

EPCAMR



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October 2011 Progress Report

Education & Outreach

- Co-sponsored the “2nd Annual ChalkFest” along the Wilkes-Barre River Common; Kelsey Augustine, a Wilkes University Nursing student and new EPCAMR volunteer, assisted the EPCAMR Staff in making iron oxide chalk with **350** youth and AMD Tie Dye T-shirts at the event
- Set up our EPCAMR Display and Exhibit at Boscov’s Department Store as a part of their “Friends Helping Friends” Community Support Program that allowed EPCAMR to display the work of our non-profit organization to the shoppers for a few hours for additional community outreach
- Conducted a Tree Trout AMD Aquatic Resources Education Program and AMD Watershed Tour with **85** 4th grade students from Wilkes-Barre Area’s Heights Elementary on Solomon Creek and in the Nanticoke Creek Watershed
- Attended the PEC NE Annual Dinner to interact with the 2011 Environmental Partnership Award Winners and network with new faces; EPCAMR and the Executive Director were both past recipients of the Environmental Partnership Award, as are many of our EPCAMR Board Members and the organizations that they represent
- Submitted an AMD ChalkTalk Presentation to the PAEE 2012 Conference Review Committee for consideration that would allow EPCAMR to interactively participate and educate teachers state-wide on some of our unique ways of educating students on AMD through hands-on classroom and outdoor participation at their Annual Conference at Raystown Lake, Entriken, PA
- EPCAMR appeared in the Newport Township Community Organization’s Newsletter for conducting a FUN DAY with underserved youth making AMD Tie Dye T-shirts with **15** volunteers from Wilkes University at the Wanamie Recreational Park
http://www.newporttownship.com/Fall_2011.pdf
- Sonnia Hove, a freelance graphics designer and marketing entrepreneur from Florida has offered to provide EPCAMR with free marketing technical services and assistance with developing materials and a campaign to help us get the word out on our work from a marketing perspective to promote who we are

Technical Assistance

- Provided educational and technical resources and information on abandoned mine fires in PA to Laura Faux, a student at Shippensburg University doing research on mine fires in PA

- Provided information to Scott Cope, Executive Director of the Wildlands Conservancy on the application process for becoming an Education Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) approved environmental innovative educational organization through PA DCED; Extended the invitation to partner on future environmental and educational projects in the Upper Lehigh River watershed with WC
- Worked with the Huber Breaker Preservation Society to prepare a Final Narrative Report and Invoice to Live Well Luzerne County Grant Advisor on the progress being made on the man gate and directional signage at the Huber AML Miner's Memorial Park in Ashley Borough; Scheduled a meeting with Dale Freudenberger-Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor Commission to sit down with Ray Clarke-HBPS to review the design elements to the signage
- Provided Erin Miles, a independent filmmaker from Hazleton, PA with a tour of the perimeter property of the Huber Breaker for a short-film she is producing similar to the movie "**Contagion**" and "**I Am Legend**"
- EPCAMR Staff conducted a preliminary investigation of the mine pools and Woodward Borehole #39 in Kingston, PA at the request of Luzerne County Commissioner Stephen A. Urban to try and explain why the streets were flooded near the Luzerne County Transportation Authority and Wilkes University Baseball Field; Presumption is that it's connected hydrogeologically to the Susquehanna River due to the nature of the alluvial floodplain that is located throughout the entire area beneath Kirby Park and because of the continued elevation rises in the river levels from the September 11 Flooding; Additional mapping is needed for this area as well as funding to complete the work
- Provided EPCAMR Executive Director biography to Ed McCrea, Facilitator for the Environmental Education Certification Working Group through PAEE; EPCAMR has facilitated and hosted a state-wide regional meeting of environmental educators and non-traditional educators at our Office and is participating in this effort to hopefully become one of the first environmental organizations in PA to obtain a NAAEE Certification for its Staff and the organization
- Reviewed and critiqued Shawn Jones' resume, our former EPCAMR Intern, who asked for our opinion of his qualifications listed in order to improve his chances for getting hired by future employers

Conference Coordination

- EPCAMR Executive Director created a free Screen Sharing Account on www.FreeScreenSharing.com that could hopefully be used in the future by our EPCAMR Board or the PA AMR Conference Planning Committee; Forwarded it to Mike to review and forward along to those interested in maybe utilizing the free service to cut down on our phone bills
- Suggested that two new contacts (Ted Gattino and Kevin Hedge)-Blue Wing Environmental, that EPCAMR has recently made join us for the 2012 PA AMR Conference in State College since they are involved in treating AMD with a unique technology called "floating treatment wetlands" in Western MD; EPCAMR Staff offered up a tour for the two gentlemen in the Fall of 2011, if they were available to make the trip North; www.bluewing-env.com

Project Coordination

- Worked on **Jeddo Highland #5 Mine Pool Mapping Project** Cross Sections for Pagnotti Enterprises and structural contour geology maps for the Buck Mountain and other veins within the larger basin
- Conducted our monthly **Lackawanna Valley Borehole and Water Flow Monitoring** at the Duryea AMD Outfall with the Lackawanna River Corridor Association
- Submitted EPCAMR's ideas for a grant proposal to **PPL** in partnership with the Wilkes-Barre Area School District to build a few scalable mobile solar kiln units that could be used by EPCAMR and the elementary schools to teach them recycling, water treatment, environmental science, renewable energy, and other Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematical concepts; Received the go-ahead to prepare a joint proposal with the W-B Area SD
- Conducted a streamwalk and watershed assessment of Solomon Creek with Justyna-EPCAMR Intern from West Liberty St. Bridge to S. Main Street in Wilkes-Barre as a part of the **Solomon Creek Coldwater Heritage Conservation Plan**; Provided photos to Kevin Jacobs, EPCAMR Community Service volunteer to have him place all pictures into a PowerPoint Presentation for a future public meeting
- Provided W-B Area Science Coordinator Mike Corcoran with a full agenda prior to conducting EPCAMR's AMD Environmental Education Teacher Training In-Service and Continuing Education Program for **22** Elementary Science teachers from the entire Wilkes-Barre Area SD under our PA DEP EE Grant; All teachers participated in AMD Water Quality Monitoring, Macro-Invertebrate Identification, Visual Habitat and Stream Assessment, and were taught visual cues to look for related to stream instability, flooding issues, and on identifying combined sewer overflows in the Solomon Creek Watershed; Teachers will be taken on another AMD Watershed Tour in mid-November and again will have classroom experiences with EPCAMR on utilizing curriculum materials targeted and state approved on AMD in the Winter of 2012; W-B Area SD provided in-kind services to print up many of the Teacher Training Curriculum Binders that EPCAMR has put together
- Worked with Mike to post up all of the Final Reports and Appendices for the **Mine Pool Mapping Report-Eastern PA** on the EPCAMR Website; Informed Tom Clark of SRBC of its inclusion on the website for him to use information from it for a meeting with John Stefanko-PA DEP Mining Deputy Secretary; Submitted all receipts, Goals and Accomplishments Sheet, and revised Final Reimbursement to Dan Koury for final approval of our remaining funds in the grant that were held until project completion and close-out

EPCAMR Program Administration

- Completed the September 2011 EPCAMR 319 Reimbursement & Progress Report; Reviewed Mike's, Justyna's, and John's monthly Board Report prior to sending to the PA DEP; Found out that Glenda Feree has also been moved from the 319 Program over to the Grants Center-Glenda handled all of EPCAMR's reimbursement requests, now Tran Triet will handle them

- Maria Shmakov, an interested community member interviewed with EPCAMR for a volunteer Community Service Project and has 50 hours she would like to donate to assist with administrative or clerical duties within the EPCAMR Office; EPCAMR Executive Director will be having her scan and perform database entry information of our past year's receipts into our NEAT Receipt document scanner that will digitize and record database entries of all of our expenses over the last few years; Hard copies of the receipts have always been on file, however, they were never scanned in electronically until we purchases the NEAT Receipt scanner; Assigned her to research information online about historical and cultural locations within the Solomon Creek Watershed for the Coldwater Heritage Conservation Plan
- Created volunteer job descriptions for **3** positions and posted them on VolunteerMatch website (www.volunteermatch.org); EPCAMR Clerical Assistant, EPCAMR Executive Director's Nature Photography Assistant, EPCAMR Iron Oxide Resource Recovery Processor, EPCAMR; Getting several hits and phone calls within a week of posting the descriptions on the website
- Submitted all necessary background information to John Dawes Consulting, LLC and his staff at Creat-A-Thon for them to conduct their 24-hr Marketing/Strategic Planning blitz with 13 local non-profits to assist them with redefining EPCAMR's vision and plan for the next year out as a free technical service due to our selection by their Community Review Committee; Attended the unveiling of their final product for EPCAMR at a reveal meeting at Wyoming Seminary in Kingston, PA; Copies of the updated Strategic Marketing Plan will be provided to the EPCAMR Board for review
- Had Anne Rabiolo volunteer **7** hours of community service with EPCAMR through LOWE's Return to Work Program until she was reassigned to another administrative light duty position within the LOWE's distribution center in Pittston; Anne added assets to our supply and equipment inventory and organized EPCAMR's supplies and folders in our storage area within the Office for the day
- EPCAMR Executive Director submitted an eligibility application for EPCAMR to the PA Federal Surplus Property Program for approval which was approved by the PA Department of General Services on October 20, 2011
- EPCAMR Executive Director completed EPCAMR Staff Evaluation for Mike Hewitt and Self-Evaluation and submitted it to the EPCAMR Personnel Committee for review and recommendations to the full Board for merit raise consideration for the last fiscal year (July 1, 2010 thru June 30, 2011)
- EPCAMR Staff picked up surplus supplies and equipment from the Wilkes-Barre Office of Surface Mining in the Stegmaier Building
- Renewed webhosting domains for several of our watershed groups with Mike on www.GoDaddy.com
- Still filling iron oxide orders on the EPCAMR Online store; Even the W. Virginia DEP's Non-Point Source Pollution Program has purchased several ounces for their use
- Submitted EPCAMR Executive Director's permission form to the PA Fish & Boat Commission for them to conduct a background check on self to continue to be involved as a volunteer with them