

WPCAMR Watershed Coordinator's Report

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PROJECT SITE VISITS, PLANNING MEETINGS, PRESS EVENT ATTENDANCE:

Evergreen Conservancy dinner and lights ceremony
ORWC planning committee
Tour with Pastor Cash and his geothermal system from mine water
ORWC Schmooz luncheon
ORWC planning committee
Tour with Bob Hedin of the Lowber treatment system
Tour of Jennings Environmental Ed Center with Margaret Dunn
Tour of Lion Mining treatment site with Eric Robertson
Tour of Clearfield Creek Watershed treatment systems with Art Rose
Quarterly SW Watershed Specialist meeting
Meeting with Westmoreland Water Authority Intern about data she has collected
Good Samaritan conference call
PA AMR Conference Calls (5)
AMR Issues Tour with DEP Secretary Krancer

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

I wrote one Abandoned Mine Post on the AMR Issues Tour for which PA DEP Secretary Krancer was an attendee.

The short documentary on Allegheny Valley Land Trust and Armstrong Conservation District was screened at the Johnstown Film Festival.

A meeting was held with Westmoreland CD to begin planning for the OM&R workshop to be held in October.

I Began an abandoned mine post article on Pastor Cash and the geothermal system from mine water in his church.

I met with Eric Robertson, engineer for PACD, and discussed how the CD and watershed specialist plays a crucial role in making the construction of AMD passive treatment systems possible.

I met with Dave Beale, Armstrong CD, to tour some AMD sites that he is concerned with and is considering applying for a PennVest grant to address.

2011 AMR CONFERENCE

The 2011 conference was held in Hazelton and EPCAMR took the lead. I aided in the distribution of conference materials including a press release, sponsor forms, and call for presentations. I gave a presentation at the conference on the joint projects between WPCAMR and EPCAMR. I sent requests to specific individuals requesting that they submit abstracts for presentations. I also sent the sponsor form to several companies that I have made contacts with.

2010 OHIO RIVER WATERSHED CELEBRATION

I have been placed on the Dock activities subcommittee. I attended the January planning committee meeting. We are planning a big event this year to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the event.

ARIPPA 20th ANNIVERSARY AWARD RFP

Applications were collected and reviewed by the committee. Recommendation of the committee are as follows:

\$2500 to Blackleggs Creek Watershed Association and Cooperative Trout Nursery for the Big Run #3 passive treatment system

\$2500 to Altman Watershed Association for Restoring the Environment (AWARE) for the Neal Run Passive treatment system.

MARCELLUS SHALE SEVERANCE TAX

No new activity to report.

319 GRANT DELIVERABLES

Over the next three years, our deliverables include three education projects that WPCAMR and EPCAMR will jointly engage. WPCAMR will be directing short films as an outreach tool to watershed organizations grappling with treatment solutions to acid mine drainage. Our first film discusses the origins and formation of abandoned mine drainage. EPCAMR developed a companion document as their portion of this deliverable.

In 2011, WPCAMR produced a video on AMD passive treatment options and EPCAMR will produce the accompanying poster insert based on Bob Hedin's passive treatment flow chart. The video depicts a conversation among some experts in the field of passive AMD treatment. They discuss how to choose the right technology, some key design considerations, emerging technologies and trends, and the future as they see it with regards to funding, OM&R, and the role of the Conservation District.

NPDES ISSUE

A meeting and two conference calls were held with key stakeholders to begin planning for preventative measures in regards to the Keeley Decision in WV and the NPDES permit revocation petitions in MD and WV.

I collected and assembled data for PA, MD, and WV. I also wrote success stories for each of those states. Data from the rest of the Appalachian Coal region states is much harder to find but I have made a little progress with TN, VA, and OH. Data I collected included:

1. Total stream miles impacted by AMD
2. total number of AMD treatment systems built by Good Samaritans
3. total dollars spent on AMD treatment by all parties including:
 - a. state and federal grant dollars
 - b. state and federal projects done by state (not grants)
 - c. match from foundations, businesses, individuals
 - d. volunteer hours and other match
4. total miles of stream improving and/or removed from the 303d list for which parameters and in what river basins
5. total tons pollution removed from water annually due to AMD treatment by Good Samaritans. I don't think I will get this even from PA!
6. Success stories - taking these from EPA website for the most part.