

Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program September 2007 Progress Report

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Highlights:

- Added to 3 and created a 4th EPCAMR GIS Layers related to the Mine Pool Mapping Project, Printed 4 maps and 4 posters
- AMR Program Staff conduced 2 AMD Tie Dye Workshops, 2 SMCRA Townhall Mtgs and exhibited at the Bloomsburg Fair
- Attended a SAN Mtg., Manure and Minelands Conference Call, and an H&H Study Presentation
- Updated www.orangewaternetwork.org and www.friendsofthenescopeck.org

Education and Outreach:

- Headed off to Western PA's bituminous region again to participate in the SMCRA Title 4
 Townhall meetings at Lock Haven University's Branch Campus in Clearfield, and Indiana
 University's Branch Campus near Freeport at the request of the PA Dept. of Environmental
 Protection Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation (PA DEP BAMR) staff. Presented the
 RAMLIS GIS Mapping Tool and handed out CDs to interested individuals.*
- AMR Program staff coordinated an AMD TieDye workshop and exhibit at the Mauch Chunk Lake Park Heritage Days Festival near Jim Thorpe. Received donations for shirts.
- Presented at the Mid Atlantic Resource Conservation and Development Council's (RC&D)
 Conference Tour, specifically at the site of the Orchard Limestone Drain. Also conducted an
 AMD TieDye workshop. Received donations for shirts.
- AMR Program Staff prepared for, coordinated with the EPCAMR Board volunteers and exhibited at the Bloomsburg Fair which lasted 8 days. EPCAMR's exhibit highlights this year dealt with the passage of the SMCRA Reauthorization, historical mining statistics, a map of the Priority 1 & 2 AML Sites in the EPCAMR Region and promotion of the Mining Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) Stay Out, Stay Alive! Program. Received donations for shirts and the AMD Avengers vs. the Pollution Posse Activity Books.

Technical Assistance:

- Posted AMR Program Staff reports to www.orangewaternetwork.org and sent them to 319
 Program. Posted articles, updated weblinks and created a "Virtual AMD Treatment Site Tour" in the Photo Gallery using site photos of the Oven Run AMD Treatment System and Interpretive Trail from the Stony Creek Watershed in Somerset County.
- Produced 4 maps of Shamokin Creek for the Western PA Watershed Program which included downloading all of the topographic maps for the area. *
- Set up a forwarder on www.friendsofthenescopeck.org to www.fon.orangewaternetwork.org where a backup website for the Friends of the Nescopeck was located. Their original site was hacked into and disabled earlier this month.

- Attended the Schuylkill Action Network Meeting at the PA DEP Pottsville District Mining Office.
 Met with partners of the Mine Pool Mapping Project prior to this meeting to discuss project specifics and what the GIS files that EPCAMR has been manipulating for the project.
- AMR Program Staff participated in conference call for the Manure and Minelands project being headed up by the Pennsylvania Environmental Council. EPCAMR has not been involved with this project recently as a Penn State University professor was conducting a small scale demonstration project, but AMR Program Staff were requested to help find a site for the large scale demonstration project, the next phase of the project.
- AMR Program Staff attended a meeting hosted by the Luzerne County Engineers Department and Borton Lawson Engineering as they presented their Hydrology and Hydrography Study for Abrahams and Hicks Creeks. The county proposed the widening of a railroad crossing and a second higher outlet through the levee as short term fixes to the flooding problems in the Hicks Creek. As long term projects they plan to study the possibility of replacing pumps at the pumping station and diverting water to the Abrahams Creek during times of high water and when the outlet gate through the levee is closed. EPCAMR's Stream Restoration Growing Greener was mentioned and will improve sediment transport by restoring a base flow to the creek.^
- Created 2 separate sets of posters on the plotter for LCD Coworkers.
- * Represents time billed to the Western PA Watershed Protection Program.
- ** Represents time billed to the System Appalachian Clean Streams Initiative Grant related to the Audenried Treatment System.
- ^ Represents time billed to the Hicks Creek Stream Restoration Growing Greener Grant.
- † Represents time billed to the Scranton Area Foundation related to the AMD Art Program