

# EPCAMR



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

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### **Capacity Building:**

- Worked on Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority Educational Mini-Grant for elementary school iron oxide chalk-making projects; requesting maximum grant amount of \$500.
- Wrote and mailed invitations to fifteen local representatives, state representatives, senators, and congresspeople for Scranton Area Foundation/Partners in the Arts mini-grant awards ceremony.
- Participated in follow-up conference call on AMR Conference held in State College in August; received feedback on joint presentation with Savanna Lyons and Catherine Webster (ACCWT OSM/VISTAs); began planning for 2009 AMR Conference.
- Participated in conference call detailing workings of Basic Engagement Plan; sent preliminary progress report to Stacy Bouchard, ACCWT Civic Engagement Coordinator.
- Registered for northern Appalachian Coalfields Watershed Training at Canaan Valley Resort, WV, in late October.

### **Watershed Projects & Monitoring:**

- Requested Grand Tunnel chemical and flow monitoring data from volunteer Curtis Smith.
- Performed water quality monitoring, including chemical testing and flows, at Honeyopot in Nanticoke, Grand Tunnel in Plymouth Township, and the Plainsville Bore Hole in Plains.
- Assembled water monitoring instructions binder for Kathryn Krulack, new Jeddo/Nescopeck OSM/VISTA; trained in flow, chemical, and macroinvertebrate monitoring techniques.
- Processed and prepared iron oxide for tie-dye events.
- Participated in DCNR/PA Cleanways Lackawanna State Forest Land cleanup in West Nanticoke and Avondale Hill, at which 16 volunteers in 4 hours removed 13.7 tons of trash and 145 tires for recycling.

### **Education & Outreach:**

- Distributed press releases over ACCWT listserv, regarding Partners in the Arts mini-grant funding and Avondale beautification project.
- Created PowerPoint presentation for upcoming "What Is AMD?" lecture to Schuylkill County's Tri-Valley High School environmental science class.
- Contacted Wil Taylor at Jennings's Environmental Center regarding educational coal heritage game demonstrated at AMR Conference in State College in August; received CD of lesson plans, games, and instructional materials.
- Made plans to attend Newport Creek TMDL meeting to explain collaboration opportunities for community volunteer AMD and illegal dumpsite monitoring in the watershed.

**Community Arts & Culture:**

- Tabled and coordinated tie-dying for 2nd Annual Bluegrass & Anthracite Heritage Festival at Mauch Chunk Lake Park in Jim Thorpe.
- Packed & mailed samples of iron oxide chalk to Stacy Bouchard of the ACCWT.

**Networking:**

- Attended Pocono Northeast Resource Conservation and Development Council meeting in Pittston as introduction to one of EPCAMR's long-running partners in the region.
- Led site tour of Honeypot AMD discharge, Newport Lake, the Huber Breaker, and Avondale for visiting ACCWT representatives, VISTA Leader Luke Elser and Team Recruit Coordinator Marie Watkins.
- Edited and distributed photos from AMR conference, Luke and Marie's site visit, and Jim Thorpe Bluegrass Fest to Bill Reichert, Luke Elser, and Dale Freudenberger.
- Traveled with Chris Gillis to Shamokin Creek's Scott Overflow AMD site to learn about Jon Dietz's Activated Iron Solids (AIS) treatment system.