

EPCAMR



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July 2009 Progress Report

Education & Outreach

- Meeting with Frank Sindaco, Director of the Luzerne County Organizing Committee to find out more about his media network to see if they would be interested in helping EPCAMR to market itself and its services to the County and its residents
- Picked up several costumes of our AMD Avengers vs. The Pollution Posse from Barbara Gavlick-Costumes by Barbara, to be used in the Fall 2009 when we do Education Programs in the schools on AMD
- Partnered with Wilkes University's 2009 Summer Freshman Orientation Class and worked with **25** students to pour additional batches of iron oxide chalk for our educational programs
- Conducted an AMD Water Monitoring Training in the field with Kyra Norton and Shawn Jones at the Plainsville Borehole AMD discharge along the Susquehanna River and conducted a Visual Habitat Assessment and some macro-invertebrate sampling at Harvey's Creek in the Southern Wyoming Valley; EPCAMR will be providing the interns with a full certification before the completion of their internship in a few weeks
- EPCAMR put aside a half-dozen t-shirts for tie-dyeing to provide to Mr. Brooke Yeager who is an EPCAMR volunteer that would like to tie-dye t-shirts with a Church Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA
- EPCAMR Intern Kyra Norton and Executive Director prepared a press release on the close-out of our Iron Oxide Chalk Talk Outreach Programs and submitted it to the Lackawanna Valley Heritage Authority; Press Release attached;
<http://www.orangewaternetwork.org/index.php?name=News&file=article&sid=272>
- Provided Jeremy Schievert, PAEE NE Regional Director with some updates on EPCAMR's Environmental Education Activities in the region
- Prepared and submitted a personal nomination for Brooke Yeager for the Thomas P. Shelburne Award that is awarded yearly at the PEC NE Office Dinner in October 2009
- Completed a RiverFest 2009 Survey about how the Event went and what things can be done better for 2010 and sent it along to Vinnie Cotrone-PSU Extension

Technical Assistance

- Meeting with Bernie McGurl-Executive Director, Lackawanna River Corridor Association (LRCA), HDR Consulting, and Solution Mining Inc. to provide technical grant writing assistance and development of an LRCA sponsored grant proposal to the PA DEP Growing Greener Program to develop a Watershed Restoration Action Strategy and Plan for the Lower Lackawanna River watershed
- Provided the Luzerne Conservation District's Chesapeake Bay Program Technician with EPCAMR's LCD Projector and Screen for use in a workshop at the end of the month
- Provided Schuylkill Headwaters Association with a Letter of Support for the Design/Construction of the Mary D Borehole AMD Remediation Project in the East Branch of the Schuylkill River, in Schuylkill Township, Schuylkill County
- Provided Earth Conservancy with a Letter of Support for the Askam Borehole AMD Treatment Design/Construction in the Nanticoke Creek Watershed, Luzerne County, to expand the wetlands treatment capacity for the discharge
- Provided Marywood University with a Letter of Support for their Geothermal-based Project that will look into the underground mine pool complex in the Scranton Area to heat/cool some of its facilities
- Provided Catawissa Creek Restoration Association (CCRA) with a Letter of Support for their development of a Watershed Restoration Action Strategy and Plan grant that is being submitted through Growing Greener
- Prepared Schuylkill County Conservation District with a Letter of Support for the Beneficial Use of AMD Sludge from other AMD Treatment Systems in Schuylkill County for a Growing Greener grant
- Prepared a Letter of Support, In-kind Matching Letter, and Proposal for Fee for Professional Services and submitted it to The Pennsylvania State University who would like for EPCAMR to participate as a minor partner in a Geothermal Energy Research Project, along with Camp, Dresser, & McKee, Scranton Chamber of Commerce, and PASDA on the development of a Scranton Mine Pool Proposal
- Set up the GIS Technical Assistance Center in the EPCAMR Office

Project Coordination

- Meeting with Tom Barnard, member of the Hicks Creek Watershed Association to update him on the status of the **Hicks Creek Natural Stream Channel Design Project**; Informed Stephen Boone-Borton Lawson Engineering and Gerald Longenecker-Skelly & Loy Engineering of our need to slow down the work on the project until we get a definitive extension from the State on our grant; EPCAMR did however, allow Borton-Lawson to proceed with completing the baseline topo survey of the site to provide to Skelly & Loy; Requested a reallocation of funds

from the Construction Line item to the Salary Line item to cover time worked on the project and it was approved; Completed a Work Progress Report and Reimbursement through June 30, 2009 and submitted it to Dennis Palladino, our Project Officer at PA DEP BAMR

- Completed a Quarterly Work Progress Report and Reimbursement for the ***Mine Pool GIS Mapping Project*** and submitted it to Dan Koury, our Project Officer for review
- Finalized contract issues for the Illegal Dump Grant that EPCAMR was awarded by the PA DEP Bureau of Waste Management and mailed the paperwork to Harrisburg

Conferences, Trainings, & Tours

- Convened a final preparation Conference call prior to the 11th Annual AMR/CMH Conference in Johnstown the week of July 12-16th
- Finalized the AMR Conference Tours with the Tour Committee and Trout Unlimited
- Coordinated the 11th Annual PA Conference on Abandoned Mine Reclamation and Coal Mine Heritage; All details and presentations are on www.treatminewater.com; Nearly 168 attendees, 37 speakers, and 37 vendors and exhibitors were in attendance; Press Release attached; <http://www.orangewaternetwork.org/index.php?name=News&file=article&sid=273>

Community Cleanups

- Received donated 10 gallons of anti-graffiti paint and rollers from PA DOT for the AML Beautification Project and graffiti removal project at the Avondale Mine Site, Plymouth Township, Luzerne County; EPCAMR interns will be covering up all graffiti at the site, on buildings, and the State underpass that runs over the Susquehanna Warrior Trail
- Prepared a press release along with Kyra Norton, our EE Intern, that will go out early next week on the work that we are doing at Avondale

EPCAMR Program Administration

- EPCAMR Executive Director was working with Zagrapan, our payroll service company to enter proper Charts of Accounts into EPCAMR's QuickBooks for accounting purposes
- EPCAMR Executive Director filed our Change of Address Forms with many businesses and our partners, including the US Post Office
- EPCAMR Executive Director cleared all of EPCAMR's Accounts Payable for the month
- EPCAMR Executive Director and co-worker Mike Hewitt attended a meeting with a Financial Advisor-Janice Perry at First National Bank to open up EPCAMR's IRA Accounts for staff and we submitted our vested PMRS Retirement Form that had been notarized to freeze our account that had been with the Luzerne Conservation District since our hire date of employment

- EPCAMR Executive Director worked on completing the appropriate paperwork necessary to file for and receive Workers' Compensation Liability Coverage on behalf of EPCAMR; Submitted Exemption Forms to Executive Board for exclusion from the coverage since they are not compensated and volunteer their time to sit on EPCAMR's Board
- EPCAMR Executive Director received an EPCAMR Employer Account ID from the PA Department of Revenue for Employer Withholding Tax Purposes and our Unemployment Compensation Contribution Rate Notice
- EPCAMR Executive Director filed our Letter of Agreement between the LCD and EPCAMR during the middle of the month upon receipt of an original copy from Josh officially ending the District's responsibilities for employment of the EPCAMR Staff
- EPCAMR Executive Director reviewed our Group Administrator's Manual from Blue Cross/Shield and Davis Vision for our Health Care Benefits Package and provided Mike with a copy of his Benefits/Co-Pay/Deductibles
- EPCAMR Executive Director completed the final close out deliverables with Mike Hewitt, June 2009 Reimbursement, which included the Final Invoices for the Fence Construction at Site 15 in the Shamokin Creek Watershed, and final report for the PA DEP Section 319 Program and submitted to Russ Wagner, Chief-PA DEP BWM, Harrisburg
- EPCAMR Executive Director had our Secretary and President sign the PA DEP Section 319 Grant Award contracts so that we could send them down to Harrisburg for final signatures and full execution of the grant for FY09-10, retroactive to July 1, 2009