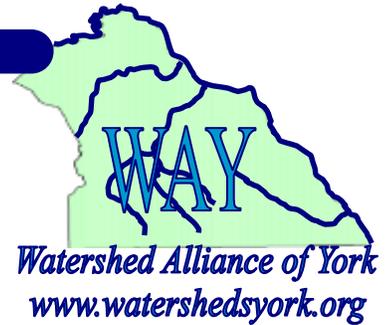


# WAY E-NEWS

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



October 26, 2009

A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Volume 9, Issue 21

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- Sign Up Today For The 2009 Oh Deer! Environmental Forum – Oct 12 – Nov 20
- The 7th Annual Lebanon/Lancaster County Watershed Forum – Oct 31
- Seminar – The Chesapeake Bay, Our Bay, Our Food Production, Our Responsibility – Nov 7
- Illegal Dump/Litter Cleanup – Nov 7
- Design Solutions for Stormwater Management SAVE THE DATE – Nov 10
- DEP Announces Public Meetings for Proposed Critical Water Planning Areas – Nov 16
- Cover Crop Workshop and Tour – Nov 18
- 15th Annual Maryland Water Monitoring Council Conference – Dec 3
- 1st Annual Choose Clean Water- Chesapeake Restoration Conference – Jan10-12
- 2009 "Turning a New Leaf " Conference – Dec 4
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- Evaluating Health & Environmental Risks From Nanotechnology
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- EPA Announces Plan to Retool and Reinvalidate Clean Water Enforcement Program
- New Water Quality Standards Academy "NPDES Permit Program" Module Online
- EPA Proposes One-Year Extension for NPDES 2008 Construction General Permit
- Search EPA's Section 319 Nonpoint Source Grants Database
- Thou Shalt Review Ordinances...And Then What? Using zoning code audits and ordinance reviews to better manage stormwater

### 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

**EMERGENCIES – (800) 541-4741**

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

**ENVIRONMENTAL – (877) 333-1904**

- Air Pollution from burning materials other than household garbage
- Illegal dumping of wastes
- Encroachment on surface waters and floodways
- Groundwater contamination
- Industrial sewage problems
- Mining/quarrying operational problems (800) 541-2050
- Pollution of water supply wells
- Underground storage tank failures

**FISHERIES – (800) 541-2050**

- Wildlife (fish, reptiles, amphibians) nuisance problems or to report violations

**GAME & WILDLIFE – (888) 742-8001**

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

**ILLEGAL DUMPING – (877) 772-3673**

- Illegal dumping on state forest and park lands

**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**

- The Pollutant Removal Efficiency Conundrum
- What's Your Fieldprint?
- i-Tree Version 3.0 Now Available Online
- PA Bulletin Online – [www.pabulletin.com](http://www.pabulletin.com)
- DRAFT TECHNICAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE
- Proposals Currently Open For Comment
- PUBLIC COMMENT: Proposed 2010 SRBC Regulatory Program Fee Schedule – Dec 17

  
**WATERSHED ALLIANCE NEWS**

**Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring (ALLARM) – [www.dickinson.edu/allarm](http://www.dickinson.edu/allarm)**

- Earth Issues – Click for Earth Issues Events Schedule. Sponsored by the Environmental Studies Dept., Earth Issues is a presentation/discussion of environmental issues. Earth Issues is held on Tuesdays, from 12:00-1:00 PM in the HUB Siderooms. If you are a student, faculty member, alumnus or professional in the field of environmental studies or environmental science, and you are interested in presenting for an upcoming Earth Issues, please let us know.
- <> ALLARM at [allarm@dickinson.edu](mailto:allarm@dickinson.edu) or 717.245.1021. ALLARM Phone: 717.245.1135 fax: 717.245.1971

**Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay – [www.alliancechesbay.org/](http://www.alliancechesbay.org/)**

- Join the growing Chesapeake Watershed Network – [www.chesapeakekenetwork.org/profile.htm?mode=getagreement](http://www.chesapeakekenetwork.org/profile.htm?mode=getagreement)
- <>Contact: Donna Morelli, Director Pennsylvania Office, 3310 Market Street Suite A, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania 17011. Phone: (717) 737-8622 Fax: (717) 737-8650. E-Mail: [dmorelli@acb-online.org](mailto:dmorelli@acb-online.org).

**American Rivers – [www.americanrivers.org](http://www.americanrivers.org)**

<> Contact: Liz Garland, Associate Director, Restoring Rivers Initiative, American Rivers, Pennsylvania Field Office, 355 N. 21st Street, Suite 309, Camp Hill, PA 17011. Phone: 717.763.0741

**Capital Resource, Conservation & Development (RC&D) Area – <http://www.capitalrcd.org/noframes/index.htm>**

<> Contact: Susan Parry, Coordinator, Capital RC&D Area Council, 4750 Lindle Road, Harrisburg, PA 17111. Phone: (717) 724-0009.

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

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

**Chesapeake Bay Foundation – [www.cbf.org](http://www.cbf.org)**

<> Contact Kim Patten, PA Deputy Director & Grassroots Coordinator, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, 614 N Front Street, Ste G, Harrisburg, PA 17101. Phone: 717/234-5550, ext. 214. E-mail: [KPatten@cbf.org](mailto:KPatten@cbf.org). Web: [www.cbf.org](http://www.cbf.org)

**Codorus Creek Improvement Partnership – [www.codoruscreek.com](http://www.codoruscreek.com)**

<> Contact: Michael Helfrich, Codorus Creek Improvement Partnership, at 324 W. Market St., York PA 17401. Ph: 717-718-5431. E-mail: [info@codoruscreek.com](mailto:info@codoruscreek.com)

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

- Jan. 11 – CCWA Member and Board meeting, 7:00 pm, at York Water Company's Mt. Rose Ave. Facility
- <> Contact: Jim Leaman at 843-2929

**Condoquinet Creek Watershed Association – [www.conocreek.org](http://www.conocreek.org)**

- Nov 10 Annual Members Meeting, Board elections
  - Dec 7 Winter Watershed Mtg. Watershed boards guests of Cumber., Franklin Conservation Districts
- <> Contact: Gilbert Freedman, 49 Sample Bridge Road, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050. H: 717-697-2513. E-mail: [gil491@verizon.net](mailto:gil491@verizon.net)

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

- Nov 7-8 – Tohicken Weekend
  - Fall North Branch of the Potomac
- <> 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 – [www.harfordcountymd.gov/PlanningZoning/WRAS](http://www.harfordcountymd.gov/PlanningZoning/WRAS)**

- Maryland DNR's Rural Legacy Program ag-land preservation belt expands in Deer Creek Watershed to Pennsylvania boarder.
  - City of Aberdeen is petitioning SRBC to tap Deer Creek for additional water supply.
  - Comprehensive Rezoning initiative reaches climax in Harford County.
- <> Contact Lee McDaniel at [ldmcdaniel@aol.com](mailto:ldmcdaniel@aol.com).

**Doyle Farm Nursery – [www.doylefarm.com](http://www.doylefarm.com)**

<> For more information, please see [doylefarm.com](http://doylefarm.com) Open Houses/Events or contact us at [jld@doylefarm.com](mailto:jld@doylefarm.com).

**Eden Mill Nature Center & Historic Mill - [www.geocities.com/edenmillcalendar/EDENMill\\_New\\_W/Main\\_Indexx.html](http://www.geocities.com/edenmillcalendar/EDENMill_New_W/Main_Indexx.html)**

<> For more information, contact Eden Mill Nature Center, 1617 Eden Mill Road, Pylesville, MD 21132. Hours of Operation: Office Hours M-F from 9am-2pm; Nature Center and Historic Grist Mill Hours M-F from 9am-4:30pm, Sat. from 10am-3pm, and Sun from 1pm-5pm. As always, please call ahead to confirm 410-836-3050 or emailing [edenmillnaturecenter@gmail.com](mailto:edenmillnaturecenter@gmail.com)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

<> TO VOLUNTEER OR REGISTER FOR FREE or for more information contact Peggy Perry, Program Director for Gunpowder Valley Conservancy at 410-668-0118 or email [little-owl@msn.com](mailto:little-owl@msn.com).

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

Autumn Greetings to You! Summer has closed on a great growing season (in more ways than one!) at the Horn Farm. This year has seen the most activity on the farm yet. Co-sponsored with the York County Ag Business Council, this year's Farmstand Tour connected consumers with a larger number of local farm stands and markets than in 2008. Enthusiasts toured the rolling hills of our county on a beautiful August day and then enjoyed free peaches and ice cream as they relaxed on the Horn Farm grounds or at the York County 4-H Center. Vegetables as far as the eye could see sprang up on the farm this summer as enthusiasm soared in response to our newly offered Community Garden Program. Most gardeners have told us they'll be back next year. Will you join us? There's plenty of room for new gardeners. Even as the gardens and the pizza patches are winding down, plans are underway for next year's events, programs and activities. We've got our sights set on developing and launching an incubator farm project in the next couple of years, a model to showcase and teach profitable small farm practices. So, in the coming months you'll hear more from us as we raise funds for building a pole barn to house the equipment and operations required by the farmer(s) who will join the project. We invite you to stay connected to the Horn Farm by catching up on the latest news found here in our special edition of Around the Horn. As always, if you're interested in the mission and activities of the farm, we encourage you to contact us and to get involved. Come join us on the farm!

<> 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**- [www.yorkchapter67iwla.org/](http://www.yorkchapter67iwla.org/)

- Calendar of events 2009 - [www.yorkchapter67iwla.org/id21.html](http://www.yorkchapter67iwla.org/id21.html)
- Club Open Meetings are held the Third Tuesday of each month at 7pm in the Clubhouse.

<> Contact: York Chapter #67 IWLA, 7131 Ironstone Hill Road, Dallastown, PA 17313. Club Grounds Phone: 717-428-2000

\*Leave a message for the Committee Contact or Club Officer you are trying to reach. Committee Contacts & Club Officers are listed on the Club Information Page. If no phone or email address is listed contact club grounds phone number.

**Kings Gap Environmental Education Center** - [www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/kingsgap.aspx](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/kingsgap.aspx)

Sitting astride South Mountain, Kings Gap offers a panoramic view of the Cumberland Valley. Sixteen miles of hiking trails interconnect three main areas and are open year-round. Kings Gap offers environmental education programs from the pre-school environmental awareness program to environmental problem solving programs. Visit our calendar of events online at

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/Calendar/list.asp?ICSORG=6320>.

<> For more information and how to register, contact Kings Gap at (717) 486-3799. E-mail [kingsgapsp@state.pa.us](mailto:kingsgapsp@state.pa.us)

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

- It's time for me to ask our Stewards to renew their memberships and donate what you can. I know the economy is tight, but amazingly the Keith Campbell Foundation for the Environment is matching up to \$45,000 in donations. That sounds great, unfortunately our donations have been down this year and we are not yet even close to matching this. Again, every dollar you give automatically becomes TWO! So each family membership brings in \$100 to continue our work for you and the Susquehanna.

<http://www.lowersusquehannariverkeeper.org/donate.html>.

<> 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/bay/tribstrat/upper\\_west/up\\_west\\_shore.html](http://www.dnr.state.md.us/bay/tribstrat/upper_west/up_west_shore.html)

- Next Upper Western Shore Trib Team meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 2nd, at the McFaul Center, on MacPhail road in Bel Air. We'll meet from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

<> Contact: Mike Bilek, Tributary Team Coordinator, MD DNR, Tawes Office Building, Annapolis, MD 21401. Ph: 410-260-8988. E-mail:

[mbilek@dnr.state.md.us](mailto:mbilek@dnr.state.md.us)

**Mason-Dixon Trail Society** - <http://www.masondixontrail.org/>

- We have been utilizing the relicensing of the Conowingo dam to try to solve the parking problem at Muddy Creek. So far we had three meetings with Exelon. The last meeting was a review of the study requests. Mrs. Wiley showed up and started in about her land, a tent being stolen and other "issues". We need more support and would like to have a meeting of the organizations interested in getting the problem fixed with a parking lot. Please forward this to any fishing, boating or other parties so I can organize a strategy meeting.

<> Contact: James Hooper at [james.hooper@worldnet.att.net](mailto:james.hooper@worldnet.att.net).

**Messiah College** - [www.messiah.edu](http://www.messiah.edu)

- Yellow Breeches Stream Restoration Project - Contact Dave Foster, Biology Dept.
- <> Contact: Rebecca Owen, Local Community Service Director, Messiah College, PO Box 3027, One College Ave., Grantham, PA 17027. Ph: 717-796-1800 ext. 7255. Fax: 717-796-5221. E-mail: [ServiceDay@Messiah.edu](mailto:ServiceDay@Messiah.edu)

**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)

**National Wildlife Federation** - [www.nwf.org/](http://www.nwf.org/)

<> Contact: Julia Marden, Online Grassroots Coordinator, National Wildlife Federation, E-mail: [alerts@nwf.org](mailto:alerts@nwf.org)

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

**Pennsylvania Chapter - The American Chestnut Foundation** - [www.patacf.org/](http://www.patacf.org/)

<> PATACF Penn State University, 206 Forest Resources Lab, University Park, PA 16803. Ph: 814-863-7192. E-mail: [mail@patacf.org](mailto:mail@patacf.org).

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

Fall 2009 Environmental Programs

<u>DATE</u>	<u>BRUNNER ISLAND WETLANDS</u>	<u>LOCATION*</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Sat., Nov. 14	Bluebird Box Maintenance	Brunner Island Wetlands	2 - 3:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 6	Nature Walk and Animal Tracking	Brunner Island Wetlands	2 - 3:30 p.m.

- Teacher workshops available - PPL offers Teaching Environmental Awareness (TEA) workshops throughout the year at each of our preserve locations. These free courses are open to teachers in any grade or discipline who wish to add an environmental component to their classroom. For more information on courses being offered, go to [www.pplprojectearth.com](http://www.pplprojectearth.com) and click on "TEA Workshops," or call your nearest PPL environmental preserve.
  - Preserves programming information - To get up-to-the-minute information on all the public programs available at PPL environmental preserves, go to [www.pplpreserves.com](http://www.pplpreserves.com). There you can get program information, view directions to the preserves, read our naturalists' blog and listen to senior naturalist Jon Beam's WVIA radio program, "Nature Notebook."
  - Tell a friend - Do you know of someone who might enjoy hearing about upcoming environmental programs at Brunner Island? If so, please encourage them to sign up to receive our electronic newsletter. Simply have them e-mail us at [kament@pplweb.com](mailto:kament@pplweb.com) or call 717-284-6274 and we can get them added to our list.
- <> Contact: Karen Ament, Naturalist, Holtwood Environmental Center, 9 New Village Road, Holtwood, PA 17532. Ph: 717-284-6272 or 6274 or email [pplpreserves@pplweb.com](mailto:pplpreserves@pplweb.com).

**PSU Cooperative Extension York County** - <http://york.extension.psu.edu/>

- NEW GROUNDWATER WELL RESOURCE - <http://york.extension.psu.edu/NResources/PvtWtrSpilyInfo.htm> .
- <> Contact Jeff Myers, Director, 112 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402-9041. Phone: 717-840-7408. Office Hours: 8:00 to 4:30. County Email: [YorkExt@psu.edu](mailto:YorkExt@psu.edu).

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

- PWA is working jointly with State and County organizations to create a plan of conservation measures that will protect what is beautiful and healthy about the watershed, and restore any areas that have become degraded. This plan identifies the problems affecting water quality, habitat, and living aquatic resources throughout the watershed. It complies with the Clean Water Act which addresses pollution reduction known as Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) in the reservoir.
- <> Contact: Nancy Shaper at [nshaper@jhmi.edu](mailto:nshaper@jhmi.edu)

**Red Lion Area High School** - <http://rlashnature.wikispaces.com/>

- Red Lion Area Senior High School's Project N.A.T.U.R.E. was designed as a way to facilitate student learning through authentic, outdoor, hands on style learning activities. Although a trail existed through the wooded area behind the high school, a formal nature trail was not started until 1989 as an extension of the Envirothon club facilitated by Science Teacher and Envirothon Coach, Sandy Cooley with help from student volunteers and the community support from members of the Izaak Walton League.
- <> Project Coordinator: Sarah Warner, Global Biology and Science Technology Teacher, Red Lion. E-mail: [warnerse@rlasd.k12.pa.us](mailto:warnerse@rlasd.k12.pa.us)

**Shank's Mare "Go Play Outside"** - [www.shanksmare.com](http://www.shanksmare.com)

<> Contact: Liz Winand at 2092 Long Level Road, Wrightsville, PA 17368. Call: 717-252-1616. Fax: 717-252-0403. Email: [shanksmare@comcast.net](mailto:shanksmare@comcast.net)

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

<> Kim Anderson at [sgfornyc@aol.com](mailto:sgfornyc@aol.com).

**Spoutwood Farm CSA** - [www.spoutwood.com](http://www.spoutwood.com)

<> Contact: Rob Wood, 717-235-6610, [Spoutwood@supernet.com](mailto:Spoutwood@supernet.com)

**Strawberry Hill Nature Center** - <http://www.strawberryhill.org/>

- Nov 6 - Auction Dinner at the Historic Gettysburg Hotel
- <> If you have questions, we hope you'll email us [info@strawberryhill.org](mailto:info@strawberryhill.org) or give us a call at (717) 642-5840. You can also fax us at (717) 642-5803.

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

- First Friday River Art Open Houses – Join the Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area the First Friday of each month to tour the Visions of the Susquehanna River Art Collection and parts of the historic Pleasant Garden mansion at your leisure. Fridays: Nov 6th, & Dec 4th (10am-4pm) at the Zimmerman Center for Heritage.
  - New at the Zimmerman Center for Heritage! Our summer kitchen has been transformed into a cozy gift shop! We are pleased to feature several new guides, like The Trailblazer: Your Guide to the York County, Heritage Rail Trail County Park, The Mason-Dixon Trail Maps, and our Susquehanna River Water Trail Map & Guide, and other river related products.
  - A visit to the Zimmerman Center is not complete without viewing Stories of the Land, a free 15 minute orientation film about York and Lancaster Counties, which shows in the summer kitchen.
- <> 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).

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

<> For more information about the Susquehanna Greenway, please contact: The Susquehanna Greenway Partnership, 201 Furnace Road, Lewisburg, PA 17837. Phone: 570-522-7211. Email: [greenway@susquehannagreenway.org](mailto:greenway@susquehannagreenway.org)

**Susquehanna River Basin Commission** - [www.srbc.net](http://www.srbc.net)

<> Contact Susquehanna River Basin Commission, 1721 N. Front Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102. Phone: (717) 238-0423. Fax: (717) 238-2436. Email: [srbc@srbc.net](mailto:srbc@srbc.net)

**Susquehanna Sustainable Business Network** - <http://www.susquehannasbn.org/>

<> Contact: Lydia Sadauskas, Executive Director, ssbn can be reached by...email: [info@susquehannasbn.org](mailto:info@susquehannasbn.org), phone: 877-500-6552, mail: Susquehanna Sustainable Business Network, P.O. Box 42, Marietta, PA 17547

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

- Monthly Chapter Meeting November 11, 2009 7:00 p.m. Gander Mountain store - York
- <> 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/>

- November 2009 - Director and Officer Elections
  - November 18, 2009 Chapter Meeting at [Collinsville Fish & Game](#)
  - December 16, 2009 Chapter Meeting at [Collinsville Fish & Game](#)
  - Rivers Conservation Plan – Muddy Creek TU has contracted with local firm Buchart-Horn, Inc. to help prepare the plan. The firm's project manager, Jayson Romig, will attend the public meetings and answer any questions you may have about the project. If you have any questions regarding the meetings, please contact: Mr. Maurice Chioda, Muddy Creek TU, at [muddycreek@comcast.net](mailto:muddycreek@comcast.net)
- <> Contact: Ron Heuston, President MCTU, 244-1851 or [Heuy1955@aol.com](mailto:Heuy1955@aol.com)

**United Way of York County** - <http://volunteer.united-e-way.org/uwoyc/agency/>

<> Contact: Kim Goff [goffk@unitedway-york.org](mailto:goffk@unitedway-york.org)

**U.S. Geologic Survey – Pennsylvania** - <http://pa.water.usgs.gov/>

- Consortium for Scientific Assistance to Watersheds (C-SAW) is a team of specialists who provide eligible watershed groups or local project sponsors Program Management and Scientific Technical Assistance through the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's (PADEP) Growing Greener Program. The service is at no cost to eligible groups. <http://pa.water.usgs.gov/csaw/>
- <> Contact: Michael Langland, [langland@usgs.gov](mailto:langland@usgs.gov).

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

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

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

- Jan. 6 – Meeting of WAY Board of Directors, 7:00 PM, at 324 W. Market St., York, PA.
  - WAY E-News is 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 (1,000+). Frequency: bi-weekly. Subscription: No charge. Editor: Gary R. Peacock.
  - [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)

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

- Annual Membership Meeting – Open to the Public Wednesday October 28, 2009 at 7:00 PM. Lower Allen Township Community Park Barn Lisburn, PA. The annual membership meeting of the YBWA will be held for the purpose of conducting annual business including highlights

of activities during the past year, a draft strategic plan and the election of directors for 2010. Following the business meeting, Donna Morelli of the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay will give a presentation on Cedar Run watershed initiatives. Light refreshments will be served. The YBWA organization is at a cross roads in terms of the Association's future, hence the reason for the strategic planning process. The annual meeting this year is an open call to all members and non-members. YBWA needs your help. Please consider becoming actively involved with YBWA. If you have an interest in the Yellow Breeches, please come to the annual meeting and let it be known. YBWA has a need for new board members and officers, committee members and volunteers to assist with various programs and initiatives. For more information about the YBWA, please visit [www.ybwa.org](http://www.ybwa.org).

- December 9, 2009 – YBWA Board Meeting
- <> Contact: John Eby, President, at [john\\_eby@lower-allen.pa.us](mailto:john_eby@lower-allen.pa.us)

#### **York-Adams Regional Smart Growth Coalition – WEBSITE COMING SOON!**

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

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

York Audubon Society Calendar of Events 2009-2010

- October 31, 2009 – Annual Bird Seed Sale Pick-up. 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. Shiloh Nurseries/Brown's North.
- <> Contact Tom Smith at 717-246-9767 or [tls35@psu.edu](mailto:tls35@psu.edu).

#### **YorkCounts – [yorkcounts.org](http://yorkcounts.org)**

<> Contact James DeBord, Director YorkCounts, 105 Leader Heights Road, Suite #2, York, PA 17403. P: 717/650-1500. C: 717/475-6785. Web : [www.yorkcounts.org](http://www.yorkcounts.org)

#### **York County – [www.york-county.org](http://www.york-county.org)**

- Request for Proposals - Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy Services for Specified York County Facilities
- Request for Proposals - Architectural Services Access Improvements York County Government Center
- Discount Prescription Card
- PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE - York County Consolidated Plan
- Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program Substantial Amendment
- Proposed Revisions to Local Civil Court Rules
- York County's Gypsy Moth Suppression Program

<> Contact the Board of Commissioners, Administrative Center, 28 East Market St. York, PA 17401-1588. Phone: 717-771-9964.

#### **York County Agriculture Business Council**

Please mark the following dates on your calendar.

- Nov 4, 8am at Pleasant Acres Room 4
  - Jan 27 – 24th Annual Agricultural Recognition Banquet 5:45pm, York Expo Center Old Main Hall
- <> Contact Michelle Grove, 1500 Felton Rd., Felton, PA 17322. Ph: (717) 246-3578. Em: [ycabc@comcast.net](mailto:ycabc@comcast.net)

#### **York County Agriculture Land Preservation Board – [www.york-county.org](http://www.york-county.org)**

<> Contact Patricia McCandless, Director, 118 Pleasant Acres Road (Suite F), York, PA 17402. Hours of Operation (for business office): 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Phone: 717-840-7400. E-mail: [PMcCandless@york-county.org](mailto:PMcCandless@york-county.org)

#### **York County Community Foundation – [www.yccf.org](http://www.yccf.org)**

- Please join York County Community Foundation as we THANK YOU for your charitable investment in York County. Thursday, November 12, 2009, 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Brief program at 6:30 pm. Anyone Can Be a Philanthropist! We are celebrating at The Strand-Capitol Performing Arts Center 50 N. George Street, York. All are welcome to stay for the York Symphony rehearsal beginning at 7:30 p.m. Please RSVP to [rsvp@yccf.org](mailto:rsvp@yccf.org) or call 717.848.3733 by Nov. 5, 2009. Parking is available in the Philadelphia Street garage.

- If your municipality or organization would like to partner on a project, sponsor a project, or need free technical assistance leveraging resources to implement a project the York County Community Foundation's Codorus Endowment can help. Contact: Jake Romig, Coordinator, 848-4717 or e-mail [jakeromig@ecostructionllc.net](mailto:jakeromig@ecostructionllc.net)

<> Contact Jane Sload at 717.848.3733 or [jsload@yccf.org](mailto:jsload@yccf.org).

#### **York County Conservation Alliance – [www.yorkcountyconservationalliance.org](http://www.yorkcountyconservationalliance.org)**

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

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

- Nov. 12 – District Board of Directors meeting, 7:00 PM, at ANNEX
  - CONSERVE RAINWATER FOR HEALTHY PLANTS! Affordable, high quality, pest safe Rain Barrels for sale—60 Gallon \$125 or 80 Gallon \$145. Sales tax included in price. All profits dedicated to funding the HELP-Streams Program of York County.
- <> Contact Mark Kimmel, District Manager, 118 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402. Phone: 717-840-7430. E-mail [Yorkccd@yorkccd.org](mailto:Yorkccd@yorkccd.org). Office hours: 8:30 AM-4:30 PM weekdays.

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

<> Contact: 717-771-9870 or e-mail [planner@ycpc.org](mailto:planner@ycpc.org)

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

<> Contact ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS (Located adjacent John Rudy County Park) 400 MUNDIS RACE ROAD. YORK, PENNSYLVANIA 17406-9721. TELEPHONE: 717-840-7440. FAX: 717-840-7403. Email: [Parks@york-county.org](mailto:Parks@york-county.org)

**York County RailTrail Authority** - [www.yorkcountyrails.org/](http://www.yorkcountyrails.org/)

<> Contact the YCRTA at 717-428-0999 or e-mail [info@yorkcountyrails.org](mailto:info@yorkcountyrails.org). Please contact the York County Department of Parks and Recreation for any information regarding the Heritage Rail Trail County Park. Phone: 717-840-7440. E-mail: [parks@york-county.org](mailto:parks@york-county.org)



### **WATERSHED EDUCATION & OUTREACH**

#### **\$980 Million Diverted. Cut From Environmental Programs Over Last 7 Years**

With the budget for 2009-10 now finalized we can now total up the score for environmental programs and it is not pretty-- over the last seven years \$980 million has been diverted or cut from environmental programs to help balance the state budget or to fund programs that could not get funding on their own. Here's the rundown--

- \$376 million in Act 339 grants intended to support wastewater plant operations over the last seven years were eliminated to balance the budget;
- \$143 million diverted from the DCNR Oil and Gas Fund to balance the 2008-09 budget [updated];
- \$79 million cut from the DEP and DCNR General Fund budget during 2009-10 fiscal year;
- \$60 million diverted from the DCNR Oil and Gas Fund to balance the 2009-10 budget;
- \$100 million in 2002 from the Underground Storage Tank cleanup insurance fund to balance the budget (although this is slowly being repaid over 10 years);
- \$52.7 million "one-time" diversion from the Keystone Recreation, Parks and Conservation Fund in 2006 to balance the budget;
- \$50 million in 2007 and 2008 from the Environmental Stewardship Fund, which supports mine reclamation and watershed restoration, to fund the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Program because there was no agreement on how to fund that program;
- \$85 million in FY 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 from the Environmental Stewardship Fund to pay debt service on the Growing Greener II bond issue and taking funding away from restoration projects each year for the next 25 years - reflecting a pattern of only environmental programs being required to address their own bond debt service [updated];
- \$15 million from the Recycling Fund in to balance the 2008-09 budget;
- \$18.4 million put into budgetary reserve in 2008-09 from the Department of Environmental Protection and Department of Conservation and Natural Resources; and
- \$5 million reduction in Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) farm conservation tax credit program in FY 2009-10.

In addition to these cuts and diversions, next year funding for the Growing Greener Program runs out and will create a more than \$60 million hole in environmental funding for FY 2010-11.

#### **Toxic Waters Report**

NEW YORK — An estimated 1 in 10 Americans have been exposed to drinking water that contains dangerous chemicals or fails to meet a federal health benchmark in other ways, an investigation by The New York Times has found. A [report](#) of the investigation was published in the September 13 edition of the newspaper. "Those exposures include carcinogens in the tap water of major American cities and unsafe chemicals in drinking-water wells. Wells, which are not typically regulated by the Safe Drinking Water Act, are more likely to contain contaminants than municipal water systems," the report said. It notes that many who consume dangerous chemicals through their drinking water do not realize it because "most of today's water pollution has no scent or taste." The Times said its research included the review of "hundreds of thousands of water pollution records" from all 50 states and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) obtained through Freedom of Information Act requests, as well as from more than 250 interviews with state and federal regulators, water-systems managers, environmental advocates and scientists. The Times compiled a national database of water pollution violations "that is more comprehensive than those maintained by states or the EPA," the report said. The Times says its research shows that 40 percent of the nation's community water systems violated the Safe Drinking Water Act at least once last year. "Those violations ranged from failing to maintain proper paperwork to allowing carcinogens into tap water. More than 23 million people received drinking water from municipal systems that violated a health-based standard," the report said. Read article... [http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/13/us/13water.html?\\_r=2](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/13/us/13water.html?_r=2)

#### **Ecosystem Advocates Plot Push for Restoration Cash**

Leaders of more than 30 advocacy groups are working on creating what is being called "America's Great Waters Coalition." Among the players: the Nature Conservancy, Environmental Defense Fund, Ducks Unlimited and regional groups from the Chesapeake Bay to the Everglades to Puget Sound. "We feel like this is a huge opportunity to be able to capitalize on the climate bill, to tell the story of why restoration is so important as we start adapting to a changing climate," said Malia Hale, director of restoration and water campaigns for the National Wildlife Federation, which is spearheading the effort. Read article...

<http://www.nytimes.com/gwire/2009/10/12/12greenwire-ecosystem-advocates-plot-push-for-restoration-13407.html>

#### **Eelgrass Continues to Rebound in Lower Chesapeake Bay**

August 2009 -- Mid-season monitoring of [underwater bay grasses](#) in Virginia's portion of the Chesapeake Bay is showing beds of eelgrass and widgeon grass that are similar to or slightly denser and larger than 2008, reflecting continued recovery from a large-scale eelgrass die-off in 2005, according to [updates from the Virginia Institute of Marine Science \(VIMS\)](#). Bay grasses, also known as submerged aquatic vegetation or SAV, provide critical habitat for juvenile fish and molting blue crabs. Bay grasses also help improve the Bay's health by adding oxygen to the water and reducing erosion. Based on these mid-season observations, total bay grass acreage in the lower Bay is expected to be higher than in 2008, but still far below the peak seen in the 1990s, according to Dr. Robert Orth with VIMS. The Bay Program will release bay grass acreage figures for the entire Chesapeake Bay in spring. Read more...

[http://www.chesapeakebay.net/news\\_summersav09.aspx?menuitem=45644](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/news_summersav09.aspx?menuitem=45644)

### **Conowingo's ability to trap sediment, phosphorus nearing capacity**

BAY JOURNAL – The largest nutrient and sediment control device in the Chesapeake Bay watershed is likely to stop functioning in the next 15 to 20 years under current conditions, which could dramatically increase the amount of pollution to the Upper Bay. The device is the Conowingo Dam, located 10 miles upstream from the mouth of the Susquehanna. When the reservoir behind the 100-foot-high dam is filled, the millions of pounds of phosphorus and millions of tons of sediment now being trapped each year will reach the Upper Bay unless action is taken. The latest study by the U.S. Geological Survey estimated that the reservoir behind the dam has about 30 million tons of remaining storage capacity, but it is being filled at an average rate of about 1.5 million to 2 million tons of sediment annually. Its total storage capacity is about 174 million tons. Read more... <http://www.bayjournal.com/article.cfm?article=3650>.

### **The Lower Susquehanna River Conservation Landscape Initiative**

Over the past eighteen months, SGHA has been working with other regional partners and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR) to advance the state's Conservation Landscape Initiative for the Lower Susquehanna River in Lancaster and York Counties. DCNR has engaged consultant Ted Eubanks with Fermata Inc to study our region and conduct forums with regional leaders, including SGHA Board members, the York County & PA Dutch Convention & Visitors Bureaus, Lancaster and York County Commissioners, County Planning Commission staff, and local business leaders. This initiative will produce an assessment of the river corridor's potential for eco-based and heritage-based tourism and economic development. DCNR's Conservation Landscape Initiative is a way of doing business that creates sustainable development through resource protection and development and community revitalization. The CLI effort will lead towards better planning and coordination from all partners working to enhance the true potential of the Lower Susquehanna River - the heart of the Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area. For more information about DCNR's Conservation Landscape Initiatives, visit <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/cli/index.aspx>.

### **Mni Tokahe Wildlife Habitat**

Restoring the lands natural habitat began in the Fall of 2000 when Thomas and Patricia purchased their new home and land of 1.34 acres in Thomasville, Pennsylvania. The land had been used for over a 100 years for grazing and farming crops, and before that was founded in its naturalized state. An old bridge still remains over the stream from the Bentz family homestead farm. The survey for the deed in York County Courthouse listed the land as severely eroded. A small un-named stream flows behind the home from a springhead estimated about ¾ mile upstream. The stream flows northeast, into the Little Conewago, Big Conewago, Susquehanna River, and Chesapeake Bay. This is why the name for their habitat with stream is called Mni (water) Tokahe (first), the meaning for first water. Some trees had already been planted along the north and west sides of the land of green ash, honey locust, sugar maple, silver maple, willow, pin oak, sycamore and pine. A grove of a few willow trees stood along the stream bank on the northeast side, leaving the stream exposed to the full southern sun and erosion. Pennsylvania streams, ground waters, and springs are the United States largest fresh water supplier. A young girl Ericka wrote in her book about the habitat, "Our frogs are croaking; please help keep our air, soil, and water clean!" To learn more about what you can do at your home visit... <http://sharingnativehabitats.shutterstock.com/>

### **Conservation: An Investment that Pays**

Conservation: An Investment That Pays, a white paper from Trust for Public Land (TPL), is intended to help agency personnel and community conservationists make the case for conservation as a long-term economic investment. Too often the argument is made that creating parks and conserving land is too expensive, especially in hard economic times. TPL hopes that the research and examples cited in Conservation: An Investment That Pays will help promote conservation for its many benefits, including the boost parks and open space can give to a community's bottom line. Read more at the resource link below. Resource: [http://www.tpl.org/tier3\\_cd.cfm?content\\_item\\_id=23056&folder\\_id=188](http://www.tpl.org/tier3_cd.cfm?content_item_id=23056&folder_id=188)

### **American Rivers joins AARP and Hollywood to Inspire Volunteerism**

To promote volunteerism, AARP is partnering with the Entertainment Industry Foundation to issue this week-long, high-profile national call to service. American Rivers is working with AARP to increase volunteerism through our National River Cleanup™ program with a new how-to video and toolkit, How to Organize a River Cleanup, (<http://www.createthegood.org/diy-toolkits?cmp=CTG-E-AmRiv-ServiceWeek-20091020>), which shows the easy, step-by-step process to organize a river cleanup near you. To organize and register your own river cleanup, please visit [www.AmericanRivers.org/Cleanup](http://www.AmericanRivers.org/Cleanup). AARP has launched a community service program, Create the Good, to help Americans find and organize volunteer events in their community. The site is also available in Spanish and the National River Cleanup™ video is available with Spanish subtitles. We are proud to be a part of this historic volunteerism promotion. At American Rivers, we know what a difference volunteers can make on their local river, and we encourage you to participate.

### **Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge for K-8 - Jan 31**

The Siemens Foundation, Discovery Education and the National Science Teachers Association invite students and teachers of grades K-8 to become "Agents of Change" in improving their communities through the "Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge." The second year of this national sustainability challenge encourages students to create replicable solutions to environmental issues in their classroom. The deadline for entries is Jan. 31 for the elementary level and March 15 for the middle- school level. For more information: "We Can Change the World Challenge" <http://wecanchange.com/>

### **Eco Kits Teach Ways to Save Water, Energy, and Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

If you're looking for a way to reinforce your commitment to sustainability, consider providing key stakeholders with eco kits to learn firsthand how to save energy, water and greenhouse gas emissions. Eco Hatchery offers programs that engage employees, customers, and the community in sustainability initiatives and drive them to action. Core program components are: Eco Kits with conservation products, educational instructions and online customized home energy roadmaps ([www.ecohatchery.com/actionpack](http://www.ecohatchery.com/actionpack)). Users can track improvement of their carbon footprint as they complete each of the kit activities. Kits can be co-branded with your organization's materials inside and shipped directly for events, incentives, and as holiday gifts. Web-based tracking and reporting of CO2e and energy savings. Create an online community, set a group goal, track, share, and report aggregate progress. A community can be, for example, a group of employees, customer

segment, student body, membership base, or neighborhood. Members of the community can compare their results to the group average, as they work together toward a common goal. Carbon calculator enables users to learn how their energy use, commute, travel, recycling routines, and diet contribute to their environmental impact ([www.ecohatchery.com/calculator](http://www.ecohatchery.com/calculator)). Learn more at the link below. Resource(s): <http://www.ecohatchery.com/actionpack>

### **New book - The Chesapeake Watershed: A sense of place and a call to action, by Ned Tillman**

Watershed Advocates - I thought you might like to know about a valuable new tool for outreach and education that can also be used to thank your sponsors. "The Chesapeake Watershed: A sense of place and a call to action" is an entertaining, easy to read, and informative new book that is being used in high schools and colleges, and by land trusts and other non-profit groups. Congressmen Sarbanes and Gilchrest, Richard Louv, and Bernd Heinrich have read it and recommend it. Single copies are available at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). Deep discounts are available for bulk orders at [info@TheChesapeakeWatershed.com](mailto:info@TheChesapeakeWatershed.com). For further information visit [www.TheChesapeakeWatershed.com](http://www.TheChesapeakeWatershed.com).

### **Go Fish!**

Take a quiz and learn more about our Freshwater Institute. Read more » [http://www.freshwaterinstitute.org/quiz\\_fish\\_farming](http://www.freshwaterinstitute.org/quiz_fish_farming)

### **DCNR Web site gets new look**

DCNR's Web site has gone through a redesign to better serve your needs and highlight the programs and services offered by the agency more effectively. Read more... <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/news/resource/res2009/09-1021-newwebsite.aspx>

### **How You Can Help the Bay**

Start an environmental club at your school or workplace to help your classmates and colleagues become more Bay-friendly. Go to <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/atschool.aspx?menuitem=16885>.

### **Top 10 Green Social Networks**

The Green web is growing. Rapidly. And it's a good thing. Online communities, blogs and social sites aimed at connecting well meaning people with great causes (and each other) have mushroomed. Nowadays, all it takes to rally around issues like climate change, clean energy, or health care reform is an Internet connection. <http://bub.blicio.us/top-10-green-social-networks/>

### **Ten Tips To Reduce The Environmental Impact of Travel**

Developed by Techsoup Global's Nonprofit Commons team in partnership with OneWorld.net and OneClimate Island in Second Life, EcoCommons provides a network for environmentally-focused nonprofits to promote awareness, community-building, and environmental education efforts in the virtual world and beyond. You can read more about EcoCommons here: <http://www.nonprofitcommons.org/eco>.

Top 10 Travel Reduction Tips:

1. Use an online calculator to measure travel: Determine your organization's environmental footprint at SafeClimate.net.
2. Attend online trainings: Use Webinars and screencasting as an effective substitute for in-person skills training.
3. Use conference call services such as Care2Call and FreeConferenceCall.
4. Try Web conferencing services like ReadyTalk and WebEx.
5. Explore video conferencing for meetings, events, and collaboration. These free video conferencing services include Skype and gmail voice and video chat.
6. Travel to a virtual world: Explore an online virtual world like SecondLife.com to see how that tool might provide a fun and more personal meeting environment.
7. Try instant messaging (chat): Free services like MSN Live, Skype, or AOL Instant Messaging (AIM) offer instant, spontaneous communications among teams. Organizations that need more robust tools can try Microsoft Communicator.
8. Collaborate online: Share documents online with file sharing services. Free options include: [4shared.com](http://4shared.com), GoogleApps Education Edition, Microsoft Office Online, Google Groups, and Yahoo! Groups. Services with more robust features include Microsoft Groove and MyFax.
9. Telecommute: Technologies like remote desktop software such as pcAnywhere, or technologies like virtual private networking (VPN), voice over IP (VoIP) and virtual PBX can help make working at home as effective as coming into the office.
10. Reconsider how you attend conferences. Look for events that have a virtual component or will be recorded and can be accessed online, such as Craigslist Foundation's Nonprofit Boot Camp and South by Southwest (SxSW). Or ask a local volunteer or board member to attend and report back to your group instead of asking someone to travel.

Many of the products included in TSG's Top 10 Travel Reduction Tips have been generously donated by corporate partners and are available at TechSoup.org exclusively to eligible nonprofits and libraries.

### **GREENTIPS – Fall Planting Pointers**

Though many people gear up to work on their yards and gardens in the spring, fall is actually an ideal time for yard work. Here are a few ideas for bringing your garden to life in the fall:

- Compost the leaves. Falling leaves are beautiful to look at but may seem like an inconvenience when planning your garden. Instead of bagging the leaves and leaving them out with the trash, consider collecting them and composting them to create nutrient-rich, organic soil that will be ready for use by the spring. [Check out our tip on collecting leaves and how to compost them here.](#)
- Fertilize organically. When preparing your soil for next year, add organic, slow-release fertilizers that will help enhance your soil over time. These fertilizers are made of natural materials, contain vital nutrients to help your plants grow, and prevent plants from getting nitrogen. Most garden stores today carry a wide variety of organic fertilizers; many catalog companies also sell organic products.
- Plant trees. By the time autumn rolls around, summer heat waves are long past, rainfall is usually more plentiful, and new trees, bushes and flowers have a greater chance of surviving than they would if they were planted during a hotter season. Choose species native to your area as well as those that are drought and pest resistant and can grow in the kind of soil and amount of sunlight available on your property.

- Other ideas. If you have a vegetable or fruit garden that you want to maintain throughout the winter, consider planting root bulbs and leafcrops that will continue to produce despite the colder weather. This will work in many regions of the country, but some places might still be too cold. Building a greenhouse or a hot beds to cultivate your veggies could keep the fresh food coming throughout the winter! Can't sustain your crops through the winter? Find local farms that do. There are Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) programs and farmer's markets in many cities and towns that allow farmers to sell their locally grown, fresh food all year long! For more GREEN LIVING TIPS go to [www.earthshare.org](http://www.earthshare.org).



## WATERSHED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

### **GreenWorks! Project Grants Available – Oct 31**

Project Learning Tree's (PLT) service learning program provides grants up to \$5,000 to schools and youth organizations for environmental projects. Students "learn by doing" through community action projects they design to improve an aspect of their neighborhood's environment. Since 1992, PLT has distributed over \$700,000 to fund 900 GreenWorks! projects across the country. PLT provides a guidebook with practical ideas and pointers for action projects that make a difference in young people's sense of responsibility toward their communities, and in their understanding of their relationship to the environment. Some examples of past grant projects include habitat restoration, watershed improvement, outdoor classrooms and energy conservation. Proposals for the fall 2009 grant cycle are due by October 31, 2009. Visit [http://www.plt.org/cms/pages/21\\_22\\_18.html](http://www.plt.org/cms/pages/21_22_18.html) for additional information.

### **EPA Environmental Education Grant Applications Now Being Accepted – Dec 15**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is now accepting applications for its 2010 Environmental Education Grants. Applications are due December 15. The 10 EPA Regional offices fund projects that request EPA funds for amounts from \$5,000 to \$50,000. EPA Headquarters funds projects that range from requests of \$50,001 to \$200,000. Any local education agency, college or university, state education or environmental agency, non-profit organization is eligible to apply. Click here for details <http://epa.gov/enviroed/pdf/solNotice2010.htm>

### **Coldwater Conservation Planning Grants Available to Protect Pennsylvania's Coldwater Streams – Dec 18**

The Coldwater Heritage Partnership (CHP) has announced the opening of the Coldwater Conservation Grants Program to protect and conserve the health of Pennsylvania's 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. Applications will be accepted through December 18, 2009. The grants are designed to help organizations develop conservation plans that identify the values and threats to the health of our coldwater ecosystems. The collected information can be used as a catalyst for more comprehensive planning, or for development of watershed improvements projects. The partnership will award grants averaging \$6,000 to organizations interested in conserving and protecting our coldwater fisheries. For more information, please visit the Coldwater Heritage Partnership website at [www.coldwaterheritage.org](http://www.coldwaterheritage.org).

### **DEP Accepting Applications for Environmental Education Grants - Dec. 18**

Harrisburg – The Department of Environmental Protection today invited schools, universities, county conservation districts, nonprofit organizations and businesses to apply for 2010 Environmental Education Grants. The grants provide funding to create or develop projects that support environmental education about such timely and critically important topics as:

- Sustainable energy sources and technologies, including solar, wind, hydro, microhydro, biomass, geothermal, alternative transportation fuels and energy efficiency and conservation;
- Air quality, with a focus on improvements in transportation and electric generation to reduce ground level ozone or smog;
- Watersheds and wetlands, focusing on abating abandoned mine drainage, reducing non-point source pollution and enhancing water conservation;
- Chesapeake Bay watershed education with a focus on reducing nutrient and sediment loads, point and non-point source pollution reduction; and
- Carbon capture and storage including geologic and or terrestrial sequestration.

Grants are awarded for up to \$7,500. The deadline to apply is Dec. 18. In August, DEP awarded 60 grants totaling more than \$356,723 to groups in support of environmental education programs across the state. Since the program's inception, the department has awarded more than \$7 million in grants. The program was established by the Environmental Education Act of 1993 and mandates that 5 percent of all pollution fines and penalties collected annually by DEP be set aside for environmental education. Applications are available by contacting DEP's Environmental Education Grants Program, P.O. Box 2063, Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063. For more information, visit [www.dep.state.pa.us](http://www.dep.state.pa.us) keyword: "EE Grants," or call 717-772-1828

### **American River/NOAA Community-Based Restoration – Dec 18**

American Rivers seeks proposals for river restoration project grants as part of its partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Community-based Restoration Program. Program funding is provided through NOAA's Open Rivers Initiative, which seeks to enable environmental and economic renewal in local communities through the removal of stream barriers. This Partnership funds stream barrier removal projects that help restore riverine ecosystems, enhance public safety and community resilience, and have clear and identifiable benefits to diadromous fish populations. Projects in the Northeast (ME, NH, VT, MA, CT, RI), Mid-Atlantic (NY, NJ, PA, DE, VA, MD, DC), Northwest (WA, OR, ID), and California are eligible to apply. Projects located within the St. Lawrence/Great Lakes Basin are not eligible for funding at this time. Resource: <http://www.americanrivers.org/NOAAGrants>



## WATERSHED FACILITATION ASSISTANCE

### Help take the first step to clean up York County and improve water quality

Penn State Cooperative Extension-York County West Nile Virus program staff will be performing the PA CleanWays Illegal Dumpsite Survey in York County this fall. Documenting illegal dumpsites throughout Pennsylvania is a critical step in educating people about illegal dumping on our lands and waters and ultimately helping to restore and protect the natural beauty of our state. If you are aware of a possible illegal dumpsite in York County please report the information to Tom Smith by calling 717-840-2375 or by email at [tls35@psu.edu](mailto:tls35@psu.edu). Additional information about PA CleanWays can be found at [www.pacleanways.org](http://www.pacleanways.org).

### Sign Up Today For The 2009 Oh Deer! Environmental Forum – Oct 12 – Nov 20

Cacapon Institute is currently enrolling high school classes in the upcoming Oh Deer! Environmental Forum. Students participating in the [Environmental Forum](#) explore the science and societal impacts of regional conservation issues that are relevant to their lives. In Oh Deer! students study the impacts of deer overpopulation in the context of ecosystem balance, land management, economic impacts, and watershed protection. They then challenge one another across the internet to find socially acceptable consensus-based solutions to this complex environmental problem. From science to agriculture to social studies, the eForum can be used to develop 21st Century technology skills. The role play as stakeholders is the basis for a Project Based Learning activity to engage students in core curriculum content or a Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience around forest protection for watershed health. The eForum is an opportunity for environmental organizations to engage students in their issues and mission. Cacapon Institute invites conservation organization to use Oh Deer! as a platform to engage high school youth in local stewardship issues. Consider recruiting a teacher and mentoring a class as they explore the science and politics of deer management to reduce forest degradation and protect agricultural income. The lesson is completely prepared, free of charge, and ready to use “off the shelf” by clicking on the phone in our internet-based [Potomac Highlands Watershed School](#). Please share this invitation with interested organization, schools, and teachers. To sign up a class follow the [Environmental Forum](#) link at [http://www.cacaponinstitute.org/PHWS%20Signup/PHWS\\_Environmental%20Forum%20Signup.htm](http://www.cacaponinstitute.org/PHWS%20Signup/PHWS_Environmental%20Forum%20Signup.htm) and scroll to the bottom. If you are interested in participating, can recommend a school to participate, or would like additional information, please contact Frank Rodgers at (304) 856-1385 or by email at [frodgers@cacaponinstitute.org](mailto:frodgers@cacaponinstitute.org)

### The 7th Annual Lebanon/Lancaster County Watershed Forum – Oct 31

The 7th Annual Lebanon/Lancaster County Watershed Forum will take place Saturday, October 31st, from 9-Noon at the Acorn Farms Conference & Reception Center, Mount Joy. We have great speakers for this years event on pertinent watershed topics. Remember this a FREE event but registration IS required. Check out the Forum brochure attached or head to the Lancaster & Lebanon County Websites for more info at [www.lccd.org](http://www.lccd.org).

### Educational Seminar – The Chesapeake Bay, Our Bay, Our Food Production, Our Responsibility – Nov 7

Join us for an educational seminar on our national treasure. Free and Open to the Public. Donations Appreciated. Lunch Provided. When: Saturday Nov. 7th, 2009. Time: 10 am – 2 pm. Where: Jarrettsville Gardens, 3825 Federal Hill Road, Jarrettsville, MD. GUEST SPEAKERS:

- Darree Sicher – Founding member of United Sludge-Free Alliance. She will speak about the land application of sewage sludge and its effects on our waters and our food system.
- Michael Helfrich – Lower Susquehanna Riverkeepers. Waterkeepers combine firsthand knowledge of their waterways with an unwavering commitment to the rights of their communities and to the rule of law.
- Carole Morison – Former Poultry Perdue Contract Farmer- An Eastern Shore farmer, reveals an industrial feedlot exposing the hidden side of a chicken farm, the dust, the feces and the diseased chickens. Carol is in the Food, Inc. powerful documentary.
- Bobby Prigel of Bellevalle Farm – Bellevalle Farm is the only Organic Dairy Farm in Baltimore Co. MD. They recently decided to build a creamery so they could process their own organic milk, yogurt, ice cream and cheese.
- Brady Russell – Clean Water Action – Eastern Pennsylvania Director of Clean Water Action, an organization of 1.2 million members working to empower people to take action to protect America’s waters, build healthy communities and to make democracy work for all of us.
- Willa Lefever – Sonnewald Natural Foods. Pennsylvania Dutch for Sunny Forest is located on a 60 acre farm in Stoverstown, 8 miles southwest of York, PA. It may be the oldest existing chemical-free farm and natural food store in Pennsylvania.
- H. Wayne Norman, Jr. Maryland House of Delegates (Republican) Representative of District 35A. Harford County will discuss the Bay and address questions and concerns. Representative Norman serves on the Environmental Matters Committee.

We will learn about the Chesapeake Bay, the largest estuary in North America. It is an incredibly complex ecosystem that includes important habitats, resources and food webs. We will discuss the concerns of the future of our national jewel, explore the reasons for the decline in the health of the Bay and discover how decisions we make can help restore the health of the Bay. Our speakers will talk about our Food Production and how it affects the Bay, as well as development in the watershed. We will discuss Sustainable Farming VS. Industrialized Farming. We will also be addressing the application of sewage sludge and its effects “as fertilizer”. Come and Join the Discussion! Call Maria to reserve a space. Phone: 717-456-5800. Sponsored by the Peach Bottom Concerned Citizens Group Inc.

### Illegal Dump/Litter Cleanup – Nov 7

November 7; 8 AM to 3 PM; in Cumberland County, \*sponsored by PA CleanWays of Cumberland County.\* This cleanup will be held at the Lisburn Community Fire Company. Volunteers should travel along Brenda Avenue located to the right of the fire company, travel along the stone road to the top of the hill and park in the grassy field beyond the roll-off. Lunch and drinks will be provided. \*Rain date for this event will be November 8th at 8 AM.\* For more information, contact Michael Onofrey at 717-766-9460 or [mike.onofrey@verizon.net](mailto:mike.onofrey@verizon.net)

### Design Solutions for Stormwater Management SAVE THE DATE – Nov 10

A Hands-On Workshop for Practitioners. Sponsored By: Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC), Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) and Partners. Attend this FREE workshop. Tour stormwater demonstration projects and learn from local experts sharing

personal experiences and insights regarding stormwater design and management. Featured Activities include: Receive Hands-on, Step-by-Step Guidance from: Site evaluation/preparation □ Landscape Designers; Design/planting themes; Native Plant Experts; Site implementation (including problems & solutions); Parks and Recreation Specialists; and more! For More Workshop Information: Please contact Andrew Gavin, Susquehanna River Basin Commission, Phone: (717) 238-0423 ext. 107, E-mail: agavin@srbc.net

#### **DEP Announces Public Meetings for Consideration of Proposed Critical Water Planning Areas – Nov 16**

The Department of Environmental Protection will conduct six public meetings and formal hearings to answer questions and accept testimony on proposed Critical Water Planning Areas in all six major river basins in the commonwealth. You are invited to attend these public meetings to hear information about the areas nominated as Critical Water Planning Areas (CWPAs) to be considered for designation by the Statewide Water Resources Committee and the Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection. Immediately following the public meetings, a public hearing will be held for you to provide comments to the Department and the Regional Water Resource committee pertaining to the nominations for potential CWPAs.

- November 16, 2009 Public Meeting at 2:00 pm, Public Hearing at 3:00 pm. Lower Susquehanna Regional Water Resources Committee, DEP Southcentral Regional Office, Susquehanna Room, 909 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110. Questions concerning this meeting should be directed to Jay Braund, Water Planning Office, P.O. Box 2063, Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063, (717) 783-2402, e-mail at [jbraund@state.pa.us](mailto:jbraund@state.pa.us).

#### **Cover Crop Workshop and Tour – Nov 18**

USDA NRCS Big Flats Plant Materials Center is hosting a Cover Crop Workshop and Tour November 18, 2009 from 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM. Take advantage of this opportunity to study what our neighbors directly to the north are doing with cover crops. Three (3) Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) points are available. The Big Flats PMC is located in the Southern Tier of central New York about 4 miles east of Corning and about 1 hour south of Ithaca, NY (Cornell). Several Pennsylvania experts are on the program. Please click the link below to review the complete announcement. Information about the Center can be found at <http://plant-materials.nrcs.usda.gov/NYPMC/about.html>.

#### **Ten reasons why you should attend the 15th Annual Maryland Water Monitoring Council Conference – Dec 3**

- MEET AND MINGLE with fellow water monitors AND SAVE \$15 BY REGISTERING BEFORE NOVEMBER 15, 2009
- HEAR Tom Horton - Chesapeake Bay author, Professor of Environmental Studies at Salisbury University and longtime (former) Baltimore Sun environmental writer share his thoughts and experiences
- LEARN how members of the Savage River Watershed Association are protecting and restoring brook trout habitat
- ENJOY a great all-you-can-eat buffet lunch with dessert
- EXPERIENCE the wonder of Maryland's aquatic fauna up close and personal at the MWMC Critter Table
- BE A PART OF the third Carl Weber Award ceremony
- LEARN from Hood College students how the invasive rusty crayfish is expanding its range in Maryland
- TALK to representatives from several water monitoring equipment vendors and check out some new toys
- FIND OUT how real-time water quality data can help mitigate impacts from the Inner County Connector
- INTERACT with the coordinators of several successful watershed associations and learn how you can volunteer
- GET OUT OF THE OFFICE FOR THE DAY!

#### **1st Annual Choose Clean Water- Chesapeake Restoration Conference – Jan10-12**

The Chesapeake Coalition announces the 1st Annual Choose Clean Water- Chesapeake Restoration Conference. Registration for the Conference is now open. Reserve your spot today! Registration is [now open](#) for the 1st Annual Choose Clean Water conference. First Annual Choose Clean Water Conference at the Renaissance M Street Hotel • Washington, DC. January 10-12, 2010 Visit our website at [www.choosecleanwater.org](http://www.choosecleanwater.org) and go the "Events" tab to sign up today! Registration is available for both the conference as well as discounted hotel accommodations, all taking place the Renaissance M Street Hotel in Washington, DC. We have secured a great hotel discount for you, so don't delay, register today!

#### **2009 "Turning a New Leaf " Conference – Dec 4**

Presented by the Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping Council and George Washington University's Landscape Design Program. Friday, December 4, at George Washington University in Washington, DC. Visit <http://www.chesapeakelandscape.org/2009leaf.htm> for details and registration information. Space is limited this year! This conference brings together landscaping professionals, policy makers and educators to learn and share information about sustainable landscaping practices in the Chesapeake Bay region. The Honorable Anthony Williams will open the conference talking about D.C.'s green initiatives. Concurrent sessions will cover sustainable design, selling green, getting it done with local governments, and urban ecology and new technologies. Eric Eckl, founder of Water Words that Work will close the conference with a talk on "The World Outside: What They Say About Why Your Work Matters". Register before November 1 and pay only \$95. Registration after November 1 is \$105. The one-day conference includes an Eco-Marketplace, educational displays, continental breakfast, lunch, snacks and afternoon reception. Join us for this unique conference that seeks to promote sustainable landscaping and form new partnerships that will lead to a more beautiful and healthier environment for everyone.

#### **Registration Now Open For EPA Green Cleanup Symposium – Feb 10-11**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 3 is partnering with Drexel University to co-host a Green Cleanup Symposium scheduled for February 10-11, 2010. Area experts on green cleanup practices will be available for informational sessions, workshops and forum discussions during the symposium. Topics to be discussed include tools for long-term cleanups, green construction, life-cycle analysis and renewable energy at contaminated sites. The Drexel University/EPA website for the Green Cleanup Symposium provides biographies on speakers, session topics, hotel and local information, as well as an opportunity to register for the conference. <http://www.drexel.edu/cities/greencleanupsymposium.html>



## WATERSHED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

### Lab-made Meandering River Shows Importance Of Vegetation And Sand For River Health

ScienceDaily (Sep. 29, 2009) — In a feat of reverse-engineering, Christian Braudrick of University of California at Berkeley and three coauthors have successfully built and maintained a scale model of a living meandering gravel-bed river in the lab. Their findings point to the importance of vegetation to reinforce the banks and, surprisingly, to the importance of sand in healthy meandering river life. The significance of vegetation for slowing erosion and reinforcing banks has been known for a long time, but this is the first time it has been scientifically demonstrated as a critical component in meandering. Sand is an ingredient generally avoided in stream restoration as it is known to disrupt salmon spawning. However, Braudrick and his colleagues have shown that it is indispensable for helping to build point bars and to block off cut-off channels and chutes-tributaries that might start and detract from the flow and health of the stream. The model is a first for the delicate balance of ingredients of the model flood plain, gravel (sand), fine sediment, vegetation and water to come together in such a way that the stream took life and behaved in the way its healthy counterparts in nature would at 50 to 100 times the size and on the scale of hours instead of years. In 130 hours after being set into motion, this train-set size (6m x 17m) river eroded its banks and built point bars by depositing model sand and gravel moving around in its environment the way parts of the Mississippi River would over five or seven years. In nature, this behavior not only achieves a "picture perfect" waterway with pleasing bends, but it yields what earth scientist Braudrick calls "more biological bang for the buck." "Meandering" generally occurs in streams with moderate slopes and is a common form of river between canyon-bound rivers in the mountains and deltas near the ocean. The physics and geology of meandering streams combine to yield both shallow portions as well as deeper pools. The diversity of habitat is a more hospitable environment to sustain a higher diversity of species. This is in contrast to another stream type with many islands but more uniform and shallower water called "braided streams." Stream restoration is an extremely complex and delicate science. Because there is no formula to create meandering streams. Successful stream restorers almost require a sixth sense to get everything right and set a sustainable environment into motion, and not every restored stream lasts. Some form extra channels becoming braided streams; some stagnate. Braudrick and his colleagues hope to shed light on the necessary conditions for sustained meandering in coarse bedded rivers. They have used a clever combination of painted sand that stands in for gravel, a light weight plastic that looks like sugar for sand, and alfalfa sprouts that stand in for the deep rooted vegetation, such as cottonwoods or willows that grow along many meandering rivers in the wild. The research was funded in part by the National Science Foundation and appears in the Sept. 28, 2009 issue of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science. *Adapted from materials provided by [National Science Foundation](#).*

### Evaluating Health And Environmental Risks From Nanotechnology: When Nano May Not Be Nano

ScienceDaily (Sep. 14, 2009) — The same properties of nanoparticles that make them so appealing to manufacturers may also have negative effects on the environment and human health. However, little is known which particles may be harmful. Part of the problem is determining exactly what a nanoparticle is. A new analysis by an international team of researchers from the Center for the Environmental Implications of NanoTechnology (CEINT), based at Duke University, argues for a new look at the way nanoparticles are selected when studying the potential impacts on human health and the environment. They have found that while many small particles are considered to be "nano," these materials often do not meet full definition of having special properties that make them different from conventional materials. Under the prevailing definition, a particle is deemed nano if its diameter is between 1 and 100 nanometers (nm) – about 1/10,000 the diameter of a human hair – and if it has properties that significantly differ from its naturally occurring, or bulk, counterpart. The special properties of nanoparticles come from their high surface-area-to-volume ratio. They also have a considerably higher percentage of atoms on their surface compared to bulk particles, which can make them more reactive. These man-made materials can be found in a vast array of consumer products, including paints and sunscreens, as well as in water treatment plants and drug delivery systems. For most of this decade, discussions of nanoparticles have tended to focus more on their size than their properties. However, after reviewing the scientific literature, the Duke-led team believes that the old definition is not specific enough. A definition that focuses on properties is critical, they say, to help scientists determine which particular nanoparticles are the most likely to represent a threat to the environment or human health. Generally speaking, it is the very smallest particles (less than 30 nanometers) that should receive the most attention in studying the environmental and human health impacts of nanomaterials, according to Mark Wiesner, a Duke professor of civil and environmental engineering and director of the federally funded CEINT. The results of Wiesner's analysis were published online in the journal Nature Nanotechnology. The study was supported by CEINT, which is jointly funded by the National Science Foundation and Environmental Protection Agency. Specifically, the researchers found that nanoparticles approaching the 100 nm end of the size spectrum tend to have fewer special properties when compared to their bulk counterparts. Furthermore, they found that nanoparticles smaller than 30 nm tend to exhibit the unique properties that should command increased scrutiny. While there have been reports of nanoparticle toxicity increasing as the size decreases, it is still uncertain whether this increase in reactivity is harmful to the environment or human safety. To settle this issue, toxicological studies should contrast particles that exhibit novel size-dependant properties, particularly concerning their surface reactivity, and those particles that do not exhibit these properties. *Adapted from materials provided by [Duke University](#), via [EurekAlert!](#), a service of AAAS.*

### Smart, Green and Growing Planning Guide

The Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) created the Smart, Green & Growing Planning Guide in response to the many requests from State and local government officials, smart growth advocates and interested citizens to produce a concise reference to planning and smart growth in Maryland. This guide provides you with a brief introduction to planning in Maryland, emphasizing key planning laws and tools that guide smart, sustainable growth. From the Introduction: Smart, Green & Growing is Maryland's long-range, multi-agency initiative focused on protecting the state's air, water and land resources in every region of the state. Sound land use planning, from state smart growth programs to local government and citizen actions, is a critical piece in the Smart, Green & Growing strategy. By reducing sprawl development and concentrating new housing in our existing communities, we will protect irreplaceable forests and farmland and continue to improve the health of Maryland's Chesapeake and Coastal Bays. While not designed to be an exhaustive reference, the booklet presents an overview of land use planning in Maryland, providing background on the State's enabling legislation and significant laws governing planning. This includes the 1992 Planning Act, the 1997 Priority Funding Areas Act and the 2006 laws expanding the scope of local comprehensive plans. This is followed by summaries of Governor O'Malley's Smart, Green & Growing legislative package, which was passed in the 2009 session of the General Assembly and signed into law. [Click here](#) to read about Maryland's Smart, Green & Growing legislative package. 52 pages; available online as a PDF document at the resource link below. Resource: [http://www.mdp.state.md.us/SGG\\_Guide\\_09\\_Web.pdf](http://www.mdp.state.md.us/SGG_Guide_09_Web.pdf)

### **EPA Administrator Announces Plan to Retool and Reinvalidate Clean Water Enforcement Program**

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa P. Jackson announced today at a House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee hearing that the agency is stepping up its efforts on Clean Water Act enforcement. The Clean Water Action Enforcement Plan is a first step in revamping the compliance and enforcement program. It seeks to improve the protection of our nation's water quality, raise the bar in federal and state performance and enhance public transparency. The plan announced today outlines how the agency will strengthen the way it addresses the water pollution challenges of this century. These challenges include pollution caused by numerous, dispersed sources, such as concentrated animal feeding operations, sewer overflows, contaminated water that flows from industrial facilities, construction sites, and runoff from urban streets. The goals of the plan are to target enforcement to the most significant pollution problems, improve transparency and accountability by providing the public with access to better data on the water quality in their communities, and strengthen enforcement performance at the state and federal levels. Elements of the plan include the following: Develop more comprehensive approaches to ensure enforcement is targeted to the most serious violations and the most significant sources of pollution. Work with states to ensure greater consistency throughout the country with respect to compliance and water quality. Ensure that states are issuing protective permits and taking enforcement to achieve compliance and remove economic incentives to violate the law. Use 21st century information technology to collect, analyze and use information in new, more efficient ways and to make that information readily accessible to the public. Better tools will help federal and state regulators identify serious compliance problems quickly and take prompt actions to correct them. Last July, Administrator Jackson directed EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance to develop the plan in response to data showing that the nation's water quality is unacceptably low in many parts of the country. More information on the plan: [www.epa.gov/compliance/civil/cwaenplan.html](http://www.epa.gov/compliance/civil/cwaenplan.html)

### **New Water Quality Standards Academy "NPDES Permit Program" Module Online**

EPA's Water Quality Standards Academy Online (WQSA Online) has posted its fourth Basic Course Supplemental Topics Module, "NPDES Permit Program." The new online module provides an overview of the regulatory program, established under the Clean Water Act, which authorizes the issuing of permits to control the discharge of pollutants from point sources into waters covered by a state or tribe's water quality standards. Since its introduction in 1972, significant improvement in the nation's water quality has been attributed to implementation of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit program. Similar to the Key Concepts modules, the Supplemental Topics Modules present text-based information across a sequence of pages that include links to further information and resources, and then a brief quiz at the end. Because these modules are supplemental, they are not associated with the Certificate of Completion earned by completing the Key Concepts modules. To access the module please go to <http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/standards/academy/supp/monitoring/index.htm>

### **EPA Proposes One-Year Extension for NPDES 2008 Construction General Permit**

In an October 19, 2009, Federal Register notice, EPA announced that it is seeking public comment on its proposal to extend the 2008 NPDES general permits for storm water discharges associated with construction activity, the 2008 Construction General Permit (CGP), by one year. The 2008 CGP applies only where EPA is the permitting authority, which is in five states; Washington, DC; most U.S. territories; many federal facilities; and most Indian country lands. The 2008 CGP regulates the discharge of storm water from construction sites that disturb one acre or more of land and from smaller sites that are part of a larger, common plan of development. The permit requires construction site operators to comply with storm water discharge requirements that prevent sediment loss, soil erosion, and the discharge of other pollutants at active construction sites. The public will have 30 days to comment on the EPA's proposed 1-year extension, after which the Agency will then consider and address the comments received and issue a final Federal Register notice on this issue by the end of November 2009. The extension of the 2008 CGP permit is needed to allow the Agency sufficient time to develop a new CGP that incorporates the Agency's soon to be finalized Effluent Limitation Guideline for the Construction and Development Industry. This Guideline will represent a significant advancement in the control of sediment discharges from construction sites, imposing national requirements on construction activities that disturb one or more acres of land. This Guideline must be completed by the Agency, under court order, by December 2009.

### **Search EPA's Section 319 Nonpoint Source Grants Database**

EPA's Nonpoint Source Grants Reporting and Tracking System (GRTS) is the primary tool for management and oversight of state Nonpoint Source (NPS) Management Programs under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. EPA recently added new tools to the GRTS database to enable the public to search for information about NPS pollution control projects. One way to search the database is to perform a criteria-based query. This method is best for finding 319 projects that meet certain conditions; for example, NPS projects that implement a Total Maximum Daily Load to control mine waste, or projects implementing best management practices for waters polluted by urban runoff. To search for projects, visit <http://iaspub.epa.gov/grts/projects>. Another new search tool is the interactive map, which enables browsing for project information by watershed. Simply use the find, pan, and zoom buttons to navigate to the location of interest, and the 319 projects will appear, summarized by watershed. At a regional scale, projects are displayed by sub basins (8-digit hydrologic units), and at a local scale, by sub watersheds (12-digit hydrologic units). Check out the GRTS Map Viewer at: <http://iaspub.epa.gov/grts/map>

### **Thou Shalt Review Ordinances...And Then What? Using zoning code audits and ordinance reviews to better manage stormwater**

Communities covered under Phase II of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) are wrapping up activities under the first round of permits. If the first five-year permit cycle was about setting up programs, the second permit cycle will focus on program assessment and fine-tuning. EPA anticipated this evolution, including the following language: "In developing your program, you should consider assessing existing ordinances, policies, programs, and studies that address stormwater runoff quality." Ordinance and code reviews are an increasingly popular tool to identify and address the impact of land development standards and zoning codes. Similarly, communities are reviewing codes for barriers to low-impact development or overarching sustainability goals. This article provides information on conducting code reviews and some of the more surprising findings related to conventional zoning codes. Read article... <http://www.stormh2o.com/october-2009/thou-shalt-review.aspx>

### **The Pollutant Removal Efficiency Conundrum**

Over the last several years, there has been considerable debate regarding the science of measuring the performance of a best management practice (BMP)—as a percent removal efficiency (%RE) measured by influent and effluent event mean concentration (EMC), as an effluent

concentration, or as a mass balanced removal efficiency. Reasons for not using a %RE have been discussed at length by the International Stormwater BMP Database team, principally based upon the limitations of testing techniques for total suspended solids (TSS) and the attempts to use EMC measurements. Limitations of these techniques include the variability of concentrations, particle sizes, flow rates, first-flush effects, and minimum reducible concentrations, all pointing to the need to develop alternate BMP measurement methods. At least as far as TSS is concerned, researchers have demonstrated that using a %RE based upon influent and effluent EMCs has serious limitations. Read article... <http://www.stormh2o.com/october-2009/pollutant-removal-efficiency.aspx>

**What's Your Fieldprint?**

Corn, cotton, soybean, and wheat growers now have access to a free, confidential online tool that will assess how some operational decisions affect natural resource conservation and sustainability. The Fieldprint Calculator, available at [www.fieldtomarket.org](http://www.fieldtomarket.org), provides an easy way to analyze and assess their current land use, energy use, water use, greenhouse gas emission, and soil loss. It also explores various scenarios that may help improve farm natural resource management and, ultimately, their operation efficiency and financial return. [Click here](#) for more information on the Fieldprint Calculator. For more information on the Fieldprint Calculator, please visit the Field to Market website [www.fieldtomarket.org](http://www.fieldtomarket.org).

**i-Tree Version 3.0 Now Available Online**

i-Tree, an online software program from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, provides tools for assessing and managing community forests. Initially released in 2006, i-Tree allows users to gain a greater understanding of the ecosystem services that trees provide. The new version provides increased functionality and improved performance and is available free. For more information: i-Tree Website at <http://www.itreetools.org/>

**PA Bulletin Online – [www.pabulletin.com](http://www.pabulletin.com)**

- [Volume 39, Number 40](#) Saturday, October 3, 2009 Pages 5713-5882
- [Volume 39, Number 41](#) Saturday, October 10, 2009 Pages 5883-6008
- [Volume 39, Number 42](#) Saturday, October 17, 2009 Pages 6009-6210
- [Volume 39, Number 43](#) Saturday, October 24, 2009 Pages 6210-6314
- [Volume 39, Number 44](#) Saturday, October 31, 2009 Pages 6315-6416

**DRAFT TECHNICAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE**

As of Thursday, October 29, 2009. To access the document, click on the ID number. Note: The draft date will show the most recent draft available. The comment period may have passed but the draft will remain available at this site until the document is finalized.

ID NUMBER	DOCUMENT TITLE	DRAFT DATE	COMMENT BY	CONTACT	PHONE
<a href="#">363-2134-008</a>	Erosion and Sediment Control Best Mangement Practices (BMP) Manual	10/17/2009	12/15/2009	Dennis Stum	(717) 772-5963
<a href="#">394-5600-001</a>	Riparian Forest Buffer Guidance	9/26/2009	11/24/2009	Diane Wilson	(717) 787-3730
<a href="#">381-5511-014</a>	Guidance on the Solicitation of Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Firms	9/5/2009	11/5/2009	Monique Pollard	(717) 787-0122

**Proposals Currently Open For Comment**

Draft Technical Guidance DEP ID:394-5600-001. Title: Riparian Forest Buffer Guidance. Background: The Riparian Forest Buffer Guidance outlines recommendations for installation and protection of riparian forest buffers that are useful in mitigating or controlling point and nonpoint source pollution to waters of the Commonwealth. Riparian forest buffers serve as a barrier to prevent most pollutants from getting into aquatic environments. They also provide enhanced instream contaminant sequestration and degradation. The primary purpose of this guidance is to assist the Department staff in providing and further developing general buffer recommendations for regulatory, voluntary, and grant programs. It will also serve to assist any interested entities in understanding the functions and values of riparian forest buffers, the importance of sustaining and enhancing riparian forest buffers, and in developing appropriate science-based guidelines or policies. Written Comments: Interested persons may submit written comments on this guidance by November 24, 2009. Comments submitted by facsimile will not be accepted. The Department will accept comments submitted by e-mail. A return name and address must be included in each e-mail transmission. Written comments should be submitted to Diane Wilson, Department of Environmental Protection, Rachel Carson State Office Building, P. O. Box 8555, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8555 or [diawilson@state.pa.us](mailto:diawilson@state.pa.us). Contact: Questions regarding the draft technical guidance document should be directed to Diane Wilson at (717) 787-3730 or [diawilson@state.pa.us](mailto:diawilson@state.pa.us). Effective Date: Upon publication as final in the Pennsylvania Bulletin. PADEP Riparian Forest Buffer Draft Technical Guidance document is available for public comment; online at: <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-76604/394-5600-001.pdf>

**PUBLIC COMMENT: Proposed 2010 SRBC Regulatory Program Fee Schedule – Dec 17**

SRBC staff has drafted proposed revisions to the Regulatory Program Fee Schedule. The staff-prepared revisions will be recommended to the commissioners for their consideration at the December 17, 2009 business meeting in Lancaster, Pa. The proposed revisions and related information sheet are available on SRBC's web site at <http://www.srbc.net/programs/feeschedule.htm>. To provide adequate opportunity for public review and comment, staff is releasing the proposed fee revisions well in advance of the December 17 meeting. Written comments will be accepted until November 13, 2009. Written comments and/or questions can be directed to Mr. Richard Cairo, General Counsel, Susquehanna River Basin Commission, 1721 North Front Street, Harrisburg, Pa. 17102, Ph: (717) 238-0423 ext. 306, E-mail: [SRBCfeeschedule@srbc.net](mailto:SRBCfeeschedule@srbc.net).

