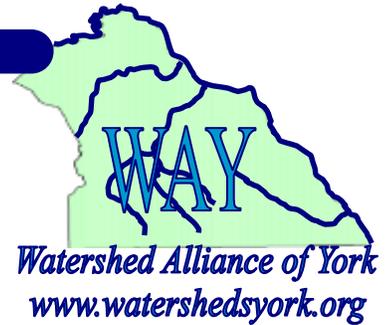


WAY E-NEWS

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



November 23, 2009

A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Volume 9, Issue 23

Give Thanks for Abundant, Clean, Living Water Resources

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

WATERSHED ALLIANCE NEWS...2

WATERSHED EDUCATION & OUTREACH...Page 7

- DEP, DCNR To Furlough Or Eliminate 333 Full Time Positions Due To Budget Cuts
- EPA Cites 14 Municipalities for Stormwater Violations
- Making Pollution Laws Work - The Shortest Route To Cleaner Waterways
- Nutrient Concentrations in Streams Hold Steady
- EPA Study Reveals Widespread Contamination of Fish in U.S. Lakes and Reservoirs
- Study Shows Further Evidence of Asphalt Sealcoat Dangers
- Supplemental Water Quality Standards Training Modules Released
- EPA Begins Testing Pesticides for Endocrine Disruption
- EPA Releases Guidance on Environmental Models
- Estimating Atrazine Levels in a Stream Near You
- Invasive Species Expert Directory Available
- Smart Growth Guide Released
- National AgLaw Center Opens New Virtual Reading Room
- My Environment
- Online Game Encourages Kids to Go Outside
- Nature and the Environment
- Riffle Fish

WATERSHED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE...Page 10

- Nonpoint Source and Stormwater Outreach: Achieving Results with Tight Budgets
- New Tools Available to Find Nonpoint Source Project Information
- Small Grants Can Yield Big Results
- Watershed Protection Grants
- Chesapeake Bay Trust Accepting Applications for Outreach, and Restoration Grants - Dec 4
- Funding Available for Conservation Marketing - Dec 15
- EPA Accepting Applications for Environmental Education Grants - Dec 15
- American River/NOAA Community-Based Restoration - Dec 18
- Funding for Environmental Efforts Focused on Susquehanna River Watershed - Dec 18
- PACD to Fund \$25,000 in MWE Projects - Jan 4
- Funding Opportunity for Habitat Restoration Projects - Feb 11

WATERSHED FACILITATION ASSISTANCE...Page 12

- Join us for "Recession-Proof Your Grantwriting" WEBINAR - Dec 2
- Annual meeting of the PA Campaign for Clean Water - Dec 3
- Save the Date! Dam Removal Workshop - Dec 3
- 2009 "Turning a New Leaf" Conference - Dec 4
- West Virginia University Environmental Research Center Forum - Dec 15
- 1st Annual Choose Clean Water- Chesapeake Restoration Conference - Jan10-12
- Registration Now Open For EPA Green Cleanup Symposium - Feb 10-11

WATERSHED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE...Page 13

- Draft Strategy for Chesapeake Bay Open for Comment Expanded - Jan 8
- EPA's Total Maximum Daily Load Web Site Redesigned
- Stream Corridor Restoration Tools Now Available Online
- Promising New Practice Reduces Turbidity Levels from Construction Sites
- Report Evaluates Decentralized Stormwater Controls

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

- Extreme BMP Makeover Report Available
- Residential Car Washing
- EPA's New Stormwater Road-Related MS4s Web Site
- New Tool Helps Estimate LID Implementation Costs
- Sustainable Sites Initiative- the nation's first rating system for the design, construction and maintenance of sustainable landscapes
- EPA Document Analyzes Benefits of Using Green Roofs for Stormwater Control
- Research Indicates that Pervious Pavement Works Well in Cold Climates
- New Forest Service Approach Complements EPA's Healthy Watershed Initiative
- USFS Opens Forest Landscape Restoration Website
- Pond and Wetland Management Guidebooks Online
- Bacteria in Recreational Waters—Literature Reviews
- Enhanced Aquatic Ecosystem Simulation Model Released by EPA
- Agricultural Census Information Now Available By Watershed
- National Water Program Guidance Available
- PA Bulletin Online – www.pabulletin.com
- Technical Guidance Open For Comment
- Proposals Currently Open For Comment



WATERSHED ALLIANCE NEWS

Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring (ALLARM) – www.dickinson.edu/allarm

<> ALLARM at allarm@dickinson.edu or 717.245.1021. ALLARM Phone: 717.245.1135 fax: 717.245.1971

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay – www.alliancechesbay.org/

- Join the growing Chesapeake Watershed Network – 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.

American Rivers – www.americanrivers.org

- Help Your Community and Restore Your Local River – Learn more about this program and how to apply <http://www.americanrivers.org/our-work/restoring-rivers/dams/background/noaa-grants-program.html>
 - AARP Joins American Rivers in Promoting Volunteerism, Cleanups – Watch the video for this great new campaign and learn how you can help <http://www.americanrivers.org/newsroom/blog/american-rivers-teams-up-with-10-09.html>
- <> 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

Chesapeake Bay Foundation – 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. Web: www.cbf.org

Codorus Creek Improvement Partnership – 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

Codorus Creek Watershed Association – 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

- 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

Conewago Canoe Club – www.conewagocanooclub.org

<> Questions or comments e-mail me oc1mike@comcast.net, but remember you catch more flies with honey than vinegar.

Deer Creek Watershed Association – www.harfordcountymd.gov/PlanningZoning/WRAS

<> Contact Lee McDaniel at ldmcdaniel@aol.com.

Doyle Farm Nursery – www.doylefarm.com

<> For more information, please see doylefarm.com Open Houses/Events or contact us at jld@doylefarm.com.

Eden Mill Nature Center & Historic Mill - 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

Farm & Natural Lands Trust of York County - www.farmtrust.org

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

Friends of Codorus State Park - www.friends-of-codorus.org/

• Nov 19, 5:30 pm – Thanksgiving Diner & Membership Meeting. Dub's Church. Bring covered dish. RSVP Cindy at 637-2816.
<> For more information contact Becky Miller at 632-6747 or email beckymill1@juno.com or Dave Carbaugh at 637-9875 or email carbaugh3@embarqmail.com

Greater Hanover Alliance - 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

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

Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education - www.hornfarmcenter.org

• December – Holidays at the Farm
<> Contact: Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education, 4945 Horn Road, York, PA 17406. Phone: (717)654-0571. Email: info@hornfarmcenter.org. Web: www.hornfarmcenter.org.

Izaak Walton League York Chapter- www.yorkchapter67iwla.org/

• Calendar of events 2009 - 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

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>.

• 12/06/09 SUN 12/06/09 SUN 1:00pm-5:00pm Holiday Open House
• 12/13/09 SUN 12/13/09 SUN 1:00pm-5:00pm Holiday Open House
<> For more information and how to register, contact Kings Gap at (717) 486-3799. E-mail kingsgapsp@state.pa.us

Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper - 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.

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

• Next meeting is scheduled for December 7th and will be a holiday gathering, covered dish supper hosted by Stan Kollar.
• As part of the Audit, Attorney General Gansler will visit the Conowingo dam on the Lower Susquehanna River. The Lower Susquehanna River audit visit will conclude with a Town Hall Meeting on at 5:00 p.m. at the Donaldson Brown Conference Center, located at 200 Mount Ararat Farm Road in Port Deposit, Maryland 21904. The public is invited to attend the Town Hall meeting. This is an opportunity for citizens to share their concerns about the health of the Lower Susquehanna River and any other environmental issues in the community.
<> Contact: Mike Bilek, Tributary Team Coordinator, MD DNR, Tawes Office Building, Annapolis, MD 21401. Ph: 410-260-8988. E-mail: mbilek@dnr.state.md.us

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

• The December 5/09 Meeting Features – The quarterly meeting will convene at 2:00 p.m. at the Havre de Grace City Hall, 711 Pennington Avenue.
<> Contact: James Hooper at james.hooper@worldnet.att.net.

Messiah College - www.messiah.edu

- Events Calendar – <http://acs.messiah.edu/acs/EventList.aspx?fromdate=11/1/2009&todate=11/30/2009&display=Month&view=DateTime>
 - 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

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

<> Contact: 717-840-7408 or Connie Schmotzer at cxs51@psu.edu

National Wildlife Federation – www.nwf.org/

This holiday season, give your loved ones more than just an ordinary gift – give them the gift that protects wildlife. [By signing up to receive the National Wildlife Federation's exclusive "12 Days of Deals"](#), you can find the perfect present for everyone on your list AND support the wildlife and wild places they call home. Not only will these online deals save you time, gas and money, but your contribution will go directly to work in our wildlife-protecting programs. Find special, one-day discounts on amazing gifts such as:

- NWF's award winning kids magazines including Ranger Rick®, Your Big Backyard® and Wild Animal Baby®
- Unique seasonal catalog merchandise
- Gift memberships to National Wildlife Federation
- Beautiful, functional NWF apparel, bags and more

Discounts begin December 1st so hurry and [sign up now](#) to receive these and other special offers!

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

Peach Bottom Concerned Citizens Group Inc. – www.pbccg.com

- PA Rural Communities! Is your township being threatened? Come join us in our second annual Act 38 Rally in Harrisburg. Time and Date to be announced. Call 717-456-5800 to sign up.

<> PBCCG, Inc is a nonprofit organization supported solely by volunteers and donations. Contact PBCCG by email pbccg@hotmail.com or mail Peach Bottom Concerned Citizens Group, P.O. Box 307 Delta, PA 17314.

Pennsylvania Chapter – The American Chestnut Foundation – www.patacf.org/

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

PPL Environmental Preserve – www.pplpreserves.com

- Fall 2009 Environmental Programs – http://www1.pplweb.com/eventapp/events_display.htm?p_cur_mon=November&p_cur_year=2009&p_cur=6

<> 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.

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

- NEW GROUNDWATER WELL RESOURCE - <http://york.extension.psu.edu/NResources/PvtWtrSpIyInfo.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.

Prettyboy Watershed Alliance – www.prettyboywatershed.org

<> Contact: Nancy Shaper at nshaper@ihmi.edu

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

<> Project Coordinator: Sarah Warner, Global Biology and Science Technology Teacher, Red Lion. E-mail: warnerse@rlasd.k12.pa.us

Shank's Mare "Go Play Outside" – www.shanksmare.com

- Holiday Artisans Show Nov. 25-Dec. 31.
- Winter Program Schedule - See "Activities".

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

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

- Tuesday, date TBD - 6:30 pm - Year End Planning Meeting, Email Robin for location: rbroderick1@email.com - All members welcome!
- <> Kim Anderson at sgfornyc@aol.com.

Spoutwood Farm CSA – www.spoutwood.com

<> Contact: Rob Wood, 717-235-6610, Spoutwood@supernet.com

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

- December 4th, 5-8pm & 5th, 12-3pm Photos w/ Santa by the Fire in the Log Cabin – Come out with your wish list, sit on Santa's lap and have your holiday photo cards taken with him by the fire in the Pink Cabin. Go home with your choice of photos, digital copies or both.
 - December 13th, 2-3:30pm Second Sunday @ Strawberry Hill – Members \$5, Non-Members \$8
 - December 17th, 5:30-7pm Winter Forest Walk - all ages – As the year grows colder, many nocturnal animals remain very active. We'll listen and look for some of our resident Barred and Screech Owls, as well as other nocturnal creatures. Register by December 16th Members \$5, Non-Members \$8
 - December 17th-23rd, 5-8pm Nature Comes to Light – Come walk the trails at your own pace, with your friends and family to take in the beautiful winter light displays throughout the Preserve during the crisp holiday season
- <> If you have questions, we hope you'll email us info@strawberryhill.org or give us a call at (717) 642-5840.

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

- Nov 6th, & Dec 4th 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 (10am-4pm) at the Zimmerman Center for Heritage.
- <> Contact Mark Platts, Susquehanna Heritage Corporation, 1706 Long Level Road, Wrightsville, PA 17368. Office: 717-252-0229. E-mail: info@lyhr.org.

Susquehanna Greenway Partnership – www.susquehannagreenway.org

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

Susquehanna River Basin Commission – 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

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

- <> Contact: Lydia Sadauskas, Executive Director, ssbn can be reached by...email: 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

- Monthly Chapter Meetings 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., at Gander Mountain store – York (winter) and Sawmill pavilion (summer)
- <> Contact: Tom Finenze at 840-1372 or tom@codorustu.org. Cancellations due to winter weather will be announced here, and on WSBA Radio, 910 AM.

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

- 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 muddycreektu@comcast.net
- <> Contact: Ron Heuston, President MCTU, 244-1851 or Heuy1955@aol.com

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

- <> Contact: Kim Goff 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.

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: mkirk@adamswatersheds.org

Watershed Alliance of York – www.watershedsyork.org

- Jan. 6 – Meeting of WAY Board of Directors, 7:00 PM, at 324 W. Market St., York, PA.
 - STREAM CLEANUPS – Got a stream needing cleaned up? Contact WAY to help coordinate and finance your cleanup.
 - COMMUNITY EVENTS – Got a community event planned for 2010 that you would like WAY to exhibit its display? Contact us.
 - SPEAKERS BUREAU – Need a speaker for your event? Contact WAY's speakers bureau composed of local experts in watershed-based planning, restoration and planning.
 - WAY E-News 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 and be sure to enter WAY as the charity you want to support.
- <> Contact: Watershed Alliance of York, Inc. (WAY), C/o York County Conservation District, 118 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402. Phone: (717) 840-7430. Facsimile: (717) 755-0301. E-mail: gpeacock@yorkccd.org

Yellow Breeches Watershed Association – www.ybwa.org

- December 9, 2009 – YBWA Board Meeting
- <> Contact: John Eby, President, at john_eby@lower-allen.pa.us

York-Adams Regional Smart Growth Coalition – www.yorkadamssmartgrowth.org

- Watch for our new website launch in early December!

<> 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/>

- Thursday, December 10, 2009 – Birds of Winter in York. YAS President Tom Smith will present a program about winter birding. Topics will include how to attract birds to your backyard and bird identification. Richard M. Nixon County Park, 6:30 P.M. This is a free program but you must call the Park to preregister at 717-428-1961.
 - Monday, December 14, 2009 – Southeast Arizona Birding. Mike and Laura Jackson will present a program featuring photos and stories of hotspots such as Madera Canyon and Portal. Their photographic journey will feature the biodiversity of animals and plants in Arizona's "sky islands". Luther Memorial Church, 7:00 P.M.
- <> Contact Tom Smith at 717-246-9767 or tis35@psu.edu.

YorkCounts - 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

York County - www.york-county.org

- Dec 2 – York County Commissioner's Meeting
 - Dec 9 – York County Commissioner's Meeting
 - Dec 16 – York County Commissioner's Meeting
 - Dec 23 – York County Commissioner's Meeting
 - Dec 30 – York County Commissioner's Meeting
- <> Contact the Board of Commissioners, Administrative Center, 28 East Market St. York, PA 17401-1588. Phone: 717-771-9964.

York County Agriculture Business Council

- 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

York County Agriculture Land Preservation Board – 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

York County Community Foundation – www.yccf.org

- 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
- <> Contact Jane Sload at 717.848.3733 or jsload@yccf.org.

York County Conservation Alliance - www.yorkcountyconservationalliance.org

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

York County Conservation District – www.yorkccd.org

- Dec. 10 – District Board of Directors meeting, 11:00 AM, at ANNEX
 - GIVE A GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING! 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. Office hours: 8:30 AM-4:30 PM weekdays.

York County Planning Commission – www.ycpc.org

- December 1 - York County Planning Commission Meeting, York County 911 Center @ 120 Davies Drive
 - December 25 - Office Closed to Observe Christmas
 - December 30 - Local Government Advisory Committee Meeting (LGAC) Executive Committee Meeting
- <> Contact: 717-771-9870 or e-mail planner@ycpc.org

York County Parks & Recreation – www.yorkcountyparks.org

- York County Department of Parks and Recreation presents the 26th edition of "Christmas Magic - A Festival of Lights" event at Rocky Ridge County Park. This popular holiday program opens Friday, November 27th and runs through December 31, 2009. Hours of the show are 6 pm - 9 pm weekdays and 5 pm - 9 pm Saturdays and Sundays. Christmas Magic is a .5 mile walk along park trails decorated with 200,000 lights, holiday scenes, animation and much more.
- <> 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

York County RailTrail Authority - www.yorkcountytrails.org/

<> Contact the YCRTA at 717-428-0999 or e-mail info@yorkcountytrails.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



WATERSHED EDUCATION & OUTREACH

DEP, DCNR To Furlough Or Eliminate 333 Full Time Positions Due To Budget Cuts

Harrisburg, PA – The Rendell Administration this week announced it will furlough 147 employees from the departments of Environmental Protection and Conservation and Natural Resources and eliminate another 186 full time vacant positions for a total reduction of 333 positions. In addition 1,131 seasonal workers at DCNR had their positions eliminated or hours reduced in State Park and Forestry operations– 240 seasonal positions were eliminated over the last year and 891 seasonal workers had their hours reduced. With the furlough announcement this week, DEP has lost 612 authorized positions since the 2002-03 budget* (3,211 then and now 2,599)– nearly 19 percent of its staff positions, and DCNR has lost 95 full time positions (1,390 positions then and 1,295 now)– just under 7 percent of its positions since 2002-03. The furloughs at DEP were by far the largest portion of the 319 state workers let go from all agencies this week– 138 DEP employees were furloughed– 5 percent of its entire workforce and 120 vacant positions eliminated at the agency for a total of 258 positions. At DCNR, 9 workers were furloughed and 66 vacant positions eliminated for a total of 75 positions. These actions were prompted by dramatic cuts in 2009-10 General Fund budget for these agencies. The Department of Environmental Protection budget was cut by 26.7 percent (\$58 million) and there was an 18.5 percent reduction for the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (\$21 million). A fact sheet handed out by the Governor's Office at the time the final budget was adopted in October said spending at the Department of Environmental Protection was at the same level as in 1996-97, erasing 13 years of environmental progress.

A budget impact summary provided by DEP noted it would be eliminating and reducing services in several areas as a result of the budget cuts–

- Permit Reviews Delayed: The elimination of some permitting staff in each region that may lengthen processing times for some permits; the department is in the process of raising any outdated fees to ensure effective permitting.
- Local Government Services: A reduction in planning and technical services for local governments, conservation districts and counties;
- Consumer Education: Elimination of funding for this year of the Consumer Energy Program;
- Black Fly Spraying: Reduction in the period of time Black Fly spraying can continue with spraying likely to terminate by the end of July 2010; and
- West Nile Virus: Elimination of West Nile Virus county grants in 36 counties; DEP staff will attempt to provide some lessened coverage in those counties where county programs do not operate.

DEP did note, the reduction in state funds will have no impact on the permitting and inspection operations performed by the Oil and Gas staff at DEP. Drilling companies - not taxpayers - pay for this critical environmental protection work. Fees for gas drilling permits were increased to make it possible for DEP to hire additional inspectors to oversee and make sure gas drilling in the state does not harm the environment. DEP has not only raised permit review fees for gas well drilling, it has proposed permit fee increases for NPDES water quality, erosion and sedimentation, air quality and laboratory accreditation fees totaling about \$23.4 million. DEP also said, other important environmental also work continues, with significant levels of state funds not affected by the recently enacted state budget.

DCNR Not Closing State Parks. Secretary of Administration Naomi Wyatt said Gov. Rendell has made a commitment to keeping Pennsylvania's 117 State Parks open using revenues left in the DCNR Oil and Gas Fund. Secretary Wyatt noted the Fund received an unanticipated \$25 million from Marcellus Shale natural gas leases that will keep the parks open, but many will have reduced services. The reduced services include: shorten swimming season at pools, beaches; early closings of campgrounds; more selective snow removal, mowing; reduce environmental education, interpretive and recreational programming and teacher training. In addition, the cuts will also cause DCNR to defer maintenance on state forest roads; potentially closing those roads as conditions warrant, eliminate program that raises/sells native seedlings to private forest landowners, eliminate gypsy moth spraying, curtail the surveillance of other forest pests and eliminate the PAMAP.

The cuts included in the 2009-10 budget were the biggest environmental cuts in history to environmental programs. But over the last seven years the total environmental funding diverted or cut from environmental programs to help balance the state budget or to fund programs that could not get funding on their own is now \$980 million. 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;
- \$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;
- \$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.

Growing Greener Ends. 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.

EPA Cites 14 Municipalities for Stormwater Violations

(PHILADELPHIA – November 12, 2009) The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has cited 14 municipalities in Pennsylvania and Maryland for stormwater violations, nine of which are within the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Urbanized areas contain large portions of impervious surfaces such as roads, rooftops and parking lots that channel stormwater directly into local streams, rivers, and other water bodies.

Improperly managed stormwater runoff from urbanized areas often contains high levels of nutrients, sediment, toxic metals, volatile organic compounds, and other pollutants. EPA requires the cited municipalities to correct problems with their respective municipal separate storm sewer (MS4) programs and come into compliance with their state-issued discharge permits. MS4s are publicly owned drainage systems designed to collect and convey stormwater from urbanized areas. In Pennsylvania, EPA issued orders to Birdsboro Borough and Ontelaunee Township in Berks County; Mechanicsburg Borough in Cumberland County; Atrim Township in Franklin County; East Donegal Township, Terre Hill Borough, Pequea Township, Akron Borough and East Earl Township in Lancaster County; Myerstown Borough in Lebanon County; and, Monaghan and Newberry Townships in York County. In Maryland, EPA issued orders to Baltimore City and Anne Arundel County. Several of these municipalities have already taken steps to comply with the orders.

Making Pollution Laws Work - The Shortest Route To Cleaner Waterways

Many streams, rivers, lakes, and tidal waters suffer from poor enforcement of environmental protection laws. We're seeing indications that enforcement has grown worse over the past couple of years. Fortunately, highly-effective techniques exist for improving enforcement. Unfortunately, these techniques are not widely known or practiced. We're considering holding a series of workshops to teach these techniques to riverkeepers, watershed organization staff or volunteers, and other clean water advocates. We're conducting a very brief survey to gauge the level of interest in the workshops. When you have a moment could you take the nine-question survey by clicking the following link...

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=VJhJXx_2bK5SOsZqDMeG4Cng_3d_3d

Nutrient Concentrations in Streams Hold Steady

In May 2009, USGS released "Nutrient Trends in Streams and Rivers of the United States, 1993–2003" as part of USGS' National Water Quality Assessment Program. The USGS assessed trends in streamflow and concentrations and loads of total phosphorus, total nitrogen and nitrate for the period from 1993 to 2003 in selected streams and rivers of the United States. The report showed that phosphorus and nitrogen concentrations remained relatively stable from 1993 to 2003 in about half of the streams assessed. The pattern did vary in some regions, including increases in phosphorus in more than half of the streams assessed in the Mississippi/Atchafalaya River Basin. To view the report or to access maps, see www.water.usgs.gov/nawqa/pubs/nutrient_trends.

EPA Study Reveals Widespread Contamination of Fish in U.S. Lakes and Reservoirs

A new EPA study shows concentrations of toxic chemicals in fish tissue from lakes and reservoirs in nearly all 50 U.S. states. For the first time, EPA is able to estimate the percentage of lakes and reservoirs nationwide that have fish containing potentially harmful levels of chemicals such as mercury and PCBs. The data showed mercury concentrations in game fish exceeding EPA's recommended levels at 49 percent of lakes and reservoirs nationwide, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in game fish at levels of potential concern at 17 percent of lakes and reservoirs. These findings are based on a comprehensive national study using more data on levels of contamination in fish tissue than any previous study. Burning fossil fuels, primarily coal, accounts for nearly half of mercury air emissions caused by human activity in the U.S., and those emissions are a significant contributor to mercury in water bodies. From 1990 through 2005, emissions of mercury into the air decreased by 58 percent. EPA is committed to developing a new rule to substantially reduce mercury emissions from power plants, and the Obama Administration is actively supporting a new international agreement that will reduce mercury emissions worldwide. The study also confirms the widespread occurrence of PCBs and dioxins in fish, illustrating the need for federal, state and local government to continue efforts to reduce the presence of these harmful chemicals in our lakes and reservoirs and ensure that fish advisory information is readily available. It is important that women of child-bearing age and children continue to follow the advice of EPA and the Food and Drug Administration on fish consumption as it relates to mercury. This study is also a strong message to state and local governments to redouble their efforts in looking for opportunities to reduce mercury discharges, as well as developing fish advisories, especially to reach those in sensitive and vulnerable populations. Results from the four-year National Study of Chemical Residues in Lake Fish Tissue show that mercury and PCBs are widely distributed in U.S. lakes and reservoirs. Mercury and PCBs were detected in all of the fish samples collected from the nationally representative sample of 500 lakes and reservoirs in the study. Because these findings apply to fish caught in lakes and reservoirs, it is particularly important for recreational and subsistence fishers to follow their state and local fish advisories. EPA is conducting other statistically based national aquatic surveys that include assessment of fish contamination, such as the National Rivers and Streams Assessment and the National Coastal Assessment. Sampling for the National Rivers and Streams Assessment is underway, and results from this two-year study are expected to be available in 2011. Collection of fish samples for the National Coastal Assessment will begin in 2010. More information: <http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/fishstudy>. More information on local fish advisories: <http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/fish/states.htm>

Study Shows Further Evidence of Asphalt Sealcoat Dangers

New research conducted at the University of New Hampshire Stormwater Center (UNHSC) indicates that both coal tar-based and asphalt-based sealcoat may contribute to increasingly significant amounts of polyaromatic hydrocarbons entering waterways from stormwater runoff. UNHSC had a portion of the study parking lot coated with coal tar-based sealant, a portion coated with asphalt-based sealant, and left the remainder of the parking lot unsealed. The research team measured the PAH concentration in the water and sediments coming from the sealcoated and unsealed parking lot sections. Both types of sealcoat led to a surprisingly rapid increase in PAH concentrations in the initial runoff—up to 5,000 parts per billion (ppb), significantly higher than the 10 ppb levels released from the unsealed lot, although concentrations decreased after several rainstorms. The PAH concentrations in the sediments mirrored these trends; the concentrations immediately downstream of the coal tar-sealed lot increased by nearly two orders of magnitude within the first year. For more information, see www.unh.edu/news/cj_nr/2009/apr/rz8sealcoat.cfm.

Supplemental Water Quality Standards Training Modules Released

EPA's Water Quality Standards Academy Online (www.epa.gov/waterscience/standards/academy) has posted two new supplemental topics modules for its "Basic Course: Key Concepts" online course. The first new supplemental module, "Listing Impaired Waters and Developing Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)," addresses how states and tribes identify and prioritize impaired or threatened waters, and how they develop pollutant loading analyses with a focus on meeting the water quality standards. The second module, "Monitoring and Assessment," covers the role of monitoring and assessment in the implementation of clean water programs, including reporting on the condition of the nation's waters and meeting the fishable and swimmable goals of the Clean Water Act. Both modules present text-based information across a

sequence of Web pages. The module provides links to further information and resources, and offers a brief quiz at the end. To access the new modules, go to www.epa.gov/waterscience/standards/academy/supp.

EPA Begins Testing Pesticides for Endocrine Disruption

EPA recently issued the first list of pesticides to be screened for possibly disrupting the endocrine system. Endocrine disruptors are chemicals that interact with and possibly disrupt the hormones produced or secreted by the human or animal endocrine system, which regulates growth, metabolism and reproduction. EPA issued test orders to the manufacturers of 67 pesticide chemicals during summer 2009 to determine whether their chemicals may disrupt the endocrine system. Testing, conducted through the Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program (EDSP), will be expanded over time to cover all pesticide chemicals. For more information, see www.epa.gov/scipoly/oscpendo.

EPA Releases Guidance on Environmental Models

EPA has released a guidance document that provides recommendations for the effective development, evaluation and use of models in environmental decision making once an environmental issue has been identified. This new resource also provides greater transparency of EPA's use of models and guidance on the use of proprietary tools and software. For more information, see EPA's Council for Regulatory Environmental Modeling (CREM) Web site at www.epa.gov/crem.

Estimating Atrazine Levels in a Stream Near You

The USGS recently added a new online mapping and graphing tool that shows predictions for stream concentrations of atrazine, one of the most heavily used herbicides in the United State (see <http://water.usgs.gov/nawqa> under "Featured Highlights"). The predictions are based on a USGS statistical model—referred to as Watershed Regression for Pesticides (WARP). This model also provides key statistics for each selected stream, including the probability that atrazine may exceed a water-quality benchmark of potential concern, and a level of confidence and uncertainty associated with each estimate. This release is the first in a series of statistical models for atrazine and other pesticides. The models are based on monitoring in 112 streams from 1992–2001. The model accounts for watershed characteristics that affect the occurrence of pesticides in streams, such as agricultural pesticide use and natural features including soils, hydrology and climate.

Invasive Species Expert Directory Available

The Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Task Force now offers a publicly-accessible database designed to help people find invasive species experts. Available at www.anstaskforce.gov/experts/search.php the database will guide users to a state contact that can find the requested information or identify the invasive species. If state contacts can't answer a user's question, they will find additional experts who can. The ANS Task Force is an intergovernmental organization (10 federal agency representatives and 12 ex officio members) dedicated to preventing and controlling aquatic nuisance species.

Smart Growth Guide Released

In partnership with the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Rhode Island Sea Grant, and the International City/County Management Association, EPA has released "Smart Growth for Coastal and Waterfront Communities." This interagency guide builds on existing smart growth principles to offer 10 specific development guidelines for coastal and waterfront communities. EPA and its partners hope the guide will help coastal and waterfront communities tackle threats from sea level rise, stronger hurricanes, flooding and other challenges. The new interagency guide describes tools and techniques for applying smart growth guidelines and includes case studies illustrating the guidelines in action. The guide is aimed at planners, local government officials, developers, nonprofit groups and coastal and waterfront residents, and is available for free download at <http://coastalsmartgrowth.noaa.gov>. For more information, see www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sg-coastal.html.

National AgLaw Center Opens New Virtual Reading Room

The National AgLaw Center's library of subject-based online reading rooms (<http://nationalaglawcenter.org/readingrooms>) has expanded. Each virtual reading room contains a comprehensive list of current electronic resources for an agricultural or food law topic. Links are provided to major statutes, regulations, case law, Federal Register Digest reports, Center-published research articles, government publications, Congressional publications and numerous other research resources. Also contained in each virtual reading room is an overview article that provides a thumbnail sketch of the history and development of that subject. Links to the other rooms are provided on the left side of each reading room. Recently added resources are posted at the top of the applicable sections. The Center just added a Water Law Reading Room (<http://nationalaglawcenter.org/readingrooms/waterlaw>), which deals with issues such as allocation, irrigation and other problems common to agriculture's use of water. The room contains specific information related to the interplay between water and agriculture.

My Environment

This Web site provides a wide range of federal, state and local information about environmental education. This EPA tool helps make a map of a user's community and links to data and information about water quality, water quantity, air quality, drinking water safety and toxic releases in the area. EPA designed the site to help answer questions about what is being done to protect the environment in local communities.

Resource: www.epa.gov/myenvironment.

Online Game Encourages Kids to Go Outside

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently launched a new online video game designed to encourage kids to go outside and learn about the environment. Designed for children ages 8 to 11 years old, "Neighborhood Explorers" is accessed through the Service's "Let's Go Outside!" Web site (www.fws.gov/letsngooutside). The journey begins when you meet three children who gather in a tree house at the beginning of the school year and talk about all the fun outdoor environmental activities they did over the summer. They form a Neighborhood Explorers Club, called the NX Club, and share information about planting gardens with native plants, backyard bird watching and urban wildlife. By exploring the tree house with the cursor, children can learn about endangered species, conservation heroes and threats to the natural world. Then children can take part in a jeopardy-style trivia game that tests what they've learned. The game includes other activities such as recording nature sightings, finding a missing praying mantis in the midst of an urban neighborhood and identifying birds in a variety of habitats. Children

can earn patches for completing the game and for documenting environmental projects and local wildlife in their communities, thus reinforcing the connection between the virtual and natural worlds.

Nature and the Environment

The Library of Congress now offers a collection of resources that support education on nature and the environment. The multimedia resources include interactive tools for students, presentations, exhibitions, Webcasts, news and classroom materials for teachers. For example, teachers and students can study man-made and natural disasters, the origins of the American conservation movement, view Landsat photographs, use maps to trace the growth and unique features of the National Parks, and learn about nature writers and visual artists. Resource: www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/themes/nature.

Riffle Fish

Riffle Fish is an evolving “webumentary,” or online documentary, about the plants, insects, mollusks, amphibians and fish that live in riffles, or areas of fast-moving water in streams with a rocky substrate. The site, developed and hosted by Ravenswood Media, provides interviews about the science of riffle ecology and the conservation efforts to preserve their biodiversity. Resource: www.rifflefish.com.



WATERSHED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Nonpoint Source and Stormwater Outreach: Achieving Results with Tight Budgets

In May 2009, people from around the country came together to share ideas and information at the Fifth National Conference for Nonpoint Source and Stormwater Outreach in Portland, Oregon. The theme of the 2009 conference was “Achieving Results with Tight Budgets.” The conference explored practical, current examples of successful outreach programs and projects through facilitated training sessions, workshops, presentations with interactive discussion, group exercises and networking events. The conference served local, regional, state and federal professionals tasked with educating various audiences on nonpoint source pollution, stormwater pollution, protecting watersheds and promoting sustainable behavior changes in challenging economic times. The conference took place in the midst of the deepest economic downturn since the Great Depression. Local and state travel freezes across the nation severely curtailed attendance. Despite this, the conference still drew attendees and presenters from 31 states, two countries and two U.S. territories. Most of the attendees represented state and local government agencies and organizations. Fortunately for those who could not attend, conference organizers have compiled a comprehensive proceedings document, along with copies of presenters’ PowerPoint presentations, and made them available online at www.epa.gov/nps/outreach2009. “Those who attended found the conference stimulating and are looking forward to creatively applying their experiences locally to improve and protect their environment.” The agenda included a day of pre-conference workshops on May 11, three days of presentations (May 12–14), and an optional tour of Portland’s low impact development sites on the final day (May 15). Conference highlights include a keynote address from noted social marketer and acclaimed author Nancy Lee, who spoke on “Social Marketing in Tough Times: Show Them the Pounds per Penny” and a luncheon presentation on Portland’s Project DX: “Animating Local, Private, Green Stormwater Action” (see News-Notes issue #86 for an article about Project DX). Conference sessions focused on the following topics:

- Promoting Green Development – with specific sessions on using community-based outreach, mass media, and municipal and other programs
- Creative Outreach Methods
- Using Research to Reach Our Audiences
- Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Partnering
- Reaching Our Audiences through University-Based Outreach Programs
- Pictures, Cartoons & Beyond
- Using Research to Pave the Way for Low Impact Development
- Research Perspectives into Greener Residential Yards
- Panel Discussion: Overcoming Barriers to Changing Landscape Behaviors
- 21st Century Challenges and Opportunities

Participants also enjoyed numerous workshops, including one explaining how the Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials (NEMO) program educates communities about stormwater; one featuring different types of technology available to communicate your messages—“Pixels and Mashups and Blogs, Oh My! Integrating New Technology into an Effective Nonpoint Source Outreach Program;” and one teaching how to transfer data to maps (D2M). EPA recently conducted a follow-up survey and found that conference participants overwhelmingly agreed that the knowledge they gained from the conference was extremely valuable and useful. In fact, many people have already begun to implement some of the new ideas in their communities. [For more information, contact Don Waye, USEPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Mail Code 4503T, Washington, DC 20460. Phone: 202-566-1170; E-mail: waye.don@epa.gov]

New Tools Available to Find Nonpoint Source Project Information

In keeping with the federal government’s goal of greater transparency, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is providing easier public access to information about Clean Water Act (CWA) section 319-funded nonpoint source (NPS) projects. Each year, EPA provides funding to support state NPS programs in the form of CWA section 319 grants. EPA tracks information about the projects funded under section 319 in its Grants Reporting and Tracking System (GRTS, often pronounced “grits”). GRTS pulls grant information from EPA’s centralized grants and financial databases and allows the grant recipients to enter detailed information about the individual projects funded under each grant. State grant recipients enter basic project information, including the start and end dates and amounts and sources of funding (including matching funds). Recipients can also describe the environmental results of their NPS implementation projects. Key environmental attributes include the type of NPS pollution being addressed, the best management practices (BMPs) being implemented, and any expected reductions in NPS pollution or other improvements to water quality achieved as a result of the project. While EPA has been collecting this information from state grantees for years, the data has been used primarily by EPA and state governments to help manage NPS programs, evaluate performance, report to the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, respond to Congressional inquiries, and so on. Now, EPA has added two new search tools to the GRTS Web site that allows watershed groups, researchers and the general public to view and learn

about current and previous state- and EPA-funded nonpoint source projects. The first new GRTS search tool is a criteria-based query. This method is best for finding CWA section 319 projects that meet certain conditions. For example, a user might search specifically for NPS projects that restore riparian areas in Washington, address agricultural pollution in Colorado, or control urban runoff in South Carolina. The second new search tool is the interactive map, which enables users to browse for or query project information by watershed. Users simply click on the Find feature, and then the Pan and Zoom buttons to navigate to the location of interest, and the CWA section 319 projects will appear, summarized by watershed. At a regional scale, projects are displayed by subbasins (8-digit hydrologic units), and at a local scale, by subwatersheds (12-digit hydrologic units). Both new tools return a list of projects with links to summary reports for each. The summary reports contain the following information:

- Project description, methods and objectives
- Start and end dates (actual or projected)
- Amounts and sources of funding (includes CWA section 319 and other federal, state or local funding)
- Project status (e.g., "on schedule," "completed," etc.)
- Type of project (e.g., BMP implementation, educational, water quality monitoring, etc.)
- NPS category of pollution (e.g., agriculture, urban stormwater, animal feeding operations)
- Watershed (8- or 12-digit hydrologic unit codes)
- TMDL status (e.g., "implementing a TMDL," "developing a TMDL," etc.)
- Best management practices
- Pollutant load reductions

GRTS includes information on more than 17,600 NPS projects across the United States. Check them out at www.epa.gov/nps/grts.

[For more information, contact Santina Wortman, USEPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Mail Code 4503T, Washington, DC 20460. Phone: 202-566-2537; E-mail: wortman.santina@epa.gov.]

Small Grants Can Yield Big Results

WREN was able to provide Opportunity Grants for both Source Water Education and for Watershed Education this year. See some examples of what can be done with \$300 or less:

[Swarthmore Rutledge School](#) set up a rain barrel display and developed a rain barrel brochure;

[Montgomery Co Conservation District](#) printed three great posters on sustainable stormwater practices;

[Monroe County Conservation District](#) bought beads for kids' water cycle water bracelets;

[Westmoreland County Cleanways](#) updated their display and linked stream cleanups to drinking water protection.

[EPA Region III and VISTA](#) developed a carnival wheel game with questions and facts about non-point source pollution.

Although WREN does not have funding for Opportunity Grants right now, we hope to have funding in the spring. Keep WREN in mind when you think of a small project you'd like to accomplish. Resource: http://wren.palwv.org/grants/grants_wren.html

Watershed Protection Grants

The League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Citizen Education Fund (LWVPA-CEF) funds a limited number of community based educational projects that protect and improve the community's watershed. The grant application forms and instructions will be posted here by the end of December, 2009. Applications will be due in early April, 2010. Projects must be completed between July 1, 2010 and June 30, 2011.

If you would like to have the application package mailed to you when it becomes available in December, please register here

<http://wren.palwv.org/grants/local.html>

Chesapeake Bay Trust Accepting Applications for Fisheries, Outreach, and Restoration Grant Programs - Dec 4

The Fisheries and Headwaters Grant Program is designed to promote the restoration of living resources of the Chesapeake Bay, its rivers, and its streams from the headwaters to the main stem of the bay. This year, requests may be made in two tracks - The Sportfish Restoration Track (Maryland only) and the Headwaters Track (entire Bay watershed). The Headwaters Track will fund various project types, including fish passage, dam removal, riparian restoration with an in-stream component, stream restoration, or other restoration projects that improve headwaters habitat for NOAA species of interest. Grant requests of up to \$75,000 each will be considered. The trust welcomes grant requests from 501(c)(3) private nonprofit organizations; faith-based organizations; community associations; service, youth, and civic groups; municipal, county, regional, state, and federal public agencies; soil/water conservation districts and resource conservation and development councils; forestry boards and tributary teams; and public and independent higher educational institutions. Applicants must apply online at www.cbtrustgrants.org. The online grant system will be available starting October 15, 2009. To use the system, applicants must first register. Applicants are strongly encouraged to register early and to apply several days prior to the deadline given potential for heavy internet traffic on the deadline date of December 4, 2009. Link: [Complete RFP](#)

Funding Available for Conservation Marketing - Dec 15

The Temper of Times Foundation, Inc. has announced availability of grants for marketing projects to increase awareness about wildland ecosystem conservation and restoration in the United States. Grant funds, ranging between \$5,000 and \$15,000, can be used toward the production of print, radio or television advertisements, advertising space or airtime, or the production or distribution of pamphlets, books, videos or press packets. Applications are only accepted from non-profit 501 (c) 3 organizations. The deadline for application is December 15, 2009. For more information on this opportunity, please visit <http://www.temperfund.org>.

EPA Accepting Applications for Environmental Education Grants - Dec 15

(PHILADELPHIA Nov. 20, 2009) - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's mid-Atlantic Regional Office is accepting applications from District of Columbia organizations seeking funding to help develop new or improve existing environmental education programs. EPA will take applications through Dec. 15, 2009. EPA's Environmental Education Grant Program allows the agency's regional offices to award grants up to \$50,000. Grants over \$50,000 and up to \$200,000 are awarded by EPA headquarters in Washington, D.C. Organizations seeking funding should submit proposals to: EPA Region 3, Attn: Kathleen Kirkland (3PA00), Office of Public Affairs, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19103. Proposals must be postmarked by Dec. 15, 2009. Proposals postmarked after the due date will not be considered. The grant solicitation notice announcing the grants program is available on the Web at www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html. For questions about applying

for the grants, contact Kathleen Kirkland, EPA Environmental Education Grants Coordinator, at: kirkland.kathleen@epa.gov , 215- 814-5176, or toll-free 1-800-352-1973. Environmental Education grants provide funding to local education agencies, state education or environmental agencies, colleges or universities, not-for-profit organizations, or noncommercial educational broadcasting entities. These projects should involve designing, demonstrating or developing education tools and materials. Projects should be environmental education activities that go beyond disseminating information. Learn more about environmental education at: <http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/>

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. <http://www.americanrivers.org/NOAAGrants>

Funding for Environmental Efforts Focused on Delaware and Susquehanna River Watersheds – Dec 18

The Cora L. Brooks Foundation will award grants for environmental conservation, restoration, or education within the watersheds of the Delaware and Susquehanna rivers in the eastern United States, with particular emphasis on environmental protection issues relating to clean water and water-related ecologies. The foundation provides support for a variety of projects, including stabilizing and restoring a wetland area, matching funds to government grants or challenge grants, providing incentive to attract a broader funding base, revitalizing public waters and land harmed by past industries, providing public access to conserved land, studying and bringing public awareness to environmental repair issues, and purchasing specific materials or equipment for environmental work. Applicants must be nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations. Grants will range in amounts from \$1,000 to \$15,000. To be considered for funding in 2010, organizations must request an application checklist in writing from the foundation by December 18, 2009. Proposals are due January 11, 2010.

Link: [Brooks Foundation](#)

PACD to Fund \$25,000 in MWEE Projects – Jan 4

A second 2009-10 Meaningful Watershed Education Experience (MWEE) Grant Round is now open. There is approximately \$25,000 available for this round. The deadline is January 4, 2010. Funding will be announced in early January and projects must be completed by June 2010. Grant funding is up to \$5,000 per project, though we anticipate funding most projects at around \$2,000. \$5,000 projects will involve multiple schools and/or large numbers of students and address priority areas. For this special round, priority will be given to projects that creatively address issues unique to agricultural/rural or urban conservation issues (i.e., Farm-to-School programs, farm field days and urban farms/csa's, urban access to local foods or other rural/urban conservation projects that connect the student to local watersheds through a focus in these topic areas) and include classroom work in the Career Education and Work; Economics; Family and Consumer Sciences; or Health, Safety and Physical Education Standards, in addition to the Environment and Ecology Standards. More projects will be funded beginning in July 2010. Link: [MWEE Grant Program](#) Contact: [Hannah Smith](#)

Funding Opportunity for Habitat Restoration Projects – Feb 11

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) is accepting applications for the Five-Star Restoration Matching Grants Program, which seeks to fund community-based wetland, riparian and coastal habitat restoration projects throughout the U.S. A collaborative partnership of the NFWF, the National Association of Counties, the Wildlife Habitat Council, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and corporate partners the Southern Company and Pacific Gas and Electric Company has made this opportunity possible. Accordingly, the partnership seeks applicants who work within a diverse collaboration of partners on their proposed projects as well. Grants range from \$10,000 to \$40,000 and are available for both non-profit organizations and government entities. The application deadline is February 11, 2010, but potential applicants are encouraged to attend an online webinar on December 10, 2009 for more information on the online application process and to ask questions. Click here to view additional information on NFWF's website

http://www.nfwf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Charter_Programs_List&Template=/TaggedPage/TaggedPageDisplay.cfm&TPLID=30&ContentID=14123



WATERSHED FACILITATION ASSISTANCE

Join us for "Recession-Proof Your Grantwriting" WEBINAR - Dec 2

Join us for "Recession-Proof Your Grantwriting" WEBINAR workshop on Wednesday, December 2, 2009, 3:00 p.m. Featuring Beverley Francis, President and CEO of The Columbia Foundation. This free one-hour webinar is for beginning and intermediate grant writers. As Funders have had to become more strategic in their funding decisions, grant seekers have had to become more creative and collaborative in their search for new dollars. Learn how to build new relationships with foundations and get the funding you need. This session is intended to answer your questions about resources in your own backyard. Registration is REQUIRED, first come, first served up to 150 people. Watch live and ask your questions in the chat room! But don't worry, we plan to tape and download to our website at a later date if you can't register for this one. Click on the link to register now! <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/a6mesham9od5>.

Annual meeting of the PA Campaign for Clean Water – Dec 3

The annual strategy meeting of the PA Campaign for Clean Water will be held on Thursday, December 3, 2008 from 10 am to 2:30 pm at Dickinson College in Carlisle PA. Please mark the date on your calendar and plan to attend! The meeting will include discussion of our current issues...stormwater, EV streams, wetlands, buffers and oil and gas...and we'll pick our priority issues for the coming year. We'll also be electing a new chair of the Campaign, so it's very important that you attend! In addition, we are planning a presentation on where we've been and where we're going around the Marcellus shale natural gas drilling issue. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact

me. I will be sending out more details, including the exact location at Dickinson, over the next few weeks, but be sure to mark the date on your calendars. It should prove to be a very educational meeting! Contact Anne Misak, Organizer, Campaign for Clean Water, www.pacleanwatercampaign.org ; 1315 Walnut St., Suite 1650, Philadelphia, PA 19107. Phone (215) 545-0250.

Save the Date! Dam Removal Workshop – Dec 3

1-day workshop, Dam Removal Project Manager training for watershed groups, local conservation organizations, land trusts, municipal environmental planners Where: PA Fish & Boat Commission Headquarters, Harrisburg Why: Learn how to successfully manage a dam removal project to restore rivers in your community! Cost: Free, space limited to 40 participants. Lunch provided. Reservations required sstrassman@amrivers.org or segedy@amrivers.org

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.

West Virginia University Environmental Research Center Forum – Dec 15

Canaan Valley Institute encourages you to attend a forum hosted by West Virginia University's Environmental Research Center (ERC) on Tuesday, December 15, from 3:00-5:00 pm. A short formal presentation about ERC goals and how you can become involved will start at 3:30 pm. This event is designed to stimulate formal and informal discussion concerning interdisciplinary research, teaching, and outreach opportunities in all aspects of environmental studies. Anyone interested in these topics is encouraged to attend. Location: Room 101AB of the NRCCE at West Virginia University, 385 Evansdale Drive, Morgantown, WV. Please RSVP by December 11 to Amanda White at amanda.white@mail.wvu.edu. For questions about the ERC please contact Jim Anderson, the director of the ERC, at jim.anderson@mail.wvu.edu, or call (304) 293-3825.

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 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!

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

Draft Strategy for Chesapeake Bay Open for Comment Expanded - Jan 8

Action and increased accountability by the federal government are the focus of a draft strategy for restoring and protecting the Chesapeake Bay required by President Obama's Executive Order. To accelerate efforts and track progress, federal agencies are committing to meet milestones every two years, leading to all activities needed to restore the Chesapeake Bay and watershed being in place no later than 2025. The draft strategy, released Monday, contains a comprehensive package of federal initiatives to restore clean water, conserve treasured places, protect fish and wildlife, and adapt to the impacts of climate change. These objectives will be accomplished by empowering local efforts, making decisions based on science and forging a new era of federal leadership and accountability. Close collaboration of efforts with the six states in the Chesapeake Bay watershed and the District of Columbia will also be critical. Public comment on the draft strategy is important to the federal agencies and will shape the final strategy. The formal public comment period is from November 9, 2009 to January 8, 2010. The draft strategy will evolve significantly through public comments, state consultations and agency revisions before the final strategy is published in May 2010. For more information go to <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/>

EPA's Total Maximum Daily Load Web Site Redesigned

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently revised its "Impaired Waters and Total Maximum Daily Loads" (TMDLs) Web site to better serve federal, state and local agencies and the general public. The new Web page, found at www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl, features an overview of the Clean Water Act (CWA) section 303(d) program activities, highlights new technical resources and provides easier access to program resources such as EPA's new Water Quality Assessment and TMDL Tracking and Implementation System (ATTAINS) Web site.

EPA revamped the Web site to make it easier for a variety of audiences to navigate and to distinguish between two key activities—the process of listing impaired waters under CWA section 303(d) and that of actually developing the TMDLs. New features of the site include:

- A “TMDL Stormwater Resources” page (www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl/stormwater), which describes several stormwater-source TMDLs developed by states. The site also highlights innovative approaches that states are using to address stormwater-related pollution problems and offers lists of TMDL- and stormwater-related contacts at EPA headquarters and EPA regions.
- A “Working with Partners” page (www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl/partners), which describes and offers links to TMDL stakeholder resources that are funded in part by EPA grants. Examples of resources offered include an audio version of EPA’s “The ABC’s of TMDLs for Stakeholders” Webcast, the Water Environment Federation’s “Third Party TMDL Development Toolkit,” Virginia Tech’s “TMDL Knowledgebase Clearinghouse” and other resources. This page also highlights ongoing interagency coordination efforts.
- A new CWA section 303(d) “Guidance” page (www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl/guidance.html), which offers guidance on the CWA section 303(d) program itself, provides instructions for assessing, listing and reporting waterbodies as required under CWA section 303(d), and outlines the processes for developing TMDLs.
- A “TMDL Program Results Analysis” page (www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl/results), which communicates information about TMDL program results to technically specialized audiences, including TMDL developers, state water programs, academia, other federal agency programs and EPA water quality staff. The TMDL Program Results Analysis Project is a multi-year effort directed at measuring and analyzing programmatic and environmental results of the program. This area of the Web site provides a CWA Impaired Waters Program Pipeline navigation feature, fact sheets, EPA reports, EPA grantee reports and publications, datasets and other Web sites related to this effort.

Stream Corridor Restoration Tools Now Available Online

Over the past decade, the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) developed technical information about how to restore stream corridors and presented it through the National Engineering Handbook (NEH) 653, “Stream Corridor Restoration” and NEH 654, “Stream Restoration Design” (see www.nrcs.usda.gov/Technical/ENG/stream-docs.html). Following release of these documents, a team of stream restoration experts from all of the NRCS’ technical centers were tasked with assembling and developing resources that will make stream restoration projects easier for people to implement. Although their efforts are still underway, a “one-stop” Web site for stream restoration is now available on the NRCS’ National Design, Construction and Soil Mechanics Web site at www.ndcsmc.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/Stream. Here, users can find NRCS policy and guidance documents; useful links; publications, photographs, and drawings of various practices and treatments; workshop information and spreadsheet tools.

Promising New Practice Reduces Turbidity Levels from Construction Sites

Fighting construction-related erosion and sedimentation problems? North Carolina State University (NCSU) researchers have found that natural fiber check dams (FCD) enhanced with polyacrylamide (PAM) remove significantly more sediment from runoff than do rock check dams—a commonly used sediment control practice—and for about the same cost or less. PAM, a synthetic organic polymer that causes sediment to clump together, is used by water treatment plants as a flocculant to remove suspended solids as part of the water purification process. PAM has also been widely used for years in irrigated agriculture to control erosion and manage infiltration. In recent years scientists have begun realizing PAM’s potential for wider applications. People frequently question McLaughlin and his team about whether PAM, a synthetic chemical, can be discharged safely into streams. McLaughlin notes that using PAM is safe when used at the typical BMP best dose range of one to three parts per million (ppm). To put this number into perspective, he explains that wastewater treatment plants are permitted to treat their finished water with 1 mg/L (equivalent to 1 ppm) of PAM prior to discharging the water the streams. Plus, “acute toxicity is very low,” he notes. “High doses—more than 400 ppm—are needed to kill typical organisms,” Chronic toxicity values (as derived from a seven-day chronic exposure test) are also one to two orders of magnitude higher than typical dosing, he adds. Since most storm flows occur in hours rather than days, chronic exposure to PAM is unlikely. McLaughlin believes that applying FCDs with PAM throughout the construction site is a good choice for developers. Although NCSU research has shown that using sediment basins with skimmers can reduce turbidity by as much as 99 percent over other types of sediment basins, the water that empties into local waterways often still has a turbidity of more than 1000 NTU. For a detailed look at how FCDs and PAM can be incorporated into a construction site near you, see SoilFacts: Fiber Check Dams and Polyacrylamide for Water Quality Improvement, a fact sheet developed by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension and available for download at www.soil.ncsu.edu/publications/Soilfacts/AG439-71W.pdf. The fact sheet offers detailed instructions and pictures describing how to install and maintain FCDs and how and where to add PAM. For more information, contact Dr. Rich McLaughlin, Professor and Extension Specialist, Department of Soil Science, Box 7619, 100 Derieux Street, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695. Phone: 919-515-7306; E-mail: rich_mclaughlin@ncsu.edu

Report Evaluates Decentralized Stormwater Controls

The Water Environmental Research Foundation (WERF) released “Decentralized Stormwater Controls for Urban Retrofit and Combined Sewer Overflow Reduction: Phase 2,” a research report that evaluates strategies for incorporating decentralized controls into an infrastructure management system. Case studies and design templates provide alternatives for adoption of decentralized controls. The research team, led by Neil Weinstein of the Low Impact Development Center, evaluates economic methods for assessing environmental costs and benefits and provides guidance for modeling decentralized controls with commonly used stormwater models. To view the report, visit www.werf.org, click on “Search Research Publications and Tools” on the top bar, and enter “O3SW3a” into the project number box.

Extreme BMP Makeover Report Available

In June 2009, the nonprofit Center for Watershed Protection released a technical report that outlines the results of a performance survey of nearly 200 stormwater best management practice (BMP) facilities in urban areas throughout Virginia’s James River watershed. The report, entitled “Stormwater BMPs in Virginia’s James River Basin: An Assessment of Field Conditions and Programs” (see www.cwp.org/Resource_Library/Center_Docs/SW/ExtremeBMP/extrmbmp_tech_rprt09.pdf) is part of the Center’s Extreme BMP Makeover project. At each BMP site, field teams looked for indicators of erosion, clogging and structural problems at the inlets and outlets; conditions directly downstream of the BMP; health of vegetative cover; signs of improper flow paths of water; maintenance issues; interesting design features and more. The Center’s technical report describes the survey results and provides numerous recommendations, including BMP design issues (geometry, pre-treatment mechanisms, soil media, etc.); BMP construction issues (grading, sizing of BMP, elevation issues, etc.); BMP maintenance issues (sediment deposition, vegetation health, etc.); and programmatic issues (plan review process, inspections of BMPs).

Residential Car Washing

Featured in the September 2009 issue of Stormwater, this article explores the challenges faced by local governments that are subject to National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater Phase II program regulations as they deal with the surprising amount of pollution introduced by residential car washing. By Dan Smith and Hollie Shilley (www.stormh2o.com/september-2009/residential-car-washing.aspx).

EPA's New Stormwater Road-Related MS4s Web Site

The EPA's NPDES Stormwater Program recently posted seven new Web pages focusing on stormwater runoff from roads. This new Web area is geared toward state, county and local transportation authorities that deal with transportation-specific stormwater issues. These pages include information on specific materials and practices that control stormwater; technical case studies; and links to NPDES stormwater transportation permits and Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) stormwater programs, stormwater-related news coverage, and funding and training opportunities. Resource: www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/roads.

New Tool Helps Estimate LID Implementation Costs

In partnership with EPA, the Water Environmental Research Foundation (WERF) has developed a new suite of cost tools to address vegetative roofs, rainwater catchment systems and bioretention facilities. These tools provide a framework to help estimate capital costs, operation and maintenance costs, and life-cycle net present value. The tools can serve as a format for cost reporting for past, current and future projects, and also provide users with planning-level cost estimates. These new tools complement an existing suite of whole life cost models for retention ponds, extended detention basins, swales, and permeable pavement developed under a previous WERF project. To access the complete set of tools and accompanying user's guide, visit www.werf.org/bmpcost. To view an archived EPA Webcast about the tool, go to www.epa.gov/npdes/training, scroll to the "Green Infrastructure" section on the bottom and click on "Site Planning and Design Considerations & WERF Cost Tool."

Sustainable Sites Initiative- the nation's first rating system for the design, construction and maintenance of sustainable landscapes

Washington, D.C., November 5, 2009 — the Sustainable Sites Initiative released the nation's first rating system for the design, construction and maintenance of sustainable landscapes, with or without buildings. A partnership of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center and the U.S. Botanic Garden, the Initiative's rating system represents four years of work by dozens of the country's leading sustainability experts, scientists and design professionals, as well as public input from hundreds of individuals and dozens of organizations to create this essential missing link in green design. The announcement took place at the U.S. Botanic Garden in Washington. For more information, visit www.sustainablesites.org.

EPA Document Analyzes Benefits of Using Green Roofs for Stormwater Control

EPA recently released a new document describing the results of a Pennsylvania project that evaluated green roofs as a stormwater management tool. Project results indicate that the green roofs are capable of removing 50 percent of the annual rainfall volume from a roof through retention and evapotranspiration. Rainfall not retained by green roofs is detained, slowing peak flows downstream. Green roof runoff contains concentrations of some nutrients and other substances, but levels are comparable to other planted systems. Due to the volume reduction, actual nutrient loadings from green roofs are less than loadings from asphalt roofing runoff. To read more, see "Green Roofs for Stormwater Runoff Control" (February 2009), available online at www.epa.gov/nrmrl/pubs/600r09026/600r09026.pdf.

Research Indicates that Pervious Pavement Works Well in Cold Climates

Research on a pervious pavement parking lot at the University of New Hampshire has shown that the pavement's performance remained steady year round. While researchers observed conditions conducive to frost penetration in the filter media during the winter, the pores remained open and drained year round. As a result, freezing and thawing did not limit infiltration. This ability to maintain drainage minimizes freeze-thaw, which contributes to the porous pavement's durability. In practice, the lifespan of these lots can exceed impervious asphalt lots, which tend to lose structural integrity in northern climates due to frost heaving. Additionally, researchers found that using porous pavement also reduced the need to apply sodium chloride for deicing in winter. Researchers observed that winter maintenance of porous asphalt requires between zero and 25 percent of the salt routinely applied to impervious asphalt to achieve equivalent, or better, deicing and traction. For more details, see the University of New Hampshire's Stormwater Center's 2007 Annual Report at http://ciceet.unh.edu/unh_stormwater_report_2007/treatments/porous_asphalt. The researchers developed a slide presentation detailing their findings; titled "Effects of Northern Climates on Stormwater Infiltration for Porous Pavements and Filtration Systems," it is available online at www.unh.edu/erg/cstev/Presentations/trb_09_roseen_cold_climate_filtration.pdf.

New Forest Service Approach Complements EPA's Healthy Watershed Initiative

In early 2009, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) launched a new Healthy Watersheds initiative to encourage local and state agencies to be proactive and place a stronger emphasis on protecting their remaining healthy watersheds as a way to save money and the environment. Like Secretary Vilsack, EPA recognizes the environmental and economic value of healthy, forested watersheds. A 2004 survey of 27 different water treatment utilities showed that protecting aquifer recharge zones and surface water sources reduces drinking water treatment costs. For every 10 percent increase in forest cover of the source area, the chemical and treatment costs decreased by 20 percent (see www.ci.slc.ut.us/Utilities/NewsEvents/pdf/Op0504_1.pdf). Further, forest cover loss was found to be the most important factor in degrading streams with low levels of loss being sufficient to substantially alter hydrological and biological stream conditions (see "Forest cover, impervious surface, and the mitigation of stormwater impacts," published in 2002 in the Journal of the American Water Resources Association and available online at http://faculty.washington.edu/dbooth/Booth_Hartley_Jackson_JAWRA.pdf). For more information on EPA's Healthy Watersheds initiative, see www.epa.gov/healthywatersheds. This Web site provides tools and information that states, local governments and others can use to identify and protect healthy watersheds.

USFS Opens Forest Landscape Restoration Website

Congress, under Title IV of Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, established the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration (CFLR) Program. The purpose of the CFLR Program is to encourage the collaborative, science-based ecosystem restoration of priority forest landscapes. The US Forest Service has now set up a website. Resource: <http://www.fs.fed.us/restoration/CFLR/index.shtml>

Pond and Wetland Management Guidebooks Online

EPA just released "Stormwater Wet Pond and Wetland Management Guidebook," a new resource targeted at local government agencies. This guide, available at www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/pondmgmtguide.pdf, provides the inspector, program manager, designer and owner with information about common stormwater pond and wetland maintenance problems and possible solutions. This guide will help communities develop an integrated stormwater management system which includes properly maintaining existing wet ponds and wetlands, exploring retrofit opportunities and implementing low impact development design principles. A series of Web-based tools supplement the guidebook and are available on the nonprofit Center for Watershed Protection's Stormwater Manager's Resource Center Web site (go to www.stormwatercenter.net, click on Program Resources, then STP Maintenance). A separate, but similar guidebook, "Maintaining Stormwater Systems: A Guidebook for Private Owners and Operators in Northern Virginia" (2007), is available online from the Northern Virginia Regional Commission at www.novaregion.org/DocumentView.aspx?DID=1675.

Bacteria in Recreational Waters—Literature Reviews

EPA is updating its recreational water quality criteria for pathogens and pathogen indicators—final criteria are expected in 2012. As a first step, EPA completed two literature reviews in 2009. The first document, "Review of Published Studies to Characterize Relative Risks from Different Sources of Fecal Contamination in Recreational Waters," describes the existing information available to characterize the relative risks of human illness from various sources of fecal contamination in recreational waters. The second document, "Review of Zoonotic Pathogens in Ambient Water," provides a summary of information on waterborne zoonotic pathogens that come primarily from warm-blooded animals. Both documents are available at www.epa.gov/waterscience/criteria/recreation.

Enhanced Aquatic Ecosystem Simulation Model Released by EPA

EPA's Office of Science and Technology just released an enhanced version of the aquatic ecosystem simulation model AQUATOX. This PC-based ecosystem model predicts the fate of nutrients and organic chemicals in water bodies, as well as their direct and indirect effects on the resident organisms. AQUATOX Release 3 contains many enhancements that increase the realism and utility of the model. For more information, see www.epa.gov/ost/models/aquatox.

Agricultural Census Information Now Available By Watershed

Analyzing agricultural trends in your watershed just got easier, thanks to a new effort by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). For the first time ever, NASS has published a document outlining the Census of Agriculture information at the watershed level (www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2007/Online_Highlights/Watersheds). The Census of Agriculture provides a complete count of the nation's farms and ranches and the people who operate them. It serves as the only source of uniform, comprehensive agricultural data for every state, county and major watershed in the nation. The watershed-based Census report includes agricultural data on approximately 75 items (crop types, fertilizer use, etc.). For instance, in the Allegheny River watershed, the Census shows that farmers applied insecticides on 98,834 of 1,711,914 total farmed acres in 2007—compared to 91,646 of 1,660,635 farmed acres in 2002.

National Water Program Guidance Available

In June 2009, EPA released the final fiscal year 2010 National Water Program Guidance (see www.epa.gov/water/waterplan/fy10.html). This guidance describes water program priorities and strategies, including the suite of water performance measures and their targets, for the period October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010.

PA Bulletin Online – www.pabulletin.com

- [Volume 39, Number 46](#) Saturday, November 12, 2009 Pages 6533-6644
- [Volume 39, Number 47](#) Saturday, November 21, 2009 Pages 6645-6712

Technical Guidance Open For Comment

As of Wednesday November 24, 2009. ID NUMBER DOCUMENT TITLE DRAFT DATE COMMENT BY CONTACT PHONE 362-4000-002

- PDF File Field Order Instruction Manual for Water Quality Operations 11/7/2009 12/7/2009 Robert Kachonik (717) 772-4018 [392-2130-005](#)
- PDF File Guidelines for the Development of Critical Area Resource Plans 11/7/2009 12/7/2009 Leslie Sarvis (717) 772-5634 [363-2134-008](#)
- PDF File Erosion and Sediment Control Best Management Practices (BMP) Manual 10/17/2009 12/15/2009 Dennis Stum (717) 772-5963 [394-5600-001](#)
- PDF File Riparian Forest Buffer Guidance 9/26/2009 11/24/2009 Diane Wilson (717) 787-3730

Proposals Currently Open For Comment

Date Published In PA Bulletin//Proposal Comment Deadline

- 8/29/2009 Erosion and Sediment Control and Stormwater Management (25 Pa Code, Chapter 102)
- 11/30/2009//10/17/2009 Air Quality Fee Schedules (25 Pa Code, Chapters 121, 127 and 139)
- 12/21/2009//10/17/2009 Flat Wood Paneling Surface Coating Processes (25 Pa Code, Chapters 121 and 129)
- 12/21/2009//10/17/2009 Outdoor Wood-Fired Boilers (25 Pa Code, Chapters 121 and 123)