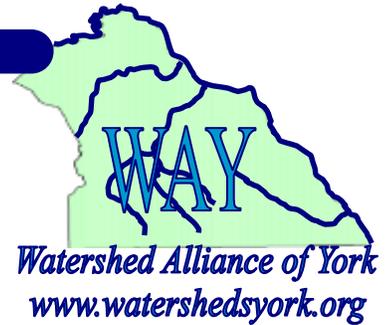


WAY E-NEWS

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



March 14, 2011

A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Volume 11, Issue 6

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

WATERSHED ALLIANCE NEWS...2

WATERSHED EDUCATION & OUTREACH...Page 5

- If you think your drinking water is protected from pollution, think again
- Welcome to ChesapeakeView
- 2010 State of the Bay Report Released
- Bay states considering bills to reduce nutrients in fertilizers
- Cover Crops Help Your Watershed
- New deicer for roads is a sweet deal for the Chesapeake
- Plant more plants to help restore the Chesapeake
- Think Spring, Think Rain Gardens
- Water Resource Specialists, Educators, and Advocates for the Children of Pennsylvania!
- Ostara : Innovative Nutrient Recovery Facility
- Go Greenscaping!
- It's My Environment! Video
- Fix a Leak!
- EPA wants students to participate in Earth Day Poster Contest
- Building for the 21st Century: American Support for Sustainable Communities
- Transitional ethics and the battle to go green
- Felt boots ban in Md. streams

WATERSHED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE...Page 7

- More Than \$2 Million Available for CARE Program – Mar 22
- WREN Community Watershed Education Grants Available – Mar 25
- PAW Accepting Applications for Environmental Grant Program – Mar 25
- Environmental Justice Grants Available – Mar 31
- Applications Now Being Accepted For EPA Environmental Education Grants – May 2
- Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grant
- GreenInfrastructure.Net

WATERSHED FACILITATION ASSISTANCE...Page 8

- PA Great American Cleanup Registration Open – Mar 1
- The ABC's of Regulatory, Technical, and Financial Assistance for Agricultural Lands – Mar 24
- Compost BMP Design Webinar for Green Infrastructure and Low Impact Development
- New LTAP Training Class Notice
- Appealing to Funders... Learn how to knock their socks off! – Apr 6 & 25-26
- National Mitigation & Ecosystem Banking Conference – Apr 26-29
- Nationwide Drug Take-back Day – Apr 30
- 3rd Annual Sonnewald EARTH DAY – May 15
- Green Infrastructure in Your Backyard Webinar Series – May 26
- Philly Low Impact Development Symposium: Greening the Urban Environment – Sep 25-28

WATERSHED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE...Page 10

- Much of Mississippi River Sediment Comes from Stream Bank Collapse, Not Field Runoff
- Low-Impact Development: New tricks for older communities in the US
- Watersheds, Walkability, and Stormwater – The role of density
- Stopping Sediment – Reusable products have an economic edge.
- Assessment of Stormwater BMP Cost Effectiveness: A new model for decision makers
- NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT NEWS – Changes to Erosion & Sediment Control Regulations
- Working Waterways & Waterfronts Symposium Documents Available Online
- Nonpoint Source Outreach Toolbox

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
- Director SCRO 717-705-47047
- 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

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 8/17/2010

- Green Infrastructure Valuation Guide
- Growing Wealthier: Smart Growth, Climate Change and Prosperity
- Online Water Contaminant Database Expanded
- Updated Draft National Wetland Plant List Available for Review
- EPA Seeks Public Comments to Help Develop Management Practices for Recreational Vessels
- Dep Proposals Currently Open for Comment
- NOTICE – SOLICITING COMMENTS, MOTIONS TO INTERVENE, AND COMPETING APPLICATIONS FOR CUFFS RUN PROJECT



WATERSHED ALLIANCE NEWS

Ag Land Preservation Board of York County – www.york-county.org/gov/AUTH/agri.htm

<> For information about farmland preservation in York County contact Patty McCandless at 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

Codorus Creek Watershed Association – www.codoruscreek.net

- Apr 11 – CCWA Meeting of Members and Board, 7:00 pm, at York Water Co. (Mt. Rose Ave.)
 - Apr 16 - Oil Creek Restoration Monitoring at Fuhrman Farm, Gitts Run Rd., near Hanover, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.
- <> Contact: Jim Leaman at 843-2929

Codorus Endowment Implementation Committee – www.yccf.org

- An advised fund of York County Community Foundation, the Codorus Watershed Endowment (CWE) is a substantial source of charitable support for the stream's improvement and the benefit of the many York Countians who use and enjoy this critical resource - for agriculture, industry, recreation and wildlife, and for drinking water and other municipal purposes. The Endowment was created in December, 2001, with the Foundation's receipt of a \$2 million payment from Glatfelter of Spring Grove, PA, as part of a consent decree settling litigation. A committee of respected environmental, business, and civic leaders has been appointed to lead projects supported by the Endowment.
- <> 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

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

Conewago Canoe Club – www.conewagocanoecub.org

- May 5 – 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 – <http://deercreekwatershed.com/>

<> 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/

- March 19 – Spring Fling– Hanover Elks
- <> 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

- 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

<> 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

Thoughts of Spring are in the air and new things are “growing” at the Horn Farm. Read all about them in this issue of “Around the Horn.”

- Register Now For Community Gardens at the HFC
 - POTATO PATCH PROJECT AT THE HORN FARM
 - Girl Scout Volunteers Around the Farm
- <> 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 #67 - www.yorkchapter67iwla.org/

- Calendar of events - 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

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

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

- A reminder of our upcoming meeting, Focus will be "Wade-In Planning". The meeting is NOT at Arlington Echo but Harford Glen! March 18, 2011, Harford County Arlington Echo Environmental Education Center, 502 W. Wheel Road, Bel Air, MD 21014; For directions see www.hcps.org/harfordglen
- <> 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/>

<> Contact: James Hooper at 717/252-3784 or j.e.hooper@ieee.org

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

- Please mark your calendars and join us to get the garden ready for Spring. Times may change, if the weather really warms up we can start earlier in the morning. Patt
 - April 5, Tues, 10 AM potting for plant fest
 - April 7, Thurs, rain date for potting
 - April 8, Fri, clean up 10 AM
 - April 16 Sat, clean up 10 AM
 - April 20, Weds, cleanup 5 PM
 - April 30, Sat, 9 AM
 - Apr 25 - Advisory Board meeting, 6:30 pm, York County ANNEX
- <> 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

- Become a PWA Member: Support PWA programs and activities to preserve our watershed.
- <> Contact: Nancy Shaper at nshaper@ihmi.edu

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

- Monthly meetings will be held the last Tuesday of the each month at 6:30 pm in the Community Room at the Giant at 2300 Linglestown Rd, Harrisburg, PA 17110. All members are welcome!
- <> Kim Anderson at sgfornyc@aol.com.

Spoutwood Farm Center for Sustainable Living - www.spoutwood.com

- Board of Directors meeting January 28, 2011, 7:00 PM, at the farm
- <> Contact Rob & Lucy Woods at Spoutwood Farm at 717-235-6610 or spoutwood@comcast.net.

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

- We are currently developing our 2011 Calendar of Events. The following events have been scheduled:
 - Wednesday, April 13 - Susquehanna Heritage Lecture Series - 6:30pm Rocks and Mining History along the Lower Susquehanna River, Presented by Jeri Jones, Jones Geological Services
 - Saturday, April 23 - Guided walking tour - Shenk's Ferry Wildflower Preserve - Lead by Mark Arbogast, Park and Recreation Expert - 10am-11:30am
- Questions? Please contact Marie Cartwright, Outreach & Communications Coordinator mcartwright@susquehannaheritage.org or 717-252-0229 ext. 4
- SGHA is pleased to announce the launch of our new membership program. If you are interested in helping support our work as a Heritage Area, or for more information about the membership program, visit our website www.SusquehannaHeritage.org or click here <http://www.susquehannaheritage.org/SGHAMembership.asp>.
- <> 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

- Apr 13 – Monthly Chapter Meetings 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., at Gander Mtn. (winter)
- <> 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/>

- Apr 20 – Chapter Meeting at [Collinsville Fish & Game](#)
- <> Contact: Ron Heuston, President MCTU, 244-1851 or Heuy1955@aol.com

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

- Meet the 3rd Wednesday @5pm.
- <> Contact: Adam McClain, Ph: 717-334-0636; E-mail: stilden@adamswatersheds.org

Watershed Alliance of York – www.watershedsyork.org

- Apr. 6 – Annual Meeting of WAY Board of Directors, 7:00 PM, at 324 W. Market St., York, PA.
 - GoodShop Deals for WAY - <http://www.goodsearch.com/goodshop.aspx>
 - WAY E-News – Published by the Watershed Alliance of York, Inc. to inform the public about news and information that affect York County watersheds and beyond. PLEASE SHARE WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND E-MAIL LIST. Contributions of news, events and information relating to watershed education, funding, planning, restoration, protection, and stewardship welcome. Send contribution to and contact us for mailing list additions/changes to the e-mail address below. Distribution: electronic (1,850). Frequency: bi-weekly. Subscription: No charge. Editor: Gary R. Peacock.
 - You can make www.goodsearch.com 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

Wecology – NEW!

Yellow Breeches Watershed Association – www.ybwa.org

- <> Contact: Deborah Goetz, at deborah.p.goetz@gmail.com or phone 717-697-4734

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

- <> 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/>

- Saturday, April 2, 2011 – Annual YAS Banquet at East Berlin Area Community Center. Speaker Jeffery A. Gordon, writer, photographer and naturalist looks back at “The 10 Greatest Birds of the Last 30 Years” These are individual birds which made a difference to all birders whether we personally saw them or not. Dinner at 5:00 PM. Reservations required.
 - Saturday, April 16, 2011 – Pinchot State Park Wild Flower walk. Leaders: Tom and Alice Simmons, 717-428-3673. Meet at park at 9:00 AM.
- <> Contact Tom Smith at 717-246-9767 or tjs35@psu.edu.

York County Conservation District – www.yorkccd.org

- Board meets 2nd Friday, 11:30 a.m. (December-March) and 2nd Thursday, 7:00 p.m. (Apr.-Nov.), at the York County ANNEX
 - Rain Barrel Sale! Visit our website for more information and prices.
- <> Contact: YCCD at 717-840-7430 or yorkccd@yorkccd.org

York County Parks & Recreation – www.YorkCountyParks.org

- Featuring 11 parks and approximately 4,300 acres, the York County Department of Parks and Recreation awaits your visit. Trails, lakes, pavilions, streams, and creatures of all kinds eagerly look forward to seeing you. So bundle up, pack some hot cocoa, and bring the family out to hike the trails, sled on the hills, watch the stars, and breathe in the crisp, fresh air of the New Year.
- <> 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. Web: www.YorkCountyParks.org. Nixon Park Nature Center, 5922 Nixon Drive • York PA 17403. Phone: (717) 428-1961. E-mail: NixonCountyPark@york-county.org.

York County Planning Commission – 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



WATERSHED EDUCATION & OUTREACH

If you think your drinking water is protected from pollution, think again

Fundamental safeguards for clean water in our rivers and streams are under attack and need your help today. Supreme Court decisions on the Clean Water Act have left the fate of 60 percent of the nation's stream miles in legal limbo. And now, polluters are claiming they don't need to report what they dump into local streams. Companies that have spilled oil, chemicals and dangerous bacteria into lakes, rivers and other waters are not being prosecuted. Please send a letter to President Obama now. Tell him to restore the scope of the Clean Water Act to protect our rivers. ACT NOW! Now some Members of Congress are also attacking protections for clean water. Just last week, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a funding bill that included a provision that would halt the Environmental Protection Agency's ongoing effort to restore critical Clean Water Act protections for streams, wetlands, and drinking water across the country. Act now to tell President Obama that protecting clean water in our streams and rivers is a priority.

<https://secure2.convio.net/amr/site/Advocacy?pagename=homepage&page=UserAction&id=1223&autologin=true&AddInterest=1921&sc=body1&JServSessionIdr004=wmz49153z6.app245a>

Welcome to ChesapeakeView

ChesapeakeView is a collaborative project of the AmericaView program. AmericaView (AV) is a nationwide program that focuses on satellite remote sensing data and technologies in support of applied research, K-16 education, workforce development, and technology transfer. ChesapeakeView is about free access to data about the Bay Region. It is the first regional AmericaView initiative. The purpose of the ChesapeakeView project is to facilitate access to remotely sensed data as well as habitat, land use, biodiversity, and other types of data related to the Chesapeake Bay region. This effort seeks to highlight the data resources of the AmericaView partners in the Chesapeake Bay region including Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia as well as other organizations that create data related to the bay. <http://www.chesapeakeview.psu.edu/>

2010 State of the Bay Report Released

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation released a new report on the State of the Bay. Eight of CBF's 13 State of the Bay indicators have improved this year. In 2008, Maryland and Virginia set science-based regulations to curtail female crab catch, and this year's crab score leapt by 15 points. Underwater grasses, once devastated by pollution, are doing much better. That indicator score advanced by two. The dissolved oxygen, buffers, water clarity, and toxics scores showed measurable progress as well. <http://www.cbf.org/Document.Doc?id=596>

Bay states considering bills to reduce nutrients in fertilizers

BayJournal – Bills that would restrict the nutrient content of fertilizer applied to lawns will be considered in Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania legislatures this year as part of strategies aimed at reigning in all sources of nutrient pollution. The measures are being championed by members of the Chesapeake Bay Commission. They would restrict the display of fertilizer containing phosphorous, which could only be sold for newly established lawns, or lawns where soil tests showed phosphorus was needed. Nitrogen concentrations in fertilizers would also be limited and no de-icing agents containing fertilizer could be sold. The exact elements of the bills vary slightly state-by-state, but they generally would restrict the use of fertilizer during the winter, or when the ground is frozen, or the spreading of fertilizer near water bodies. Commercial applicators would need to be licensed and trained and keep records of the amount of nutrients they applied to the land and plants. The legislative push followed presentations on lawn fertilizer at the January meeting of the commission, an advisory panel that represents the legislatures of the three states. The measures would help with watershed implementation plans in all three states, which called for new actions to control runoff from lawns to help meet overall nutrient reduction goals. Read article...

<http://www.bayjournal.com/article.cfm?article=4007>

Cover Crops Help Your Watershed

Penn State Cooperative Extension (Posted: 07 Mar 2011) – Most commonly the cover crop used is a winter annual planted after fall harvest of a summer crop such as corn. During snow melt at the end of winter the conservation value of this practice really yields benefits. Over the winter months unprotected soil can erode rapidly. Cover crops hold the soil during this time period when the primary summer crop is not present. The cover crops provide protection in a number of ways. Above ground the crop slows runoff allowing more water to infiltrate therefore less is available to leave the field edge. Additionally the crop roots hold the soil in place preventing particle movement. The cover crop can also benefit the farmer's cropping schedule by allowing earlier field access and better traction during wet springs. Another important benefit of cover crops is the capture of unused nitrogen left over from the summer crop. The cover crop also will take up the nutrients from manure applied to the cover crop. The plants hold the nutrients until spring when the crop is either harvested for forage or killed to provide a mulch cover for the summer crop. On dairy farms often the cover crop chosen is rye and this is harvested in the spring to provide additional forage for the cattle. This removes the nutrients and contributes to the nutrient balance of the field. The other option would be to kill the crop in the spring and plant directly into mulch cover using a no-till planter. The combination of mulch cover and no soil disturbance because of no-till planting provides excellent soil retention. Another benefit of cover crops is the increase in soil organic matter and tilth. Pennsylvania soils tend to be low in organic matter so practices that can increase this are helpful. The change in organic matter levels happens slowly over time but the inclusion of cover crops in the rotation can contribute to increasing the organic matter content of soil. An increase in soil organic matter also contributes to an increase in soil tilth and productivity. As crop residues decompose in the soil, compounds are produced that cement soil particles into aggregates which results in improved soil structure. Better soil structure results in better water infiltration and less runoff, improving the environmental quality of the farm. For more information on Cover Crops see: *Cover Crops for Conservation Tillage* at <http://cropsoil.psu.edu/extension/ct/conservation-tillage-5>

New deicer for roads is a sweet deal for the Chesapeake

BayJournal – Life's great pleasures include waking up to the quiet of a recent snowfall. After savoring the silence, further joy comes from peeking out the window into a world blanketed in white. Unfortunately after a few days, the white world fades to gray as salt, exhaust and an occasional doggy pit stop coats the roads. That's when I transform from winter worshipper to everyday environmentalist and ask myself, "Where will that pollution go after the snow melts?" In my mind, the answer is always the same: into the ground, toward the creek, then to the river—and ultimately, the Bay. There's hope, though, that my answer will soon change. That's because in central Pennsylvania where

Local municipalities are thinking about how their actions on the landscape affect waterways. In two instances, these actions have been inspired by an unlikely candidate: the sugar beet. Take Derry Township, home to Hershey, PA, where the municipality is testing a molasses-like byproduct derived from sugar beets on icy, winter roads. The byproduct, a desugared liquid typically fed to animals or flushed down the drain, will not freeze until temperatures get down to 30 degrees Fahrenheit, which exceeds the antifreezing point reached by salt alone. Over the last decade, this knowledge has been put to practice in Maryland, Virginia, New Jersey, Illinois, Ohio, Iowa, the District of Columbia and recently, Pennsylvania. Pretreating road salt with beet juice increases the salt's stickiness, helping it adhere to roads and bridges longer. This reduces the number of applications needed to keep drivers safe during inclement weather; meaning, less salt is used. This benefits local streams and rivers that may one day be unable to support the annual doses of salt. Read article...

<http://www.bayjournal.com/article.cfm?article=4024&print=yes>

Plant more plants to help restore the Chesapeake

Homeowners in Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia are being encouraged to plant more plants this spring to help Chesapeake Bay restoration efforts. The effort announced Tuesday by the Chesapeake Bay Program aims to increase planting as a way to decrease stormwater runoff and erosion, both of which harm bay water quality. Urban and suburban runoff is a growing pollution source in the bay watershed and organizers say many homeowners don't realize the connection between their yards and lawns and the bay. Excess fertilizers placed on lawns that aren't used by plants, for example, feed oxygen-robbing algae blooms once they reach the Chesapeake. Planting native trees, shrubs and perennials can help filter stormwater and prevent runoff of pollutants. Plant More Plants _ <http://www.plantmoreplants.com/>

Think Spring, Think Rain Gardens

It's the middle of winter and temperatures seem to keep dropping, but now is the perfect time to start thinking spring! What better way to survive the rest of this winter than by thinking warm spring thoughts – flowers blooming, butterflies fluttering, and gardens thriving. Time to plan your rain garden. <http://extension.psu.edu/water/discovery-watersheds/newsletter/news/2011/think-spring-think-rain-gardens>

Water Resource Specialists, Educators, and Advocates for the Children of Pennsylvania!

The 2011 Children's Water Festival is coming to Pennsylvania and we need your volunteer help! By providing hands-on, interdisciplinary activities and lessons, the festival will educate 1,700 fourth and fifth grade students from Adams and York counties in the Lower Susquehanna Watershed on the importance of water and water conservation. This exciting event is taking place on Tuesday, May 24, 2011 at Gettysburg College from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Students will explore water through dynamic and interactive activities. At the festival they will learn about drinking water, groundwater, watersheds, surface water, and water quality. To get an idea of what our festival is like, you can view a video of the 2010 festival on our website – www.watersystemscouncil.org. Click on the festival logo on right side of the screen, and then click on the link at the top of the page to view the video. With so many children, it is extremely important for us to have plenty of volunteers to help make this event run smoothly. We will need over 300 volunteers to serve as presenters, classroom guides, classroom assistants, registration volunteers, Mess Hall workers, logistics coordinators, and facilities help. Remember, the festival is not possible without volunteers! On behalf of the 2011 PA Children's Water Festival and the children of Pennsylvania, we thank you in advance for your enthusiasm and support of the festival. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Margaret Martens, Public Education Coordinator, Water Systems Council, 1101 30th St NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20007 or mmartens@watersystemscouncil.org or 202-625-4387.

Ostara : Innovative Nutrient Recovery Facility

Clean Water Services and Ostara Nutrient Recovery Technologies Inc. have partnered to install an innovative nutrient recovery facility at Clean Water Services' Rock Creek Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility in Hillsboro, OR. The facility will feature two Pearl 2000 fluidized bed reactors, significantly larger than the systems currently installed at the Durham facility in Tigard, and in Ostara's other commercial facilities in York, PA and Suffolk, VA. This technology provides benefits to our ratepayers and the environment by extracting valuable nutrients – which would otherwise clog our pipes – to create an environmentally safe, revenue producing commercial fertilizer. With the Ostara process, phosphorus and other essential nutrients are recovered and transformed into Crystal Green which can be used locally by nurseries and other businesses within Washington County. Crystal Green provides a key environmental benefit – the protection of the Oregon waterways – as the fertilizer has limited runoff due to its unique slow release properties. The production of Crystal Green is significantly less carbon-intensive compared to fertilizers produced from mined phosphorus. Further, once the recovered nutrients are transformed into Crystal Green, the fertilizer is dried using energy derived from the digestion of wastewater solids, further optimizing the economic and environmental efficiency of the project. As the world's first environmentally safe, slow-release fertilizer made from recovered nutrients, Crystal Green is ideally suited for the nursery, turf and specialty agriculture markets. It is sold through national and regional commercial fertilizer blenders across North America. A single application of Crystal Green on turf can replace multiple applications of phosphorus from other fertilizer blends, potentially reducing costs. Phosphorus, a key building block of life, is mined today in a limited number of areas but used globally as an essential agricultural input. Source: <http://www.ostara.com/>

Go Greenscaping!

Despite a very snowy winter, March is when we typically begin to think of yards and lawns and being outdoors again. Start with ideas and useful tips for greenscaping - environmentally friendly practices to improve the health and appearance of your lawn and garden.

<http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/conserve/rrr/greenscapes/owners.htm>

It's My Environment! Video

Submit your IME video - a short clip of someone doing something for the environment, then reading and passing along a sign that says "It's My Environment." Read more about how to prepare the video and send us yours today! <http://www.epa.gov/earthday/video/>

Fix a Leak!

Being handy around the house doesn't have to be difficult. Leaky toilet flappers, faucets, and other valves waste millions of gallons of water but are easy to fix. March 14-20 is "Fix a Leak" week. http://www.epa.gov/watersense/water_efficiency/fix_a_leak.html

EPA wants students to participate in Earth Day Poster Contest

(PHILADELPHIA – March 1, 2011) – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is co-sponsoring an Earth Day Poster Contest for students in kindergarten through grade 12 in EPA's mid-Atlantic region, which includes Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. Students are invited to submit hand-created drawings on plain letter-sized paper using markers, colored pencils, crayons, pens and/or paint. Computer-generated images will not be accepted. Students can choose one of the four themes:

- Protect Habitats, Endangered Species
- Help Protect the Earth from Climate Change
- The Meaning of Earth Day
- Bays, Estuaries, Oceans and Coasts

Entries will be divided into four categories: K-2nd grade; grades 3-5; grades 6-8; and grades 9-12. The top three winners in each category will receive prize packages. Winning entries and others will be displayed at various locations throughout the region including EPA's Public Information Office. Posters will also be posted on EPA's website. Entries must be postmarked no later than Earth Day, April 22 and mailed to: Earth Day Poster Contest (3PA00), U.S. EPA Region 3, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103. The back of the poster should include the competition theme, name, age, school name, grade, parent/guardian's name, address, telephone number and email. The contest is co-sponsored by EPA, the U.S. Forest Service, the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Philadelphia Zoo and the National Aquarium at Baltimore. For more information, visit:

http://www.epa.gov/region03/earthday/2011_poster_contest.PDF or call (215) 814-5100 or email EarthDay@epa.gov.

Building for the 21st Century: American Support for Sustainable Communities

A recent national opinion survey by Smart Growth America has found that support for smart growth strategies remains high across the country and on both sides of the political aisle. <http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/documents/building-for-the-21st-century.pdf>

Transitional ethics and the battle to go green

Green Living Tips (*First published September 2008, updated February 2011*) – I often get email from people who are really concerned about an aspect of a product that otherwise seems very environmentally friendly. It's great to see that sort of awareness, but the danger is that the minefields we encounter and attempt to navigate in trying to locate truly green products can be so daunting that we throw our hands up in the air and think "what's the point". This is where the concept of transitional ethics can save the day. It seems that term originated with the permaculture movement, which is all about self sufficiency and a reduction on reliance on industrial systems of production. However, how do you get from point A (total reliance) to point B (self sufficiency)? It's usually not in one fell swoop; there has to be some tradeoffs along the way if only for a short time or to reach a greater environmentally-friendly goal. Read article..

<http://www.greenlivingtips.com/articles/259/1/Transitional-ethics.html>

Felt boots ban in Md. streams

Maryland will become the first state to ban the felt-soled fishing boots that an invasive algae uses to travel from stream to stream. But the ban will have consumers scrambling to replace gear and retailers left with boots they can no longer sell. The state Department of Natural Resources plans to prohibit wading with felt soles starting March 21 to curb the spread of an invasive organism _ called didymo _ that gets trapped in damp fibers. When fishermen don't properly clean and dry felt-soled boots, the algae spreads the next time they wade into a different body of water. So far, there are no effective or proven ways to get rid of didymo once it contaminates the water. Didymo is an algae that coats riverbeds with mats of yellow-brown vegetation. State fishing regulators say the algae can kill aquatic insect larvae that are considered food for trout. Similar bans will take effect April 1 in Vermont and next year in Alaska. Montana and Oregon are also looking to start a ban on felt-soled gear. Didymo colonies were first spotted in 2008 in the Gunpowder River below Prettyboy Reservoir by local anglers. DNR examined the algae to determine what caused its presence in the river. The agency also found a study that showed felt-soled footwear transferred other diseases to rivers. Because felt is dense, the material can trap the didymo for weeks if not cleaned properly, and even when boots are cleaned, it can take more than a week for the felt to fully dry. Maryland officials will use this year's fishing season as an educational year, with violators getting warnings instead of tickets. Fines and penalties haven't been determined yet and won't be effective until next year.



WATERSHED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

More Than \$2 Million Available for CARE Program – Mar 22

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. Up to \$300,000 is available for projects that are community-based and focus on increasing awareness and reducing risks associated with toxic pollutants and environmental concerns. Applications are due March 22.

For more information: U.S. EPA – CARE Program <http://www.epa.gov/care/>

WREN Community Watershed Education Grants Available – Mar 25

The Water Resources Education Network is offering up to \$5,000 for community projects that educate and motivate citizens about ways to protect community water resources from nonpoint source pollution. Eligible projects should include watershed education that builds awareness and educates Pennsylvania citizens about their role as environmental stewards. Applications are available online; deadline is March 25. For more information: WREN Grants <http://wren.palwv.org/grants/local.html>

PAW Accepting Applications for Environmental Grant Program – Mar 25

Pennsylvania American Water is offering grants of up to \$10,000 to support environmental sustainability activities such as watershed cleanups, reforestation efforts, biodiversity projects and hazardous waste collection efforts. New or innovative community initiatives or community partnerships are encouraged to apply. Visit the PAW grant website for qualifications; entry deadline is March 25.

For more information: PAW – Environmental Grant Program <http://amwater.com/corporate-responsibility/Environmental-Sustainability/environmental-stewardship-and-innovation/environmental-grant-program.html#Pennsylvania>

Environmental Justice Grants Available – Mar 31

EPA is also accepting grant applications for \$1.2 million in funding to support projects designed to research, educate, empower and enable communities to understand and address local health and environmental issues. Eligible applicants from non-profit, faith-based and tribal organizations working in the community of the proposed project are encouraged to apply. Environmental Justice Small Grants funding is available for two categories of projects: Forty grants of up to \$25,000 each to support projects that address a community's local environmental issues through collaborative partnerships. Four grants of up to \$50,000 each to gather better science on the environmental and health impacts of exposure to multiple sources of pollution in communities. Applications are due Thursday, March 31. For more information, see the EPA press release at <http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/1FDB1DB66729C5CA85257826005BE42C>.

Applications Now Being Accepted For EPA Environmental Education Grants – May 2

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is accepting grant applications for \$1.9 million in funding for [environmental education projects](#) and programs. Applications are due May 2. EPA will hold two conference calls with potential applicants to answer questions about the program.

The purpose of the grants is to promote environmental stewardship and help develop knowledgeable and responsible students, teachers and citizens. EPA expects to award at least 20 grants nationwide ranging from a minimum of \$15,000 to a maximum of \$100,000. The grants provide financial support for innovative projects that design, demonstrate, and/or disseminate environmental education practices, methods, or techniques. Projects should involve environmental education activities that go beyond disseminating information. EPA will be hosting two conference calls for potential applicants interested in additional information about the application process. The conference calls will take place on March 21 at 11 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time and April 6 at 2 p.m. To participate in the conference calls, dial: 1-866-379-5082, and use conference ID number: 48699133 for the call on March 21. Use conference ID number: 48696117 for the call on April 6. The Environmental Education Grant Program provides funding to local education agencies, state education or environmental agencies, colleges or universities, not-for-profit organizations, or noncommercial educational broadcasting entities. Tribal education agencies, which are controlled by an Indian tribe, band or nation, may also apply, including a school or community college. Since the program began, EPA has provided more than \$50 million in funding to more than 3,000 agencies and organizations. For more information on eligibility and application materials, visit EPA's [Environmental Education Grants](#) webpage.

Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grant

Funds are available for eligible entities, including non-profit organizations, to deliver environmental workforce development and job training programs focused on hazardous and solid waste management, assessment, and cleanup-associated activities.

<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/job.htm>

GreenInfrastructure.Net

The Fund started GreenInfrastructure.Net with funding from USDA Cooperative Forestry and the Surdna Foundation as a resource and clearinghouse for information about implementing the green infrastructure approach. The Green Infrastructure Work Group, a collection of local, state and federal government agencies and nongovernmental organizations, also provided support. The Work Group originally came together in August 1999 to begin developing a training program that would help communities and their partners make green infrastructure an integral part of local and regional plans and community decisions. The Web site features case studies, publications, training courses and links to other resources. Learn more... <http://www.greeninfrastructure.net/>



WATERSHED FACILITATION ASSISTANCE

PA Great American Cleanup Registration Open – Mar 1

You can participate in litter cleanups, illegal dump cleanups, beautification projects, special collections, and educational events. Cleanups will run between March 1 and May 31. Free bags, gloves, vests, and cleanup supplies are available. During Let's Pick It Up PA days, trash collected can be taken to participating landfills for free disposal. Since 2004, over 54 million pounds of litter and waste have been removed from Pennsylvania. For more information or to register, visit www.gacofpa.org. NOTE: WAY is looking for local sponsors to support cleanups of Illegal Dump Sites. Planned cleanups include:

- March 26 – Gut Rd. IDS AT Saginaw. Cleanup from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM Saturday March 26, 2011. Volunteer work gloves and trash bags provided. Detailed mapquest directions and updates on website www.SusquehannaRiverFishing.com. Sponsor Jst Fishin;
- April 9 – Hall Rd. IDS, Beaver Creek; sponsor RLMA; details to be announced
- April 15-23 – Codorus Creek; sponsor SOLS; from Richland Ave. to Rt. 30. To donate or volunteer, contact Michael Helfrich, Lower Susquehanna RIVERKEEPER®, York, PA. Cell phone: 717-779-7915 E-mail: lawsusriver@hotmail.com .
- May 14 – South Branch Codorus Creek; sponsor Glen Rock Boro. Cleanup from 8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. Volunteer work gloves, trash bags and snacks provided. Contact Lucy Cadwallder at 717-235-7034.

The ABC's of Regulatory, Technical, and Financial Assistance for Agricultural Lands – Mar 24

This workshop will help you learn more about what the federal state, and local agencies in your region can provide you and how they work together to protect land, water and YOUR quality of life.

- ABC's—York County Thursday, March 24, 2011, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. York County PSU Cooperative Extension Office, 112 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA

The workshop is free but call or email today to reserve your spot! Contact Cheryl Burns at Capital RC&D, 717-241-4361 or cburns@capitalrcd.org Visit our website, www.capitalrcd.org, for more information about workshops and programs.

Designing with Nature – Compost BMP Design Webinar for Green Infrastructure and Low Impact Development

Learning Objectives:

- Understanding current stormwater management issues

- Principles of low impact development and green infrastructure
- Introduction to design manual, specifications, and 24 compost-based BMPs
- Concepts for truly sustainable BMPs
- Case studies in LEED green building and MS4 permit compliance applications

April 7, 2011 at 2pm EST & April 12, 2011 at 1pm EST. Brought to you by Forester University. Presenter: Britt Faucette, PhD, LEED AP, CPESC. Register now and take \$29 off the price of the book. Register online at <http://forester.net/university/webinars.html>

New LTAP Training Class Notice

A new LTAP training course has been scheduled within your 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.

- DRAINAGE: THE KEY TO ROADS THAT LAST (RS-M04) 4/5/2011 - 4/5/2011, 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM, YORK CITY WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT ROOM LOCATION, 17401 BLACKBRIDGE ROAD, YORK, PA 17405
- GEOSYNTHETICS (RS-M05) 10/6/2011 - 10/6/2011, 8:00 AM - 12:30 PM, PENN TOWNSHIP (YORK COUNTY), 20 WAYNE AVENUE, HANOVER, PA 17331

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

Appealing to Funders... Learn how to knock their socks off! – Apr 6 & 25-26

- Proposals That Get the Grant with Teresa Gregory Wednesday, April 6 from 9 a.m. - noon at the Bayer Center. Take that great idea and get it funded! But how? This class explores the indispensable principles of writing winning proposals: developing a strategic approach to funders, what you need to know before you start writing, the basic elements of successful proposals, and what you need to communicate. Fee: \$65 (\$55 if paid by March 30).
- Presenting to a Funder with Peggy Morrison Outon and Jeff Forster Monday and Tuesday, April 25 - 26 from 10 - 11 a.m. (Webinar!). Although presentations of any kind can make us nervous, presenting to a funder creates a special kind of anxiety. That's all the more reason to hone your material for maximum impact: what you're going to say, and your packaging; your visuals and the documents you'll leave with the funder. This webinar will drill down from general principles about presenting effectively to focus on enlisting investment support from a funder. Fee: \$25

To register, call Shelby Gracey at 412-397-6009 or you can register online at www.rmu.edu/bcnmregistration.

National Mitigation & Ecosystem Banking Conference – Apr 26-29

April 26-29, 2011 – Baltimore, Maryland – The 14th National Mitigation & Ecosystem Banking Conference is known as “the” place to be for bankers, regulators, and users to gain insights, explore new opportunities and get up-to-date on mitigation, conservation and ecosystem banking, the 2011 conference will draw attendees from throughout the U.S. and abroad. Hear from key government and private sector officials on mitigation, conservation and ecosystem banking as well as planned restoration efforts in the coastal areas of the Gulf of Mexico following the BP oil spill disaster – and where mitigation and ecosystem banking fit into these efforts.

<http://www.mitigationbankingconference.com/>

Nationwide Drug Take-back Day – Apr 30

A second nationwide day to collect unwanted, expired, and unused drugs is planned for April 30. Local police departments are partnering with the federal Drug Enforcement Agency to host collection sites across the nation. To find a collection site near you, visit www.dea.gov. Last Fall's collection day, though little publicized, collected 121 TONs of pills, at 3000 collection sites nationwide. Police departments are asked to sign up to host a drop-off site by March 31. If your local law enforcement agency has not signed up to host a site, offer to help organize a collection day. Registration forms, instructions for collection days and publicity tools can be found on the WREN website in the Features section <http://wren.palwv.org/feature.html>.

3rd Annual Sonnewald EARTH DAY – May 15

Come celebrate! Information, education and inspiration for balanced and sustainable living. Sonnewald Natural Foods, 4796 Lehman Rd., Spring Grove, PA. Phone 717-225-3825. Web: www.sonnewald.org

Green Infrastructure in Your Backyard Webinar Series – May 26

May 26, 2011 2:00-3:15 PM EDT Webinar program is directed to counties in PA. Green infrastructure refers to a planned and managed system of green spaces, greenways and natural lands. These lands improve water quality and wildlife habitat, as well as provide opportunities for outdoor recreation/tourism. Green Infrastructure has been utilized by counties to address regional issues, such as flooding, drought, stormwater runoff, and habitat fragmentation. Join the webinar to learn from counties in your region. Register at <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/742245491>.

Philadelphia Low Impact Development Symposium: Greening the Urban Environment – Sep 25-28

September 25-28, 2011 in Philadelphia, PA – This symposium brings together three separate organizations. The 5th National Low Impact Development (LID) Conference features the concepts of LID and brings together the technical community to share ideas on how to develop our cities while protecting the environment. The 19th Annual Nonpoint Source (NPS) Monitoring Workshop focuses on working together to control and monitor NPS pollution issues and projects. The Pennsylvania Stormwater Management Symposium – Sustainable Stormwater and LID is focused on learning about sustainable stormwater management from the planning stages through maintenance and operations.

<http://www.bae.ncsu.edu/stormwater/2011lid/index.html>



WATERSHED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Much of Mississippi River Sediment Comes from Stream Bank Collapse, Rather Than Field Runoff

ScienceDaily (Feb. 25, 2011) — Much of the Mississippi River's sediment load doesn't come from field runoff, according to work by scientists at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Instead, the scientists with USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) have confirmed that stream bank collapse and failure can be chief contributors to high sediment levels in the silty streams and rivers that flow into the Mississippi. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency lists sediment as the most common pollutant of rivers, streams, lakes and reservoirs in the United States. Trapped sediment can reduce the useful lifespan of dams and reservoirs, exacerbate flooding, harm aquatic plants and animals, and transport other pollutants downstream. Over the years, billions of dollars have been spent on stream bank protection and restoration efforts to stem erosion and reduce sedimentation loads. The source of this sediment load is often attributed to erosion and runoff from farm fields. But ARS hydrologist Glenn Wilson, who works at the agency's National Sedimentation Laboratory in Oxford, Miss., spent several years looking more closely at the causes of stream bank erosion. His studies focused on how seepage – the lateral movement of water through the ground – could prompt conditions that led to stream bank failure. Read article... <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2011/02/110223151939.htm>

Low-Impact Development: New tricks for older communities in the US

By 2030, almost 70% of the world's human population is predicted to live in rapidly urbanizing metropolitan areas. Human induced pressures on water quality and other natural resources throughout the United States and most of the rest of the world continues to increase in concert with urban development. To accommodate increasing human population developmental pressures and mitigate continued environmental impacts, innovative development techniques are being designed (low-impact development, or LID). LID is a general term used to describe innovative engineering for residential or commercial sites. It attempts to develop a site with minimal disruption to the local environment and hydrology. The intent is to maintain an area's predevelopment flow regime by encouraging infiltration and shallow surface storage of precipitation in order to avoid concentrated flow. Few articles are written illustrating the complexities of LID implementation policy. Increased capital construction costs of LID compared with traditional gray infrastructure make it difficult to garner stakeholder acceptance. This article presents an LID case study plan proposed in one of the most rapidly developing counties in the Midwest: St. Charles County, MO. St Charles is in the top 2% for population growth of all US counties. In rapidly developing counties of the Midwest, cultural perceptions prohibitive to LID advancements are slowly giving way to environmentally conscious LID strategies essential to better managing stormwater runoff, storm-induced flooding, and water quality. In this article, we propose an organizational structure for implementation from a lessons-learned perspective, thus providing basic organizational criteria of LID implementation. <http://www.erosioncontrol.com/march-april-2011/low-impact-development.aspx>

Watersheds, Walkability, and Stormwater – The role of density

Town centers, walkable urbanism, compact growth, new urbanism: these are all terms associated with a growing movement toward walkable urban development. Above all else, this increasingly popular pattern of development implies proximity of uses, and therefore much higher density. Higher density is a necessary antecedent to walkable and vibrant urban neighborhoods. You can't have walkability without proximity. But higher density also means more impervious surface cover per acre, resulting in a higher pollutant load per acre. Recent research, however, shows that the kind of densities required for walkable urbanism may actually translate into less of a pollutant load, on a per capita basis, than that from an equivalent population at lower, suburban densities, and therefore less of a total pollutant load for a given population (Jacob and Lopez 2009). Very importantly, Manhattan-type densities are not required for reduced per capita loads. Narrow-lot, single-family detached homes, common in many pre-World War II neighborhoods, in most cases have enough density to result in significant pollutant load reductions versus standard low-density suburban housing for the same number of houses. Read article... <http://www.stormh2o.com/january-february-2011/watersheds-walkability-stormwater.aspx>

Stopping Sediment – Reusable products have an economic edge.

Saving money, saving time, and saving the environment are the driving factors behind the choices being made in short-term and temporary sediment control best management practices (BMPs) these days. There are several products on the market now that can be used to address one situation on a job site and, after it has served its temporary function, can be removed to serve another purpose. Read article... <http://www.erosioncontrol.com/march-april-2011/sediment-reusable-products.aspx>

Assessment of Stormwater BMP Cost Effectiveness: A new model for decision makers

Communities and agencies responsible for stormwater management—i.e., municipal separate storm sewer (MS4) permit holders—continually face new challenges in the form of more stringent onsite control regulations to protect receiving waters. All these requirements have to be met with limited funding. At the roots of both of these challenges lie stormwater surface runoff best management practices (BMPs), which not only are designed to protect receiving waters from the impacts of urbanization, but also come with significant costs to install and maintain into perpetuity. To improve stormwater planning and management, communities, decision makers, and regulators need concise and objective information to select stormwater surface runoff BMPs that will be effective and economically sustainable in meeting their goals. To help in reaching these decisions, they need information that compares different BMPs and how they reduce pollutant loads and surface runoff volumes and what the long-term economics are of keeping the BMPs in operation. In many cases, municipalities accept stormwater management facilities or products based on promotional literature or the beliefs of the public or the staff who may have not had access to information that objectively compares BMP performance and whole-life costs. Unfortunately, little information is available that does allow them to objectively compare how facilities or types of BMPs measure up in being “effective” or what the long-term financial implications are in selecting them. Few tools exist that incorporate parts of this information. For example, the USEPA's SUSTAIN model (Shoemaker et al. 2009) incorporates sophisticated algorithms for evaluating BMP effectiveness, but its default cost functions are limited only to construction costs, and its use requires a relatively high level of technical expertise. The Water Environment Research Federation's (WERF's) Performance and Whole Life Costs of BMPs and SUDS (sustainable urban drainage systems) spreadsheet tools (Lampe et al. 2005) can be used to estimate the whole-life costs of a single BMP at a time; however, they lack BMP effectiveness algorithms. To assist with these types of decisions, a spreadsheet-based computer model titled “BMP-Rational Estimation of Approximate Likely Costs of Stormwater Treatment” (BMP-REALCOST) (Olson et al. 2010) was developed at the Colorado State University under the sponsorship of the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District, Colorado (UDFCD), and the Urban Watersheds Research Institute Inc. The model is relatively open source and easy to use and permits the

user to assess and adjust various program parameters as needed. The economic analysis accounts for inflation, cost of money, and the regional and temporal variations of construction and maintenance costs using the Engineering News Record Construction Cost Index (ENR CCI). Additional details on BMP-REALCOST development are provided by Olson et al. (2010). This article illustrates how BMP-REALCOST can help to compare various types of BMPs a municipality or a state may consider for use by evaluating 10 different BMP scenarios applied to a 1-square-mile urban watershed with mixed land uses in Denver, CO, using a 50-year planning horizon. Read article...

<http://www.stormh2o.com/march-april-2011/assessment-stormwater-bmp.aspx>

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT NEWS – Changes to Chapter 102 Erosion & Sediment Control Regulations

Since 1972, Pennsylvania's Chapter 102 (Erosion and Sediment Control and Stormwater Management) has required ALL Pennsylvania farms to develop and implement a written erosion and sediment control plan which outlines methods to reduce erosion when plowing and tilling. Recent updates to Chapter 102 regulations, which took effect on November 19th, 2010, have added or changed some aspects of Agricultural Erosion and Sediment (E & S) Control Plans. From its inception, Chapter 102 has required all plowing and tilling activities less than 5,000 square feet to install Best Management Practices (BMPs) to minimize erosion and sedimentation. Areas greater than 5,000 square feet must be included in an Agricultural E & S plan. An Ag E&S plan is conceptually the same thing as a conservation plan.

- The updates to Chapter 102 now include Animal Heavy Use Areas (AHUA). An AHUA is an area "where due to the concentration of animals it is not possible to establish and maintain vegetative cover of a density capable of minimizing accelerated erosion and sedimentation by usual planting methods", ie barnyard, exercise lot, loafing area or feedlot. BMPs must be installed to minimize erosion and nutrient runoff.
- Another change to the regulations pertains to plowing and tilling activities that will take place within 100 feet of a river, or a perennial or intermittent stream. If the plowing or tilling will take place on fields with less than 25% plant cover, additional BMPs shall be implemented to minimize accelerated erosion and sedimentation.
- The previous National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting requirements have been reduced from five acres to one acre for any agricultural construction activity. Examples of agricultural construction activities that would require a permit are barn expansion, new animal housing facility, or manure storage facilities. Installations of BMPs such as waterways, terraces, or diversions are not required to have an NPDES permit if they are installed as part of a conservation plan or Ag E & S plan.

So how do these changes in the regulations affect you? If you are an operator and have had a conservation plan or an Ag E & S plan developed, review your plan to ensure that it is current to your operation. Always keep a current copy of your plan in an accessible location on your operation. If you never had a conservation plan or an Ag E & S plan developed or if you have an outdated plan, contact your local County Conservation District or Natural Resources Conservation Service center for assistance. If you are considering expanding your operation or have construction plans in your future, first determine if your project will disturb over one (1) acre of ground. If so, an NPDES permit will be needed and you will need to allow plenty of time for the permitting process. If you have any questions or concerns about your operation or need technical assistance, contact your local County Conservation District or NRCS field office.

Working Waterways & Waterfronts Symposium Documents Available Online

Last September, the 2010 Working Waterways and Waterfronts National Symposium was held in Portland, Maine. Participants came together to discuss the economic, social, cultural, and environmental values of waterfronts and the important role of water-dependent uses in sustainable coastal communities. PDFs of the presentations as well as the recently published "Sense of the Symposium" are now available online at: www.wateraccessus.com

Nonpoint Source Outreach Toolbox

The Nonpoint Source (NPS) Outreach Toolbox is intended for use by state and local agencies and other organizations interested in educating the public on nonpoint source pollution or stormwater runoff. http://www.epa.gov/owow_keep/NPS/toolbox/

Green Infrastructure Valuation Guide

A new report by the Center for Neighborhood Technology and American Rivers quantifies the economic value of green infrastructure. This tool is meant to help municipalities adopt cost-effective stormwater management techniques <http://www.cnt.org/repository/gi-values-guide.pdf>

Growing Wealthier: Smart Growth, Climate Change and Prosperity

Growing Wealthier, a report by the Center for Clean Air Policy (CCAP), examines how smart growth can enhance prosperity. According to the report, efficient urban planning, or smart growth, generates economic benefits for local businesses, households and governments.

<http://www.growingwealthier.info/>

Online Water Contaminant Database Expanded

The Water Contaminant Information Tool (WCIT) is a secure, online database profiling chemical, biological, and radiological contaminants of concern for drinking water and wastewater utilities. WCIT has now been updated with 700 new contaminants and details. Expanding the range of data in WCIT enables water utilities, public health officials and federal, state and local agencies to better plan for and respond to an "all-hazards" contamination incident. <http://www.epa.gov/wcit>

Updated Draft National Wetland Plant List Available for Review

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced that it is soliciting public comments on the updated draft National Wetland Plant List (NWPL) developed as part of an ongoing interagency effort to identify and assign wetland plant ratings (indicator status) to species found in the U.S. and its territories. The NWPL provides a list of wetland plants by species and their wetland ratings that is used extensively by federal, state agencies, the scientific and academic communities, and the private sector in wetland delineations, the planning and monitoring of wetland mitigation and restoration sites, and serves to provide general botanical information about wetland plants.

http://wetland_plants.usace.army.mil/

EPA Seeks Public Comments to Help Develop Management Practices for Recreational Vessels

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking public comment from boaters and other stakeholders to help develop proposed regulations, as required by the 2008 Clean Boating Act, to reduce water pollution and the spread of invasive species in the nation's rivers, lakes and other water bodies. As an alternative to permits required for commercial vessels, the act directs EPA to develop and promulgate management practices for recreational vessels. The important input received through this process will help guide the development of proposed regulations to mitigate adverse effects from recreational boat discharges, such as bilgewater, graywater and deck runoff, that may contain substances harmful to water quality or spread invasive species. The Clean Boating Act directs EPA to take steps to limit the impact of pollution and the spread of invasive species associated with the discharge from boats. As part of the public input, EPA is also seeking information from states that already enact standards to limit the impacts of boat discharges on waterways. Based on the important input received, EPA will seek to develop appropriate management practices and performance standards that protect waterways while also working with the U.S. Coast Guard, which will establish regulations governing the design, construction, installation and use of management practices. Implementation of these management practices will allow boaters and other water enthusiasts to continue enjoying our nation's water bodies while protecting water quality. EPA is holding listening sessions and conducting webinars to inform interested parties about the Clean Boating Act and receive public input. The listening sessions will be held in Annapolis, Md. on March 18 and April 29. More information about the Clean Boating Act: <http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/lawsguidance/cwa/vessel/CBA/about.cfm>

Dep Proposals Currently Open for Comment

Date Published In PA Bulletin	Proposal	Comment Deadline
2/26/2011	Draft Technical Guidance 275-2101-003: Air Quality Permit Exemptions PA Bulletin Notice Draft Guidance	5/26/2011
2/26/2011	BAQ-GPA/GP 11: Nonroad Engines PA Bulletin Notice Draft GP	5/26/2011
3/12/2011	Non-EGU Ozone Season Nox Emission Limits PA Bulletin Notice	3/28/2011
3/12/2011	Proposed 2015 CAIR NOx Allowance Allocations PA Bulletin Notice	3/28/2011

NOTICE - SOLICITING COMMENTS, MOTIONS TO INTERVENE, AND COMPETING APPLICATIONS FOR CUFFS RUN PROJECT

On November 18, 2010, Cuffs Run Pumped Storage, LLC filed an application for a preliminary permit, pursuant to section 4(f) of the Federal Power Act, proposing to study the feasibility of the Cuffs Run Pumped Storage Project, located on Cuffs Run and the Susquehanna River, near Craley Township, in York and Lancaster Counties, Pennsylvania. The sole purpose of a preliminary permit, if issued, is to grant the permit holder priority to file a license application during the permit term. A preliminary permit does not authorize the permit holder to perform any land-disturbing activities or otherwise enter upon lands or waters owned by others without the owners' express permission. The proposed project would consist of the following: (1) a new 9,800-foot-long, 225-foot-high earthen dam across Cuffs Run and an unnamed stream forming an upper reservoir that would have an estimated total usable storage capacity of 25,000 acre-feet and a normal maximum surface elevation of 680 feet mean sea level (msl); (2) a new 700-foot-long, 95-foot-high dike across the eastern side of Cuffs Run and a new 1,300-foot-long, 35-foot-high dike across the western end of the upper reservoir; (3) a new 300-foot-long, 110-foot-wide channel in the upper reservoir leading to a submerged intake; (4) a new 1,500-foot-long, 45-foot-diameter concrete-lined penstock splitting into three 20-foot-diameter steel-lined penstocks at the powerhouse; (5) a new underground powerhouse with approximate dimensions of 200 feet long by 150 feet wide, with an 18-foot-diameter vent and cable shaft through the top, and containing three Francis reversible pump turbines rated at approximately 330 megawatts (MW) each; (6) a new tailrace composed of three concretelined tunnels; (7) an existing lower reservoir (Lake Clarke) having a usable storage capacity of 68,870 acre-feet and a normal pool elevation of 228 feet msl; (8) a new porous dike that separates the outlet structures from Lake Clarke; (9) a new 3-mile-long, 500-kilovolt (kV) transmission line that would interconnect to a 250-kV transmission line owned by PJM; and (10) appurtenant facilities. The estimated annual generation of the Cuffs Run Pumped Storage Project would be 1,750 gigawatt-hours. Applicant Contact: Ramya Swaminathan, 33 Commercial Street, Gloucester, MA, 01930; phone: (978) 226-1531. FERC Contact: Timothy Konnert, (202) 502-6359.

