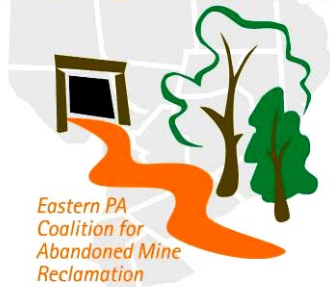


EPCAMR



Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

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August 2011 Progress Report

Highlights:

- EPCAMR staff coordinated the EPCAMR Dinner and AMR Conference. Posted presentation to www.treatminewater.com. EPCAMR Staff hosted the EPCAMR 3rd Quarter/Annual Board meeting.
- EPCAMR staff met with OFBH Project Partners on site to install transducers and to see a pilot project to treat the discharge.
- EPCAMR staff sampled 14 boreholes in the Lackawanna Valley and 23 in the Wyoming Valley. Created 3 maps, 2 GIS databases and sent 1 RAMLIS 11 GIS CD Tool to EPCAMR partners.
- EPCAMR Staff finalized and sent Mine Pool Mapping Report to Growing Greener grant manager.
- Updated www.epcamr.org, and www.treatminewater.com. Administered the EPCAMR facebook page and Google Apps for Nonprofits account.

Education and Outreach:

- Final meeting with Genetti's to go over contract and last minute coordination of the EPCAMR Dinner and AMR Conference.
- Finalized AMR Conference program and printed after receiving Andrew Heath's biography. Printer had been leaving black and red streaks on the paper, so we decided to only print 20 at a time and allow it to cool down for 10 minutes before printing again. Strategy worked and the programs came out with only a few spots here and there. Printing programs "in house" is a cost savings to the conference budget as opposed to sending them to be professionally printed. Printing "in house" also allows staff to produce final copies a few days before and have them on time for the event (even with the best planning, changes are expected up to this point).
- EPCAMR staff packed up vehicles and headed to Hazleton to coordinate the EPCAMR 15th Anniversary Dinner/Fundraiser and 13th Annual Abandoned Mine Reclamation Conference at Genetti Inn and Suites. Approximately 35 people attended the Pre-Conference Tour and 85 partners attended the dinner on Thursday. Head chef, Joey Capparell, created a Jeddo Tunnel cake with flowing water for the occasion and the Anthrascapes Art silent auction was a success. 105 people were registered to attend the AMR Conference on Friday and a little more than ½ stayed for Saturday. Genetti's staff were very accommodating as they allowed us to fine tune expected numbers up to an hour before the actual food service events, this in turn saved some expense and wasted food. The Hazleton Standard Speaker sent staff every day and several good articles were published in the paper.
- Dealt with post conference cleanup and reorganization of the EPCAMR office. Hung publicity collages, sent receipts to those who requested them for the conference and/or dinner, reconciled cash collected and updated budget for dinner to find out how much was made. Approximately \$2,000 was generated by the fundraiser as a result once all bills were paid. Provided this post event budget to the EPCAMR board.

- Changed the registration page on www.treatminewater.com to disallow people to register for the conference after the event. Also removed the items from the EPCAMR Store, by setting the items to “private”. Installed W3 total cache widget on treatminewater.com and epcamr.org websites to as recommended by our webhosting service, Host Gator, to speed up load time and reduce errors that were being produced by the WordPress infrastructure.
- Created minutes based of notes from the last EPCAMR Board meeting.
- Created EPCAMR Program Manager monthly report for the previous month, gathered other staff reports, posted them to www.epcamr.org and sent to PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) 319 Nonpoint source (NPS) program staff.
- Updated the EPCAMR Quarterly Board Meeting page on www.epcamr.org to include staff board reports from the past few months since the last meeting, minutes from the last meeting and the draft agenda for the current board meeting.
- Updated the EPCAMR Board list based on the current memberships that have come in so far this year.
- Updated the digital file and printed the EPCAMR Informational and Resource Recovery brochures.
- Met with Solution Mining, Inc. and PA DEP BAMR Wilkes-Barre Office staff to see a prototype AMD treatment system which at full scale could actively treat the Old Forge Borehole and would potentially produce a useful iron oxide byproduct without the use of harsh chemicals.
- Met with the Technical Selection Committee to decide awardees and amounts for the ARIPPA AMD/AML Reclamation Grants. Three organizations were selected and funded from the \$5000: Huber Breaker Preservation Society, EMARR Inc. and Schuylkill Headwaters Association.
- EPCAMR staff prepared for and hosted the EPCAMR 3rd Quarter/Annual Meeting. The board reelected the same slate of executive officers and made decisions on EPCAMR business.
- Receive an AMD treatment flow chart from Hedin Environmental used in the AMD Treatment Video and to be used in the complimentary poster. Asked questions about a missing line on the diagram: limestone bed treatment systems used to treat net acidic aluminum discharges with no iron. After a bit of discussion, the chart was cautiously modified to include this type, since these types of treatment systems have not been tested as long as the others on the diagram. This version of the diagram was sent to Jessica Wolff to begin designing the poster.
- Clipped the Western Middle Coal Field Mine Pool layers to the Packer #5 colliery and east to Delano. Sent these files to Albert Budinsky, Skelly and Loy, for a study that they are working on.
- Finalized and sent Part 2 Chapter 3 of the Mine Pool Mapping report to Executive Director to combine with the main report document. Graphed borehole and shaft water level data for the report. Developed multicolliery hydrologic unit and structural contours, current and historic mine pool extents maps. These maps will become Plates I, II and III in the report. Also created a table with similar information to be included in the report.
- Received the main report file back from Executive Director in PDF format and proceeded to converted all text, graphs, maps and tables into PDF format. The water quality database was left in MS Access format since it would be rendered pretty much useless in PDF format. Created a CD and sent this to our Growing Greener Grant Manager, Dan Koury, PA DEP Pottsville District Mining Office.

Technical Assistance:

- Replicated and sent a RAMLIS 11 CD to Rachael Kester, Trout Unlimited.
- Copied Catawissa Creek Rivers Conservation Plan files over to a CD and sent to Kevin Anderson, Trout Unlimited (national office).
- Jotted notes down about the AMD Treatment Video and passed them along to Anne Daymut, WPCAMR. There were a few mistakes and an entire style of treatment systems was missing, limestone drains, but aside from that it was a very good informational video. Spoke with Jessica

Wolff, Harvard Grad Student, who agreed to help us produce a complementary poster to go along with the video.

- Converted PowerPoint presentations to PDF format and, with the presenter's permission, posted them to www.treatminewater.com as a sort of conference proceedings, a tradition since the 2005 Mine Water Treatment Conference in Pittsburgh.
- Spent a day and ¼ monitoring the boreholes in the Wyoming Valley with EPCAMR VISTA. We were able to hit all 23 for the monthly sampling event. 3 boreholes in Wilkes-Barre had work done on them. The Stanton was converted from a steel plate and chamber to an 8" round cover. The Delaware had a new cap and 8" round cover and the cap was replaced on the Baltimore borehole. Looks like one municipality listened to our Borehole Awareness Campaign.
- Traveled around Scranton to complete a monthly round of testing the water level in 14 boreholes in the Scranton Metropolitan Mine Pool with EPCAMR Intern. Copied these values to an excel spreadsheet setup to calculate the depth of water into water levels based off the surface elevation of the boreholes.
- EPCAMR staff conducted a post construction survey of the Espy Run Treatment System. Tested for chemical parameters, took flow measurements, counted bug populations and reassessed the habitat. Posted photos to EPCAMR facebook site.
- Created a Modified HACH AMD Monitoring Kit "quick reference" sheet and laminated it to be placed in the field monitoring kits. It's a condensed version of the super complex field kit instructions with just the parameters we typically sample for: pH, Total Acidity, Alkalinity and Iron. Added Dissolved Oxygen (from another kit) to the beginning as this is a test that can be started at the beginning and needs to sit for approximately 10 minutes. Also added some "field math" to deal with dilutions and conversions from grains per gallon to milligrams per liter. The suggested methodologies should speed up field monitoring and allow us to leave the field binders behind.
- Received word from the Eastern Middle Region Recovery, Inc. that the raw water intake was installed on the Audenreid Treatment System. The new intake allows a majority of the flow to bypass the under drain intake (which routinely clogs with sediment) allowing more water to flow through the system so the micro hydro turbines will work properly. The project was funded through many sources including money from ARIPPA through EPCAMR.
- Produced a cost estimate to construct a passive treatment system on the New Askam Borehole with the AMD Treat program for the Earth Conservancy. The program takes chemistry and flow numbers and outputs treatment system size and cost estimates. The software recommends a 25.7 acre wetland with about a 4 acre forebay pond to treat a design flow of 3500 gpm with a 5.9 pH and ~32 mg/l or iron. They are proposing to use aeration technology that will hopefully reduce the pond size 10 fold (closer to the actual area available for treatment).
- Reviewed the Dashed 2 website and provided feedback to Stream Restoration Inc. as they prepare to switch to this new format.
- EPCAMR staff aided Pennsylvania Tectonics, Lackawanna River Corridor Association (LRCA), Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) staff as they installed 2 transducers in the Old Forge Borehole. The transducers were set on a pole approximately 8 feet apart to measure a pressure differential that can hopefully be translated to a flow. SRBC staff are currently working on an equation to determine flow in this manner.