

# EPCAMR



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MONTHLY BOARD REPORT - JUNE 2006

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Five workdays on Avondale Hill have included 36 volunteers with 320 hours put into preparing the site's gardens, finishing details of the memorial plaque, and clearing the parking area. Significant donations have been given such as 20 tons of topsoil, dozens of perennial flowers, and supplies the work requires. The in-kind donations for this project within the past three months total: \$7300
- I am preparing for the cleanup I am coordinating with Nanticoke Housing Authority on 7/22. Gathering supplies, leading site visits, and partnering with a program that will cover the dumpster and landfill fees have been the most rewarding successes for this project this month.

## WEEK OF JUNE 3, 2006

- Avondale Workday on 6/6 with 12 volunteers working for 4 hours. We planned the garden, cleared brush, scrubbed graffiti, and mowed the grass.
- Prepared for OSM/VISTA Training by completing tasks the non-local organizers, Jenny Becksted – OSM/VISTA Team Leader and Allan Comp – OSM Correspondent, asked of me. Created directions with a map for traveling participants and answered all questions.
- Provided an evening, 1 hour presentation at Ricketts Glen on 6/3 for weekend campers with Devon Rother. We talked about the causes and effects of abandoned mine drainage.

## WEEK OF JUNE 10, 2006

- Attended OSM/VISTA training 6/5, 6/6, and 6/7 at the Pennsylvania State University Campus – Wilkes-Barre. Trainees traveled from all states in the Northern Appalachian coal fields. We learned about managing monitoring data, grant writing, education tools, and about our team and its goals and expectations. Acted as host, along with Robert Hughes, Mike Hewitt, Rob Lavelle, and Devon Rother.
- Prepared for and co-led site-visit meeting with representatives from the Clean Our Anthracite Lands and Streams (COALS), from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and from Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC) to look at potential dumpsite cleanups on 6/8. We were appealing for their assistance.
- Wrote thank you cards for past projects such as the Riverlands cleanup and for Avondale donations.
- Began In-kind reporting for OSM/VISTA Quarterly Report 03.

## WEEK OF JUNE 17, 2006

- Attended Avondale workday on 6/12 with 4 other volunteers. We worked on the site preparing the gardens and deciding our next steps for 2.5 hours. Organized and recruited volunteers and donations, as well as planned garden for next work day on 6/22.

### **WEEK OF JUNE 17, 2006 CONT'D**

- Continued designing stormwater website.
- Joined Devon Rother in meeting with an artist in Nanticoke for her project.
- Devon Rother explored access with me for the Hay Street cleanup site. Hiked all trails and drove perimeter. Communicated findings with our partners at Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Clean Our Anthracite Lands and Streams (COALS), and Perry Clay from Nanticoke Housing Authority. Further refined plans for the upcoming cleanup on 7/22.
- OFF 6/14 for Flag Day.
- OFF 6/15 and 6/16 for personal days.

### **WEEK OF JUNE 24, 2006**

- Finished layout and design of the stormwater website. Loaded my work onto the live website. Mike Hewitt taught me parts of the Windows FrontPage Program. Evaluated work and refined it.
- Wrote an evaluation of life in the first four months as a VISTA at the request of Jenny Becksted, VISTA Team Leader, for Judith Russel, VISTA State office.
- Continued work on OSM/VISTA Quarterly Report. Prepared attachments to mail soon.
- Assisted fellow VISTA in brainstorming goals and objectives for sustainability.
- Planned garden for Avondale, recruited volunteers, sought donations, picked up donations. Perennial flowers and topsoil donated. Worked with Lowes for a donation request. Conducted a workday to shovel soil and outline garden. Contacted volunteers for workdays next week. Attended workday on 6/22 with 9 other volunteers and worked for 3.5 hours.

### **THRU OF JUNE 30, 2006**

- OFF 6/29 and 6/30 for personal days.