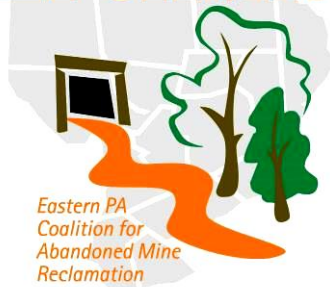


EPCAMR



Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

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February 2014 Progress Report

Education & Outreach

- Worked with Frank Knorek, EPCAMR Volunteer Community Development Coordinator, Gabby Zawacki, David Svab, and Holly Halecki-EPCAMR Interns, on the completion of a Federal *US EPA Environmental Education Grant* entitled, “*Exploring NE PA’s Wyoming Valley Anthracite Coalfields Abandoned Mine Impacted Watersheds through Outdoor Learning Experiences using Audio-Visual Camera Technology to Document the Development of the Resource Recovery of Iron Oxides for Artistic Mediums*”; EPCAMR is proposing to work with four local underserved school districts to incorporate some innovative model environmental education initiatives that have not been done before anywhere in the Region; It builds off of our work with PPL's support to build our Solar Kiln for drying AMD; EPCAMR should have its very own glazes by the Summer 2014, Pottery by the Fall 2014...and some new ways to teach students about AMD through the use of 3D Mine Pool Models built by a 3D Printer, more AMD Field Tours, and hopefully, two newly designed from scratch, EPCAMR Remote Control (RC) Boat Cams using Mounted Go-Pro Cameras (water-proofed, of course) to get fish eye perspectives of AMD from the point of discharges to areas downstream; Submitted the grant through the US Post Office in Wilkes-Barre, PA after getting it postmarked on 2-4-2014
- Worked with Frank Knorek, EPCAMR Member and volunteer to create an EPCAMR Mobile App for iPhones, iPads; EPCAMR is adding the latest mobile app to our repertoire of online resources to provide instant and easy access to all of our latest News, Photos, Social Media links, Resource Links, Contact information, Staff Bios, Projects, and website Content all on the fly! <http://epcamr.org/home/2014/epcamr-adds-latest-mobile-app-to-reach-supporters/> & <http://appcat.com/epcamr/>
- Registered EPCAMR with mycharitymap online to increase our global awareness to other volunteers and donors; www.mycharitymap.org
- Posted a formal job description for EPCAMR Internships at Wilkes University and the University of Scranton through their portals on www.collegecentral.com; Will be working on adding it to other regional universities and colleges in the EPCAMR Region
- Made a request to the PA DEP MRAB to see if SB 411 had been discussed by the Board and as to whether or not they were going to take an official stance on either supporting it or not supporting it; Found out that they had not reviewed it and therefore suggested that it be considered on the agenda for the April 24th MRAB Meeting unless it is put on the table for a vote by the Senate before then
- Worked with Gabby Zawacki and Tania Markovich, EPCAMR Interns to create a new brochure to reach out to artists that might want to utilize our iron oxide pigments and develop entrepreneurial relationships with EPCAMR that would allow us to sell items on our store and receive a certain percentage from the artists to support our environmental education programs in the Region; Attended a “Green Drinks” evening social event on 2-26-2014 in Wilkes-Barre, PA to distribute the first printing of the brochures to local environmental professionals with ties to many local artists
- Received a copy of **WaterWise** from WVIA, a 4 part documentary series on AMD in PA

- EPCAMR was chosen by VolunteerMatch to partner with LinkedIn for Good, due to our skilled volunteer listings on VolunteerMatch to help them explore an initial, beta partnership to learn how their network of 100,000 non-profits and their network of 240 million skilled professionals can make our communities stronger

Technical Assistance

- Met with Dr. Murray Small, retired Penn-State U. Professor in the EPCAMR Office to discuss some future research opportunities related to the Old Forge Borehole, Pourbaix Models, AMD discharges in the Lackawanna River watershed, and various AMD treatment technologies
- Amy Wolfe, Trout Unlimited's Eastern Abandoned Mine Program, requested a copy of our latest RAMLIS CD for the Operation, Maintenance, & Repair WorkGroup; EPCAMR had provided Racheal Kester with a copy and suggested that she follow up with her staff to obtain the layer of publicly funded AMD Treatment Systems in PA
- Working on scheduling a meeting with Greg Czarnecki, PA DCNR Wild Resource Conservation Program and his Staff in Harrisburg, PA on EPCAMR's Mine Pool Mapping to work on drafting a more focused State Forest Research Agreement (SFRA) that is regional that would allow EPCAMR to share data with PA DCNR and benefit both organizations
- EPCAMR was asked to provide several photos of our work in the region on AMD work for a publication that is going to be printed by MIT Press, written by Marianne Krasny, Cornell University, who has been working with EPCAMR on Environmental Education Capacity Building

Project Coordination

- Worked with Mike Lower to review contract amendments to the **Hicks Creek AML Natural Stream Channel Design Construction Project**; Received updates on the status of the submission of the Joint Permit Application to Exeter Borough prior to submission to the PA DEP for review
- Chris Murley, Abandoned Mine Research Inc., provided EPCAMR with a few photos within the Huber Colliery Mine Pool
- EPCAMR requested clarification from the USGS as to whether or not they were developing a Qualified Hydrologic Unit Plan (QHUP) for any watersheds in the Anthracite Region in partnership with the PA DEP Bureau of Conservation and Restoration; Dr. Chuck Cravotta III was willing to meet with EPCAMR, LRCA, and other partners in the Spring to discuss the development of a QHUP for one or more of the watersheds, with the Lackawanna River being a priority around the Old Forge Borehole

Conference Coordination, Training, Conferences, Workshops

- Participated in two PA AMR Conference Calls to continue planning the 16th Annual PA AMR Conference in State College, PA to be held on June 26th & 27th, 2014 at the Ramada Inn Conference Center in collaboration with ARIPPA, who is celebrating their trade association's 25th Anniversary; www.treatminewater.com has updated details on the Conference Planning, Agenda, Sponsors, Activities, and Speakers; Received the price quote from Cole Transportation (<http://www.coletransportationinc.com/index.htm>) for the school bus charter to Penn's Cave; Received word from the PA DEP that the PA AMR Conference was awarded a \$5000 grant to support the Conference; SRBC and PACD will again be sponsoring the Conference; EPCAMR worked on the conference website and edited suggestions made by the Committee; Asked Gabby to review the Seigel Display Catalog for a new vertical photo Exhibit Stand

- Participated in a PAEE EE Capacity Conference Call with 20 Community of Learners involved with the PAEE PA Consortia to discuss agenda items for upcoming workshop at the Annual PAEE Conference from March 13-16th, 2014 at Antiochian Village, Bolivar, PA
- Attended Wilkes University's Social and Public Service Career Day Event at the Henry Student Center to talk about EPCAMR, projects, internships, jobs, and volunteer community service opportunities; Worked with Gabby Zawacki to update EPCAMR's tri-fold educational/outreach display board

Community Volunteer Coordination

- Met with **10** ITT Drafting & Design students, Dunmore, PA who offered to complete two small projects for EPCAMR as a part of their job training experience in InDesign CC (<http://www.adobe.com/products/indesign.edu.html>), an Adobe Creative Cloud software package that has more intuitive ways to create professional layouts for print, posters, and brochures, to obtain their certifications; Provided the students with a tour of the EPCAMR Office, our Iron Oxide Processing Station, and Solar Kiln; Students will be working over the next several weeks on developing a few brochures, posters, and a Step by Step Guide on how EPCAMR Volunteers can process the various iron oxide pigments that we harvest, dry, process, package, and sell to support our environmental education programs
- Contacted PA DOT to place an order for trash bags and gloves for upcoming Spring Cleanups that EPCAMR will be coordinating as a part of the **Great PA Cleanup** and **Keep PA Beautiful** Campaigns
- Followed up with *Sabrina Fallon*, Kingsley, PA who contacted EPCAMR through our VolunteerMatch site who has an interest in becoming an EPCAMR AMD Tie-Dye T-shirt Volunteer Assistant; Requested that she complete our online form to officially move her through the application process
- Followed up with *Savita Bhardwar* and *Pankaj Kundu*, Danville, PA, and *Kaitlyn White*, Swoyersville, PA, *Harry Kistler*, Hazleton, PA, *Linda Rowe*, Wilkes-Barre, PA, *Damon Decker*, Arlington, VA, *Nathan Arroyave*, Rockford, IL, who contacted EPCAMR through our VolunteerMatch site, and they are all interested in becoming Nature Photography Assistant Volunteers on weekends when we venture out on projects, walks, tours; Suggested that they follow up completing our online form to get a better handle on their availability
- Followed up with *Kristi Cochios*, Whitehall, PA, who contacted EPCAMR through our VolunteerMatch site, and she is interested in assisting EPCAMR with creating our recycled eco-ornaments out of iron oxide and various shaped Christmas ornaments; Suggested that she follow up completing our online form to get a better handle on her availability
- Followed up with *Carly Cirangle*, Scranton, PA who is attending the University of Scranton and is looking to volunteer some time with EPCAMR to work on organizing some of our Personnel Files, Payroll, and TimeSheet Archives as a Clerical Support Assistant; Carly filled out our VolunteerMatch form and came in for an interview; Another volunteer was also interested in fulfilling a Clerical Support Assistant role with EPCAMR, *Bernadette Swiderski*; EPCAMR referred to our form to fill out for future opportunities
- *Shalisa Bynoe*, S. Korea, became interested in an EPCAMR Volunteer Opportunity through VolunteerMatch and completed her online form and is currently assisting us on our "Actions Speak Louder than Words" Media Campaign to show communities and volunteers the kind of work and volunteer opportunities that EPCAMR has within the region that they can become involved in
- *Shannon Blydenburgh*, Nanticoke, PA is interested in becoming an EPCAMR Community Service Volunteer to plant trees, perform landscaping projects, and perform outdoor activities; Requested that she submit our online form on VolunteerMatch

EPCAMR Program Administration

- Reconciliation of our EPCAMR and PA Invest Accounts; Meeting with Bernie McGurl to sign checks
- Completed and submitted the January 2014 PA DEP 319 Progress and monthly EPCAMR Board Report and January 2014 Reimbursement
- Worked with Mike to change the registrant and administrative contact information for the **huberbreaker.org** domain on GoDaddy
- Convened the Quarterly EPCAMR Board Meeting on 2-20-2014 at the EPCAMR Office
- Provided a copy of EPCAMR's W-9 to ARIPPA and the Lycoming County Conservation District
- Worked with RJ Zagrapan to finalize our W-2s and 1099-MISC forms
- EPCAMR Board received a letter from WPCAMR President to inform our organization of their position on SB 411 and to refrain from using WPCAMR's name in future correspondence related to the Bill since they had not taken an official position until after EPCAMR
- Set up an interview with Dana Sword, Bloomsburg U. for a Summer/Fall Internship 2013
- Interviewed *David Svab*, EPCAMR Watershed Outreach Intern for the part-time MSI Scanning GIS Technician position since Justyna Sacharzewska had informed EPCAMR that she would no longer be able to fulfill the position due to another part-time job; Hired David to start the first week of March 2014
- EPCAMR was informed that we were nominated and will be receiving the Conservation District's Watershed Stewardship Organization of the Year Award for 2014 at their 50th Anniversary Banquet on March 29th, 2014 at the Genetti Hotel & Conference Center, Wilkes-Barre, PA



**EPCAMR's New Brochure to Seek Artists
Collaboration to Utilize Iron Oxides from Treated Mine Water and
Some Mugs created by Local Artist Kyle Bacon**