



Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

Michael A. Hewitt, GISP
Program Manager

101 South Main Street
Ashley, PA 18706

Fax & Main Line: (570) 371-3522

E-mail: hardcoal@epcamr.org

March 2017 Progress Report

Highlights:

- Managed EPCAMR staff as they scanned 399 mine maps into TIFF images, georeferenced 128 & digitized 33 maps for the MSI Mine Mapping Grant. QA/QC checked work. Directly georeferenced maps.
- Participated in an **AMR Conference** call, 2 **AML Campaign** calls and a meeting with **LRCA**.
- Participated in 2 **DCNR** Community Connections to Our Watershed EE Events for **Luzerne** and **Lackawanna** Cos. Raised brook trout in the **TIC** Tank, battled an infestation of ick, continued YouTube live video stream and testing water quality all in the name of EE.
- EPCAMR staff worked on a 3D model for the **Rausch Creek, Schuylkill Co.** mine pool project. Sampled the **Plainsville Borehole Discharge** in **Luzerne Co.** EPCAMR staff uploaded data to www.datashed.org.
- Updated www.epcamr.org and www.treatminewater.com. Administered the EPCAMR Facebook and G Suite for Nonprofit accounts. Maintained GobbaDaPile in-house domain server.

Education, Outreach and Admin.:

- Created an AMR Conference Brochure as a promotional piece for the 2017 AMR Conference. Yes, there is a website and many email and social media pieces that have gone out, but some still like to see a trusty dusty tri-fold brochure.
- Updated www.epcamr.org pages: Lewis Treatment System Revamp, Solomon Creek Dam Removal Project, Solomon Creek CHP, Laurel Run CHP and www.treatminewater.com pages: tour, registration, news, presentations.
- EPCAMR staff participated in 2 AMR Campaign calls to talk about legislation related to abandoned mine reclamation.
- Updated a Welcome Packet for new EPCAMR Board Members.
- Updated AMR Conference registration as participants began signing up online and with checks.
- EPCAMR staff participated in an AMR Conference call.
- Met with EPCAMR President to sign checks (for the last time since the board decided to witch out payroll service that provides direct deposit). Changed desiccant and downloaded data from the OFBH transducer.
- Received the travel drive back from California DMO and reviewed the files. Some updates were made by DEP staff [MSI].
- Dropped off and picked up maps at PA DEP Wilkes-Barre BAMR [MSI].
- EPCAMR staff participated in an OSMRE TIPS Virtual Campus webinar.
- Filled 2 iron oxide orders, processed some tie dye t-shirts for the orders (and future orders) and cleaned up the processing station.

- EPCAMR staff prepared environmental education activities for the Lackawanna and Luzerne County DCNR Community Connections to Our Watershed students. Each group was hosted separately, but both groups learned how to design their own treatment systems based on chemistry and flow provided: with the Lackawanna group staff talked about mine pools and for the Luzerne group staff conducted an AMD Field Tour following the activity.

Technical Assistance:

- Had issues with two of our Dell Precision M6500 updating to Windows 10 Anniversary Update, which at this point is a forced upgrade. All Windows 10 computers in the office are set to defer operating system upgrades. The upgrade consistently fails after 1.5 hours. Lots of organizing and cleaning while waiting. Attempted to research a fix or a way to break the automatic update. A few snow days helped in the downtime while looking for a fix, but ended up having to backup files and completely reinstall Windows and programs on one computer. Found a way to break windows updates on the other computer.
- Ran EV Model Builder to test an extension of Donaldson Basin from Markson to Goodspring #1 & 3 mines. Patched together and edited several DEM surface for the top of the model. Created a clipping polygon based on digitized underground mined areas shapefile. The initial model had several veins that crossed and waves. Began adjusting the raw data and creating cross section data in between existing sections in an attempt to smooth out the wavy lines [SRBC].
- Trying to get the PA DEP VPN working to access PHUMMIS after the state updated the process. Issues with java, but now Windows 10 can be used. Setup 3 computers to access PHUMMIS with relatively little problems.
- Performed quality assurance and quality control (QA&QC) on MSI Maps that were scanned, georeferenced and digitized [MSI].
- Georeferenced several difficult maps for the Mine Subsidence Insurance (MSI) Mine Mapping Grant (MMG) program [MSI].
- EPCAMR staff sampled the Nescopeck Creek with Friends of the Nescopeck volunteers at their request. EPCAMR used our YSI instruments while FON volunteers used their equipment and grabbed a sample to send to Hawk Mountain Labs in an attempt to be sure their methods are sound.
- Sampled Plainsville to ascertain water quality and flow results for possible treatment in the future [FPW].
- Updated the www.treatminewater.com website.

[] - Denotes funding source where applicable.