



WAY E-NEWS

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

Volume 8, Issue 4
February 11, 2008

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK – "The road to American prosperity goes through metropolitan America."
-- Brookings Institute's Vice President, Metropolitan Policy Program Director Bruce Katz and Policy Analyst David Jackson**

WATERSHED CONTACTS

COUNTY PLANNING – (717) 771-9870

ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCIES – (800) 541-4741

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

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION – (877) 333-1904

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

FISHERIES PROTECTION – (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 – Burning household garbage
- Dumping waste in surface waters*
- Floodplain disturbance
- Municipal and residential septic/sewage problems
- Stormwater management

NOXIOUS PLANTS – (717) 772-5209

RECYCLING – (717) 845-1066

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION (717) 840-7430

- Agricultural operations
- Erosion & sediment control
- Stormwater complaints
- Watershed protection

WETLANDS PROTECTION – (717) 249-2522

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

WATERSHED ALLIANCE NEWS – Page 2

WATERSHED EDUCATION & OUTREACH – Page 5

- SAVE THE DATE - Important Workshop in April
- WORKSHOP OFFERED TO TRAIN PRIVATE WELL OWNERS – Mar 15
- Write On Wetlands Challenge! – Apr 1
- Power of Wetlands (POW) Training Opportunity – Apr 23
- 2008 River Rally – May 2-5
- NEW – Maryland's BayStat Website and Newsletter
- Water Efficiency to be Featured in EPA Green Scene and Ask EPA
- EPA Releases Multi-Cultural Environmental Outreach Materials
- February 2008 PCEE Newsletter Available Online!
- February Forestry Notes Online

WATERSHED FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES – Page 6

- Summary of Gov. Rendell's Proposed Budget for 2008
- PennVEST Infrastructure Loans/Grants – Feb19
- American Rivers & NOAA Community-Based Restoration Program River Grants – Apr 1
- PA Water Resources Education Project Grants – Apr 2
- PA Community Conservation Partnerships Program Grants – Apr 25
- "Thinking Outside the Funding Box"
- Find the Financing you need to Improve Environmental Infrastructure

WATERSHED PLANNING & POLICY – Page 8

- Bay Improvement Legislation Introduced
- Researchers Develop Models to Assess Wetland Health
- Sediment Prediction Tools Off The Mark
- Smart Watershed Benchmarking Tool now available as workbook and CD

WATERSHED RESTORATION & PROTECTION – Page 9

- CONSERVATION TILLAGE, NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLANNING, TOP FARMERS' BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
- Toward A Cleaner, More Effective Method For Destroying Hormone-like Pollutants In Wastewater
- Complying With Pennsylvania's Current NPDES Stormwater Requirements
- EPA's Electronic Notice of Intent (eNOI) System Updated and Improved
- Draft Technical Guidance Documents Available
- Final Technical Guidance Documents Available
- PA Bulletin

WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP – Page 10

- "Got Cabin Fever"? Stream Cleanup – Feb 16
- Vote Environment 2008!
- Susquehanna Sustainable Business Network
- Shovel Your Way to a Healthier Bay
- Job Announcement: Chesapeake Bay Funders Network (CBFN) Program Officer

WATERSHED ALLIANCE NEWS

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

<> Jinnie Woodward, Assistant Director, woodwarj@dickinson.edu or 717.245.1021. ALLARM Phone: 717.245.1135 fax: 717.245.1971

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

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

Codorus Creek Improvement Partnership – www.codoruscreek.com

• Feb 28 – Next meeting, 7:00 PM, at 324 W. Market St., York, PA.

<> Contact: Karen Noll, President, 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

• Apr. 14 – CCWA Board of Directors meeting 7:00 PM at York Water Company (Mt. Rose Ave.)

• HELP-Buffers Program accepting applications for 2008 projects

<> Contact: Jim Leaman at 843-2929.

Codorus Implementation Committee

<> Contact: Genevieve Ray, Coordinator, 848-3320 or creekstudy@aol.com

Conewago Canoe Club – www.conewagocanooclub.org

• Mar. 6 – Next meeting of club, 7:00 pm, at Mount Zion United Church of Christ at Ridgewood Road in Pleasureville.

• Check web site for pool schedule and other activities

Deer Creek Watershed Association – ldmcdaniel@aol.com

• Deer Creek Watershed Restoration Action Strategy FINAL – www.harfordcountymd.gov/PlanningZoning/WRAS.

<> Contact Pat Pudelkewicz, Harford County Department of Planning & Zoning, Bel Air, MD. Ph: (410) 638-3135.

Friends of Codorus State Park – www.friendsofcodorus.org

<> Contact Codorus State Park, 2600 Smith Station Road, Hanover, PA 17331. (717) 637-2816. Warren Werntz, Manager

Friends of Loch Raven Reservoir – FriendsLochRaven@aol.com

<> Contact: Nate Thompson 410-667-9825 (home) or natect@gmail.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.gunpowdervalley.org/

<> Resource: http://www.gunpowderfalls.org/2006/08/sept_16th_join_.html

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

• Feb. 12 – Board meeting, 7:00 pm, at Clubhouse

• Feb. 20 – Club meeting 7:00 pm, at Clubhouse

<> Contact Lee Irwin 428-9368

Izaak Walton League Pinchot Chapter

• Meets second Tuesday of each month at Clubhouse

<> Contact: Colin L. Wolfe crccwolfe@aol.com

Lancaster-York Heritage Region – www.lyhr.org

<> Contact Mark Platts, Lancaster-York Heritage Region, 1706 Long Level Road, Wrightsville, PA 17368. Office: 717-252-0229. E-mail:

info@lyhr.org.

Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper – www.LowerSusquehannaRiverkeeper.org

We're off to another great start this year. I've got news on Conowingo and on the Incinerator Ash issue but let me start with some volunteer opportunities.

• Our first activity of the year is coming up on February 16th. We will be doing a stream cleanup (weather permitting) with the Watershed Alliance of York on Kreutz Creek in York County from 10 am to 2 pm. Please email for more directions. Let us know if you would like to set up a cleanup for your area. Also supported by the Watershed Alliance of York is the WAY Winter Break Wine and Cheese Party at Moondancer Winery, just south of Wrightsville, on February 24th from 1 to 4. As an organizational member of WAY all of our members and volunteers are invited! Please RSVP to me.

• We are looking for folks who are interested in construction site and stormwater enforcement for a training session at the Maryland School of Law in Baltimore on February 29th, 9 to 5 pm. If you would like to help with our pollution patrols to reduce land erosion please contact us soon so we can reserve you a seat.

• In the news, PA Governor Rendell has agreed to fund the first of the studies needed to move toward a solution to the sediment build-up at the Conowingo and other Lower Susquehanna hydroelectric dams. I've talked to some other folks out there and it sounds like we are

getting direct credit for getting some momentum behind this issue. I thank you all for your support, particularly those that signed on as supporters of this effort. We still need folks to sign on, so please check out the letter at our website. We also had a great Op-Ed piece in the Harrisburg Patriot to alert our citizens and lawmakers to the need for action on what some have called the biggest single threat to the Chesapeake.

- I attended the party for Franklin and Marshall's Professors Merritts and Walter and the publication of their work on legacy sediments in Science Magazine. This work that explains why our streams have so much sediment buildup and erosion, also gives support to our concerns that reducing erosion from land runoff will likely not be enough to stop the buildup and overflow of sediment at Conowingo dam. Their work shows that nearly 40 million tons of sediment (and the accompanying phosphorus) is stored along the banks of just the Conestoga River. At least some of this sediment, possibly up to 50%, is ripe for erosion into the Susquehanna and Chesapeake. Multiply this throughout the Lower Susquehanna and we have decades and decades of work ahead of us. We need to take a new look at the costs of sediment removal at the dams, so again, please read the letter on our site and see if you or your group can sign on.
- American Ash Recycling received a permit to process ash, but they can no longer spread it around Pennsylvania!!! We have effectively kept 2 million tons of toxin-laden incinerator ash from entering our environment! Thanks to everyone that helped in this effort.
- Our financial work for 2007 is about complete, so if you have not received a receipt for your donation, please let us know. On that note, its time for some of us to renew our memberships, and perhaps get a few friends to join as well. Once again, the Keith Campbell Foundation for the Environment is providing a match to all donations up to \$40,000!!! But being a challenge grant, we need to raise that \$40,000 to get the match. So please give what you can, and know that ALL donations will be DOUBLED!!!
- We've been very busy and haven't had a chance to update the website much, but this is the project for next week, so check out the updated site next week. For now I'll give you a list of some of the events that we'll be at that are coming up. Please contact us for more details on any event.
 - 2/5 Penn State York 4:30 - Studying River Restoration with Dr. Bill Eaton
 - 2/18 Annapolis, MD 12pm - River Lobby Day
 - 2/20 Shrewsbury, PA 7 pm- Public Sludge education event
 - 2/21 York, PA 6 pm- Martin Library Environmental Forum
 - 2/28 Columbia, PA 11:30 am- Rivertownes Plan unveiling
 - 2/29 Baltimore 9 to 5- Maryland School of Law Stormwater and Construction Enforcement Training
 - 3/1 Donegal, PA 4 pm - Donegal Sportsman's Show

<> 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 - www.dnr.state.md.us/bay/tribstrat/index.html

- BayStat Website - www.baystat.maryland.gov
 - The Statewide Tributary Strategy Implementation is now available on our web site. The corrections made were in the Point Source Section. Some of the columns had been omitted in the in the ENR schedule and the numbers had not been updated in the version that was posted earlier. Please use this version in any of your discussions. Thank you for your patience while we made these corrections. A special thanks goes to Brent McCloskey at DNR who worked through the edits to make sure this posting would be correct. The web site for the document is: www.dnr.state.md.us/bay/tribstrat/.
- <> Contact: Patty Larson, Tributary Strategies Program Coordinator, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, 580 Taylor Ave E-2, Annapolis, MD 21401. Phone: 410-260-8723.

Mid-Atlantic Ecological Landscapes Partnership [MAEscapes] - <http://york.extension.psu.edu/Horticulture/events.html>

- Mar 29 - MAEscapes Through the Season's 'Spring' workshop. To register contact Penn State Cooperative Extension below.
 - Mar 29 - Grand Opening of "The Gardener of the owl Valley! Native plants, trees and shrubs, garden books, gifts, tools, and more. Located at 765 Owl Valley Rd., near Hall am. Open weekends 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. For more information, contact Judy at 717-751-0195.
- <> Contact: 717-840-7408 or Connie Schmotzer at cxs51@psu.edu

Prettyboy Watershed Alliance - www.prettyboywatershed.org

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

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

- Check our calendar of events link to our Website at for more information or call us toll free at 877-554-5080. All programs require advance registration and payment. "Member" rates are offered to our Adventure Club participants (\$25/year/household dues give a 10% in-shop discount, 5% additional discount on sale items, and "Member" rates on all programs).

Spoutwood Farm CSA - www.spoutwood.com

- Calling all volunteers! - We want to build next year's 2008 Mother Earth Harvest Fair soon. One of the first things to do is rally the troops. In order to do that we need to know who the troops are. So we're selecting some troops and want to give others the ability to self-select. If you would like on the committee (notification of meetings and new developments, untold benefits, etc.), please respond.
- <> Contact: www.spoutwood.com or contact: Rob Wood, 717-235-6610, Spoutwood@supernet.com

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

<> Kim Anderson at sgfornyc@aol.com.

Susquehanna River Basin Commission - www.srbc.net

Trout Unlimited Codorus Chapter #558 - www.codorustu.org

- Feb 13 - Chapter meeting, 7:00 pm, Gander Mtn., York
- <> Contact: Tom Finenze at 840-1372 or tom@codorustu.org

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

- Feb 13. – General Meeting 7:00pm at the Collinsville F&G Club.
- <> Contact: Ron Heuston, President MCTU, 244-1851 or Heuy1955@aol.com

Watershed Alliance of Adams County - www.adamswatersheds.org/pages/5/index.htm

- Feb. 13 – Members meet, 4:30 pm. at the Adams County Ag Center, Gettysburg
- <> Contact: Michelle Kirk 717-677-4628 or email at: mkirk@adamswatersheds.org

Watershed Alliance of York - www.watershedsyork.org

- DONATE – GoodSearch.com is a new search engine that donates half its revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. You use it just as you would any search engine, and it's powered by Yahoo!, so you get great results. Just go to www.goodsearch.com and be sure to enter WAY as the charity you want to support. WAY earned \$10.32 in 2007, let's make it \$1,032 in 2008!
- Apr. 2 – Next Board Meeting, 7:00 PM, at CCIP (324 W. Market St., York, PA).
- WAY E-News is published by the Watershed Alliance of York, Inc. to inform the public about news and information that affect York County watersheds and beyond. PLEASE SHARE WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND E-MAIL LIST. Contributions of news, events and information relating to watershed education, funding, planning, restoration, protection, and stewardship welcome. Send contribution to and contact us for mailing list additions/changes to the e-mail address below. Distribution: electronic (1,000+). Frequency: bi-weekly. Subscription: No charge. Editor: Gary R. Peacock.
- <> 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

- Next Meeting: YBWA meetings listed on web site.
- <> Contact Bob Edwards, Secretary, at redwa218@comcast.net or (717) 761-2756

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

- Check out our new web site!
- Monday, March 10, 2008 –7:00 P.M. – Monthly Meeting. "Dream Gardens: Destination New Zealand." Carol Warner, owner of Draycott Gardens, offers an overview of a recent trip to the North and South Islands of New Zealand. Her slides include gardens, scenic attractions, and even a few birds! Meeting at Luther Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church
- <> Contact 717-428-3673; liriiodendron@netzero.net

York County - www.york-county.org

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

York County Agriculture Land Preserve - www.york-county.gov

- <> 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

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

York County Conservation Alliance - NEW

York County conservation barometer based on input from attendees at the Jan. 29 meeting:

- Vision for the Alliance
 - Providing a vehicle for communication
 - Develop political clout to influence decisions
 - Galvanizing the community to become aware of conservation issues of preserving York County
 - Directory of organization
- Concerns not being addressed
 - Connect with kids re: conservation issues
 - Process to identify working partners on like issues
 - Local ordinances and the ramifications
 - Making a living off the land - need "farmer preservation"
 - Regulation of commercial developers in the county
 - Air quality
 - Lack of money for conservation, etc.
- Common Concerns
 - Marketing the concept
 - Communication between YCCA group members and the public
 - Stream health and improvement
 - Making a living off the land possible
 - Intelligent land use by finding common ground.
- How can the Alliance work
 - Communication-networking-data base-advocacy
 - Putting working partners together- networking
 - List Serve/ Links/ provide info to the public

- o Facilitation vehicle- clearinghouse for info
- <> Contact: Jane Heller at hssmdpets@aol.com or 717-845-3797, - please contact us with email addresses if you are not already listed With the steering committee. Or mail to YCCA - 543 Dupont Ave, York, Pa. 17403

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

- Annual Tree Sale – Beginning in January 2008 our annual tree seedling sale information, pricing and order forms will be posted on our web site.
 - Feb 13 – Lower Susquehanna River & Mason-Dixon Tributaries Rivers Conservation Plan public information meeting, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm, at the York County ANNEX (room #1)
 - Mar 14 – Next meeting of District Board, 11:30 am, at ANNEX
- <> 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](http://www.ycpc.org) – www.ycpc.org

- New York County GIS website is up and running, URL: www.yorkgis.org
 - Mar 5 – Next Meeting of Planning Commission, 7:30 pm, York County Administrative Center, City of York, PA
- <> Contact: 717-771-9870 or e-mail planner@ycpc.org

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

<> 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.

[York County Environment Corps](http://www.watershedalliance.org) – www.watershedalliance.org

We are now operating as part of WAY and have signed an agreement with them. Our equipment has been moved to 324 W Market St, York (the CCIP and Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper office). I have the disk containing our data for the past 10 years and gave a copy to Gary Peacock at the York Co Conservation Dist, and have to learn how to use the program to enter new data. We have also changed the name to "York Co. Environmental Corp", and can operate as an independent "Civilian Volunteer Monitoring Program". Pa DEP is trying to get funds to maintain the data base, but in the meantime we will be responsible to maintain our own data.

<> Contact: Barry Stump. Ph: 244-2089.



WATERSHED EDUCATION & OUTREACH

SAVE THE DATE - Important Workshop in April

Protecting Our Headwater Streams and Wetlands – What You Can Do. Saturday, April 19, 2008, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm, Cedar Crest College, Allentown, PA 18104. Organized by the PA Chapter, Sierra Club. More information coming soon. Direct questions to: barbarabenson@bensonsails.com

WORKSHOP OFFERED TO TRAIN PRIVATE WELL OWNERS – Mar 15

Residents of Adams, York, and surrounding counties will be offered an opportunity to attend a free training workshop on how to properly manage their home's private water system (wells, springs, or cisterns). Residents who rely on private water systems as their home drinking water supply may be at risk of drinking contaminated water. In Pennsylvania, public drinking water supplies are the only water supplies that are tested and protected against contamination. Private water systems are unregulated, so landowners need to take the proper measures themselves to ensure that their drinking water is safe for consumption. This workshop is offered as part of the "Master Well Owner Network", a program intended to teach volunteers from across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania about proper management of their own private water system. In return, the volunteers must go out into their local community to educate others about the importance of proper management of private drinking water supplies. "During the training, we'll cover proper well location, construction, and maintenance, land-use activities associated with individual pollutants, drinking water standards, water testing, and water treatment," says Stephanie Clemens, coordinator of the Master Well Owner Network. All volunteers will receive a handbook of educational materials, a certificate for completion of the training workshop, access to Penn State Water Experts, and an invitation to the Pennsylvania Groundwater Association summer conference. Resource professionals such as Penn State Cooperative Extension, the Pennsylvania Ground Water Association, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, and the United States Environmental Protection Agency will offer this training as part of National Ground Water Awareness Week on Saturday, March 15, 2008 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Adams County Agricultural and Natural Resources Center in Gettysburg, PA. To become part of this network or for more information, please contact Stephanie Clemens at 814-865-2250 or by email at mwon@psu.edu. More details and an application can be found on the Master Well Owner Network website below. Applications need to be received by Friday, February 22, 2008 to participate in the workshop.

<> Resource: <http://mwon.cas.psu.edu>.

Write On Wetlands Challenge! – Apr 1

May is Wetlands Month! The challenge consists of two parts, Writing and Illustrating. Part one is the writing competition. Open to all students in Grades 7-9. Once the winning manuscript is chosen, a call for artists will be made inviting students in Grades K-6 to illustrate the story's words. For Full Contest Information, Past Winners, and How to Participate available on web site below. Entries due by April 1, 2008.

- Part I: The Writer's Challenge – Grades 7 – 9. Write a Story using the theme, proof read your story for spelling, grammar and factual errors, and submit your Story
- Part II: The Illustrator's Challenge – Grades K – 6. Choose a page of text from the winning manuscript, get creative! And submit your Illustration.

<> Resource: http://www.wetland.org/education_writeon.htm

Power of Wetlands (POW) Training Opportunity – Apr 23

Check out this exciting professional development opportunity with the Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery and Environmental Concern! Turn your schoolyard into a living, breathing wetlands! The POW! curriculum takes you through the process of building a schoolyard wetland from start to finish using 25 student activities. Join us April 23rd from 9-4 at the hatchery in Jamestown. Register by March 23rd to receive a \$5 early-bird discount off of the \$50 registration fee. For more information and to register visit our web site below, call 410-745-9620 or e-mail teachwetlands@wetland.org. Hope to see you there!

<> Resource: www.wetland.org

2008 River Rally – May 2-5

It's that time of year again - time to begin planning your attendance at River Rally 2008. This year, we're heading to the Great Lakes, to Huron, Ohio on - obviously - Lake Erie. Be sure to join River Network and over 500 of our friends at Sawmill Creek Resort for multiple days of education, inspiration and celebration. Dates of Note: Feb. 1: Registration Opens; Feb. 8: River Hero Nominations are Due; March 13: Scholarships Applications are Due.

<> Resource: <http://www.rivernetwork.org/rn/rally/>

NEW – Maryland's BayStat Website and Newsletter

The State of Maryland implements many bay-related programs. Initially, BayStat will tackle the 39 programs identified in the Tributary Strategies designed to meet our nutrient and sediment reduction goals. These include a wide variety of agricultural best management practices, improvements to point sources (such as upgrades to waste water treatment plants), runoff from urban lands, and added protections to our streams and shorelines. The goal is to address all these issues by June 2008. To subscribe to free e-newsletter, go to web site below.

<> Resource: <http://www.baystat.maryland.gov/>

Water Efficiency to be Featured in EPA Green Scene and Ask EPA

Water efficiency is the focus of an EPA "Green Scene" video and an "Ask EPA" session featured on EPA's homepage. The Green Scene will appear on the homepage and Benjamin H. Grumbles, Assistant Administrator for Water, will discuss water efficiency online during an "Ask EPA" Q&A session. Questions can be submitted beginning tomorrow and answers to selected questions will be posted online during the chat. For more information visit the EPA homepage below:

<> Resource: <http://www.epa.gov> .

EPA Releases Multi-Cultural Environmental Outreach Materials

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency this week released two publications specifically designed to increase environmental awareness among multilingual communities.

- "[Teach English. Teach about the Environment](#)" is a curriculum designed to help teach adult students English, while introducing basic concepts about the environment and individual environmental responsibility. The concepts introduced in the curriculum can help immigrants understand their role in contributing towards cleaner and healthier communities by reducing, reusing and recycling.

<> Resource: <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/education/teachers.htm>

- The second publication, "[Working Together for a Healthy Environment](#) – A Guide for Multi-Cultural Community Groups," is designed to help community-based organizations plan and execute community events that promote reducing, reusing and recycling. It has a brief introductory paragraph on the inside cover in Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese and Korean.

<> Resource: <http://www.epa.gov/osw/community.htm>

February 2008 Pennsylvania Center for Environmental Education (PCEE) Newsletter Available Online!

<> Resource: http://www.pcee.org/Newsletter/EE_Connections_0802_PCEE_News.pdf

February Forestry Notes Online

The February 2008 edition of Forestry Notes is now available for viewing online at web site below. This month's issue highlights the winner of the National Wild Turkey Federation Partner of the Year Award; a collaborative effort in Indiana that is exploring new ways to improve the management and sustainability of hardwood trees in the Central Hardwood Region; and more!

<> Resource: <http://nacdnet.org/news/publications/forestrynotes/>



WATERSHED FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Summary of Gov. Rendell's Proposed Budget for 2008

Looking at individual budget requests for environmental agencies shows mixed budget results, but funds are still being diverted from watershed cleanup and abandoned mine reclamation projects to pay \$29.2 million in debt service for Growing Greener II bonds. Watershed and mine reclamation groups are also concerned that federal Abandoned Mine Reclamation monies they fought so hard for in the U.S. Congress at the end of 2006 will not be shared with local watershed groups to do mine reclamation work. Here's a quick summary of several key state environmental agencies.

- Department of Environmental Protection – The proposed [Rebuild PA initiative](#) for dam and flood prevention projects would bring \$2.7 million in new funds to DEP and an increase of nine in the agency's complement. Overall there was a slight increase in DEP's budget to \$694.5 million for 2008-09, it was \$692.4 in 2007-08 and \$728.2 million in 2002-03.
 - Increases in the budget—
 - \$3,800,000 Environmental Stewardship Watershed Grants*
 - \$3,000,000 Flood Control Projects

- \$1,000,000 Recycling Fund Expenditures *this is slightly higher because funds were not proposed to be diverted to finance the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Program like they were other years, but \$29.2 million is being diverted from the Environmental Stewardship Fund to pay debt service on Growing Greener II bonds.
 - Decreases in the budget include—
 - \$500,000 County Conservation Districts
 - \$874,000 Nutrient Management Fund
 - \$500,000 Susquehanna River Basin Commission
 - \$400,000 Delaware River Basin Commission
 - \$750,000 Black Fly Spraying (without a loss of service DEP said)
 - Department of Conservation and Natural Resources – The overall budget of DCNR increased to \$417.4 million for 2008-09 from \$405 million in 2007-08 and was \$322.9 million in 2002-03.
 - Increases include—
 - \$2,800,000 Community Conservation Grants Program
 - \$2,400,000 Rebuilding PA floodplain mapping initiative
 - \$2,017,000 State Forest Operations
 - \$2,066,000 Keystone, Recreation, Parks and Conservation Fund
 - \$1,723,000 Grants for Local Recreation
 - \$ 689,000 Grants for Land Trusts
 - Department of Agriculture – The overall budget decreased to \$263.2 million in 2008-09 from \$284.3 million in 2007-08 and it was \$274.3 million in 2002-03.
 - Decreases include—
 - \$500,000 County Conservation Districts
 - \$500,000 Nutrient Management Fund
 - Fish & Boat Commission – The overall budget increased to \$64.5 million in 2008-09 from \$62.6 million in 2007-08.
 - Game Commission – The overall budget increased to \$89.2 million in 2008-09 from \$87.8 million in 2007-08.

PennVEST Infrastructure Loans/Grants – Feb 19

The Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority published revised cutoff dates for submitting applications for water, wastewater, stormwater and other project funding: Deadline February 19 for the April 15 board meeting. May 20 for the next board meeting (TBA)

<> Resource: <http://www.pennvest.state.pa.us/pennvest/cwp/browse.asp?A=4>

American Rivers & NOAA Community-Based Restoration Program River Grants – Apr 1

For fiscal year 2008, NOAA has awarded American Rivers \$800,000 to distribute through the Community-Based Restoration grants program. Stream barrier removal projects in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Northwest and California are eligible to apply. This funding is provided through the NOAA Open Rivers Initiative, which seeks to enable environmental and economic renewal in local communities through the removal of stream barriers and realized benefits to diadromous fish species. Grants are provided for three distinct project phases: Feasibility Analysis, Engineering Design, and Construction. Average grants will be \$25,000 - \$50,000. Successful applicants for one project phase will not be eligible to receive additional funding for that same project phase in future grant rounds. The next proposal deadline is early April 2008.

<> Resource: http://www.americanrivers.org/site/PageServer?pagename=AMR_content_63c9&JServSessionIdr009=jn1vg0e142.app6b

PA Water Resources Education Project Grants – Apr 2

The League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Water Resources Education Network is now inviting applications for Water Resources Education (WREN) Project Grants of up to \$5,000 per project. Applications are due April 2. Educational projects that raise awareness about protecting the community's drinking water sources and/or preventing nonpoint source pollution in the watershed are eligible.

<> Resource: <http://wren.palvv.org/grants/local.html>

PA Community Conservation Partnerships Program Grants – Apr 25

The PA DCNR has \$50 million in grants available to Pennsylvania communities and non-profit organizations to help fund community recreation, open space, land trust, rails-to-trails, rivers, and conservation projects under the Community Conservation Partnerships Program. Applications are due April 25. DCNR is also sponsoring a series of grant writing workshops in February.

<> Resource: <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/brc/grants/>

"Thinking Outside the Funding Box"

Panel Discussion Materials Available on PACD Website.

<> Resource: www.pacd.org/events/winter08/presentations.htm

Find the Financing you need to Improve Environmental Infrastructure

In the next 20 years, cities, counties and tribes will need to spend billions of dollars to improve capital assets to remain in compliance with federal environmental laws. EPA's Office of Compliance has created the Financing for Environmental Compliance web site to provide a step-by-step financial planning process that can help communities determine capital asset technical and financial needs and find specific air, waste and water resources to meet their compliance goals. The web site contains EPA and non-EPA media-specific financial and technical resources. It also provides specific resources for small communities and tribes seeking to fund major capital infrastructure projects. The web site will continue to change based on user feedback. The web site is located at link below.

<> Resource: <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/assistance/financing/index.html>.



WATERSHED PLANNING & POLICY

Bay Improvement Legislation Introduced

Rep. Scott Perry (R-Cumberland, York) announced the introduction of legislation intended to help increase the environmental quality of the Chesapeake Bay without placing an unfair burden on local governments or taxpayers. The proposed legislation, known as the Chesapeake Bay Strategy Improvement Act, addresses several key issues including:

- Appropriation up to \$300 million over 10 years to help local governments fund needed plant upgrades to reduce nutrient discharges.
- Appropriation up to \$50 million over 10 years to help fund agricultural BMPs to reduce nutrient and sediment runoff.
- Afford wastewater treatment facilities access to low-interest loan financing to assist in meeting local matching funds requirements.
- Create the Pennsylvania Chesapeake Bay Nutrient Trading Board. The board will consist of stakeholders in the nutrient trading process. Overall mission will be to provide independent oversight and management to a reliable and viable nutrient trading process.
- Authorize changes to municipal bidding requirements to facilitate the acquisition of nutrient credits by wastewater treatment facilities.
- Require an economic impact study of overall costs and benefits of the Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategy.
- Authorize a more appropriate and realistic phase-in schedule for wastewater treatment plan compliance.
- Require that nutrient and sediment reduction, storm water control and other water quality requirements be encompassed in legislation subject to review and approval by the General Assembly.

Researchers Develop Models to Assess Wetland Health

Smithsonian scientists recently reported a promising method of wetland assessment that will help environmental managers quickly take stock of wetlands across an entire watershed. In three papers published in the September 2007 issue of the journal *Wetlands*, Dennis Whigham, Donald Weller, and Thomas Jordan of the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) and their colleagues present the results of a large-scale study that combines field studies and remote-sensing data to assess the ecological functioning of wetlands in a landscape. For this study, the researchers focused on non-tidal wetlands in the Nanticoke River watershed of Maryland and Delaware. The researchers based their study on the Hydrogeomorphic (HGM) approach. The HGM Approach is a wetland assessment procedure that first classifies wetlands based on their hydrogeomorphic characteristics (i.e., landscape setting, water source, hydrodynamics); second, it uses reference wetlands to establish the range of functioning of the wetland; and third, it uses a relative index of function, calibrated to reference wetlands, to assess wetland functions. This increases the resolution, allows for replicability, and reduces the amount of time needed to conduct the assessment.

<> Resource: http://www.serc.si.edu/for_media/releases_2007/2007_wetlands.jsp

Sediment Prediction Tools Off The Mark

A recent study led by Smithsonian ecologist Kathy Boomer suggests it is time for a change in at least one area of watershed management. Boomer has been examining the tools scientists and managers use to predict how much sediment runs into the Chesapeake Bay, and by her account, they are way off the mark. Sediment running into the bay reduces light, suffocates underwater organisms and is a significant source of phosphorous, a nutrient that essentially fertilizes the water promoting algal blooms and many other problems in the bay. The study, co-authored by SERC ecological modeler Donald Weller and ecologist Thomas Jordan, appears in the January/February issue of the *Journal of Environmental Quality*. The new study compared actual measurement of sediments in more than 100 streams in the Chesapeake watershed with predictions from several of the most up-to-date models. All the models failed completely to identify streams with high sediment levels. The problem, she said, is that the most widely used models all begin with the same tool, the Universal Sediment Loss Equation. The USLE estimates erosion from five factors: topography, soil erodibility, annual average rainfall amount and intensity, land cover, and land management practices. Boomer emphasized that the USLE was developed to help farmers limit topsoil loss from individual fields rather than to predict sediment delivery from complex watersheds to streams. As often applied, the USLE gives an average annual erosion rate for the whole watershed draining into a stream. But not all of the eroded soil makes it into the water, so the estimates do not translate directly into sediment delivery rates. To account for the discrepancy, different models incorporate a wide variety of adjustments. According to Boomer, the adjusted models still do not work, partly because erosion rate is not the best information to start with. During the study, Boomer and colleagues Weller and Jordan compared erosion rates and sediment yields estimated from regional application of the USLE, the automated Revised-USLE, and five widely used sediment delivery ratio algorithms to measured annual average sediment delivery in 78 catchments of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. With a new focus on what is happening in and near the streams themselves, Boomer and her colleagues hope to develop more reliable tools to predict sediment running into Chesapeake Bay—tools that can be used in other lakes and estuaries as well. Adapted from materials provided by [Smithsonian](#), via [EurekAlert!](#), a service of AAAS.

Smart Watershed Benchmarking Tool now available as workbook and CD

Since its release as a file download in 2006, the Smart Watershed Benchmarking Tool has helped numerous local program managers set watershed restoration priorities and streamline their existing programs. Due to popular demand, the Center has made its Smart Watershed Benchmarking Tool available as a spiral-bound workbook and PDF form that can be filled out on the computer and saved! The workbook contains guidance on how to complete the form and to prepare your local programs to be more effective. The PDF Form CD is not currently available except as part of this set. Order for \$30 or visiting the Center's web site

<> Resource: <http://www.cwp.org>.



WATERSHED RESTORATION & PROTECTION

CONSERVATION TILLAGE, NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLANNING, TOP FARMERS' BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Nearly 2,000 Farmers Representing 2.5 Million Acres of Cropland Answer Best Management Practices Survey. Farmers are adopting best management practices in record numbers, according to a survey just released by the Conservation Technology Information Center (CTIC) and The Fertilizer Institute (TFI). The survey reached slightly less than 2,000 farmers nationwide to gain a better understanding of environmental management measures on U.S. farms and barriers to adoption. The respondents represent 2.5 million acres of farmed cropland. Survey

respondents had an average of 29 years of farming experience and were typically 52 year-old males. Seventy-five percent of those answering the survey farm a corn-soybean rotation or a corn-soybean-wheat rotation. Seventy-nine percent had at least some college education. The comprehensive survey netted great results. The top messages taken from the survey follow.

- Having a conservation plan is a key predictor of additional conservation behavior. More than half of row crop producers who responded to the survey have fully adopted: Conservation Tillage, Nutrient Management, Grassed Waterways, and Integrated Pest, Disease and Weed Management
- Farmers indicated that financial assistance is mostly preferred over education and technical assistance, as related to best management practice adoption. In six of the 12 categories, including conservation buffers, GPS yield monitor, irrigation water management, precision agriculture, terraces, and water and sediment control basins, financial assistance was most-preferred.
- The top four respected information sources cited are Cooperative Extension, certified crop advisers, agribusiness, and Natural Resources Conservation Service. Family members and local farming leaders rated amongst the lowest as preferred information sources.
- A positive correlation exists between large scale farms and adoption of conservation tillage and no-till. The survey also showed that large landowners are more conservation-oriented than small landowners.
- About half of farmer-respondents soil test according to state recommendations. Economic concerns and time were primary obstacles to not testing. Twenty-four percent of corn growers, 23 percent of soybean growers and 23 percent of wheat growers cited test costs as a reason they don't soil test.

Based on this initial nationwide survey, CTIC and TFI anticipate conducting additional surveys that are state-specific, commodity-specific and with retailers across the country. CTIC and TFI worked with the Certified Crop Advisers (CCA) and the International Plant Nutrition Institute (IPNI) in developing the survey questions. Conservation Technology Information Center, a not-for-profit organization located in West Lafayette, Ind., is the reliable source of information and technology for environmentally responsible and economically viable agricultural conservation. Contact: Courtney Schmidt (765) 494-6956 or schmidt@conservationinformation.org.

<> Resource: www.conservationinformation.org

Toward A Cleaner, More Effective Method For Destroying Hormone-like Pollutants In Wastewater

Researchers report effectiveness of a powerful, environmentally-friendly catalyst in destruction of various estrogens that currently escape complete removal in our wastewater treatment plants. In the new study, Nancy Shappell and colleagues explain that endocrine disruptors, both natural hormones and hormone-like compounds, have been detected in the surface waters. Many of these endocrine disruptors have estrogenic activity. Ethinylestradiol, for instance, is an active ingredient in both the birth control pill and the newly-introduced "no period pill." It is a major source of environmental estrogenic activity. To address this problem, the researchers tested a new catalyst called Fe-TAML or Fe-B*. In the presence of hydrogen peroxide, the catalyst quickly and effectively destroyed various forms of estrogens typically found in post-treatment wastewater, removing 95 percent of the chemicals -- including Ethinylestradiol -- in 15 minutes. Estrogenic activity was also diminished to a similar extent. Further research will evaluate Fe-B*'s efficacy on actual wastewater, in addition to more extensive evaluation of byproduct toxicities. Usefulness in wastewater treatment could be doubly beneficial, as Fe-B* has been reported to destroy harmful bacterial spores. The article "Destruction of estrogens using Fe-TAML/peroxide catalysis" is scheduled for the Feb. 15 issue of ACS' Environmental Science & Technology.

Adapted from materials provided by [American Chemical Society](http://www.amchem.org), via [EurekaAlert!](http://www.eurekalert.com), a service of AAAS.

Complying With Pennsylvania's Current NPDES Stormwater Requirements

Since 1978, Pennsylvania has regulated stormwater management. However, until several years ago, the rules were not widely enforced. These regulations were born of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA) Clean Water Act, enacted in 1977. In 1987, Congress amended the Clean Water Act to implement a comprehensive national program to address stormwater discharges. This became the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater program, which was to be enacted in two phases. This first phase, commonly referred to as NPDES Phase I, was promulgated in November 1990. Phase I required NPDES permits for municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4's) that serve populations greater than 100,000 and several industrial categories including construction sites greater than 5 acres. To read this issue of Skelly and Loy's newsletter, Progress & The Environment, in its entirety, please click the link below.

<> Resource: <http://www.skellyloy.com/Pressroom/progenv/pe/0108PE.pdf>

EPA's Electronic Notice of Intent (eNOI) System Updated and Improved

EPA's Electronic Notice of Intent (eNOI) system allows construction sites and industrial facilities seeking coverage under EPA's stormwater permits to file their forms electronically. EPA has released an entirely new version of this system which will make it easier for permittees to obtain and terminate permit coverage under EPA's Construction General Permit (CGP), modify and amend previously filed forms, calculate and file a low-erosivity waiver, and much more. This new system will be expanded to include the Multi-Sector General Permit for Industrial Activities (MSGP) when this permit is finalized. To use the new and improved eNOI system, please visit web site below.

<> Resource: <http://www.epa.gov/npdes/eNOI> .

Draft Technical Guidance Documents Available

<> Resource: http://www.dep.state.pa.us/TechnicalGuidance/Draft_technical_guidance.asp

Final Technical Guidance Documents Available

<> Resource: <http://164.156.71.80/WXOD.aspx?fs=2087d8407c0e00008000000000000000&ft=7>

PA Bulletin

- [Volume 38, Number 5](#) Saturday, February 2, 2008 Pages 589-734
- [Volume 38, Number 6](#) Saturday, February 9, 2008 Pages 735-856



WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP

"Got Cabin Fever"? Stream Cleanup – Feb 16

The Watershed Alliance of York seeks volunteers for a "Got Cabin Fever" stream cleanup to be held from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Feb. 16 along Kreutz Creek in Hellam township, York County. Volunteers should meet at 295 Campbell Rd., off the Lincoln Highway (Rt. 462). Cleanup work gloves, trash bags and light refreshments will be provided. A special need is one or two individuals who are skilled with using a chainsaw safely to remove woody debris entanglements. Volunteers are advised to dress casual, wear sturdy footgear, and dress appropriately for the weather. If the National Weather Service issues a winter weather advisory (extreme cold or precipitation) for the day of the event, the cleanup will be cancelled. Funding provided by PPL Corp. The Watershed Alliance of York is a coalition of stakeholders committed to encouraging watershed-based planning, restoration and protection in York County and beyond. To learn more about WAY, please visit www.watershedsyork.org. Cleanup pre-registration requested by Feb. 14, contact Gary R. Peacock at 717-840-7430 or e-mail gpeacock@yorkccd.org, and leave your name, number attending and telephone number or e-mail where you may be reached. Note: If inclement weather, cancellation notice will be posted only Friday.

<> Resource: www.watershedsyork.org

Vote Environment 2008!

Interested in knowing how the candidates stand on environmental issues? Click on the link below and then click on the right-"2008 Presidential Primaries Voters Guide". This site provides information as provided by the candidates. I found it very informational and thought I would pass the information along. We should all be informed as much as possible when we vote in the PA primary on April 22nd, 2008! The League of Conservation Voters (LCV) is the independent political voice for the environment. To secure the environmental future of our planet, LCV's mission is to "advocate for sound environmental policies and to elect pro-environmental candidates who will adopt and implement such policies".

<> Resource: <http://www.lcv.org/>

Susquehanna Sustainable Business Network

- How responsible is your business? Wondering how your company is doing environmentally, socially, or both? Trex Proffitt, a professor at F&M, is developing student teams that will do social audits or triple bottom line assessments or both, with strategic analysis and recommendations for the client. If you are interested in this free service, please contact the ssbn at ssbn@embarqmail.com or 368-0704.
- Pennsylvania Energy Summit – Electricity rate caps are coming off; elected officials are looking at restrictions on greenhouse gas emissions; alternative energy is making news; and environmental regulations keep getting tougher. As energy prices rise, the availability of affordable energy is rapidly becoming a critical business issue. Businesses need solutions and need to plan now how to handle these challenges. That's why the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry is convening the Pennsylvania Energy Summit, on Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2008 from 8 a.m. to noon at the Harrisburg Hilton. The fee to attend is \$50 for PA Chamber members, \$75 for non-members, and includes a continental breakfast starting at 8 a.m. The program will run from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Attached are the agenda and registration form. For your convenience, you may register [online](#), call our toll-free conference hotline 877 866-8965 or by secure fax 717 238-3316. Please use Priority Code E379 when registering. We look forward to seeing you there.
- Green-wash (green'wash', -wōsh') – verb: the act of misleading consumers regarding the environmental practices of a company or the environmental benefits of a product or service. These days it's getting harder and harder to tell the difference between truly sustainable businesses and those just jumping on the bandwagon. An informative article on the 6 Sins of Greenwashing can be found at www.terrachoice.com, click on "6 sins of greenwashing" tab in the upper right corner. Disclaimer- the ssbn is not promoting Terra Choice in any way. We just like the article!
- Smart Fuels blog- check out this informative new blog on biofuels. Features informative articles and links to alternative fuel resources. www.smartfuels.blogspot.com

Shovel Your Way to a Healthier Bay

Snow may be a beautiful sight, but removing it all can result in an unsightly Bay. Residents have little control over salt spread on roadways, but they do have control over their own driveways. So before you begin digging yourself out this winter, become salt savvy. Read more...

<> Resource: <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/helpbavjan2008.htm>

Job Announcement: Chesapeake Bay Funders Network (CBFN) Program Officer

The Chesapeake Bay Trust on behalf of the Chesapeake Bay Funders Network seeks a qualified candidate to serve as the CBFN Program Officer to coordinate and implement efforts to increase collaborative funding initiatives that protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay. The CBFN Program Coordinator is responsible for the overall coordination of CBFN activities and initiatives including foundation relations, grant management, initiative coordination, communications and some event planning. Position Salary and Benefits: Anticipated salary range \$35K-\$50K with an excellent benefits package. Resume Deadline: February 15, 2008. Please send a resume and cover memo via email to hadams@cbtrust.org and place in the subject line of the email CBFN Program Officer. Starting Date (approximate): March, 2008

<> Resource: www.cbtrust.org

