have You No Shame?? Serve as an example and cover up those bare streambanks
- Conservation Landscaping Guide for Bay Watershed
- Biofuels Could Create Jobs, Reduce Pollution in Bay Region
- New EPA Regs to Reduce Pollution from Stormwater, Animal Operations to Chesapeake Bay
- Take Advantage Of New EPA Sustainable Communities Program

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

EMERGENCIES – (800) 541-4741

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

ENVIRONMENTAL – (877) 333-1904

- Air Pollution from burning materials other than household garbage
- Illegal dumping of wastes
- Encroachment on surface waters and floodways
- Groundwater contamination
- Industrial sewage problems
- Mining/quarrying operational problems (800) 541-2050
- Pollution of water supply wells
- Underground storage tank failures

FISHERIES – (800) 541-2050

- Wildlife (fish, reptiles, amphibians) nuisance problems or to report violations

GAME & WILDLIFE – (888) 742-8001

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

ILLEGAL DUMPING – (877) 772-3673

- Illegal dumping on state forest and park lands

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

WATERSHED ALLIANCE NEWS

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

<> Contact: Deana Weaver at (717) 432-2211 or admin@carrollcitizens.com

Codorus Creek Improvement Partnership - www.codoruscreek.com

<> Contact: Michael Helfrich, Codorus Creek Improvement Partnership, at 324 W. Market St., York PA 17401. Ph: 717-718-5431. E-mail: info@codoruscreek.com

Codorus Creek Watershed Association - www.codoruscreek.net

- Apr. 12 - CCWA Member and Board meeting, 7:00 pm, at York Water Company's Mt. Rose Ave. Facility

<> Contact: Jim Leaman at 843-2929

Codorus State Park - www.dcnr.state.pa.gov

Conewago Canoe Club - www.conewagocanooclub.org

- Mar 4 - Club Meeting - Mount Zion United Church of Christ, 7:00 pm, at Ridgewood Road in Pleasureville
- Red Lion High School Paddling Instruction Schedule online

<> Questions or comments e-mail me oc1mike@comcast.net, but remember you catch more flies with honey than vinegar.

Deer Creek Watershed Association - www.harfordcountymd.gov/PlanningZoning/WRAS.

<> Contact Lee McDaniel at ldmcdaniel@aol.com.

Farm & Natural Lands Trust of York County - 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 • Fax (717) 854-7452

or skenny@farmtrust.org

Friends of Codorus State Park - www.friends-of-codorus.org/

<> For more information contact Becky Miller at 632-6747 or email beckymill1@juno.com or Dave Carbaugh at 637-9875 or email carbaugh3@embarqmail.com

Gifford Pinchot State Park - www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/giffordpinchot.aspx

<> 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

Greater Hanover Alliance - pwingert@legacycaps.com

<> Contact: G. Paige Wingert, President, Greater Hanover Alliance, Inc., Hanover, PA 17331. Ph :(717) 630-0892.

Gunpowder Valley Conservancy - www.gunpowderfalls.org

<> TO VOLUNTEER OR REGISTER FOR FREE or for more information contact Peggy Perry, Program Director for Gunpowder Valley Conservancy at 410-668-0118 or email little-owl@msn.com.

Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education - www.hornfarmcenter.org

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

Izaak Walton League York Chapter - www.yorkchapter67iwla.org/

- Calendar of events 2009 - www.yorkchapter67iwla.org/id21.html
- 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

- I was out taking footage of some poor farming practices that are polluting the Susquehanna and Chesapeake Bay. The farm operation in this video actually put tons of manure on top of a foot of snow. Then, the rain on Christmas Night turned it all into a soup draining into the local stream. Please see my new video below, "Lancaster Dairy Present to the Chesapeake. Got Manure?"

<http://www.lowersusquehannariverkeeper.org/>

<> Contact: Michael Helfrich, Lower Susquehanna RIVERKEEPER®, York, PA. Cell phone: 717-779-7915 E-mail: lawsusriver@hotmail.com.

Maryland's Upper West Shore Trib Team - http://www.dnr.state.md.us/bay/tribstrat/upper_west/up_west_shore.html

- Annual Tributary Strategy Meeting is Saturday 6th March, 2010, at MDE.

<> Contact: Mike Bilek, Tributary Team Coordinator, MD DNR, Tawes Office Building, Annapolis, MD 21401. Ph: 410-260-8988. E-mail: mbilek@dnr.state.md.us

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

- The next meeting and hike will be on April 17th at Chadds Ford Elementary School. Hike at 9 am, meeting at 2 pm. Check back for more details.
 - We are seeking someone to act as secretary at our meetings. Contact Jim Hooper
- <> Contact: James Hooper at james.hooper@worldnet.att.net.

Mid-Atlantic Ecological Landscapes Partnership [MAEscapes] - www.maescapes.org

<> Contact: 717-840-7408 or Connie Schmotzer at cxs51@psu.edu

Peach Bottom Concerned Citizens Group Inc. - www.pbccg.com

<> Contact Maria Payan by email 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

- Hope for the Chesapeake Bay: A survey of challenges and solutions for our community - Saturday, February 27, 2010 - 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at the Baltimore Museum of Industry-a Chesapeake Bay Gateway Network Site, 1415 Key Highway, Baltimore, MD 21230. Moderator and long time environmentalist, Gerald Winegrad will provide a brief history of the Chesapeake Bay allowing us to take a look at how political, policy and societal issues threaten our national treasure today. Leaders and activists such as Chuck Fox, Senior Advisor for the EPA and author Tom Horton will share their experiences at both state and federal levels as we explore the steps citizens can take to successfully revitalize our local waterways. Open to the public and community groups and students are encouraged to attend. Funders and local environmental groups will be on hand to help get you started today! This event is hosted by BGW's Sustainable Speaker Series, Herring Run Watershed Association and the Baltimore Museum of Industry. RSVP to bgw@baltimoregreenworks.com or call 410.952.0344. The event is FREE with a suggested donation of \$10 to help support this event.
 - State of Our Watershed Conference -- Saturday, March 13, 2010. Join Baltimore County and Baltimore City in understanding the challenges of the Chesapeake Bay TMDL, often referred to as the "Pollution Diet!" Review progress made with the Watershed Agreement and participate in discussions about current trends related to storm water. Registration information will be announced in February. Please check back for further details.
 - Invasive Vine Cutting at Prettyboy Reservoir - Sunday, April 19, 2010
Meet at 10 A.M. for a couple hours of cutting invasive vines along the CCC fireroads at Prettyboy Reservoir. Meet at the parking lot on Tracey Store Rd. Reach Tracey Store Rd. by getting off I-83 north at the Mt. Carmel Rd. exit and heading west. Turn right on Pretty Boy Dam Rd. Turn left on Tracey Store Rd. After passing a Prettyboy Reservoir sign and a couple fireroads on the right and crossing a creek, park in the dirt parking lot on the right side of the road. Clippers, loppers, hand saws, and gloves will be available, or you may bring your own. (GB - Moderate) If you need additional information, contact Mary at 443-386-0862 (cell), 410-239-4590 (home), or XxDiTz4LyFxFX@aol.com.
- <> Contact: Nancy Shaper at nshaper@ihmi.edu

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

<> Kim Anderson at sgfornyc@aol.com.

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.

Susquehanna Greenway Partnership - www.susquehannagreenway.org

<> For more information about the Susquehanna Greenway, please contact: The Susquehanna Greenway Partnership, 201 Furnace Road, Lewisburg, PA 17837. Phone: 570-522-7211. Email: greenway@susquehannagreenway.org

Trout Unlimited Codorus Chapter #558 - www.codorustu.org

- Mar 10 - Monthly Chapter Meetings 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., at Gander Mountain store - York (winter) and Sawmill pavilion (summer)
- <> Contact: Tom Finenze at 840-1372 or 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/>

- Feb 17 - Chapter Meeting at [Collinsville Fish & Game](#)
 - Rivers Conservation Plan - Muddy Creek TU has contracted with local firm Buchar-Horn, Inc. to help prepare the plan. The firm's project manager, Jayson Romig, will attend the public meetings and answer any questions you may have about the project. If you have any questions regarding the meetings, please contact: Mr. Maurice Chioda, Muddy Creek TU, at muddycreekt@comcast.net
- <> Contact: Ron Heuston, President MCTU, 244-1851 or Heuy1955@aol.com

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

- The Watershed Alliance of Adams County holds its board meeting monthly. Board meeting dates have changed to the fourth Tuesday of the month. All board meetings are held at the Adams County Agricultural and Natural Resources Center at 4:30pm unless otherwise specified. The public is invited to attend.
- <> Contact: Michelle Kirk 717-677-4628 or email at: mkirk@adamswatersheds.org

Watershed Alliance of York - www.watershedsyork.org

- Apr. 7 - Meeting of WAY Board of Directors, 7:00 PM, at 324 W. Market St., York, PA.
- STREAM CLEANUPS - Got a stream needing cleaned up? Contact WAY to help coordinate and finance your cleanup.

- COMMUNITY EVENTS – Got a community event planned for 2010 that you would like WAY to exhibit its display? Contact us.
 - SPEAKERS BUREAU – Need a speaker for your event? Contact WAY's speakers bureau composed of local experts in watershed-based planning, restoration and planning.
 - WAY E-News is 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 (1,000+). Frequency: bi-weekly. Subscription: No charge. Editor: Gary R. Peacock.
 - 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

Yellow Breeches Watershed Association – www.ybwa.org

<> Contact: John Eby, President, at john_eby@lower-allen.pa.us

York-Adams Regional Smart Growth Coalition – www.yorkadamssmartgrowth.org **NEW**

- Check out our website!

<> Contact Shanna M. 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/>

- Thursday through Sunday, March 4-7, 2010 Come and visit the York Audubon Society educational display at the Mid-Atlantic Garden Show. More information available at: www.midatlanticgardenshow.com
 - Monday, March 8, 2010 The Herps of York County. Certified bog turtle surveyor Bob Bull returns to YAS with a presentation of York County's diverse amphibians and reptiles; frogs, toads, salamanders, snakes, lizards and turtles. Luther Memorial Church, 7:00 P.M.
 - Saturday, March 13, 2010 Come and visit the York Audubon Society educational display at the GardenWise program provided by the York County Master Gardeners. Pre-registration is required to attend this event. Please contact Penn State Cooperative Extension at 717-840-7408. Click [HERE](#) to download the GardenWise pre-registration brochure. This file is a PDF and can be opened with Adobe Reader (click the button below to download Adobe Reader)
- <> Contact Tom Smith at 717-246-9767 or tls35@psu.edu.

York County Conservation Alliance - www.yorkcountyconservationalliance.org

<> Contact: Jane Heller at info@yorkcountyconservationalliance.org or 717-845-3797, or mail to YCCA - 543 Dupont Ave, York, Pa. 17403



WATERSHED EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Question of the Week: What Are the Main Sources of Pollution to the Bay?

Welcome to this week's installment of the BayBlog Question of the Week! Each week we'll take a question submitted through the [Chesapeake Bay Program website](#) and answer it here for all to read. This week, Dave is trying to get a sense of "who is causing what" in relation to the Chesapeake Bay's pollution issues. He wants to know: what are the main sources of nitrogen, phosphorous and sediment to the Bay? It's important to know where Chesapeake Bay pollution comes from because we can use that knowledge to do our part to reduce the amount of pollutants each of us contributes to the Bay and its local waterways. Read blog... <http://blog.chesapeakebay.net/post/Question-of-the-Week-What-are-the-Main-Sources-of-Pollution-to-the-Bay.aspx>

SRBC Reports Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Sediment Amounts from Susquehanna River to Chesapeake Bay Continue to Decline

Harrisburg -- The Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) announced this week that nutrient and suspended-sediment trends in the Susquehanna River Basin are improving. SRBC's findings are based on analyses of flow-adjusted trends data from 1985 to 2008. Read more... <http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/newsroom/14287?id=3204&typeid=2>.

Teachers Invited To 2010 Classroom Earth National High School Challenge – Feb 22

Apply now for the 2010 [National High School Challenge](#), a program encouraging teachers to incorporate environmental education into all subject areas through innovative teaching strategies. The deadline is February 22. Teachers from around the nation can receive up to \$4,000 to make their ideas become reality. Teachers from all subject areas should apply. Classroom Earth's mission is to increase the ability of high school teachers to integrate environmental education into curricula so that students are prepared to be a part of environmental solutions. For details and to apply, visit the Classroom Earth webpage: <http://classroomearth.org/challenge/2010>.

Watershed Group Survey – Feb 28

Here is the link to the survey we'll be sending out to the watershed groups today or tomorrow. <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/8J68LGC>
If you recall, the intent of the survey is to take a snapshot of PA's watershed movement and provide further motivation for the DEP to approve Growing Greener III funds. I will let the watershed groups know to contact you should they have any questions. As an incentive to them, we'll be doing a drawing at the statewide Watershed Summit (see details on attached "Save the Date") for a quality digital camera for everyone who completes the survey. We'll also submit your name in a drawing for a \$150 Visa Gift Card for every one of your watershed groups that completes the survey. Please let me know if you have any questions. I hope you all will be able to join us at the Summit! Contact Gwen Johnson [gwnjohnson@verizon.net].

CBF ADULT Education Program (VoiCeS) Registr Opens-"Students" wanted! – Feb 18 &20

VoiCeS - A Program for People That Want to Understand the Bay Each year, CBF offers VoiCeS (www.cbf.org/VoiCeS) - a program for people from all walks of life to learn about the intricacies of the Bay's science, politics, people, and history. And we are now accepting registrations for the 2010 classes that start Feb 18 (in Annapolis) and Feb 20 (in Easton)! This multi-week class is intended to take the complex Bay issues, break them down into understandable "bites" - and by the end of the program, provide folks with a more holistic but basic understanding of our beautiful Bay ecosystem's sciences, culture, and some of the complexities we face in saving it. Speakers are varied including historians, biologists, farmers, CBF staff and other Bay professionals. The intention of VoiCeS is to help grow a Bay-wide community of people that can talk intelligently (and not just from CBF's perspective) about improving our communities and waters through stewardship. We want participants to go back to their own communities to make a difference! Visit www.cbf.org/voices for more information and the application. And won't you help spread the word, please? (No matter how much you know about the Bay, I can promise you, you'll learn a whole lot more....)

New High School Curriculum: 'Citizen Climate'

The Will Steger Foundation has developed "Citizen Climate," a high school curriculum tied to national standards focused on global climate solutions. This curriculum emphasizes civic engagement, helping teachers and students understand the climate solutions being discussed at the national and international levels. It also allows students to formulate statements about what they would like to see happen in climate policy and how these policies and actions can be replicated in their states and local communities. For more information: WSF – Citizen Climate Curriculum <http://willstegerfoundation.org/index.php/citizens-climate-curriculum>

Chesapeake Bay Education Website BayBackpack.com Launched

BayBackpack.com is a new online resource for teachers and environmental educators to engage students in hands-on learning about the Chesapeake Bay and its local waterways. Bay Backpack includes lesson plans, curriculum guides, field studies and more to help teachers integrate Bay education into their classrooms. Learn more... www.baybackpack.com.

'Schoolyard Habitat Project Guide' Released

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Schoolyard Habitat program released a free guide providing the basic steps needed to restore or create wildlife habitat on school grounds. The process incorporates critical thinking and decision-making skills, while challenging students in reading, writing, science, mathematics and language arts. The 135-page "Schoolyard Habitat Project Guide" is available as a free download online. For more information: U.S. FWS, Chesapeake Bay Field Office <http://www.fws.gov/chesapeakebay/schoolyd.html>

Creative Energy Challenge Deadline is Feb. 19

K-12 educators are invited to participate in the "Igniting Creative Energy Challenge," a joint project of the National Energy Foundation and Johnson Controls Inc. This educational competition encourages students to learn about energy conservation and the environment. Students may express their ideas in the form of documented science projects, essays, stories, artwork, photographs, music, video or website projects. Grand prize is a trip to Washington, D.C., to participate in the National Energy Efficiency Forum in June. For more information: Igniting Creative Energy Nat'l Student Challenge <http://www.ignitingcreativeenergy.org/>

New Issue of Sustainability Journal Available

A new issue of the "International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education" is available. The issue includes a case study of the University of Michigan's energy conservation program and articles titled "Greening of Business Schools: a Systemic View" and "University Presidents' Conceptualization of Sustainability in Higher Education." Article summaries are free; subscriptions may be purchased or requested through a local university library. For more information: Emerald's Int'l Journal of Sustainability in H.E. <http://www.emeraldinsight.com/Insight/viewContainer.do?jsessionId=FE08924EAEA808F25A9A853D540DF8B3?containerType=Issue&containerId=15002402>

K-8 Botany and Gardening Inclusion Course Available

"From Seed to Seed" is a course for K-8 teachers who already incorporate botany and gardening (indoors or out) into their science curriculum and for teachers who would like to start doing so. Presented by the National Gardening Association, the course provides core botanical information and activities and experiments that address K-8 national standards in various disciplines. Cost is \$60. For more information: NGA's Learning Garden – From Seed to Seed <http://www.kidsgardening.org/course-teacher.html#description>

National Park Service Chesapeake Bay Office offers "A Socioeconomic Atlas for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and its Region

Need to know the projected population densities for the counties in your area? Land use trends? Recreation and tourism industry revenue and employment? For stakeholders within the Chesapeake Bay watershed, this information is conveniently presented on the new CD-ROM "A Socioeconomic Atlas for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and its Region." For the CD-ROM which includes a tutorial, atlas data, GIS base files, and JPEG and PDF graphics, contact Greg Ogilvie (greg_ogilvie@nps.gov) at the Chesapeake Bay Office, 410-260-2488, to have one sent to you. The Atlas was prepared in 2009 for the National Park Service by Dr. Jean McKendry, Principal Scientist, College of Natural Resources, at the University of Idaho. Socioeconomic indicators are presented in a series of maps, complemented by tables, other graphics, and explanatory text. A consistent design based on the county level is used, making it easy to draw comparisons and narrow the area of interest. The atlas describes the spatial character of human activities and land use trends in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. There are six categories of socioeconomic indicators displayed in the atlas: general population, economy and commerce, social and cultural, recreation and tourism, administration and government, and land use indicators. This is a tool with many uses such as new staff orientation, planning, public participation, and research. Important for managers, resource program staff and for GIS staff, the CD-ROM includes spatial data used in compiling the atlas maps. GIS specialists have the tools they need to create new maps serving specific purposes. The Atlas can be found at http://www.chesapeakebay.net/content/publications/cbp_46698.pdf. (It is a large file, nearly 40 MB). For the CD-ROM which includes a tutorial, atlas data, GIS base files, and JPEG and PDF graphics, contact Greg Ogilvie (greg_ogilvie@nps.gov) at the Chesapeake Bay Office, 410-260-2488, to have one sent to you.

Simple Acts Can Make Backyards "Bay Smart"

What happens in your backyard does affect nearby streams, rivers and the Chesapeake Bay. Choosing some of 10 simple actions can make your backyard friendlier to the environment and more "Bay Smart." More... (16 MG - PDF File)

<http://dnr.maryland.gov/criticalarea/pdfs/BackyardMakeover.pdf>

Conserve Water This Winter

Find new ways to save water this winter. Try putting a bucket in the shower or sink to catch water as it "warms up." Use this extra water to water your plants or fill up pet bowls. The more water we save, the less water is dumped into our wastewater treatment plants for costly treatment. Learn how... <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/athome.aspx?menuitem=14818#conservewater>



WATERSHED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Applications Due For Sue Wiseman Student Scholarship, Litter Hawk Youth Awards – Mar 31 & May 1

PA CleanWays is now accepting applications for the \$1,000 Sue Wiseman Student Scholarship and the Litter Hawk Youth Award Program.

- Sue Wiseman Scholarship – The [Sue Wiseman Scholarship](#) is open to Pennsylvania youth, ages 16-21, who have initiated and carried out a personal project that addresses littering, illegal dumping, recycling, proper disposal, beautification of an area to deter illegal dumping, or public education that addresses one of the other listed topics. Applications and project requirements are due May 1. The scholarship is named for Sue Wiseman, whose own commitment and dedication to a cleaner environment led to the founding of PA CleanWays, a statewide nonprofit organization empowering people to eliminate illegal dumping and littering in Pennsylvania.
- Litter Hawk Award – The [Litter Hawk program](#) gives youth an opportunity to express their concern about littering and illegal dumping, and preventative measures such as recycling, proper disposal, beautification, and stewardship through visual arts, language arts, and community outreach. Nominations are due March 31. This program includes two age groups, 10 and under and 11 to 18, and is ideal for organized youth groups, a classroom activity, or an individual project. Entries will be judged on creativity and the project's ability to convey the chosen subject.

Three winning entries in each age group will receive gift cards to a bookstore in the amount of \$75 (10 and under) and \$100 (11-18). Awards will be announced during Earth Month (April). The Litter Hawk Youth Award Program is not open to PA CleanWays employees or the immediate relatives of PA CleanWays employees. Only one entry per youth allowed. Program brochures are available by submitting an online request form on the [PA CleanWays website](#) or by contacting the PA CleanWays' office toll free at 877-772-3673. Since 1990, PA CleanWays has facilitated over 1,000 illegal dump cleanups resulting in the removal of over 11,635 tons of trash, 2,224 tons of scrap metal and 401,490 tires statewide. PA CleanWays community-based approach has involved more than 50,600 volunteers.

Mini-Grants Available for 'Celebrate Urban Birds' Events – Feb 15

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology is offering mini-grants of \$250-\$500 to support the organization of community "Celebrate Urban Birds" events. Information gathered by event participants helps scientists better understand how birds survive in cities and make use of green spaces. Organizers working in underserved communities are strongly encouraged to apply; applications are due Feb. 15. For more information: Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2010 Mini-Grants <http://www.birds.cornell.edu/celebration/community/minigrants/mini-grants-2010/2010-mini-grants-1>

Challenge Brings EE into High School Classrooms – Feb 22

Applications are now being accepted for the 2010 National High School Challenge, a program that encourages educators to teach environmental education in the classroom through innovative strategies. High school teachers from around the nation have the opportunity to receive funding of up to \$4,000 to make their ideas become reality. Deadline is Feb. 22. For more information: NEEF – Classroom Earth, Challenge Details Return to Newsletter Contents Page <http://www.classroomearth.org/challenge/2010>

CARE for Toxic Pollutants in Communities – Mar 9

Local government, nonprofits and universities may be eligible for funding through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Community Action for a Renewed Environment program. Responses are due March 9. Projects should be community-based and focus on increasing the awareness of (and reducing risks associated with) toxic pollutants and environmental concerns. For more information: U.S. EPA – Air, Grants, FY 2010 CARE http://www.epa.gov/air/grants_funding.html

Award Honors Excellence in Teaching Grades K-6 – Apr 1

Nominations of K-6 teachers, due April 1, are being accepted for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. Award recipients receive a citation signed by the U.S. President, a paid trip for two to Washington, D.C., professional development opportunities and a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation. Applicants must have at least five years of full-time, K-12 teacher experience prior to the 2009-2010 school year. For more information: PAEMST: Rewarding & Inspiring Great Teaching <http://www.paemst.org/controllers/home.cfc?method=view>

Mid-Atlantic Aquatic Invasive Species Panel Invites Grant Proposals – Apr 22

The [Mid-Atlantic Regional Panel](#) on Aquatic Invasive Species this week opened its limited Small Grants Competition to encourage groups and individuals to submit proposals for eradication, monitoring and education projects. Proposals are due April 2. Up to \$50,000 is available for projects of between \$7,000 to \$10,000 each. Any individuals in federal, state, provincial or local agencies, institutions of higher education, commercial or non-profit organizations, professional, lake, landowner, and watershed organizations and international organizations are eligible for funding as investigators or cooperators. Guidelines and application requirements [are available online](#).

Anheuser-Busch, Keep America Beautiful Award Dump Cleanup Grant In PA

Interested in funding cleanup of an illegal dump in your community? One of six [Keep America Beautiful](#) and [Anheuser-Busch](#) cleanup grants announced this week went to Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful- Southwest to help cleanup illegal dumps in Washington County. The grant applicants were matched up with their local Anheuser-Busch wholesalers to support a variety of environmental programs, including increasing awareness of the need to recycle beverage containers and providing infrastructure to do so. The project will be done in cooperation with the [Washington County Chapter of PA CleanWays](#) and other partners. Also, WAY has funds available to assist municipal organizers. Call 717-840-7430. <http://www.anheuser-busch.com/community/anheuserBuschFoundation.html>



WATERSHED FACILITATION ASSISTANCE

2010 Municipal Officials Education Series

- CANCELLED Thursday, February 11, 2010 / 7:00 PM Pleasant Acres / 118 Pleasant Acres Rd / York, PA 17402. Topic: Updating Municipal Landscape Ordinances Speakers: Mary C Kline, RLA, Landscape Architect Connie Schmotzer, Educator, Penn State Cooperative Extension.
- Thursday, February 18, 2010 / 7:00 PM John Wright Factory / 120 N Front St # 3 / Wrightsville, PA 17368. Topic: Growing Greener- Conservation By Design Speaker: Randall G. Arendt, Senior Conservation Advisor, Natural Lands Trust. This lecture, by the national expert in the field of conservation subdivision design, explains how communities can use the development process to their advantage to preserve interconnected open space systems. Communities that adopt the conservation subdivision zoning and subdivision ordinance regulations are preserving, on average, 62% of residential land, at little to no public cost. If your community is looking for effective, low cost means of preserving natural areas, parks and greenways, this presentation is for you.
- Thursday, February 25, 2010 / 7:00 PM York County 4-H Center / 771 Stoverstown Rd / York, PA 17408. Topic: Agricultural Zoning Speakers: Tim Bupp, Esq, CGA Law Firm Pam Shellenberger, Chief, County/Long Range Planning, York County Planning Commission. A wide range of legal and zoning tools are available to municipal officials seeking to preserve and maintain a strong and vibrant agricultural community. Attendees will learn about the basic techniques available for ag zoning and farmland preservation including transferable development rights and ASAs. Presenters will discuss the latest developments on the ACRE Act and what you need to know, as well as zoning techniques currently used by York County municipalities.

Land Ethics Symposium Comes to Langhorne – Feb 18

Bowman's Hill Wildflower Reserve presents the 10th annual "Land Ethics Symposium: Creative Approaches for Ecological Landscaping," Feb. 18. This symposium features regional and national experts who will focus on how to create economic and ecologically balanced landscapes using native plants and restoration techniques. Landscape professionals, state/municipal officials, land managers and homeowners are encouraged to attend. For more information: BHWR – Land Ethics Symposium <http://www.bhwp.org/educational/symposia.php>

Summit to Focus on Expanding South Mountain Regional Economy Using Natural, Cultural Resources – Feb 19

Harrisburg – Community leaders from throughout the South Mountain region are invited to a summit in February to discuss ways to enhance its sense of place and expand the region's economy by capitalizing on its natural and cultural resources. Scheduled for Feb. 19, the first South Mountain Summit is part of the region's Conservation Landscape Initiative – an effort by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to engage communities and local partners with state agencies and funding partners to conserve and protect the high-quality natural and cultural resources and enhance the region's economic viability. The South Mountain Conservation Landscape Initiative – one of seven such regional initiatives in the state – encompasses Adams, Cumberland, Franklin and York counties. The South Mountain Partnership working on the initiative, led by DCNR and the Appalachian Trail Conservancy with many others, promotes and hopes to encourage economic growth and revitalize local communities based on the abundance of recreational and heritage tourism opportunities. The summit will be held at the Penn Township Fire Hall in Newville, Cumberland County, on Feb. 19 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Registration is required. The cost per person is \$15. Quigley will begin the summit by discussing an innovative model of conservation and preservation of sense of place on the state and local scale. Three speakers will share the importance of the region's resources. Scott Weidensaul, an internationally known wildlife biologist and author of two dozen books, is a featured speaker. Also featured will be Dan Marcucci, a scholar of landscape studies and planning and a South Mountain native. The last speaker will be Lenwood Sloan, the Director of Culture and Heritage Tourism in Pennsylvania. Prior to the summit, the first of the South Mountain Speaker Series will be held the evening of Feb. 18 at the Woods Center at the Capitol Theatre in Chambersburg. A reception will begin at 6 p.m. followed by a lecture at 7 p.m. The lecture, "South Mountain: Cradle of Conservation," will be given by Shippensburg University professor Susan Rimby. A panel discussion will follow. South Mountain is at the northern end of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Communities surrounding South Mountain have thrived off the fertile limestone agricultural lands, the timber that fed the iron furnaces, the plentiful game and wildlife, and off the abundance of pure spring water that is captured by the mountains permeable soils and released into the valleys. A rich cultural heritage exists in communities like Gettysburg, Chambersburg and Carlisle, and many smaller quaint villages. The foresight of visionaries like Joseph Rothrock and Gifford Pinchot has protected thousands of acres of state forest land in the region. The 85,000-acre Michaux State Forest in the region is one of the largest intact forests between Harrisburg and Washington, D.C. For registration and other information, visit <http://southmountaincli.blogspot.com> or call the Appalachian Trail Conservancy at (717) 258-5771. Media contact: Christina Novak, 717-772-9101

JENNIFER BRANCH PRESERVATION PROJECT Family Friendly Kick Off Event – Feb 20

When: Sat, February 20, 10am – 2pm. Where: Christus Victor Lutheran Church 9833 Harford Road Baltimore, MD 21234. Description: Join us at the JENNIFER BRANCH PRESERVATION PROJECT Family Friendly Kick Off Event February 20, 2010 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Christus Victor Lutheran Church 9833 Harford Road Baltimore, MD 21234 Download the Jennifer Branch Kick Off Event Flyer! Attend Fun Educational Greening Sessions for Your Back Yard! Session 1: "Water and Your Yard" (Baywise Yards and Native Plants) Session 2: "Greener in Your Yard" (Rain Barrels and Composting) Session 3: "Trees in Your Yard" (Tree Planting and Stream Adoption) Educational Sessions provided by: Gunpowder Valley Conservancy Baltimore County Master Gardeners Soil for the Conservation District Sessions are free and open to the public.

Snow date is 2/27/10. To register contact: Peggy Perry, Jennifer Branch Project Manager for Gunpowder Valley Conservancy at 410-668-0118 or email at pperry@gunpowderfalls.org.

Penn State to Host Forest Landowners Conference - Feb. 27

Penn State Cooperative Extension of Centre County will host a Forest Landowners Conference in University Park Feb. 27. This conference is intended to serve as a landowner's guide to forest ownership; forests provide many important benefits and current estimates show there are more than 750,000 forest landowners in Pennsylvania. Deadline for registration is Feb. 15. For more information: PS Ext: Central Forest Landowners Conf. (PDF) http://centre.extension.psu.edu/resources/programs/10/CRForest_Landowner_Conf022710.pdf.

PA Sewage Enforcement Officers 2010 Conference – March 7-9

The PA Sewage Enforcement Officers Association will hold its 2010 Conference and Annual Meeting at the Grantville Holiday Inn near Harrisburg on March 7-9. Participants can take advantage of a variety of educational workshops, the exhibit area and networking opportunities. Download a conference brochure for more information:

<http://www.paenvironmentdigest.com/Newsletter/docs/3/PASEO2010.pdf>

Highlands Summit Conference – Mar 7-9

The focus of this three day meeting, jointly sponsored by the Environmental Research Center at West Virginia University and Canaan Valley Institute, will identify research needs which can help researchers, policy makers, and stakeholders better understand the connections between uplands and costal areas. This includes the environmental stresses in the highlands that result from the considerable ecosystem services that the highlands provide to downstream communities. The conference will be held at CVI's new Research and Education Center near Davis, WV. Read more about the Highlands Summit http://www.canaanvi.org/canaanvi_web/news.aspx?collection=echo&id=894.

PAEE Conference Registration Now Open – Mar 11-13

The annual Pennsylvania Assoc. of Environmental Educators' conference, "A Sense of Place – Our Outdoor Heritage Delight in Discovery" will take place March 11-13 in Blue Bell. The featured sessions will "embrace the process of discovery, inquiry learning, hands-on activities, and instructional strategies that optimize learner engagement." Registration is now open; early bird registration ends Feb. 15 and regular registration ends March 1. For more information: PAEE 2010 Conference <http://www.paee.net/2010%20Conference/index.html>

Using Civic Tourism to Create Healthy, Sustainable Susquehanna Communities

Susquehanna Greenway Symposium Register Now! March 18, 2010, 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Langone Center, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA 17837. Keynote Address by Dan Shilling, author of Civic Tourism: The Poetry and Politics of Place. Conserving our natural and cultural treasures and the authentic fabric of our River Towns is critical to creating more livable communities– places where people want to live, work, play and visit. Come learn to conduct community conversations about how to improve upon these treasures and use Civic Tourism for social, economic and environmental benefit. Participate in facilitate work sessions on:

- Rethinking Economics
- Investing in the Story
- Connecting to the Public

For a full program agenda and registration form, please visit our website at www.susquehannagreenway.org

Free Act 48 Workshop, 'PA Land Choices' - March 27

The "PA Land Choices" program is a "model for place-based education," focusing student learning on local communities and addressing standards in civics and geography. Participants in this free workshop will receive a "PA Land Choices" guide and may be eligible for Act 48 credit. Register with the Lebanon County Conservation District at (717) 272-3908 x4. For more information: LCCD – Teacher Workshop (PDF) http://www.lccd.org/education/TEACHER_WkspFlyer.pdf

8th Annual Pennsylvania Land Conservation Conference – Apr 8-10

March 20 (registration). Held April 8-10 at the Desmond Hotel & Conference Center in Malvern, Pa., this conference is hosted by the Pennsylvania Land Trust Association and is Pennsylvania's annual training, networking and inspirational event for those involved with private and public land conservation. The seminar will include a field trip, and will be highlighted by keynote speaker Tim LaSalle from the Rodale Institute. For more information on the conference and how to register, visit here <http://www.conserveland.org/conferences/2010/index>.

Game Commission Launches 4th Round Of Deer Management Open Houses

For the fourth consecutive year, the Pennsylvania Game Commission is hitting the road to bring six [deer management](#) open houses to communities throughout the Commonwealth beginning on February. 20 and ending on April 10. The schedule for the open houses is as follows:

- February 20 - Northcentral-Coudersport;
- February 27– Northeast-Hawley;
- March 13- Northwest-Pittsfield;
- March 20- Southwest-Johnstown;
- **March 27- Southcentral-Shippensburg; and**
- April 10- Southeast-Frackville. ([see announcement for locations and directions](#))

Open houses will be held in six different locations from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and are on a Saturday to maximize the opportunity for those interested in attending, and are being held in different locations than the three previous rounds to afford residents in other areas of the state the opportunity to attend. Open houses are used by the agency as an interactive public outreach tool that employs multimedia presentations, exhibits and wildlife managers to bring both the nuts-and-bolts and finer details of deer management to hunters, farmers and others whose lives are influenced by deer. The effort emphasizes bringing this powerful communications and educational tool to residents as a means to further the general public's understanding of deer and deer management. The approach is bolstered by having agency employees on hand to engage participants who attend the open houses. Open houses provide a means to cover wide-ranging topics through specialized stations set

up in a large hall. Stations are spaced out so participants who have questions and/or comments for station attendants can communicate in a one-on-one exchange without interruptions and with the expectation of getting answers immediately. All open houses will have the same presentation: displays manned by agency staff. The displays include:

- Goals that Direct the Deer Program – Outlining the five goals of the deer management program;
- Management Goals are a Product of Public Input – Focuses on the participating stakeholders who were involved in developing the current deer plan goals;
- Where do you hunt? – Helps hunters take a critical look at the characteristics of habitat through visual representation;
- Deer Necessities – Identifies the preferences that guide deer in selecting habitat;
- Habitat Variability – Focuses on how habitat health is rated differently from one Wildlife Management Unit to another;
- Telemetry Study – Sheds light on the dispersal of young male deer;
- Deer Aging – Allows participants to learn how deer are aged through tooth wear; and
- Deer Management DVD – Nonstop presentation of the agency's recently-produced deer management DVD, free copies of which will be available to open house visitors.

For more information, visit the Game Commission Deer Management Program webpage:

<http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/deer/11949>

Save The Date: 2010 Watershed Summit In State College - May 1

The [Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds](#) is hosting a 2010 Watershed Summit on May 1 for watershed associations and their allies. The theme of the conference is, "What's Next? Building A Stronger Organization, Technical Advice for Improving Your Watershed." The conference will be held at the Ramada Inn Conference Center in State College. Stay tuned for more!

PA Water Symposium – May 6

This year's symposium theme is groundwater and surface water: one resource. Presentations and posters are expected on a wide range of water resources topics relevant to Pennsylvania including health issues, water treatment, hydrologic processes, watershed management, wellhead protection, water well studies, water reuse and conservation, emerging contaminants, groundwater monitoring, aquifer studies, groundwater/surface water interactions, wastewater, water issues related to energy extraction, and water education and outreach.

The final agenda and registration information will be available in early February. Current sponsors for the symposium include: the Pennsylvania Water Resources Research Center, Department of Environmental Protection, Penn State Master Well Owner Network, Penn State Environmental and Natural Resources Institute, and the Penn State Institutes of Energy and the Environment. For more information, visit the [Pennsylvania Water Symposium webpage](#) or send email Bryan Swistock brs@psu.edu or Stephanie Clemens mwon@psu.edu.



WATERSHED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Fish & Boat Commission Urges Action On Susquehanna River Water Quality Issues

Calling the Susquehanna River "increasingly impaired," the board of commissioners of the [Fish and Boat Commission](#) this week called on state and federal environmental agencies to expand efforts to determine the sources of pollution contributing to the demise of the river's smallmouth bass fishery. The board's resolution, passed at its quarterly meeting, urges the state Department of Environmental Protection and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to step up their investigations, saying recent data confirms a serious problem exists. Commissioners cited evidence from a two-year water quality study coordinated by the U.S. Geological Survey and partially funded by the PFBC which found stress factors such as elevated water temperature and low dissolved oxygen concentrations during the critical May through July development period for smallmouth bass. The Commission contributed \$400,000 to the study in an effort to discover the causes behind the fishery's decline. Problems were first detected in the middle reaches of the river in 2005, when PFBC biologists found unusually high numbers of dead or distressed smallmouth bass. They later determined that the affected fish were suffering from infections related to a common soil and water bacteria *Flavobacterium columnare*, or *Columnaris*. The disease is considered a secondary infection brought on by environmental or nutritional factors that stress fish, weakening their ability to cope with the bacterial agent. The same bacterium was discovered again in 2007 and 2008. NewsClip: [Fish Commission- Susquehanna River Can't Fix Itself](#)

ROADSIDE VEGETATION CONTROL (RS-M07) – May 19

New LTAP training course has been scheduled in York County. If interested, please visit the LTAP website and register for this class. If you have any questions, please contact your LTAP Administrator via the LTAP website and your question will be answered as quickly as possible. Have a great day!

- ROADSIDE VEGETATION CONTROL (RS-M07) 5/19/2010 - 5/19/2010, 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM, FAIRVIEW TOWNSHIP FIRE HALL, 340 LEWISBERRY RD, NEW CUMBERLAND, PA 17070

Questions? Please call 1-800-FOR-LTAP for assistance.

Have You No Shame?? Serve as an example and cover up those bare streambanks

Show your neighbors and clients how to do the right thing for local water quality while getting free help to improve your land with beautiful native trees and plants. Cover your streambank buffer with native trees and shrubs—with assistance from the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay (Pennsylvania office). The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay's StreamVitalize program will provide technical assistance, training and plant materials for projects on land that is highly visible to the public. Why StreamVitalize? Organizing a StreamVitalize buffer planting is a good way for watershed groups gain attention, draw new members and restore and protect their local streams. Municipalities can engage their citizens, improve their parks, protect their waterways and practice good stormwater management by planting trees. Who is eligible for this help? Check out the map. Special consideration will be given to areas within DCNR's TreeVitalize Metropolitan areas. Within those boundaries, watershed groups, municipalities, conservation districts, schools or civic groups are eligible for StreamVitalize. Any requirements? Yes, as follows:

- Have permission to plant a buffer on public or other highly visible land;

- Allow volunteers to plant on the land;
- Be willing to host and attend a training session for volunteers and/or professional maintenance staff;
- Follow a simple maintenance plan designed to keep your buffer buff and beautiful; and
- Sign a letter of commitment to maintain your buffer.

For more information or to arrange a presentation for your group on the StreamVitalize program please contact: Rebecca Wertime or Donna Morelli at the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, 3310 Market St., Camp Hill, PA 17011. Phone: (717) 737-8622. E-mail rwertime@acb-online.org or dmorelli@acb-online.org.

StreamVitalize, is the Riparian component of the TreeVitalize program, a statewide public-private partnership led by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) and is designed and implemented by the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay through the generous funds awarded by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and DCNR. The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay has been involved in promoting the reforestation of riparian or streamside forest buffers for over 15 years in many different local watersheds throughout the Chesapeake Bay basin and beyond.

Conservation Landscaping Guide for Bay Watershed

A U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service conservation landscaping publication is now available for land owners in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. In addition to land owner benefits, this kind of landscaping provides habitat for local and migratory animals, conserves native plants and improves water quality. The publication is free and available online. For more information: National Parks Service – USFWS guide <http://www.nps.gov/plants/pubs/chesapeake/>

Biofuels Could Create Jobs, Reduce Pollution in Bay Region

January 2010 – Homegrown energy could reduce millions of pounds of nutrients from entering the Chesapeake Bay’s streams, creeks and rivers and create more than 18,000 jobs in the region, according to a new report released by the Chesapeake Bay Commission and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. [Chesapeake Biofuel Policies: Balancing Energy, Economy and Environment](#) points out three major benefits of producing “next-generation biofuels” – energy derived from plant materials – in the Chesapeake region:

- The region’s farms, forests and landfills could realistically produce about 500 million gallons of fuel – equivalent to a six-week supply of gasoline for the Washington, D.C. metro area.
- Raising the crops, refining the fuel and getting it to market would support about 18,559 jobs.
- Raising switchgrass, willows and poplars for fuel on suitable land would reduce water pollution from fertilizers by millions of pounds.

The team of scientists, economists and other experts who wrote the report predict that by 2020, the region could produce 500 million gallons of biofuels per year, using only land and practices that improve the health of the Bay and its network of local waterways. Learn more...

http://www.chesapeakebay.net/news_biofuels10.aspx?menuitem=48377

New EPA Regulations Will Help Reduce Pollution from Stormwater, Animal Operations to Chesapeake Bay

January 2010 – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is initiating new federal rulemaking to help control polluted runoff from cities, suburbs and farmland to the Chesapeake Bay and its network of streams and rivers. The EPA is working with the six Bay watershed states and the District of Columbia to strengthen regulations on major sources of water pollution, including stormwater and concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), to achieve the pollutant reductions of the [Chesapeake Bay TMDL](#), a federal pollution budget currently in development.

Read more... http://www.chesapeakebay.net/news_eparegulations.aspx?menuitem=48267.

Take Advantage Of New EPA Sustainable Communities Program

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency this week announced several steps to support community efforts to provide their citizens with economic opportunity while reducing impacts on the environment by creating a new [Partnership for Sustainable Communities Program](#). The actions will encourage state and local government to make their communities more sustainable by strategically aligning their environmental, transportation and housing investments. EPA created a new Office of Sustainable Communities to help create neighborhoods that offer good jobs, educational opportunities, safe and affordable homes and transportation options while minimizing their impact on the environment. A new Pilot Technical Assistance Program for Sustainable Communities will further that goal by encouraging states to use their Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan program to better support communities that adopt sustainable strategies, like transit-oriented, mixed-use development. For more information, visit EPA’s Partnership for Sustainable Communities webpage or EPA’s [Smart Growth Program](#).

<http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/partnership/>

Proposals Currently Open for Comment

Date Published In PA Bulletin	Proposal	Comment Deadline
1/30/2010	Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking: Oil and Gas Wells	3/2/2010
01/23/2010	Advanced Notice of Final Rulemaking: Administration of Water and Wastewater Systems Operator Certification Program (Chapter 302)	02/26/2010
10/17/2009	Outdoor Wood-Fired Boilers (25 Pa Code, Chapters 121 and 123)	2/12/2010
11/7/2009	Wastewater Treatment Requirements. Correction notice : Comments should be emailed to RegComments@state.pa.us , and the comment period has been extended to February 12th.	2/12/2010

