

WPCAMR Watershed Coordinator's Report

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November 10, 2022

PROJECT SITE VISITS, PLANNING MEETINGS, PRESS EVENT ATTENDANCE:

PA AMR Conference Planning Committee Call (1)
PA AML Campaign Conference Calls (11)
Blackleggs Big Run Project meetings (2)
Cambria CD WCAP meeting (1)
WPCAMR Quarterly Board Meeting (1)
Restoring Mine-Impaired Watersheds Workshop at University of Pittsburgh (1 day)
Effective Donor and Member Marketing and Outreach Webinar by POWR (1)
Southwest PA Water Network (2 days)
Waterways hearing at Allegheny County Courthouse (1)
EPA Workshop for Clean Energy on Mine Lands (2 days)

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Blackleggs Creek Watershed Association is managing both an OSMRE WCAP grant and a PA DEP Growing Greener Grant. In August 2022, the investigation to find a way to pump sludge into the mine continued. The WCAP portion of the project was completed. Two meetings were held to discuss the use of remaining funds. In September 2022, the investigation to find a way to pump sludge into the mine continued. The final report for the WCAP portion was submitted. A reimbursement for the GG portion was started. In October 2022, construction continued with the GG portion.

WPCAMR is administering a WCAP grant for Broad Top Township with an expiration date of June 31, 2023. They have not yet begun the project. In October 2022, I had a discussion with them about using the money and they have decided that they can expend the funds by the deadline. They will be considering what items from the budget they can finish with the money available.

WPCAMR is administering a WCAP grant for Elk County Conservation District with an expiration of December 31, 2023. They have not yet begun the project due to not having matching funds. In October 2022, I had a meeting with them about the project. They have submitted a Growing Greener application for this round and are waiting to see if it is awarded. If they find matching funds, they still intend to expend the funds by the deadline.

In August and September 2022, I worked on and submitted a WCAP application for the Quick Response Program.

In August and September of 2022, I worked on a WCAP application for Broad Top Township. However, they ultimately decided not to submit the application this round.

WPCAMR will be submitting a new WCAP application on behalf of Cambria CD. In August 2022, a draft application was shared with partners for editing. One meeting was held with Cambria CD staff to discuss their application. In September 2022, WPCAMR submitted a new WCAP application for Cambria CD.

In September 2022, I attended the "Restoring Mine-Impaired Watersheds" Workshop at University of Pittsburgh where I was able to advocate for the AMR community in PA and advertise the PA AMR Conference to attendees.

In September 2022, two AMPs were distributed including one regarding the extension of the WCAP grant application period and one to announce WPCAMR's 2022 strategic plan goals. In October 2022, two AMPs were distributed including one about PA DEP's new grant program to participate in the IJA funds and one for the WPCAMR Quarterly Board Meeting.

PA AMR CONFERENCE

2023 PA AMR Conference

In September 2022, I have begun making the agenda for our first committee meeting for the 2023 PA AMR Conference. In October 2022, the first planning meeting for the 2023 conference was held.

PA AML CAMPAIGN

In August 2022, I attended four PA AML Campaign meetings and took minutes for each. In September 2022, I attended four PA AML Campaign meetings and took minutes for each. I helped POWR with an email campaign to encourage POWR members to advocate and educate their senators on AMD issues. In October 2022, I attended three PA AML Campaign meetings and took minutes for each. In October 2022, I attended the Southwest PA Water Network virtual and in-person meetings. I participated in the AMD track for both meetings. At the in-person meeting, I gave a presentation on the intersection of AML-impacted communities and PA's EJ areas and the need for EJ definition to include abandoned coal-impacted communities and the fact that AMD flows downstream. It was followed by a discussion on IJA and the money coming to PA. Individuals were encouraged to call Toomey.

ARIPPA AWARD

In September 2022, the application for the ARIPPA Award was updated for 2023.

GOOD SAMARITAN

No new activity to report

VIDEO WORK

No new activity to report