

WPCAMR Watershed Coordinator's Report

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PROJECT SITE VISITS, PLANNING MEETINGS, PRESS EVENT ATTENDANCE:

AMR Conference Call (3)
PA AML Campaign conference call (3)
Blackleggs Meeting with IUP for Archeological Study (1)
WPCAMR Quarterly meeting (1)
Americorps VISTA Meeting (1)
Flight 93 Tech exchange (1)
Meetings with Legislators regarding PA AML Campaign (11)
2015 NAAMLPA Conference (4 days)
Meeting with ARIPPA Director, George Ellis
Webinar regarding the clean power plan
Slippery Rock Creek Watershed Coalition Celebration
PA AMR Conf site visits (2)

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

I began to pull together information for the PA AML Campaign regarding which counties signed resolutions for the reauthorization of SMCRA fees in 2006. We will use this information in the near future to reach out and collect new resolutions.

I have been aiding Blackleggs Creek Watershed Association to complete and submit an application for an OSMRE Watershed Cooperative Agreement Program grant to be the match for their new Growing Greener Grant for the Kolb AMD Treatment System. It is now required to Blackleggs to have a phase II archeological study done on the site prior to the award of the grant. I am aiding the group in amending contracts and grants to account for the additional study. This month, I collected bids for the Phase II study and helped the contractor for the Phase I study to wrap up needed forms and documents for the Phase I report.

2015/2016 PA AMR CONFERENCE

Planning is underway for the 2016 PA AMR Conference. The committee would like to move the conference to a new location for 2016 so that we can offer a traditional AMD/AML tour. I visited Slippery Rock University and Indiana University of Pennsylvania to tour their conference venues. I made a spreadsheet comparing the costs and amenities of all 6 possible venues for 2016.

PA AML Campaign

Several PA AML Campaign conference calls were held during the last quarter. I also organized advocacy work in Washington DC regarding Title IV Reauthorization. I developed a fact sheet and Q/A sheet for campaign members and volunteers to take to legislators. I organized and attended 11 meetings with legislators and staff in Washington DC including both PA Senators and Congressman Thompson. Each legislator was provided with a packet of information regarding the reauthorization of the SMCRA Fee collection.

Andy and I also attended and presented at the NAAMLN Conference in Santa Fe NM regarding the work of the PA AML Campaign. We made multiple contacts in states across the nation. We found that most states and tribes are in agreement with the key components of the PA AML Campaign's proposed legislation.

I did some research on the amount of lobbying allowed to non-profits by the IRS.

ARIPPA AWARD

Presentation of 2015 Awards...Award to continue in 2016?