

WAY E-NEWS

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



August 30, 2010

A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

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- Pennsylvania Bulletin on 8/21/2010:
- New Office of Water Web Site

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 717-705-4704
- 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

WATERSHED ALLIANCE NEWS

[Ag Land Preservation Board of York County - www.york-county.org](http://www.york-county.org)

<> 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/](http://carrollcitizens.com/)

- Sep 30 – Into the Streets – Northern York County Illegal Dump Site Cleanups. Details to be announced.
- <> Contact: Deana Weaver at (717) 432-2211 or admin@carrollcitizens.com

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

- CCWA on Facebook! We are now on Facebook, with over 75 members, and growing each day! If you are a Facebook member, please join us by clicking on the following link below to visit the page <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=118546314839244&ref=ts>
 - Oct 11 – CCWA Meeting of Members and Board, 7:00 pm, at York Water Co. (Mt. Rose Ave.)
- <> Contact: Jim Leaman at 843-2929

[Codorus State Park - www.dcnr.state.pa.gov](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.gov)

[Conewago Canoe Club - www.conewagocanoecub.org](http://www.conewagocanoecub.org)

- Sep. 2 – 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/](http://deercreekwatershed.com/)

- NEW! Check out our new website
- <> Contact Lee McDaniel at ldmcdaniel@aol.com.

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

<> Contact: Sean Kenny at Farm & Natural Lands Trust of York County • 156 North George Street • Suite 300 • York, PA 17401 • Phone (717) 843-4411 • Fax (717) 854-7452 or skenny@farmtrust.org

[Friends of Codorus State Park - www.friends-of-codorus.org/](http://www.friends-of-codorus.org/)

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

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

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

[Greater Hanover Alliance - pwingert@legacycaps.com](mailto:pwingert@legacycaps.com)

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

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

- Join us on Saturday, September 25, from 5pm-8pm for wine from Baltimore County Vineyards such as Boordy Vineyards and beer from local breweries such as Clipper City, delight in some tasty hors d'oeuvres while exploring the beautiful grounds of Camp Puh'tok in Monkton, Maryland. The evening will feature wonderful food provided by the finest restaurants and caterers from the Gunpowder Valley, each highlighting their specialty. Dessert will be served under the stars and full moon.
 - Rain garden installation to be announced
- <> 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](http://www.hornfarmcenter.org)

- Looking for something fun to do later this summer? Why not come out to the Farm? Join us on Saturday, August 7, from 11-5
- <> 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/](http://www.yorkchapter67iwla.org/)

- Calendar of events 2010 - 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](http://www.lowersusquehannariverkeeper.org)

- 28 AUG 2010 – : Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper speaks out against Inhofe-Cardin-Specter Chesapeake Bill. After the amendments to the Cardin Chesapeake Bill by Global Warming disbeliever Sen. Inhofe, and PA's own Sen. Specter, we cannot support the passage of this bill that will weaken the Clean Water Act. The new bill includes a shield that blocks the EPA from enforcing ag and stormwater runoff

reductions if the states fail to do so. It allows "small" point source polluters to pollute without an individual NPDES permit. It makes the states' WIP (Watershed Implementation Plans) voluntary! And includes a mandatory pollution trading program where trades will be verified by Agribusiness! I wish I could support this because I do respect Senator Cardin, but this bill has gotten away from its original intent. [[Download Clean Water Act vs. Cardin PDF](#)]

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

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

- Next meeting will be on Mon 20th September, 5:30 pm at the McFaul Center in Bel Air. Primary topics will be the MD Phase I WIP and the upcoming public meetings on the Bay-wide TMDL and the WIP.
 - Our closest WIP meeting, which we will co-host with the Patapsco-Back team, is Monday October 4th from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. in Timonium, with a pre-meeting for elected officials from 5 - 6 p.m.
 - Our closest TMDL meeting, hosted by the EPA, is Wednesday October 13th from 2-4 p.m. in Annapolis.
- <> 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/>

- September 12th, M-DTS Hike and M-DTS Meeting. Hike 6.3 miles from Broad Creek to Conowingo Dam on the Mason-Dixon Trail. There is a Mason-Dixon Trail System Meeting afterwards. Meet at the Conowingo Dam visitor's center on the south side of the dam (RT1) at 9 A.M.
- <> Contact: James Hooper at 717/252-3784 or j.e.hooper@ieee.org

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

- Sep 11 - Fall Native Plant Sale & Demonstration Garden Open House 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
 - Introduction to Mid-Atlantic Ecological Landscapes September 14, 6:30p.m.—8:00p.m. What is so great about ecological landscapes? This question will quickly be answered as participants are introduced to the goals, principles, and benefits of MAEscapes. Instructors: Linda and Rich Silverman, York County Master Gardeners
 - Landscape Design with Native Plants—Plant Combinations September 28, 6:30p.m.—8:00 p.m. Come and explore how you can effectively combine native plants. The focus will be on using native plants in arranged combinations for various sites and conditions, including shade, sun, dry meadow, wet meadow, and woodland. Emphasis will be placed on using plants typically found growing together in nature. Have a site in your yard in mind? Bring along a photo and description for the “hands-on” part of the class. Instructor: Lauri Danko, Landscape Designer, MAEscapes Partner & Advisory Board Member, & Cumberland County Master Gardener
 - The Influence of Native Plants on our Watershed October 5, 7:00p.m.—8:30 p.m. Join us as we discuss the positive impact of native plants on our local watershed. We will explore the influence of Mid-Atlantic Piedmont Region native plant communities with species adapted to similar soil, moisture, and weather conditions. Some of the widespread communities include oak-hickory-chestnut and beech-maple forests, and freshwater marshes. Additional communities occupied specialized niches, including floodplains, wetlands, and forested areas. Instructor: Gary Peacock, Watershed Specialist for the York County Conservation District & MAEscapes Advisory Board Member
 - Gardening for Wildlife Certification October 19, 6:30p.m.—8:00 p.m. Learn how your yard can become a valuable habitat for insects, birds, and other wildlife. Recognition and certification programs will be included in the exciting program. Instructor: Tom Smith, York County Master Gardener & MAEscapes Advisory Board Member
 - Oct 25 - MAEscapes Advisory Board meeting at ANNEX, 6:30 pm
- <> 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

- Sunday, October 17, 2010 - Prettyboy Trail Hike (Dogs and older children are welcome) GB - Moderate. 6 miles along the shoreline and hillsides and through forests around Prettyboy Reservoir on the old Prettyboy Trail, walking a loop between George's Creek and the trail's start at Beckleysville Rd. Learn about this isolated trail and its wildlife and pristine drinking water for Baltimore. Meet at 10:00 AM at the Mt. Carmel Rd. Park and Ride just west off I-83 north of the Baltimore Beltway and past the Shawan Rd. exit. For more information, contact Mary at 410-239-4590 (home), 443-386-0862 (cell), or email at XdITz4LyFvX@aol.com.
 - Reservoir Forest Management Study - The project is first being tested on a small scale in order to see if it will result in a healthy and increasingly diverse native forest. Six study sites, comprising a total area of 21 acres, were chosen at Liberty and Prettyboy Watersheds, by foresters from the MD-DNR Forest Service. In each site, trees will be thinned in order to allow more light to reach the forest floor and stimulate new growth. High quality, mature trees will be left in order to provide seed for repopulation. The trees you may see being removed are only being removed for the purpose of the study.
- <> Contact: Nancy Shaper at nshaper@ihmi.edu

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

- New 2010 Meeting Location! 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!
 - 9/25 - Susquehanna River Clean-up
 - 10/24 - Highway Clean-Up
 - Green Drinks - 5:30 pm happy hour on the second Wednesday of every month at a local pub. For Green Drinks locations click [here](#) or on Twitter @HBGGreenIrene, or on [Facebook](#)
 - Inner City Outings (ICO) - find out [more](#) about this great local Sierra Club program
- <> Kim Anderson at sgfornyc@aol.com.

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

- You are Cordially Invited to participate in the 6th Annual MEHF – Sunday, Oct 3, 2010 at Spoutwood Farm, Glen Rock, PA. (45 minutes from Baltimore, Harrisburg, Lancaster, Gettysburg). A Family FunFilled Celebration. A Showcase of All Aspects of Healthy Living in the Mid-Atlantic Region. An Old-Fashioned Modern Country Fair in its 6th Year. A Coming Together for a Hope-filled Locally-based Future. How to: Fill out an application available online and send to the address above. Fee: FREE for non-profits, others: \$50.
- <> Contact Rob & Lucy Woods at Spoutwood Farm at 717-235-6610 or spoutwood@comcast.net.

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

- September 11 – James Buchanan's Wheatland Life Below Stairs: The Servants' Tour
- <> 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

- Welcome to our re-designed web site! We're still working out a few kinks, but we hope you like the new layout! New features should be added soon, and we'd like to hear your suggestions. We're now on Twitter!
 - Sep 8 – Monthly Chapter Meetings 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., at Sawmill pavilion (summer)
- <> Contact: Tom Finenze at 840-1372 or tom@codorustu.org. Cancellations due to winter weather will be announced here, and on WSBA Radio, 910 AM.

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

- Pine Run Growing Greener Restoration Project is underway!
 - Felton Stream Restoration Project effectively controlled storm runoff and flooding recently!
 - Sep 15 – 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/>

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

Watershed Alliance of York - www.watershedsyork.org

- Oct. 6 – Meeting of WAY Board of Directors, 7:00 PM, at 324 W. Market St., York, PA.
 - COMMUNITY CLEANUPS – WAY to help coordinate and finance your community's illegal dump cleanup.
 - COMMUNITY EVENTS – Got a community event planned for 2010 that you would like WAY to exhibit its display? Contact us.
 - SPEAKERS BUREAU – Need a speaker for your event? Contact WAY's speakers bureau composed of local experts in watershed-based planning, restoration and planning.
 - WAY E-News – 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

Yellow Breeches Watershed Association - www.ybwa.org

- Sep 8 – YBWA Board Meeting
 - Oct – TBA - Annual Membership Meeting
 - Dec 8 – YBWA Board Meeting
- <> Contact: John Eby, President, at john_eby@lower-allen.pa.us

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/>

- Monday, September 13 – Terry Neumyer presents “Arizona: Wildlife of Sedona and the Grand Canyon”
 - Monday, October 11 – Kevin Fleming presents “Wild Delmarva”
 - Saturday, October 30 – Annual YAS Bird Seed Pick-up at Brown's North in Emigsville.
- <> Contact Tom Smith at 717-246-9767 or tls35@psu.edu.

York County Conservation Alliance - www.yorkcountyconservationalliance.org

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

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 barrels for sale! Visit our website for more information and prices.

<> Contact: YCCD at 717-840-7430 or yorkccd@yorkccd.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

Pa. Farmers Bristle at EPA Inspections

Steve Graybeal, owner of a large dairy farm in southern Pennsylvania, bristles as he recalls the eight-hour visit that Environmental Protection Agency inspectors paid to his farm this summer. Like many local farmers in Pennsylvania, Graybeal is tired of being blamed for pollution problems in the Chesapeake Bay, just because the state's Susquehanna River sends so much damaging nitrogen and phosphorous downstream into the bay. Graybeal is one of many local farmers in Pennsylvania who are riled by the EPA's recent crackdown on pollution-control practices on farms across the state, both large and small. The EPA, responding to President Obama's 2009 executive order to clean up the Chesapeake Bay watershed, has started a series of targeted inspections it hopes will motivate farmers to start abiding by regulations designed to reduce the pollutants running off croplands into nearby waterways and ultimately to the bay. Read article ...

<http://chesapeake.news21.com/land/pennsylvania-farms>

Agriculture Secretary: PA Farmers Making Progress In Improving Water Quality

Cooperation between the state departments of Agriculture and Environmental Protection is helping to ensure Pennsylvania completes its watershed implementation plan by the federally imposed September 1 deadline, according to Agriculture Secretary Russell C. Redding. Testifying at a Joint Senate and House Agriculture and Rural Affairs hearing covering agricultural conservation and the Chesapeake Bay at Penn State's Ag Progress Days in Centre County, Secretary Redding said that it is critical for any such plan to improve water quality while keeping farms viable. In his testimony, Secretary Redding said the two departments have engaged agricultural stakeholders, convened a water implementation plan management team and hosted [a series of work groups](#) addressing the various sectors impacted by the total maximum daily load, or TMDL, including wastewater, agriculture and development. The TMDL represents the total amount of nitrogen, phosphorous and sediment that can be present in the Chesapeake Bay and still meet water quality standards imposed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "As new strategies, initiatives, regulations and laws are developed, it is critical that partnerships between producers and stakeholders are enhanced, and that a proper balance of non-regulatory and regulatory approaches is maintained. This is especially true as efforts are ramped up to address non-point source pollution concerns," Secretary Redding added.

PA Farm Bureau Stresses Importance Of More Funding, Improving Conservation Programs

PFB President Carl T. Shaffer this week discussed the importance of funding conservation programs and practices, while offering suggestions on how some programs could be improved during a public forum hosted by members of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture at Ag Progress Days. One program that has been a huge success is the [Environmental Quality Incentive Program](#) (EQIP), which provides farmers financial and technical assistance to address threats to soil and water on their land. In Pennsylvania, this program has enhanced soil quality on more than 53,000 acres, increased water quality on more than 61,000 acres, improved more than 11,000 acres of grazing and forest land and has helped more than 80 farms prepare and implement Certified Nutrient Management Plans. Farm Bureau is calling for changes to the [Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program](#) (CREP), which helps mitigate soil erosion through stream bank fencing, stream crossings, tree plantings, riparian buffers and the retirement of highly erodible land. PFB suggests three areas of reform: lowering land rental rates to more accurately reflect local land rent values; limiting a farm's enrollment of this program to no more than 25 percent of tillable acres; and limiting a county's enrollment to no more than 15 percent of tillable acres in that county. Farm Bureau also supports the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative, a new Farm Bill program designed to provide technical and financial assistance to agricultural producers to implement conservation practices minimizing nutrient and sediment losses, thus restoring, preserving and protecting local water quality. According to the state's office of Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), farmers across Pennsylvania have submitted nearly 700 applications for the program, indicating that farmers want to utilize available resources to improve water and soil quality. In closing, Mr. Shaffer recognized the U.S. House Agriculture Committee and Congressman Tim Holden for reinforcing the positive activities taking place on Pennsylvania farms and the entire Chesapeake Bay Watershed by moving the Chesapeake Bay Program Reauthorization and Improvement Act forward in the House. This commonsense bill builds on the water and soil quality initiatives already taking place on farms and utilizes the limited amount of federal resources where taxpayers will get the best result for their dollar in reducing nutrient and sediment runoff. A complete copy of Shaffer's testimony [is available online](#).

CBF: More Resources Needed For PA To Meet Federal Water Quality Cleanup Standards

Matt Ehrhart, Executive Director Pennsylvania Office of the [Chesapeake Bay Foundation](#), this week outlined a plan to help Pennsylvania meet federal standards to cleanup the Chesapeake Bay and the Commonwealth's 19,000 miles of streams and rivers that do not meet federal Clean Water Act water quality standards in testimony before the Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committees during Ag Progress Days near State College. At this same time, CBF provided [details of the Bay cleanup plan](#) to the Watershed Implementation Plan work group formed by the Department of Environmental Protection. There are several opportunities to help Pennsylvania meet our goals and the EPA requirements:

- Stormwater Management: A revised and updated state stormwater management plan (Act 167) could be used as the fundamental tool to achieve compliance with the stormwater-related requirements of the Chesapeake Bay TMDL, as well as local TMDLs;
- Water Infrastructure: The State Water Plan (Act 220) states that the legislature: "Clearly authorize by legislation, regulation, or policy the creation and operation of local Authorities, Utilities, or Management Districts and/or other sustainable funding sources that enable entities to collect fees and generate revenues dedicated to planning, constructing, monitoring, maintaining, improving, expanding, operating, inspecting and repairing public and private stormwater management infrastructure." To date, no such action has been taken by the legislature but we believe it is a vitally important to do so;
- Stormwater Planning: [House Bill 1390](#) (Freeman-D-Lehigh), commonly referred to as the Integrated Water Resources Act, would set a framework for a more consistent, coordinated, and comprehensive approach to stormwater management in the Commonwealth.
- Agriculture: On the agricultural front, consider that Conservation Districts help deliver federal farm conservation funds, which the last Farm Bill increased substantially for Pennsylvania under the most recent federal Farm Bill, specifically to accelerate the Chesapeake Bay clean up. These are funds provided to the Commonwealth that not only improve our waterways, but support good jobs in construction and engineering. We simply cannot afford to leave any of these limited conservation funds unspent because we don't have the people in place to deliver them.
- Farm Conservation Tax Credit: The [REAP state tax credit program](#), now in its fourth year and facing even greater demand from the farm community, is a very small but critically important tax credit program. In the first two years the \$10 million cap for the program was exceeded by applications almost immediately. The program has been cut to less than half despite the fact that farmers match the program with their own funds.
- [Chesapeake Clean Water Act](#) (SB 1816): Currently under consideration in Congress, could bring much needed funding to Pennsylvania. The Act will provide critical funding for stormwater upgrades, agricultural technical assistance and create a new region-wide trading program that could lower the costs of reducing pollution and provide a potential revenue stream for farmers."

In reaction to the testimony, Rep. Mike Hanna (D-Centre), Majority Chair of the House Agriculture Committee said, "Farmers throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed's approximately 9 million acres of farmland need to work together to be not only stewards of our lands, but also stewards of the Chesapeake Bay through the implementation of innovative conservation practices. "By reducing the amount of nutrients and sediment from our agricultural lands, we in Pennsylvania can lead the fight in helping to conserve this national treasure," he added.

A [complete copy of the testimony](#) is available online as well as a [copy of the detailed plan](#) submitted to DEP's Watershed Improvement Plan work group.

Bacteria in bay cause skin and blood infections, intestinal illness

Washington Post Online – Lanzisera's foot began to swell. When he returned to the hospital, a doctor who had treated Hurricane Katrina victims in New Orleans recognized the infection as one resulting from a bacterium called vibrio. Vibrio causes skin and blood infections and intestinal illnesses, said Rita Colwell, a professor at the University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins University and a former president of the National Science Foundation. Colwell has studied vibrio in the Chesapeake Bay for almost four decades. The region's summer climate and bacterial pollution create a perfect breeding ground for vibrio, Colwell said. The symptoms of infection include redness, soreness, swelling and pus around a skin abrasion. If the bacteria are ingested, vomiting, fever and headaches can result, said David Rogers, health officer for the Calvert County Health Department. 'It's a nasty infection,' Colwell said. 'It's very invasive, and it's tissue-destroying.' In rare cases, it can be fatal, she said. Reported cases of vibrio this year are in line with past figures, said David Paulson, a spokesman for the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. As of Aug. 17, 24 cases had been reported in Maryland; more are expected in the next month, Paulson said. This summer's above-average temperatures have prompted state agencies to advise residents not to ingest raw or undercooked shellfish and to avoid contact with bay water if they have open cuts, scrapes, burns or sores. Lanzisera remained in the hospital for four days before he was transferred to the R. Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center in Baltimore, where he underwent four surgeries. He remained at the trauma center until July 26, when he was admitted to a rehabilitation center in Annapolis. 'My prognosis is good . . . but I still can't walk and probably will need another surgery,' Lanzisera said. State officials received reports of 33 vibrio cases in both 2008 and 2009, with many of the cases occurring in August and September, Paulson said. Annual figures have not changed much since in the past decade, when Maryland began requiring statewide reporting of vibrio cases rather than just from the Baltimore and Washington metropolitan areas, Paulson said. Cases average about 30 per year – 25 were reported in 2007, 31 in 2006, 25 in 2005 and 29 in 2004, Paulson said. Of the cases reported to the state this year, one came from Charles County, said William Leebel, spokesman for the Charles Department of Health. Data about cases in St. Mary's County this year are not available, he said. Four cases of vibrio were reported in Calvert, three from skin infections and one via ingestion, Rogers said. Nationwide, about 30 people die from vibrio infections each year, Paulson said. Of the state's 24 cases, eight have resulted in hospitalizations; no deaths have been reported, he said. Bay watermen have been aware of vibrio for years and often keep a bucket of bleach water onboard their vessels to sterilize wounds, said Tommy Zinn, Calvert County Waterman's Association president. July and August are 'hot bacteria months in any water,' but no association members have been infected this year, Zinn said. 'We keep an eye on it and we take precautions, and so far, so good,' he said.

DEP Fines Gregory Contractors Inc. for Water Quality Violations in Adams and York Counties

HARRISBURG – The Department of Environmental Protection has fined Gregory Contractors Inc. \$22,250 for multiple erosion and sedimentation violations, and several unauthorized wetland and stream encroachment violations at the Edgegrove Sewer Interceptor Upgrade project in Conewago Township, Adams County and Penn Township, York County. Several inspections of the 4.5-mile site revealed numerous violations of the Clean Stream Law and the Dam Safety and Encroachment Act. Many of those violations could have been avoided had Gregory adhered to the terms of its permits, or obtained the proper permits for the work it was performing. The Adams and York county conservation districts conducted multiple inspections in March, April and June. Every inspection report noted at least four violations for permitting, and erosion and sedimentation control. DEP conducted additional inspections in March and July and documented waterway and wetland violations. Violations included conducting earth disturbance activities contrary to the conditions of its permits, failing to implement and maintain best management practices to prevent pollution events, and crossing and placing fill material in a wetland without obtaining the necessary permit. Gregory has submitted to the department a restoration plan to restore the stream and wetland crossing. The company must remove all fill material from the wetlands by Sept. 1 or face additional penalties. For more information, visit www.depweb.state.pa.us, keyword: Water Quality.

Why Some Communities Embrace Environmental Conservation and Others Don't

New research from the University of New Hampshire shows that local factors like unemployment and population growth influence a community's views about environmental conservation and regulation. The research shows that rural communities with high unemployment rates are less likely to support conservation and environmental regulations, because they may perceive them as a threat to their economic livelihood. People in rural communities with high rates of population growth are more likely to support conservation and environmental regulations, because they see the impacts first-hand. In general, those who are less likely to favor conservation include Republicans, older people, and those who frequently attend religious services. Those who are more likely to favor conservation include women, nonminority, and those with better educations. Environmental regulations are generally supported by younger, better educated, and less Republican people. ScienceDaily, July 8, 2010

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2010/07/100708111336.htm>

EPA Releases Draft Strategy for Clean Water

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is inviting the public to comment on the agency's draft strategy to protect and restore our nation's lakes, streams and coastal waters. The strategy, "Coming Together for Clean Water: EPA's Strategy for Achieving Clean Water," is designed to chart EPA's path in furthering EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson's key priority of protecting America's waters. The strategy was developed by considering the input and ideas generated at the April "Coming Together for Clean Water" forum as well as comments received through the online discussion forum. Participants shared their perspectives on how to advance the EPA's clean water agenda focusing on the agency's two priority areas: healthy watersheds and sustainable communities. EPA is now inviting the public to consider and provide their comments on the approaches outlined in the strategy. Public comments on the draft strategy should be submitted by September 17. EPA will review all comments and post a final strategy later in the year. More information on the draft strategy and to comment:

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

EPA Seeks Public Comment on Draft of Proposed Revised Total Coliform Rule Assessments and Corrective Actions Guidance Manual – Nov 30

EPA has released a draft of the Proposed Revised Total Coliform Rule Assessments and Corrective Actions Guidance Manual for public review and comment. The draft guidance manual provides public water systems and primacy agencies with guidance on complying with and implementing the assessment and corrective action requirements of the proposed Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR). Under the proposed RTCR, public water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination in the distribution system (as indicated by their monitoring results for total coliforms and E. coli) are required to assess the problem and take corrective action. The proposed corrective action requirement may reduce cases of illnesses and deaths due to potential fecal contamination and waterborne pathogen exposure. The draft guidance manual provides information on the common causes of total coliform and E. coli occurrence in the distribution system, how to conduct assessments to identify possible causes of contamination ("sanitary defects"), and corresponding corrective actions that systems can take to correct the problem. The draft guidance manual is currently available online at <http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/tcr/regulation.cfm>. Please submit your comments and suggestions to prtrc_acaguide@epa.gov by November 30, 2010.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A WELLHEAD PROTECTION ORDINANCE FOR SHREWSBURY TOWNSHIP, YORK COUNTY

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Supervisors of Shrewsbury Township intends to adopt at a public meeting on Wednesday, September 1, 2010 commencing at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Offices at 11505 Susquehanna Trail South, Glen Rock, PA 17327, an ordinance approving an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with Shrewsbury Borough for the protection of wellheads owned and operated by the Borough that are located within Shrewsbury Township. The ordinance adopts the provisions of Shrewsbury Borough's wellhead protection ordinance, which are summarized as follows: (1) purpose and intent; authority; (2) establishment and delineation of wellhead protection overlay district and wellhead protection zones; (3) regulated land uses; (4) reporting requirements; (5) administration; (6) major subdivision and land development plans; (7) general exceptions; (8) preventive and enforcement remedies; (9) fees; and, (10) miscellaneous. Copies of the Ordinance are available for inspection without charge and copying at a charge no greater than the cost thereof at the Shrewsbury Township Administration Building located at 11505 Susquehanna Trail South, Glen Rock, PA 17327, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., prevailing time. SHREWSBURY TOWNSHIP BLAKEY, YOST, BUPP & RAUSCH, LLP, Solicitors

Short Video - A View from Above

Aerial Photographer Hunter H. Harris. offers his insight on how the Bay has changed over his many years of flying. He compares early aerial images with his own personal shots from the same altitude and angle. Produced by Matt Rath of the Chesapeake Bay Program. Any comments or questions please contact mrath@chesapeakebay.net. View: <http://vimeo.com/13485447>;
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wilp_NAHabU



WATERSHED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Grant Request Form for Lake Related Issues – Oct 1

The Pennsylvania Lake Management Society (PALMS), with funding from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, is pleased to be able to offer assistance to landowners, non-profits, and municipalities to address lake-related issues of critically eroded shorelines, excess nutrient loading, and aquatic invasive species that degrade the quality of lakes in the Commonwealth. Through this program, we are offering a limited number of grants on a competitive basis of up to \$24,000.00 to correct identified lake problems. To apply, go to www.palakes.org click on What's New then download and complete the attached Grant Request Form available in either Microsoft Word or PDF formats. The deadline for application submission is October 1, 2010. Please, send all applications to the mailing address listed on the Request Form. You will receive an email confirmation when PALMS has received your application.

Proposals for EPA Brownfields Assessment, Cleanup and Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grants – Oct 15

These grants may be used to address sites contaminated by petroleum and hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants (including hazardous substances co-mingled with petroleum). Opportunities for funding are as follows: Brownfields Assessment Grants (each funded up

to \$200,000 over three years; coalitions are funded up to \$1,000,000 over three years), Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grants (each funded up to \$1,000,000 over five years) and Brownfields Cleanup Grants (each funded up to \$200,000 over three years). The proposal guidelines and frequently asked questions can be found on the EPA website <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/applicat.htm>

NOAA: Open Rivers Initiative – Nov 17

Through its Open Rivers Initiative, NOAA's Restoration Center provides technical expertise and financial assistance to remove dams and barriers and restore habitat for the many species that migrate between the ocean and the nation's freshwater rivers and streams. This initiative contributes to sustainability of U.S. fisheries, provides an economic boost for communities, and improves public safety. <http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/funding/ori.html>

Renewable Energy Feasibility Grants

Eligible applicants are agricultural producers and rural small businesses. All agricultural producers, including farmers and ranchers, who gain 50% or more of their gross income from the agricultural operations are eligible. Small businesses that are located in a rural area can also apply. Rural electric cooperatives may also be eligible to apply. The Rural Energy for America Program will provide funds to agricultural producers and rural small businesses to conduct feasibility studies for renewable energy systems. The Rural Energy for America Program is designed to help agricultural producers and rural small businesses reduce energy costs and consumption and help meet the nation's critical energy needs. The grants are awarded on a competitive basis and can be up to 25% of total eligible project costs. Grants are limited to \$50,000 for renewable energy feasibility studies. FYI – <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-19335.pdf>. Award Ceiling: \$50,000. Closing Date for Applications: Oct 05, 2010

Chesapeake Conservation Corps Program

The Chesapeake Bay Trust is proud to announce a new partnership with the State of Maryland and Constellation Energy to establish a Chesapeake Conservation Corps Program. The purpose of the Corps is 1) to enable stipend volunteers to work with host organizations and communities throughout Maryland to implement on-the-ground restoration and energy conservation projects, and 2) to provide leadership and training opportunities for young adults pursuing environmental and conservation careers. Corps volunteers will work on projects in the realms of environmental restoration, energy conservation, agriculture and forestry, and environmental education. Applications for HOST ORGANIZATIONS and CORPS VOLUNTEERS are currently being solicited, with a deadline of October 1, 2010. Successful Corps Volunteer applicants will be matched with Host Organizations by mid-October, with the one-year service term to begin November 15, 2010. For more information, please visit www.cbtrust.org/chesapeakeconservationcorps

CNCS Announces Grants to Engage, Retain Volunteers to Tackle National Challenges

The Corporation for National and Community Service awarded its Volunteer Generation Fund grants totaling \$4 million to 19 U.S. state service commissions to better recruit, manage, and retain volunteers to address pressing social challenges. The Volunteer Generation Fund is designed to help plug this "leaky bucket" of volunteer attrition, grow the nation's volunteer pool, and create a sustainable infrastructure of volunteer connector organizations to increase the impact of volunteers. For more information on these grants please visit the [CNCS website](http://www.cnscs.org).



WATERSHED FACILITATION ASSISTANCE

WATERSHED WEEKENDS – DOING OUR PART TO RESTORE THE CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED – Sep 11 – Oct 5

YORK, PA. – The Watershed Alliance of York is doing our part to help protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. The Chesapeake Bay is a national treasure constituting the largest estuary in the United States and one of the largest and most biologically productive estuaries in the world. Restoration of the health of the Chesapeake Bay will require a renewed commitment to controlling pollution from all sources as well as protecting and restoring habitat and living resources, conserving lands, and improving management of natural resources, all of which contribute to improved water quality and ecosystem health. Come out and get to know your watershed and the people and organizations working hard to restore and protect it. Watershed Weekends 2010 features 24 public venues from Saturday September 11th through October 5th, between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M., daily. Venues include a variety of hands-on conservation, environmental education, and stewardship activities, in York County's Watersheds. Watershed Weekends venues are indoors and outdoors fun for the whole family! Use our convenient, FREE, Watershed Weekends Guide available online at www.watershedyork.org to locate your watershed and venue nearest you. Guides will also be available to the public at local libraries, municipal offices, York County ANNEX, and from venue sponsors. The Watershed Alliance of York is a coalition of stakeholders committed to encouraging watershed-based planning, restoration and protection in York County and beyond. To learn more about WAY, please visit our web site at www.watershedyork.org. For information about the Watershed Weekends 2010, contact Gary R. Peacock at (717) 840-7430.

25th Annual WaterReuse Symposium – Sep 12-15

The 25th Annual WaterReuse Symposium will be held in Washington, D.C. on September 12 - 15, 2010. The event is cosponsored by the American Water Works Association and the Water Environment Federation and will focus on sustaining water supplies through water reuse and desalination. Additional Information is available at: <http://www.watereuse.org/conferences/symposium/25>.

TreeVitalize Streams Riparian Forest Buffer Overview Workshops – Sep 11 & 22

The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay announces FREE Riparian Buffer Overview workshops for community groups, schools and municipal leaders who want to learn more about how to plan, plant, protect and pay for forested riparian buffers in their watershed. The workshops are Free but we ask that you pre-register for planning purposes.

- Sept. 11, 2010 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., York County Annex Building, 112 Pleasant Acres Road, York 17402. To RSVP: 717-737-8622 or dmorelli@acb-online.org or rwertime@acb-online.org.
- Sept. 22, 2010 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Lancaster County Conservation District, Farm and Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Rd.—Lancaster, PA 17601. To RSVP: contact Matt Kofroth at (717) 299-5361 ext 124 or matt.kofroth@pa.nacdnet.net.

For more information about these workshops or to host a buffer workshop in your area, contact the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay at 717-737-8622 dmorelli@acb-online.org or rwertime@acb-online.org

YorkCounts to participate in regional planning meetings – Sep 21-30

As part of its ongoing commitment to engage stakeholders across York County, YorkCounts and the [York-Adams Smart Growth Coalition](#) will team up with the [York County Economic Development Corp.](#) and the [York County Planning Commission](#) to present a series of town hall meetings starting in late September. The meetings will provide regional updates on efforts to implement the county's new [economic development strategy](#), adopted in 2009. Each event will also feature a panel discussion on ways that [smart growth](#) concepts could fit into the strategy. Here are the dates and locations for each meeting:

- Sept. 21, South West Region, Penn Township Building, 20 Wayne Ave., Hanover
- Sept. 22, Greater York Region, Realtors Association of York and Adams Counties, 901 Smile Way, York
- Sept. 28, South East Region, Airville Fire Hall, 3576 Delta Road, Airville
- Sept. 29, Northern Region, Fairview Township Fire Station, 340 Lewisberry Road, New Cumberland
- Sept. 30, South Central Region, Springfield Township Building, 9211 Susquehanna Trail, Seven Valleys

As part of its [30 Community Solutions](#), YorkCounts has supported farmland preservation and regional collaboration and encouraged municipalities to participate in joint land-use planning. The meetings are free, but advance registration is requested; the deadline is Sept. 16. All meetings start at 5:30 p.m. To register, contact Shanna Weist at shanna@yorkadamssmartgrowth.org. For more information, call Roy Livergood at 717-771-9870 or click [here](#) to see the invitation.

Save the Date! Rally for the Chesapeake: Our Bay. Our Water. Our Moment – Sep 28

What: [Rally for the Chesapeake](#). When: Tuesday, Sept. 28th 2010 – 6pm. Where: National Aquarium – Baltimore's Inner Harbor

Who: Join leaders from the business, faith, conservation and social justice communities (and maybe even a celebrity or two) at a Rally for the Chesapeake! This fall we have an unprecedented opportunity to clean up our water and our communities, and to improve the health, well-being, and quality of life for our families. Come to the rally and help us urge the Governor of Maryland to give our children a better future – water that is safe to drink and swim in and seafood that is safe to eat throughout Maryland and the region. Clean Water is a Right, not a Privilege. Because nobody deserves water that is as dirty as an unflushed toilet. This is Our Bay, Our Water, Our Moment. Be there!

RSVP link: www.environmentmaryland.org/ourbay

Tickets are now available for the 2nd Annual Downtown Hoedown – Sep 30

Tickets are now available for the 2nd Annual Downtown Hoedown on Thursday, September 30, 2010 at the Agricultural & Industrial Museum, located at 217 West Princess Street. The fun begins at 5:30 PM. Tickets are a mere \$25 per person. That low price includes food by Artistic Foods Catering, local beer, wine and entertainment by Waitin On A Train. Group discounts are available at \$20 per ticket for groups of 10 or more... a great way to treat your friends, family or coworkers to a night out. This year's auction is better than last year! Special thanks to our presenting sponsor Glatfelter Insurance Group! To purchase tickets, contact the Farm & Natural Lands Trust of York County, 156 N George St, Ste 300, York, PA 17401. Phone; (717) 843-4411. E-mail skenny@farmtrust.org.

The Inagural 2011 National Green Infrastructure Conference – Feb 23-25

February 23-25, 2011 in Shepherdstown, WV. – A national gathering of policy-makers, practitioners, and on-the-ground implementers of green infrastructure practices and design. Join us to hear nationally recognized speakers from across the country discuss key elements for success and vital lessons-learned. Be part of developing the strategy for the future of green infrastructure! Select Speakers:

- Richard Davis, Principal, Beveridge & Diamond
- Richard Jackson, Professor and Chair, Environmental Health Sciences at UCLA School of Public Health
- Neil Pederson, Administrator, Maryland State Highway Administration
- Larry Selzer, President and CEO, The Conservation Fund

LINK HERE <http://www.conservationfund.org/gic2011> to the conference website, where you can register and find additional information on lodging. [DOWNLOAD](#) Save-the-Date flyer here!

[DOWNLOAD](#) detailed registration instructions.



WATERSHED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Study Examines Nitrogen, Copper Levels in Bay Watershed

ScienceDaily (Aug. 20, 2010) – A comprehensive study of pollutants in a major Chesapeake Bay tributary revealed troublesome levels of nitrogen and copper that could flow into the Bay, according to U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) scientists and their cooperators. Scientists with USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and their collaborators conducted the study as part of the Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP) for Maryland's Choptank River Watershed, which flows into the Chesapeake Bay. CEAP began in 2004 and focuses on the effects of conservation practices and Farm Bill conservation programs on 37 watersheds nationwide. Greg McCarty, a soil scientist with the ARS Hydrology and Remote Sensing Laboratory at Beltsville, Md. ARS is USDA's principal intramural scientific research agency. Monitoring the Choptank provides information needed to develop new conservation practices, refine existing ones, and design programs to evaluate efforts to clean the endangered Bay. Sampling the water every two months for three years, the scientists found that nitrate concentrations often exceeded levels that can cause algal blooms. Nitrate concentrations were highest at the headwaters where farming is concentrated, suggesting that agricultural fertilizers, including manure and poultry litter, are primary sources. But phosphorus concentrations were similar throughout the river, suggesting multiple sources. While some evidence points to wastewater treatment plants as a likely primary source, agriculture is also a major contributor. High copper concentrations were found in almost all samples at the lower reaches of the Choptank, but not in the upstream areas. This suggests that agriculture is not the primary source. The levels were high enough to be toxic to clams and other aquatic invertebrates that help feed and filter the Bay. Herbicides and their byproducts were present year-round. Concentrations did not approach established levels of concern for aquatic organisms. Still, this research shows the importance of agricultural practices that reduce

herbicide losses, particularly from springtime applications. The results of this study were published in the journal Science of the Total Environment. Read more about this research in the August 2010 issue of Agricultural Research magazine at:

<http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/AR/archive/aug10/chesapeake0810.htm>

Forecasting the Fate of Fertilizer in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed

ScienceDaily (Aug. 19, 2010) — Reducing the runoff from plant nutrients that can eventually wash into the Chesapeake Bay could someday be as easy as checking the weather forecast, thanks in part to work by U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) scientists. One way farmers manage manure from their livestock is by applying it to crop fields, which increases soil levels of nitrogen and phosphorus. But when it rains, the nitrogen and phosphorus in freshly applied manure is much more likely to run off and pollute nearby water sources, which can end up degrading water quality throughout the watershed. USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) are contributing to the development of a Web-based "fertilizer forecast." The scientists want to create a tool that produces 24-hour and 5-day runoff forecasts that are as user-friendly as weather forecasts. The scientists are based at the ARS Pasture Systems and Watershed Management Research Unit in University Park, Pa. ARS is USDA's primary intramural scientific research agency. The researchers are using National Weather Service (NWS) predictions of precipitation, soil moisture, and other data to design a simple hydrologic model that indicates the probability of field runoff occurrence. As part of this work, they are analyzing how runoff measurements in different Pennsylvania regions correlate with different NWS data sets for the same areas. For instance, the scientists have found that soil moisture forecasts are a strong indicator of nutrient runoff potential in fields underlain by fragipans, which are dense subsurface soil layers that can block water movement through soil. But at sites with other soil characteristics, runoff potential is much more strongly associated with other variables, such as forecasts of rainfall amounts. The team hopes that when their "forecast" is ready, it will give farmers a user-friendly tool that can be used to optimize fertilizer runoff management and enhance water quality. The above story is reprinted (with editorial adaptations by ScienceDaily staff) from materials provided by

[USDA/Agricultural Research Service](#)

Slowing Urban Sprawl, Adding Forests Curb Floods and Help Rivers

ScienceDaily (Aug. 19, 2010) — Controlling urban growth and increasing forested land are the most effective ways to decrease future water runoff and flooding, according to a Purdue University study. A model was used to simulate Michigan's Muskegon River watershed runoff rates from 1900 through the present and forecast them 30 years into the future. Several scenarios, including forest regrowth, urbanization, and buffers between development and streams, were analyzed to estimate their impact on rivers and streams. Excess runoff can have several consequences, including flooding, increases in agricultural nutrients and urban pollutants entering nearby water and affecting aquatic life, increases in water temperature in rivers and streams that can affect aquatic life, and changes in the apportionment of water to wetlands and groundwater. Findings, published in the early online version of the journal Environmental Management, suggest that slowing the rate of urban sprawl would be the most effective way to reduce or control runoff. Adding forest near rivers and streams and requiring buffer zones between those waterways and development also could help. Historical data used included census information, aerial photos and housing statistics - to build historical landscapes back to the early 1900s. That data was fed into the Land Transformation Model, developed at Purdue, to determine historical runoff rates. Predictions from the present through 2030 also were created using the model. Assumptions for those predictions were created by local governments, state agencies and non-governmental groups working around the Muskegon River based on their knowledge of development and other area trends. The findings included some good news: the landscape in the Midwest has improved since rapid deforestation in the late 1800s and early 1900s, with the best balance of urban and forested land since then occurring in the 1960s. Rebuilding efforts after the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 caused heavy deforestation. But the federal government reforested farmland that it took possession of in the Great Depression, leading to the balance observed in the 1960s. Future work will include examining the role landscape changes play in climate change and determining tipping points at which landscape changes impact rivers and streams. The National Science Foundation, NASA and the Great Lakes Fishery Trust funded the research.

Phosphate Ban in Dishwater Detergent Goes into Effect: Pennsylvania One of 16 States to Prohibit Use of Cleaning Agent

Starting July 1, a ban in Pennsylvania is prohibiting the sale of dishwater detergent that contain phosphates. Before, dishwater detergents could contain up to 9% phosphorus (by weight). Phosphorus acts like a fertilizer and promotes the growth of algae and aquatic weeds. Once they decompose, they deplete oxygen needed by aquatic life. Approximately 9 to 34 percent of phosphorus found in sewage treatment plants come from residential dishwashing detergent. The other 15 states included in the ban are Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire, Ohio, Oregon, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin. By Ad Crable, Intelligencer Journal, Lancaster New Era, July 6, 2010 <http://articles.lancasteronline.com/local/4/263806#ixzz0tTnZlR0>

Sediment Contamination in Stormwater Detention Ponds

South Carolina has an estimated 27,000 stormwater ponds that provide stormwater management and wildlife habitat. There are concerns that contaminants could negatively affect the wildlife inhabiting these ponds and the humans that utilize them for recreation. As stormwater ponds age, they accumulate sediment that should be periodically removed. Sixteen detention ponds in South Carolina were studied to evaluate the chemical contaminants found in the pond sediments. The study showed that higher levels of contaminants were found in commercial ponds and ponds with the largest drainage areas. This article details the specific levels of contaminants found in the study. By John E. Weinstein, Kevin D. Crawford, Denise M. Sanger, Stormwater Journal, July-August 2010

<http://www.stormh2o.com/july-august-2010/sediment-contamination-detentionponds.aspx>

'Super Socks' Help Stem Pollution Runoff

Filter socks are best management practices (BMPs) that consist of mesh tubes filled with compost. They are utilized to capture silt, heavy metals, fertilizers and petroleum products from stormwater. Agricultural Research Scientists (ARS) and their collaborators have studied whether adding flocculation agents to the socks improved their performance. The scientists found that standard compost socks removed the majority of clay and silt particles, 17 percent of ammonium nitrogen, 75 percent of E. coli bacteria, and from 37 percent to 72 percent of the heavy metals. Also, runoff levels of diesel fuel dropped 99 percent, levels of motor oil dropped 84 percent, and gasoline levels dropped 43 percent. Socks with flocculation agents increased the pollutant removal and removed 27 percent of the ammonium nitrogen, 99 percent of E. coli bacteria, 99 percent of the motor oil, 54 percent of the gasoline and from 47 percent to 74 percent of the heavy metals.

Permeable Pavers: Getting Water Out of the Gutter

Even landscape masonry contractors who've never installed a fountain are going to find plenty of wet work in the future. The reason: stormwater. It's a rare municipality today that simply allows storm runoff (especially from large commercial projects) to just meander offsite to overburdened waste-treatment systems or local waterways. And, some traditional options for onsite management – such as retention basins – fall out of favor as land prices increase. Given the right design and contractor, a pervious pavement system is a better option, allowing the water to percolate down to the water table or be recovered for future treatment or gray-water use. The systems often require some different thinking about costs in commercial developments. However, in an era where more individuals are going green, pervious – also called permeable – pavement can also offer an attractive option for some homeowners trying to be water-conscious on their own property. Read article... http://www.as-ld.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=108%3Apermeable-pavers-getting-water-out-of-the-gutter&catid=31%3Alatest-issue&Itemid=45

EPA to Reconsider Final Rule on Stormwater Discharges for Construction Sites

Office of Advocacy, Small Business Administration WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Office of Advocacy applauded the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) decision to reexamine its final rule for stormwater discharges for construction sites. The Office of Advocacy had estimated that the regulation had the potential of costing business \$10 billion annually, with minimal environmental improvement and would adversely affect housing affordability for millions of Americans. Small firms make up 97.7 percent of the construction and development industry. "EPA's decision to review its rule should be viewed as a step towards finding the appropriate regulation that protects our environment and doesn't overburden small business," said Susan M. Walthall, Acting Chief Counsel for Advocacy. "A regulation that is based on accurate data, with the opportunity for public input, will benefit us all." On April 20 (http://www.sba.gov/advo/laws/comments/epa10_0420.html) of this year the Office of Advocacy issued a letter petitioning EPA to reconsider the final rule for stormwater discharges for construction sites. The petition identified errors in EPA's data review and analysis that contributed to a stringent numeric standard of 280 nephelometric turbidity units (NTU). The petition also stated that providing the opportunity for public comment on the data and methodology would have improved the rule. A significant concern that Advocacy included in its April 20th petition was that EPA misinterpreted vendor data from a construction site in Seattle, Washington, as representing 15, instead of 3, pretreatment systems. This correction alone would drive the limit to approximately 500 NTU. For more information and a complete copy of the letter, visit the Office of Advocacy website at www.sba.gov/advo.

DEP Extending General Permit to Manage Stormwater Runoff

HARRISBURG -- The Department of Environmental Protection is providing municipal drainage system operators a nine-month extension of their existing general permit to better coordinate implementation of new permitting requirements. The extension applies to general permit PAG-13, which governs how municipal separate storm sewer systems handle stormwater runoff in urban areas. These systems, commonly referred to as MS4s, are publicly owned networks of storm drains, pipes and ditches that collect and drain stormwater. Improperly managed stormwater runoff can damage streams, cause significant erosion, and carry excessive pollutants downstream. The current PAG-13 permit for all MS4s is scheduled to expire at midnight on March 9, 2011. The extension will take effect March 10, 2011 and expire at midnight on Dec. 9, 2011. The extension allows time for DEP and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to conduct municipal outreach on the revised permit and to provide municipalities time to prepare their permit applications and supporting information. The extension also applies to existing PAG-13 permit approvals, waivers from permit application requirements, and exemptions from the MS4 operator designation that are scheduled to expire. Permittees covered by an individual permit should continue to implement the requirements of their permit and should request a coverage extension based on its terms and expiration date. The downloadable form to renew coverage for an individual permit is available at www.depweb.state.pa.us, keyword: Stormwater Management, then click on "NPDES MS4 Permit (PAG-13)." The existing PAG-13 permit documents are available from the department's regional offices. The permit package also is available on the department's website through the "Licensing, Permits, & Certification" page, or by calling Barry Newman at 717-705-6346.

Authority Announces Free Disposal of Prescription Medication

To provide residents with a second option for safely managing unused prescription medication, the York County Solid Waste Authority is accepting it from residents for FREE. Residents who prefer not to place unused prescription medications out with their regular garbage may make an appointment to deliver it directly to the York County Resource Recovery Center (RRC) for destruction. There is NO FEE to dispose of unused prescription medications. Only prescription (no over-the-counter) medications are accepted in this program. Residents must call 717-845-1066 to make an appointment to deliver prescription medications to the RRC. Residents should call in advance (please allow one to two week's notice) to schedule their desired disposal date. The disposal process will take approximately 20 minutes. Residents are required to complete a brief registration form and will be escorted into the RRC by an Authority representative to dispose of the medications. Medications must come from a single household. Medications collected from multiple households cannot be accepted. Most residents choose to place their medication out with their regular garbage. Because York County uses a waste-to-energy facility which burns garbage and produces power, medications are completely destroyed and reduced to an inert ash. To minimize potential impacts to human health and the environment, residents who place medications out with their regular garbage should take it out of its original container and mix it with an undesirable substance, such as used coffee grounds or kitty litter. The medication will be less appealing to children and pets, and unrecognizable to people who may intentionally go through trash. Put it in a sealable bag, empty can, or other container to prevent the medication from leaking or breaking out of a garbage bag. Before disposing of a medicine container, scratch out all identifying information to make it unreadable. This will help to protect identities and the privacy of personal health information. Other Tips:

- The FDA recommends flushing certain unused medications due to safety risks. To learn more, visit: www.fda.gov/consumer
- Do not give your medication to anyone else or take a prescription that was not prescribed for you.
- Check the Authority's web site: www.ycswa.com under "Upcoming Events" to find community medication take-back programs that may be scheduled near you.

The Authority facilitates responsible solid waste management through an integrated strategy that emphasizes waste reduction, education, recycling and resource recovery. The Authority is the owner of the York County Resource Recovery Center in Manchester Township; and owns and operates a Yard Waste Transfer Facility, a Recyclable Materials Drop-off Center and an Education Center. Other free programs for York

County residents include a litter disposal program, electronics, Christmas tree and phone book recycling, household hazardous waste collection, public education programming and a public recycling drop-off center.

Illegal Dump Site Survey Results and Disposal Assistance

The recent PA CleanWays – Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful illegal dump site survey results for York County identified 274 dump sites and 263 tons of trash. A summary of the report can be viewed at the PA CleanWays web site at: http://www.pacleanways.org/IDS/ids_index.html. To assist with the clean-up of these dump sites, the York County Solid Waste Authority is offering free disposal of combustible materials at the York County Resource Recovery Center. Tires will be accepted as long as they are off the rim and do not exceed a maximum outside diameter of 32 inches or a maximum tread width of 12 inches. Dedicated loads of tires should be scheduled in advance per the litter guidelines. To take advantage of this option through our litter disposal program, clean-up groups need only complete and submit a registration form. For your convenience, I have attached a copy of our litter program guidelines along with the registration form. If you have any questions about the Authority's litter disposal program, please do not hesitate to contact Ellen C. O'Connor, Manager, Community Services Division, at 845-1066. Or e-mail: e.oconnor@ycswa.com. Visit our Web Site: www.ycswa.com

TreeVitalize Streams Riparian Forested Buffer Workshops

The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay is offering FREE Riparian Buffer Workshops to community groups. TreeVitalize Streams workshops are for all groups who want to plant buffers on park, school or commercial land in Pennsylvania. A TreeVitalize Streams workshop is an opportunity to: Learn about current issues in your watershed; Get up-to date information on financial support and other incentives to plant riparian buffers on public land; Learn to design, plant, protect and maintain a riparian forest buffer.

We offer a number of educational workshops, events, and resources that provide you with critical information.

- Riparian Forested Buffer Overview Workshop
- General Workshop for groups who want to learn more about buffers
- Riparian Buffer Planning Workshop—A “How to” design a planting plan class & field work
- Planting Field Day—On site implementation of planting plan created in planning workshop
- Maintenance Workshop—How to keep your buffer “buff”

TreeVitalize Streams is aimed at helping groups undertake planting projects that help create, enhance or protect riparian buffers, in turn reducing erosion, eradicating invasive plants, and improving habitat for Pennsylvania wildlife. To find out more or schedule a workshop, contact the the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay at 717-737-8622 or email: rwertime@acb-online.org or dmorelli@acb-online.org

County Natural Heritage Inventories

Since 1988, ecologists from the [Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program](http://www.pennher.org) (PNHP) have been conducting County Natural Heritage Inventories (CNHI) across the Commonwealth, progressing county by county. Natural Heritage Inventories for 62 counties have been completed. CNHI for York County is available for download from the Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program's website at: www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/CNAI_Download.aspx.

DEP eNOTICE - Regulation Update.

On 8/19/2010, the Independent Regulatory Review Commission took the actions noted on the following final regulations:

- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permitting, Monitoring and Compliance – Approved
- Outdoor Wood-Fired Boilers – Approved
- Water Quality Standards Implementation – Approved

The public will be notified when the approved final regulations are published in the [Pennsylvania Bulletin](http://www.pennbulletin.com).

Pennsylvania Bulletin on 8/21/2010:

- Erosion and Sediment Control and Stormwater Management.
- Wastewater Treatment Requirements.

Please access the [Pennsylvania Bulletin](http://www.pennbulletin.com) for copies of the final regulations. The [Pennsylvania Bulletin](http://www.pennbulletin.com) is the official version of the final regulations until the regulation are codified in Title 25 of the [Pennsylvania Code](http://www.pennsylvania.gov).

New Office of Water Web Site

On August 12, EPA's Office of Water (OW) launched its redesigned website, <http://water.epa.gov>, replacing four OW content areas on www.epa.gov. Information is now organized by topic in a way that should be more straight-forward and useful to visitors. Visitors to the agency site looking for water-related content will be redirected to appropriate pages on the new OW site.

