

Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation



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September 2025 Progress Report EPCAMR Conservation District Mining East Project

Project Coordination

Conservation District Mining East 319 Program Coordination-EPCAMR

- Prepared monthly report for the program coordination for the September 2025 monthly period

Beaverbrook Hazleton Beltway Center East Reclamation Project

- Provided Johnny Green and Bara Nour a quarterly progress report through June 30, 2025, on the status of the project and need to provide them with a reimbursement request and additional quarterly report through the end of September 2025; Completed an Annual Financial Report that was accepted

Bear Creek 319 AMD Treatment Design, Survey, Design & Operation and Maintenance Plan along with the 3D Mine Pool Development Model Project

- Provided Andy King-SRBC Mine Drainage Coordinator with Kerry Teter's phone number to give him a call and an update on the project status and potential next steps to apply for the next grant

Remove Illegal Dumpsites (RID) Trash & Tire Cleanup Program with Amazon Community Foundation Fund and KPB

- WVSA Staff Matt Mitchell and Annie Keating as well as Keith George offered to be on our EPCAMR Advisory Committee for Cleanups after talking with all of them at the Luzerne County Association of Township Officials Meeting in Kingston Township; Talked with Tim McGinnis, Fairview Township about our intent to conduct a tire and trash cleanup along the Solomon Creek Gap off Tunnel Road and SR 309 in the Spring of 2026 and they agreed to be a partner in the cleanup effort; Entered EPCAMR bank information for ACH payment through the ChangeX web portal; Pulled together a summary of various cleanups and locations in Luzerne and Columbia Counties; Provided Mark Jones-EPCAMR AmeriCorps Community Development Coordinator with a list of the names of partners willing to service on our Advisory Committee for the Keep PA Beautiful Affiliate Program; Bella Bufalino, an Environmental and Sustainability Studies major, is working on an Environmental and Ecological Economics course at King's College with Dr. Rose, on an independent basis; Dr. Rose and EPCAMR suggested that she pull together a used tire deal survey for our RID Tire & Trash Cleanup Project with Amazon and KPB; Scheduled a call with her on October 2 to further discuss the survey questions and reasons for the survey

Brockton AMD Development Plan (*proposed*)

- Requested a pre-application meeting with Johnny Green-PA DEP BAMR for the project on October 3, 2025; Met in the field with Alexa Smith-Schuylkill Conservation District and Robert Baldwin-RES, and EPCAMR's AmeriCorps VISTAs, Dennis Dukinas and Maria Gereda, on September 9 to obtain additional data for the project, took some photos, and did some water quality and flow monitoring at the discharge; Travelled around the area and down to New Columbia to locate a downstream monitoring point above the area where the Silver Creek AMD treated discharge comes into the Schuylkill River; Pulled together EPCAMR notes for the grant application and sent them to Alexa and Robert; 8 AML Features, need to be verified or validated and updated in the PA AML Inventory- John Green-BAMR will get back to us with that information for the application; Flow and Chemistry will be proposed at a minimum of the 12 months required (we should add additional months in case of rainfall increases and or drought conditions); Lab sampling is preferred by a PA DEP Certified Lab; will need a quote for that and to see if they (lab) will provide the bottles or if we have to buy them in bulk; May need to follow up with PA DEP to see if we need to have two bottles collected and the sizes of the bottles (one acidified, one not)..That was the protocol for when we had to send samples to the PA DEP Lab for the Shamokin Creek Project and they were on ice with our coolers and needed a courier service to pick them up from the Northumberland County Conservation District; It sounds like we have to pay for all of that data collection and lab sampling independently of BAMR giving us; Weir and Transducer Installation; Obtain BAMR and partner Consent to Right of Entry before submission; Communicate with Tiffany Folk-Pottsville DMO about potential mineral rights and if the pile (s) in the Problem Area identified are pre-SMCRA and if they have any fuel value (might need to be analyzed by landowner-Kuperavage); Can the material be hauled off-site to another AML feature? If not, and it is considered to be placed on an active mining site, bond may need to be increased to take in the additional material or acreage needed to regrade the material; Have another pre-submission meeting with John Green-BAMR (not mandatory, however, highly suggested) a few weeks before the deadline; Cover direct services;15% Indirect Cost Rate (doesn't include materials, supplies, equipment, travel); Detail how many stream miles will be potentially recovered in the receiving stream (Schuylkill River) between Brockton Deep Mine AMD and the next AMD discharge downstream; They are looking necessarily for load reduction estimations as an overall goal; Report what the goal is for the Upper Schuylkill Headwaters Watershed Implementation Plan; Cite the Schuylkill River TMDL; Provide AMD Treatment Options based on the chemistry and flow measured and monitored and some cost estimate analysis; Preliminary Plan for Design (10% is what I heard) along with PNDI and foot print for potential treatment options; Future wetlands mitigation potential and community support from Brockton if landowner is amenable to some sort of passive AMD Treatment recreational trail or wetlands natural area-RES details related to mitigation

Technical Assistance

Shamokin Creek Watershed Assessment with Tetra Tech

- EPCAMR brought along our projector on September 17 for Tetra Tech and SCRA to borrow for their informational meeting on the presentation of their results of the watershed assessment for the Shamokin Creek and the 9 larger AMD discharges that were monitored for a year by EPCAMR; Reviewed Bill Burgos' presentation before heading down to the meeting

Shamokin Creek Excelsior AMD Development Plan

- SCRA was awarded a **\$689,229** grant to create a project development study plan for the Excelsior discharges in Coal Township, Northumberland County; EPCAMR assisted with the grant writing

Pine Knot, Oak Hill, & Repellier Mine Pool Feasibility Study & Monitoring Project with the Schuylkill Conservation District

- EPCAMR continued to reach out to Russell White-Wise Guys, LLC to see if we can obtain permission to monitor the Otto Shaft; Russell (Whitey Wash Enterprises) said that we should send him down an access form and that he has a key to the fenced in area and that we could meet up with him one day; Requested that Wayne Lehman-Schuylkill Conservation District, send us the form to forward to him for his signature; Told Russell that we were looking to place a transducer there at the Otto Shaft and it didn't seem like he had any issues; Reached out to Bobby Burns as well for access to monitor the Pine Hill Shaft; Roy Green, from Bobby Burns' Girard Estate also gave us the green light on the Pine Hill Shaft after we told him that Bobby said it was ok; We forwarded him a little background on the project that Wayne provided to EPCAMR and the landowner access form; EPCAMR signed the access form and waiver to be able to monitor on Reading Anthracite properties and submitted our signature form to Wayne and Jason Kelso from Reading Anthracite; Submitted an additionally insured rider to POWR for Reading Anthracite Company

Clinton #2 and Tracy Overflow AMD Treatment System Design & Permit 319 Grant with the Schuylkill Conservation District

- Tetra Tech is interested in having EPCAMR subcontracted to perform a mine pool and mine map analysis for the area; Some of our early work on detailed mine pools for SRBC in 2017 was for the Rausch Creek that leads into the Hegins Valley to the north and into the old DEP Active Treatment Plant at Rausch Creek; With our 2014 regional mine pool datasets, the furthest east we came was to the Good Spring 1 Pool west of the town of Good Spring; Provided Bill Burgos-Tetra Tech with two of our Appendices- [Appendix A – Historic Mine Pools of the Rausch Creek Valley Southern Field \(16MB\)](#); [Appendix B – Current Mine Pools of the Rausch Creek Valley Southern Field \(16MB\)](#); The PA DEP should have posted our QA/QC'd Southern Field Mine Map Mosaics to the PA Mine Map Atlas by now, but they haven't and that is preventing us from taking a deeper dive into the maps at the moment; The Little Run Sportsman Club appears to be receptive to allowing this system to be built on their land and there are a number of Pagnotti land parcels that could still be considered for treatment if he's amenable; Finding the means to daylight the two discharges (Tracy Overflow and Clinton #2) onto this parcel via an underground mine conveyance is what everyone is hoping for if it's feasible; Wayne Lehman-Schuylkill Conservation District provided EPCAMR with the Middle Creek Restoration Concept Plan for further review

Bowman's Creek Coldwater Conservation Plan with the Stanley Cooper Chapter TU

- Conducted aquatic organism passage (AOP) training to volunteers in the Bowman's Creek; Elevated Maria Gereda to an L1C Coordinator under the NAACC for AOP culvert and bridge assessments

- John Krynick, a concerned citizen of Blakely Borough, reached out for information on any studies in the area on abandoned mine lands or specifically related to mine subsidence; Provided him with a number of resources and contacts in the Lackawanna Valley, including Bernie McGurl and Tara Jones from the Lackawanna River Conservation Association (LRCA), as well as links to EPCAMR's [Mine Water Resources Report](#) (2014) and the [Mine Map Atlas](#)
- LaBella Associates requested EPCAMR's assistance in supporting their team's pursuit of AMLER or similar funding to help characterize the mine pool through a combination of field data and our modeling capabilities in the Archbald area; Looking at this mine pool and evaluation of the effects of a data center is something that needs to be completed; We are constantly reminding businesses and communities that these types of evaluations needs to be considered; Working with Labella and perhaps Tetra Tech would be a way for EPCAMR better understand the mine pools of the Upper Lackawanna River above the trout fishery so that future impacts don't impact the fishery; The federal funds are reimbursement based and make administering the grant difficult and challenging; A better option is to have EPCAMR as a sub-contractor for professional services to perform work and that was discussed as a way to get more funding to do more mine pool modeling, and take it further, incorporating thermal and chemical modeling; We are in a better position to be a third party reviewer than we are to be an administrator of a grant that will not provide the level of financial support needed to fully fund what our needs are; There are questions that have yet to be asked and remain unanswered about mine pools and impacts to discharges depending on the type of geothermal systems used; We don't have the answers yet, admittedly. There is a lot more mine mapping work that needs to be done; Research into the potential impacts of data centers on mine pools, AMD, and receiving streams would be very beneficial, but that is not what the OSMRE funding can be utilized for; It is better that since the system cooling technologies would likely vary, the research and funding should come from the entities proposing data centers at specific locations within the coal region
- Informed Gina Hunt-EPA, who is developing the AMD Target for the revised Chesapeake Bay Management Plan that using the stream miles number mentioned by Jon Smoyer-PA DEP BAMR is a larger number that is achievable and by using a percentage for the public it will be seen as a smaller number, so we'd at least mention the total number of stream miles based on that percentage example; Using the word sustainable, however, in the language seems out of reach because term means that the streams will be maintained at a certain rate or level, and I'm not sure that long-term maintenance or rates and levels of sustainability have been defined; 180 miles restored by 2035 is a realistic goal; PA DEP BAMR has a couple of AMD treatment systems that are planned to have their designs complete that can then go to construction; We're satisfied with it and just hope we can dedicate funding towards the necessary monitoring that will be needed to track the data and the metal loading reductions over time; The Executive Management Board ultimately decided on "By 2040, improve 270 stream miles of waters impaired by acid mine drainage to continually increase available habitat supporting fish populations." and went above our recommended numbers for some reason
- Continuing to try and find parts and supplies for Ellie Jones, new teacher from Cheder Menachem, Kingston, PA, participating in the Trout in the Classroom (TIC) Program; Reached out to a colleague and friend David Brill, to see if he had any parts in storage since, he used to run a fish store and still runs several pet stores

- Joe Langan and Greg Senkevitch requested an inventory of 200 acre parcels of abandoned mine lands in several counties in NE and NC PA with gas availability; Provided them with an online [parcel viewer](#) for Lycoming County; Suggested they reach out to the Marcellus Shale Coalition; We may be able to work up a professional services agreement to perform the work in multiple counties if they were agreeable to a scope of work
- Ryan Lemli-Amazon Web Services asked if there was another organization in Western PA that can review mine pool boundaries; Updated him on EPCAMR's onboarding process in the vendor portal; Uploaded the last Financial spreadsheet completed by Marianne Beane, our Bookkeeper; Forwarded him to Kleinfelder in Western PA; Completed the Global Services Agreement with Amazon Web Services to enable Amazon and their affiliates to purchase services from EPCAMR

Education & Outreach

PA AMR Chronicles Podcast Series with WPCAMR

- Interviewed Jim Panaro-Robindale Energy Services on September 5 podcast [episode](#); Shared the channel with Cristy Sweeney-ARIPPA

PA DEP Environmental Justice Advisory Board

- Participated in a Teams call with Marianna Fletcher and Fernando from PA DEP OEJ on September 30 to discuss experiences on the board, share insights, and to address any new thoughts

Avondale Mine Disaster Guest Speaking Engagement at the Washburn Cemetery, Scranton

- Executive Director was one of many guest speakers at the Avondale Mine Disaster Commemoration Anniversary event at the Washburn Cemetery on September 6, to talk about the work at the site and the history of the tragic disaster that EPCAMR has been involved with for over 2 decades; Sent photos to one of event organizers that were from past EPCAMR ceremonial events

Chesapeake Bay Stakeholders' Advisory Committee (SAC)

- Attended the September 18 SAC Meeting virtually and covered the following highlights; Briefing from the EPA on CBP budget including funding for the Advisory Committees; Conversation with Region 3 EPA Administrator, Amy Van Blarcom-Lackey; Briefing on the Chesapeake Bay Program Beyond 2025 efforts; streamlining and reorganization, and public feedback on the draft revised 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement and Briefing on the CBP governance and restructure; Subcommittee break-out sessions to articulate actionable annual recommendations; EPCAMR Executive Director sent a thank you note to Jill Whitcomb, PA DEP Secretary Shirley, and PA DCNR Secretary Cindy Dunn regarding the appointment to the SAC; EPCAMR also sought their feedback on comments that have been provided by the US EPA Region 3 that are trying to downplay accountability and specific targets or language and measurable outcomes that all jurisdictions can support; Provided some immediate feedback from Jill Whitcomb to Kristen Reilly-CCWC; Informed the SAC that two Op-Ed pieces written by the Executive Director were published and being circulated to other newspapers regionally; The piece is related to the updating of the Chesapeake Bay Management Plan and AMD Targets and Outcomes specifically; [Let's Be Clear, Orange Creek Require Faster Cleanup ShenandoahSentinel](#); [Let's Be Clear, Orange Creeks Require Faster Cleanup NorthcentralPA.com](#)

Keep PA Beautiful Open Your Eyes to Litter Booklet Updates

- The Greenways Book 5 was approved, and Brady Mock has completed the graphics design and illustrations on that issue; KPB will be completing the translation edition in to Spanish and Laura Rinehimer has made great progress on the Teacher's Guide

Choose Clean Water Coalition Steering Committee Meeting in Washington DC

- Attended the first Steering Committee of the CCWC
- Frank Sindaco-EPCAMR purchased a monthly monitoring plan for [inoreader](#) to build it into his AMLCONNECT infrastructure he's working on; We are currently developing an expanded information and media strategy to better serve our partners, stakeholders, and the public; Inoreader's robust feed management, content curation, and distribution tools align perfectly with our vision to streamline research, track environmental news, and share timely, relevant information across our communication channels; Frank inquired about a non-profit discount, and they did give us a 30% discount on our order; We are also open to discussing possible collaborations or pilot projects that showcase Inoreader as part of a real-world nonprofit use case in environmental data and outreach; Order [otterai](#) subscription; Frank was working on website compilation resources for the network database and completed some AML CONNECT hub work
- Confirmed time, directions, and location for EPCAMR's Guest Presentation hosted by the Sierra Club NC PA Chapter with Lana Gulden at the Buffalo Lutheran Village Commons, Lewisburg, PA
- Informed Tali MacArthur-POWR, that there is a effort underway for a Bowman's Creek Revival in the Bowman Creek watershed, but not necessarily the resurgence of the former Bowman's Creek Watershed Association; Forwarded her to Angie Tuttle-Sr. Environmental Specialist with [Whipper Hill Compliance](#), who is leading up some monitoring efforts and the current Coldwater Heritage Planning watershed assessment in the area; Stanley Cooper Chapter TU, Luzerne Conservation District, Eaton Township, and EPCAMR are all partners in the effort that is underway and have been partners since 1998
- Attended the Stanley Cooper Chapter TU Meeting in Forty-Fort
- Participated in the Pocono NE RC & DC Board Meeting virtually on my way into Washington DC
- Requested that Erin Vesey-Water Program Specialist and Kathryn Beats- Environmental Group Manager, for the PA DEP Bureau of Watershed Restoration and NPS Program, include EPCAMR in the future Clean Water Action Group (CWAG) quarterly meetings and e-mail list; The purpose of the quarterly meetings is for members to share actions taken, connect with partners, and spur on actions that will happen outside of the meetings during everyone's regular work
- EPCAMR signed a joint letter from CCWC to support the [BRIC Act bill](#) introduced by Congressman Breshnahan
- Met with LRCA's Tara Jones and Bernie McGurl, and Bode Murin-Anthracite Heritage Museum at McDade Park, on September 15, to discuss a collaboration on a future exhibit on the Old Forge AMD Borehole and it's design, construction, and ultimate legacy AMD impacts on the lower 3 miles of the Lackawanna River

- Signed on to PennEnvironment's letter supporting PA appliance energy efficiency standards and urging the legislature to pass energy efficiency policies; These standards are proven to protect our environment and help protect consumers from high energy bills
- Executive Director submitted his interest to return to the position of Eastern VP of Trout Unlimited; Attended the PATU Annual Meeting in Mill Hall; Filled out the nomination form and submitted it to Judi Sittler and Joe Simons, PATU Nominating Committee
- EPCAMR passed along details from Earth Conservancy to Diane Czjakowski, local Ashley artist that wants to submit some artwork for the seedling packet covers for a reclamation project that will be judged and awarded a prize
- Steve Chrismer-Shamokin Creek Restoration Alliance (SRCA) did some editing of the June Beneficial Use of Mine Pools Presentations and also edited EPCAMR 3D Mine Pool Modeling Presentation and Video for the SCRA website (www.shamokincreek.org); [Hewitt and Hughes Presentation](#); The Panel Sessions were also uploaded and added to the website; SCRA also created a [Google Earth Map](#) of AMD Sites, Treatment Systems, and boreholes in the watershed that needs some additional data attributes, however, it's a great start; EPCAMR suggested that they use a disclaimer about private property and the need for access and permission to enter a number of the sites; Coordination of access should be through SCRA or the landowner directly with permission if it has not already been granted to SRCA and its partners
- Provided the PA AML Campaign a number of links to OpEd pieces written by the Executive Director related to the AMD Target in the revised Chesapeake Bay Management Plan; [Times Leader](#) (Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County); [PA Environmental Digest](#) blog; [The Times-Tribune](#) (Scranton, Lackawanna County); Passed along a number of bills to the PA AML Campaign; On October 24, Representative Lee will introduce the *Coal Clean-up Taxpayer Protection Act* and Representative Deluzio will introduce the *Bond Improvement and Reclamation Assurance Act*; Both of these bills were introduced last Congress by Representative Cartwright; As he is no longer in office, Lee and Deluzio are now taking the lead; They will be introducing the bills at an in-person event in Pittsburgh, Pa; In addition, Representative Beyer's office is also planning to introduce the *CLEAN Up Mines Act* which is a new and improved version of the bill that they introduced last Congress
- Meredith Davenport, artist from Rochester, NY and colleague of EPCAMR's introduced Chris Widga, Director of the Earth and Mineral Science Museum at Penn State and Patti Wood Finkle, the curator of the EMS Museum to EPCAMR to discuss future collaborations in art and iron oxide as well as presentations to students at the HUB Robeson Center Art Gallery in State College in the Spring 2026 semester; Scheduled an October 3 Zoom meeting with everyone; Initially passed along links to three podcasts that they could provide to their students that the EPCAMR Executive Director was a part of; [Bill Corcoran Jr.'s OnTheStacks Podcast Episode](#); [The People of Penn-State Podcast](#); [The Mark Fraley Podcast](#)
- Mark Ranalli, Kent Smith, and Randy Hiebert, reached out to EPCAMR to let us know about an advanced a technology that they believe could play a part in helping reduce AMD; We valued the opportunity to share their thoughts and better understand of EPCAMR's efforts; [BioSqueeze Inc.](#) is currently working closely with the Oil and Gas industry to address methane emissions as well as collaborating with the Dept of War on a number of soil stabilization programs; They have lab tested our technology with coating mine waste and are cautiously optimistic that they can significantly

reduce AMD; Convened a Zoom call with them at the end of September and informed them of our PA AMR Conference as another opportunity to network with our PA AMR Community

Community Volunteers

- Deziree Holyfield, Kingston, PA and Bree Kleinberg, student from King's College, and Caroline Leibmann, King's College Environmental Science Club President, signed up to become an EPCAMR volunteers; Mark Jones has set up a meeting with Caroline about future collaborations with EPCAMR
- Signed Sarah Berholtz, Hunlock Creek up to begin to take the Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP) protocol training to become a Visual Observer in the NAACC to become certified to assess culverts and bridges with EPCAMR
- Provided Rod Gereda, EPCAMR volunteer and supporter with a copy of EPCAMR's [Strategic Plan](#) and our recent Development Committee Action Plan priorities for his review
- Dr. Cosima Wiese, Kingston, PA Professor at Misericordia University signed up to become an EPCAMR volunteer to assist with water quality monitoring efforts
- Gabriella Liebman, Exeter, PA and Environmental Studies major at Misericordia University signed up to become an EPCAMR volunteer

Conferences, Training, Webinars, Tours, Exhibits, & Workshops

27th PA AMR Conference Planning for 2025

- Registrations, sponsors, and exhibitors continue to come in at the beginning of the month; Approved a scholarship for Maria Sorce -[Armstrong County Conservation District](#) Watershed Specialist; Approved four more scholarships for Maria Gereda, Kayla Osbourne, Dennis Dukinas, and Sarah Berkholtz-EPCAMR volunteers; Mike added everyone to the Master Scholarship List with contact information details; Completed the Welcome Remarks for the Program and sent them to Anne to incorporate into the Conference Program booklet that she completed with edits and comments from Committee members so that we can get it to Cougar Printing at Misericordia University; Andy gave an update on the AMD Tour spots and the Rushton AMD Treatment System stop; Allyson Fenske-PSU submitted an abstract on scale assessment of waste-derived aggregates for AMD treatment to present at the Conference that was accepted by the Committee; Refunded Kim Snyder's AMD Tour registration due to an injury he incurred and would not be able to make the tour or Conference; Sent the Exhibitor and Vendor layout diagram for the Aspen Room around to the Committee members for their review; **\$2000** sponsorship provided by Kleinfelder; **\$2000** sponsorship provided by ChemStream; **\$2000** sponsorship provided by CEC; **\$1000** sponsorship provided by CMD Smith; Shaunna Barnhart-Bucknell University submitted her abstract late and there were no more slots remaining so we informed her that she would have to wait until 2026 to resubmit; Participated in the September 24 Conference Planning Committee meeting and sent food menu choices to Toftrees and confirmed box lunches for the tour; Mayfly Award Winner was decided; Kleinfelder will be hosting the annual Cornhole Tournament and Networking Mixer on Wednesday evening of the Conference in October; EPCAMR to bring its portable microphone speaker in case Tom Clark needs it for announcements; Secured Anne Daymut's (WPCAMR) and Tom Grote's scholarship

rooms for the conference as a conference planners; Secured Frank Sindaco's (EPCAMR), Cliff Denholm's and Natalie LaMagna's (SRI) scholarship room; Took care of Larry Hutchinson's (Shade Creek Watershed Association) scholarship room; Communicated with Shane Hofius (Clarion County Conservation District) about his scholarship approval; Sent the final camera ready copy of the Conference Program and Survey forms to Cougar Printing at Misericordia University for printing of 200 copies; Chuck Cravotta sponsored the room for the PHREEQ-N-AMD Treat Workshop for **\$100**; A number of State employees were restricted from attending and had to be refunded due to a travel ban based on budgetary considerations; Mike updated the website [Presentations](#) and [Program](#) pages; Provided the final scholarship Master List to Toftrees

28th PA AMR Conference Planning for 2026

- Deb Nardone-FPW asked if there were still plans for our PA AMR Conference Planning Committee to hold a joint conference with the Keystone Coldwater Conference in 2026; Initially, our Committee thought it was a possibility, but we still have questions that need to be answered following our Conference in October once we wrap up that will allow for us to make an ultimate decision

Luzerne County Association of Township Officials Convention

- EPCAMR Staff and AmeriCorps VISTAs attended the annual 2025 Convention at Checkerboard Pizza Grove, Kingston Township on September 18 and tabled at the event as well as spoke to several municipal township officials about our Borehole Awareness Campaign and Remove Illegal Dumpsites (RID) Trash & Tires Cleanup Program

Choose Clean Water Coalition 2026 Annual Conference, Lancaster

- Members of the Planning Committee held the initial kickoff meeting to discuss future planning, logistics, locations, and tours for 2026 Conference that will be in PA; EPCAMR participated in the planning meeting; Discussed either an AMD Tie-Dye t-shirt or bandana Workshop being hosted by EPCAMR at the event

Chesapeake Bay Commission (CBC) AMD Tour

- EPCAMR Executive Director coordinated with Anna Killius-Executive Director of the [Chesapeake Bay Commission](#), to provide an AMD Tour to the entire Commission on September 4, along with the Clearfield County Conservation District's Kelly Williams, Eric Rosengrant and George Franchock-Moshannon Creek Watershed Association and Deb Nardone-FPW; Presented each of them with a iron oxide tie-dyed bandana created by the EPCAMR Staff and VISTA volunteers as tokens of appreciation for hearing about our work across the Bay watershed; Brought a mobile speaker box but had some technical issues with it, so it wasn't used for the tour; Marel King and Anna Killius thanked us for the coordination of the tour and the impact that was left on many members of the CBC and we suggested an Anthracite Region AMD Tour the next time they are visiting PA

Chesapeake Bay Semester AMD Watershed Tour

- Scheduled the annual watershed tour and activities with Mel Skirkanich-Instructor for the Chesapeake Bay Semester Gunston School visit from Maryland on October 30th 2025

Penn-State Environmental Resource Management Program Guest Speaker

- Travelled to the Chambers Building in State College, PA to make a presentation on EPCAMR and the Executive Director's career path that started in the ERM Program at PSU where he graduated in 1995; Spoke to 80 students; Coordinated the speaking engagement with Jillian Barskey-ERM 151 Course Instructor

AML/AMD Grantee Training Session-Anthracite District, Wilkes-Barre

- Reviewed the grant training notes taken by Frank Sindaco-EPCAMR, from the session on September 11, 2025, in Wilkes-Barre at the East Mountain Inn

Misericordia University Wyoming Valley AMD Watershed Tour

- EPCAMR provided an AMD/AML Watershed Tour to Misericordia University Environmental Science students under the direction of Dr. Cosima Wiese

EPCAMR Program Administration

- Reconciled EPCAMR's Checking Account and PA Invest Accounts in QuickBooks; Paid Health Care Premiums for EPCAMR Staff for September 2025 with Highmark and United Concordia; Paid EC the rent monthly; Made EPCAMR deposits to FNB monthly as needed; Made reconciliations in Quickbooks with *Marianne*, our Bookkeeper-Ignite Business Services and provided her with a copy of the PA Invest Statement monthly for both July and August; Completed bi-weekly payroll submissions through ADP for OneSource; Activated our PayPal Debit Mastercard
- Participated in a call on September 11 with WPCAMR, FPW, PACD, and Indiana County Conservation District on IIJA funding and 2CFR 200 Compliance impediments being experienced by a number of groups; Discussed what's a deliverable versus a service, subcontract or sub-award, and direct and indirect costs
- Provided Andy McAllister-WPCAMR with a copy of Anne's and the Executive Director's presentation at the May 2025 Choose Clean Water Coalition Conference in Harrisonburg, VA
- Reviewed the notes of the Development Committee Meeting on September 3
- Reviewed PayPal legal agreement changes that were sent to EPCAMR
- Received a donation from Zeffy
- Completed the mid-term evaluations for Maria Gereda and Dennis Dukinas-AmeriCorps VISTAs through Conservation Legacy and Stewards Individual Placement Program and submitted them to Kahyla Stewart-Program Manager

- Signed Morgan Romanowski's Final Report to Conservation Legacy and AmeriCorps VISTA and submitted the Supervisor's Evaluation; Informed that Amberly Borday will be on an extended leave of absence and Jeff Davis will be stepping in as the Program Manager for Conservation Legacy; Was informed by Conservation Legacy that the Community Engagement and Marketing Outreach Specialist position is now being moved to November or December 2025 more than likely and is a moving target; There was a lapse in appropriations handed down on September 30, 2025 from the Federal government so EPCAMR had to implement our telework plan for Maria, Mark, and Dennis, which they already had in place; They continued to serve, but were not able to receive their stipend payments during the government shutdown; The payments will be back-paid once the government reopens; VISTA members continued their service regardless of the federal government's operating status; Members continued logging their service hours as usual
- Received a confirmation for EPCAMR to submit a full application to the Robert H. Spitz Foundation for our Dazzling donors with EPCAMR's story – a 30th anniversary, capacity-building initiative; Worked with Mark Jones-EPCAMR Community Development Coordinator AmeriCorps VISTA to finalize the application and budget prior to submission; Had EPCAMR President Joe Simons sign an authorization letter to apply for the grant that needed to be submitted with the application; Finalized the budget and provided Mark with a copy of EPCAMR's FY 2025 Budget for the application that was submitted on September 23
- Requested that OneSource transfer Frank Sindaco's payroll electronic file transfer to his credit union account
- With over a 100 applicants for the Appalachian Leadership Institute through the Appalachian Region Commission, our Executive Director's application was not selected this year, however, they encouraged him strongly to apply in 2026 in the Spring 2026
- Ordered new EPCAMR field safety t-shirts for Staff and EPCAMR hoodies from School Spirits Sale after getting all their appropriate sizes
- Requested that Marianne Beane-Bookkeeper, work with EPCAMR on deciding on whether we need to apply for a Bureau of Charitable Organizations (BCO) Certificate for Fundraising in 2026; In 2026, the cost to file is \$15 if gross annual contributions are \$25k or less, \$100 if between \$25k-\$100k, \$150 if between \$100k-\$500k and \$250 if greater than \$500k; She did some research and showed that EPCAMR is exempt from filing for soliciting from donations because we are listed with the Department of State Charities; Updated our address with the Department of State Charities to ensure our contact information was correct
- EPCAMR Executive Director is obtaining quotes for a General Liability Insurance Coverage Policy since we are having issues with the POWR policy that is up for renewal in April 2026 and we've had two incidents already where our requests for additionally insured coverage was denied for reasons that we believe were unwarranted; The issue has been brought up to POWR and the underwriting insurance company and we didn't get any satisfaction out of our follow-up and haven't gotten a written response from POWR as to whether or not they are keeping the same insurance company since we've been a member of POWR for over 2 decades and the coverage is a supposed to be a benefit of the membership that we've been encouraging others to join

- [Bill Bucher](#), CPA, out of Selinsgrove, PA was referred to EPCAMR by Marianne Beane-Bookkeeper to see if he completed Single Audits; He followed up that he did not and referred us to Courtney Solomon at Herring, Roll, and Solomon in Sunbury; EPCAMR proceeded to reach out to Courtney; Michael Mark, [Hamilton & Musser, PC, CPAs](#) requested some information before he could provide a quote or determination if he had the time to complete the Single Audit; Provided Michael with 2022 Financial Statement Audit; 2022 Journal Entries Auditors performed with audit; Internal Control Document Write Up provided to auditors; 12/31/2023 Trial Balance out of QuickBooks Online; 12/31/2024 Trial Balance out of QuickBooks Online; ADP Payroll Platform; Michael ended up informing us that they had limited capacity to complete the Single Audit and referred us to Brian Marchuck, CPA; Discussed with Marianne creating categories in QuickBooks Online separately for Federal grant projects; Reached out to [Maher-Duessler](#) at the referral of Marianne for a quote; Finally was able to reach Karen Hazleton, CPA who has agreed to compile and complete the Single Audit for EPCAMR for 2023 and met with her in the Office to provide her with several of our project books