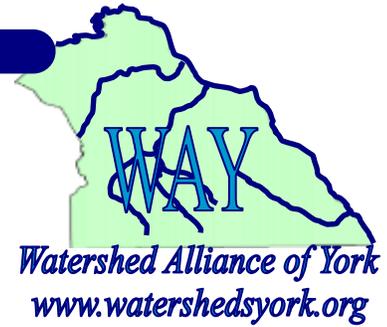


# WAY E-NEWS

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



September 12, 2011

A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Volume 11, Issue 19

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**WATERSHED CONTACTS**

**COUNTY PLANNING – (717) 771-9870  
CONSERVATION – (717) 840-7430**

- Agricultural conservation planning
- Environmentally sensitive dirt & gravel road maintenance
- Environmental stewardship and watershed protection
- Erosion & sediment control
- Stormwater complaints

**24-HR EMERGENCIES – (877) 333-1904**

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

**ENVIRONMENTAL – DEP-SCRO**

- General Info 717-705-4700
- Director SCRO 717-705-47047
- Air Quality 717-705-4702
- Energy & Technology 717-705-4703
- Environmental Cleanup 717-705-4705
- Mining (800) 541-2050
- Radiation Protection 717-705-4704
- Waste Management 717-705-4706
- Water Supply Management 717-705-4708
- Water Management 717-705-4707
- Watershed Management 717-705-4704

**FISHERIES – (800) 541-2050**

- Wildlife (fish, reptiles, amphibians) nuisance problems or to report violations
- FISH KILL 1-855-347-4545

**GAME & WILDLIFE – (888) 742-8001**

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

**ILLEGAL DUMPING**

- Illegal dumping on state forest and park lands (877) 772-3673

**ILLEGAL DUMPING York County 840-7687**

**MUNICIPAL (Phonebook Blue Pages)**

- Air pollution by burning household garbage
- Dumping waste in surface waters
- Floodplain disturbances
- Municipal and residential septic/sewage problems
- Stormwater management

**NOXIOUS PLANTS – (717) 772-5209**

**RECYCLING – (717) 845-1066**

**WETLANDS – (717) 249-2522**

*Updated 4/27/2011*

## WATERSHED ALLIANCE OF YORK

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

[Brunner Island Environmental Preserve](http://www.pplpreserves.com) - [www.pplpreserves.com](http://www.pplpreserves.com)

[Carroll Citizens for Sensible Growth](http://carrollcitizens.com/) - <http://carrollcitizens.com/>

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

[Codorus Endowment Implementation Committee](http://www.yccf.org) - [www.yccf.org](http://www.yccf.org)

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

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

[Deer Creek Watershed Association](http://deercreekwatershed.com/) - <http://deercreekwatershed.com/>

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

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

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

[Holtwood Environmental Preserve](http://www.pplpreserves.com) - [www.pplpreserves.com](http://www.pplpreserves.com)

[Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education](http://www.hornfarmcenter.org) - [www.hornfarmcenter.org](http://www.hornfarmcenter.org)

[Izaak Walton League York Chapter #67](http://www.yorkchapter67iwla.org/) - [www.yorkchapter67iwla.org/](http://www.yorkchapter67iwla.org/)

[Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper](http://www.lowersusquehannariverkeeper.org) - [www.lowersusquehannariverkeeper.org](http://www.lowersusquehannariverkeeper.org)

[Maryland's Upper West Shore Trib Team](http://www.dnr.state.md.us/bay/tribstrat/upper_west/up_west_shore.html) - [http://www.dnr.state.md.us/bay/tribstrat/upper\\_west/up\\_west\\_shore.html](http://www.dnr.state.md.us/bay/tribstrat/upper_west/up_west_shore.html)

[Mason-Dixon Trail System](http://www.masondixontrail.org/) - <http://www.masondixontrail.org/>

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

[Peach Bottom Concerned Citizens Group Inc.](http://www.pbccg.com) - [www.pbccg.com](http://www.pbccg.com)

[Prettyboy Watershed Alliance](http://www.prettyboywatershed.org) - [www.prettyboywatershed.org](http://www.prettyboywatershed.org)

Reel to Real York (R2RY): Sustainable Film Partnership of York County

[Sierra Club – Gov. Pinchot Group of PA](http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/pinchot/) - <http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/pinchot/>

[Shank's Mare Outfitters GO PLAY OUTSIDE!](http://www.shanksmare.com) - [www.shanksmare.com](http://www.shanksmare.com)

[Sonnewald Natural Foods](http://www.sonnewald.org/) - [www.sonnewald.org/](http://www.sonnewald.org/)

[Spoutwood Farm Center for Sustainable Living](http://www.spoutwood.com) - [www.spoutwood.com](http://www.spoutwood.com)

[Sunnyside Farm CSA](http://www.sunny-side-farm.com/) - <http://www.sunny-side-farm.com/>

[Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area](http://www.susquehannaheritage.org/) - <http://www.susquehannaheritage.org/>

[Susquehanna Greenway Partnership](http://www.susquehannagreenway.org) - [www.susquehannagreenway.org](http://www.susquehannagreenway.org)

[Trout Unlimited Codorus Chapter #558](http://www.codorustu.org) - [www.codorustu.org](http://www.codorustu.org)

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

[Watershed Alliance of Adams County](http://www.adamswatersheds.org/) - <http://www.adamswatersheds.org/>

[Watershed Alliance of York](http://www.watershedsyork.org) - [www.watershedsyork.org](http://www.watershedsyork.org)

[Yellow Breeches Watershed Association](http://www.ybwa.org) - [www.ybwa.org](http://www.ybwa.org)

[York-Adams Regional Smart Growth Coalition](http://www.yorkadamssmartgrowth.org) - [www.yorkadamssmartgrowth.org](http://www.yorkadamssmartgrowth.org)

[York Audubon Society](http://www.yorkaudubon.org/) - <http://www.yorkaudubon.org/>

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

[York County Parks & Recreation](http://www.YorkCountyParks.org) - [www.YorkCountyParks.org](http://www.YorkCountyParks.org)

[York County Planning Commission](http://www.ycpc.org) - [www.ycpc.org](http://www.ycpc.org)

[York County Solid Waste & Refuse Authority](http://www.ycswa.org/) - [www.ycswa.org/](http://www.ycswa.org/)

York County TMDL Work Group



## **WATERSHED EDUCATION & OUTREACH**

### **President Declares Emergency In 42 Of 67 PA Counties**

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's [Federal Emergency Management Agency](#) announced early Friday an emergency exists in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and ordered federal aid to supplement Commonwealth and local response efforts due to the emergency conditions resulting from the Remnants of Tropical Storm Lee beginning on September 3 and continuing. The President's action authorizes the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, to coordinate all disaster relief efforts which have the purpose of alleviating the hardship and suffering caused by the emergency on the local population, and to provide appropriate assistance for required emergency measures, authorized under Title V of the Stafford Act, to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety, and to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe. The counties included in the declaration are: Adams, Bedford, Berks, Blair, Bradford, Bucks, Cambria, Carbon, Centre, Chester, Clinton, Columbia, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Lycoming, Mifflin, Monroe, Montgomery, Montour, Northampton, Northumberland, Perry, Philadelphia, Schuylkill, Snyder, Somerset, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Union, Wyoming, and York. Specifically, FEMA is authorized to identify, mobilize, and provide at its discretion, equipment and resources necessary to alleviate the impacts of the emergency. Emergency protective measures, including direct federal assistance, will be provided at 75 percent federal funding. Thomas J. McCool has been named as the Federal Coordinating Officer for federal recovery operations in the affected area. While federal disaster assistance centers will be established in areas affected by flooding, businesses and individuals can find an overview of assistance to be made available on the [FEMA website](#).

### **BEWARE of Health Threats from Floodwaters**

HARRISBURG -- The state departments of Health (DOH) and Environmental Protection (DEP) today warned residents in central and eastern Pennsylvania of the health risks associated with coming into contact with floodwater. A total of 159 water and sewage treatment plants have been affected, some to the point of overflow, causing sewage to leak into streams and rivers in some areas. In addition, floodwaters are carrying contaminants and debris from flooded homes and industrial sites. Officials reminded residents the water has yet to crest in all areas. However, the state is working with local municipalities and regulators to immediately begin the process of rebuilding and recovery. Residents should heed announcements from their local municipalities on the quality of drinking water, paying special attention to boil water advisories and requests for water conservation. Private wells that have been submersed by flooding should be tested prior to using the well water for drinking or bathing. In the event local water supplies become contaminated, or residents observe that tap water is cloudy and/or contains an unusual odor, they should:

- Use alcohol-based, waterless hand sanitation products to clean their hands.
- Use bottled water for drinking water.
- Boil water by bringing it to a rolling boil and letting the water boil for at least one minute. Boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking, cooking, food preparation, dishwashing, making ice/coffee, mixing baby formula and brushing teeth.
- Wear gloves to protect open scratches or wounds from contacting contaminated floodwater. Raw sewage and other bacteria in floodwaters can cause infections. Wounds should be cleaned thoroughly with soap and clean water.
- Disinfect everything the water has touched with a two-percent chlorine bleach solution. Use two or three capfuls of chlorine bleach per each bucket of water. Wear gloves and boots when disinfecting.
- Discard food that has come in contact with floodwaters. Dishes and eating and cooking utensils should be thoroughly scrubbed with a solution made of clean water and chlorine bleach.

Common health threats after flooding include gastrointestinal (GI) disease and staph infections from contaminated waters. To prevent mold, standing water should be removed from flooded buildings within 48 hours. If you plan to be inside the building for a while or you plan to clean up mold, you should buy a N95 mask at your local home supply store and wear it while in the building. For more information, visit [www.dep.state.pa.us](http://www.dep.state.pa.us) or [www.health.state.pa.us](http://www.health.state.pa.us).

### **DEP Offers Tips to Save Water, Ease Load on Treatment Facilities in Wake of Flooding**

HARRISBURG -- The Department of Environmental Protection is recommending that residents of flood-stricken areas conserve water to reduce the load on local wastewater treatment plants, many of which may be either partially or fully inoperable due to recent flooding in central and eastern Pennsylvania. This historic flooding has put a strain on many of these facilities. While we have encouraged plant managers to advise their customers to use water during off-peak hours whenever possible, there are steps we can all start taking now to help move flood recovery along. DEP recommends that residents, businesses and other institutions follow these guidelines, which can also save money in reduced water and energy bills:

- If you have more than one toilet, use one for urination and use it at least twice before flushing. This can save five to seven gallons per flush. Users should keep toilet lids shut and keep children and pets away from toilets that have not been flushed. Avoid unnecessary flushing by disposing of facial tissues and other similar waste in the trash rather than the toilet.
- Place a plastic jug of water or commercial "dam" in older toilet tanks to cut down on the amount of water needed for each flush, which can save more than 1,000 gallons a year.
- Verify that your home is leak-free. Many homes have hidden water leaks. Read your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, there is a leak.
- When washing dishes by hand, fill one sink or basin with soapy water and a second sink or basin with rinse water. If additional rinsing is needed, quickly rinse under a slow-moving stream from the faucet. Wash fruits and vegetables in a basin, not under running water.
- Do not use running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods. Defrost food overnight in the refrigerator or use the defrost setting on your microwave.
- Store drinking water in the refrigerator and do not let the tap run while you are waiting for cool water to flow.
- Wash clothes and use the dishwasher only when you have a full load, and set it to use the minimum amount of water required.
- Take quick showers and save an average of 20 gallons of water.
- Turn off the water when brushing your teeth or shaving, saving more than five gallons of water per day.

For more information, visit [www.depweb.state.pa.us](http://www.depweb.state.pa.us).

### **DEP Offers Tips to Residents Dealing with Flood-ravaged Property**

Cleanup, Leaking Home Fuel Tanks, Water Well Disinfection, Important Considerations. HARRISBURG -- The Department of Environmental Protection is advising residents whose homes or businesses have been affected by flood waters to take a number of precautions to assure a safe cleanup. Homeowners who suffered flood damage should note these cleanup guidelines:

- Be careful when entering a flood-damaged building. Loose, wet ceiling plaster is heavy and dangerous, so knock down hanging plaster before moving around. Watch for holes in the floor and loose boards with exposed nails.
- Once inside, turn off the gas and electricity. Wear rubber-soled shoes or boots and rubber gloves and turn off the main switch using a piece of rubber, plastic or dry wood while standing on a dry board to avoid electrocution.
- Do not pump the basement until the water has gone down, as pumping a water-filled basement could result in the walls collapsing.
- Never use a gas-powered pump or generator in an enclosed area; carbon monoxide fumes could overcome you.
- Test plumbing and basement drains by pouring a bucket of water in them. If the water does not run out, remove the clean-out plug from the trap and rake out the mud with a wire.
- Do not rush to move back into your home. Before a house is habitable, it must be dried and thoroughly cleaned, since flood waters pick up sewage and chemicals as they travel.
- Open doors and windows to ventilate and dry the inside, and wait until all floors, ceilings, walls and furnishings are dry and free of mold and mildew before trying to repair or salvage them.
- Everything that flood water has touched should be disinfected. Scrub down walls and any other smooth, hard surfaces with a solution made of clean water and two-percent chlorine bleach. Two to three capfuls of chlorine bleach to a bucket of water are recommended. Wear gloves when disinfecting surfaces.
- Do not attempt to repair floors until they are fully dry. Dry wood floors as soon as possible by opening all doors and windows, which should prevent them from shrinking and deforming. Once dry, buckled floors may be drawn back into place with nails, and planing and sanding may remove humps.
- Remove drawers and clean all mud and dirt from wooden furniture. Be sure to dry furniture slowly and indoors to prevent the sun from warping it.
- If possible, simply air-dry family treasures such as books, photographs or paintings. If wet books, documents, photographs or textiles cannot be air-dried within 48 hours, freeze them if you have a freezer that is large enough. If not, keep them as cool as possible until air-drying is possible.
- Washers, dryers and furnaces can usually be cleaned and tested by qualified electricians. Replacing expensive appliances after a flood is usually not necessary.
- Mattresses, carpets and rugs should be discarded. In most cases, mattresses and rugs become so saturated with contaminated material that cleaning attempts are futile.

To deal with leaking home fuel tanks in flooded basements, remove the fuel oil from the surface of the water and place it in a container for disposal. The water that is under the product can be directed to the nearest waterway. After pumping your basement, try to remove and place in a container any remaining product and stop the leak in the tank. If your private groundwater well or spring has been flooded, follow specific disinfection instructions to temporarily address the problem. These can be found in the Flood-related Information tab at [www.dep.state.pa.us](http://www.dep.state.pa.us). You will need a bucket, garden hose, funnel and chlorinating compound, which is sold in liquid and granular form at grocery and home-improvement stores. Even after the disinfection process is completed, water should be tested for bacteria. DEP's regional offices will be equipped by Monday with test kits to distribute at no cost to residents. For contact information for the regional office in your area, consult the Regional Resources tab of DEP's website. Until tested and found potable, continue to use bottled water or bring your water to a rolling boil and let it boil for at least one minute. Bottled or boiled water should be used for drinking, cooking, food preparation, dishwashing, making ice and coffee, mixing baby formula and brushing teeth. For assistance beyond what is available on DEP's website, call 1-866-255-5158 any time or consult the Penn State University Cooperative Extension's Master Well Owner Network at <http://extension.psu.edu/water/mwon>. For more information, visit the Flood-related Information page at [www.dep.state.pa.us](http://www.dep.state.pa.us).

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE: Submit Stream Restoration, Mine Drainage Projects As Damage**

County conservation districts and watershed groups should be aware that stream restoration structures, passive and active mine drainage treatment systems, natural stream restoration structures, farm conservation structures and other stream improvement projects funded by Growing Greener, Section 319 and other sources should be included in any flood damage assessment submitted by counties to the Federal Emergency Management Agency if they were damaged by floodwaters. The cost of repairing damage to these structures and projects has been reimbursed in the past by FEMA as part of the flood recovery projects, but they have been is often overlooked when flood damage occurs.

### **DCNR: Heavy Rain, Flooding Boost Risk Of Landslides**

Recent heavy rain and flooding has increased the danger of landslides on moderate to steep slopes, according to scientists in the Bureau of Topographic and Geologic Survey in the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Mountainous areas with steep slopes are the places with the greatest possibility of shallow mud and debris slides, and rock falls. Movement of shallow landslides is most likely to initiate during periods of intense rainfall, but movement of deeper landslides may be delayed as water pressure in pores in rock rise in response to the rainfall. Motorists should watch for rocks and debris and downed trees on roads, or collapsed pavement or guard rails along roads, particularly on roads that border steep embankments. Near a stream or channel, residents should be alert for any sudden increase or decrease in water flow and for a change from clear to muddy water. Such changes may indicate landslide activity upstream, and indicate a need to quickly move away from the area. Some tips should you anticipate or encounter a landslide: Quickly move out of the path of the landslide; If escape is not possible, curl into a tight ball and protect your head; After a landslide, stay away from the slide area. There may be danger of additional slides; Notify local emergency officials; and Check for injured and trapped persons near the slide, without entering the direct slide area. Direct rescuers to their locations. More information about landslides is available at the DCNR [Landslides webpage](#). For additional information about geology in Pennsylvania, visit the [Bureau of Topographic and Geologic Survey](#) webpage.

### **Hurricane Irene and Maryland's portion of the Chesapeake**

The passage of Hurricane Irene off of Maryland's Atlantic coast August 27-28 had significant impacts to both the coastal area of the State, as

well as the Chesapeake Bay and its tributary streams as far west as Frederick County. All US Geological Survey stream gages in the Maryland Bay watershed showed peak flows from the heavy rains, which were more dramatic at gage sites on the Eastern Shore. These flows carry a high level of polluted runoff toward the Bay which can fuel late season algal blooms in rivers and in the Bay and reduce water clarity which can impact the growth of aquatic grasses and fishing activities. The strong, mostly northerly winds in the Maryland portion of the Bay created turbulent currents that all but eliminated the summer-long "dead zone" of low oxygen conditions in the deep waters of the Bay. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources will continue to monitor water quality conditions and aquatic resources in State waters, including the Chesapeake Bay. [For more information...](#)

#### **New Blue Crab Assessment Shows Rebuilding Efforts Should Continue**

A recently-completed blue crab stock assessment concludes that blue crabs in the Chesapeake Bay were more depleted than originally believed and will take longer to rebuild than had been expected. The assessment sets a new overfishing threshold and emphasizes new safe abundance level for female crabs to continue the rebuilding that has occurred during the last three years. [More details...](#)

#### **Study calls for halting oyster fishing in Chesapeake Bay**

A new study by the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science recommends "a moratorium on fishing until reefs and self-sustaining populations are restored." This would indeed be referring to oysters! Researchers say that despite major efforts, such as aquaculture, oyster sanctuaries and enforced anti-poaching laws, oyster populations in the Bay are still at a sharp decline. This is due to continued fishing, disease and habitat loss. Read the full article on the Washington Post website: <http://wapo.st/pPhaTc>

#### **New Resources Help Youth, Adults Identify Their Local Watershed**

When you're visiting a nature center, local park, or even driving on the highway you often see signs that identify the name of the local watershed that you are in. However, when you return home that same sign doesn't hang at the entrance to your neighborhood or at end of your driveway. So how do you know what watershed you live in? This is a common question without one simple answer. Fortunately, there are several new resources available to help guide the process of identifying your local watershed. From the Penn State Extension 4-H Stream Teams Program, a new curriculum supplement called 4-H Stream Teams: [How To Identify Your Local Watershed in Pennsylvania](#) guides readers through various methods for identifying a watershed. This resource briefly explains what a watershed is and also that they come in many sizes (from oceanic basins to small tributary watersheds). It then offers several options for identifying your local watershed, including where to seek out existing maps of state, regional, and local watersheds. The new guide also introduces a valuable Internet-based resource that can be used to create watershed maps when none exist. Finally, the 4-H Stream Teams How To guide provides ideas for how to make the most out of knowing the identity of your local watershed. This guide and other watershed guides can [be found online](#). Also from Penn State Extension's 4-H Stream Teams program is a new online video titled 4-H Stream Teams: How To Identify & Map Your Local Watershed Using USGS StreamStats. USGS "[StreamStats](#)" is a web-based Geographic Information System program that provides users with access to an assortment of analytical tools, useful for water-resources planning and management and for engineering design applications, such as the design of bridges. StreamStats allows users to easily obtain streamflow statistics, drainage-basin characteristics, and other information for user-selected sites on streams. StreamStats users can choose locations of interest from an interactive map and obtain information for these locations." StreamStats is also a powerful tool for delineating the boundaries of any size basin or watershed from a point on any stream. By locating your home or other point of interest on a map, you can quickly delineate the watershed boundaries of the nearby tributaries and ultimately determine which one your point of interest falls within. This video guides you through the basic functions of the USGS StreamStats Interactive Map to help you identify your watershed. The video can also [be found online](#).



## **WATERSHED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

#### **Applications For Small Business Advantage Grants Now Available – Sep 28**

The Department of Environmental Protection is now accepting applications for the [Advantage Grant Program](#) for small business pollution prevention and energy efficiency projects. Applications are due September 28. Small Business Advantage is a grant program providing up to 50 percent reimbursement grants, to a maximum of \$7,500, to enable a small business in this Commonwealth to adopt or acquire energy efficient or pollution prevention equipment or processes. Well designed energy efficient or pollution prevention projects can help small businesses cut costs and reduce the risk of potential regulatory problems, while simultaneously protecting the environment. An eligible applicant must be a for-profit small business owner whose business or facility is located within this Commonwealth. All Commonwealth small businesses are eligible, including but not limited to manufacturers, retailers, service providers, mining businesses and agricultural concerns. The project to which the grant will apply must be located within the applicant's Commonwealth facility and save the business at least 25 percent annually in energy or pollution related expenses plus \$1,000. A copy of the application and eligibility requirements [are available online](#) or contact Rhonda Brown at the Office of External Affairs at (-717-772-8909. To ask a specific question concerning a project type, send email to: [epadvantagegrant@state.pa.us](mailto:epadvantagegrant@state.pa.us) before submitting an application.

#### **Register Now For GreenSylvania/RecycleBowl School Recycling Competition – Oct 10**

Beginning with the October / November 2011 Competition, [GreenSylvania](#) is teaming up with KAB and "[Recycle-Bowl](#)." Registering with the Keep America Beautiful RecycleBowl will automatically register you for GreenSylvania. The first 1000 Competition or Open Division schools to register will receive a Recycle-Bowl coordinator toolkit. The toolkit will include Recycle-Bowl competition posters, a Recycle-Bowl t-shirt, recycling material to hang up in your cafeteria, a recycling book for your library (elementary schools only) and a lesson plan guide (high schools and middle schools only). Be sure to sign up by October 10. If you have any questions or comments, please contact the Recycle-Bowl staff at 202-688-0605 and/or send email to: [info@recycle-bowl.org](mailto:info@recycle-bowl.org). [Click Here](#) to register.

#### **National Science Foundation (NSF) Water Sustainability and Climate Grants - Oct 19**

This NSF Water Sustainability and Climate Program seeks to understand and predict the interactions between the water system and climate change, land use (including agriculture, managed forest, and rangeland systems), the built environment, and ecosystem function and services

through place-based research and integrative models. Studies of the water system using models and/or observations at specific sites singly or in combination that allow for spatial and temporal extrapolation to other regions, as well as integration across the different processes in that system are encouraged, especially to the extent that they advance the development of theoretical frameworks and predictive understanding. Eligible applicants include universities and colleges, non-profit, non-academic organizations, for-profit organizations, and other federal agencies and federally funded research and development centers. NSF expects to give out 26 awards. Applications are due October 19, 2011. <http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&oppld=100076>

#### **Northeast SARE Sustainable Community Grants - Oct 19**

Sustainable Community Grants offered by the Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program make direct connections between community revitalization and farming. Projects must address specific key issues such as farm finance, marketing, land use, water use, enterprise development, value-added product development, or other delineated topic areas. Eligible communities and organizations must be based in the Northeastern United States. <http://nesare.org/get/sustainable-community/>

#### **Applications For Solar Energy Program Due - Oct 21**

Starting September 1, the [Commonwealth Financing Authority](#) will begin accepting applications for its Solar Energy Program. The deadline for applications is October 21. About \$10 million will be available for new projects, however, that number may be revised upward in December if more funds become available from previously funded projects that fell through. The CFA plans to deploy funds that are (or will be) available from projects that either did not use all of the originally awarded funding or will not proceed. As a result of previous approvals through the Solar Energy Program, there are currently completed or started projects representing almost 25 megawatts of solar power installed across this Commonwealth. Previously submitted applications for still viable projects that were not approved by the CFA in the past must be updated and resubmitted following Solar Energy Program guidelines. It is possible to request an application fee waiver for those projects. The CFA anticipates acting on Solar Energy Program applications at the January 2012 board meeting. It is important to note that CFA contracts extended to newly approved projects will be 12 months in length. Applications should be submitted with this in mind and should represent projects ready to move forward within 6 months of application submission. Review the [Solar Energy Program Guidelines](#) thoroughly before applying. Eligible applicants are encouraged to contact Tigh Savercool at 717-720-1401 to discuss potential projects before beginning the application process.

#### **Applications For Business In Our Sites Brownfield Funding Accepted - Oct 31**

The [Commonwealth Financing Authority](#) is now accepting applications for its [Business In Our Sites Program](#) and the [PennWorks](#) Programs through October 31 for brownfield and other business site development. Funds may be used to acquire land, conduct environmental assessment and remediation, and perform demolition. The funds may also be used for site preparation activities and installation of infrastructure, including but not limited to, sewer, water, storm water, utilities and telecommunications, both on site and as needed to bring service to the site. They may also be used for access roads or other necessary on-site and off-site transportation improvements. These include rail, costs associated with engineering, legal and other professional services; and any other activities necessary to make a specific site ready for reuse. The CFA plans to make available approximately \$38.5 million in funds that are available from loan repayments and projects that either did not use all of the awarded funding or did not proceed. Within the \$38.5 million there is approximately \$25 million in BOS loan repayments that can be reloaned and approximately \$13.5 million in unused PennWorks funds that can be loaned or granted to projects for water and sewer improvements. The CFA intends to use the BOS and PennWorks funds in tandem to help finance the construction of high-impact projects in regions of this Commonwealth where there is a significant need for developed business sites. The CFA is not intending to fund stand alone water or sewer projects with the limited PennWorks funds, but rather use the available funds to compliment the BOS funds for projects where there are water or sewer components. If applying for both BOS and PennWorks funding for a project, indicate that in the application narrative and budget sections. Where application addendum information is the same for both the BOS and PennWorks applications, only submit that information as part of the BOS application. Only the application fee for BOS is applicable if applying for both programs. Review [the BOS](#) and [PennWorks](#) guidelines thoroughly before applying. Eligible applicants are encouraged to contact Brian Eckert at 717-720-1400 or Scott Dunkelberger at 717-720-1418 to discuss potential projects before beginning the application process.

#### **Fall 2012 EPA Greater Research Opportunities (GRO) Fellowships for Undergraduate Environmental Study - Dec 12**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), as part of its Greater Research Opportunities (GRO) Fellowships program, is offering Greater Research Opportunities (GRO) undergraduate fellowships for bachelor level students in environmental fields of study. Subject to availability of funding, and other applicable considerations, the Agency plans to award approximately 40 new fellowships by July 30, 2012. Eligible students will receive support for their junior and senior years of undergraduate study and for an internship at an EPA facility during the summer of their junior year. The fellowship provides up to \$19,700 per academic year of support and \$9,500 of support for a three-month summer internship. Applications are due December 12, 2011. [http://www.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2012/2012\\_gro\\_undergrad.html](http://www.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2012/2012_gro_undergrad.html)

#### **USDA offers sustainable agriculture grants to farmers, ranchers - Dec 2**

The USDA's Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program is offering grants for on-farm research, demonstration and education projects. Farmers and ranchers with innovative ideas on improving their operations through sustainable agriculture practices can apply. Three grants are available: individual grants (\$7,500 maximum); partner grants for two farmers/ranchers from separate operations (\$15,000 maximum); and group grants for three or more farmers/ranchers from separate operations working together (\$22,500 maximum). The deadline for applying is Dec. 2. SARE will evaluate proposals and budgets in early 2012 and send out grant contracts in the spring. [More](http://www.infozine.com/news/stories/op/storiesView/sid/48836/) <http://www.infozine.com/news/stories/op/storiesView/sid/48836/>

#### **President's Environmental Award - Dec 31**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency this week presented high school senior Joy Best of Philadelphia with the EPA mid-Atlantic Region's 2010 [President's Environmental Youth Award](#) for coordinating a highly successful environmental awareness festival at a local library. Best designed and coordinated the Environmental Awareness Festival for students and adults in the Feltonville section of Philadelphia. The innovative project used youth-led research, displays, arts and crafts, and experiments to educate and inspire the community about environmental issues including water protection, solar energy, urban forestry and community gardens. Best's environmental festival was

chosen from applications in the mid-Atlantic region that includes Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. Applications were evaluated by a regional awards panel of EPA employees. All student participants receive a certificate signed by the President honoring them for their efforts to protect human health and the environment. Best and 11 other students who assisted her, were recognized during the annual EPA-sponsored awards ceremony at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia. The deadline for applying for the 2011 award is December 31. For more information on how to apply, visit the [President's Environmental Youth Award](#) webpage. Visit EPA's [Environmental Education](#) webpage for more curriculum and activity ideas.



## **WATERSHED FACILITATION ASSISTANCE**

### **9th WATERSHED WEEKEND – Doing Our Part to Help the Bay! – Sep 24 & 25**

The Watershed Alliance of York (WAY) sponsors Watershed Weekend, on the last full weekend of September, annually. The purpose of the Watershed Weekend is to increase public awareness about the importance of their watersheds to the local community, economy, and public health. The idea is to encourage as of our watershed partners to plan and sponsor one activity locally that will draw people to your watershed and allow them to participate in some manner while learning more about your organization and watershed. WAY provides venue sponsors with coordination, advertising and promotion of the event, as well as educational, financial and technical assistance as requested. Watershed Weekend Guides are available online and at local libraries, municipal offices and schools. A listing of this year's venues and sponsors is given below. Sept. 17 – Oct. DOING OUR PART! A Virtual Tour of Chesapeake Bay Best Management Practices in York County, PA, Online

- 1) Sept. 17 – New Freedom Stream Rehabilitation Project Open House, New Freedom Heritage
- 2) Sept. 17 – Cooperative Trout Nursery Open House, Muddy Creek TU
- 3) Sept. 22 – Screening of the Film "FRESH", York College Sustainability & Environmental Studies Program
- 4) Sept. 24 – Oil Creek Restoration Monitoring, Codorus Creek Watershed Association
- 5) Sept. 24 – Grounded, Green & Growing, Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education
- 6) Sept. 24 – Conewago Boat Access Area Cleanup, PPL & WAY
- 7) Sept. 24 – York County Envirothon Sporting Clay Shoot Fundraiser, York County Conservation District
- 8) Sept. 24 – Valley Road Illegal Dump Site #220 Cleanup, C.S. Davidson
- 9) Sept. 24 – Piedmont Center for Environmental stewardship Open House, Sylva Native Nursery & Seed Company
- 10) Sept. 25 – Hollow Run Restoration Project Open House, York County Parks & WAY
- 11) Sept. 24-25 – Recreation on the Susquehanna River, Shank's Mare Outfitters
- 12) Sept. 24-25 – Willis Run Restoration & Important Bird Habitat Improvement, York Audubon Society & WAY
- 13) Oct. 1 – Mother Earth Sustainability & Harvest Fair, Spoutwood Farm Center

To learn more about Watershed Weekend and how you can get involved, go to [www.watershedsyork.org](http://www.watershedsyork.org).

### **Susquehanna Heritage Lecture Series Fall 2011 Events and Lecture Schedule**

We kick off our Fall Heritage Lecture Series this Wednesday! Tickets are still available for the book talk and signing! Lectures are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm at SGHA's Office, the Zimmerman Center for Heritage, located at 1706 Long Level Road, Wrightsville. Tickets are \$8 for SGHA Members, \$12 for non-members.

- September 14 - Book Talk and Signing - Massacre of the Conestogas, Jack Brubaker, Author
- October 12 - Ice Farming on the Susquehanna - Lynn Smoker
- November 9 - American Chestnut Foundation - Tim Eck
- December 14 - Historic Indians of the Lower Susquehanna - Ed Wilson

#### **Other Events**

- September 17 - 5:30-8:30pm River Experience Fundraiser
- October 9 - 1-2:30pm - Guided Walk at Historic Lock 12 - Mark Arbogast

Visit our [events portal](#) for more details about any of our events or to register online. Tickets can also be purchased by phone: 717-252-0229 ext. 4. Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area Located at the Zimmerman Center for Heritage 1706 Long Level Road, Wrightsville, Pennsylvania 17368. E-mail [info@susquehannaheritage.org](mailto:info@susquehannaheritage.org). Phone 717-252-0229. Web [www.SusquehannaHeritage.org](http://www.SusquehannaHeritage.org).

### **2011 River Experience - Celebrating 10 years! – Sep 17**

Reminder - Tickets are on Sale! The 3rd Annual River Experience Benefiting the Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area Saturday September 17, 5:30-8:30pm. Tickets: \$50 SGHA Members, \$60 Non-Members. Riverfront grounds of the John Wright Store & Restaurant 234 N. Front Street, Wrightsville, PA. Join us for an evening on the River:

- Tastings from Local Restaurants, Wineries & Breweries
- Silent Auction to benefit SGHA
- Live Music - Charles Lee

River Experience Attendees will also be able to pre-order a limited edition, 8"x10" matted print of the Zimmerman Center for Heritage, drawn by local artist David Haneman. Prints will be available for pickup at the event and the artist will be available to sign them. Prints will be available to the general public on September 19. Tickets are on sale now! [Online Ordering](#) or by phone 717-252-0229 ext. 4.

### **York Sustainable Film Consortium**

This new group is hosting the following films and events at York College this fall:

- Sep 22 - 7pm - Hum 218 - "FRESH" film screening
- Oct 12 - 7pm - DeMeester Theater - "The post-sweatshop world: ethical dilemmas and emerging issues in the global marketplace" with guest speaker Rachel Snyder
- Nov 10 - 7pm - HUM 218 - "Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a land ethic for our time" film screening

Please feel free to share this with anyone who may have an interest.

### **2011 Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance of Dirt & Gravel Roads Workshop - Sep 27-28**

The Penn State Center for Dirt and Gravel Road Studies is holding its Annual Maintenance workshop to showcase "Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance" Practices for unpaved and low-volume roads. The goal of these "ESM" practices is to reduce the amount of sediment pollution generated from roads, while simultaneously reducing the long-term costs of road maintenance. Sponsored by PA's Dirt and Gravel Road Maintenance Program, the workshop typically attracts several hundred attendees from various local, county, state, and national entities. The Workshop involves class sessions on timely topics in low-volume road maintenance, and field trips to several potential, active, and completed road projects to see ESM practices being implemented. The 2011 Workshop will be held at "The Woodlands" in Wilkes-Barre, PA. September 27th will start with class sessions at the Woodlands. Attendees can expect to leave around lunch to visit several field sites, potentially including: several completed Forestry sites, an active pipe placement, an active DSA placement, and a 50' wide windmill access road. A banquet will be held that evening at the Woodlands. September 28th will bring a field trip to look at "The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly" of road-related Marcellus drilling impacts. The workshop carries 1.3 CEUs from the PSU College of Engineering and counts as a re-certification for ESM training requirements within the Dirt and Gravel Road Program. For more information, go to visit... <http://www.cvent.com/events/dirt-and-gravel-roads-annual-maintenance-workshop/event-summary-1a2939ece4e44668afa2342cf9f95ede.aspx?i=156DECEC-7C60-41B3-B5FA-F4DDD003046B>

### **DEP Sets Meeting On September 29 On Phase 2 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Plan - Sep 29**

The Department of Environmental Protection published notice this week of a meeting September 29 on the [Phase 2 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan](#) at its Southcentral Regional Office in Harrisburg starting at 1:00. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced on August , revised nutrient and sediment allocations for the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). The revised planning targets are the result of the EPA's development of a revised Watershed Model. Using the revised planning targets, the EPA expects the states to develop a Phase 2 Chesapeake Bay WIP which will further subdivide the loads by local area (county). These will not be regulatory allocations to the county. Rather, they are to inform local implementers (for example, municipal elected officials and planning agency personnel, county conservation districts and planning commissions) of the nutrient and sediment loads generated by their geographical area so they can help implement or plan appropriate actions to reduce the target loads. Local implementation efforts should focus on compliance with existing rules and regulations, as well as seeking opportunities for additional management actions. The reduction targets are for planning purposes only and do not become regulatory allocations at the county level. The EPA has established a December 15 deadline for submission of the Draft Phase 2 WIP, and a March 30, 2012, deadline for the final plan. The EPA expects the Phase 2 WIP to contain greater detail about the first stage of implementation, which will last from when the EPA established the Chesapeake Bay TMDL in December 2010 until 2017. For more information, visit DEP's [Chesapeake Bay](#) webpage or contact Karen Price, Water Planning Office, P. O. Box 2063, Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063, call 717-772-4785, or send email to: [kprice@state.pa.us](mailto:kprice@state.pa.us).

### **NIXON COUNTY PARK NATURE CENTER ANNUAL NATURE BOOK SALE! - Oct 16**

10% Discount for Park Members! Childrens books, beginner field guides, natural history books, and miscellaneous gift ideas. Books for 0 year olds through adult! Visit our website [www.yorkcountyparks.org](http://www.yorkcountyparks.org). In the grey box labeled "Upcoming Events of Interest" click on "Book List with Descriptions". Orders are due by October 6, 2011, and orders can be picked up November 5th-6th, just in time for holiday shopping. Proceeds benefit the remodel of our Children's Touch Room in 2012. Please contact Kelsey Frey, [kafrey@york-county.org](mailto:kafrey@york-county.org) with questions and email orders.

### **Pennsylvania Wetland Delineation Training - Oct 24-28**

Location: Environmental Solutions Association, 416 Pine Street Suite 201 Williamsport, PA 17701. This class includes training on both US Army Corps of Engineers:

- Eastern Mountains and Piedmont Regional Supplement
- Northcentral and Northeast Supplement

[Classroom - \\$950](#)

[Online - \\$850](#)

Accurate wetland delineations are a necessity for many types of land use projects. When you need to expand your business capabilities and hone your skills, this intensive combination of classroom and field training will teach you what you need to know and provide valuable hands-on delineation experience. This traditional 38-hour wetlands delineation class covers the current and proposed USACOE wetlands delineation methods as well as the recent Rapanos decision. This online version has been accepted as suitable training for the various States that require wetland delineation certification training. An intensive combination of online classroom and field training, Swamp School is a hands-on way to learn all the necessary skills to perform wetland delineations.



## **WATERSHED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

### **Source and Delivery of Nutrients to Receiving Waters in the Northeastern and Mid-Atlantic Regions of the United States**

This study investigates nutrient sources and transport to receiving waters, in order to provide spatially detailed information to aid water-resources managers concerned with eutrophication and nutrient management strategies. SPATIally Referenced Regressions On Watershed attributes (SPARROW) nutrient models were developed for the Northeastern and Mid-Atlantic (NE US) regions of the United States to represent source conditions for the year 2002. The model developed to examine the source and delivery of nitrogen to the estuaries of nine large rivers along the NE US Seaboard indicated that agricultural sources contribute the largest percentage (37%) of the total nitrogen load delivered to the estuaries. Point sources account for 28% while atmospheric deposition accounts for 20%. A second SPARROW model was used to examine the sources and delivery of phosphorus to lakes and reservoirs throughout the NE US. The greatest attenuation of phosphorus occurred in lakes that were large relative to the size of their watershed. Model results show that, within the NE US, aquatic decay of nutrients is quite limited on an annual basis and that we especially cannot rely on natural attenuation to remove nutrients within the larger rivers nor within lakes with large watersheds relative to the size of the lake.

<http://water.usgs.gov/nawqa/sparrow/mrb/1.html>. Additional resources on this article: [JAWRA Journal of the American Water Resources Association](#)

### **Land Use/Land Cover Map Reveals Big Changes**

The Maryland Department of Planning has released an updated Land Use/Land Cover map, which classifies Maryland into 13 distinct types of land use (such as low-to high-density residential, commercial and industrial) and land cover (such as agriculture and forest). Developed lands in Maryland increased by 8.4 percent, compared to a 4.8 percent increase in population, from 2002 to 2010. [See the map...](#)

### **New PlanMaryland Draft Open for Comments**

A new draft, posted on the PlanMaryland website September 7, includes changes based on public comments received since the first draft was released last April, and will be open for comments from the public for an additional 60 days. PlanMaryland is the State Growth Plan proposal that is intended to be a guide to how and where Maryland should grow, and where it should not. [More details...](#)

### **Farmer's Guide To Conservation Stewardship Program Released**

The National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition this week released an updated version of the popular [Farmers' Guide to the Conservation Stewardship Program](#). The Guide is intended to help family farmers, ranchers, and foresters understand the [Conservation Stewardship Program](#) enrollment process. In addition, it provides clear information on conservation activities eligible for CSP payments to improve conservation performance and environmental benefits. The CSP is a whole farm and comprehensive working lands conservation program administered by USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service. Its primary focus is management practices. The philosophy of the program is captured by the subtitle of the Farmers' Guide – Rewarding farmers for how they grow what they grow. The revised Guide includes step-by-step enrollment guidance, key definitions, and helpful hints. It also includes a new five-page section with data analysis of the program's first two sign-up periods in 2009 and 2010. This data section includes analysis of program participation by geographic region, land use type, commodity type, and the top conservation practices and enhancements chosen by farmers and ranchers who have enrolled in the program. CSP targets priority resource issues in specific states and watersheds, paying farmers for the adoption of new conservation enhancements and the active management of ongoing conservation activities to help solve the resource concerns. CSP payments are directly calibrated to environmental benefits derived from particular practices. All CSP participants must already exceed stewardship standards for at least one priority resource concern and agree to exceed standards for additional concerns through the adoption of advanced conservation management measures. The leading resource concerns currently addressed by the program are water quality, wildlife habitat, soil quality, and erosion. In some areas of the country water conservation and air quality are also priority considerations. In just three years of operation, the program has enrolled nearly 30,000 farmers and ranchers operating over 37.5 million acres of farm and ranch land that is now under five-year, renewable CSP conservation contracts. CSP enrollment acreage since passage of the 2008 Farm Bill is roughly equal in size to the entire state of Georgia or Iowa or Michigan. To date, CSP "green" payments are averaging \$170 million per year per sign-up, or approximately \$850 million for each annual enrollment class over the course of the five-year CSP contract. Individual farmer contracts are capped at \$40,000 per year, with the average-sized contract currently running between \$15,000 and \$20,000 per year. CSP is popular with producers, with twice as many applicants as there is funding competing for enrollment. Enrollment is based on environmental benefit scores as determined by the Conservation Measurement Tool. The CMT is explained in detail in the Guide. CSP is a continuous sign-up program, meaning producers can apply to enroll at any time of the year. However, there is generally one cut-off date at which point NRCS will rank all proposals on hand, based on environmental benefits, and determine which will be awarded contracts for that year. Though NRCS has not announced anything yet, in all likelihood the 2012 cut-off date for ranking and awards will be early in the 2012 calendar year. A copy of the Guide [is available online](#). For more information on enrolling in Pennsylvania, visit the NRCS-PA [Conservation Stewardship Program](#) webpage.

### **Stream Redesignations**

Water quality standards are in-stream water quality goals that are implemented by imposing specific regulatory requirements (such as treatment requirements, effluent limits and best management practices) on individual sources of pollution. The Department may identify candidates for redesignation during routine waterbody investigations. Requests for consideration may also be initiated by other agencies. Organizations, businesses or individuals may submit a rulemaking petition to the Board. The Department considers candidates for High Quality (HQ) or Exceptional Value (EV) Waters and all other designations in its ongoing review of water quality standards. In general, HQ and EV Waters must be maintained at their existing quality and permitted activities shall ensure the protection of designated and existing uses. Existing use protection is provided when the Department determines, based on its evaluation of the best available scientific information, 93.3 and 93.4 that a surface water attains water uses identified in §§ (relating to protected water uses; and Statewide water uses). Examples of water uses protected include the following: Cold Water Fishes (CWF), Warm Water Fishes (WWF), HQ and EV. A final existing use determination is made on a surface water at the time the Department takes a permit or approval action on a request to conduct an activity that may impact surface water. If the determination demonstrates that the existing use is different than the designated use, the water body will immediately receive the best protection identified by either the attained uses or the designated uses. A stream will then be "redesignated" through the rulemaking process to match the existing uses with the designated uses. For example, if the designated use of a stream is listed as protecting WWF but the redesignation evaluation demonstrates that the water attains the use of CWF, the stream would immediately be protected for CWF, prior to a rulemaking. Once the Department determines the water uses attained by a surface water, the Department will recommend to the Board that the existing uses be made "designated" uses, through rulemaking, 93.9 (relating to and be added to the list of uses identified in § designated water uses and water quality criteria). The streams in this final-form rulemaking were all evaluated in response to petitions as follows:

- Deer Creek and Little Falls – HQ-CWF (study)
- Wilson Run – WWF, MF (approved)

These regulatory changes were developed as a result of aquatic studies conducted by the Bureau of Water Standards and Facility Regulation. The physical, chemical and biological characteristics and other information on these waterbodies were evaluated to determine the appropriateness of the current and requested designations using applicable regulatory criteria and definitions. In reviewing whether waterbodies qualify as HQ or EV Waters, the Department considers the 93.4b (relating to qualifying as High Quality or criteria in § Exceptional Value Waters). Based upon the data and information collected on these waterbodies, the Board has made the designations. For further information, contact Rodney A. Kime, Chief, Division of Water Quality Standards, Bureau of Water Standards and Facility Regulation, 11th

Floor, Rachel Carson State Office Building, P. O. Box 8467, 400 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8467, (717) 787-9637; or Michelle Moses, Assistant Counsel, Bureau of Regulatory Counsel, 9th Floor, Rachel Carson State Office Building, P. O. Box 8464, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8464, (717) 787-7060.

**EPA Withdraws Numeric Turbidity Limit for Construction**

Recently, the U.S. Environmental Protection Association (EPA) announced that it would reconsider a nationwide cap on the amount of sediment allowed in stormwater runoff from construction sites. In 2009, EPA issued a final numeric limit for turbidity, which established enforceable numeric limitations on stormwater discharges from construction and development sites. Subsequently, the EPA withdrew the limit to correct a calculation error. They submitted a new rule in December 2010 but withdrew it last Wednesday to seek additional data. The Small Business Association and the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) have been critics of the rule, claiming it was based on flawed analyses. The NAHB sued the EPA over the rule 18 months ago, and has argued for best management practices instead of a numeric limit. Industry estimated that it would cost \$10 billion/year to comply with the turbidity rule. For more information, [click here](#).

**Proposals Currently Open for Comment**

Date Published In PA Bulletin	Proposal	Comment Deadline
8/6/2011	Modifications and Consolidation of Residual Waste General Permits WMGR119, WMGR121 and WMGR123. Note: The public comment period has been extended to October 5th, 2011. <a href="#">PA Bulletin Notice</a> Extension of Comment Period (Notice Pending) <a href="#">Draft General Permit</a>	10/5/2011
8/6/2011	Proposed modification to general permit BWQP-GP-15: private residential construction in wetlands and 401 water quality certification for consistency with the Pennsylvania State Programmatic General Permit 4 (PASPGP-4) <a href="#">PA Bulletin Notice</a> <a href="#">Draft General Permit</a>	10/7/2011
8/13/2011	Guidance for Application of Regional Civil Assessment Proceedure (DEP ID: 273-4130-003) <a href="#">PA Bulletin Notice</a> <a href="#">Draft Technical Guidance</a>	9/12/2011
8/20/2011	Policy on Clean Alternative Fuel Conversion Systems (DEP ID: 270-0810-007) <a href="#">PA Bulletin Notice</a> <a href="#">Draft Technical Guidance</a>	9/19/2011

