

WPCAMR Watershed Coordinator's Report

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February 13, 2014

PROJECT SITE VISITS, PLANNING MEETINGS, PRESS EVENT ATTENDANCE:

PA AMR Conf planning committee (monthly) plus extra meeting to work out contract details with Jeff McNelly of ARIPPA
ORWC Steering committee (January)
Meeting regarding project ideas and complications at Colver Power Plant
Federal Good Samaritan constituent meeting
Big Run AMD Treatment Complex brainstorming meeting
Allegheny Conservation District Meeting Open House
OM&R workgroup meeting

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

An annual letter was distributed to the County Conservation Districts celebrating WPCAMR's 2013 accomplishments and the goals for 2014. Along with this letter, an invoice was mailed to collect annual WPCAMR membership dues. Membership dues were collected and the CD Delegate and Alternate database was updated.

Several AMPs were released this quarter. The first was to celebrate the awardees of the 2013 ARIPPA awards. The second was to advertise the Monastery Run Improvement Project Symposium at St Vincent College. Another was on the passing and remembrance of Bruce Leavitt. Additionally, AMPs were delivered to announce the Ohio River Watershed Celebration Benefit Dinner and the as well as a call for presentation proposals for the 2014 AMR Conference.

WPCAMR is now participating in the OM&R workgroup reconvened by Amy Wolfe of Trout Unlimited. It was brought to our attention that there may be AMD treatment systems out there that were funded by WPCAMR by a 319 grant in the mid 1990's. These systems may not be sampled or may be forgotten altogether. One example is in Indiana County. I began researching this question. I found information on this site and forwarded it to DEP and SRI who holds a database (Datashed) on AMD treatment systems. I also organized information from Quick Response to use as data on how much specific OM&R practices cost.

Two AMP Videos are in the works. The first is about the Lober AMD Treatment System and Iron Oxide recovery that took place there. The second is the Phillips Mine Fire Abatement project that Stream Restoration Inc has been contracted to do.

2014 AMR CONFERENCE

The committee began working with Jeff McNelly to organize a joint effort between ARIPPA and the PA AMR Conference in 2014. The Conference will take place June 26-27, 2014 at the Ramada Inn, State College. 2014 will be ARIPPA's 25th anniversary. The conference layout will be changed from recent year's layouts. As suggested by many CD Watershed Specialists, we will shorten the conference to two days and eliminate Saturday sessions. We are working on some fun and interesting networking activities which will include a golf outing and a trip to Penn's Cave.

We have requested a contract with Ramada Inn, State College, begun searching for technical presentations, and discussed logistics for registrations, sponsorships, and preconference activities. Lastly, I published a call for presentation proposals and have begun collecting abstracts.

2013 OHIO RIVER WATERSHED CELEBRATION

The committee met for the first time since the 2013 event. Jennings Environmental Learning Center will not be participating this year. They have historically been in charge of the Imagination Cruise, the boat with all of the kids on it. I worked this quarter at helping to find a person, organization, or group of people to take over the coordination of the Imagination Cruise. So far, it looks like there are several possibilities.

I am also in charge of organizing the ORWC Benefit Dinner to be held on March 4, 2014 (Fat Tuesday) at Mad Mex Shadyside. This quarter, I organized details with Mad Mex, and made and sent out invitations and an Abandoned Mine Post announcing the event.

ARIPPA AWARD

No new activity to report.

319 GRANT DELIVERABLES

Over the last three years, our deliverables include three education projects that WPCAMR and EPCAMR jointly engaged in. WPCAMR directed three short films; The formation of AMD, Passive Treatment Options, and Permitting Challenges. Permitting Challenges was completed last quarter and is available on the WPCAMR YouTube page.

NPDES ISSUE

No new activity to report.