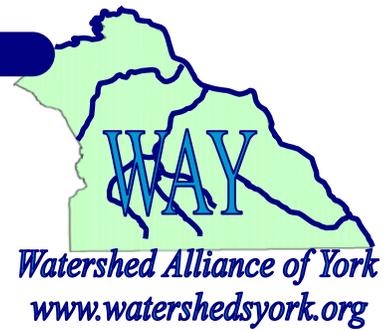


# WAY E-NEWS

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



Monday, February 18, 2013

A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Volume 13, Issue 4

## WATERSHED ALLIANCE NEWS...2

### WATERSHED EDUCATION & OUTREACH...Page 4

- WHAT IS THAT TREE WORTH TO YOU?
- SRBC FUNDING FOR STREAM GAGES IS GREATEST CONCERN
- Susquehanna River Impairment – Speak out Now
- Taking the Middle Way
- Forward Thinking
- Spotlight: Citizen Petitions To Change Or Adopt New Environmental Regulations
- MDE Kicks Off Reclaim the Bay Campaign
- Mosquitoes in the Winter
- The Environmental Motivation Project
- Importance of Forests and Surface Drinking Water
- NESC Info Via Social Media

### WATERSHED FACILITATION ASSISTANCE...Page 5

- Registration is Now Open for the 2013 Great American Cleanup of PA – Feb 21
- 48th Annual Shade Tree Symposium – Feb 25-26
- Pennsylvania Funding & Financing Green Infrastructure webinars
- FREE series of invasive plant management webinars – Feb & Mar
- Penn State Extension Sponsors PA Forests Web Seminar Series
- 2013 Susquehanna Seed Swap – Mar 2
- 2013 GardenWise School – Mar 9
- GreenCon Green Building Conference – Mar 15
- Applications Being Accepted for Next Master Well Owner Course – Mar 16
- Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities Conference – Mar 18-20
- "LEGACY IN AGRICULTURE" YORK COUNTY AG RECOGNITION BANQUET – Mar 21
- SER-MA Conference Registration Now Open! – Mar 28-30
- Want clean water? Act! – Apr 6
- Drug Enforcement Agency Announces Upcoming Take-Back Day – Apr 27
- Registration Open for the Pennsylvania Groundwater Symposium – May 8

### WATERSHED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE...Page 7

- Stroud Water Research Center's Stroud Ag Stewardship Program
- EPA Smart Growth Implementation Assistance 2013 Funding – Mar 1
- Grant opportunity for funding of waterways within the Chesapeake Bay watershed – Mar 1
- American Honda Foundation Invites Applications for STEM Programs – May 1
- Act 13 Abandoned Mine, Watershed Restoration, Greenways Grants – July 31
- Need some \$\$\$ to help make your vision a reality? – Aug 1
- Infrastructure Financing Options for Transit-Oriented Development

### WATERSHED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE...Page 9

- Agricultural Compliance through Manure Management and Erosion & Sediment Control
- New Agronomy Guide Now Available
- 2013 Cover Crop Innovations Webinar Series
- Keeping up With BMPs: Storm water management's skeleton in the closet
- Erosion control for the long haul
- Stormwater Management and Mosquito Concerns
- Rural Design: A New Design Discipline
- Green Infrastructure—A Landscape Approach

### 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 & 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 Werntz, Codorus state Park, 2600 Smith Station Road, Hanover, PA 17331-8000. Ph: 717-637-2816; E-mail: [codorusssp@pa.gov](mailto:codorusssp@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

### **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: [lowsusriver@hotmail.com](mailto:lowsusriver@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@jhmi.edu](mailto:nshaper@jhmi.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.
- 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**

### **WHAT IS THAT TREE WORTH TO YOU?**

It's easy to quantify the value of trees grown and timbered in a managed wood lot. That lumber is used to build houses and furniture and produce cellulose for plastics as well as a vast range of other products that have direct economic value. What about the trees planted in your yard or along urban streets? What are they worth? Research shows that an average tree will give back \$2,168.00 worth of environmental benefits over the next 15 years. How does that tree benefit you?

- Trees save money by shading your home in the summer, saving up to 25-50% of your utility expense during summer months.
- Trees can increase the property value of your home by 15% or more.
- According to the Arbor Day Foundation, a mature leafy tree produces as much oxygen in a season as 10 people inhale in a year.
- Trees slow down and absorb the first 30% of most precipitation events through their leaf system. This moisture never hits the ground. Another 30% of the precipitation that makes it through the leaves is absorbed into the ground and taken up through the root structure to later be transpired back to the air. One mature spruce tree can intercept more than 1000 gallons of water annually when fully grown.
- A mature tree absorbs from 120 to 240 lbs. of small air pollution particles and gases per year.
- "Phytoremediation" is the term used for a tree's ability to absorb dangerous chemicals and other pollutants in the soil. Trees can either store harmful pollutants or actually change the pollutant into a less harmful form. Tree roots can filter sewage and agricultural chemicals, reduce the effects of animal wastes, clean road side spills and clean water runoff into streams.
- Trees muffle urban noise almost as effectively as stone walls. Trees planted at strategic points in a neighborhood or around a house can abate noise from freeways and airports.
- A tree absorbs and locks away carbon dioxide in its wood, roots, and leaves. A forest is a carbon storage area or "reservoir" that can lock up as much carbon (as wood) as it produces and reduce "green-house" gas in the area.

How can you get a bargain on trees to plant in your yard? Take part in the York County, PA or the Carroll County, MD Annual Tree Seedling Sale. Find information about the York County sale (order deadline: March 25, 2013) at [www.yorkccd.org](http://www.yorkccd.org). Information about the Carroll County Tree Sale (order deadline: February 28, 2013) can be found at [www.carrollsoil.com/treesale.html](http://www.carrollsoil.com/treesale.html). Other local County Soil Conservation Districts offer similar seedling sale programs as well. In another Carroll County program, a free 25 tree kit is offered to qualifying property owners who will plant trees to form a stream buffer on their property. More information about this program is available at [www.dnr.maryland.gov/forests/pdfs/byb\\_program.pdf](http://www.dnr.maryland.gov/forests/pdfs/byb_program.pdf). An application for the Carroll County Backyard Buffers program is available at [ccfb.gardentoable.net](http://ccfb.gardentoable.net).

### **SRBC ISSUES STATE OF SUSQUEHANNA REPORT. NO RELIABLE FUNDING FOR STREAM GAGES IS GREATEST CONCERN**

HARRISBURG, Pa. – The Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC [www.srbc.net](http://www.srbc.net)) today issued a State of the Susquehanna report showing trends in water use, drinking water, stormwater, aquatic habitat and other key water resource indicators. SRBC cites the lack of reliable funding for stream gages to be the greatest threat to the future of water resources management in the Susquehanna watershed. Full press release: <http://www.srbc.net/newsroom/NewsRelease.aspx?NewsReleaseID=102>. State of Susquehanna report: <http://www.srbc.net/stateofsusq2013/>

### **Susquehanna River Impairment – Speak out Now**

Most of us agree that the Susquehanna River is in trouble. Pennsylvania's ill-named DEP refuses to list the river as impaired. We must convince EPA Regional Administrator Shawn Garvin to oppose DEP's decision. Please send a message to the EPA. Describe how the impairment affects you - whether you're a boater, guide, outfitter, or [ like me ], simply an angler who has noticed the decline in the river for the past 50 years. You can link to Sierra Club's Action Alert. They care enough to get help us generate messages that can be sent directly to the EPA at [http://action.sierraclub.org/site/MessageViewer?em\\_id=276985.0&dlv\\_id=233241](http://action.sierraclub.org/site/MessageViewer?em_id=276985.0&dlv_id=233241)

### **Taking the Middle Way**

*Stormwater Solutions* (1/30/ 2013) – The higher court systems of the U.S. seem to have made a New Year's resolution to knock out cases involving clean water issues, as the early days of 2013 brought a barrage of decisions on some important lawsuits. The first significant ruling came Jan. 3, 2013, when a federal court held for the first time that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) cannot regulate storm water as a "pollutant" under the Clean Water Act. Next came the settlement on Jan. 8, 2013, between the EPA and the Wisconsin Builders Assn., the National Association of Home Builders and the Utility Water Act Group. On the same day, the U.S. Supreme Court reversed a decision made by a lower court last year that had ruled that Los Angeles County was liable for violating the Clean Water Act and was directly responsible for storm water runoff that flowed into rivers after heavy rains. All three of these cases illustrate the difficulty of monitoring and controlling pollution that results from storm water runoff. The push-pull dynamic between regulatory agencies, courts and interest groups is nothing new, and we can expect to see it in 2013 and years to come. Read more... <http://www.estormwater.com/taking-middle-way>

### **Forward Thinking**

*Stormwater Solutions* (1/30/ 2013) – Each year, the editorial staff of Storm Water Solutions invites a panel of storm water and erosion control industry leaders to share their business predictions for the new year. Here, four professionals share insight on the state of the industry and what regulatory, technological and economic developments we might expect to see in 2013. Their take: Things are beginning to look up, economically, and hot topics for the upcoming year will be green infrastructure and—of course—how to pay for that and other necessary maintenance and upgrades. Read more... <http://www.estormwater.com/forward-thinking>

### **Spotlight: Citizen Petitions To Change Or Adopt New Environmental Regulations**

*PA Environmental Digest* – Unlike some states, Pennsylvania does not have a way for citizens to petition the government to change state laws through referendums. But anyone, a citizen, business or group, can petition the state's Environmental Quality Board to change or adopt new environmental regulations. The 20 members of the Environmental Quality Board adopt regulations for the Department of Environmental Protection, so any law or regulation administered by the agency is open to the petition process. The specific provision in Section 1920-A of the Administrative Code says: "Any person may petition the Environmental Quality Board to initiate a rulemaking proceeding for the issuance, amendment or repeal of a regulation administered and enforced by the department." [Petitioning regulations adopted](#) by the Board outline the procedures for submitting specific requests for new or amended regulations. The requests must be made on [the petition form](#) posted on

DEP's website. In addition to petitions to change regulations for air, waste, water quality and other DEP programs, there are specific procedures for citizens to request the redesignation of streams to and from High Quality and Exceptional Value watershed designations. Citizens can also designate watersheds or portions of watersheds unsuitable for surface coal mining [under Chapter 86](#) of the department's regulations. Under the general EQB petitioning procedures, requests are submitted to DEP who, within 30 days, must determine whether the petition is complete or not appropriate for submittal to the Board. If DEP determines the petition does not meet the basic petition requirements, petitioners have 30 days to submit a corrected or amended petition. If a petition is determined to meet the requirements of the petition regulations, the individual or group submitting the petition is given the opportunity to make a presentation on the proposed change or changes to the full Board. The Board then determines by vote whether to accept the petition. The Board can reject a petition for several reasons outlined in the policy: if the matter is under litigation, if the request is not appropriate for rulemaking due to policy or regulatory considerations, if the petition involves an issue previously considered by the Board or if the Board considered the same issue within the last two years. If accepted, the petition is then evaluated and DEP staff has 60 days to return to the Board with a recommendation to draft a regulation making the changes suggested by the petition or recommend against the change. DEP's recommendations are also sent to the petitioner to review and the petitioner has the right to respond to the recommendations before the Board considers DEP's report. The Board then has the opportunity to accept or reject DEP's recommendations. The process for considering stream redesignations and unsuitable for surface coal mining are handled slightly different, but generally the process is the same. According to the Environmental Quality Board webpage, there are [four petition requests](#) under active consideration, but the page has not been updated for some time.

### **MDE Kicks Off Reclaim the Bay Campaign**

With several federal and State agencies, non-profits, schools and other organizations, the Maryland Department of the Environment launched [Reclaim the Bay](#) on January 31. In an effort to fully restore the Chesapeake by 2025, citizens are encouraged to get involved. Even small changes in everyday routines can help positively impact the watershed and its natural resources. [Stay tuned](#) for scheduled public events throughout the year.

### **Mosquitoes in the Winter**

Mosquitoes return every spring in York County because each species has a technique to survive winter. Some species overwinter as adults. Females build up their energy reserve feeding on nectar and mate before winter. All that is needed to insure survival is a safe location to overwinter. Abandoned buildings and other outbuildings are available throughout York County. The mosquitoes then emerge in spring, take a blood-meal and start laying eggs. Some species can lay up to 300 eggs at one time. The Asian Tiger deposits its eggs on the sides of containers (trash & yard clutter) and the eggs survive winter. Others species deposit their eggs in mud or leaf litter in low lying areas and can be dormant for many years.

### **The Environmental Motivation Project**

Hello! Our names are Kaitlin Phelps and Meghan Kelly, and we are graduates of the University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources and Environment Master's Program. You may remember us from our previous work with the Chesapeake Bay Trust and our presentation at the Chesapeake Bay Forum in 2011. Throughout that project, we were consistently impressed with the dedication, passion, and talent of organizations working to foster environmentally responsible watershed behaviors in the Chesapeake Bay. In fact, we were so inspired by our work with the Trust that we decided to start our own behavior change consulting group, The Environmental Motivation Project (\*[www.environmentalmotivation.com](http://www.environmentalmotivation.com)\*). Our goal is to assist environmental organizations like yours in developing, implementing, and assessing outreach programs with a goal of behavior change. If this is something your organization might be interested in, please contact us at [info@environmentalmotivation.com](mailto:info@environmentalmotivation.com) for a free initial consultation. You can also check out our guide, Strategies for Motivating Watershed Stewardship, downloadable on the Chesapeake Bay Trust's website: <http://tlig.net/QmvP>.

### **Importance of Forests and Surface Drinking Water**

Protecting trees, woods and forests is the first and often the cheapest step to sustaining drinking water supplies, yet according to The State of Chesapeake Forests report, 60% of the watersheds that provide drinking water to towns in the Chesapeake are losing forest land. To better communicate the importance of forests to local governments and other drinking water providers, the Chesapeake Bay Program and Alliance teamed up to show where forests are most important to surface drinking water.

[View the Chesapeake Drinking Water map at allianceforthebay.org](#)

### **NESC Info Via Social Media**

Are you looking for up-to-the-minute news about drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, or other related topics? Social media tools such as Facebook and Twitter make it possible for you to have access to useful information and the National Environmental Services Center is ready to help. Find us on: Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/NationalEnvironmentalServicesCenter>. Twitter at: @NESCWVU



## **WATERSHED FACILITATION ASSISTANCE**

### **Registration is Now Open for the 2013 Great American Cleanup of PA – Feb 21**

The 2013 Great American Cleanup of PA will begin on March 1st and end on May 31st. Last year in York County, local volunteers cleaned up almost 95,000 pounds of trash during this event. In support of this program, Keep York County Beautiful coordinated by Penn State Extension—York County will provide a one hour program to help local municipalities, community organizations and individuals find out what resources are available. Additional information about community beautification will also be included. Programs will be offered on Thursday, February 21st in the afternoon at 2:00 pm and evening at 7:00 pm. at the York County Annex Building. Please contact Tom Smith for more information and to register.

### **48th Annual Shade Tree Symposium – Feb 25-26**

Lancaster Convention Center, Lancaster, PA. Don't miss out on exciting speakers on Tree Risk Assessment like Tom Smiley, Ph. D. and James Clark, Ph.D. as well as climbing experts John Ball, Ph.D., Scott Prohett, Tony Tresselt and Don Coffey. The annual trade show features more

than 35 exhibitors! In addition, the ISA Certification Exam, CPR/First Aid and EHAP Aerial Rescue Certifications will be held Feb. 24, 2013. Register online at [www.penndelisa.org](http://www.penndelisa.org). If you have any questions or need help registering, contact April Hutcheson at 717-412-7473.

#### **Pennsylvania Funding & Financing Green Infrastructure webinars**

Two webinars remain in American Rivers' winter series, Benefitting from Green Infrastructure. A look at costs, funding and financing for Chesapeake Bay communities, funded in part by the Chesapeake Bay Trust, Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III. Follow the links below to register for Green Infrastructure Funding Programs and Financing Strategies for Green Infrastructure Programs, or to view the recording of the first webinar on valuing and the benefits of green infrastructure.

- Green Infrastructure Funding Programs Private and Public Sources February 27th, 11:30-1. Register: <http://gifunding.eventbrite.com>
- Financing Strategies for Green Infrastructure Programs Presented by the University of Maryland's Environmental Finance Center March 27th, 11:30-1. Register: <http://gifinance.eventbrite.com>
- Benefits of Green Infrastructure American Rivers presentation on valuing the multiple benefits of green infrastructure conducted February 5th is now available here: <http://americanrivers.adobeconnect.com/p9pjgqf85lw/>

#### **FREE series of invasive plant management webinars – Feb & Mar**

[Invasive Plant Control, Inc.](http://www.invasiveplantcontrol.com) recently announced a FREE series of invasive plant management webinars that includes IPC Web Solutions, Early Detection and Rapid Response, Contracting for Invasive Plant Management, The Development and Implementation of a Systematic Model for Managing Invasive Plants, and New Invasive Species Prevention Tool: Portable, undercarriage Rinse-off, and Reclaim System. Click here for [the schedule](#) of webinars. Note that dates and times for specific webinars are subject to change. More information about each webinar can be viewed by clicking on the webinar title. To register for a webinar, click on "more details" and then the attachment on the next page which will bring up a .pdf file with the registration information. Direct your questions or problems to Paul Rischmiller: [paulrischmiller@mindspring.com](mailto:paulrischmiller@mindspring.com) or 615-308-0681. <http://ipcwebsolutions.net/>

#### **Penn State Extension Sponsors PA Forests Web Seminar Series**

The [PA Forests Web Seminar Center](http://www.pennstate.edu/extension/private-forests) is providing web-based educational programs and materials for forest owners, extension educators, and natural resource professionals. The center's goal is to offer "live" seminars on forest resource related topics. Webinar topics include: Emerald Ash Borer, Regenerating a High-Graded Stand, Early Successional Wildlife Habitat, Oak Management and Regeneration and Hemlock Woolly Adelgid. A listing of scheduled seminar topics and dates is available at <http://extension.psu.edu/private-forests/tools-resources/webinars/upcoming>. You can view previously recorded seminars and educational material by clicking the <http://extension.psu.edu/private-forests/tools-resources/webinars/previous>. Previous programs include a series on Wildlife Damage, White-tailed Deer Management and Forest Stewardship. To view a webinar you must register online at the link.

#### **2013 Susquehanna Seed Swap – Mar 2**

You may have already heard about the Susquehanna Seed swap being hosted at the Horn Farm Center on March 2, but i thought i would invite you directly. When i first conceived of this idea, i imagined a handful of serious gardeners and farmers gathering and trading seeds. Now, this event has snowballed and become a huge event, with attendees from multiple counties. We have two speakers, seed donations from reputable seed companies, and there will be some fun activities. I would like to see you all there. Bring seeds, friends, potluck, refreshments and supplies -whatever you have to share. There is an event page on facebook, with some more information; <https://www.facebook.com/events/581797735169299/?ref=ts&fref=ts>. And we are still in need of a few volunteers, and donations. If you would like to help out in any way, there is a page on volunteerSpot to sign up; <http://www.volunteerspot.com/login/entry/12235506400121>

#### **2013 GardenWise School – Mar 9**

There is something for everyone at the 2013 GardenWise. Wesley Greene, Historic Colonial Trades Gardener from Williamsburg, VA, joins us for talks on Gardening Under Cover, and pruning. Jim McCormac covers the natural world with Growing Caterpillars. Gregg Tepper finishes the day with the Sensory Appeal of Native Plants. In between there are breakout sessions on hummingbirds, landscaping with native plants, tree care, and herbs. Held at York County School of Technology. See the attached brochure for full details. For more information, contactt Penn State Extension – York County at 717-840-7408 or [www.extension.psu.edu/York](http://www.extension.psu.edu/York)

#### **GreenCon Green Building Conference – Mar 15**

Dickinson College – It is back and will be bigger and better than ever. This year's event will be held at Dickinson College in Carlisle, PA and will feature keynote presentations, exhibits, our annual meeting, and several hours of continuing education credits just like last year, and a few special additions. Dickinson College is centrally located and offers exceptional accommodations. Exhibitor and sponsorship information will be sent soon, as well as information on the program and speakers. [Click here for more information.](#) This year's Chair is Justin J. Kovaleski, MBA, LEED @ AP BD+C. He is looking for individuals willing to help with the planning and management of the program and can be reach at [jkovaleski@easternpcm.com](mailto:jkovaleski@easternpcm.com) or [c] 717.585.4335. Please contact him directly to indicate your interest in helping.

#### **Applications Being Accepted for Next Master Well Owner Course – Mar 16**

The next MWON volunteer training course will be held on Saturday, March 16, 2013 from 9 AM to 3:30 PM at the York County office of Penn State Extension located at 112 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA. Prospective volunteers need to submit an application and be accepted into the program. The March 16 training workshop will be limited to the first 30 accepted applicants. To be eligible for this program, volunteers must NOT have any financial interest in private water supplies (i.e. work for water well drillers, water testing labs, water treatment companies, etc.) and they must be willing to share what they learn with their neighbors, friends, and co-workers. Volunteers who successfully complete the training course and pass a short exam will receive a free copy of the 80 page publication - A Guide to Private Water Systems in Pennsylvania, a coupon good for a 10% discount on water testing through the Penn State water testing lab, and access to various MWON educational materials. To learn more about the program and to complete an application, visit the following website: <http://extension.psu.edu/water/mwon/volunteer/online-mwon-volunteer-training> or call Diane Oleson at 717-840-7408.

#### **Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities Annual Conference – Mar 18-20**

Date: March 18 - 20, 2013. Location: Memphis, Tennessee. During this conference, representatives of grantmaking institutions can learn how targeting grants around smart growth and development issues increases the impact of grantmaking. Conference presentations will be made

by a network of national and place-based funders and leading practitioners. Registration is open to staff, directors, trustees, and donors of all grantmaking institutions. <http://www.fundersnetwork.org/events/annual-conference-details>

### **"LEGACY IN AGRICULTURE" TO BE FEATURED AT THE YORK COUNTY AGRICULTURAL RECOGNITION BANQUET – Mar 21**

The York County Agriculture Business Council announces the date of the 27th Annual Agricultural Recognition Banquet for Thursday, March 21, 2013 at the York Expo Center, Old Main Hall. The evening will begin with a social at 5:45 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. and program. The event is intended to strengthen mutual appreciation of business, urban and agricultural communities as we continuously strive to improve our quality of life and share the wealth of resources we all enjoy. Stock & Leader, Attorneys At Law and Glatfelter Insurance Group are sponsoring the banquet. The keynote speaker will be Personal Leadership Insight expert, Rhett Laubach. Laubach's primary focus is the development of our ability to positively influence people and situations to create value and growth. His programs are high-energy and high-impact. He guarantees to make you think, make you laugh and make you better! Also as part of the evening, awards and recognition will be given for Outstanding Farm Family, Outstanding Ag Industry, and Outstanding Youth in Agriculture. The 5th "Tony Dobrosky Future Leader Award" will be presented in memory of Anthony G. Dobrosky. There will also be a Legacy Challenge in memory of John T. Smith, co-founder of the Council, to support the York County 4-H Endowment Fund. The Council will also conduct a silent auction to raise funds to support the Council and its agricultural education efforts. Tickets are available at a cost of \$32 per person. Businesses may sponsor tables and receive either eight or four banquet tickets with advertising opportunities. Reservations are due March 1, 2013. For more information and reservations, contact Michele Grove at (717) 246-3578 or [ycabc@comcast.net](mailto:ycabc@comcast.net) or [www.facebook.com/ycabc1](http://www.facebook.com/ycabc1)

### **SER-MA Conference Registration Now Open! – Mar 28-30**

Announcing Open Registration Season for our upcoming 8th Annual Conference – "Pieces of the Puzzle: From Backyard Habitat to Landscape Scale" – to be held at the Riggs Center, University of Maryland, College Park, March 28-30. Please visit our new improved website <http://chapter.ser.org/midatlantic/>. You'll find a list of topnotch plenary speakers and details on awesome workshops and fantastic field trips, as well as an overview of all offerings. (My personal favorite is the Poster Pub.) The full program will be posted soon, and other details will be added over the weeks ahead, so be sure to check back frequently. Meanwhile, you can Register Now! by mail or phone, using the registration form posted on our website. (Online registration option will also be up and running any day now.) And in case you have been meaning to submit an abstract for a poster or concurrent presentation but didn't get to it in time, the Call for Papers & Posters deadline has been extended until next Monday, February 4. Again, see website for details. If you are not yet a SER member (hard to imagine as that may be), the SER Mothership is offering a \$10 discount to new members who join SER and a regional SER Chapter by the end of March. Of course, once you join, you will also qualify for member discounts on the conference (as well as other SER-MA offerings), so what better time than now to take the plunge? (Please pass the word to potential new converts.) For sponsorship opportunities, including rates and packages, click here: <http://chapter.ser.org/midatlantic/annual-conference/sponsorship-opportunities/>. Finally, note that a limited number of conference entry fee scholarships are available to qualified students. See the registration form for details on that.

### **Want clean water? Act! – Apr 6**

Help make our waterways cleaner and safer. Save the Date for Project Clean Stream, April 6th, 2013. Project Clean Stream 2013 events will be happening throughout Spring 2013, find out more information at <https://allianceforthebay.org/>

### **Drug Enforcement Agency Announces Upcoming Take-Back Day – Apr 27**

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. The link address is: [http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug\\_disposal/takeback/](http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/)

### **Registration Open for the Pennsylvania Groundwater Symposium – May 8**

In celebration of National Drinking Water Week, Penn State Extension and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection along with numerous other sponsors invite you to attend the 2013 Pennsylvania Groundwater Symposium at Penn State University in University Park, PA. The Symposium theme: *Emerging Issues in a Changing Landscape* will provide a forum for researchers, students, professionals and educators working in the groundwater field to exchange information and promote protection of groundwater resources throughout the state. Morning and afternoon keynote speakers will address important water issues in Pennsylvania including emerging contaminants and Marcellus Shale exploration. Registration is now open for this event at <http://agsci.psu.edu/pa-water-symposium> and is limited to the first 150 registrants.



## **WATERSHED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

### **Stroud Water Research Center's Stroud Ag Stewardship Program**

*SUMMARY FOR PARTNERS (January 30, 2013 version)*- In a nutshell Stroud Ag Stewardship Program helps farmers plan and implement ag BMPs. It adds incentives to implement CREP forested buffers. Funds from Stroud Ag Stewardship Program can be used alone or with other funds. With Stroud Ag Stewardship Program's BMP Vouchers farmers can earn "BMP Vouchers" by installing CREP forested buffers typically \$3000/acre (wooded pasture or idle land earns \$2000/acre) limited to \$20,000 maximum per farm. Voucher amounts are doubled if buffer is permanently protected. To qualify, farmers must have (or develop as part of this project):

- a current conservation plan meeting Chapter 102 requirements
- a nutrient management plan if they are a CAO or CAFO, otherwise at least a Manure Management Plan if they have livestock.
- First priority use for vouchers is to pay for technical assistance for tasks such as:
- preparing any needed plans
- preparing any applications for funding sources

- planning, designing ag BMPs and related costs
- construction management and related costs

If vouchers are not needed for this technical assistance, they may be used for other tasks agreed to by SWRC including (landowner agreement has more details) including construction costs on ag BMPs (note: vouchers must be used by end of specific grants, often making it hard to use vouchers for late-developing costs), and approved equipment purchases to implement conservation (no-till drills, etc.) maintenance of buffers by paid professionals. Particulars: The program is open to all farmers, including but not limited to Plain Sects. Currently, Stroud Center has NFWF funding to enroll roughly 20 farms limited by NFWF to Chesapeake Bay watershed in Adams, Berks, Chester, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lancaster, Lebanon, and York Counties. Main deliverables in total for this NFWF grant: 20 new farms, 125 assessments of ability to trade nutrient credits some additional deliverables requiring/benefitting from help of partners: buffers: 12 miles; 0 to 4 permanently protected buffers; 4 sites installing fish habitat/simple bank stabilization devices; and 5 sites (with good potential to see change) with pre-post monitoring. Contact: David Wise [dwise@stroudcenter.org](mailto:dwise@stroudcenter.org); 717-979-9997

#### **EPA Smart Growth Implementation Assistance 2013 Funding – Mar 1**

EPA's Smart Growth Implementation program allows the Office of Sustainable Communities to work with communities on issues such as stormwater management, code revision, transit-oriented development, affordable housing, infill development, corridor planning, green building, and climate change. Community requests for assistance due by March 1, 2013. <http://epa.gov/smartgrowth/sgia.htm>

#### **Grant opportunity for funding of waterways within the Chesapeake Bay watershed – Mar 1**

The National Park Service Chesapeake Bay office is accepting project proposals from Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Trails partners for financial assistance awards. Public access and site development projects that advance the development of the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail or the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail or Chesapeake Bay Gateways water trails are the funding priority for fiscal year 2013. The deadline for grant applications is March 1, 2013. The following areas are eligible in Pennsylvania:

- Susquehanna River Water Trail-North Branch & Middle Section (Main Stem)
- Lower Susquehanna Water Trail (Main Stem)
- West Branch Susquehanna Water Trail
- Juniata River Water Trail
- Raystown Branch Juniata River Water Trail
- Swatara Creek Water Trail

The designated portions of the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail in Pennsylvania are the entire main stem of the Susquehanna River (New York to Maryland including the Great Bend section) and the West Branch of the Susquehanna from Lock Haven to its confluence with the main stem. Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to contact National Park Service staff to discuss the project before an application is submitted. More information can be found [here](#).

#### **American Honda Foundation Invites Applications for STEM Programs – May 1**

The American Honda Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the American Honda Motor Company, is accepting applications from nonprofit organizations and schools for programs that support science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education. Environmental projects, job training, and literacy programs also will be considered. Grants of up to \$75,000 will be awarded to 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations, public school districts, and private/public elementary and secondary schools listed by the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics. The foundation accepts applications on a quarterly basis. Deadlines for the 2013 grantmaking cycle are February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1. See the American Honda Foundation Web site for eligibility and application guidelines as well as descriptions of previous grants. <http://corporate.honda.com/america/philanthropy.aspx?id=ahf>

#### **Act 13 Abandoned Mine, Watershed Restoration, Greenways Grants – 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 (<http://www.newpa.com/find-and-apply-for-funding/funding-and-program-finder/watershed-restoration-and-protection-program-wrpp>) 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.

### **Need some \$\$\$ to help make your vision a reality? – Aug 1**

The National Park Service will help more than 250 communities across the country take their outdoor recreation and conservation projects from vision to reality this year. Their [Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program](#) supports community-led natural resource conservation and outdoor recreation projects. Could your project benefit from collaboration with a National Park Service specialist? [Call or email your regional representative](#) today for more information. They have an online application process and applications are being accepted until August 1, 2013.

### **Infrastructure Financing Options for Transit-Oriented Development**

This new EPA report provides communities with a comprehensive guide to tools and strategies that are available for financing and funding infrastructure for transit-oriented development. The report provides examples of how some communities are using specific tools for individual infrastructure components, as well as strategies for combining and bundling tools to create plans that address construction phasing and market growth over time. [http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/infra\\_financing.htm](http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/infra_financing.htm)



## **WATERSHED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

### **Agricultural Compliance through Manure Management and Erosion & Sediment Control Plans - Be prepared by knowing the law**

*Penn State Extension* – As most full-time producers understand, Pennsylvania has stepped up its emphasis on Agricultural Regulatory Compliance in the past year due to mandates handed down from the federal government. With this increase in compliance, The PA Department of Environmental Protection and the Federal Environmental Protection Agency increased farm inspections throughout the commonwealth. We have been informed that a consistent violation is the failure of farmers having manure management plans and agricultural erosion and sedimentation plans. Pennsylvania regulations require any animal operation that produces or utilizes animal manure has a written manure management plan for baseline compliance. An Agricultural E&S plan is required for anyone who tills (plows) land and/or has an identifiable Animal Heavy Use Area disturbing more than 5,000 sq. ft. The requirements are not new to farming practices as the manure management requirement has been in effect since 1977 and the agricultural erosion and sedimentation control plans since 1972. Both required plans are relatively easy to complete as many who have attended workshops can relate. As directed by PA Department of Environmental Protection, an animal operation is defined as having as few as one cow, one horse, and other amounts of animals such as llamas, alpacas, etc. Conservation Districts can be very helpful if your contacts are looking for on-farm technical assistance and most have a goal to work with individual farmers, regardless of farm size, prior to federal or state inspections. [Pennsylvania's Nutrient Management website](#) is also a good location to direct producers looking to find more information.

### **New Agronomy Guide Now Available**

*Penn State Extension* – The new 2013-2014 edition of the Penn State Agronomy Guide is now available for purchase. This guide has all the same benefits of the older versions, but includes updated charts, information and added detail. Get the latest recommendations on soils and soil fertility, corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, small grains, forages, cover crops and conservation tillage for soil erosion control, organic crop production, and enterprise budgets. The new [Agronomy Guide](#) will be available for purchase at your local Penn State Extension office, [on-line](#), or by calling the College of Agricultural Sciences Publications Distribution Center at 814-865-6713.

### **2013 Cover Crop Innovations Webinar Series**

Penn State Extension is hosting a series of webinars during the winter of 2013 to focus on cover crop innovations. Topics in the series will include using winter-killed cover crops to reduce tillage in organic vegetable production systems, interseeding cover crops in standing corn, cover crops for small dairy farms, managing beneficial and pest insects following high-residue cover crops, nutrient and weed management in organic no-till cover crop systems, and managing nitrogen with cover crop mixtures. The webinars will offer a mix of CCA credits, Pesticide Credits, and Nutrient Management Credits depending on the topic. The Cover Crop Innovations webinar series will take place on selected Mondays from 12-1pm throughout February and March. The webinars are free and open to the public to attend. Participants attend via the internet from their home or office. A high-speed internet connection is recommended and the computer should be equipped with headphones or speakers to hear the audio. Click here to [register](#) to attend any of the webinars in the series.

### **Keeping up With BMPs: Storm water management's skeleton in the closet**

*Stormwater Solutions (1/30/2013)* – It is unlikely that anyone knows precisely how many storm water best management practices (BMPs) have been implemented in the U.S. over the past several decades. What we know with a higher degree of certainty is that the majority of existing BMPs have been largely neglected. I am not aware of any structural storm water BMPs—whether landscape based or subsurface—that are designed and billed as being maintenance free, but that is how we have opted to treat the majority of them. Thus, many of these BMPs likely stopped providing water quality benefits long ago, and the cost to rapidly identify and restore them is out of reach for most storm water programs. Generally speaking, the system is broken when it comes to BMP maintenance. First, we need to identify, prioritize and fund efforts to restore critical BMPs currently in a state of neglect. Second, long-term maintenance needs to be a core component of BMP selection criteria. Third, maintenance obligations need to be addressed at the regulatory level. Until we put maintenance front and center, we will continue to install BMPs that protect water quality for a short time—but ultimately fall into disrepair and fail to perform as intended. Read more... <http://www.estormwater.com/keeping-bmps>

### **Erosion control for the long haul**

*Stormwater Solutions (1/30/2013)* – Virtually everyone in the erosion control industry has been involved in a project using agricultural straw or hydromulch. While both products are reputable and widely used, they generally are considered a short-term solution for erosion control. With the exception of products using flexible growth medium, which can last up to two years, both agricultural straw and hydromulch generally biodegrade over a period of three to nine months. Project managers seeking an effective erosion control product with a much longer life (greater than three years) should strongly consider dry wood-based mulch. Engineered wood strand mulch and wood shreds are two forms of dry wood-based mulch used in the U.S. today. Engineered wood strand mulch is a product manufactured to strict standards regarding the size and mixture of wood particles. “Wood shreds” is the term used to identify any number of wood blends produced by large horizontal grinders or tub grinders, commonly found in the logging and lumber industry. Read more... <http://www.estormwater.com/good-wood>

### **Stormwater Management and Mosquito Concerns**

York County municipalities, please don't let your municipal engineer specify a stormwater structure or device that has the potential to breed mosquitoes. What are we referring to? Catch basins in particular with a snout or sumped bottom will breed mosquitoes because they are designed to hold back water and debris. Rock pool areas not designed and installed properly also collect water and breed mosquitoes. Other mosquito issues can be found in barrel/riser sediment traps which are common in many sediment ponds. If metal posts are being used for sediment fencing, the fabric should extend over the top of the posts to prevent mosquitoes from getting access. As mentioned in a previous Mosquito Buzz issue, the PA Code specifically states a person may not maintain or permit to be maintained, a pond or other receptacle containing water unless it is constructed to prevent the breeding of mosquitoes. Many times we will hear the Conservation District approved the plans. Please understand that the Conservation District reviews plans for erosion, sediment control and water quality. Mosquito concerns should be addressed by each municipality before making final approval. The York County West Nile Virus Program does treat catch basins in certain areas where high mosquito populations are detected. This does require a separate NPDES permit. Less than 30 Pennsylvania counties now receive funding from the State for mosquito surveillance and control programs. There is no long term funding guarantee meanwhile potential problems approved by municipalities exist for decades.

### **Rural Design: A New Design Discipline**

Rural Design spotlights examples of design approaches that help rural communities make land use, architectural, and aesthetic decisions that enhance their quality of life and the environment. The book connects social, artistic, cultural, technological, and environmental issues that create a rural sense of place. <http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415593205/>

### **Green Infrastructure—A Landscape Approach**

This new report from the American Planning Association shows how green infrastructure cleans the air and water, replenishes aquifers, reduces flooding, and moderates the climate. Green infrastructure approaches also help promote healthy exercise and access to more grown food. <http://www.planning.org/apastore/Search/Default.aspx?p=4203>

### **CHEMSWEEP Waste Pesticide Disposal Program**

For 2013, CHEMSWEEP is being offered in York County. This program provides Pennsylvania farmers and other licensed applicators with a means to dispose of canceled, suspended or unwanted pesticide products. Information on how to participate can be found at: [www.pda.state.pa.us/CHEMSWEEP](http://www.pda.state.pa.us/CHEMSWEEP). Homeowners should participate in sponsored Household Hazardous Waste collection events.

### **New report features strategies for advancing smart growth, environmental justice, and equitable development**

EPA released a report today that offers low-income, minority, tribal, and overburdened communities approaches to shape development that responds to their needs and reflects their values. [Creating Equitable, Healthy, and Sustainable Communities: Strategies for Advancing Smart Growth, Environmental Justice, and Equitable Development](#) provides a menu of land use and community design strategies community-based organizations, local and regional decision-makers, developers, and others can use to revitalize their communities:

- Facilitate meaningful community engagement in planning and land use decisions
- Promote public health and a clean and safe environment
- Strengthen existing communities
- Provide housing choices
- Provide transportation options
- Improve access to opportunities and daily necessities
- Preserve and build on the features that make a community distinctive

Case studies highlight seven communities that have used these strategies: Edmonston, MD; Chicago, IL; Spartanburg, SC; New Orleans, LA; Ohkay Owingeh, NM; Boston, MA; and Seattle, WA. The report was developed jointly by the [Office of Sustainable Communities](#) and [Office of Environmental Justice](#).

