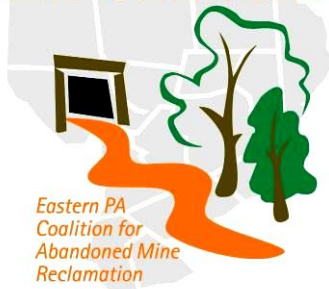


EPCAMR



Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

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July 2014 Progress Report

Education & Outreach

- Attended a meeting in Harrisburg, PA at the PA Fish & Boat Commission's SC Regional Office to provide input into the PA Game Commission's State Wildlife Plan as a part of the *PGC Wildlife Habitat Planning Technical Committee*; EPCAMR provided unique input to the plan related to bats, herps, and wildlife that are encountered on abandoned mine lands, underground abandoned mines, and reclaimed abandoned mine sites; Cathy Haffner, Wildlife Biologist and Conservation Planning Coordinator provided EPCAMR with a new data set; The terrestrial and aquatic habitat classification systems, along with other analyses (e.g., landscape resilience), are available through the Nature Conservancy Conservation Gateway:
<https://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationByGeography/NorthAmerica/UnitedStates/edc/reportsdata/mapsdata/Pages/default.aspx>
- Continued writing a draft outline on EPCAMR's Urban EE Programs and Case Studies for a Chapter with the Urban EE Group with *Cornell University* and *EE Capacity* in partnership with the US EPA and partnered with *Sheena Falconer*-who works on watershed work in British Columbia who is interested in co-authoring the Chapter; Followed up with *Ruth Roperti, PAEE* about attendance at the *NAAEE Conference* in Canada in October 2014, where representatives of the PA Consortia will be allowed to attend on scholarship to present and be a part of a series of workshops and panel discussions; EPCAMR submitted a presentation proposal at the request of the NAAEE President Lori Mann and it was accepted
- Provided a final evaluation to Professor Elaine Reeder, for *Tatiana Markovich*, EPCAMR's Graphics Design Intern from Camden County Community College, Camden NJ, that worked with EPCAMR virtually for nearly 3 months to complete several projects as a part of her internship experience
- EPCAMR signed on to a support letter from *Clean Water Action* that will be going to the US EPA in support of the Clean Water Act after a phone call from *Liz Higgins*, Clean Water Action

Technical Assistance

- EPCAMR Watershed Outreach Specialists, Elizabeth Rosser and, Dana Sword began working on the *EC Trails* that EPCAMR will be marking for the month of July and August 2014 on 3 different trail systems in the Southern Wyoming Valley
- Contacted PA DEP BAMR to see if EPCAMR could assist the Huber Breaker Preservation Society with obtaining the Pink Ash Fan, from the Pink Ash Colliery, all the way up in the tip of the Northern Fields, near Forest City, from a reclamation job that is currently being undertaken by the Commonwealth; The HBPS would like to have it placed within the Huber Miner's Memorial Park; HBPS may need a flat bed truck to obtain and haul the fan from the site

- Completed field work with Blake Maurer–SRBC Intern, at several AMD discharges around the EPCAMR Region to place staff gages to assist with future monitoring of mine discharge flows from the Solomon Creek Boreholes, Askam Boreholes, and the Duryea Breach (the gage was not able to be installed here due to a recent creation of a beaver dam)
- Provided a letter of support to the Earth Conservancy for their **Bliss Blank Abandoned Mine Reclamation Project Phase II Growing Greener Project**
- James Glenn, Pollock Enterprises forwarded EPCAMR several shots of illegal dumping going on in the Newport Creek Watershed, near Whitney Pointe, just outside of Honey Pot, near Nanticoke, PA and was seeking our assistance in coordinating a future cleanup of the area in the Fall 2014
- EPCAMR worked on a Growing Greener proposal to provide **Technical Flow Monitoring, Chemical Loading Monitoring, 3D Mine Pool Modeling and Mapping throughout the EPCAMR Region**; Submitted the proposal
- EPCAMR worked on another Growing Greener proposal to **Study Plumbing for limestone type tank AMD Treatment Systems** in partnership with Hedin Environmental, Babb Creek Watershed Association, Catawissa Creek Restoration Association, Schuylkill Conservation District, and the Columbia County Conservation District; Submitted the proposal
- Provided a letter of support to *Kate Totino*, Grants and Gift Research Manager for Misericordia University for a STEM Proposal that the University is submitting; EPCAMR Executive Director would be an invited guest speaker for college students on environmental careers in the STEM field
- OSM provided EPCAMR with a free sampling plan design and statistical analysis program software package due to our affiliation with the TIPS Program; <http://vsp.pnnl.gov/>
- Meeting with *Dan Summa*, CEO/Founder of *Keystone Pure Water Tech Inc.* to discuss the Scranton Lace Works Redevelopment Geothermal Project that will utilize mine water from within the Scranton-Metro Mine Pool Complex; EPCAMR has assisted with a CFA Application with the private company; Provided Dan with a Letter of Support for the project
- EPCAMR looked for geologic cross sections of the Lackawanna Valley near Dickson City, where the K-Mart is located at the request of *Martin Gilgallon*, P.G. for *PA Tectonics, Inc.*; None were found and reported back; OSM Folios for the Cayuga & Storrs Colliery (their approximate original contours): 9O, 9OO, 9P and 9U were found however
- Informed by *Joe Dal Santo*, high school student from Wyoming Valley West, that he received his Eagle Scout Badge by passing his Board of Review from the Boy Scouts of America, following his volunteer work to plant trees in EPCAMR's Waterboxxes at the Espy Run AMD Treatment location on Earth Conservancy property in the Nanticoke Creek Watershed
- Provided *Jim Wetzel*, Weatherly Borough, PA volunteer with a link to hydrographs in the White Haven area so that he can see the precipitation data around Hazle Creek for the **Hazle Creek QHUP Development Project**

Project Coordination

- Attended the Ashley Borough Council Meeting on June 1st to provide them with an overview of the **Solomon Creek Trout Stream Habitat Improvement and Dam Removal Project** that EPCAMR is working on in partnership with the PA Fish & Boat Commission, PA DOT, Stanley Cooper Chapter of Trout Unlimited, and the Ashley Trout Stocking Association; Mitigation funding is available through PA DOT and EPCAMR is working on developing a Scope of Work, Budget, and Cooperative Agreement that could be completed by the Fall of 2014 with the PA Fish & Boat Commission that will be between (\$100-136K) and take a year to complete; Much of the fill can be used onsite to improve the borough road leading into the park area; EPCAMR obtained a parcel boundary file from Earth Conservancy and provided it to PA Fish & Boat Commission

- EPCAMR Staff and Watershed Outreach Specialists assisted Ray Clarke, from the Huber Breaker Preservation Society, with publicizing a volunteer event on Facebook and through an article in the Citizen's Voice written by Bill Wellock, for the **Huber Colliery Sign Restoration Project** and setting up the 40' Huber Colliery sign on horses at the *Huber Miner's Memorial Park*, Ashley, PA prior to scraping, priming, and painting it for future construction at an entranceway into the Park along the Memorial; Updated the HBPS brochure
- EPCAMR coordinated and organized a field trip to Centralia, PA, the location of one of the more famous mine fire's in the country from the 1960's and surveyed the borough and surrounding area for a planned future **Fall 2014 Illegal Dump Site Cleanup in Centralia Project** in partnership with the PEC NE Office, International Coastal Cleanup organization, Keep PA Beautiful, Bridgestone Tire, ARIPPA, former Drexel University film students, the Commonwealth of PA, and two coal companies (Pagnotti Enterprises and Blaschok Coal); Joe is working on a fundraising promo for the Fall Cleanup; EPCAMR was featured in the short documentary on Centralia recently; <http://vimeo.com/96612018>
- Attended the Nanticoke City Council Meeting on July 16th to provide the Mayor and Council with an overview of the **Nanticoke & Newport Creek MS4 Public Outreach & Education Growing Greener Grant** that EPCAMR prepared and submitted on behalf of the City; LRCA provided EPCAMR with lots of resources on stormwater management, green infrastructure, and materials to assist with the development of the grant application
- Attended a meeting with Susquehanna Mining Solutions, LLC (SMS) and other partners in Harrisburg, PA at the SRBC to discuss a recently submitted **Consumptive Use Mitigation Proposal for the Old Forge AMD Boreholes** for funding consideration
- *Neil Wolfe*, P.E., Hedin Environmental received the approval to go ahead with the change in construction plans for the **Lewis Mine Treatment System Rehabilitation Project**; Hedin is beginning to put the bid documents together so that EPCAMR can get some contractors out to the site in the late Summer, early Fall 2014

Conference Coordination, Training, Conferences, Workshops

- Convened our 16th PA AMR Conference Planning Committee Wrap-up Conference Call; OSM is interested in doing a joint conference once again in 2015; EPCAMR Interns completed entering in survey evaluations from the 2014 Conference to provide to Conference Planning Committee partners; Reviewed our totals on income, expenses, fundraisers, scholarships, sponsors, silent auction success, presentations that will be posted on www.treatminewater.com and general feedback going into 2015; Reviewed Ramada Inn Conference Center bill; Posted Ed Gerst's PSU Harrisburg's Master's Graduate Thesis Poster "**A Novel Approach to Use Biofuel Crop Plants to remediate AML in PA**" on the conference website that was completed with technical support and resources provided by EPCAMR; http://2014.treatminewater.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/GerstE.AMDConference.SC_.2014.pdf

Community Volunteer Coordination

- EPCAMR Staff coordinated the **Spring Run Stormwater Channel Cleanup**, a tributary to the Solomon Creek Watershed, along S. Empire Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA with **24** Wilkes University incoming Freshman students; **20** bags of trash (~**600** pounds) were collected and disposed of by the City of Wilkes-Barre's Public Works Department
- *Bryson Creighton*, Pittsburgh, PA is interested in becoming a Marketing & Graphics Design EPCAMR Volunteer; EPCAMR will be following up with him as project opportunities arise; www.brysoncreighton.com
- *Jennifer Olivo*, Somerset, NJ, signed up to become an EPCAMR Volunteer Nature Photographer through our VolunteerMatch site and MailChimp database
- *Aaron Dolezal*, West Des Moines, IA, signed up to become an EPCAMR Volunteer Nature Photographer through our VolunteerMatch site and was put in touch with Todd Coffelt, from the Iowa Mines and Minerals Department; <http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/minesandminerals.asp>

- *Andrea Marello*, Ashley, PA is interested in becoming an EPCAMR Volunteer Iron Oxide Processor; Forwarded her the link to our online Volunteer Form
- *Naomi Hardy*, Scranton, PA is interested in becoming an EPCAMR Volunteer Nature Photography Assistant; Forwarded her the link to our online Volunteer Form
- *Judith Roth*, Scranton, PA is interested in becoming an EPCAMR Volunteer Iron Oxide Processor and completed our online Volunteer Form; EPCAMR Executive Director met with her and gave her an introduction to our work, goals, and mission; She asked to be kept in the loop on our art activities and iron oxide recovery efforts
- *Laura Stark*, Luzerne, PA, another local volunteer was interested in becoming a Graphics Design Volunteer with EPCAMR; She completed our online Volunteer Registration Form and told EPCAMR of her availability; Informed her that EPCAMR would be in touch with her when opportunities arise; Her online portfolio is at <http://www.behance.net/laurastark>
- *Danielle Antonello-Smolley*, Dallas, PA is a corporate and event photographer with roots in photojournalism and is interested in becoming an EPCAMR Nature Photography Assistant; Forwarded her the link to our online Volunteer Form
- *Isabel Rascon*, Fort Lee, VA is interested in becoming a Volunteer Rock Collector for EPCAMR and is willing to ship us rocks from her State for our collection from around the country; She has signed up to become a volunteer with EPCAMR through the online Volunteer Form
- *Robert Hill*, Freeland, PA is a freelance photographer that would like to get involved as a volunteer with EPCAMR; Forwarded him the link to our online Volunteer Form

EPCAMR Program Administration

- Reconciliation of our EPCAMR and PA Invest Accounts; Meeting with President-Bernie McGurl to sign checks;
- Worked through some billing issues that EPCAMR was having with Verizon to clear our account of any balance due since our bundled packaged was not provided as stated in the documentation that we received several months ago; Provided them with our PA Exemption Certificate since they had been charging us taxes on our phone lines
- Filed and forwarded all the new W-4s (Dana, Elizabeth, Gabby, Simon) to RJ Zagrapan, our Payroll Services company for the seasonal part-time Trail Markers who will be working for EPCAMR on the ***EC Trail Marking Project***
- Requested that EPCAMR be added as a Cooperating Agency listed on the Tioga County Conservation District's website since we work regionally on some AMD Treatment System Projects and other watershed related efforts throughout the County