

WPCAMR Watershed Coordinator's Report

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February 9, 2023

PROJECT SITE VISITS, PLANNING MEETINGS, PRESS EVENT ATTENDANCE:

PA AML Campaign Conference Calls (10)
PA AMR Conference Planning Committee Meetings (6, plus 1 day)
Statewide Watershed Conference Planning Committee Meeting (4)
Clinton County CD AMD strategy session (1)

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Blackleggs Creek Watershed Association is managing a PA DEP Growing Greener Grant. In November 2022, construction continued with the GG portion. In December 2022, construction continued with the GG portion. I helped the group determine what they could spend remaining funds on. The project was over as of December 31, 2023. In January 2023, We applied for a 1-year extension, which was granted and we began filing a reimbursement request.

WPCAMR is administering a WCAP grant for Broad Top Township. No news for this quarter.

WPCAMR is administering a WCAP grant for Elk County Conservation District. No news for November or December 2022. In January 2023, Elk County CD found out they did not get their matching Growing Greener Funding. They intend to apply to BIL for funding and continue with the project.

In November 2022, I joined the planning committee for the Statewide Watershed Conference, hosted by Pennsylvania Organization for Watersheds and Rivers (POWR) every other year. One meeting was held in November 2022. I gave the group an overview of what is going on currently in PA with respect to AMD and the PA AML Campaign. One meeting was held in December 2022. In January 2023, we had two planning committee meetings.

In December 2022, I attended AMD strategy session for Clinton County. I gave background on the IJA money and explained what WPCAMR offers to CD's in the form of assistance.

In November 2022, one AMP was published advertising three new grant opportunities for AMD projects. In December 2022, one AMP was published announcing the passing of the STREAM Act. In January 2023, one AMP was published announcing the opening of the 2023 round of the ARIPPA Award. I have been working to update the AMP database. I joined the River Network Online community, which is a nationwide forum for water issues. There were no threads for AMD, so I added one and posted an update.

PA AMR CONFERENCE

2023 PA AMR Conference

In November 2022, two planning committee meetings were held. I contacted a new venue to get quotes. I reached out to WV AMD Task Force Symposium members to inquire about a possible partnership in the future. In December 2022, two planning committee meetings were held. We toured potential venues. A contract was drafted by Altoona Grand Hotel and revisions were made several times before it was sent to the full committee. I reached out to NASLRS several times to inquire about their interest in a joint conference. In January 2023, two planning committee meetings were

held, one for the full committee and one for the food sub-committee. The menu committee met and made decisions and the contract was revised further.

2024 PA AMR Conference

We are discussing possible joint conferences with the West Virginia Mine Drainage Task Force Symposium and the National Association of Soil and Land Reclamationists (NASLR) for 2024.

PA AML CAMPAIGN

In November 2022, I attended two PA AML Campaign meetings and took minutes for each. I gave a brief introduction to the work of the PA AML campaign at a POWR board meeting. In December 2022, I attended four PA AML Campaign meetings and took minutes for each. I started a database of PA legislature for the group to use. In January 2023, I attended four PA AML Campaign meetings and took minutes for each. I chaired two of the meetings.

ARIPPA AWARD

In November 2022, ARIPPA voted to increase funding for the Award slightly. The application was updated once more to reflect the new totals. In December 2022, it was agreed that the award round will open the first of January. In January 2023, I updated the website to open the 2023 round of the ARIPPA Award and sent an AMP to advertise the opening.\

GOOD SAMARITAN

No new activity to report

VIDEO WORK

No new activity to report

STRATEGIC PLAN DUTIES

In accordance with action items outlined in the 2022 WPCAMR Strategic Plan, during the last quarter, two fact sheets were developed, A welcome packet for WPCAMR Delegates and Alternates was developed, a database for state and local legislators, including county commissioners and PA House and Senate representatives, was established, I began compiling a list of universities with Environmental programs with contact information, and a thread on the River Network Online Community Forum was established and I posted our AMP articles.