

# WAY E-NEWS

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



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A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

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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](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)

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

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

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

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

- Jan 13 – 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](http://www.yccf.org) – [www.yccf.org](http://www.yccf.org)

- For more information, contact the York County Community Foundation at 717.848.3733; Email: [info@yccf.org](mailto:info@yccf.org)

### [Codorus State Park](http://www.codorusstatepark.com)

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

### [Conewago Canoe Club](http://www.conewagocanooclub.org) – [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/) – <http://deercreekwatershed.com/>

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

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

- Contact: Sean Kenny at Farm & Natural Lands Trust of York County. Ph: (717) 843-4411 or e-mail [skenny@farmtrust.org](mailto:skenny@farmtrust.org)

### [Gifford Pinchot State Park](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)

- Event calendar <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/Calendar/list.asp>
- Contact Elizabeth Kepley, Environmental Education Specialist, DCNR Bureau of State Parks. Ph: 717-432-5011

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

- Contact: Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education. Ph: (717)654-0571. Email: [info@hornfarmcenter.org](mailto:info@hornfarmcenter.org). Web: [www.hornfarmcenter.org](http://www.hornfarmcenter.org)

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

- Club Open Meetings are held the Third Tuesday of each month at 7pm in the Clubhouse.
- Contact: York Chapter #67 IWLA. Ph: 717-428-2000

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

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

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

- Upper Western Shore Water Quality and Habitat Assessment: A presentation to the Upper Western Shore Tributary Team and the Otter Point Creek Alliance at the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center . Monday December 2nd 2013 @ 5:30 pm
- Contact: Rupert Rossetti, Tributary Team Coordinator, e-mail: [RupertRossetti@aol.com](mailto:RupertRossetti@aol.com)

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

- Trail Work – The York Hiking Club is having weekly trail work hikes on Thursdays. Most of the work hikes are on the Mason-Dixon Trail System. Contact Jim Hooper 717/252-3784 if you are interested in joining the group.
- Contact: James Hooper at 717/252-3784 or [j.e.hooper@ieee.org](mailto:j.e.hooper@ieee.org)

### [Mid-Atlantic Ecological Landscapes Partnership \[MAEscapes\]](http://extension.psu.edu/plants/gardening/maescapes) – <http://extension.psu.edu/plants/gardening/maescapes>

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

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

- Contact: *Prettyboy Watershed Alliance, P.O. Box 512, Monkton, MD 21111-0512. Phone us at: 410.239.0640*

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

- Oct 29 – Upcoming monthly meetings will be held at the East Shore Area Library (ESA), 4501 Ethel Street, Harrisburg, PA 17109 at 6:30 pm. All meetings are on the last Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm and will be held at the ESA unless noted.
- 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. Ph: 717-252-0229. E-mail: [info@lyhr.org](mailto:info@lyhr.org).

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

- Monthly Chapter Meetings 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., at Laughman's Sawmill Pavilion (summer) and Gander Mtn. (winter)
- Contact: Tom Finenze at 840-1372 or [tom@codorustu.org](mailto:tom@codorustu.org)

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

- Meetings are the third Wednesday of each month. Summer meetings at the Co-op Nursery, Winter meetings at Collinsville F&G Club
- 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 8 – Next meeting of WAY Board of Directors, 7:00 PM, at The York Water Co., Mt. Rose Ave.
- WAY E-News – Published by the Watershed Alliance of York, Inc. to inform the public about news and information that affect York County watersheds and beyond. Distribution: electronic (1,950). Frequency: bi-weekly. Subscription: No charge. Editor: Gary R. Peacock.
- Contact: Watershed Alliance of York, Inc. (WAY), C/o York County Conservation District, 118 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402. Phone: (717) 840-7430. Facsimile: (717) 755-0301. E-mail: [gpeacock@yorkccd.org](mailto:gpeacock@yorkccd.org)

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

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

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

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

**York-Adams Pharmaceuticals Stewardship Alliance**

- Oct 26 National Drug Take Back Day at your local participating pharmacy
- Contact: Martha King at 717-968-3083.

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

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

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

- YAS monthly meetings are held at: Luther Memorial Church, 1907 Hollywood Drive, York, PA 17403.
- Contact Tom Smith at 717-246-9767 or [tjs35@psu.edu](mailto:tjs35@psu.edu).

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

- Board meets 2nd Friday, 11:00 a.m. (December-March) and 2nd Thursday, 7:00 p.m. (Apr.-Nov.), at the York County ANNEX
- Contact: YCCD at 717-840-7430 or [yorkccd@yorkccd.org](mailto:yorkccd@yorkccd.org)

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

- [Partners in the Park 5K Race](#) October 13th
- For more information, contact York County Department of Parks and Recreation. Ph: (717) 840-7440. E-mail: [Parks@York-County.org](mailto:Parks@York-County.org). Web: [www.YorkCountyParks.org](http://www.YorkCountyParks.org).

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

- Meetings are held the third Monday of the month and held at the 911 Center.
- Contact YCPC at 717-771-9870 or [planner@ycpc.org](mailto:planner@ycpc.org)

**York County Solid Waste Authority** – <http://www.ycswa.org/>

- Contact YCSWA at 717-845-1066

## **WATERSHED EDUCATION & OUTREACH**

### **PA's Biggest Chesapeake Bay Cleanup Challenge: 609 Million Pounds Of Sediment**

Kelly Heffner, DEP Deputy for Water Management, told DEP's [Citizen's Advisory Council](#) Tuesday Pennsylvania's biggest challenge in meeting its obligations under the Chesapeake Bay Cleanup milestones is reducing sediment going into our rivers and streams by another 609 million pounds by 2025. She said Pennsylvania has completed 42 percent of the sediment reductions, 28 percent of the nitrogen reductions and 60 percent of the phosphorus reductions needed to meet the [Chesapeake Bay Clean Water Blueprint](#), but more work needs to be done. Heffner said 1 million pounds of nitrogen reductions were achieved last year, however an additional 32.5 million pounds need to be reduced by 2025. An additional 940,000 pounds of phosphorus will have to be reduced by 2025. Heffner noted publicly owned sewage treatment plants have already reduced phosphorus loads to below the 2017 milestone adding, "more aggressive implementation will be needed in other areas to meet the 2017 milestone." She said discussions surrounding a new, revised Chesapeake Bay Agreement were going slowly and were unlikely to be concluded by the end of this year. [Click Here](#) for a copy of Heffner's presentation. For more information, visit DEP's [Chesapeake Bay Program](#) webpage.

### **CBF-PA: Cost Effective Solutions Are Known, Documented In Chesapeake Bay Cleanup**

The Pennsylvania Office of the [Chesapeake Bay Foundation](#) this week put out the [third in a series of fact sheets](#) on cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay noting cost effective pollution solutions have already made significant progress in reducing pollution going to the Bay, particularly in Pennsylvania. Decades of investments have led to large-scale successes by Pennsylvania in the Chesapeake Bay cleanup effort. The Commonwealth is well on our way to a clean and healthy Bay that acts as a driver for economic activity throughout the 64,000 square mile watershed. These investments are gaining momentum and to distract ourselves now will have numerous impacts to Pennsylvanian's rivers and streams, as well as the Chesapeake Bay. There have been several major, recent studies that document the cost and effectiveness of water pollution cleanup by both the agricultural community and wastewater treatment plants. A 2009 report by the World Resources Institute found that agricultural practices which rely on the planting of permanent and temporary vegetation (primarily trees, grasses and shrubs) and land preservation were far less costly to install than practices which required large amounts of capital investment. A study published by the Chesapeake Bay Commission in 2004 provides a breakdown of cost-effectiveness for pollutant reduction from six cost-effective pollution reduction practices applicable to either agricultural or wastewater sectors. Designed to be a tool to assist in decision-making, the study identified the most cost-effective pollution reduction practices which could be readily implemented on a large scale to achieve notable reductions in pollutant loadings to the Chesapeake Bay. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Chesapeake Bay Program has also quantified the costs associated with Pennsylvania's pollution reduction practices that are accepted by USEPA as practices which Pennsylvania assesses towards meeting what would become the Chesapeake Bay Clean Water Blueprint, Watershed Implementation Plans, and Milestones. These are just a few of the studies mentioned and footnoted in the fact sheet. When considering the economic benefits of conservation practices, it is important to also consider ancillary benefits to the environment, health and human welfare, and indirect financial benefits to farmers that result from their implementation. These bonus benefits include carbon sequestration, improved wildlife habitat, increased groundwater recharge, reduced flooding, and improved water quality, among others. The cost for pollution reduction practices to remove a pound of pollutant varies greatly by sector, type, and pollutant treated. But it's important to note that for many of these practices a large number of ancillary environmental and economic benefits that directly impact the Pennsylvanian's quality of life and economic vitality. While significant progress has been made in all sectors, there is still a great deal of improvement needed across all sectors to protect, preserve, restore and maintain water quality in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributary rivers and streams. Investing available funds wisely in proven solutions that do not require large upfront costs and/or high risk remains the most prudent use of taxpayer money. That is why CBF has and will continue to support efforts in the agricultural and urban/suburban areas to improve water quality and fight for cost-effective solutions to pollution through conservation that counts. A copy of the [third fact sheet](#) is available online. The other fact sheets in this series include--

- [A Primer On Pollutants Of Concern](#)-- outlines the contributions Pennsylvania's portion of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed makes to nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment pollution to the Bay.
- [Nearly 20,000 Miles Of PA Streams Are Polluted](#)-- details the fact there are thousands of stream miles and hundreds of acres of lakes all across Pennsylvania that are considered "impaired" under the federal Clean Water Act that either have or will require what is known as a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL).

### **PA Farm Bureau Joins In Appeal Of Federal Chesapeake Bay Standards Decision**

[Pennsylvania Farm Bureau](#) and the American Farm Bureau Federation are appealing a federal district court decision that permits the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to universally regulate state and local land use decisions throughout the Chesapeake Bay Watershed under a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). "Congress did not intend to grant EPA limitless power to dictate how private land can be used under the Clean Water Act. In fact, Congress specifically reserved land use decisions for state and local authorities, not EPA," said PFB President Carl T. Shaffer. "We are appealing the court decision, because it would provide EPA with unbridled power to make decisions that could negatively impact farmers, homeowners, municipalities, school districts and businesses within the watershed." PFB notes that farmers are concerned about EPA's regulatory plan, also referred to as a pollution diet, because it would make it virtually impossible for farmers to grow their business, severely limiting the opportunity of the next generation to join the family farm. "The impact of this court case could be significant, potentially influencing the future of agriculture as Pennsylvania's leading industry and the state's economy, along with thousands of agriculture-related jobs. Farmers, local governments and a wide variety of other landowners, would be subject to the whim of EPA before making even the most basic decisions about their property," added Shaffer. Farm Bureau adds that the appeal will not impact agriculture's commitment to improving water quality throughout the watershed. "Pennsylvania farmers have implemented major changes and improvements on their land to enhance water quality and protect the environment over the years, and those efforts continue to move forward. Farmers are also working with state officials to further enhance efforts to reduce runoff from farmland," concluded Shaffer.

### **CBF ISSUES STATEMENT FOLLOWING THE FARM BUREAU'S APPEAL OF BAY CLEAN-UP RULING**

(ANNAPOLIS, MD) -- Chesapeake Bay Foundation President William C. Baker and Vice President for Litigation Jon Mueller issued these statements following notification that the American Farm Bureau Federation and others intend to appeal Judge Sylvia Rambo's ruling that Bay restoration efforts are legal. William C. Baker said: "It is disappointing, that so much effort has to be spent in the courts, versus on cleaning up the Bay and its rivers and streams. We are confident that the Bay clean-up plan will be upheld on appeal. Judge Rambo conducted a detailed

examination of the record, and her 98-page opinion details that the state and federal efforts to restore local rivers, streams, and the Chesapeake Bay are entirely legal.” Jon Mueller said: “Since losing in federal District Court the Farm Bureau has contended that Judge Rambo’s ruling gives EPA the right to stop farmers from farming. That is patently false.”

### **PA Municipal Authorities Assn. Joins Chesapeake Bay Foundation In Opposing SB 994**

The [PA Municipal Authorities Association](#) this week [wrote to members](#) of the Senate expressing its opposition to the [Senate Bill 994](#) (Vogel-R-Beaver) nutrient reduction proposal saying it does not have a funding source to make the program work. PMAA joins the [Chesapeake Bay Foundation-PA](#) and other groups opposing the legislation. The text of the letter follows--“The Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Association (PMAA), at their recent annual conference, took a position opposing the current version of SB 994, P.N. 1209. The biggest concern expressed by our members with SB 994 was the lack of a delineated funding source. “In addition, they expressed concern over potential inequity if a funding source such as a “flush tax” would be implemented (as noted below). Finally, they felt a minimum 10-year provision of credits from a sewage treatment plant would be too long, instead preferring a 3-5 year term. “PMAA represents over 720 authorities in Pennsylvania providing sewage treatment, drinking water, solid waste disposal, recycling and other services to over six million citizens. In particular, PMAA represents many sewer authorities that invested millions of dollars to comply with EPA and DEP requirement to reduce nutrients to the Chesapeake Bay. “In total, authorities and municipally-owned sewer plants are estimated to spend \$1.4 billion to meet their mandated nutrient reductions for the Bay. “Given the huge sums of money already invested by sewer authorities for Bay mandates, there is a valid concern that funding for this new program may eventually be authorized in a manner similar to a “flush tax.” In that scenario, citizens would pay an additional fee on their sewer or water bill to underwrite the program. In many cases these would be the same citizens already paying higher sewer bills to help clean the Bay. “The inequity of this option has led our members to suggest that a more balanced approach to funding be negotiated and identified in the bill. “PMAA will continue to work with EPA, DEP, and other partners to preserve the Chesapeake Bay.” A copy of the letter [is available online](#).

### **West Virginia poultry farmer sues EPA to clarify CAFO regulations**

*Bay Journal* – Lois Alt is a trained electrician, a proud West Virginian, a loving mother and a doting grandmother. She also happens to be the little lady who started the next big chicken war. Alt, 61, is suing the EPA after inspectors visiting her Old Fields farm in 2011, found her in violation of the Clean Water Act, and ordered her to obtain a discharge permit for a Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation, or CAFO. CAFOs are regulated as a point source of pollution, much like a sewage treatment plant is. Though the EPA later re-inspected her farm and rescinded the order, Alt is continuing to pursue the case. She wants a judge to clarify whether the EPA has jurisdiction over operations like hers – family farms with several chicken houses that many environmentalists and lawmakers would like to regulate as point sources. Read more... [http://www.bayjournal.com/article/west\\_virginia\\_poultry\\_farmer\\_sues\\_epa\\_to\\_clarify\\_cafo\\_regulations](http://www.bayjournal.com/article/west_virginia_poultry_farmer_sues_epa_to_clarify_cafo_regulations)

### **EPA weighs new permit approach**

EPA is weighing options for new ways to write Clean Water Act permits that integrate municipal wastewater and stormwater control requirements into a single permit – and possibly also allowing consideration of municipal drinking water investment needs in such permits. These permits could replace enforcement orders and consent decrees as the primary vehicle for stipulating and enforcing federal Clean Water Act requirements. AWWA and other organizations representing state and local officials have held that a truly integrated permitting process – which fully considered drinking water investment needs – would be superior to the enforcement-driven process EPA now uses to specify federal clean water requirements. A permit can be more holistic and flexible than a judicial order, and can be more easily modified through periodic permit reviews. We will keep you updated as EPA releases more information on this potential change.

### **DEP Unveils Enhanced Public Participation and Education Initiative**

HARRISBURG – The Department of Environmental Protection today announced a new public participation and education initiative that will improve its outreach to the public and more actively engage citizens and the regulated community in the development of policies and regulations. The DEP announcement came during today’s monthly meeting of the Citizen’s Advisory Council (CAC). Acting DEP Secretary Chris Abruzzo thanked members of the CAC for their valuable input and commitment to helping the department improve public participation. DEP has created an all-new, online Public Participation Center, which is a clearinghouse for all information related to DEP meetings, webinars and events, as well as proposals posted for public comment. The online center includes an educational component where visitors can learn about:

- Technical guidance and policies;
- The rulemaking process; and
- Electronic tools available to track permit applications or to be notified of pending authorizations.

It also includes a link to the updated Citizen’s Guide to DEP Regulations which explains the regulatory process in an easy-to-understand format developed in partnership with the CAC. Also newly created as part of this initiative are DEP’s YouTube channel, Speakers Bureau, and a biweekly newsletter that will begin publication later this month and will feature department news, highlight important initiatives and provide links to upcoming hearings and webinars. The CAC is an 18-member body of citizens that advise DEP on its policies, management and operations. It also evaluates environmental issues and laws and participates in the development of environmental regulations. For more information about the Public Participation and Education Initiative, or to subscribe to DEP’s new newsletter, visit [www.dep.state.pa.us](http://www.dep.state.pa.us), and click on the Public Participation Center button.

### **Striped bass reproduction is up in the Chesapeake Bay**

According to data from the [Maryland Department of Natural Resources](#) (DNR) and the [Virginia Institute of Marine Science](#) (VIMS), the number of juvenile striped bass in the watershed has rebounded from last year, when it was close to the lowest ever observed. Known as the “juvenile striped bass index,” the number of young-of-the-year [striped bass](#) in the Bay is used to track the species’ reproductive success. To count the number of striped bass that hatched this spring, biologists take a series of seine net samples in noted spawning areas, from the Upper Bay to the James River. Read more... [http://www.chesapeakebay.net/blog/post/striped\\_bass\\_reproduction\\_is\\_up\\_in\\_the\\_chesapeake\\_bay](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/blog/post/striped_bass_reproduction_is_up_in_the_chesapeake_bay)

### **Chesapeake Forest Champions celebrated for conserving critical habitat**

Protecting undeveloped land, planting native trees and monitoring forests for insects and disease: each of these actions can conserve critical forest habitat, and each has been put into practice across the region by this year’s Chesapeake Forest Champions.

A researcher, a forester, a teacher and a regional water provider were among the four award-winners in the annual contest sponsored by the [U.S. Forest Service](#) (USFS) and the [Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay](#).

#### **Eight ways to access the Chesapeake Bay from your desk**

For many people, the summer months are an ideal time to get outdoors and connect with nature. The 64,000 square mile Chesapeake Bay watershed offers a wide range of recreational opportunities, but with the responsibilities of everyday life, some find it hard to set aside time to enjoy them. If getting outdoors is not an option, don't fret! Here are eight ways to access the Bay from the comfort of your home or office. Read more... [http://www.chesapeakebay.net/blog/post/eight\\_ways\\_to\\_access\\_the\\_chesapeake\\_bay\\_from\\_your\\_desk](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/blog/post/eight_ways_to_access_the_chesapeake_bay_from_your_desk)

#### **Videos that follow the AP Environmental Science curriculum are now available**

This video is the first in a series that follows the national AP Environmental Science curriculum. See more environmental science videos at [www.birdconservationresearch.org](http://www.birdconservationresearch.org)



## **WATERSHED FACILITATION ASSISTANCE**

#### **South Mountain Fall 2013 Partnership Meeting! – Oct 25**

Calling All Partners: [Register Today!](#) The Fall 2013 Partnership Meeting Friday, October 25, 2013, 9:30 am to Noon, Carlisle, PA. Cumberland County Historical Society, Todd Hall. [More information and online free registration is available here](#) . Join the South Mountain Partnership for an exciting morning as we host the Fall 2013 Partnership Meeting. The meeting will include:

- Updates on recent Partnership activities, including the Go Local for Health Summit;
- A presentation on a partner pamphlet which will bring clarity to expectations of partners as well as opportunities for partners to engage with the Partnership;
- An insider's perspective on current topics and challenges on Michaux State Forest;
- And Roundtable Discussions regarding the Partnership's 2014 planned activities.

We hope you can join us! Light snacks and coffee/tea will be available on the morning of the 25th.

#### **Transition York - Three important environmental events coming up – Oct 27**

Information on three upcoming events of interest and importance.

- Sunday, October 27th, 2:45 p.m., UU Congregation of York, S.B. Anthony Room: **Citizens' Climate Lobby** Mid-Atlantic region coordinator Jon Clark (of Dover) will conduct a training session on how to become involved in increasing awareness and moving us toward action to address climate change. Last winter's survey of the UUCY congregation showed that the **highest priority item** for the greatest number of people was climate change. Here's your opportunity to get the facts and find ways to take action. There is no specific commitment of time or attendance at meetings required, although support is offered. Older children and teens are encouraged to participate.
- Thursday, November 7, 7 p.m., Dickinson College's Clarke Forum presents noted environmentalist (and one of the founders of the Citizens' Climate Lobby!) **James Hansen** in a public presentation. See <http://clarke.dickinson.edu/james-hansen/>
- Thursday, November 7, 7 p.m., Millersville University will present **Michael Mann**, an equally notable environmentalist and creator of the hockey stick model on global warming. Dr. Mann will also conduct programs for high school students and teachers earlier in the day. Anyone wishing to arrange carpools for the Carlisle or Millersville events, please let me know. Karen ([kjofct@gmail.com](mailto:kjofct@gmail.com))

#### **Webinar: A Study of Roadside Springs of Pennsylvania – Oct 30**

Our next Penn State Water Resources Extension webinar will be Wednesday, October 30, 2013 from 12:00 to 1:00 PM (EDT) on A Study of Roadside Springs of Pennsylvania by Jim Clark and Diane Oleson from Penn State Extension. More details below. Hope you can join us! When: October 30, 2013 - 12:00 to 1:00 PM. Title: A Study of Roadside Springs in Pennsylvania. Presenters: Jim Clark and Diane Oleson, Penn State Extension. Where: live webinar can be viewed at <https://meeting.psu.edu/water1>

#### **19th Cover Crop & Field Health Field Day – Oct 29-30**

Holtwood, PA – Register today for one of the nation's premier cover crop events hosted by Cover Crop Solutions on October 29-30, 2013 at their research farm. This info-packed, community learning experience will focus on the latest cover crop research data, soil biology, strategies, how-to's, demos and network building. Experts including Steve Groff, Mike Plumer and Sjoerd Duiker will present. Visit [CoverCropSolutions.com](http://CoverCropSolutions.com) for more info!

#### **2ND ANNUAL YORK COUNTY LOCAL FOOD SUMMIT- Nov 7**

To be held Nov 7 at York County 4-H Center. Penn State Extension in York County has partnered with York City Bureau of Health, Sunnyside Farm, Spoutwood Farm, Horn Farm Center, Northern High School, and Wellspan Health to host The 2nd Annual York County Local Food Summit on November 7th, 2013. Last year's event was so successful another event will be held with the theme: "Growing Opportunities". There will be interactive workshops, education, discussion, networking, and so much more! All the food will be donated by local farmers, growers, and restaurateurs. This event hopes to continue the discussion about creating a sustainable and localized food system in York County. This year we hope to educate and support those new to farmer or interested in farmer, be that traditional or urban. The day will be cost-effective, interactive, educational, and enlightening to serve as a springboard for further events, policy change, action and feasible planning so as to make the idea of a sustainable York County a reality. Included in the dozen breakout session topics addressed by the summit will be Business Planning for Farmers, Building and Utilizing Hoop Houses, Creating and Maintaining School Gardens, and Urban Farming. Please join The York County Local Food Summit on November 7th, 2013 at the York County 4-H Center located at 771 Stoverstown Rd, York PA 17408. This workshop is open to the general public. Contact Tia Bess for registration and/or sponsorship at 717-840-7408 or email [tmp156@psu.edu](mailto:tmp156@psu.edu). Visit the Food Summit on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/YorkCountyLocalFoodSummit](http://www.facebook.com/YorkCountyLocalFoodSummit).

### **Stream Ecological Services and Riparian Forest Buffer Session At Stroud Water Research Center – Nov 5 & 7**

November 5th (Tues.) or November 7, 2013 (Thurs.) from 9:30 – 3:00. This session at the Stroud Water Research Center is primarily for anyone who has never been to the 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 (CBF), DCNR Bureau of Forestry and the Stroud Water Research Center. 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. Lamonte Garber, CBF and Matt Ehrhart, Stroud, will discuss strategies for bringing buffers to new audiences and integrating buffers into pollution reduction projects in ways that deliver more benefits per dollar. We will then tour the Stroud Research Lab and have lunch. After lunch we will have a brief update from David Wise, Stroud, 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 per session. I am requesting that you let me know by October 25, 2013 if you plan to attend so I can keep track of the numbers for the lunch count. I have participated in or helped to arrange more than 30 sessions at the Stroud and have always received very positive feedback. The participant is responsible for any cost incurred for travel. I appreciate your interest. Let me know if you have any questions. Richard L. Shockey, Environmental Review Specialist Ecological Services Section, DCNR – Bureau of Forestry. [c-rshockey@pa.gov](mailto:c-rshockey@pa.gov)

### **Autumn Events at Shank's Mare – Nov 2, 16 & 23**

The following are a list of events at Shank's Mare that may be of interest to your audience.

- Wind Cave Exploration, Hike & Lunch. Sat., Nov. 2, 2013, 11am-2:30pm – Moderate Difficulty. Did you know that the Lower Susquehanna is the site of a tectonic cave – a cavern formed by layers of shifting rock versus the typical limestone and water formation? Following a hike to the entrance, enter the cave and explore the twists and turns of this unique formation located on the Conestoga Trail in Lancaster County. You'll stop at Lock 12 Historic Area on the Susquehanna in York to view the footprint of the canal and lock on your return trip to Shank's Mare. Following your spelunking adventure, enjoy a hearty hot lunch with us. Fee – includes shuttle, guide and lunch – \$39/Person
- Beaver Moon Hike Dine & Bonfire Sat., Nov. 16, 2013, 2:00-7:00pm – Easy to Moderate Difficulty November's full moon is called the Beaver Moon in Native American culture. For this easy to moderate difficulty hike, you'll begin at Kline's Run Park and hike the Native Lands Trail which is a part of the Mason-Dixon Trail System. This trail offers beautiful views of the river and crosses many historical landmarks including two old cemeteries and the site of a Native American settlement dating back to the late 1600's. You'll end up at Shank's Mare for a hearty meal in the Lock 2 Café with the fire lit inside and a bonfire outside. Play some of our lawn games and await the rise of the Beaver Moon. Program fee – includes shuttle, guide and meal – \$36/Person. (BYOB permissible to enjoy with meal).
- Foraging for Edible Plants Hike Taste & Dine. Edible Wild Plant Tasting by Jon Darby Sat., Nov. 23, 2013, 2:00-7:00pm – Easy Hike We foraged for edibles in the early spring with organic farmer, Jon Darby. Now we will see what the late fall has to offer in wild edibles. We'll explore local trails with Jon searching for the vast array of edible plants that most of us overlook, but were staples in the diets of early settlers. Following our hike, we'll taste some plants and learn about native wild plants that are safe to eat. Then enjoy a delicious dinner and tasting adventure highlighting some dishes made with edibles of the fall season. We'll also have some homemade mead on hand for you to taste which is a honey wine made from various edibles. This will truly be an adventure in dining! Program Fee – includes hike, tasting & dinner – \$41/Person (BYOB permissible to enjoy with meal).

Shank's Mare, 2092 Long Level Road, Wrightsville, PA 17368. Ph. 717-252-1616. Web [www.shanksmare.com](http://www.shanksmare.com)

### **Additional Upcoming Webinars – Nov 20**

Additional webinars on various water resources topics will be offered each month - generally on the last Wednesday of the month. A full schedule of upcoming webinars can be found at: <http://extension.psu.edu/water/webinar-series/schedule>.

- November 20, 2013 - New Tools For Teaching Youth About Water: "Watershed Decisions" activity and the "Role of Water in Shale Gas Drilling" videos, Jennifer Fetter, Penn State Extension
- December 18, 2013 -Water Law Basics, and Potential Lessons for the East from the Water Law and Policy Challenges of the Western United States, Lara Fowler, Senior Lecturer, Penn State Dickinson School of Law and Research Fellow, Penn State Institutes of Energy and the Environment

### **Why should you attend the Nov 23-24th Waterways Reskilling? – Nov 23-24**

Because..... Waterkeepers and Watershed Advocates have so much experience to share with the public, and best practices to share with each other. The Mid-Atlantic Transition Hub (MATH) & the SUNY New Paltz Environmental Task Force November 23-24 Waterways Reskilling at SUNY New Paltz Lecture Center. Raise public awareness about your work. Exhibit your projects. Share your materials and passion for protecting and safely using our majestic waterways with colleagues and the public. Enjoy learning heirloom skills, music, films, engaging conversations and information sessions about micro-hydropower, sail freight, woodworking and boat-building. Educate, advertise, exhibit, participate and consider Transitioning..... to a superb-quality, carbon neutral future among friends. We look forward to welcoming you to SUNY New Paltz on November 23-24, 10:00 AM - 5:00PM. yours, perpetually in Transition~Pamela Boyce Simms, Certified Transition Trainer, Mid-Atlantic Regional Transition Hub of Transition US, 230 Kings Mall Court #108, Kingston, New York 12401. Ph: (646) 241-8386 [transitionmidatlantic.pbs@gmail.com](mailto:transitionmidatlantic.pbs@gmail.com). [www.transitionmidatlantic.org](http://www.transitionmidatlantic.org)

### **Maryland Water Monitoring Council Annual Conference Announcement – Dec 5**

The Maryland Water Monitoring Council will hold its 19th Annual Conference at the Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies in Linthicum Heights on Thursday, December 5, 2013. The theme of the one day conference is Conserving Maryland's High Quality Waters - from Monitoring to Action. Registration will begin at 7:30 AM and the conference will adjourn at 4:30 PM. A post-conference social will wrap up the day. A morning plenary session will include talks by Elizabeth Buxton of the Maryland Environmental Trust and Tom DeMoss, former Chesapeake Bay Program Director. Concurrent session topics include Maryland's Stormwater Fee, Integrating Water Data into Local Planning, Land Conservation and Water Quality Benefits, Citizen Involvement, EPA's Healthy Watersheds Program, Maryland's Coldwater Habitats, Drinking Water, Environmentally Friendly Landscapes, Headwater Streams, Patapsco River Dam Removal, Maryland's Antidegradation Law, and Updates on the Maryland Biological Stream Survey. The early-bird registration fee (deadline - November 17, 2013) is \$55 and includes lunch, breaks, and conference materials. After November 17, the registration fee is \$70. The early registration fee for presenters is \$50.

Discounts for full-time students are also available on a first come, first served basis by request. The Second MWMC Student Poster Award will be offered this year. Open to high schoolers and college undergraduates, the Award offers \$50 for first place and \$25 for second place. The deadline for poster abstract submission is October 31. [www.marylandwatermonitoring.org](http://www.marylandwatermonitoring.org)



## **WATERSHED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

### **Chesapeake Bay Trust's (CBT) K-12 Environmental Education Mini Grant**

The Chesapeake Bay Trust's (CBT) grant-making strategies are shaped by three core objectives: environmental education, demonstration-based restoration, and community engagement. CBT uses these objectives as basic touchstones for developing their grant programs. To support the objectives, CBT makes awards through 10 grant programs under each of the objectives. To learn more about the available CBT grants, click [here](#). Questions about the available grants can be directed to [Kacey Wetzel](mailto:Kacey.Wetzel).

### **EPA grant opportunity**

EPA expects to award up to \$1.6 million in funding for projects that protect and restore urban waters through activities that also support community revitalization and other local priorities. The awards will be made in up to 18 eligible geographic areas, and will range from approximately \$40,000 to as much as \$60,000. More information, including the eligible geographic areas can be found on [EPA's website](#).

### **The Chesapeake Bay Trust Awards Program is OPEN – Dec 2**

The Chesapeake Bay Trust's 2014 Awards Program honors students, teachers, individuals, communities and organizations for their work to promote education, improve local communities and help restore the Chesapeake Bay. The deadline to submit a nomination is Monday, December 2, 2013 at 5:00 pm. All applicants can complete the application or nominate someone at [www.cbtrust.org](http://www.cbtrust.org). The two student awards come with a \$5,000 scholarship and the Educator of the Year award is accompanied by a \$2,500 grant. With questions, please contact Molly Alton Mullins at [mmullins@cbtrust.org](mailto:mmullins@cbtrust.org) or at 410-974-2941, ext. 107. Thank you!

- 2014 Teacher of the Year Award: Awarded to a Maryland or Chesapeake Bay watershed educator who has shown an outstanding commitment to environmental education, who motivates and inspires students, and serves as a respected resource to colleagues and community leaders. The winner will receive a \$2,500 grant to support their environmental education work.
- 2014 Student of the Year Scholarship: Awarded to a high school or college student attending school within Maryland or the Chesapeake Bay watershed who motivates and inspires others and participates in efforts to improve the local environment and/or community. The winner will receive a \$5,000 scholarship award.
- 2014 Honorable Arthur Dorman Scholarship: Recognizes a Maryland or Chesapeake Bay watershed high school or college student of color who motivates and inspires other students through their actions in their school and/or community and participates in efforts to improve their local environment and/or their community. The winner will receive a \$5,000 scholarship award.
- 2014 Melanie Teems Award: Honors efforts that engages citizens in efforts to improve the environment and/or Chesapeake Bay through demonstration-based projects or programs, serves as a model for other organizations to exemplify, and utilizes the resources of the Chesapeake Bay Trust.
- 2014 Ellen Fraithe Wagner Award: Recognizes an individual who works to improve the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, motivates and inspires others by promoting environmental awareness throughout the community, exhibits a long-term commitment to the restoration of the Chesapeake Bay, and leads successful restoration efforts.

### **Coldwater Heritage Partnership Announces Opening of 2014 Grant Program – Dec 13**

The Coldwater Heritage Partnership (CHP) announces the opening of the 2014 Coldwater Conservation Grants Program. The program provides two grant opportunities, which help to protect and conserve the health of Pennsylvania's coldwater ecosystems. The two grant opportunities are:

- Planning Grant- designed to help develop a conservation plan that identifies the values and threats that impact the health of our coldwater ecosystems that have naturally reproducing trout. The collected information can be used as a catalyst for more comprehensive planning or for development of watershed improvements projects. Planning grants average around \$5,000.
- Implementation Grant- designed to provide funding to projects recommended in a completed conservation plan or report. Potential projects must enhance, conserve or protect the coldwater stream for which the coldwater conservation plan was originally completed. Implementation grants average around \$7,000.

Applications can be found at [www.coldwaterheritage.org](http://www.coldwaterheritage.org). Applications will be accepted through December 13, 2013. The Coldwater Heritage Partnership (CHP) urges watershed groups, conservation districts, municipalities and local chapters of Trout Unlimited to apply. The Coldwater Heritage Partnership provides technical assistance and funding support for the evaluation, conservation and protection of Pennsylvania's coldwater streams. Grants will be awarded to organizations to outline strategies and complete implementation projects that best conserve and protect our coldwater fisheries. Besides offering grants, CHP works to: foster greater public understanding of watershed characteristics and how they affect coldwater ecosystems; identify special areas of concern, such as areas with exceptional water quality and high potential for impacts; and provide technical assistance and financial opportunities to organizations dedicated to protecting our coldwater ecosystems. The CHP is a cooperative effort of Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited (PATU), the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), the PA Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC), and the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds. For more information, contact Samantha Kutschel, Program Director, at (814) 359-5233 or visit the Coldwater Heritage Partnership website at [www.coldwaterheritage.org](http://www.coldwaterheritage.org).

### **Sustainable Energy Fund Offers 0% Financing For Energy Efficiency Projects – Jan 15**

John Costlow, Director of Technical Services, [Sustainable Energy Fund](#), announced Friday at the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce Energy & Environment Conference, the introduction of SEF's new Sustainable Energy Finance Program. The new Sustainable Energy Finance Program is available to not-for-profit and governmental entities to complete energy efficiency or renewable energy projects. These are projects that reduce energy consumption from non-sustainable resources or generate energy from sustainable resources. Sustainable Energy Fund will issue a Request for Applications for the new program on October 15. Loans or leases will be made for projects between \$5,000 and \$90,000

on a first-come, first-serve basis until program funds are exhausted. The deadline for Sustainable Energy Finance application submissions is 4:00 p.m. (EST) on January 15. "Every dollar a not-for-profit spends on energy, is one less dollar they have to deliver on their mission," states Costlow. "The Sustainable Energy Finance program creates a low-cost opportunity for not-for-profits to reduce their energy consumption and return those dollars to their mission," he adds. A sampling of project types that will be considered are: Solar Photovoltaic; Anaerobic Digesters; Wind; Micro-Hydro; and Energy modeling for new construction. Call the [Sustainable Energy Fund](#) at 610-264-4440 for more information after October 15



## **WATERSHED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

### **Accurate maps of streams could aid in more sustainable development of Potomac River watershed**

*e-Science News* – Where a stream ends is clear, but where it begins can be more difficult to discern. Researchers from the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science have developed a new method to solve this problem, resulting in a new map of the Potomac River watershed stream network that significantly improves the information needed for assessing the impact of urbanization on aquatic ecosystems. This information is critical for quantifying the impact of urbanization on aquatic ecosystems. Urbanization results with the land being covered by hard, or impervious, surfaces that prevent soil from absorbing water and pollutants. Water instead moves quickly as "runoff," picking up large amounts of sediment and pollution along the way and delivering it to streams and major bodies of water, such as the Chesapeake Bay. This leads to decreased water quality that can impact the health of vegetation, wildlife, and humans that come into contact with it. The researchers developed a high-resolution map of streams in the Potomac River watershed and five smaller Maryland watersheds, an area that spans from the Appalachian Mountains to the Chesapeake Bay and includes the metropolitan areas of Baltimore, Maryland, and Washington, D.C. The maps show streams that still flow through forests and fields, as well as predicts the location of streams that have been buried through development and agricultural use. Many small streams are not included in previous maps either because they were buried during the course of urban development or because they were smaller than the minimum mapping size at the time of map generation. The location of streams influences land use decisions through the impact of surface water on the cost of developing land and on forest and agricultural productivity. These "missing streams" cause a major problem for efforts to form regulatory policy intended to protect streams. In the U.S., land use decisions are made with regard to stream presence using the National Hydrology Dataset (NHD), a map of surface water including rivers, streams and lakes that is available to all levels of government and the public. The researchers found that these maps under-represent total stream density in the Potomac River region by as much as 250%. This underrepresentation is sometimes due to urbanization that occurred prior to the original stream maps being generated. However, even within forested watersheds, the study found a wide variability in accuracy due to outdated mapping techniques. To account for "missing streams," the researchers collected field data on stream occurrence in forested areas of the watershed and related it to several landscape variables that correlate with the presence of streams. This relationship allowed the researchers to project the probability of streams back onto the landscape, mapping the potential of where they would be located in the absence of urban development or agriculture. This potential stream map can be used to determine how land use changes have impacted the number and length of streams in the watershed. The study, "Potential Stream Density in Mid-Atlantic U.S. Watersheds" is published in the August issue of PLOS One by Andrew Elmore, Steven Guinn, and Matthew Fitzpatrick of the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, and Jason Julian of Texas State University.

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

Cover crops, streamside trees and nutrient management plans: all are exceptional ways to reduce [nutrient pollution](#) in the Chesapeake Bay. And for father and son duo Elwood and Hunter Williams, restoring the Bay begins with conservation practices and a shift in mentality. "We knew coming down the road that we needed to do a better job with keeping the water clean," Hunter said. "We decided that if there was going to be a problem with the streams it wasn't going to be us." Read more...

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

### **Restoration Spotlight: Urban wetland provides refuge for Baltimore wildlife**

Overlooking Baltimore Harbor on a warm spring day, the grounds of [Fort McHenry National Monument and Shrine](#) are an alluring sight. The fort is now protected by the National Park Service (NPS), nearly 200 years after its historic stand during the [Battle of Baltimore](#), which birthed our national anthem. Nestled outside of the fort's borders is an urban wetland: seven acres of manmade wildlife habitat that set a progressive example of how to overcome urbanization, development and other modern-day environmental obstacles. Read more...

[http://www.chesapeakebay.net/blog/post/restoration\\_spotlight\\_urban\\_wetland\\_provides\\_refuge\\_for\\_baltimore\\_wildlife](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/blog/post/restoration_spotlight_urban_wetland_provides_refuge_for_baltimore_wildlife)

### **Forecasting the fate of fertilizer in the Chesapeake Bay watershed**

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

### **Nitrogen fertilizer remains in soils and leaks towards groundwater for decades, researchers find**

e-Science News – Nitrogen fertilizer applied to crops lingers in the soil and leaks out as nitrate for decades towards groundwater – "much longer than previously thought," scientists in France and at the University of Calgary say in a new study. Thirty years after synthetic nitrogen (N) fertilizer had been applied to crops in 1982, about 15 per cent of the fertilizer N still remained in soil organic matter, the scientists found. After three decades, approximately 10 per cent of the fertilizer N had seeped through the soil towards the groundwater and will continue to leak in low amounts for at least another 50 years. The study was led by researcher Mathieu Sebilo at the Université Pierre et Marie Curie in Paris, France, and by Bernhard Mayer in the U of C's Department of Geoscience, and included several research organizations in France. Their paper, "Long-term fate of nitrate fertilizer in agricultural soils," was published this week in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America.

### **Chesapeake Bay Program Tracking Tools**

Chesapeake Bay Program partners use several tools to track progress toward Bay restoration goals. These tools help Bay Program partners and other stakeholders visualize data to help identify priorities and reveal funding gaps.

- ChesapeakeStat – ChesapeakeStat provides information about Bay Program partner restoration activities, funding and progress toward goals. The information is displayed on a public website, [stat.chesapeakebay.net](http://stat.chesapeakebay.net). The ChesapeakeStat website helps foster coordination among partners and improve government accountability. ChesapeakeStat reflects the Bay Program's continuous process of analyzing data to assess progress toward goals. The Executive Council launched ChesapeakeStat in June 2010.
- BayTAS – The Chesapeake Bay TMDL Tracking and Accounting System (BayTAS) is an interactive tool that allows the EPA, Bay Program partners and Bay jurisdictions to track progress toward implementing the Chesapeake Bay TMDL. BayTAS uses maps and charts to visualize the Bay TMDL 2009 baseline data, 2017 interim goal projections and 2025 allocations for nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment. Users can view pollution data by basin, jurisdiction, stream segment or source sector. BayTAS will eventually include additional features such as best management practice (BMP) implementation and verification. Visit [stat.chesapeakebay.net/baytas](http://stat.chesapeakebay.net/baytas) to learn more about BayTAS and explore the data.

### **NPDAT Tool Updates**

The NPDAT is a Web-based tool intended to help states develop effective strategies for reducing nitrogen and phosphorus pollution. The NPDAT consists of an introductory website, geospatial viewer, and data download tables available at [www.epa.gov/nutrientpollution/npdatt](http://www.epa.gov/nutrientpollution/npdatt). Data available on the NPDAT include:

- Nitrogen and Phosphorus Loading information from U.S. Geological Survey SPARROW model (SPATIally Referenced Regressions On Watershed attributes)
- Water Quality Data and Information (e.g., Water quality monitoring sites with nitrogen and phosphorus data and National Aquatic Resource Surveys (NARS) Phosphorus/ Nitrogen Values data layers)
- Setting Watershed Load Reduction Goals / Source Control Priorities (e.g., Facilities that are likely to discharge nitrogen and phosphorus to water, waters with N/P TMDLs [Total Maximum Daily Loads], and drinking water sources)

We are pleased to announce the following NPDAT updates:

- Updated Data on Facilities Likely to Discharge N/P to Water. The Facilities Likely to Discharge Nitrogen/Phosphorus (N/P) to Water data layer now provides information on nitrogen and phosphorus discharge and any nitrogen and phosphorus permit limits from 2011 facility monitoring reports (previously 2010 information was the most current information available through the Nitrogen and Phosphorus Pollution Data Access Tool). These data are retrieved using EPA's [Discharge Monitoring Report \(DMR\) Pollutant Loading Tool](#).
- Updated Data on [Waters Listed for N/P Impairments and Waters with N/P TMDLs](#). The data layers with Waters Listed for N/P Impairments and Waters with N/P TMDLs (Total Maximum Daily Loads) now reflect data pulled from the Assessment TMDL Tracking and Implementation System (ATTAINS) as of January 2013 (previously the layers reflected May 2012 ATTAINS data).

### **Investing in Forested Landscapes for Source Water Protection in the U.S**

World Resources Institute – Aging water infrastructure, increasing demand, continued land use change, and increasingly extreme weather events are driving the costs of water management higher in the United States. Investing in integrated water management strategies that combine engineered solutions with "natural infrastructure" can reduce costs, enhance services, and provide a suite of co-benefits for communities and the environment. This publication offers comprehensive guidance on the economics, science, partnerships, and finance mechanisms underlying successful efforts to secure the water-related functions of networks of forests and other ecosystems. To download the report, Natural Infrastructure Investing in Forested Landscapes for Source Water Protection in the United States, [click here](#).

### **The Guide to Greening Cities**

As cities continue to face climate-change impacts while growing in population, they find themselves at the center of resilience and green-city solutions, yet political and budgetary obstacles threaten even the best-planned initiatives. In The Guide to Greening Cities, green city leaders Sadhu Johnston, Steven Nicholas, and Julia Parzen use success stories from across North America to show how to turn a green city agenda into reality. <http://guidetogreeningcities.org/index>

### **Create an Infiltration Trench**

Infiltration trenches are one of the most effective ways to keep polluted stormwater from reaching local waterways.

Learn more: Infiltration Trench Fact Sheet <http://ceds.org/audit/Factsheet-Infiltration%20Trench.pdf>