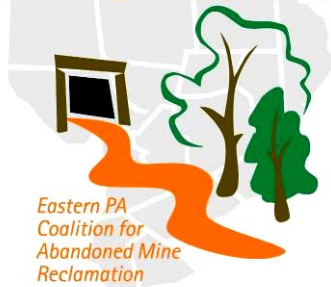


# EPCAMR



## Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

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## July 2011 Progress Report

### **Highlights:**

- Conference and Dinner Fundraiser Planning in full swing. EPCAMR staff hosted 2 AMR Conference Calls. EPCAMR staff worked on a 3,000+ Insight.ly contact database (Google Apps donated premium service). Sent 235 hard copy invitations to dinner and registered 80+. Registered 105 for the conference. Coordinated 2 watershed tours: for approximately 12 teachers and a pre-conference tour.
- Completed a draft 2011-2012 EPCAMR Operational Budget for review and approval by board
- Met with Senator Blake, Congressman Barletta's Legislative aide and OFBH Monitoring Project Partners on site.
- EPCAMR staff sampled 14 boreholes in the Lackawanna Valley. Began digitizing maps and cross section for the Jeddo basin (eastern middle field). Created 2 tour maps, 1 database related to the AML statistics by Congressional District and created RAMLIS 11 for partners.
- Updated [www.epcamr.org](http://www.epcamr.org), and [www.treatminewater.com](http://www.treatminewater.com). Administered the EPCAMR facebook page and Google Apps for Nonprofits account (recently upgraded with more premium services).

### **Education and Outreach:**

- Met with Senator Blake at his Scranton office with EPCAMR President, Bernie McGurl, to get acquainted and garner his support for our Borehole Awareness Campaign. The senator was interested in helping where he could when talking to municipalities and took our information regarding the preservation effort.
- EPCAMR staff brainstormed a Shamokin Creek Watershed Tour Route for a teacher training workshop planned the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Conducted the day tour with the help of Jaci Harner, Northumberland County Conservation District Watershed Specialist and volunteers from Shamokin Creek Restoration Alliance. Teachers were exposed to a wide cross section of AMD, AML, treatment for these problems and Coal Region Geology in 4 hours.
- Updated the AMR Conference Website include new information as it was trickling in. Posted a draft program and presenter information as well as sponsor information to [www.treatminewater.com](http://www.treatminewater.com).
- Updated the EPCAMR 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner / Fundraiser page to include information about sponsors and artists participating in the Anthrascapes Art exhibit.
- Fixed the mailing address of approximately 90 potential sponsors of the EPCAMR Dinner / Fundraiser using Insight.ly. EPCAMR staff began merging and deleting duplicate contacts manually to fix more mailing addresses in the over 3,000 individual contacts database. Created a mailing address list of 235 individuals, businesses and organizations to invite to the Dinner/Fundraiser and/or solicit donations. This was an additional \$443 cost (not including staff time) that was not anticipated in the original dinner/fundraiser budget. The actual registrations resulting from this mailing was approximately 10 pieces (less than 5% return, but mailing addresses were verified for future use).

- Worked on assisting, accepting, processing and confirming attendees of the PA AMR Conference via e-mail as registrations started pouring in. Entire days were spent up to 2 weeks before the conference processing registrations. Added attendees to an excel sheet to keep track of which parts of the conference they planned on attending. Checked mail and paypal as payments came in.
- Sent an EPCAMR Dinner/Fundraiser invitation e-mail to EPCAMR Board Members and Associates. Also notified them of EPCAMR Membership Renewals which are due by the annual meeting in August.
- Received word that Scott Alexander, a confirmed speaker from PA DEP, had to drop out as a speaker. Notified the conference committee via e-mail and began looking for a replacement. Rebecca Dunlap, Trout Unlimited, was suggested and humbly accepted.
- EPCAMR staff met with Stephanie Pollock, Legislative Aide to Congressman Lou Barletta, to talk about projects within his district and our "Borehole Awareness Campaign." Feedback from Stephanie related to the fact that U.S. Congressmen are less connected to individual municipalities and that we should contact state representatives. She did, however, pass information on to the congressman related to a national Environmental Good Samaritan Act which is needed to continue cleaning up AMD in light of the recent court outcome known as the "Keeley Decision."
- EPCAMR staff collaborated on tent cards for the EPCAMR Dinner as a take away memorabilia for dinner attendees. The cards not only thanked attendees, but explained the source of centerpieces, contained a testimonial from those who received a service from EPCAMR staff in the past and were marked with a historical gold foil seal from the Glen Alden Coal Company (or subsidiary).
- EPCAMR staff hosted 2 AMR Conference Calls with conference planning committee members. Provided minutes from the previous call, a reminder and a tentative agenda for the call.
- Created EPCAMR Program Manager monthly report for the previous month, gathered other staff reports, posted them to [www.epcamr.org](http://www.epcamr.org) and sent to PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) 319 Nonpoint source (NPS) program staff.
- Received the 1996 AMR Conference program and agenda from Mike Korb and posted it to [www.treatminewater.com](http://www.treatminewater.com) in PDF format to confirm the 13<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the longest running conference on abandoned coal mining issues in PA.
- Worked on updating the EPCAMR Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Operational Budget and sent it via e-mail to the EPCAMR Board of Trustees Budget Committee for review and recommendation for approval at the upcoming annual board meeting. Found a reimbursement mistake that occurred due to an employee vs. employer tax discrepancy.
- Notified that EPCAMR was approved for a Google Apps for NonProfits Account which upgrades our free account and adds several preferred services for free. Some services include read receipts and 25 GB of e-mail storage per account. For more information visit <http://www.google.com/apps/intl/en/nonprofit/index.html>.
- Aided EPCAMR VISTA, Wren Dugan, in the design of the Program for the EPCAMR Dinner and Note Paper for the AMR Conference folders. Researched former and present EPCAMR Board Members for inclusion in the dinner program and for appreciation certificates. Searched through photos on EPCAMR Program Manager Laptop to add to the slideshow of photos that will be displayed on a projector during the dinner.
- Received word that the Eckley Players would need to modify their performance from The Inquest to Mother Jones due to a scheduling conflict. Updated the program and website to reflect the change. Continued editing the program and sent a draft to the AMR Conference Committee for approval. Missy Reckner, Kiski-Conemaugh Stream Team, edited the document and relayed the corrections over the phone. Posted this draft to [www.treatminewater.com](http://www.treatminewater.com).
- Spoke with EPCAMR Past President, Ed Wytovich, about tour. He followed the directions in a drive around the tour route to make sure it could be done in the time allotted and that sites were accessible. Draft AMR Conference was sent to Ed as he was to approve and help fill in tour

stop information. The rest of the historical tour stop information was researched by EPCAMR VISTA, Wren Dugan, and filled in accordingly.

- EPCAMR staff edited an access agreement and sent it along to Pagnotti Inc. to allow tour attendees access to the Jeddo Tunnel Property.
- Made a second call to the Motor Transportation Co., Inc. to finalize the route and get a contract. I got a very unprofessional response. No one at the office remembered that I called in the middle of June. They did not have internet at their office nor communicate through e-mail and could not view the tour route. They said they typically need 2 weeks for a contract, payment was due immediately and they needed me to fax the route immediately. They also said the bus could not go on dirt roads, which ruled out a few sites on the agenda. Having only a week to go, we decided to use the company anyway.
- Received word that another AMR Conference speaker, Oscar Alvarado, had to back out since the Canadian Prime Minister was visiting a site of theirs. He offered his presentation to be posted to the [www.treatminewater.com](http://www.treatminewater.com) and gave his sincere apologies. This actually allowed us to give the Datashed.org Saturday Workshop the full 3 slots they were looking for initially.

### **Technical Assistance:**

- Georeferenced Eckley north and south and Jeddo basin maps for the Jeddo Highland Project. EPCAMR Intern, Justyna, began drawing veins on the cross sections in R2V for the 3D Model.
- Received the “go ahead” from Earth Conservancy to monitor the Askam Borehole quarterly and pre and post construction of a new treatment system, now in design phase.
- Prepared an invoice for the Espy Run Sampling Project and submitted it to Earth Conservancy. Spoke with Jackie Dickman about the Qualified Hydrologic Unit Plan (QHUP) process and the need for watersheds to have them developed to continue to ascertain state and federal funding to treat AMD.
- Started and completed an update to the Reclaimed Abandoned Mine Land Inventory System (RAMLIS) GIS CD Tool to bring it current to version 11. Created an ISO file to easily make copies of the CD Tool.
- Traveled around Scranton to complete a monthly round of testing the water level in 14 boreholes in the Scranton Metropolitan Mine Pool with EPCAMR VISTA. Copied these values to an excel spreadsheet setup to calculate the depth of water into water levels based off the surface elevation of the boreholes.
- Contacted PA 1 Call to ask about how to add the borehole locations to the database and notify those wanting to do construction / street paving projects that they exist. PA 1 Call is a member service and we would need to be the owners of the utility or pay a fee to have them added.
- Contacted our local PA Fish and Boat Commission office to ask about any fisheries / biologist reports that may be available for Wyoming Valley Watersheds and if they could be forwarded to our office.
- Contacted Maurice Gardner, PA DEP Mine Subsidence Insurance Program, to ask how mine subsidence prone areas were going to be dealt with in Eastern PA now that OSM is closing the Wilkes-Barre Office. Offered to create similar maps to those developed for Western PA municipalities. These maps could help residents learn which areas are within the extent of coal and which areas are known or suspected subsidence prone areas (from the AMLIS inventory).
- Updated the RAMLIS Page, added a RAMLIS Button to the homepage, and reordered the navigation menu to add an Awards Page and Archive link to the old EPCAMR website from [www.epcamr.org](http://www.epcamr.org).
- EPCAMR staff met with Lackawanna River Corridor Association (LRCA) staff, Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) staff and PA Tectonics staff to discuss further options to monitor the flow at the Old Forge Borehole and Duryea Outfall. SRBC staff suggested a staggered set of pressure transducers to help equate a distance/pressure difference to a flow where other technologies have failed. EPCAMR staff suggested a 6’ rectangular weir and

transducer be installed at the Duryea Outfall, similar to setup at several Shamokin Creek AMD Discharges. Sent flow calculating spreadsheet to SRBC and LRCA staff.

- Scanned the 1964 Duryea and Old Forge Borehole Discharge Elimination Report by the PA Department of Health and e-mailed it to Bernie McGurl, LRCA. The report talks about combining the discharges into one treatment, which is a method that is being considered still today.
- EPCAMR VISTA's laptop screen went on the fritz (with 1 week to go before the conference and dinner). Luckily, I was able to fix it by reattaching a wire in the back of the screen.
- Worked with EPCAMR Intern, Justyna, to show her how to pull AMD/AML statistics from RAMLIS and breakdown totals based on U.S. Congressional Districts. These statistics were added to an excel database in which statistics were added per PA Senate and House District in 2007. These tables were sent to ARIPPA and WPCAMR for use in speaking with Legislators.
- Assisted Earth Conservancy staff with reading older CDs and burning copies that their computers could read.