

EPCAMR



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July 2010 Progress Report

Education & Outreach

- EPCAMR Executive Director interviewed Wren Dugan for our available OSM/VISTA Watershed Development Coordinator position; She is from Meadville, PA and has a BFA from Cleveland Institute of Art, OH and has strengths in fundraising, art, event planning, teaching, and database management; Provided her with EPCAMR's Work Plan and Narrative; She'll be starting following her PSO Training on August 21st; Provided Wren with contact information for the local housing authorities, local newspapers, and other information to assist her with finding a place once she gets into town
- Participated in the ACCWT Supervisor Orientation Webinar that was mandatory for all sponsors of OSM/VISTAs
- Requested a calendar of events from Walt Dietz-PA Fish & Boat Commission related to any upcoming Fishing Skills Instructor workshops for the EPCAMR Staff
- Conducted an AMD/AML Outreach Education and AMD Tie Dye Program with **12** youth for the Endless Mountains/Pocono NE RC & DC Woodland Resources Adventure Camp, Dushore, PA at The Haft Camp
- Completed and submitted to Jessica Anderson a questionnaire at the request of the Pennsylvania Environmental Council related to a nominated put forth for the Executive Director to receive one of their 40 Under 40 Environmental Awards this year at the PEC's 40th Anniversary Dinner and Celebration; Winners will receive:
 - One-year membership to Pennsylvania Environmental Council
 - Award Certificate suitable for framing
 - Recognition at PEC 40th Anniversary Celebration Event
 - Two complimentary tickets to PEC 40th Anniversary Event in Harrisburg
 - Media Recognition
 - Recognition in PEC publications
- Received valuable links from Tim Craddock-WV Save our Streams and posted them on our website
 1. **Bioassessment equipment:** <http://www.dep.wv.gov/WWE/getinvolved/sos/Pages/Bio-equipment.aspx>
 2. **The basic kit:** <http://www.dep.wv.gov/WWE/getinvolved/sos/Pages/Basicbiokit.aspx>; this page provides a list and brief description of the equipment usually given to volunteer monitoring groups
 3. **Guide to aquatic invertebrates:** <http://www.dep.wv.gov/WWE/getinvolved/sos/Pages/Macroguideintro.aspx>

4. **Hands-on experiments for learning about AMD:** <http://www.dep.wv.gov/WWE/getinvolved/sos/Pages/AMDEXperiments.aspx>
5. **Overview of water chemistry:** <http://www.dep.wv.gov/WWE/getinvolved/sos/Pages/Chemicalintegrity.aspx>
6. **Standard operating procedures:** <http://www.dep.wv.gov/WWE/getinvolved/sos/Pages/SOPs.aspx>; this site is the place to go in order learn more about specific procedures, to download manuals and get information about the program's [custom](#) LaMotte kit.
7. **Wetland and Riparian Flora:** http://www.dep.wv.gov/WWE/getinvolved/sos/Pages/WV_wetlandflora.aspx

Technical Assistance

- Provided Bernie McGurl-Executive Director of LRCA with a Master database of National flow meter companies and private firms that EPCAMR and LRCA will be following up with to see if they have any types of metering devices that can be inserted and installed securely within the Old Forge AMD Borehole on the Lackawanna River to assist us with properly monitoring the flow measurements from the discharge on a continuous basis; Received a letter from Bernie that was requesting assistance from these companies with the anticipated monitoring devices that should work at the Borehole and sent it out to each of the companies within the database individually
- Prepared and provided our OSM Intern a letter of recommendation to go along with his application for admissions and transfer to Keystone College from Montana State University
- Coordinated with Anne Daymut-WPCAMR Program Manager about scheduling a time to come out to Clearfield County in August to finish up the filming of our Formation of AMD video
- River Network hosted a webinar on the power of the 401 water quality certification as a tool for protecting and restoring local rivers; Now you can listen and learn at your leisure by visiting <http://www.rivernet.org/resource-library/401-certification-webinar> ; This 101-level training, is suitable for river and watershed organizations, land trusts, tribal governments, and wildlife or lands groups interested in better understanding the power of one of the Clean Water Act's core programs; The 401 water quality certification policy allows states to review and then veto or place conditions on activities requiring a federal license/permit that may result in a discharge; This includes but is not limited to wetland dredge and fill permits under the 404 program, FERC hydropower licensing, pollution discharge permits in states and tribal lands where U.S. EPA issues the permits, and more. The 401 certification process is a rare chance to fundamentally change the way in which an activity is conducted (e.g. requiring buffers, revegetation, time restrictions on activity during spawning, etc.) or to stop it all together when the activity will violate water quality standards.
- Provided input to the PA RC & DC on their upcoming fall Strategic Planning with the Non-Profit Leadership Institute
- Provided technical assistance to Mehoopany Creek Watershed Association on when to conduct a limestone sand dosing in the Fall of 2010
- Researched and reviewed information provided to EPCAMR Staff by Robert Marmo on the Air Jammer Venturi Aerator AMD treatment device
- Reviewed an initial idea/proposal from Joe Miller to work on a pump storage idea of AMD for hydroelectric power generation and AMD treatment; Provided Joe with a field tour of the Southern

Wyoming Valley to show him around to some of the typical AMD discharges and flows in the area; Conference call was held with his partner from Florida Turbine Technologies to discuss future partnership opportunities and research ideas

Project Coordination

- Completed the EPCAMR 319 Reimbursement and Progress Report for June 2010
- Provided Jeff McNelly-ARIPPA Executive Director with an update on the number of grant applications submitted to date for the chance to receive financial grant awards thanks to a partnership built by ARIPPA, EPCAMR, and WPCAMR that is allowing us to award **\$10,000** to be distributed to the successful grant awardees in late August at ARIPPA's 40th Anniversary Convention; The two Coalitions will be leveraging this money for AMD remediation, AML reclamation, historic preservation on AML, and recreational opportunities or economic development opportunities on AML to groups that are generally in support of utilizing coal ash for beneficial use at abandoned mine sites
- Worked with the Northumberland County Conservation District to try and schedule a meeting to discuss a possible AML reclamation project on a large culm bank in Northumberland County in the Shamokin Creek Watershed; There were difficulties with most partners settling on a date for the meeting in July
- Discussed with Ian Palmer-Researcher the need to return our EPCAMR issued lap top for the Mine Pool Mapping Project to the Office due to our recent break in on June 19th, where a lap top was stolen; Requested the status of how far along he was in the Panther Valley area of the Main Stem of the Schuylkill River
- Working with Patty Woods-PA DEP Bureau of Waste Management to clear up discrepancies with our previous reimbursement to the illegal dump grant program; Moving budgetary funds around to different categories
- Meeting in Duryea Borough with LRCA, PA Tectonics, SRBC, BAMR, and EPCAMR Staff to review our scope of work for finding the boreholes within the Scranton-Metro Mine Pool complex and to discuss the clearing of the invasive plants and debris around the Old Forge Borehole; Discussed how to get access to the site and ways in which we were going to think about future monitoring
- Meeting with Walt Dietz-PA Fish & Boat Commission to review the mandatory training and paperwork for the recently awarded **\$5000** aquatic resources education grant that EPCAMR received

Conference Coordination

- EPCAMR Executive Director set up a meeting with Patrick Genetti, Genetti's Hotel and Banquet Center, Hazleton, PA to go on a walkthrough of the facility, rooms, breakout areas, and exhibit spaces for consideration of our 13th Annual AMR Conference that will undoubtedly be held in the Anthracite Region in 2011

Community Cleanups

- Prepared a Letter of request to Rob Kreheley for donated water from the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority for our upcoming scheduled Illegal Dump Site cleanups
- Provided Lisa Rankin-Travelocity Employee Volunteer Coordinator with a flyer on the upcoming Avondale AML Cleanup; She is interested in helping to get more employees in the Hanover Industrial Park location involved in our local volunteer cleanup and education activities as well as starting a matching employee/employer program with EPCAMR
- Coordinated with Megan Boone-VISTA Community Projects Coordinator for Wilkes University about the upcoming Avondale and Susquehanna Warrior Trail Cleanup in Plymouth Township as a part of the illegal dump cleanup grant on July 12th; **25** incoming freshmen students assisted on the cleanup
- Prepared Final Progress Report, Narrative, and Summary Statistics for the Illegal Dump Cleanup Grant to be submitted to Patty Woods in Harrisburg

EPCAMR Program Administration

- Received an e-mail from Josh Longmore and the Luzerne Conservation District stating that EPCAMR did not owe them any additional funds or outstanding reimbursements since our departure in June 2009
- Transferred funds from our PA Invest Account to our General Checking Account to reimburse expenses paid out to the Hicks Creek AML Natural Stream Channel Design & Construction Project
- Reconciled EPCAMR's new checking account with QuickBooks



Landscape view of the Old Forge AMD Borehole discharge entering the Lackawanna River