

EPCAMR 2008 1st Quarter Board Meeting

Watershed & Cooperating Organization Reports – January 26th, 2008

Presidents Report

Ed Wytovich

- There will be BAMR Meetings: January 29th @ Pottsville DMO about Landowner Access, January 24th @ Cambria DMO about 30% Set-Aside, and January 31st @ Harrisburg Office about AMD Remediation.

Catawissa Creek Restoration Association

Audenried

- Work has been started to repair system with FEMA Grant and needs to be completed by June 30th.
- A “Restoring Brook Trout” Grant was awarded to replace \$40K worth of (lime)stone.
- EMARR Inc. Energy Harvest Grant (\$280K) transferred to this project to place micro-hydro turbines on the outlet of treatment tanks to generate power for flushing mechanisms.

Oneida #3

- Goes to bid in June.

Oneida #1

- Working just fine after fix.

Northumberland County

Al Mabus, Director

Jaci Harner, New Watershed Specialist

Judy Becker, Director

EPCAMR Mine Pool Mapping Project

- 390 Datasets, 14 locations (about 20 year time span) in Northumberland County now converted from paper form to electronic form.

Shamokin Creek Restoration Alliance

Site 23 (Big Mountain)

- A new weir was placed at the old discharge area, a new weir was installed on 12-26-07. A fourth weir is planned to go in. No transducers have been installed yet

Site 15 (Corbin Mine Drift)

- The group considered purchasing and using “Odorknocker” product to help with odor problem after further investigation it was deemed to be too expensive
- Slowly increasing flows through under drain pipes to put system back on line, it is being observed by a person living in the nearby town of Ranshaw.
- Township has cited the group for failing to comply with a township ordinance and insists they put a fence around the treatment ponds. Concerns about children being around the ponds.

Site 21 (Ranshaw)

- Waiting on pigment analysis to determine quality of iron oxide
- Township commissioners have requested a public meeting to discuss the pilot project at this site, the outcome of this meeting will determine whether or not the group will proceed with writing the grant. Want to submit a growing greener grant (with site 12) for aeration project

Site 48 (Vo Tech)

- Needs some maintenance work at intake pipe.

Site 12

- Want to submit a growing greener grant (with site 21) for aeration project

Site 49 (Sterling?)

- The owner is looking at a new processing plant for culm bank cleanup, they approached the group about land requirements to also consider discharge treatment

Industrial Park

- No news on grant for mine pool/AMD study

The "Mile"

- As of Dec. 11 trucks and equipment were on site but no work has started, no draining of water has occurred

VISTA/Americorp Volunteer-

- Group has sent documents to apply for a full-time employee through the VISTA/Americorp Program

Schuylkill County

Wayne Lehman, Watershed Specialist

Paul Lohin, Director

Schuylkill Headwaters Association

Otto

- Aeration Project

Tracy Airhole

- SCD working on this

Lackawanna County

Bernie McGurl, LRCA

Alana Malar, Watershed Specialist

Lackawanna River Corridor Association

- 20th Anniversary Dinner & Dance on Feb. 2nd at the Lackawanna Radisson
- Looking to start another round of strategic planning
- Former commissioner spent \$150K to do a demo project to tap into mine pool for geothermal energy. Created AIRRE, but now has fallen through since he left. This may spur private industry to begin looking into the prospect.
- "Corn Fed" Ethanol Plant in the works for land on the Carbondale Twp. (for it) and Mayfield Twp. (against it) boundary.

Lackawanna Watershed 2000 (EPA funded in 1994) Program

- Powderly Creek dredging in Carbondale and outfall to be rechanneled
- St. Johns Creek dredging and 5,000 ft to be rebuilt
- Legetts Creek (bank opposite the GG Project) surface grading and reclamation project in design and permitting.
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Luzerne County

Josh Longmore, District Manager

Tim Ference, Director

Friends of the Nescopeck

- 2 legislative grants totaling \$30K for work on greenways and trails in the watershed.

Sullivan County

Bruno Najanka, Director

Loyalsock Creek Watershed Association

- Backfilling being done at Bernice Landfill. Topping with biosolids (6,000 tons are stockpiled) from New York City Certified Plants. The biosolids are treated with lime to pH of 7 then again in onsite processing which raises pH to 11. Placing 240 tons per acre. So far \$6K in checks for the local municipality.

Schuylkill County

Wayne Lehman, Watershed Specialist

- Hosted a “Fish for Fun” Day at Kocher Park on Fishing Creek with handicapped individuals.

ARIPPA

Jeff McNelly, Executive Director

- Plants are conducting quarterly monitoring of ash placement sites as directed.