

# WAY E-NEWS

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

October 9, 2012

A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Volume 12, Issue 20

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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
- Air Quality 717-705-4702
- Energy & Technology 717-705-4703
- Environmental Cleanup 717-705-4705

- Mining (800) 541-2050
- Radiation Protection 717-705-4704
- Waste Management 717-705-4706
- Water Supply Management 717-705-4708

- Water Management 717-705-4707
- Watershed Management 717-705-4704

**FISHERIES – (800) 541-2050**

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

**GAME & WILDLIFE – (888) 742-8001**

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

**ILLEGAL DUMPING**

- Illegal dumping on state forest and park lands (877) 772-3673
- Illegal dumping York County 840-7687

**MUNICIPAL (Phonebook Blue Pages)**

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

**NOXIOUS PLANTS – (717) 772-5209**

**RECYCLING – (717) 845-1066**

**WETLANDS – (717) 249-2522**

Updated 4/27/2011

## WATERSHED ALLIANCE NEWS

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

- For information about farmland preservation in York County contact Patty McCandless at [pmccandless@york-county.org](mailto:pmccandless@york-county.org) or call 717-840-7400.

### **Carroll Citizens for Sensible Growth** - <http://carrollcitizens.com/>

- Contact: Deana Weaver at (717) 432-2211 or [admin@carrollcitizens.com](mailto:admin@carrollcitizens.com)

### **Codorus Creek Watershed Association** – [www.codoruscreek.net](http://www.codoruscreek.net)

- Oct 15 – Meeting of Members and Board, 7:00 pm, at York Water Co. (Mt. Rose Ave.)
- Contact: Jim Leaman at 843-2929

### **Codorus Endowment Implementation Committee** – [www.yccf.org](http://www.yccf.org)

- For more information, contact the York County Community Foundation at 14 West Market Street York, PA 17401-1203. Telephone: York 717.848.3733; Hanover 717.630.1843. Email: [info@yccf.org](mailto:info@yccf.org)

### **Conewago Canoe Club** – [www.conewagocanooclub.org](http://www.conewagocanooclub.org)

- Club Meets bi-monthly at Mount Zion United Church of Christ, 7:00 pm, at Ridgewood Road in Pleasureville
- Questions or comments e-mail me [oc1mike@comcast.net](mailto:oc1mike@comcast.net), but remember you catch more flies with honey than vinegar.

### **Deer Creek Watershed Association** – <http://deercreekwatershed.com/>

- Contact Lee McDaniel at [ldmcdaniel@aol.com](mailto:ldmcdaniel@aol.com).

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

- Contact: Sean Kenny at Farm & Natural Lands Trust of York County, 156 North George Street, Suite 300, York, PA 17401. Phone (717) 843-4411 or e-mail [skenny@farmtrust.org](mailto:skenny@farmtrust.org)

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

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

### **Gunpowder Valley Conservancy** – [www.gunpowderfalls.org](http://www.gunpowderfalls.org)

- Contact: Gunpowder Valley Conservancy, P.O. Box 9733. Towson, MD 21284. Or Assistant Project Manager Rachel Streusand [rstreusand@gunpowderfalls.org](mailto:rstreusand@gunpowderfalls.org).

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

- Contact: Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education, 4945 Horn Road, York, PA 17406. Phone: (717)654-0571. Email: [info@hornfarmcenter.org](mailto:info@hornfarmcenter.org). Web: [www.hornfarmcenter.org](http://www.hornfarmcenter.org).

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

- Club Open Meetings are held the Third Tuesday of each month at 7pm in the Clubhouse.
- Contact: York Chapter #67 IWLA, 7131 Ironstone Hill Road, Dallastown, PA 17313. Club Grounds Phone: 717-428-2000 \*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)

- Contact: Michael Helfrich, Lower Susquehanna RIVERKEEPER®, York, PA. Cell phone: 717-779-7915 E-mail: [lowsusriver@hotmail.com](mailto:lowsusriver@hotmail.com).

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

- Oct 1 – Meeting will be at the McFaul Center, Room 4, in Bel Air, Monday @ 5:30 p.m.
- Contact: Rupert Rossetti, Tributary Team Coordinator, e-mail: [RupertRossetti@aol.com](mailto:RupertRossetti@aol.com)

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

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

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

- Contact: 717-840-7408 or Connie Schmotzer at [cxs51@psu.edu](mailto:cxs51@psu.edu)

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

- Contact Maria Payan by email [pbccg@hotmail.com](mailto:pbccg@hotmail.com) or mail: Peach Bottom Concerned Citizens Group, P.O. Box 307 Delta, PA 17314. PBCCG, Inc is a nonprofit organization supported solely by volunteers and donations.

### **Prettyboy Watershed Alliance** – [www.prettyboywatershed.org](http://www.prettyboywatershed.org)

- Contact: Nancy Shaper at [nshaper@jhmi.edu](mailto:nshaper@jhmi.edu)

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

- Contact GVP Sierra Club, P.O. Box 606, Harrisburg, PA 17108-0606. [GVPSierraClub@email.com](mailto:GVPSierraClub@email.com)

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

- Call Us: 717-252-1616. Email us: [Shanksmare@comcast.net](mailto:Shanksmare@comcast.net)

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

- Contact Rob & Lucy Woods at Spoutwood Farm at 717-235-6610 or [spoutwood@comcast.net](mailto:spoutwood@comcast.net).

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

- Contact Mark Platts, Susquehanna Heritage Corporation, 1706 Long Level Road, Wrightsville, PA 17368. Office: 717-252-0229. E-mail: [info@lyhr.org](mailto:info@lyhr.org).

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

- Monthly Chapter Meetings 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., at Gander Mtn. (winter)
- Contact: Tom Finenze at 840-1372 or [tom@codorustu.org](mailto:tom@codorustu.org). Cancellations due to winter weather will be announced here, and on WSBA Radio, 910 AM.

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

- Chapter Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of month at [Collinsville Fish & Game](#)
- Contact: Ron Heuston, President MCTU, 244-1851 or [Heuy1955@aol.com](mailto:Heuy1955@aol.com)

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

- WAAC meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Wed, 8:30AM, at the Adams County Ag Center
- Contact: Adam McClain, Ph: 717-334-0636; E-mail: [stilden@adamswatersheds.org](mailto:stilden@adamswatersheds.org)

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

- Jan. 9, 2013 – Annual Meeting of WAY Board of Directors, 7:00 PM, at The York Water Co., Mt. Rose Ave.
- WAY E-News – Published by the Watershed Alliance of York, Inc. to inform the public about news and information that affect York County watersheds and beyond. PLEASE SHARE WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND E-MAIL LIST. Contributions of news, events and information relating to watershed education, funding, planning, restoration, protection, and stewardship welcome. Send contribution to and contact us for mailing list additions/changes to the e-mail address below. Distribution: electronic (1,850). Frequency: bi-weekly. Subscription: No charge. Editor: Gary R. Peacock.
- You can make [www.goodsearch.com](http://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](mailto:gpeacock@yorkccd.org)

**Wecology** – [www.wecologypa.org/](http://www.wecologypa.org/)

- Contact: WEcology 130 E.Market St., York, PA 17405. Phone: 717-718-7554.

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

- Contact: Deborah Goetz, at [deborah.p.goetz@gmail.com](mailto:deborah.p.goetz@gmail.com) or phone 717-697-4734

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

- Contact Shanna Wiest, Government Affairs Director, REALTORS Association of York & Adams Counties, Inc. 901 Smile Way York, PA 17404. Phone: (717) 843-7891. Fax: (717) 854-0720. <http://www.rayac.com>

**York Audubon Society** – <http://www.yorkaudubon.org/>

- Contact Tom Smith at 717-246-9767 or [tls35@psu.edu](mailto:tls35@psu.edu).

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

- New Wildlife of PA Journal available for purchase \$24.95
- Rain Barrels- Get one while they last! Visit our website for more information and prices.
- Board meets 2nd Friday, 11:00 a.m. (December-March) and 2nd Thursday, 7:00 p.m. (Apr.-Nov.), at the York County ANNEX
- Contact: YCCD at 717-840-7430 or [yorkccd@yorkccd.org](mailto:yorkccd@yorkccd.org)

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

- Nixon Park Nature Center, 5922 Nixon Drive, York PA 17403. Phone: (717) 428-1961. E-mail: [NixonCountyPark@york-county.org](mailto:NixonCountyPark@york-county.org).
- For more information, contact York County Department of Parks and Recreation, 400 Mundis Race Road, York PA 17406-9721. Phone: (717) 840-7440. E-mail: [Parks@York-County.org](mailto:Parks@York-County.org). Web: [www.YorkCountyParks.org](http://www.YorkCountyParks.org).

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

- Meets 1st Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., except Wed. Nov. 1 at 7:30 and Tues. Dec. 1, 6:00 p.m., at 28 E. Market St., 2nd Floor.
- Contact YCPC at 717-771-9870 or [planner@ycpc.org](mailto:planner@ycpc.org)



## **WATERSHED EDUCATION & OUTREACH**

### **DEP, EPA Fine Mobile Home Park Owner more than \$1.3 Million for Multiple Violations in 17 Counties**

HARRISBURG – The Department of Environmental Protection announced today that, along with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, it has signed a \$1,339,000 joint consent decree with GSP Management Co., Frank T. Perano and related companies, due to drinking water and wastewater issues at 73 mobile home parks, 70 of which are in Pennsylvania. The consent decree addresses specific violations at 32 of the Pennsylvania mobile home parks. At the agencies' direction, the company has agreed to take various corrective measures.

DEP and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency inspectors discovered violations at the mobile home parks during five consecutive years. The wastewater violations include illegal discharge of partially treated or untreated sewage into nearby streams and failure to properly operate and maintain wastewater treatment facilities. The drinking water violations include exceeding federal drinking water standards for certain pollutants and failing to notify residents about drinking water problems. The consent decree also requires GSP to take these numerous actions to achieve compliance and ensure park residents have access to clean water:

- Conduct environmental audits at all the mobile home parks, including those that do not have any permits from DEP, by an independent auditor;
- Implement specific corrective actions;
- Hire an environmental consultant to develop an environmental management system that will help GSP achieve environmental compliance through control and monitoring of its operations; and
- Conduct monthly evaluations at all 73 mobile home parks and report the results every four months to DEP and EPA.

The company's actions constitute violations of the Clean Streams Law and Safe Drinking Water Act. The penalty will be divided between DEP and EPA. Editor's Note: The Pennsylvania mobile home parks where the violations occurred are listed below by county and indicate which kind of violation was found. Parks marked with an asterisk had both wastewater and drinking water violations.

- York County
  - Brookhaven Mobile Home Park, York (wastewater)
  - Mountain View Terrace, Dover\*
  - Northwood Manor, York Haven\*
  - Lincoln Crest, Dover (drinking water)
  - Newberry Estates, York Haven (drinking water)
  - Newberry Farms, Manchester (drinking water)

### **York County Company Settles Hazardous Waste Violations at its Glen Rock, Pa. Manufacturing Facility**

PHILADELPHIA (Oct. 2, 2012) – Bimax, Inc. has agreed to pay a \$36,455 penalty to settle alleged violations of hazardous waste regulations at its chemical manufacturing facility, located at 158 Industrial Road in Glen Rock, Pa., the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced today. As part of the settlement, Bimax has also agreed to spend \$305,000 to install a system that will eliminate 99 percent of the hazardous pollutants emitted from the facility. Following a March 2011 compliance inspection at Bimax, EPA noted hazardous waste, including solvents, that was improperly stored in violation of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), the federal law governing the treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous waste. RCRA is designed to protect public health and the environment, and avoid costly cleanups, by requiring the safe, environmentally sound storage and disposal of hazardous waste. The alleged violations included operating a treatment, storage or disposal facility without a permit, failure to determine if the waste was hazardous, failure to obtain required certification from a qualified professional engineer attesting that the facility's tank system has sufficient structural integrity for the storage of hazardous waste, failure to monitor pump leaks weekly, and failure to monitor valves for air emission leaks. By completing the supplemental environment project valued at \$305,000, Bimax exceeds the requirements of federal and state environmental regulations. The company will install and operate a thermal oxidizer as part of its existing air pollution control system at the Glen Rock facility that is designed to reduce emissions of volatile organic compounds and hazardous air pollutants by 99 percent. The settlement penalty reflects the company's compliance efforts, and its cooperation with EPA in the investigation and resolution of this matter. As part of the settlement, Bimax has neither admitted nor denied liability for the alleged violations, but has certified its compliance with applicable RCRA requirements. For more information about hazardous waste and RCRA, visit <http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/hazard/index.htm>.

### **Join the Cacapon Institute On-line 2012 Oh Deer! Environmental Forum – Oct 8 – Nov 16**

A watershed dialogue with role-play exercises for high school classes and conservation mentors. October 8th - November 16th. In Oh Deer! Students will challenge one another over the internet to understand the impacts deer overpopulation have on forest health and water quality. You can be part of the conversation among students and watershed leaders from the Susquehanna Valley, to VA Beach, from the shores of the Bay to the Potomac Highlands. Overabundant deer are seriously damaging forests throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed and threatening drinking water reservoirs. Since healthy forests are the gold standard in watershed protection, overabundant deer and the damage they do to the forest is a watershed issue. Teachers – Oh Deer! is a good fit for required curriculum in science, agriculture, persuasive writing, and social studies classes. The eForums also help teachers meet their 21st Century Education requirements. Watershed Leaders & Conservationists – Engage students in your group's mission by enlisting high school youth for stewardship projects. Oh Deer! can help you get your "foot in the door" with your local high school. It offers a curriculum based, in-class exercise as a platform to introduce local watershed conservation and ecosystem management efforts. Oh Deer! lessons are free of charge, "off the shelf" and available 24/7. Visit the lessons of Oh Deer! by clicking on the phone, find lesson suggestions, see archives of past student work, or register by clicking on "eForum Information & Sign-Up" at [www.cacaponinstitute.org/high.htm](http://www.cacaponinstitute.org/high.htm)

### **Dry Basements**

Suppose you are thinking about buying a house with a basement, how can you tell if it might have water problems? Read more...

[http://extension.psu.edu/water/discovery-watersheds/news/2012/dry-basements?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+agsci-water-watershedwinds+%28Penn+State+Watershed+Winds+Newsletter%29](http://extension.psu.edu/water/discovery-watersheds/news/2012/dry-basements?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+agsci-water-watershedwinds+%28Penn+State+Watershed+Winds+Newsletter%29)

### **New Issue of On Tap Available Online**

A new issue of *On Tap*, the National Environmental Services Center's drinking water and wastewater magazine, is now available at [www.nesc.wvu.edu/ontap.cfm](http://www.nesc.wvu.edu/ontap.cfm). The fall/winter 2012 issue features articles about environmental justice, how to become more water and energy efficient, the second part of an in-depth rate setting article, and a look at two emerging issues: phosphorus and source water monitoring in areas where hydraulic fracturing is used in natural gas extraction. As always, we encourage you to use the information in *On Tap* in your community. All we ask is that you give us credit and let us know how you used it.

### **Susquehanna Greenway Events - Oct**

There are many fall events happening along the Susquehanna Greenway in October, including the following activities. For a full list of events, see <http://www.susquehannagreenway.org/calendar/2012-10>.

### **River Reads "Faces of the Susquehanna"**

Photographer Stephen Pidcock brings the Susquehanna River landscape to life with his collection of landscape reflections. When viewed vertically, they reveal a slew of rock "faces" reflected in the waters of the Susquehanna. Sometimes humorous, sometimes forlorn, it is a joy to flip through the book and reflect on each unique face and mood of the river. Read more about Stephen's work here <http://www.susquehannagreenway.org/faces-susquehanna-photographic-study-natural-reflections>. View the "faces" here <http://www.vertizortalarts.com/>.



## **WATERSHED FACILITATION ASSISTANCE**

### **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Farm & Natural Lands Trusts Downtown Hoedown – Oct 11**

It's hard to believe Fall is here, but what a perfect time for our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Downtown Hoedown taking place on Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup> starting at 5:30 PM. The event takes place at the York County Heritage Trust's Ag & Industrial Museum, an ideal setting for great food, live music, entertainment and great auction items supporting Farm & Natural Lands Trust of York County. The Downtown Hoedown is great for entertaining yourself, family, friends and clients! Join us for the event and **REGISTER ONLINE NOW** - It's a GREAT value at only \$25 per person. That price includes live music by Waitin On A Train, local beer and wine, plus a delectable barbeque spread from Artistic Foods & Catering. You can register now, securely with a small registration fee here - <http://downtownhoedown.eventbrite.com/>. The flyer and form are attached to mail the old fashion way. We're seeking unique items and experiences for donation to our raffle and auctions. Put your thinking caps on! Perhaps you have a talent to share? Maybe an activity that someone would love to do, but never think of? The Downtown Hoedown is FNLT's most popular fundraising event, with total attendance at 300 and growing. In order to make the event a continued success, we're looking for things that you don't find at every fundraiser. Some of the unique items we've featured include:

- Fly Fishing Instruction & Half Day Fishing Trip with Lunch
- Vacation Home Rentals & Getaways
- Clay Shooting Instructions & 50 Clay-Bird Shoot
- Wine Tastings & Pairings
- Catering In OR Out!
- Boat Cruise & Crab Feast
- Sporting, Music, Theater and Other Event Tickets
- Private Tours of Unique Places (Longwood Gardens, Gettysburg Battlefield)
- Homemade Wine, Home Cooked Meals or Homebrewed Beer
- Original Artwork, Private Photo Sessions, Custom Jewelry and ANYTHING UNIQUE!

We're open to ideas, so don't be shy... drop a line to discuss any possibilities. We'll promote through [www.farmtrust.org](http://www.farmtrust.org), newspaper advertising, email, Facebook and more, keeping people up to date on all the great donations from our supporters. Donor information will also be featured on the website, in the event program, in our Preservation Quarterly newsletter and annual report. Please feel free to pass along this email and flyer to anyone who might be interested in attending or donating a unique item to FNLT's largest fundraiser supporting land preservation in York County. Thank you for your support!

### **On the water clean-up of the Yellow Breeches – Oct 21**

Please join us Sunday, October 21st for the first-ever YBWA sponsored on-the-water cleanup of the Yellow Breeches Creek. After a summer of use, the Yellow Breeches Creek needs our help. Please help us remove the litter to restore the natural beauty of our scenic river. See the attached flyer for all the specifics. Please consider forwarding the attached flyer to your friends, neighbors, relatives, co-workers, and other concerned paddlers that might be willing and able to help. All hands on deck--Volunteers are needed. Opportunities Available-

- Bring your own kayak or canoe to clean-up your favorite river segment. (<16 yrs accompanied by an adult)
- Volunteer your time and join the on-the-ground support crew.
- If you can not participate, donations are always welcome to help cover our clean-up costs, including \$5 insurance per person on the water.

We will all meet at the LAT Park Barn at 12:30. After the clean-up, we will meet back at the barn to grill burgers and hot dogs during our YBWA Annual Gathering at Lower Allen Park from 4-6pm. This is our backyard, our watershed, the source of our drinking water..."Think Globally, Act Locally" We look forward to seeing you on Sunday, October 21st! For more info contact Debbie Goetz [deborah.p.goetz@gmail.com](mailto:deborah.p.goetz@gmail.com) or Brook Lenker [brooklenker@comcast.net](mailto:brooklenker@comcast.net).

### **Register Now For Conservation Landscape Summit Oct 29-30**

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Secretary Richard Allan Friday announced a conference to highlight the accomplishments of conservation, recreation and economic development at the landscape level and to advance best practices to other areas of the state will be held in Harrisburg in October. The "[Conservation Landscape Summit](#): Naturally Connecting People and Places" is scheduled for October 29-30

at the Best Western Premier, 800 East Park Drive. A conservation landscape is a place where vibrant communities draw strength from their natural assets to sustain their quality of life; where citizens care about protecting the special qualities of a region; where people and partners band together to envision a better economic future, tackle shared challenges and care for the natural, scenic, heritage and recreational resources that define the place they call home. The conference aims to:

- Bring together a diverse group of partners - state and local government officials; business, conservation, economic development and tourism leaders; and recreation and trail groups – to advance regional landscape partnerships across the state;
- Build a further understanding of and enthusiasm for packaging conservation, recreation and economic development interests in large landscapes that have significant natural resources and state investment, i.e. parks, forests, trails and land protection; and
- Develop and share a set of best practices and policies that will support further development of a regional approach to conservation, recreation and economic development across the state.

Plenary as well as breakout sessions will offer attendees the opportunity to hear about broad policies, strategies and successes. Diverse state and national speakers will exemplify how landscape work is changing the approach to conservation and tourism. The conference, expected to draw about 200-250 people, will be divided into several tracks that categorize topics based on an attendee's interest: conservation, tourism, visitor experiences and communications. A conference white paper will summarize next steps, best practices and key resources. The summit is sponsored by DCNR, the [Pennsylvania Environmental Council](#), and the William Penn and Richard King Mellon foundations. For more information and to register, visit the [Conservation Landscapes Summit](#) website.

### **Transition York Meets at Central Market – Nov 2**

Transition York meets at 7pm Central Market at Under ONE Sun. Transition York meets the first Friday evening each month to enjoy a meal or snack while answering questions about the Transition Movement and discussing what being a Transition Town means and how we can best move forward in our efforts to "power down"...

### **Stream Ecological Services and Riparian Forest Buffer Session – Nov 7**

At Stroud Water Research Center on November 7, 2012 (Wednesday) from 9:30 – 3:00. This session at the Stroud Water Research Center is primarily for anyone who has never been to the Stroud Center. I would describe the session as Forest Riparian Buffer/Stream Ecology 101. It is suitable for everyone who has an interest in Water Quality from interns to heads of departments. This session is sponsored by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and DCNR Bureau of Forestry. The agenda is as follows: Dr. Bern Sweeney will present an introduction to the Stroud Center followed by a lecture on stream ecology and ecological services as related to forested riparian buffers. We will then tour the Stroud Research Lab and have lunch. After lunch we will have a brief update from David Wise of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, on forest buffer concerns and opportunities. We will visit research projects within walking distance of the Center and the new Environmental Ed. Building. This will be followed with a discussion of your questions and concerns. We will adjourn no later than 3:00PM. There is no cost to the participant for this session that includes lunch. We can handle up to 50 people. I am requesting that you let me know by October 19, 2012 if you plan to attend so I can keep track of the numbers for the lunch count. I have participated in or help to arrange more than 30 sessions at the Stroud and have always received very positive feedback. Please respond with your name, title, phone number and email address. I would prefer if you responded by email. Let me know if you would like a vegetarian lunch. The participant is responsible for any cost incurred for travel. I appreciate your interest. Let me know if you have any questions. Contact Richard L. Shockey, Environmental Review Specialist Ecological Services Section, Bureau of Forestry at 717-772-0263 or [c-rshockey@pa.gov](mailto:c-rshockey@pa.gov).

### **Sustaining Nature in an Urbanizing Landscape Workshop – Nov 8**

The Baltimore-Washington Partners for Forest Stewardship and Maryland Department of Natural Resources are hosting their 4th Annual Workshop on November 8th, 2012 at the Patuxent National Wildlife Visitor's Center in Laurel, Maryland. This year the topic is Sustaining Nature in an Urbanizing Landscape. We have some great speakers lined up, including our nationally renowned Keynote Speaker, Governor Parris N. Glendening, who will be joined by the Maryland Department of Planning Secretary Richard E. Hall. Explore how nature, growth and the built environment can coexist in ways that benefit us all. Join us in this conversation with national, state and local leaders in Smart Growth and Regional Planning. Learn how members of the Baltimore-Washington community are working to sustain nature in this urbanizing landscape. Registration (\$25) and information is at: <http://sustainingnature.eventbrite.com>. Please help us promote this important event by forwarding this e-mail on to your friends and colleagues. If you have questions, please contact: Christine Conn, Director, Strategic Land Planning, Maryland Department of Natural Resources (410) 260-8785.

### **18th Maryland Water Monitoring Council Annual Conference – Dec 6**

The Maryland Water Monitoring Council will hold its 18th Annual Conference at the Maritime Institute, North Linthicum, Maryland, on Thursday, December 6, 2012. The theme of the one day conference is *What Else is in your Water? From Arsenic to Zinc*. The conference will address water quality issues beyond more conventional pollutants such as nutrients and sediments. Registration will begin at 7:30 AM and the conference will adjourn at 4:30 PM. Participants are encouraged to mingle after the Conference during our first social in the Maritime Institute's lounge. The deadline for early-bird registration is November 16. Click [HERE](#) for more information about the Conference. A DRAFT Agenda can be found [HERE](#). The submittal deadline for POSTER abstracts has been extended to October 31. High school and undergraduate students are encouraged to participate in the first MWMC Student Poster Award. Click [HERE](#) for an online Abstract Submission Form. Don't miss this exciting annual event! Spread the word! Contact Dan Boward, Executive Secretary, Maryland Water Monitoring Council, Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources 410.260.8605 or [www.marylandwatermonitoring.org](http://www.marylandwatermonitoring.org).



## **WATERSHED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

### **FEMA's 2012 Community Resilience Innovation Challenge – Oct 26**

National Preparedness Month may be coming to a close, but as emergency managers, we know that preparedness is needed year-round in our communities. We are also keenly aware that a government-centric approach to disaster management is insufficient to meet the challenges

posed by a catastrophic incident. To meet our preparedness goals, the whole community must be actively involved in all phases of the preparedness, response, and recovery cycle. On Thursday Sept. 27, 2012 we announced the start of the application period for the Community Resilience Innovation Challenge Opportunity. This new monetary opportunity is designed to continue to move community preparedness forward and assist local areas in building and revitalizing community-based partnerships to advance the nation's resilience to disasters. Submissions will be accepted through Oct. 26. Rockefeller Foundation and FEMA sponsor the Community Resilience Innovation Challenge Opportunity, which will be administered by the Los Angeles Emergency Preparedness Foundation, a third-party intermediary, to encourage local communities to engage in creative activities that enhance disaster resilience. Funding levels will range, with a maximum award of \$35,000, and applications are open to most local, state, and tribal agencies and governments; business entities; associations; organizations and groups. Help spread the word in your communities and share additional information on the Challenge program criteria and application process that can be found at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) and [www.ResilienceChallenge.org](http://www.ResilienceChallenge.org).

#### **DEP Now Accepting Applications for Growing Greener Grants – Oct 26**

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is now accepting applications for Growing Greener watershed protection and restoration and surface mining reclamation grants. The deadline for application is October 26. Click [here](#) to read the formal notice. For more information, send emails to: [GrowingGreener@state.pa.us](mailto:GrowingGreener@state.pa.us) or contact the DEP Grants Center at 717-705-5400.

#### **Lexus and Scholastic Launch Sixth Annual Environmental Contest for Middle and High School Students – Oct 29 & Dec 17**

A program of automaker [Lexus](#) and children's publishing company [Scholastic](#), the Lexus Eco Challenge is an educational program and contest designed to inspire and empower middle and high school students in the United States to learn about the environment and take action to improve it. In its sixth year, the program will award a total of \$500,000 in grants and scholarships. The competition is open to students in grades 6-12 who are either registered and home-schooled or enrolled in a public or accredited private school, and who are legal residents of the U.S. or the District of Columbia. Teams of students can enter if they are part of an afterschool science or environmental club, but the challenge is not open to clubs outside of school. Middle and high school teams comprised of five to ten students and a teacher-advisor are invited to participate in one or both of the two initial challenges, each addressing different environmental elements – land/water and air/climate. For each of the challenges, teams define an environmental issue that is important to them, develop an action plan to address the issue, implement the plan, and report the results.

- The submission deadline for Challenge 1 (land/water) is *October 29, 2012*;
- The deadline for Challenge 2 (air/climate) is *December 17, 2012*.

Each of the challenges will have sixteen winning entries – eight middle school and eight high school teams. The winning teams each will receive a total of \$10,000 in scholarships and grants to be shared among the students, teacher, and school. In early January, the winning teams from the first two challenges will be invited to participate in the program's final challenge. Teams will be asked to reach beyond the local community and inspire environmental action around the world through innovative ideas that are communicated to a wide audience. From the final challenge entries, eight first-place teams and two grand prize-winning teams will be selected. Each of the eight first-place teams will receive a total of \$15,000 in grants and scholarships, and two grand prize-winning teams will each receive \$30,000. The money will be shared by the students, their teacher-advisors, and their schools. For complete program information and entry requirements, visit the Eco Challenge Web site <http://lexus.scholastic.com/>

#### **BUILDING BLOCKS FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES GRANTS – OCT 25 – NOV 2**

The Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities program provides quick, targeted technical assistance to selected local and/or tribal governments using a variety of tools that have demonstrated results and widespread application. The purpose of delivering these tools is to stimulate a discussion about growth and development and strengthen local capacity to implement sustainable approaches.

- **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY: APPLICATIONS DUE OCTOBER 26<sup>TH</sup>.** In 2013, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will select up to 44 communities for assistance. Each technical assistance project in a community will include: (1) Public engagement, a one-day workshop that is open to the public; (2) Direct consultation with relevant decision-makers; and (3) a memo outlining specific steps the community could take to implement the ideas generated during the site visit. EPA will offer 9 tools as part of this program including planning bikeshare programs, creating a green streets strategy, sustainability strategies for small cities and rural areas, to name a few. For additional information about the kinds of assistance available, and to find the full application guidelines go to this EPA website: <http://epa.gov/smartgrowth/buildingblocks.htm>
- **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FROM SMART GROWTH AMERICA: APPLICATIONS DUE OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup>.** Smart Growth America is currently accepting applications for a series of [free technical assistance](#) workshops for local communities interested in smart growth strategies. The workshops span a wide range of topics, including transit-oriented development, walkability, regional planning, and zoning codes for small cities. Smart Growth America expects to select 12 communities nationally for assistance. Applications are due by October 25<sup>th</sup>. For additional information about the kinds of assistance available, and to find the full application guidelines and a digital application form, go to this Smart Growth America website: <http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/technical-assistance/free-annual-workshops>.
- **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FROM GLOBAL GREEN: APPLICATIONS DUE NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>.** Global Green is offering free technical assistance related to neighborhood planning and revitalization. The Creating Sustainable Neighborhoods site assessment is based on the LEED for Neighborhood Development rating system - the first national standard for neighborhood sustainability. Local and tribal governments are eligible to apply for the three-day intensive effort that engages national experts in neighborhood planning. Successful applicants will be able to identify a specific neighborhood where change is expected due a "catalytic" project, policy, or public investment. Global Green staff and team review current plans and zoning, conduct a walking tour and field evaluation, meet with stakeholders, complete a LEED-ND checklist to identify strengths and opportunities, and prepare a summary report with a series of targeted and actionable recommendations. Eight communities nationally will be selected for assistance in 2013. Deadline for applications is midnight, November 2, Pacific Standard Time. For more information and to apply, please visit: [globalgreen.org/leedndtechassist](http://globalgreen.org/leedndtechassist).
- **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FROM PROJECT FOR PUBLIC SPACES: APPLICATIONS DUE NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>** In partnership with the members of their Livability Solutions coalition, Project for Public Spaces is offering free technical assistance workshops on a wide variety

of topics, including street audits, transit-oriented development planning, green infrastructure valuation guides, and form based codes. Project for Public Spaces expects to select 6 to 12 communities nationally for assistance. Applications are due November 2nd. For the full details about the kinds of assistance available and how to apply, go to this Project for Public Spaces/Livability Solutions website: <http://livabilitysolutions.org/>

- Our fourth grantee, **FORTERRA**, and their three partner organizations expect to offer additional free technical assistance in early 2013. This assistance will be available in Central Puget Sound and the Olympic Peninsula in Washington State; the San Francisco Bay Area in California, the Twin Cities Metro Area and Greater Minnesota; and the Greater Boston Area in Massachusetts. To stay up to date on Forterra's program, please check Forterra's website: <http://buildingsustainablecommunities.org/>

#### **Potential PENNVEST's Nutrient Credit Auctions participant, - Nov 7**

Please join Markit Environmental team for a series of informative Webinars that will discuss how to use Markit systems for PENNVEST's Nutrient Credit Trading Auctions Program for the upcoming November 7<sup>th</sup> Spot Water Auction. The following topics will be covered:

- Enrollment and Eligibility
  - Utilize Markit Document Exchange platform to manage your enrollment documentation
  - For returning customers we will cover questions regarding necessary updates to documentation submitted for previous auctions
- Submitting Bids and Offers, Review Auction Results
  - Submit Auction Bids and Offers through Markit Environmental Registry
  - Review Auction Results – Review your individual Auction results on Markit Document Exchange

Enrollment and Eligibility (*Please participate in one of the following sessions*)

- Monday October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 (9:00 am to 10:00 am)
- Wednesday October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012 (9:00 am to 10:00 am)

Submitting Bids and Offers, Review Auction Results (*Please participate in one of the following sessions*)

- Wednesday October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012 (9:00 am to 10:00 am)
- Monday November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012 (9:00 am to 10:00 am)

The information needed to join is as follows: Call-in toll-free number (US/Canada): (866) 273 – 7990. Meeting Password: 3870033#. In order to see the presentation, please open the following link in your Internet Explorer Browser: <http://www.meetingzone.com/markit/>. Complete the participant information and click *Login*. Please use the Participant Access Code: 3870033. To ensure that you are able to see all parts of the presentation, please perform the system check by following this link: <http://www.meetingzone.com/markit/>. Under *Related Links* on the right side of the screen, click on *System Compatibility Check* and follow the instructions.

#### **FY13 Proposal Guidelines for Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Grants – Nov 30**

Posted to the brownfields website at: <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/applicat.htm>. The proposal deadline is November 30, 2012. These grants may be used to facilitate community involvement and conduct research, training and technical assistance necessary to develop area-wide plans and implementation strategies to facilitate brownfields assessment, cleanup, and subsequent reuse. Grants will be funded up to \$200,000 for a two year project period. Expected results from grant funding are as follows:

- Brownfields area-wide planning grant funding must be directed to specific areas affected by a single large catalyst site or multiple brownfield sites, such as a neighborhood, downtown district, city block or local commercial corridor;
- The grant funding will result in an area-wide plan, including implementation strategies, for the brownfields-affected area; and
- The brownfields area-wide plan will inform the assessment, cleanup and reuse of brownfields properties and promote area-wide revitalization.

Please note this significant change to the *Proposal Guidelines for Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Grants* in FY13: *As part of threshold requirements applicants must identify catalyst, high-priority sites within the project area. At least 50% of these catalyst and other high-priority brownfields sites must meet the CERCLA definition of a "brownfield" to be considered for award.* EPA encourages applicants to read the guidelines carefully before applying.

#### **Applications Now Being Accepted For DEP Environmental Education Grants – Dec 13**

Applications for the 2013 Environmental Education Grants Program are now available from the Department of Environmental Protection. The deadline for applications is December 13. ([formal notice](#))The grants provide funding to public and incorporated private schools, colleges and universities, county conservation districts, incorporated nonprofit organizations, along with incorporated conservation and education organizations and institutions, businesses, municipalities and municipal authorities to create or develop projects that support environmental education. Grants will provide environmental education on timely and critically important topics, including the following:

- *Chesapeake Bay and Watershed Education*—Organizations are encouraged to develop environmental education programs that promote the reduction of nonpoint source pollution, such as nutrient and sediment loads, along with other water-related education programs.
- *Air Quality*—Organizations are encouraged to develop air quality education and outreach programs.
- *Energy Education*—Organizations are encouraged to develop educational programs on energy efficiency and conservation, as well as natural gas, coal, wind, solar and other energy sources and technologies.
- *Brownfields*—Organizations are encouraged to develop education and outreach programs for students, youth, educators, community members, community groups, developers, property owners and others that are interested in brownfield redevelopment and sustainable communities, along with developing green spaces.
- *Environmental Literacy Planning and Programming*—Organizations are encouraged to engage educators and stakeholders in content standards and field-based environmental education. Areas of specific focus should include: graduation requirements, professional development on environmental education content knowledge and field-based pedagogy, assessment and evaluation, partnering to build capacity, identifying existing resources and sustainability of programs.

Additionally, projects may focus on high performing green schools and buildings; providing high quality programming for children, youth or adults, or both (programs to include STEM, outdoor education, service learning, ensuring access for participants with disabilities); professional development for formal and nonformal educators; environmental service learning programs for youth and adults; and environmental careers/green jobs.

- *Formal and Non-formal EE Certification*—Organizations are encouraged to develop and implement institutionalized and community-based certification programs designed for teachers, naturalists and educators working in schools and environmental education facilities at parks, county conservation districts, nature/EE centers, conservancies and more. It gives educators in these arenas access to a formal credential that standardizes and upgrades professional development, allowing educators to address academic standards in a meaningful and relevant way.
- *STEM Education*—Organizations are encouraged to develop environmental education programs integrating STEM program instruction (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) into programs.
- *Curriculum Integration Projects*—Organizations are encouraged to articulate the Academic Standards for Environment and Ecology into the formal K-12 curriculum, including Energy Education, for the entire school district, private school or charter school, using the model developed by the Department of Education's Office of Environment and Ecology.
- *Curriculum Revision Projects*—Organizations are encouraged to revise current (or write new) lesson plans or units to meet the changes identified in the alignment to the Environment and Ecology Standards, Energy Education and provide a means for classroom assessment.
- *Outdoor Learning Resource Projects*—Organizations are encouraged to develop resources such as trails, agricultural demonstration areas, energy demonstration areas, ponds, wetland areas, sheltered learning stations, and the like, as well as similar nearby community resources as a framework within which students can learn about natural systems and the interrelationship among natural and man-made communities.

The Program was established by the Environmental Education Act which mandates setting aside 5 percent of the pollution fines and penalties collected annually by the Department for environmental education in this Commonwealth. Environmental Education Grant awards are limited to \$7,500. Applications for the 2013 program will be available on DEP's [Environmental Education](#) webpage or by contacting the Department of Environmental Protection, Environmental Education Grants Program, P. O. Box 2063, Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063 or call 717-772-1828.

### **Put Cans To Work For Your School And The Environment – Jan 16**

Registration is now open for the 3rd [Annual Great American Can Roundup School Challenge](#) which takes place from America Recycles Day– November 15– to Earth Day– April 22, 2013. The Can Manufacturers Institute is awarding \$1,000 to the K-12 school in each state and the District of Columbia recycling the most aluminum cans per student and an additional \$5,000 to the champion per capita recycling school nationwide that is on top of value of the aluminum cans. Show your school's green spirit and environmental leadership. [Click Here](#) for all the details. Remember to register before January 16.



## **WATERSHED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

### **Dept. Of Agriculture Offers Tips To Manure Haulers, Brokers**

[Manure haulers and brokers](#) and agricultural producers are reminded to exercise caution when managing animal waste to minimize health risks. Hazardous levels of gases, including ammonia, carbon dioxide, hydrogen sulfide and methane, can accumulate when manure is stored, especially in confined spaces like underground covered waste storage tanks. Open air waste storage facilities and lagoons can also develop and release hazardous levels of these gases, especially during the agitation and pump-out process. Recently concerns have been raised by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service that the use of gypsum for bedding may increase the production of hydrogen sulfide in manure storage facilities. Gypsum is a low cost byproduct of drywall and contains sulfur. Producers are urged to use extra caution when managing manure storage facilities on operations where gypsum is used. Hydrogen sulfide can cause discomfort, headaches, nausea and dizziness. At levels above 200 ppm, collapse, coma and death due to respiratory failure can occur within seconds after only a few inhalations. Those who manage animal waste should take the following precautions:

- Always have a first aid equipment nearby;
- Wear personal protective equipment, including air packs and face masks, a nylon line with snap buckles, safety harness, floatation devices, safety signs and hazardous atmosphere testing kits or monitors.
- Do not enter a manure pit unless absolutely necessary and only then if the pit is first ventilated, air is supplied to a mask or a self-contained breathing apparatus, a safety harness and attached rope is put on and there are two people standing by;
- To minimize hazards, agitation of manure is best done on windy days;
- Understand the symptoms and effects of gas poisoning; and
- During agitation and pump out operations, ensure non-essential workers or bystanders are away from the manure storage facility.

In addition to the above tips, farmers should:

- Have an emergency action plan, including telephone numbers of local emergency personnel;
- Train all family members and employees in first-aid, CPR techniques and safety procedures;
- For open storage facilities, put a fence around it and post "Keep Out" signs that warn of the hazard; and
- Give special instructions to children and those who cannot read in the dangers of manure storage facilities.

Commercial manure haulers and brokers must be certified by the Department of Agriculture to ensure manure generated by agricultural operations is safely transported and applied. Applicants must complete training and pass an exam to receive initial certification and then complete continuing educational programs. For more information, visit Agriculture's [Manure Hauler and Broker Certification](#) webpage or call 717-772-5218. For more information about manure storage safety, visit the USDA [Manure Management](#) webpage.

### **StormwaterPA Offers Two New Video Case Studies**

The [StormwaterPA](#) website this week offered two new video case studies on effective stormwater management strategies.

- *Porous Paving*: Another piece of the City of Brotherly Love's stormwater management puzzle has been put into place, this time on the 800 block of Percy Street in South Philadelphia's Bella Vista neighborhood. The city's first porous "green street" replaces traditional impervious asphalt and reduces the amount of polluted runoff entering city sewers by allowing stormwater to infiltrate the surface and be stored in a stone bed until it can be absorbed by the soil. The project was a collaboration between the Philadelphia Water Department and the

Philadelphia Streets Department and has the added benefit of keeping homeowners basements dry where in the past, flooding often occurred. [Click Here](#) to watch the case study.

- **Meadow Mowing:** Many open spaces, including municipal parks, are covered by groomed lawn. Most people think these mown areas are "green and tidy." But, in reality, they often act like parking lots. The underlying soil is so compacted that rain runs off almost as though the grass was paved. Letting mown areas become natural meadows returns them to functional parts of the water system. These meadows prevent flooding, create habitat, and are beautiful to behold. [Click Here](#) to watch the case study.

Visit the [StormwaterPA](#) website for more information on stormwater management solutions.

### **New Guidance Document - Auditing Stormwater BMPs**

*Auditing Stormwater Best Management Practices in Maryland* is a 29-page publication available free for download by clicking *Auditing Stormwater BMPs* at: [ceds.org/audit](http://ceds.org/audit). You can [Report Your BMP Evaluation Findings](#) at this same website. There are more than 35,000 stormwater ponds and other Best Management Practices (BMPs) throughout Maryland. In some watersheds, these BMPs are treating runoff from more than a third of existing buildings, roads, parking lots and other impervious surfaces. These BMPs could be keeping a tremendous amount of pollution out of the Bay and her tributaries. However, in some localities many BMPs have failed due to a lack of maintenance. *Auditing Stormwater Best Management Practices* shows volunteer and professional clean water advocates how to locate and assess existing BMPs in their watershed. More importantly, advice is offered for providing local government inspection agencies with the public support needed to keep BMPs in good working order. Additional advice is provided for engaging those who live near BMPs in monitoring these facilities for maintenance needs and even performing simple upkeep. The [Report Your BMP Evaluation Findings](#) survey site makes it possible for citizen to compile a database of BMP conditions. As the database grows it could provide a way of identifying jurisdictions where failure rates are high and therefore in need of increased public support. Stormwater BMPs are a critical component of a [Watershed Audit](#), the purpose of which is to ensure that activities regulated by existing clean water laws are in full compliance. A lack of compliance is impeding the recovery of far too many waterways. For these troubled waterways, an Audit is the quickest way of improving aquatic resource health and reaping the full benefits of education-restoration activities. In fact, each hour invested in Watershed Auditing can save a hundred feet of waterway. For further detail visit: <http://www.ceds.org/audit.html>.

### **Climate change and agriculture: What can farmers, policymakers do?**

*Farm and Dairy* – A simple option is do nothing. But if the data is right, greenhouse gases would continue to rise exponentially, and so would the average temperature of Earth and the weather extremes. Although farming is a known cause of greenhouse gas emissions – about seven percent among human-based activities – farming also can help mitigate greenhouse gases and climate change. One of the breakthroughs for farmers happened 40-50 years ago, with the development of no-till farming. Read more...

<http://www.farmanddairy.com/news/climate-change-and-agriculture-what-can-farmers-policymakers-do/42356.html>

### **Cover crops key to improving soil health**

*DTN/The Progressive Farmer* – Proponents say that while cover crops are seldom used in the Corn Belt, planting them this fall could help fields retain winter moisture and reduce leftover nutrient leaching, a major concern this year given the amount of nitrogen and phosphorus the cash crop such as corn wasn't able to take up. Cover crops may be needed as emergency forage as well. The post-drought conditions create a window of opportunity for cover-crop advocates to convince more farmers that cover crops should be part of their overall cropping rotation, regardless of the short-term weather challenges. Read more...

[http://www.dtnprogressivefarmer.com/dtnag/common/link.do?sessionId=30B9FC51D72DE09B9F12722146E5503F\\_agfreejvm1?symbolicName=/free/agpolicy/news/template1&product=/ag/news/agpolicy/features&vendorReference=0702DA74&paneContentId=70120&paneParentId=70104](http://www.dtnprogressivefarmer.com/dtnag/common/link.do?sessionId=30B9FC51D72DE09B9F12722146E5503F_agfreejvm1?symbolicName=/free/agpolicy/news/template1&product=/ag/news/agpolicy/features&vendorReference=0702DA74&paneContentId=70120&paneParentId=70104)

### **Penn State Water Testing Lab Products Available**

Pennsylvania is fortunate to have a Department of Environmental Protection accredited water testing laboratory at Penn State University. Very few Universities have the capacity to assist the general public in identifying and documenting the quality of their water resources. The Penn State Water Lab also plays an important role in supporting water research and extension educational efforts. There are four main water testing products available, a pond and lake water test, a drinking water test, an irrigation water test, and a livestock water test available to the agricultural community. Penn State Water Extension Educators are listed on each of the water testing lab reports, as possible consultants for individuals needing help in interpreting their water test results. Statewide, from October 1, 2011, to September of 2012, a total of 971 water tests were conducted, including 828 drinking water tests, 61 pond and lake water tests, 49 irrigation water tests, and 33 livestock water tests. Water testing kits with sample bottles and instructions are available at your local Penn State Extension Office.

### **EPA Releases New 2012 Guidelines for Water Reuse**

Water reclamation and reuse have taken on increasing importance in the water supply of communities in the U.S. and around the world to achieve efficient resource use, ensure protection of environmental and human health, and improve water management. EPA has released the Agency's 2012 guidelines for water reuse. The 2012 reuse guidelines update and build on the Agency's previous reuse guidelines issued in 2004, incorporating information on water reuse that has been developed since the 2004 document was issued. In addition to summarizing U.S. existing regulations, the document includes water reuse practices outside of the U.S., case studies, information on planning for future water reuse systems, and information on indirect potable reuse and industrial reuse. Disinfection and treatment technologies, emerging contaminants, and public involvement and acceptance are also discussed. [Click here for more information and to view a copy of the document.](#)

