

WPCAMR Watershed Coordinator's Report

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November 10, 2016

PROJECT SITE VISITS, PLANNING MEETINGS, PRESS EVENT ATTENDANCE:

RECLAIM Act update meeting (2)
ARIPPA Awards Luncheon (1)
WPCAMR Quarterly Meeting (1)
Ground Breaking Ceremony for Ernfeld (1)
Pennsylvania Statewide Conference for Watersheds planning meeting (1)
NAAML P Conference (4 days)
PA AMR Conference Call (2)
Pennsylvania Statewide Conference for Watersheds planning meeting (1)
Pittsburgh Botanic Gardens Press Meeting (1)
Datashed Training with SRI (1)
WPCAMR Finance Committee meeting (1)
PA AML Campaign Conference Call (1)

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

In August, I surveyed the watershed specialists in our region for interest in training on the PA DEP Rapid Bio Assessment Protocol. We got excellent feedback. Our intention is that we may apply for a grant to hold this training.

In August I directed and edited a short film on turning the liabilities of our coal mining legacy into assets. The film will be uploaded to YouTube and shared with the public. We also intend to show the film at conferences.

In September I directed and edited a short film on the reauthorization of the collection fees associated with SMCRA. The film will be uploaded to YouTube and shared with the public at the NAAML P conference in Bozeman Montana.

I am on the planning committee for the Pennsylvania Statewide Conference for Watersheds, which will be held March 5-6, 2017 in State College. In September, I participated in one conference call, volunteered to give two different presentations, offered to help with advertising, and reached out to DEP to ask the Secretary to give the keynote address. In October I submitted a form to have the DEP Secretary give the keynote address, distributed a save-the-date, and participated in one planning conference call.

One Abandoned Mine Post was distributed in September regarding the training being held by Stream Restoration Inc on the use of Datashed. Four Abandoned Mine Posts were distributed in October. They advertised the Statewide Conference for Watersheds, the AML Fund Reauthorization Video, the Liabilities into Assets Video, and a canoe launch funding opportunity.

2017 PA AMR CONFERENCE

In August, the evaluations for the 2016 conference were compiled and reviewed. In October, one Conference planning committee meeting was held. The 2016 carryover and 2017 budgets were reviewed. I collected venue bids and built a matrix to compare options. It was decided by the planning committee to enter into a contract with the Genetti in Wilks-Barre for the 2017 Conference. EPCAMR will be signing the contract.

PA AML Campaign

In August, I collected footage and photos for a short film and participated in two conference calls with the PA AML Campaign in regards to the RECLAIM Pilot program and progress it is making.

In September, I produced a short film on the reauthorization of the collection fees that are put into the AML fund and were established by SMCRA. I also produced a website, poster, infographic and many other materials that are available on the website for the reauthorization of SMCRA. The materials developed are all customizable by states and tribes working on their own grassroots campaigns to reauthorize SMCRA. Andy and I attended the NAAML P Conference to deliver a presentation on the materials we are calling the AML campaign toolkit. In addition, I conducted interviews of representatives of several states as well as OSMRE on the importance of SMCRA. This footage will be used in a longer video on reauthorization.

In October I began to sort through footage of interviews I collected at the NAAML P Conference and to develop a story line for a longer film advocating for the reauthorization of the AML fund collection fees. I also continued to work on details for the website.

ARIPPA AWARD

In August, one application was received by WPCAMR. The ARIPPA Award review committee met in August and made the following recommendations to the WPCAMR Board: \$2,500.00 to be awarded to Sewickley Creek Watershed Association to assist with expenses related to the Lowber AMD Treatment System repairs. Also in August, Anne developed and delivered a presentation at the Annual ARIPPA Awards luncheon about the ARIPPA Award.