



WAY E-NEWS

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

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July 14, 2008

QUOTE OF THE WEEK – "There's a direct correlation between how close you live to transportation, how compact your neighborhood is, and how much you drive." – Urban Land Institute San Francisco Office Executive Director Kate White

WATERSHED CONTACTS

COMPREHENSIVE 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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

WATERSHED ALLIANCE NEWS – Page 2

WATERSHED EDUCATION & OUTREACH – Page 5

- Stormwater 101: The Basics – July 23, 2008 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm EDT
- Smithsonian to Launch Dig It! Soils Exhibit Next Week
- Calling All Tech-Savvy Teachers; Spotlight on New Website Features
- 2008 edition of the Maryland Bay Game – Celebrating Children and Our Natural World
- What's New at SRBC?
- Critter of the Month

WATERSHED FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES – Page 5

- Chesapeake and Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund – July 1
- Free Webcast about the Clean Water Act State Revolving Fund – July 16
- National Park Service Rivers, Trails, Conservation Program Grants – Aug 1
- REAP Farm Conservation Tax Credit Applications – Aug 4
- PennVEST Infrastructure Loans/Grants
- PA Boating Facilities Grant Program – Sep 30
- B-WET Grant Workshops to be Held this Summer – Oct 3
- PPL Educational Grants Program – Oct 15
- Sportfishing Projects Funded in the U.S. and Canada

WATERSHED PLANNING & POLICY – Page 7

- Sustainable Community Development Code – Beta
- The North American Eco-Municipality Network
- Brownfields Policy Research Newsletter from NEMW

WATERSHED RESTORATION & PROTECTION – Page 7

- Agriculture Linked To Frog Sexual Abnormalities
- Scientists Predict Poor Summer Water Quality Conditions
- New Model Streambed Allows Researchers to Study Stream Restoration
- Native Eastern Brook Trout Added to PA Wildlife Action Plan
- Invasive Water Lettuce Harms Bay Grasses and May Impede Boating
- WALTER TO LEAD INVASIVE SPECIES EFFORTS IN PENNSYLVANIA
- PA Bulletin

WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP – Page 8

- Plant a tree for Pa. with a click of the mouse
- How You Can Help the Bay
- American Rivers Alert: Thank Your Representative for Supporting Sewage Spill Notification



WATERSHED ALLIANCE NEWS

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

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

<> 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: acbpa@acb-online.org

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

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

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

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

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

- July 24 – Next meeting, 7:00 PM, at 324 W. Market St., York, PA.

<> 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](http://www.codoruscreek.net) – www.codoruscreek.net

- HELP-Buffers Program accepting applications for 2008 projects
 - Next Meeting: July 14, at Jeff Kuhn's River Roost
- <> Contact: Jim Leaman at 843-2929

[Codorus Implementation Committee](http://www.ecoconstructionllc.net)

<> Contact: Jake Romig, Coordinator, 848-4717 or e-mail jakeromig@ecoconstructionllc.net

[Conodoguinet Creek Watershed Association](http://www.ccwa.org)

- Conodoguinet Creek Cleanup Project- July 19th – The Conodoguinet Creek Watershed Association (CCWA) and the Mechanicsburg Area Environmental Club, in cooperation with Silver Spring Township, will coordinate a creek cleanup project to be held on Saturday, July 19, 2008 (rain date July 26th). We are looking for volunteers to meet at 9:00 a.m. at the picnic pavilion in Willow Mill Park and work their way upstream. Clean-up will conclude at noon. The CCWA can provide a limited number of gloves, tools, sunscreen, insect repellent and first aid items, for the volunteers. The CCWA will provide refreshments after the cleanup ends. Given our location this year, the CCWA is hosting a picnic at the park following the cleanup. For more information regarding the cleanup and to sign up for the lunch, please call Paul Garrett at 514-3546 or 737-2554. In case of inclement weather or high water, please call the township at 766-0178. Dial extension 303 and listen for a message.

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

- Sept.4 – 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](http://www.harfordcountymd.gov/PlanningZoning/WRAS) – www.harfordcountymd.gov/PlanningZoning/WRAS.

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

[Friends of Codorus State Park](http://www.friendsofcodorus.org) – 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](mailto:FriendsLochRaven@aol.com) – FriendsLochRaven@aol.com

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

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

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

[Gunpowder Valley Conservancy](http://www.gunpowdervalley.org/) – www.gunpowdervalley.org/

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

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

- July 8 – Board meeting, 7:00 pm, at Clubhouse
 - July 16 – Club meeting 7:00 pm, at Clubhouse
- <> Contact Lee Irwin 428-9368

[Lancaster-York Heritage Region](http://www.lyhr.org) – 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

What a great month we have had!

- I spent 3 days in Washington with 100 other river advocates meeting with our elected officials and EPA. Shortly after, the US House passed the Community Sewage Right-to Know Act, which requires wastewater treatment plants to alert the public to sewage overflows that may cause health risks. We still need to get movement in the Senate (S.B. 2080) and from President Bush.
- We had a great cleanup along Codorus Creek. Thanks to the 48 Stewards who came out over two days to help us remove about 3 tons of bikes, shopping carts, lawnmowers, carpets, and loose trash from the creek.
- After the Codorus Cleanup, I jumped on a plane for the annual Waterkeeper Conference, this year in Seattle. I got to network with and learn from so many other waterkeepers, scientists, and attorneys. Just like we all communicate to share our similar concerns and plan strategies for the Susquehanna, it is amazing to sit down with folks from all over this country, AND Canada, South America, Africa, China, India, Australia and now even Russia. We are definitely a growing movement that is shaking up the whole world and bringing our water resources back to the people who need and love them.

We have some interesting work planned for this summer.

- USGS will be conducting mussel surveys in the Susquehanna and we have been asked to join in this. This will include mapping and gridding of areas of the river, and snorkeling and sampling for our freshwater mussel species. Dates have yet to be announced, but contact us if you are interested.
 - We have received an \$18,680 grant from the Foundation for PA Watersheds to produce educational materials and to hold public meetings on the Conowingo sediment threats. You can learn more about this issue on our website under Current Issues, Conowingo Dam.
 - Finally, we have received a \$1200 grant from the Chesapeake Bay Funders Network to send out brochures and membership requests. We need to compile lists of organizations and individuals who may have interest in our work. Please let us know if you can help with this. AND... if you haven't become a member yet, need to renew, or have a friend that should be a member, you can get a membership form at <http://www.lowerSusquehannaRiverkeeper.org/donate.html> . And again remember, ALL DONATIONS ARE DOUBLED by the Keith Campbell Foundation for the Environment. We only have a couple more months left on this challenge, so please give what you can today.
- <> Contact: Michael Helfrich, Lower Susquehanna RIVERKEEPER®, York, PA. Cell phone: 717-779-7915 E-mail: lowSusriver@hotmail.com.

Maryland's Upper West Shore Trib Team – www.dnr.state.md.us/bay/tribstrat/index.html

- Next UWS Trib Team meeting we will continue our focus on the source sector reviews to gauge our progress towards meeting our 2010 goals. Point sources are on the agenda for July, and we'll have an update from MDE on progress towards upgrading the major and smaller WWTP's in our basin. We've also asked MDE to be prepared to discuss any innovative technologies that are on the horizon. ALSO, we will have a presentation on the 2010 Trust Fund RFP... so please bring along others from your county, municipality, watershed organization or SCD who might be interested in partnering on submitting a proposal for the DNR portion of the 25 million. The agenda and speakers are still pending...but hold that date, and we'll see everyone in Bel Air on Monday, July 7th. **Please note that for our July and August meeting, we will meet at the Harford County Administration Building on 220 South Main Street, in the second floor.**
 - Maryland's BayStat Newsletter Subscribe at www.baystat.maryland.gov
- <> 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

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

Important dates to remember...

- July 30 – Advisory Board meeting, 6:30 pm, at the ANNEX. Strategic Plan unveiling.
 - Sept. 19 – Fall Demonstration Site Workshop
 - Sept. 27 – Watershed Weekend Fall Open House & Native Plant Sale
 - Dec. 5 – Winter Demonstration Site Workshop
- <> Contact: 717-840-7408 or Connie Schmotzer at cxs51@psu.edu

Prettyboy Watershed Alliance – www.prettyboywatershed.org

- Notification that the Prettyboy Bacteria TMDL is available for public review. The review period is from July 10 through August 8. The draft document can be found at http://www.mde.state.md.us/Programs/WaterPrograms/TMDL/Pub_Notice/TMDL_PN_PrettyboyReservoir_Bacteria.asp
- <> 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

- **Apprenticeships** – Spoutwood Farm Center, Inc., a community-supported agriculture and educational farm in Glen Rock, PA (southern York County), still has one and possibly two apprenticeships openings available for the remainder of the 2008 season (current thru November). Apprenticeships include a small stipend plus free vegetables; lodgings may be available. Apprentices are typically college grads or equivalent, who desire a full-immersion experience in sustainable agriculture/natural farming. We also have an unlimited number of openings for interns: interns do not receive a stipend but may receive college credit if desired, and may work shorter blocks of time if desired. Primitive camping available on-site, or be local. We are a non-certified, but "organic" in practice, produce farm supplying 100+ shareholders with vegetables each week. We also have educational programs through the School of Sustainable Living, including

"backyard farming," sustainable living, and astronomy. Please contact us for further information on apprenticeships or internships. Thank you! Tom Harbold, Education and Work-and-Learn Coordinator (spoutwoodedu@yahoo.com).

- Oct. 5 – Mother Earth Harvest Fair

<> 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.srbcc.net

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

- July 9 – Chapter meeting, 7:00 pm, Club house, Porters Sidling

<> Contact: Tom Finenze at 840-1372 or tom@codorustu.org

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

- July 16 – 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

- July 16 – Members meet, 4:30 pm. at the Adams County Ag Center, Gettysburg

<> Contact: Michelle Kirk 717-677-4628 or email at: mkkirk@adamswatersheds.org

Watershed Alliance of York – www.watershedsyork.org

- July 2 – Next Board Meeting, 7:00 PM, at CCIP (324 W. Market St., York, PA). **CANCELLED!**

- July 31 – The Watershed Alliance of York, Inc. (WAY) is pleased to announce the opening of registration for the 6th Annual Watershed Weekend to be held September 27 and 28, 2008. The purpose of the Watershed Weekend is to increase public awareness about the importance of their watersheds. Watershed Weekend participation is open to all conservation, environmental, sportsmen, and watershed groups, nonprofit organizations, and governing agencies in Maryland's Upper West Shore of Maryland and Pennsylvania's Lower Susquehanna River regions, of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Registration opens June 16, 2008 and closes July 31st. There is no cost to register or participate. If you would like to sponsor a venue, then please visit our web site at www.watershedsyork.org to download and complete a registration form and mail or e-mail it to WAY, 118 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402 or e-mail Gary R. Peacock at gpeacock@yorkccd.org. For more information about how to sponsor a Watershed Weekend venue, you may call Gary R. Peacock at (717) 840-7430 or e-mail. We hope you choose to sponsor a venue and be a part of the 6th Annual Watershed Weekend 2008.

- DONATE – GoodSearch.com is a new search engine that donates half its revenue to the charities its users designate. Just go to www.goodsearch.com and be sure to enter WAY as the charity you want to support.

- 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!

<> Contact 717-428-3673; liriodendron@netzero.net

YorkCounts - yorkcounts.org

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 - www.yorkcountyconservationalliance.org

- Input from attendees at the Jan. 29, 2008 meeting of YCCA vision, concerns, issues and purpose posted online.

<> 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

- July 10 – District Board of Directors meeting, 7:00 pm, at ANNEX
- <> Contact Mark Kimmel, District Manager, 118 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402. Phone: 717-840-7430. E-mail Yorkcccd@yorkcccd.org. Office hours: 8:30 AM-4:30 PM weekdays.

York County Planning Commission – www.ycpc.org

- July 1 – 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/>

<> 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 – www.watershedalliance.org

<> Contact: Gary Bartell. Ph: 751-2412.



WATERSHED EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Stormwater 101: The Basics – July 23, 2008 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm EDT

July 23, 2008 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm EDT. Confused about the stormwater requirements and where they come from? Want to learn the truth about some "urban legends" of the stormwater program? This webcast will present an overview of the NPDES stormwater program, including a discussion of the laws, regulations, and permits that shape this complex regulatory program. If you are a newcomer to the stormwater program or just want a refresher, this webcast is for you. We will offer a light-hearted quiz so that you can test your NPDES knowledge and we'll reserve plenty of time for questions from the audience. To register for this webcast, please visit www.epa.gov/npdes/training

Smithsonian to Launch Dig It! Soils Exhibit Next Week

Dig It! The Secrets of Soil exhibit will open to the public, Saturday, July 19, 2008 at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, in Washington, D.C. Visitors will learn about the part soil plays in almost every aspect of human existence—food, housing, clothing, medicine, ecosystems and much more. The exhibit will remain in D.C. until January 2010 and will tour across the United States from May 2010 to September 2013. Travel sites are still being determined. For more information about the Dig It exhibit, go to <http://www.forces.si.edu/soils/>.

Calling All Tech-Savvy Teachers: Spotlight on New Website Features

Teachers - are you successfully using Web 2.0 technologies in the classroom (wikis, blogs, etc.)? We'd love to hear from you! Please email us at info@pcee.org to share your experiences. Readers can expect a new feature of the PCEE website to be placed in the spotlight each month. This month highlights the top and left navigation bars of the new website, showing some of the information, links and resources that can be found inside. (Next month's highlight: the top navigation bar, where you can find the Educational Resources Directory, Question of the Week and more!) In other PCEE News: Fond Farewell to Richard "Dick" Knight, PCEE Computer Guru and Two Lucky PCEE Project Testers Receive \$50 Prizes. www.pcee.org.

2008 edition of the Maryland Bay Game – Celebrating Children and Our Natural World

The 2008 edition of the Maryland Bay Game – Celebrating Children and Our Natural World – is now being distributed free at libraries and visitor's centers. The popular natural resources activity book channels children's restless energy during long summer car rides into an enjoyable learning experience about our natural environment. Click here for more information... <http://www.dnr.maryland.gov/baygame/>

What's New at SRBC?

Check the What's New page on the Susquehanna River Basin Commission web site for recent news and information about the work of the SRBC. <http://www.srbc.net/whatsnew/index.asp>

Critter of the Month

June's Critter, who visits the lower Bay each summer, looks down at its nose as it swims. Do you think you know what it is? Read more... http://www.chesapeakebay.net/bfg_lookdown.aspx?menuitem=28293.



WATERSHED FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Chesapeake and Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund – July 1

The Chesapeake and Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund law goes into effect on July 1, and the request for proposals has already been issued. The goal is to put the first year's \$25 million to work in the highest priority watersheds as quickly and effectively as possible. Click here for more information... <http://www.baystat.maryland.gov/trustfund/index.html>.

Free Webcast about the Clean Water Act State Revolving Fund: What's in it for Watersheds? – July 16

EPA's Watershed Academy sponsors free monthly Webcasts for watershed practitioners from around the globe. On Wednesday, July 16th, 2008, Stephanie VonFeck from EPA's State Revolving Fund Branch and Patti Cale-Finnegan from Iowa's Department of Natural Resources will discuss the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, a large, flexible, and largely untapped source of funding for watershed projects. It provides over \$5 billion each year for traditional stormwater and wastewater projects, as well as over \$200 million for nonpoint source projects, such

as land conservation, agricultural best management practices, and clean-up of contaminated sites. Registration opened July 3rd. Archived audio versions of past webcasts are also available at epa.gov/watershedwebcasts.

National Park Service Rivers, Trails, Conservation Program Grants – Aug 1

The National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program has a new round of assistance available to partners to plan successful locally-led outdoor recreation and natural resource conservation projects. The deadline is August 1. The project applicant may be a state or local agency, tribe, non-profit organization, or citizens' group. Applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss their project with RTCA staff before sending in an application. <http://www.nps.gov/nrcr/programs/rtca/index.htm>

REAP Farm Conservation Tax Credit Applications – Aug 4

Pennsylvania farmers now have a second opportunity to apply for the next round of Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP) tax credits that rewards farmers for installing conservation practices to reduce erosion and sedimentation. Applications will be accepted starting August 4 with postmarks after July 30. Farmers can receive tax credits of up to \$150,000 per agricultural operation for 50 or 75 percent of the total cost of a conservation project, depending on the best management practice implemented. Farmers may also qualify for a 50 percent tax credit to purchase no-till planting equipment. Applicants are encouraged to work with local county conservation districts or the Natural Resources Conservation Service before applying to ensure current plans are in place for each farming operation.

<http://www.agriculture.state.pa.us/agriculture/cwp/view.asp?a=3&q=145155>

PennVEST Infrastructure Loans/Grants

The Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority published revised cutoff dates for submitting applications for water, wastewater, stormwater and other project funding:

- August 18 for the October 27 board meeting
- November 17 for the January 26, 2009 board meeting
- February 16, 2009 for the April 20, 2009 board meeting

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

PA Boating Facilities Grant Program – Sep 30

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission is now encouraging county and municipal governments interested in the planning, acquisition, development, expansion, or rehabilitation of public boating facilities to apply for funding through the Boating Facility Grant Program. The deadline for applications is September 30. The program is designed to help local governments provide or improve recreational boat access facilities in their communities that are open to the public. Private businesses, non-profit or not-for-profit organizations, and service clubs are not eligible for direct funding, but are encouraged to partner with their local government for funding. Applicants can seek grants for site acquisition, project design and engineering, development, expansion and major rehabilitation of recreational boat access facilities.

http://www.fish.state.pa.us/promo/grants/boat_fac/00boatfac.htm

B-WET Grant Workshops to be Held this Summer – Oct 3

The NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office will hold several summer workshops for local, regional and state organizations that plan to apply for 2009 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) grants. Workshops will be held throughout the summer in Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C. Two webinars will also be held for those who cannot make the in-person workshops. The workshops will feature background information on B-WET and tips on putting together a successful application. NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office education staff will be on hand to answer specific questions about applications. The NOAA Chesapeake Bay B-WET Program provides critical funding for hands-on watershed education for students and teachers. NOAA B-WET supports the Bay Program's goal to provide every student in the watershed with a meaningful watershed education experience before graduating high school. Applications for 2009 B-WET grants are due October 3, 2008. Typical awards range from \$25,000 to \$200,000 annually for up to three years. Read more... http://archive.chesapeakebay.net/news/B-WET_grant_workshops.pdf.

PPL Educational Grants Program – Oct 15

PPL is accepting applications for its 2008 Environmental Education Grant Program which focuses on renewable energy and energy conservation projects. Applications are due October 15. Through these competitive grants, schools can receive from \$500 up to \$5,000 in funding for projects that focus on energy and environmental issues like renewable energy demonstrations, energy conservation and the greening of schools. All qualifying public, private and parochial schools near major PPL facilities are eligible to apply. Schools are strongly encouraged to partner with an organization, association or business that shares their interest in the environment, but the school must submit the application, receive the grant money and have primary responsibility for the project.

<http://www.pplweb.com/community+partners/our+education+programs/environmental+education+grants.htm>

Sportfishing Projects Funded in the U.S. and Canada

The FishAmerica Foundation helps keep our fish and waters healthy and improve sportfishing by awarding grants to local communities to invest in sportfish conservation and research. The Foundation's Conservation Grants Program provides funding for hands-on projects at the local level across the United States and Canada. Areas of interest include sportfish population enhancement, sportfish habitat restoration, water quality issues, and family fishing waters improvement projects. Requests for Conservation Grants may be submitted throughout the year. Visit the website listed above to review the funding guidelines and to download the application form. FishAmerica Foundation:

Conservation Grants Program (<http://www.fishamerica.org/grants/>).



WATERSHED PLANNING & POLICY

Sustainable Community Development Code – Beta

The Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute has released a beta version of the Sustainable Community Development Code, a guidebook that provides extensive resources encompassing the broad scope of sustainable living. The sustainable community development code framework is sustainable at its core, multi-disciplinary in its approach, and contextually oriented. It fully encompasses environmental, economic, and social equity. It is innovative and distinctive by linking natural and man-made systems, incorporating useful features of other zoning systems (e.g., performance, form, hybrid), and responds to regional climate, ecology, and culture. Included in this first beta version are the following sections: Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction, Community Health and Safety, Food Production and Security, Housing Affordability, Housing Diversity, Natural Hazards: Wildfires, Renewable Energy: Solar, Renewable Energy: Wind, and Water Conservation. 40 pages (2.2mb); available online as a PDF document at the resource link below. Resource: <http://law.du.edu/images/uploads/rmlui/rmlui-sustainable-betaV1-1.pdf>

The North American Eco-Municipality Network

The North American Eco-Municipality Network (NAEMN) is a network of existing and emerging eco-municipalities with partners at state, national, and international levels, designed to share information, resources and experiences. This report lists partner communities and provides an overview of how the NAEMN formed, its objectives, and success stories. 8 pages (0.4mb); available online as a PDF document at the resource link below. Resource: http://www.naturalstep.ca/documents/NAEMN_TNScsestudy.pdf

Brownfields Policy Research Newsletter from NEMW

The Northeast/Midwest Institute (NEMW) publishes the Brownfields Policy Research Newsletter, a monthly publication highlighting policy research and legislative information that will assist brownfields and community redevelopment practitioners to make progress in their communities. Each issue of Brownfields Policy Research Newsletter provides news on upcoming events and recent publications, and includes an in-depth focus on a single topic. The Northeast-Midwest Institute is a Washington-based, private, non-profit, and non-partisan research organization dedicated to economic vitality, environmental quality, and regional equity for Northeast and Midwest states. NEMW has been at the forefront of brownfield policy development and information dissemination since the early 1990s, when the Institute organized the first brownfields conference in Chicago in 1991 and published the landmark report *New Life for Old Buildings*. Look for the Brownfields Policy Research Newsletter at the resource link below. Resource: <http://www.nemw.org/bfreports.htm>



WATERSHED RESTORATION & PROTECTION

Agriculture Linked To Frog Sexual Abnormalities

Science Daily – A farm irrigation canal would seem a healthier place for toads than a ditch by a supermarket parking lot. But University of Florida scientists have found the opposite is true. In a study with wide implications for a longstanding debate over whether agricultural chemicals pose a threat to amphibians, UF zoologists have found that toads in suburban areas are less likely to suffer from reproductive system abnormalities than toads near farms – where some had both testes and ovaries. Several past studies have suggested a link between herbicides commonly used in farming and sexual abnormalities in tadpoles and frogs. Such deformities may be responsible for declines in frogs documented in areas affected by agricultural contaminants, such as Sierra Nevada, Calif. Amphibians are declining worldwide and agricultural chemicals are considered to be one likely cause. Others include pathogenic infections and habitat loss. Past research has compared frogs collected from natural areas with those collected from agricultural areas. Other efforts have pointed to specific chemicals, including the herbicide Atrazine, as causing abnormalities. The UF study is the first peer-reviewed study to compare abnormalities in wild toads – toads are a variety of frogs – from heavily farmed areas with frogs from both partially farmed and completely suburban areas. In so doing, it highlights the difference between the impact of agriculture versus development. The researchers gathered giant toads, known scientifically as *Bufo marinus*, from five sites stretching from Lake Worth to Belle Glade and down to Homestead in South Florida. *Bufo marinus* is a very large, exotic, invasive, species known to be deadly to small animals. One of the sites consisted almost entirely of land devoted to sugar cane or vegetable farms. The amount of farmland declined in three other sites, with the last being entirely suburban. Researchers calculated the amount of farmland in each site using Google Earth images. Each site was 2.1 square miles, with the toads collected at the center. That's because the toad's home range is known to be about 1.2 miles, and the researchers sought only those toads living entirely within each site. The researchers collected at least 20 toads from each site in 2005 and 2006. Examination of the euthanized toads revealed a pattern: The more agricultural the land where they lived, the more sexual organ abnormalities or so-called "intersex" toads – toads who have both female and male internal reproductive organs, not a normal condition for this and most species of amphibians. Adapted from materials provided by University of Florida.

Scientists Predict Poor Summer Water Quality Conditions

A team of researchers led by the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (UMCES) is predicting poor water quality conditions in the Bay and several of its rivers this summer, according to UMCES' annual summer ecological forecast. Wet conditions this winter and spring have set the stage for significant dissolved oxygen problems in the Bay's deeper waters this summer. Additionally, harmful algae blooms are expected on the Potomac River and the lower reaches of the Patuxent and Choptank rivers. The summer ecological forecast uses analyses of spring river flow patterns and pollutant loads to predict where harmful algae blooms and low-oxygen "dead zones" may occur. Summer oxygen levels in the Bay's mainstem are largely driven by the amount of pollution flowing from the Susquehanna River in winter and spring. Read more detailed information about the summer ecological forecast at <http://www.eco-check.org/forecast/chesapeake/>.

New Model Streambed Allows Researchers to Study Stream Restoration

As we reported in a previous article, hydrologists are beginning to reexamine traditional thinking about stream restoration. Although stream restoration projects are becoming more common, they are not always successful and more studies need to be done to enhance long-term success. Read more... http://www.fxbrowne.com/html/newsletters/July_2008/news_jul08.htm.

Native Eastern Brook Trout Added to PA Wildlife Action Plan

The Fish and Boat Commission formally added naturally reproducing eastern brook trout to the Pennsylvania Wildlife Action Plan, the document that prescribes conservation measures for species and their critical habitats before they become more costly to protect and restore. The amendment, which was recently approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, provides goals and objectives for managing the species. Although wild eastern brook trout are doing well in Pennsylvania, their habitat continues to be degraded by pollution, poor land-use practices, acidic precipitation and sedimentation. A 2006 report by the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture, a partnership of the National Fish Habitat Initiative, found that populations of the fish have been eliminated or greatly reduced throughout more than 70 percent of their historic habitat in Pennsylvania. The native range of the eastern brook trout extends along the Appalachians from Georgia to Maine and encompasses 17 states. With the addition by Pennsylvania, 13 of the 17 states have listed eastern brook trout in their Wildlife Action Plans. Nationally, each state and U.S. territory was required by Congress in 2005 to complete a wildlife action plan in order to continue to receive funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for State Wildlife Grants program. Historically, since 2002, Pennsylvania has received approximately \$2 million annually. These funds are shared equally between the Fish and Boat Commission and the Game Commission to address species identified in the Wildlife Action Plan.

Invasive Water Lettuce Harms Bay Grasses and May Impede Boating

Water gardeners and aquarium owners are reminded to properly dispose of aquatic plants to prevent spread of water lettuce, an invasive species that harms bay grasses and may impede boating. Learn more...<http://dnr.maryland.gov/dnrnews/pressrelease2008/061008.html>.

WALTER TO LEAD INVASIVE SPECIES EFFORTS IN PENNSYLVANIA

Ashley Walter, a Purdue University graduate and national standout in invasive species management, has been named Pennsylvania's new invasive species coordinator. Walter will work closely with the Pennsylvania Invasive Species Council and local, state and federal agencies to develop and implement an effective land and water invasive species management program for the commonwealth. Invasive species are a major threat to Pennsylvania's biodiversity and economy. Walter graduated from Purdue University with Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in entomology. The Pennsylvania Invasive Species Council was formed in 2004 by Governor Edward G. Rendell to minimize the harmful ecological, economic and human health impacts of invasive species through the prevention and management of their introduction, expansion and dispersal into, within and from Pennsylvania. For more information about the Pennsylvania Invasive Species Council, visit www.agriculture.state.pa.us/pisc.

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WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP

Plant a tree for Pa. with a click of the mouse

Plant a tree without moving from your chair. Odwalla, one of the sponsors of the new Pa. State Park and Forest Visitor Kit, is allocating a percentage of money to plant trees to the participating Visitor Kit states (eight in all), based on the numbers of clicks to this web site <http://www.parkvisitor.com/odwalla/>. There is no obligation. Simply choose "5" as the number of trees you want to plant, choose "PA," then click! The more clicks, the more trees Pennsylvania can plant; simple as that. Pass along to your friends and family because it is a competition among the participating states. The more clicks a state gets, the more money it receives for tree planting. Go Pennsylvania; beat California!

How You Can Help the Bay

Leave leftover grass clippings on your lawn after mowing. Grass clippings are a natural fertilizer that can reduce 25 to 50 percent of your lawn's nitrogen needs. Read more...<http://www.chesapeakebay.net/inyourbackyard.aspx?menuitem=16888>

American Rivers Alert: Thank Your Representative for Supporting Sewage Spill Notification

As of the last week of June, we are one step closer to protecting Americans from waterborne illness and reversing the rising tide of sewage pollution that plagues our rivers. On Monday the House of Representatives passed the Sewage Overflow Community Right-to-Know Act, which requires sewage treatment plant operators to monitor their systems and notify the public of spills that could affect public health. There are currently no such requirements nationwide. This legislation is essential for reducing the millions of illnesses caused every year by contact with untreated sewage. This bill will alert Americans when their local waterways are unsafe and will draw attention to the need for increased investment in wastewater infrastructure around the country. This is great news, and your member of Congress deserves our thanks. Please join us in thanking Rep. Platts for cosponsoring this bill and taking the lead in ensuring that all Americans are safe from sewage pollution at <https://secure2.convio.net/amr/site/Advocacy?JServSessionIdr009=3tu22n36u2.app14a&cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=1057>.

