

# EPCAMR



## Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program May 2008 Progress Report

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### **Highlights:**

- Produced 8 maps, and 2 field sets of AML statistics for EPCAMR partners
- Aided several groups in the region (including EPCAMR) with Growing Greener proposals
- Presented at the PA Council of Professional Geologists Symposium, the Shamokin Area Stakeholders Mtg., attended 2 Community Connections Watershed Forum, a Northumberland CCD Board Mtg., conducted 4 field days with 2 school districts and held 2 Tie Dye Workshops
- Updated [www.orangewaternetwork.org](http://www.orangewaternetwork.org)

### **Education and Outreach:**

- Attended the Northumberland County Conservation District Board Meeting as requested by the EPCAMR Board to present a 3.5' by 6' detailed map of the Shamokin Creek Watershed. Aided staff with discounted software purchases and other perspectives gained from being staff from another conservation district.
- Passed along new contact information for the COALS program to Tim Ference, Friends of the Nescopeck.
- Placed Easy PHP Calendar on the [www.orangewaternetwork.org](http://www.orangewaternetwork.org) homepage for more visibility and ease of use for EPCAMR staff during the busy summer months.
- EPCAMR staff presented the RAMLIS GIS Tool at and attended a portion of the PA Council of Professional Geologists 2008 Symposium.
- Attended the Lackawanna County Community Connections to Our Watershed Presentations with EPCAMR VISTA at the Steamtown National Historic Site Auditorium as invited guests.
- Held an AMD Tie Dye Workshop with EPCAMR VISTA at the Nescopeck State Park: Back to Nature Festival.
- Met with State Representative John Yudichak with EPCAMR VISTA as a part of VISTA Week and to inform him of EPCAMR's efforts. Also gained a letter of support for the Susquehanna #7 AMD Treatment Design Project that EPCAMR submitted to the Growing Greener Program.
- Attended the Luzerne County Community Connections to Our Watershed Presentations with EPCAMR VISTA at Coopers in Pittston as invited guests.
- EPCAMR staff held an AMD Tie Dye Workshop at the Bear Creek Festival in southern Schuylkill County.
- EPCAMR staff conducted 3 separate "field days" with Dallas Elementary School's 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Classes at the Canal Park in West Nanticoke and the Susquehanna #7 Discharge in Nanticoke, Luzerne County. A day consisted of groups traveling to 3 stations: water quality testing on the Susquehanna River, at the Susquehanna #7 Discharge and a Tie Dye Workshop / Mosaic Tile Table.

- EPCAMR staff attended the Anthracite Heritage Art Festival in Shamokin to showcase the art produced in the Anthrascapes exhibits and possibly start a group of artists using AMD Iron Oxide Pigment in Northumberland County.
- EPCAMR staff conducted “field day” with Blossburg Elementary School’s 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Classes at the Island Park in Blossburg, Tioga County. The day consisted of groups traveling to 3 stations: water quality testing on the Tioga River (an AMD impacted stream), on Johnson Creek (a cleaner stream) and a Tie Dye Workshop.

### **Technical Assistance:**

- EPCAMR Staff worked on the EPCAMR 319 Program Grant budget and supporting reports in preparation for submission to the PA DEP Growing Greener Grant.
- Revised the boundaries for the Upper Lehigh Watershed VISTA as agreed upon by the Wildlands Conservancy and the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor Commission (D&LNHCC). Created a new Anthracite Heritage & Watershed Partnership map reflecting the changes for the D&LNHCC’s Growing Greener application.
- Setup a subdomain for the Anthracite Living History Group on [www.avondale1869.orangewaternetwork.org](http://www.avondale1869.orangewaternetwork.org) to “rescue” the website from it’s hacked state on their free server. The group is very small, but growing as a community group with EPCAMR’s help.
- EPCAMR staff hosted a Mine Pool Mapping Project Work Session at the Luzerne Conservation District (LCD) Office to showcase work that has been completed so far.
- Produced EPCAMR Watershed Outreach Coordinator Monthly Report for the month of April.
- Created several maps (7) and statistics (1) to be added to 3 separate Growing Greener Applications for EPCAMR Partners.
- Wrote a letter of Support for the Columbia County Conservation District as a part of their application to obtain funding from the Growing Greener Program for a Water Quality Study of the Catawissa Creek.
- Created an electronic database of borehole data from the USGS WRIR Report for the Western Middle Anthracite Region mine pools. Compared this information to the borehole data from PA DEP BAMR to add another few years worth of quarterly monitoring data to the approximately 20 years worth of existing data for the Mine Pool Mapping Project. Also reformatted the graphs in the BAMR Borehole Database to better represent consistency in the data.
- Wrote a letter of Support for the Lackawanna River Corridor Association as a part of their application to obtain funding from the Growing Greener Program.
- Wrapped up the Susquehanna #7 Growing Greener Application via conference call and e-mail with Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) Staff.
- Added a link to the “Network for Good” to [www.orangewaternetwork.org](http://www.orangewaternetwork.org). This organization is connected to Guide Star, a place to find out information and make donations to non-profits. Now visitors to EPCAMR’s website may make a donation to the organization without having to become a member. Also donations can be anonymous and may use credit cards online, something we were never able to do.
- Received AcrPAD 7.1 from our MOA with the Office of Surface Mining and the TIPS program. Installed this program the HP iPAQ and began testing the functionality.
- Installed a CD ROM drive and Windows XP in a recycled Toshiba Equium 8000s computer for Wildlife Management Inc. at their request.
- Added several articles to [www.orangewaternetwork.org](http://www.orangewaternetwork.org) including the invitation to the West Branch Symposium as requested by Trout Unlimited.