

Robert E. Hughes Luzerne Conservation District AML Program Manager-EPCAMR

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June 2007 Monthly Report

Education and Outreach

- Conducted an AMD Outreach Program for the Wilkes-Barre Boulevard Townhomes-McGlynn Learning Center at their 2nd Annual Summer Splash Week long Program in partnership with College Misericordia; Tie-dyed 60 AMD T-shirts and created 60 pieces of iron oxide wood stained artwork with the elementary-aged children; Created a large 60 piece work of 4' x 4' side walk art mural with iron oxide chalk and other colors
- Coordinated a meeting of the Anthracite Living History Group at the Plymouth Township Municipal Building to begin to plan for the 138th Annual Commemoration of the Avondale Mine Disaster and to plan future cleanups at enhancements to the AML Site
- Conducted a bi-county AMD/AML Watershed Tour for 12 students who were participated in the Endless Mountains RC & DC Woodland Resources Adventure Camp for the summer throughout the Wyoming Valley (Luzerne) and Lackawanna Valley (Lackawanna); Partnered with Wilkes University, Pocono NE RC & DC, Penn-State Cooperative Extension, and the Sullivan and Wyoming County Conservation Districts
- Conducted and AMD/AML Outreach Program for Eckley's Miner's Village's History Camp with 53 elementary-aged youth and AMD Tie-Dye Workshop
- Conducted an AMD/AML Watershed Tour with Larry Elworth, Executive Director for the Center for Agricultural Partnerships, Asheville, NC to discuss future opportunities for projects in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed

Technical Assistance

 Continued to work on the National geospatial datasets development for surface coal mining, underground coal mining, and eventually abandoned mines with the Office of Surface Mining via Conference Call

Cleanup Coordination

Conducted a COALS Cleanup in partnership with the Wilkes University Freshman Orientation Class of 2007, Newport Township Commissioners, Newport Township Community Organization, Newport Cemetary Association, Pennsylvania Environmental Council-NE Office, PA DEP, Waste Management, Earth Conservancy, Kasey-Cassa Coal Company, and the PA Game Commission at the Newport Cemetary Problem Area AML Site; 150 bags (~ 2 Tons) of trash were removed from a ¾ mile stretch of road and surrounding AML areas, along with 45 tires, 2 couches, a refrigerator, a recliner

Conferences and Trainings

- Coordinated the 9th Annual AMR Conference in State College, at the Ramada Conference Center; 130 attendees, 22 Exhibitors, 5 Sponsors; 2 Day Conference centered on the theme of "Getting Your Watershed's Priorities Straight"
- Confirmed with Bucknell University's Professor Karl Kirby that the Regional Coordinator will be speaking at the 2nd Annual Susquehanna River Symposium on the State of Abandoned Mine Reclamation Projects in the Susquehanna River Basin

Conservation District Communications

- Attended the Luzerne Conservation District Budget/Finance Committee Meeting to review the half-way point to the District Budget and the EPCAMR Program Budget
- 3rd Quarter EPCAMR Board of Trustees Annual Meeting was conducted at the Luzerne Conservation District

Internship Coordination

 Completed a final evaluation of Joe Looker-OSM/EPCAMR/LCD Summer Intern with his Bloomsburg University Advisor Dr. Amin Shahalamin at the EPCAMR Office; Joe completed a 12 week OSM-sponsored internship with the Luzerne Conservation District/EPCAMR