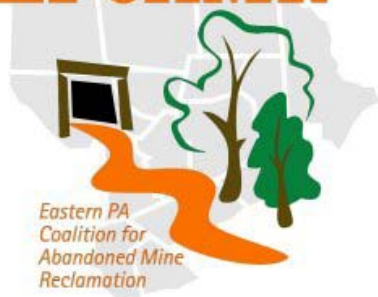


# EPCAMR



## Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation July 2006 Progress Report [Abbreviated]

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### Highlights:

- EPCAMR Staff assessed AML impacted streams in Luzerne County for flood damage
- Continued to prepare for the AMD Conference in August
- Adapted an existing GIS Database and updated the PA AMD AML GIS CD to v.6.2
- Continued to update [www.orangewaternetwork.org](http://www.orangewaternetwork.org)
- Attended the a Friends of the Nescopeck meeting, a COALS site visit, hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr. EPCAMR Board Meeting, and a meeting with UGI

### July 1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

- Began assessing damage to AML impacted streams in Luzerne County after the flood, starting with Black Creek Township, Nescopeck Township, Sugarloaf Township, part of Butler Township and part of Hazle Township.
- Continued assessing damage to AML impacted streams in Avoca Borough, Duryea Borough and part of Dupont Borough.
- Attended the Friends of the Nescopeck monthly meeting to help them begin selecting cleanup sites for the COALS Program.

### July 9<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>

- Adapted the NALIS Database so it would conform to ArcGIS rules of 8 character column titles. This fix allows ArcGIS to join information from other tables within the database enabling the end user to learn much more about a site when identifying it in ArcView or ArcReader. Specifically, the Problem Code and Location are now automatically translated with a description instead of a number. Transferred this information to the GPS Unit via ArcPad to aide in field investigations.
- Aided in researching the Loree Banks Proposal. The PA Environmental Council had submitted this proposal and asked for a letter of support from EPCAMR.
- EPCAMR Staff participated in a Conference call of the COALS Partners in Northeast PA to coordinate the cleanups that were being planned for the next few months.
- Prepared the FY 05-06 Accomplishments as an addendum to the "2005 EPCAMR Year in Review" document to include specifics on the computer recycling and municipal GIS programs. These documents will be submitted to the PA DEP 319 Program for review and closeout of the FY 05-06 CD AML Program Grant.
- Forwarded an invoice from Elite Hosting Service to Tim Ference, Friends of the Nescopeck, to renew their webhosting package and maintain [www.friendsofthenescopeck.org](http://www.friendsofthenescopeck.org).
- Traveled to Avoca Borough to attend a meeting about stormwater adding to a new mine water discharge on Grove St., Avoca. Luzerne County Commissioner Todd Vonderheid, LCD Manager, Josh Longmore, Engineers from the borough and representing the Luzerne/Lackawanna County Airport and Office of Surface Mining Staff were in attendance.

The group called for a stormwater study to be done. OSM staff with the help of EPCAMR Staff plan to study the underground workings to find a solution to the now almost 2 year old problem.

- Resubmitted the Espy Run and Dundee Wetland Treatment Systems information to Dave Hamilton, OSM for inclusion in their new statewide AMD Treatment Systems Database.

### **July 16<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>**

- Received word from WPCAMR that the Emergency Operations and Maintenance money was now available statewide for treatment system repair. Immediately called several groups who were waiting for the funding to begin repairs. Then forwarded the information the EPCAMR Watershed Groups list serve along with a reminder to sign up for the AMD Conference.
- Continued assessing damage to AML impacted streams in part of Butler Township.
- Attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter / Annual EPCAMR Board Meeting. EPCAMR Staff prepared a small picnic style buffet and then hosted the meeting at the LCD Office. Current officers were re-elected and there were 19 conservation district representatives and 3 watershed / community group renewals for 2006.
- As the rash of black water events on the Nescopeck Creek continue, residents and watershed group representatives continue to document the occurrences to hopefully obtain an answer in the near future.
- EPCAMR Staff met with Steve Bartos, COALS Program Coordinator for PA DEP Waste Management and representatives from the Northeast Regional Office to see dump sites in Hazle Township, Luzerne County and Banks Township, Carbon County. These sites are prospects for cleanup in the fall.
- Continued to work toward organizing the AMD Conference with the Conference Planning Committee as questions come in. At this point there were about 70 attendees registered for the conference. Planning committee decided that we should start calling people in order to boost the numbers.
- EPCAMR Staff participated in the South Street, Nanticoke Cleanup, Luzerne County. The COALS Program was also a big player in this cleanup.

### **July 23<sup>rd</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>**

- Added to the PA AMD/AML GIS CD to upgrade the information to version 6.2. The new information includes Aerial and Topographic Maps for the entire state as well as DEP ACTIVE Mining Information which links to e-Facts for site specific information.
- Attended the Wyoming County Commissioners Board Meeting to present the PA AMD/AML GIS CD and specifically show the AML impacted lands in Wyoming County. The commissioners signed a resolution to reauthorize the AML Trust Fund.
- EPCAMR Staff traveled to the Wildlands Conservancy in Emmaus, PA with Kate Feissner to learn about the collaborative efforts to replace a treatment system at the Buck Mountain #2 Discharge which feeds Buck Mountain Creek and the Lehigh River. EPCAMR Staff were asked to provide technical review for the plans and also discuss tweaks to the Lausanne Tunnel Treatment System to increase the efficiency of metals removal.
- Attended the Bradford County Commissioners Board Meeting to present the PA AMD/AML GIS CD and specifically show the AML impacted lands in Bradford County. The presentation was only allowed during the public comment period and the commissioners requested that we come back to show the full fledged presentation.