

WPCAMR Watershed Coordinator's Report

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May 14, 2015

PROJECT SITE VISITS, PLANNING MEETINGS, PRESS EVENT ATTENDANCE:

AMR Conference Call (3)
Title V/SMCRA Reauthorization meeting (2)

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

I aided in drafting a letter from WPCAMR expressing questions and concerns about the proposed Power+Plan.

I am working with Ann Donovan of Center County to develop the Centre Region Sustainability Tour for the 2015 PA AMR Conference.

I will be teaching at Southmoreland's Spring Water Quality Field Studies Day and using the Pennsylvania Coal Mining History Trunk, which is on loan from Jennings Environmental Education Center.

One AMP was distributed during February on the 2015 PA AMR Conference request for presentation proposals. One AMP was distributed on the comment period for the DEP's Set-Aside Guidelines.

One AMP was distributed during March on a free webcast given on the use of microbes in AMD remediation.

Two AMP's were distributed during April. The first was on the 2015 round of the ARIPPA Award and the second was to announce that registrations for the conference are open online. I have begun drafting an AMP on a geothermal educational brochure and study that has just been developed.

I have been aiding Blackleggs Creek Watershed Association to complete and submit the contract paperwork for their new Growing Greener grant. Andy and I met with the group in February to discuss issues about non-profit management and grant administration that they are concerned with. I have also been aiding Blackleggs Creek Watershed Association to complete and submit an application for an OSMRE Watershed Cooperative Agreement Program grant to be the match for their new Growing Greener Grant for the Kolb AMD Treatment System. In April, I helped them file past-due paperwork for another OSMRE Cooperative Agreement Program grant for Whiskey Run.

2015 AMR CONFERENCE

Planning for the 2015 AMR Conference is underway. The planning committee has decided to once again partner with ARIPPA. The conference will be held on June 25-26, 2015. This Quarter, I continued collecting abstracts and organizing information for the presentations that are already confirmed. I have begun organizing and editing abstracts for publication on the website and in the program. We have

collected several films for our film festival. In addition for the film festival, the conference will offer two networking opportunities. We will once again host a golf outing and encourage anyone interested in golfing to participate and network with ARIPPA representatives. The conference is offering an additional level of sponsorship to include sponsoring a watershed person to play golf with industry. This year's tour will focus on sustainability in Centre County. I have been working with Ann Donovan to organize the tour. We will be visiting Penn State's new Arboretum, the Forest Resources Green building, the University Area Joint Authority, Tate's Farm, and the Seven Mountain Winery. Lastly, we have decided to once again have a silent auction to raise money for EPCAMR and WPCAMR. We would like to double our income from the silent auction this year, which would net us \$1000 each. We are asking our boards to help secure silent auction items. Last year we had primarily art and photography. This year, in addition to the art and photography we would like to offer outdoor and recreational items specific to our regions and coal mining history. I have continued requesting donation items.

ARIPPA AWARD

We will once again be partnering with ARIPPA to award \$5000 to AMR projects across the state. The WPCAMR region will distribute \$2500 of those funds. In April, the RFP was posted to our website and announced in an AMP. I have already begun fielding questions about the application process.