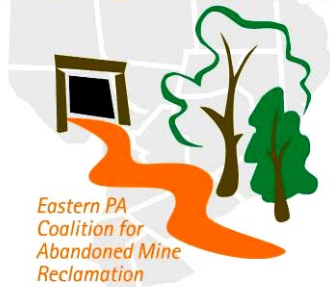


EPCAMR



Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

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June 2011 Progress Report

Highlights:

- EPCAMR staff hosted 2 AMR Conference Calls,. Conducted 1 tour and 2 indoor educational events to educate approximately 175 students total.
- EPCAMR staff sampled 14 boreholes in the Lackawanna Valley and 23 boreholes in the Wyoming Valley. Continued to write Part 3 of the Mine Pool Mapping (MPM) Report for the western middle and southern fields, worked on barrier pillars in the Wyoming Valley. Created 2 maps, 2 databases related to the MPM report and sent 2 RAMLIS CDs for EPCAMR partners.
- EPCAMR staff continued to coordinate the development of the AMR Conference and EPCAMR Dinner/Fundraiser
- Prepared 2 reimbursements and 2 proposals for professional services for EPCAMR partners. EPCAMR staff submitted grant for base level funding in FY 2012-2013 to the PA DEP 319 PGM
- Updated www.epcamr.org, and www.treatminewater.com. Administered the EPCAMR facebook page and Google Apps account.

Education and Outreach:

- Spent the day with Community Connections to Our Watersheds teacher and student participants as well as DCNR's Lackawanna and Nescopeck State Park staff on a field trip down the Susquehanna River in Wyoming and Lackawanna Counties.
- EPCAMR staff hosted 2 AMR Conference Calls with conference planning committee members. Provided minutes from the last 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 and sent to PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) 319 Nonpoint source (NPS) program staff.
- Updated presenters and program pages on www.treatminewater.com as presentations and speaker information rolled in. Posted news about updates. Fixed links to registration items on EPCAMR store after background updates to the website.
- EPCAMR staff conducted 2 Macro Mayhem Indoor Environmental Education Programs in partnership with Wilkes-Barre Area School District, PA Fish & Boat Commission and PPL at 75 Kistler Elementary School and 60 at Flood Elementary School.
- Meeting with Jessica Wolff, Harvard Grad Student, to accept posters and a presentation related to her masters thesis. Reviewed the information and edited a few dates and important legislation related to abandoned mine reclamation. Jessica will also be presenting the information at the AMR Conference.
- Started an attendee list for the AMR Conference as registrations began rolling in. Fielded questions about registration via phone and e-mail and referred some to the AMR Conference committee for an answer.

- Began receiving sponsorship notifications via e-mail, based on actual cash and discounts, and posted companies logos and a description of the service and/or relationship to EPCAMR to acknowledge their donation on the EPCAMR 15th Anniversary Dinner page on www.epcamr.org.
- Prepared a map with google maps to detail the AMR Conference Tour option chosen by the tour subcommittee. Created a draft post of the map to place on www.treatminewater.com.
- EPCAMR staff fulfilled an iron oxide order as requested through the online store and paid through PayPal. Order was sent to a Colorado watershed group.
- Traveled to 3 locations to place macroinvertebrate cutouts in the Wyoming Valley: where the clean water of Solomon Creek crosses Middle road, where clean water from Mill Creek crosses under Rte 315 during storm flows and where AMD impacted water crosses under the Sans Souci Parkway. Pollution tolerant bugs were placed near the AMD impacted section and pollution intolerant bugs near clean sections to represent water quality in those stretches. VISTA created a press release about the activity and sent to both local papers, but received no publicity. Posted photos and information on the EPCAMR facebook.
- Added an Archive Page to www.epcamr.org to restore access to the original EPCAMR website especially to see older news items.
- Prepared a reimbursement for work completed related to the Espy Run Treatment System Reconstruction Sampling project and submitted it to the Earth Conservancy.
- Prepared a proposal to sample water quality and quantity before, after and quarterly after the construction of the Askam Borehole Treatment System. Several iterations were discussed with Earth Conservancy staff and accepted for review.

Technical Assistance:

- EPCAMR staff edited the scope of work for the 319 Base Funding Grant for fiscal year 2012-2013 with feedback from PA DEP 319 Program Staff.
- Edited the Mine Pool Mapping / Reclaimed Abandoned Mine Land Inventory System (RAMLIS) GIS Map Document for EPCAMR intern to build a list of accessible and inaccessible boreholes in the Northern Anthracite Field. This list will be used in our “Borehole Awareness Campaign” to municipalities.
- Continued to write the Mine Pool Mapping Report Part 3 descriptions for the Gilberton, Bast, Tunnel, Germantown, Lavelle and Helfenstein Pools. Reviewed USGS Coal Investigation Series (C-Series) cross sections from C21 and C19 maps, mine maps and OSM Folios to discover additional rock tunnels and water flow paths thru mines. Completed describing ½ of the mines in the western middle field (Schuylkill/Northumberland County Border).
- Drew Germantown Pool #23 and Excelsior No. 1 Under Slope Pool #47 in Bureau of Mines TP727. Both these pools were not shown in Bureau of Mines Report 521, completed 4 years later and already drawn in the mine pool GIS layer.
- Confirmed that the Germantown mine is part of the Bast Mine Multi Colliery Hydrologic Unit (MCU) and separated from the Centralia Tunnel at current levels. It is connected at higher levels, but a breach in the barrier pillar is at a lower level to the Bast.
- Worked on the EPCAMR Operational Budget to draw down grants based on reimbursements that were filed with individual sources as the fiscal year for the state was coming to an end.
- Requested quotes for a wide format color scanner from several companies in an attempt to purchase one through Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) funding. Several good quotes were received for equipment under \$5,000, but news that the Office of Surface Mining Office was closing in Wilkes-Barre could free up some equipment and the purchase was put on hold.
- Added a few tasks to the Insight.ly Google App in an attempt to use it as it was intended as project management software. We are currently putting it to good use as a customer relationship management (CRM) tool as we are building solicitation lists for the upcoming EPCAMR Dinner and AMR Conference. Recently the application was taken out of “beta test” status and pay accounts were initiated. Contacted Insight.ly staff and were able to get the

\$29/month service for free as a donated service in a very heartfelt response from a beginner software company from Western Australia interested in helping non-profits. They were added in return as a Silver Sponsor for our EPCAMR Dinner.

- Added consultant and anthracite coal operator lists to Insight.ly Google App and tagged them as potential sponsors. Added the National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs (NAAML) Conference attendee list to the database as well and tagged them as potential conference attendees.
- EPCAMR staff updated the budget for the Qualified Hydrologic Unit Plan (QHUP) development for the Catawissa Creek Watershed with feedback from the Catawissa Creek Restoration Association (CCRA).
- Developed a WordPress formatted website for the Schuylkill Headwaters Association (SHA) at our nonprofit rate. The former site was developed in house by a VISTA, but was not easily updateable by current staff. Sat down with Megan Blackmon to explain some fundamentals of WordPress and web development in general.
- Researched the abundance of google maps plugins for WordPress, but found that after building a google map there are share options available what produce a code that can be pasted into the site.
- Loaded up approximately 60 computers and approximately 30 large monitors and took them to the Luzerne County Electronics Recycling Program at the Hanover High School on a Saturday.
- Sorting through "Roger's Box" with Robert to build the Mine Pool Mapping Report and aided Executive Director as he was looking for additional references and figures. Switched a reference to Reed et. al., related to the date each colliery closed, as it was incorrectly identified.
- Created borehole charts for sampling events between 1982-2003 in the western middle and 1975-1982 in the southern coal field. Created maps of each coal field detailing colliery and county boundaries labeled Figure 2.2 and 4.1. Produced statistics for the report: 69 collieries in the Western Middle and 60 in the Southern Coal Field, 19 MCUs in the Western Middle and 20+ in the Southern Field. The Western Middle Field covers approximately 85.8 square miles.
- Sent 2 RAMLIS CDs to Juniata College as requested by Foundation for PA Watersheds.
- Used Adobe Acrobat Pro 9 to scan USGS Reports from Reed and Growitz to recognize text through OCR.
- 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.
- Prepared Schuylkill County sampling data from the SRBC Anthracite Strategy AMD Monitoring Database as requested by the Schuylkill Conservation District Watershed Specialist.
- Searched intently for a USGS report authored by Hollowell in 1975 related to Mine Pools in the Lackawanna Watershed. Found an electronic copy of the report and maps related to a nuclear power plant study. Printed a map that shows the mine pool levels at the time based on shaft water levels. This map was also used in SCARLIFT reports.
- Produced 2 quarterly reports (combined into 1) to the SRBC related to work completed for the Anthracite Strategy, specifically for work completed in the Northern Anthracite Field: Wyoming Valley.
- EPCAMR staff traveled around the Wyoming Valley to complete a monthly round of testing the water level in 23 boreholes. Attempted to clean out 2 boreholes in Plymouth, with little success. Used the mud auger to attempt to bring up sediment which was washed into the Lance borehole. Pulled up several pieces of plastic and metal debris with the auger in the Nottingham borehole, but hit a solid blockage at about 12' down. Both boreholes seem to have become permanently blocked.
- Began working on digitizing mine pool features from Pagnotti Enterprise maps in the Eastern Middle Field.