

Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program December 2007 Progress Report

Michael A. Hewitt, Watershed Outreach Coordinator
Luzerne Conservation District
485 Smith Pond Rd., Shavertown, PA 18708
(p) 570-674-3414 (f) 570-674-7989
hardcoal@epcamr.org
www.OrangeWaterNetwork.org

Highlights:

- Added to 5 EPCAMR GIS Layers related to the Mine Pool Mapping Project, Produced 95 maps and 20 Descriptions of AMLIS Sites for the Manure and Minelands Project
- Updated www.orangewaternetwork.org

Technical Assistance:

- Posted AMR Program Staff reports to <u>www.orangewaternetwork.org</u> and sent them to 319 Program. Posted articles to the News Reader.
- Completed the Manure and Minelands GIS Site Investigation work for the PA Environmental Council. EPCAMR was charged with finding an abandoned mine site that is a minimum of 30 acres in size, in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, in or around Lebanon County (Schuylkill, Northumberland, Dauphin or Columbia Counties) and reclamation plans were in the works. The goal was to find a site to use compost poultry manure and other materials (ex. wood chips, pulp mill sludge) in varying amounts determined by bench scale testing to build a soil and grow different grasses for energy production with a grant from the PA Department of Agriculture. 20 sites were found, maps produced and tax parcels identified by EPCAMR that matched the criteria. More may need to be done to find property owner information through the PA DEP Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation staff or tax parcel identification and rank the sites based on best match of the criteria.
- Sent Ann Lieu, Johns Hopkins grad student and Geisinger Environmental Health Institute research intern, an accounting of health related problems related to mine features reported in the AMLIS Database.
- Continued to digitize Western Middle Anthracite Region Mine Pools, Mine Water Flow Directions, Barrier Pillars, Infiltration Points and Mine Tunnel Outlets the Bureau of Mines Bulletin 521, Technical Paper 727 and Scarlift Reports in Related Watersheds.
- Signed EPCAMR up at <u>www.goodsearch.com</u> which is a search engine powered by Yahoo! that donates money to non-profits. Individuals can choose a charity the proceeds benefit. So far the account has accrued about \$.12 for searches made in December and January.

^{*} Represents time billed to the Western PA Watershed Protection Program.

^{**} Represents time billed to the System Appalachian Clean Streams Initiative Grant related to the Audenried Treatment System.

[^] Represents time billed to the Hicks Creek Stream Restoration Growing Greener Grant.