

# WAY E-NEWS

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



Monday, June 17, 2013

A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Volume 13, Issue 12

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- June is National Rivers Month!
- Attend ELI's FREE Environmental Law Summer School! – Jun 11 – Jun 16
- Dump the Pump Day – Jun 20
- Beginners Leisurely Lakeshore Paddle Tour – Jun 21
- Landowner Woodland Workshop "The Woods in Your Backyard" – Jun 22
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- EARLY SCENES ALONG THE LOWER SUSQUEHANNA RIVER – Jun 27
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- Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance of Dirt & Gravel Roads Training – Jul 10-11
- Manure Management Information Meeting and Plan Development Workshop – Jul 24
- Public Comment Open on SFI Programs
- PROPOSALS! 2014 MAEOE Conference - Make Connections, Take Action – Sep 16

#### WATERSHED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE...Page 9

- NRCS Seeking Landowners Interested In Preserving Wetlands – Jun 28
- Fresh Paint Days Pennsylvania Grant - Application Period Open – Jul 31

#### 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*

- 2013 Wild Resource Conservation Program Grant Applications Being Accepted
- 2013 Growing Greener Plus – Aug 16
- RDUS Loan Rates

### **WATERSHED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE...Page 9**

- EPA Releases Fifth Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment
- EPA Releases Guide to Energy Efficiency in Water and Wastewater Facilities for Local Governments
- EPA Releases Guide and Online Module for Developing Effective Watershed Plans
- RASLOT 3.0 Beta is Released
- NRCS Releases Final Guidance on Cover Crop Termination
- NOAA Launches Redesigned Climate.Gov Website and Offers Communication Pathways for Online Users
- Watershed Audit Quadruples Stormwater Enforcement
- Testing the Results of Municipal Mixed-Use Zoning Ordinances: A Novel Methodological Approach
- Evaluating and Conserving Green Infrastructure Across the Landscape: A Practitioner's Guide



## **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 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)**

- July 8 –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 717.848.3733; Email: [info@yccf.org](mailto:info@yccf.org)

### **Codorus State Park**

- Contact Manager Warren Werntz, Codorus state Park Ph: 717-637-2816; E-mail: [codorussp@pa.gov](mailto:codorussp@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. Ph: (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. Ph: 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. Ph: (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. Ph: 717-428-2000

### **Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper – [www.lowerSusquehannariverkeeper.org](http://www.lowerSusquehannariverkeeper.org)**

- Conowingo Dam's License Renewal & Addressing Impounded Sediment – Conowingo Dam, the largest hydropower facility in the Mid-Atlantic, is seeking a new operational permit for another 30+ year term. Relicensing presents a key, once-in-a-generation opportunity to influence operational conditions that create environmental impacts such as blocked migratory fish passage and impounding and discharging sediment. For over 6 years Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper has watched this process and now, with the relicensing process

drawing to a close and environmental reviews and mitigation terms being discussed, are ready and able to address these environmental impacts. We've teamed up with Earthjustice and plan to intervene in the federal relicensing process before FERC this summer. Intervening will put us in a great position to advocate for meaningful improvements to the license, in particular restoring the American Eel to the Susquehanna Watershed and creating binding commitments to remediate sediment impounded behind Susquehanna dams. The loss of the American Eel from the Susquehanna led to the virtual disappearance of the Elliptio Mussel, a critter that naturally filters sediment and nutrients, the very items the Susquehanna has trouble with. Bringing back the Eel will restore mussel populations and let Mother Nature organically help clean up the Susquehanna! Likewise, remediating sediment impoundment is critical; Conowingo dam discharges unnaturally high volumes of sediment in the water column during big rain events because of the 190+ tons of sediment impounded behind the dam. If the sediment isn't addressed, the downstream Bay will continue to suffer disproportionately from too much dirt in the water, which suffocates plant and animal life, and in turn hurts our regional economy and local communities. Keep tuned as we continue to engage in this important issue!

- The Lower Susquehanna River Is Impaired! The Susquehanna's prize fishery - the smallmouth bass - is pretty much decimated. We've got a first-ever moratorium on this species. Young-of-year die off. Melanomas on its scales. Intersex organs! Help us list the River as impaired by writing a letter! [lawsusriver@hotmail.com](mailto:lawsusriver@hotmail.com) for details.
- Support Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper and Clean Water - We are working on a shoestring budget. In our 8th year of working for you and all of our children's futures, we've become accustomed to tight budgets. From the very beginning an amazing foundation called the Keith Campbell Foundation for the Environment has been matching our members' contributions. They have now DOUBLED even that commitment! For every dollar you give, they will give us TWO! A \$50 family membership from you today puts \$150 into our efforts to protect and improve our communities, creeks, and the Susquehanna River. We know it is a tough economy, and that's why we don't ask often, but with that tough economy comes more and more attacks on our waterways and landscapes. Too often people see the creeks and rivers as a cheap place to dump their pollution. Now, more than ever, we need to push back against this mentality. And no matter how cliché it sounds this water, these creeks and rivers, need to support all of our children, grandchildren, and all future generations. Please help us leave them the legacy of healthy, prosperous, and fun creeks, communities, and Susquehanna River by donating to our work today @ [www.LowerSusquehannaRiverkeeper.org](http://www.LowerSusquehannaRiverkeeper.org).
- Contact: Michael Helfrich, Lower Susquehanna RIVERKEEPER®, York, PA. Cell phone: 717-779-7915 E-mail: [lawsusriver@hotmail.com](mailto:lawsusriver@hotmail.com).

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

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

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

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

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

- 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)

- May 22 - 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. Ph: 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)

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

- Monthly Chapter Meetings 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.,
- 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)

- July 10, 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. 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)

- Yellow Breeches Paddle Cleanup Jun 23 – Hello sojourners and friends of the Yellow Breeches Creek! Please join the YBWA for an on-the-water paddle cleanup of litter and debris from the Yellow Breeches Creek. Ages 11 and up welcome. YBWA t-shirt, brown-bag lunch, and dinner will be provided for each person that mails in their registration forms by June 10th. Information and registration forms are attached below and are available on our website, [ybwa.org](http://ybwa.org). Volunteers are needed on the ground and on the water in boats. Please consider giving your time and effort to take care of the PA Scenic River and treasure that flows through our local community. Did I mention that the Yellow Breeches Creek is the source of your drinking water? The Breeches needs our attention. Please help. Feel free to email or call us with any questions; and by all means, please share with your friends. Thanks! Hope to hear from you! Debbie Goetz [deborah.p.goetz@gmail.com](mailto:deborah.p.goetz@gmail.com); cell- [717-514-4288](tel:717-514-4288), or Brook Lenker, [brooklenker@comcast.net](mailto:brooklenker@comcast.net); cell- [717-756-2637](tel:717-756-2637). Yellow Breeches Watershed Association, PO Box 5, Grantham, PA 17027
- Contact: Deborah Goetz, at [deborah.p.goetz@gmail.com](mailto:deborah.p.goetz@gmail.com) or phone 717-697-4734

**York-Adams Pharmaceuticals Stewardship Alliance**

- Contact: Martha King at 717-968-3083.

**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. Ph: (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 [tjs35@psu.edu](mailto:tjs35@psu.edu).

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

- 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)

- For more information, contact York County Department of Parks and Recreation. Ph: (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



## **WATERSHED EDUCATION & OUTREACH**

**LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP: Report cards measure restoration progress**

Over the past 30 years, organizations, institutions and individuals have used grades to measure how well we are doing in correcting environmental problems. In Maryland, former state Sen. Bernie Fowler uses his annual Patuxent River Wade-In to bring attention to the need for continued vigilance on cleaning up our waterways. As a youth, Sen. Fowler could wade into the Patuxent up to his chest and still see his sneakers; this is now his modern-day yardstick, known as the "Sneaker Index." But, just like our report cards from school, water quality report cards might not tell us the whole story. Read more...

[http://www.chesapeakebay.net/blog/post/letter\\_from\\_leadership\\_report\\_cards\\_measure\\_restoration\\_progress](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/blog/post/letter_from_leadership_report_cards_measure_restoration_progress)

**Bay 101: Algae Blooms**

What is an algae bloom and how does it form? Watch Charlie Poukish from the Maryland Department of the Environment explain what fuels algae blooms and how they can spell trouble for underwater life. Learn more...

[http://www.chesapeakebay.net/videos/clip/bay\\_101\\_algae\\_blooms](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/videos/clip/bay_101_algae_blooms)

### **More habitat means more fish**

Without feeding or breeding grounds, fish cannot grow or reproduce. According to a new report, an investment in habitat conservation could be a smart one for fisheries and the economies that depend on them. Read more...

[http://www.chesapeakebay.net/blog/post/more\\_habitat\\_means\\_more\\_fish](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/blog/post/more_habitat_means_more_fish)

### **Restoration Spotlight: Bass sanctuaries protect popular sport fish**

Scientists are learning more about largemouth bass to protect habitat and ensure the sustainability of the fishery. Read more...

[http://www.chesapeakebay.net/blog/post/restoration\\_spotlight\\_bass\\_sanctuaries\\_protect\\_popular\\_sport\\_fish](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/blog/post/restoration_spotlight_bass_sanctuaries_protect_popular_sport_fish)

### **What You Can Do: Pick Up Pet Waste**

Pick up after your pet. Pet waste contains nutrients and bacteria that can wash into local waterways if left on the ground. Learn more...

[http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/menuofbmps/index.cfm?action=factsheet\\_results&view=specific&bmp=4](http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/menuofbmps/index.cfm?action=factsheet_results&view=specific&bmp=4)

### **Restoration Spotlight: Farm's conservation practices cut pollution at its source**

Cover crops, streamside trees and nutrient management plans: this West Virginia father and son have put best management practices in place on their farm to keep clean water flowing into the Chesapeake Bay. Read more...

[http://www.chesapeakebay.net/blog/post/restoration\\_spotlight\\_farms\\_conservation\\_practices\\_cut\\_pollution\\_at\\_its\\_sou](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/blog/post/restoration_spotlight_farms_conservation_practices_cut_pollution_at_its_sou)

### **Fish tumors in Anacostia River decline**

Brown bullhead catfish in the Anacostia River once had the highest rates of liver tumors in North America. But a recent drop in tumor rates among the fish could indicate lowered exposure to chemical contaminants. Read more...

[http://www.chesapeakebay.net/blog/post/fish\\_tumors\\_in\\_anacostia\\_river\\_decline](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/blog/post/fish_tumors_in_anacostia_river_decline)

### **Restoration of urban stream has big impact on D.C. economy**

A new analysis of an Anacostia River tributary shows that restoring urban streams can help restore urban communities, creating jobs and open space for area residents. Read more...

[http://www.chesapeakebay.net/blog/post/restoration\\_of\\_urban\\_stream\\_has\\_big\\_impact\\_on\\_d.c.\\_economy](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/blog/post/restoration_of_urban_stream_has_big_impact_on_d.c._economy)

### **Eyes on the Bay Water Quality Website**

Did you know that worldwide, water-borne diseases cause 1.8 million deaths annually, while shark attacks only account for 4? Be safe swimming this summer by visiting our revised [Chesapeake and Coastal Bays Swimming & Beach Health](#) page, which provides links to statewide and local information about testing for bacteria and harmful algae. Of course, the latest Bay monitoring information is always available online at [eyesonthebay.net](http://eyesonthebay.net)

### **CBF, EPA Reach Agreement To Reduce Pollution From Animal Operations**

The [Chesapeake Bay Foundation](#) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have reached a new agreement to reduce pollution from animal operations. This new agreement, which arises from the 2010 settlement of CBF's lawsuit, will provide additional certainty that the Chesapeake Clean Water Blueprint (the Bay Total Maximum Daily Load and State Watershed Implementation Plans or "WIPs") now in place will achieve its goal of reducing pollution throughout the six-state, 64,000 square-mile Bay region with full implementation by 2025. As a result, CBF and EPA signed a legally binding amendment to the settlement agreement that replaces the rulemaking provision with four requirements that will help ensure that pollution from the Bay region's animal feeding operations is reduced by 2017. The commitments in this modified agreement will help determine whether farms are actually discharging pollution. First, EPA must audit each state's CAFO and Animal Feeding Operation (AFO) programs to ensure they comply with the Clean Water Act and are being implemented to effectively meet the pollution reduction goals of the state WIPs. If they find problems EPA is bound to take appropriate actions. For example, for Virginia to meet its Blueprint goals, EPA should require that the state amend its AFO regulations to require that cattle be fenced out of streams. Second, inspect animal feeding operations in the Bay region to ensure compliance with applicable requirements, and take action if they are not. This is essential because in Pennsylvania, for example, preliminary analyses have indicated a significant percentage of Pennsylvania's farms may not be in compliance with one or more long-standing conservation-based regulations. Third, review specific CAFO permits and their associated nutrient management plans, determine whether those plans are effectively achieving water quality goals, and take action if they are not. CBF has long been concerned that some farmers don't follow the nutrient management plans and that for some they are just a paper exercise. And finally, EPA will use the data collected to determine whether revisions to national CAFO rules are necessary to reach cleanup goals. Agriculture is the largest source of pollution to local rivers, streams, and the Chesapeake Bay. Installing conservation practices on farms is also the most cost effective way to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment pollution. The Virginia State Waterman's Association, the Maryland Watermen's Association, the Maryland Saltwater Sportfishermen's Association, former Maryland Governor Harry Hughes, retired Maryland Senator Bernie Fowler, former Virginia legislator and Natural Resources Secretary Tayloe Murphy, and former Washington D.C. Mayor Anthony Williams joined CBF in the lawsuit and the 2010 settlement.

### **Local Government Advisory Committee Weighs In on EPA's Proposed Stormwater Rules**

The Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC) finalized their recommendations to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposed stormwater rulemaking at their last quarterly meeting in April 2013. LGAC recognizes that stormwater regulation reform has the potential to help communities address a growing source of water pollution and flooding while also potentially placing significant demands on local government resources. LGAC "specifically endorses increased support for green infrastructure approaches that reduce runoff and manage stormwater on-site." [The full article and letter of recommendations at allianceforthebay.org](http://allianceforthebay.org)

### **Waste Tire Disposal Program Drives Away with Nearly 17 Tons**

The recent free tire disposal program sponsored by the York County Solid Waste Authority resulted in the proper disposal of 16.79 tons of tires. Hundreds of residents delivered more than 16,079 tires to the York County Resource Recovery Center where they were safely

processed to produce power. This year's program increased the amount of tires disposed by nearly 10 tons. This program was an outgrowth of the Authority's participation in and support of Keep York County Beautiful and its efforts to prevent and eliminate illegal dumping. Tom Smith of Keep York County Beautiful advises, "Removing waste tires from our communities helps clean up illegal dumpsites and reduces the spread of West Nile virus by eliminating potential mosquito breeding sources." Adds Dave Vollero, Authority Executive Director, "Residents can and should place old tires out with their regular garbage. This special tire acceptance program was held to raise awareness that tires should be properly disposed of as household waste and to help prevent illegal dumping of tires." Tires collected at the curb with regular garbage must be off the rim and may not exceed 32" in diameter. Residents should call their waste hauler for specifics on how many tires can be placed out with each pick-up. The Authority facilitates responsible solid waste management through an integrated strategy that emphasizes waste reduction, reuse, recycling and resource recovery. The Authority is the owner of the York County Resource Recovery Center in Manchester Township and conducts a year-round free litter disposal program to encourage York County residents, organizations, civic groups, schools, and neighborhoods to clean up litter and illegal dumpsites. Waste collected in clean-up programs can be disposed of free of charge at the York County Resource Recovery Center. Pre-registration is required. For more information about the free litter program, call the Authority at 845-1066. Keep York County Beautiful is an affiliate chapter of Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful. Its mission is to empower York County residents to make our communities clean and beautiful. Keep York County Beautiful conducts cleanups across York County and provides education and outreach programming. Residents interested in helping to clean up an illegal dumpsite should call Tom Smith at Keep York County Beautiful at 717-840-2375, or email him at [tls35@psu.edu](mailto:tls35@psu.edu). Keep York County Beautiful can assist with providing free gloves, bags and safety vests.

### **Seeking Focus Group Participants**

Do you live in the Harrisburg area (Dauphin, Cumberland or northern York County)? Are you interested in sharing your opinions about the environment? You may qualify to participate in an upcoming research study facilitated by Land Logics Group. Participate in one 2-hour focus group and earn \$50 and free gift bag. Light dinner provided. Interested in learning more? If so, complete a brief screening survey. Qualified candidates will be contacted with more information. To complete the survey go to: [www.surveymonkey.com/s/SwimFishH2O](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SwimFishH2O) or call 717-325-4347.

### **Help Compile Amphibian and Reptile Atlas**

Join DNR and the Maryland Natural History Society in documenting all the amphibians and reptiles in the State! Through December 2014, volunteers will [survey a region of their choice](#) for frogs, toads, salamanders, turtles, lizards and snakes. The resulting Atlas will support future research, conservation and protection endeavors.

### **What is the Status of Your Water System's Sourcewater Protection Program?**

WREN is enhancing its sourcewaterpa website to soon allow residents to check whether their public water supplier has a PA DEP-approved Source Water Protection Plan in place. PA Safe Drinking Water regulations direct public water suppliers to find and utilize the best sources available and to take measures necessary to protect those sources. Read more...

[http://www.sourcewaterpa.org/?page\\_id=282&utm\\_source=Spring+2013+Water+Policy+News&utm\\_campaign=Spring+2013+WPN&utm\\_medium=email](http://www.sourcewaterpa.org/?page_id=282&utm_source=Spring+2013+Water+Policy+News&utm_campaign=Spring+2013+WPN&utm_medium=email)

### **York County students garner 2013 Pennsylvania Envirothon honors**

A group of home-schooled students from York County will be carrying the Pennsylvania banner when the best and the brightest in high school-based environmental competition meet in Montana in about two months to vie for North American Envirothon honors. [Read more...](#)

### **Hot tips for a cool summer!**

Save energy in summer and fight climate change. Get tips to reduce energy bills and greenhouse gas emissions.

<http://www.epa.gov/epahome/hi-summer.htm>

### **Don't Fry - Any Day!**

With the start of the summer season, avoid overexposure to the sun's harmful "UV" rays. Put on sunscreen with SPF 30 or higher. Melanoma, the most serious form of skin cancer is the most common cancer among young adults aged 15-29. <http://www2.epa.gov/sunwise/action-steps-sun-safety>

### **Landscaping makes WaterSense!**

Homeowners or businesses can use WaterSense-labeled controllers for landscape watering. Landscaping water controllers with the WaterSense label meet criteria for efficiency and performance. <http://www.epa.gov/watersense/products/controltech.html>

### **Ideas for Marinas!**

Marinas can help reduce pollution through the more efficient use of materials and energy, and making changes to their water or land operations. Topics include fuels management, facility cleaning, boat maintenance, stormwater runoff, dredging, energy efficiency, and much more. <http://water.epa.gov/polwaste/nps/marinas.cfm>

### **Flat Stanley and Flat Stella are coming to EPA!**

"Stanley and Stella Explore the Environment" is a new blog that will help kids learn about protecting the environment and have fun as they build reading and science skills. Join them on their adventures starting Wednesday, Premier June 5 at:

<http://blog.epa.gov/stanleyandstella>

### **Home Water Footprint Tool**

The Water Footprint Network is passionate about its mission - engaging companies, governments, NGOs, investors and international organizations in taking strategic action toward solving the world's water scarcity and water pollution problems. Bringing together the

internationally recognized Global Water Footprint Standard and the most comprehensive water footprint database – WaterStat - the Water Footprint Assessment Tool provides results based on sound methods and best available data. <http://www.waterfootprint.org/tool/home/>

### **Engagement Outside the Annual Forum**

As an extension of the Chesapeake Watershed Forum, ForumPlus is designed to provide you and your organization with continuous opportunities to learn, network, and inspire each other on a variety of environmental subjects through many social platforms. Get started by subscribing to our new Youtube page, and checking out what the Alliance has already done through ForumPlus. There you will find ForumPlus videos from events conducted by the Alliance and their partners. Watch, share, and comment!

[Learn more and watch ForumPlus videos at allianceforthebay.org](http://allianceforthebay.org)

### **EPA Video Series Features Locally-Led Efforts in Urban Water Restoration**

EPA has released Urban Waters Voices, a series of 12 video interviews featuring locally led efforts to restore urban waters in communities across the United States. These videos feature local efforts and strategies to improve urban water quality while advancing local community priorities. This week's video spotlights Beth Stewart, Executive Director for the Cahaba River Society, describing some of the challenges faced by communities in the Cahaba River Watershed and the residents of Birmingham, Alabama (e.g. pollution that increases drinking water costs), and how the organization is using positive recognition and educating residents in order to improve the environmental decision making in the watershed. As Alabama's longest remaining stretch of free-flowing river and the primary drinking water source for one-fifth of the state's people the Cahaba River is also a treasure of biological diversity of national and global importance. More information:

<http://www2.epa.gov/urbanwaters/urban-waters-voices>



## **WATERSHED FACILITATION ASSISTANCE**

### **June is National Rivers Month!**

Summertime is here! It's a great time to be outside barbequing, swimming, paddling, and enjoying time around your rivers. And it's also a perfect time to give back to the rivers that do so much for us. The National River Cleanup is in full swing. This year, our goal is to register cleanups in all 50 states and we'd love your help. Come on out and volunteer with National River Cleanup!

<http://www.americanrivers.org/newsroom/blog/agoggans-20130603-june-is-national-rivers-month.html>

### **Attend ELI's FREE Environmental Law Summer School! – Jun 11 – Jul 16**

Co-sponsored by the DC Bar Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Section

Each summer, ELI convenes a complimentary seminar series that offers an introduction to the legal and policy foundations of environmental protection in the United States. ELI's Summer School is a series of brown-bag lunch seminars taught by experts in their fields, introducing the audience to the major environmental statutes (including NEPA, Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, TSCA, RCRA, and CERCLA) and land use law. Who should attend: The series is designed for undergraduates, law students, and graduate students. The series is also appropriate for professionals seeking an introduction to environmental law and policy. When: June 11-July 16, 2013. Where:

Environmental Law Institute, 2000 L Street NW, Suite 620, Washington, DC 20036, and via teleconference RSVP: To attend, please visit [http://www.eli.org/Seminars/summer\\_school\\_2013.cfm](http://www.eli.org/Seminars/summer_school_2013.cfm).

### **Dump the Pump Day – Jun 20**

Dump the Pump Day (using transportation without fossil fuel) is coming up June 20th. York is having an afterwork celebratory bike ride, beginning at 5:30pm (beginning @ Lafayette square-Rail trail head).

### **Beginners Leisurely Lakeshore Paddle Tour – Jun 21**

Friday, June 21, 2013, 11am-1pm – This beginner-friendly paddle tour is designed for all ages (ask about guidelines for very young children) and those with little or no paddling experience. Our guides will take you on a gentle paddle along the shores of Lake Clarke where you will see great blue heron, kingfishers, and maybe even spot an eagle or two. A visit to Shank's Mare's Lock 2 Café for lunch or ice cream is a great way to wrap up your day. Fee-includes guide & tour- \$24/Adult, \$15/Child. Rental Kayaks for tour-\$20/Single Kayak, \$28/Double Kayak, \$35/Triple Kayak. Contact Shank's Mare, 2092 Long Level Road, Wrightsville, PA 17368. Ph. 717-252-1616. Fax 717-252-0403. Web [www.shanksmare.com](http://www.shanksmare.com). Email [info@shanksmare.com](mailto:info@shanksmare.com).

### **Landowner Woodland Workshop "The Woods in Your Backyard" – Jun 22**

Saturday, June 22, 2013, 9:00am – 3:15pm. Forest Resources Building Room 107, Penn State University Park Campus, Department of Ecosystem Science and Management, Bigler Rd State College, PA 16803. Cost: \$20.00/person. Do you have woods in your backyard? Would you like to reduce your lawn, plant trees, and invite wildlife to your suburban lot? Would you like to learn how to be a better steward of your parcel of land? If you answered yes to any of these questions then this workshop is for you. Penn State Extension, Forestry For the Bay, [Clearwater Conservancy](http://www.clearwaterconservancy.org), [Penn State Master Gardeners](http://www.pennstate.org/mastergardeners), and the [Centre County Conservation District](http://www.centrecountyconservationdistrict.org) have assembled outstanding speakers who will share their knowledge with you about creating or improving wildlife habitat, tree identification and care, tree planting and native landscaping, forest ecology, woodlot management techniques, invasive plant identification, and more.

### **Managing Water Resources to Prevent West Nile Virus – Jun 26**

The next webinar in the Penn State Extension Water Resources series will be Wednesday, June 26 from 12:00 to 1:00 PM (EST). West Nile Virus is a disease transmitted by mosquitoes that arrived in the United States in the summer of 1999. Mosquitoes that have the potential to carry the disease breed in standing water, making it important to eliminate possible sources of standing water around your home whenever possible. This webinar will look at West Nile Virus and how it can impact humans as well as ways to keep your property from becoming a mosquito breeding ground. Speaker: Susan Boser, Water Resources Educator, Beaver County Extension. Where: The live webinar can be

viewed at <https://meeting.psu.edu/water1>

### **EARLY SCENES ALONG THE LOWER SUSQUEHANNA RIVER - Jun 27**

Thursday, June 27, 7-8 p.m. Holtwood Environmental Education Center. Presented by: Mark Arbogast. Early postcard views along the Susquehanna River from Columbia to York Haven will highlight this presentation. The talk will include Columbia and the Pennsylvania railroad, Chickies Rock and the park that operated at Chickies and Marietta and views of the iron furnaces that once operated between Columbia and Marietta. We will also see the Accomac and Wildcat Falls area in York County and the ferry boats and hotels that were at this summer vacation spot. The talk will end with Bainbridge and the York Haven hydroelectric plant. Please check the website for more details at <http://www.pplpreserves.com/>

### **Last Call for the SUSQUEHANNA BIATHLON! - Jun 29**

Come join us Saturday morning, June 29th, for our third annual Susquehanna Biathlon. A four-mile running course will take you from the John Wright Restaurant in Wrightsville, first on road then on river paths, up to the Accomac Inn. From there you will launch your choice of paddling craft for a four mile downriver paddle to finish at the John Wright Restaurant. Registration opens at 8:30 at the John Wright Restaurant and the race starts at 10 a.m. Teams are welcome. Winners for male, female, and team categories will get gift certificates to Shank's Mare? Registration is online @ [www.SusquehannaBiathlon.org](http://www.SusquehannaBiathlon.org), plus we have great custom event t-shirts that are free if you register before COB on June 10th. If you register after June 10th limited quantities will be available on race day.

### **8th annual Gardening With Native Plants - Jun 29**

The Tour, June 29, 2013, 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. Interested in making your property more environmentally friendly? Then don't miss this year's native tour sponsored by Penn State Extension's MAEscapes. Properties range from the Chavez's small city garden to Jossel & Richard Fears' 12 acres. In between you will find the Oleson's ¼ acre suburban property which is using native plants to control stormwater, the meadows at Tim Hoover's, (Tim is a recognized expert in meadow plantings) and the rural property of George and Mary Ann Fetrow. What do they all have in common? They are incorporating native plants into their landscapes to improve wildlife habitat, conserve water and reduce pesticide use. All have a passion for gardening and love to share their knowledge with others. And, there are also demonstrations at each site. Learn about Perennial Container plants, beekeeping, butterflies, how to solve erosion and drainage problems. Or ask the expert questions about your own yard. Tickets are now on sale at the Penn State Extension office, 112 Pleasant Acres Rd, York, PA 17402. Call Kelly at 717-840-7408, [kfs13@psu.edu](mailto:kfs13@psu.edu). Tickets purchased in advance are \$8.00. Buy 2 and get 1 free! Tickets purchased the day of the tour are \$10.00 each and are available at each of the garden sites. For addresses of the gardens and to learn more go to: <http://bit.ly/11HVtp3>

### **Burning of the Bridge Paddle Tour - Jun 29**

Sat., June 29, 2013, 1-4pm - In commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War Battle of Gettysburg, join us for this unique and history filled kayak tour. We'll launch our kayaks from the Wrightsville shore, and follow the footprint of the Susquehanna River Bridge burned by the Union Army to stop the Confederates from crossing the river and heading north. Midway across the river we'll be greeted by kayakers who will give us a history of this important Civil War event. On both the Columbia and Wrightsville shores we'll view Civil War encampments. This will be a day rich in paddling and history on the Susquehanna River. Rental kayaks are available. Fee-including shuttle, guides & snack-Member-\$35/Person, Non-Member-\$39/Person Rental Kayaks for tour - \$35/Single Kayak, \$40/Double Kayak. Contact Shank's Mare, 2092 Long Level Road, Wrightsville, PA 17368. Ph. 717-252-1616. Fax 717-252-0403. Web [www.shanksmare.com](http://www.shanksmare.com). Email [info@shanksmare.com](mailto:info@shanksmare.com).

### **Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance of Dirt & Gravel Roads Training - Jul 10-11**

July 10-11, 2013, Lancaster Farm & Home Agency. The two-day ESM training covers many aspects of road maintenance and focuses on practices to reduce maintenance costs and environmental impact from unpaved roads. Certification within 5 years is required to apply for Program funds. Have questions or want to schedule an ESM training? Contact Kathy Moir at: (1-866-668-6683) [dirtandgravel@psu.edu](mailto:dirtandgravel@psu.edu).

### **York County Conservation District Manure Management Information Meeting and Plan Development Workshop - Jul 24**

Do you own livestock, poultry or horses? Do you import manure to spread on your crop fields? If you fall into any of these categories an upcoming workshop sponsored by the York County Conservation District and Penn State Cooperative Extension should be on your schedule. On Wednesday July 24th a Manure Management Plan Development Workshop will be offered so participants can develop their own Manure Management Plan with the assistance the workshop staff. A Manure Management Plan must be developed by any owner of livestock, poultry or horses. Plans must also be developed by anyone who spreads manure on their crop fields. The event will be held at the York County Annex Building, Room 1 at 118 Pleasant Acres Road, York starting at 7 pm. The event is free of charge but registration is required. To register for the workshop, call Penn State Cooperative Extension at 840-7408.

### **Public Comment Open on SFI Programs**

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) invites stakeholders to comment on the SFI 2010-2014 program. SFI specifically asks for suggestions to improve the current program requirements. The comment period will end on August 6 at midnight PDT. The next comment period will begin in January 2014 to review the proposed SFI 2015-2019 program. Visit [sfiprogram.org](http://sfiprogram.org) for more information and to submit a comment.

### **CALL FOR PROPOSALS! 2014 MAEOE Conference - Make Connections, Take Action - Sep 16**

Do you have great ideas, lesson plans or favorite activities that you want to share? Are you an expert on cutting edge Environmental Education topics? Then please consider presenting at the 2014 Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Educators Conference, February 6-9, 2014 at the Princess Royale in Ocean City, Maryland. The link below will take you to the application for pre-conference workshops, conference sessions and field trips. The on-line proposals are due no later than 9/16/13. We look forward to seeing you there! <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MAEOE2014RFP>. Questions? Contact Libby Campbell: [ecampbell@fergusonfoundation.org](mailto:ecampbell@fergusonfoundation.org)



## **WATERSHED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

### **NRCS Seeking Landowners Interested In Preserving Wetlands – Jun 28**

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service is now accepting applications from Pennsylvania landowners interested in the [Wetlands Reserve Program](#). Although applications are accepted throughout the year, interested landowners are encouraged to sign up by June 28. A new round of funding authorizes Pennsylvania NRCS over \$7 million to enroll up to 800 additional acres into WRP. Anyone interested in these voluntary programs should contact their state or local NRCS office. The Wetlands Reserve Program helps landowners restore and protect wetland ecosystems on private lands. They may select a permanent or 30-year easement or a restoration cost-share agreement, retaining ownership of the land once the agreement is in place. Nationwide, more than 11,000 private landowners participating in WRP are already protecting more than 2.6 million acres of America's wetlands. "The benefits of these reserved wetlands reach well beyond their boundaries to improve watershed health, the vitality of agricultural lands, as well as the aesthetics and economies of local communities," said NRCS Acting Chief Jason Weller. For more information, visit the NRCS-PA [Wetlands Reserve Program](#) webpage.

### **Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Fresh Paint Days Pennsylvania Grant - Application Period Open – Jul 31**

The application period for the Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Fresh Paint Days Pennsylvania grant has opened today. Hopefully you will think of a needed project you could partner on or forward the information on to another group in your area that might be interested in applying. Applications must be received by July 31<sup>st</sup>. More information can be found in the attached press release and also our website [www.keppabeautiful.org](http://www.keppabeautiful.org). Michelle Dunn can also answer any questions you might have at [mdunn@keppabeautiful.org](mailto:mdunn@keppabeautiful.org) or 1-877-772-3673.

### **2013 Wild Resource Conservation Program Grant Applications Being Accepted**

The Wild Resource Conservation Program is now accepting grant applications in the following subject areas. Applications must be received by July 5. Eligible projects include the following: Surveys; Conduct field and population assessments; Research; Conservation and Management; Education. To apply for a grant, go to <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/conservationscience/wrcp/grants/index.htm>. If you have any questions regarding this year's grant priorities, please contact Greg Czarnecki at 717-783-1337 or [gczarnecki@pa.gov](mailto:gczarnecki@pa.gov). If you have any questions regarding the application process, please contact Jenn Girton at 717-787-3212 or [jgirton@pa.gov](mailto:jgirton@pa.gov)

### **2013 Growing Greener Plus – Aug 16**

2013 Growing Greener Plus application package (including Growing Greener, 319, AMD set-aside and, SMCRA bond forfeiture) will be announced and released in the June 22nd PA Bulletin. This is a bit later than we would have liked, but we are doing our best to get this announcement to be released in early June annually. Expect that we will continue to try to get the release date in early June, and hopefully next year we will get there. The closing date for this year's application submission will be August 16th. That will give folks about 56 days to get an application in, once the application package is released to the public. I would encourage you to begin now, if you have not already, to develop your ideas for submission under these grant programs.

### **RDUS Loan Rates**

Interest rates for Rural Development Utilities Service (RDUS) water and wastewater loans—issued quarterly at three different levels: the poverty line rate, the intermediate rate and the market rate— have been announced. The rate applied to a particular project depends on community income and the type of project being funded. RDUS loans are administered through state Rural Development offices, which can provide specific information concerning RDUS loan requirements and applications procedures. For the phone number of your state Rural Development office, contact the National Environmental Services Center at (800) 624-8301 or (304) 293-4191. The list is also available on the Rural Development website at [www.rurdev.usda.gov/recd\\_map.html](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/recd_map.html).



## **WATERSHED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

### **EPA Releases Fifth Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment**

EPA today released results of a survey showing that \$384 billion in improvements are needed for the nation's drinking water infrastructure through 2030 for systems to continue providing safe drinking water to 297 million Americans. EPA's fifth Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment identifies investments needed over the next 20 years for thousands of miles of pipes and thousands of treatment plants, storage tanks and water distribution systems, which are all vital to public health and the economy. The national total of \$384 billion includes the needs of 73,400 water systems across the country, as well as American Indian and Alaska Native Village water systems. More information: [http://water.epa.gov/grants\\_funding/dwsrf/index.cfm](http://water.epa.gov/grants_funding/dwsrf/index.cfm)

### **EPA Releases Guide to Energy Efficiency in Water and Wastewater Facilities for Local Governments**

EPA has released a new climate and energy strategy guide for local governments, titled "Energy Efficiency in Water and Wastewater Facilities: A Guide to Developing and Implementing Greenhouse Gas Reduction Programs." Water and wastewater facilities are among the largest consumers of energy in a community, accounting for 35 percent of typical U.S. municipal energy budgets. Local governments can reduce their energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions by working with these facilities to improve the energy efficiency of their new, existing and renovated buildings and their day-to-day operations. This guide provides comprehensive information for local government staff and policy makers on designing and implementing energy management programs for water and wastewater facilities. [Click here for the guide.](#)

### **EPA Releases Guide and Online Module for Developing Effective Watershed Plans**

EPA has released a guide to developing watershed plans to restore and protect our waters, which summarizes a 2008 handbook for developing watershed plans to restore and protect our waters, as well as a companion online module, "An Introduction to Watershed

Planning." The guide and module provide a summary of the handbook and also highlight some new watershed-related tools that have been developed since 2008 that can be used for more effective decision-making leading to improved management of our water resources. Together, the handbook, guide and module provide information on how to incorporate the nine minimum elements from the Clean Water Act section 319 Nonpoint Source Program's funding guidelines into the watershed plan development process. [Click here](#) to access the guide and visit <http://www.epa.gov/watertrain> to view the module.

#### **RASPLOT 3.0 Beta is Released**

FEMA has just released an upgrade to the RASPLOT program, which is available by following the [RASPLOT 3.0 Beta Release web link](#) at <http://www.fema.gov/rasplot>. RASPLOT is a computer program developed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) which allows the user to create flood profiles through the automatic extraction of data from HEC-RAS hydraulic modeling files. The RASPLOT 3.0 web page contains links for: Downloading the program and user's guides, Feedback, Known issues. Sign up for the RAS-Plot News list serve. A link is provided on the RASPLOT 3.0 web site. Comments and suggestions received during the next months will be assessed and incorporated as warranted in the final version of the Program. Thank you in advance for your input!

#### **NRCS Releases Final Guidance on Cover Crop Termination**

NRCS released its Final Guidance Document Regarding Cover Crop Termination; to download and read the document, [click here](#). Earlier this year, NACD raised concerns about cover crop termination in its relation to crop insurance, but in the past few months, NACD has had the opportunity to provide input on this guidance as part of a working group with USDA's Risk Management Agency, Farm Service Agency, and NRCS. Cover crops are valuable for healthy soil, resulting in increased organic matter in soil, greater water holding capacity of soil, and strong soil biological activity. These benefits also reduce input costs. For example, during the past two years of extreme drought, cover crops have helped producers make their operations more resilient while conserving water. Cover crops are being implemented with programs such as EQIP and CSP, and some states offer cost-share through Section 319 Watershed grant program dollars when producers fall in the boundaries of a watershed project. Timing of termination for cover crops remains an issue, and this guidance will help clarify concerns that producers are facing. NACD is grateful to NRCS for releasing this guidance in such a timely manner.

#### **NOAA Launches Redesigned Climate.Gov Website and Offers Communication Pathways for Online Users**

NOAA's climate.gov website provides science and information for a climate-smart nation. It has recently been completely re-designed based upon public feedback. Each section has refined its user interface, enhanced its functionality, and expanded its scope of contents. With timely and authoritative scientific data and information about climate, the website aims to promote the public's understanding of climate science and climate-related events, to make NOAA data products and services easy to access and use, to provide climate-related support to the private sector and the Nation's economy, and to serve people making climate-related decisions with tools and resources that help them answer specific questions. To learn more, visit: <http://www.climate.gov/>. For additional information, users can access NOAA's climate information and updates via Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/NOAAClimateGov?ref=stream>, Twitter: @NOAAClimate, and YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/NOAAClimate>.

#### **Watershed Audit Quadruples Stormwater Enforcement**

An October, 2011 Audit of the [Severn River watershed](#) revealed that hundreds of stormwater ponds and other practices had failed due to a lack of maintenance. The Audit then uncovered the cause - a 2001 decision by Anne Arundel County to severely cut-back stormwater staff from seven inspectors to one! As a result of diminished inspections little maintenance has been performed and stormwater benefits steadily declined. In the Severn River watershed alone the stormwater failures have allowed 25,000 pounds of nutrients to needlessly enter the waterway each year. In fact, funding stormwater inspection programs is THE most cost-effective use of public dollars to minimize stormwater pollution releases into our waterways. Since the 2011 Audit was released it has served to greatly expand public awareness of the importance of clean water law enforcement. Nothing illustrates this better than the recent announcement that the County will quadruple their stormwater inspection staff. Watershed audit quickest, cheapest way to improve water quality. Through the CEDS Watershed Audit all existing activities are evaluated for compliance with Clean Water laws. Due to many years of underfunded enforcement budgets, large volumes of pollution are entering our waterways from sources no longer in compliance with these laws. A typical watershed is about 70 square miles in size and can be audited by a few volunteers or staff in no more than a week. The Audit procedures are easy to learn and cost very little. For further detail on Watershed Audits visit [ceds.org/audit](http://ceds.org/audit). To see if a compliance problem exists in your watershed call 1-800-773-4571 or simply reply to this message to schedule a no-cost initial Audit

#### **Testing the Results of Municipal Mixed-Use Zoning Ordinances: A Novel Methodological Approach**

Mixed-use land zoning is significantly linked to a neighborhood's increased potential for walkability, according to this new study published in the Journal for Health, Public Policy and Law. Municipal mixed-use zoning reduces separation of daily activities by allowing mixtures of residential, commercial, public, and civic uses, which creates more walkable neighborhoods.

[Testing the Results of Municipal Mixed-Use Zoning Ordinances: A Novel Methodological Approach](#)

#### **Evaluating and Conserving Green Infrastructure Across the Landscape: A Practitioner's Guide**

The Green Infrastructure Center has released a new planning guide that shows communities how to map their most significant natural resources and how to make plans to conserve or restore them. One version of the guide has been created for Virginia and another for New York. Additional guides will be released later in 2013 for North Carolina and Arkansas.

[Evaluating and Conserving Green Infrastructure Across the Landscape: A Practitioner's Guide](#)

