

# — PA — Environment Digest

*An Update on  
Environmental  
Issues in  
Pennsylvania*

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Edited By David E. Hess, Holston & Crisci

May 9, 2005

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## Committee Set to Consider Hazardous Sites Funding Solution

The House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee is scheduled this week to consider a potential solution to funding the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Program.

[Senate Bill 149](#) (M.White-R-Venango) would reinstate the earmark of a portion of the Capital Stock and Franchise Tax for the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund.

Checkout the growing list of newspapers and members of the Senate and House from around the state who have encouraged a YES vote on the Growing Greener ballot question.

And see how groups around the state are celebrating Watershed Awareness Month with festivals, training opportunities and more.

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## Session Schedule

The House and Senate return to voting session May 9 and then break until June 6.

## Budget Clock Ticking

- 16 voting days are scheduled through the June 30 budget deadline in the House
- 17 voting days in the Senate

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## On the Hill

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### On the Senate, House Agenda

The Senate and House are set to consider a variety of environmental bills and resolutions next week--

**In the Senate:** The Senate will start the week on May 9 with one environmental bill on the Calendar-- [Senate Bill 197](#) (Rafferty-R-Montgomery) authorizing DEP to take multiple violations into account when considering landfill permits.

The Senate Appropriations Committee is set to consider [Senate Bill 410](#) (M.White-R-Venango) establishing the PA Center for Environmental Education.

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**In the House:** The House will start the week with one item on the Calendar as well- [House Resolution 184](#) (Rubley-R-Chester) designating May 28 through June 5 PA Hiking Week.

In committee, the House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee meets to consider [House Bill 1114](#) (Yudichak-D-Luzerne) further providing for the cleanup of waste tires, [Senate Bill 149](#) (M.White-R-Venango) reinstating the earmark of a portion of the Capital Stock and Franchise Tax for the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund and [House Bill 86](#) (Steil-R-Bucks) which authorizes agencies to keep the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers free of certain liabilities.

### Bill Action in the Senate and House

Several pieces of environmental legislation moved this week--

**Funding Watershed Groups:** A three-bill package sponsored by Rep. Fleagle (R-Franklin) passed the House allowing local governments to fund watershed associations – [House Bill 136](#), [House Bill 266](#) and [House Bill 267](#).

**Historic Tax Credit:** [House Bill 504](#) (Killion-R-Chester) providing an Historical Preservation Tax Credit passed the House.

**Chartiers Creek:** [House Resolution 245](#) (Petrone-D-Allegheny) urging the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to study the effects of wet weather events in Chartiers Valley in Allegheny and Washington counties passed House.

**PLAY Anniversary:** [House Resolution 258](#) (Gergely-D-Allegheny) recognizing the 25th anniversary of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission's founding of the [Pennsylvania League of Angling Youth](#) (PLAY) and honoring PLAY's contributions to Pennsylvania passed the House.

**Stormwater Planning:** [House Bill 88](#) (Steil-R-Bucks) authorizing certain counties and municipalities to develop stormwater management plans was reported from House Local Government Committee.

**Main Street Program:** [House Bill 965](#) (Hickernell-R-Lancaster) expanding the definition of downtown area in the Main Street Program was reported from the House Local Government Committee.

**Water/Sewer Connection Funding:** [House Bill 1108](#) (Rubley-R-Chester) establishing a water, sewer connector financing program within PennVEST was reported from the House Local Government Committee with a request to re-refer the bill to the House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee.

**Planned Residential Development:** [House Bill 102](#) (Grucela-D-Northampton) amending the Municipalities Planning Code to further provide for consideration of planned residential developments was referred to House Appropriations.

**Captain John Smith Chesapeake Trail:** [House Resolution 296](#) (Fairchild-R-Snyder) supporting efforts to direct the United States Secretary of the Interior to study the feasibility of designating the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Watertrail as a national historic trail was introduced.

## Growing Greener Bond Question

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### Special Section: Growing Greener Bond Question on May 17 Ballot

On election day May 17, voters will be asked to vote on the Growing Greener question on the ballot. To promote discussion of this issue, *PA Environment Digest* will set aside this special area to highlight comments on the issue by a variety of groups.

There are 8 days left before the election.



### NewsClips

[Editorial: Vote Yes-The Public Can Help Grow a Greener Pennsylvania - Pittsburgh](#)

[Editorial: Vote Yes on Growing Greener Plan - Allentown](#)

[Editorial: PA Growing Greener II First Step to Recovery](#)

[Officials: Vote for Growing Greener Referendum – Bucks County](#)

[Susquehanna County Lawmaker Sees Growing Greener Benefits](#)

[Growing Greener Hopes for Voters](#)

[Chester County Commissioners urge voters to support Growing Greener II](#)

[Issues PA Brief: A Greener PA? The Question On a Ballot Near You](#)

[Supporting Growing Greener on Primary Ballot](#)

[Erie: Vote Yes on Growing Greener](#)

[Ballot Question Focuses on Environmental Issues](#)

### Bipartisan Group of House, Senate Members Urge Vote YES for GG

Sen. Connie Williams (D), state Representatives Raymond Bunt (R), Mike Gerber (D), Kate Harper (R), Daylin Leach (D), Josh Shapiro (D) and Greg Vitali (D), and members of various environmental organizations this week urged voters to make Pennsylvania a green state, and to vote in favor of the \$625 million environmental bond question on the primary election ballot in Montgomery County.

A strong bipartisan message to support the environment by permitting Pennsylvania to borrow money for valuable environmental programs was delivered during a news conference at the Harriet Wetherill Park in Plymouth Township. The park was chosen because it had received state funds to aid in its creation.

"In 12 days voters will have the opportunity to decide what this quality of life will be for every Pennsylvanian. We need to act now to protect the environment - by safeguarding our precious water supply, ensuring funds are available to preserve valuable open space, and to cleanup acid mine drainage that threatens the future of our

waterways," Sen. Williams said. "The longer we wait to act, the more of Pennsylvania's natural resources will be destroyed or lost - not just for today for our generation, but for our children and their children."

"This is an important bond question for Montgomery County where suburban sprawl pressures daily threaten our quality of life and the survival of farming here," Rep. Harper said. "We need to save the places that should be saved and manage the growth we get responsibly. The bond issue will help us do that."

"This May, vote like the future of your environment depends on it, because it does," Rep. Leach urged voters.

"I am proud to have cast a vote to put the question on the ballot and now voters have the opportunity to make an historic investment in Pennsylvania's future," said Rep. Shaprio. "Growing Greener II will protect open space, curb sprawl, cleanup our water and make us less dependent on foreign oil. I strongly encourage voters to support this important ballot initiative."

"There's no doubt we need this funding to address the state's environmental problems and I applaud Gov. Rendell for putting the issue on the table," Rep. Gerber said. "But now, those of us representing Montgomery County and the Greater Philadelphia Area must stick together -- Democrats and Republicans -- to be sure that the effects of sprawl and urban decay are addressed when we spend this money."

Joining state legislators were a number of environmental groups and environmental advocates. The news conference illustrated that support for Pennsylvania's environmental initiative crosses party lines and touches everyone's life.

"Just last year, there was talk everywhere about red and blue states - Republicans and Democrats," Sen. Williams said. "Today, we're talking about uniting every party and making Pennsylvania a green state - the best color any state can be."

### **Environmental Secretaries for 4 Governors Endorse Growing Greener Question**

All seven former state environmental Secretaries who served the past four Governors have come together in the following op-ed piece to endorse voter approval of the Growing Greener Bond Issue on the May 17 election ballot.

The group of Secretaries was assembled by the Pennsylvania Environmental Council as part of the Vote Yes to Keep Pennsylvania Growing Greener Committee.

### **“On May 17 You Can Vote to Clean Up Pennsylvania’s Environment – Support the Growing Greener Ballot Question”**

On May 17 voters in Pennsylvania will have an historic opportunity to approve an environmental bond issue that will address three of the Commonwealth’s most urgent environmental problems— acid mine drainage, the loss of working farmland and open space and cleaning up our rivers and streams.

These are not rural or suburban, western or eastern, Republican or Democratic problems. They are problems for all of us to solve and now you can help.

As former environmental agency Secretaries who served four Governors, we know first-hand the challenges these issues present to Pennsylvania.

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And the cost of this initiative is small compared to its potential benefits. In fact, Gov. Rendell and Leadership in the Senate and House said they will not propose any increases in taxes or fees to pay for this bond issue.

Severely polluted water from abandoned coal mines is Pennsylvania's number one source of water pollution-- over 2,200 miles of streams are sterile and unusable and more than 220,000 acres of abandoned mines need to be reclaimed.

These scars from past mining not only damage our environment, they often make our more rural areas of Pennsylvania unattractive for economic development.

Pennsylvania has made tremendous progress cleaning up thousands of acres of abandoned mines and hundreds of miles of streams thanks to a variety of state and federal programs, the modern coal industry and local watershed groups. But much more remains to be done.

The proposed bond issue builds on the progress we've made and would accelerate the pace of clean up to the benefit of hundreds of communities in our coal fields.

Between 1960 and 1990 our ten largest urban areas grew by 13 percent, but the amount of land we live on grew by 80 percent. In the process, hundreds of thousands of acres of farmland and open space permanently disappeared.

While Pennsylvania created the largest farmland preservation program in the United States and incentives for protecting open space, a significant portion of the funding for the farmland preservation program is coming to an end this year.

The Growing Greener bond issue on the ballot May 17 will restore this funding and help stem the loss of thousands of acres of valuable open land.

The longer we wait to preserve farmland and open space the more expensive it gets.

Pennsylvania's streams need more help recovering from a variety of other environmental insults. Over 13,200 miles of the 83,000 miles of streams are impaired by water pollution of different types. Natural buffers along streams have been cut down and property damage has increased from flooding because natural floodplains have been eliminated.

To help solve these problems, local watershed groups, county conservation districts, businesses and local governments have partnered with state and federal agencies to promote watershed restoration projects that help eliminate nutrient runoff from farms, plant stream buffers, lower flooding potentials and restored streams that have not seen a fish in 125 years.

The bond issue on the ballot May 17 will help to dramatically expand support for projects like these in watersheds all across Pennsylvania.

The environmental problems we outline here affect every one of us because we all need clean water, farmland to grow our food and a clean, healthy environment to promote economic opportunity for our children.

While we've made tremendous progress in restoring our environment over the last 35 years, we're not done yet.

As former environmental agency Secretaries who served Democratic and Republican Governors, we encourage you to vote "yes" on the environmental bond issue on May 17.

By voting, you have the opportunity to make a real difference in the future of thousands of communities all across Pennsylvania, and a cleaner environment for us all.

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### **Clifford L. Jones**

Secretary of Environmental Resources - 1979-1981 under Gov. Thornburgh

### **Peter S. Duncan**

Secretary of Environmental Resources- 1981-1983 under Gov. Thornburgh

### **Nicholas DeBenedictis**

Secretary of Environmental Resources- 1983-1987 under Gov. Thornburgh

### **Arthur A. Davis**

Secretary of Environmental Resources- 1987-1995 under Gov. Casey

### **James M. Seif**

Secretary of Environmental Protection- 1995-2001 under Gov. Ridge

### **John C. Oliver**

Secretary of Conservation and Natural Resources- 1995-2003 under Governors Ridge & Schweiker

### **David E. Hess**

Secretary of Environmental Protection – 2001-2003 under Governors Ridge & Schweiker

For more information on the Growing Greener ballot question, visit the Pennsylvania Environmental Council's website at: [www.PECPA.org](http://www.PECPA.org) .

### **Fish & Boat Commission Release Letter Supporting Growing Greener**

The eight members of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission issued a joint letter May 9 outlining their support for Growing Greener and asking sportsmen to join them in voting to adopt the bond referendum appearing on the May 17 primary election ballot.

#### **Fellow Angler & Boaters:**

On May 17, Pennsylvania voters will have the opportunity to approve the Growing Greener ballot measure that will improve the quality of life in the Commonwealth for generations to come. Voters will be asked to support selling up to \$625 million in bonds to provide for the maintenance and protection of the environment, open space, farmland preservation, watershed protection, abandoned mine reclamation, acid mine drainage remediation and other environmental initiatives. As your Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commissioners (PFBC), we support adoption of the Growing Greener ballot question.

Anglers and boaters know that their water and the quality of their recreation is the result of everything upstream. Protecting and enhancing open space, cleaning up mine waste, and improving water quality does have a positive impact on fishing, boating and other water-based recreational activities. Families living in regions pocketed with abandoned mines and mine runoff know the work that needs done to restore the lands and waters. Growing Greener funding dedicated to fishing and boating infrastructure would

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provide a direct benefit to anglers and boaters. Infrastructure such as dams, hatcheries and public access areas is the backbone of boating and fishing in Pennsylvania and contributes to the more than \$2 billion of impact of fishing and boating on the economy of Pennsylvania.

The PFBC manages through state ownership, lease or easements 14 fish hatcheries, 62 public lakes and about 250 boating access areas. All of these properties and facilities are owned by the Commonwealth and managed by the PFBC. The 14 hatcheries provide fishing opportunities by stocking approximately 4 million adult catchable trout and more than 100 million juvenile fish, including warmwater/coolwater fish. These facilities have a backlog of \$153 million in capitol improvement needs. The PFBC's day-to-day operating funds from license sales and boat registrations will never be enough to serve as the basis for paying all the costs of major projects for hatcheries, dams, access areas and other properties – nor should they be.

The Growing Greener proposal offers the opportunity for the Commonwealth to reinvest in these state fish hatcheries, state dams and other fishing and boating infrastructure.

Therefore, we encourage all Pennsylvanians to join us in voting “yes” on May 17.

Signed,

Samuel Concilla, Erie (President)

Richard Czop, Collegeville (Vice-President)

Donald Anderson, Meyersdale

Ross Huhn, Saltsburg

Ted Keir, Athens

Paul Mahon, Clarks Green

Howard Pflugfelder, New Cumberland

William Sabatose, Brockport

### PA Resources Council - Vote Yes on May 17th for a Greener Future

On May 17th, voters will be asked to consider a \$625 million bond issue to fund a statewide initiative titled “Growing Greener II”. This is an initiative that has broad bipartisan support from the Governor's office, our elected officials and environmental organizations across the Commonwealth.

The ballot asks: "Do you favor authorizing the Commonwealth to borrow up to \$625,000,000, for the maintenance and protection of the environment, open space and farmland preservation, watershed protection, abandoned mine reclamation, acid mine drainage remediation and other environmental initiatives?" No new taxes or fees are contained in the ballot question.

The work to restore, preserve and maintain our natural resources got a jump start with the original five-year, \$1.2 billion Growing Greener program initiated by Governor Tom Ridge in 1999.

We've made substantial progress since then reversing some of the damage to our natural resources and preserving our most pristine and valuable land from uncontrolled development. Watershed organizations rely on Growing Greener funding for projects to



capture and treat abandoned mine discharges that have polluted hundreds of streams in Pennsylvania.

The program funds the decontamination of old industrial sites so they can be recycled for new businesses while at the same time preserving our more treasured green spaces. Funds are also made available to maintain and upgrade our state and local parks.

All of us have benefited in a number of ways from the program. We've proven to ourselves that we can still grow our economy while protecting our natural resources. A healthy environment and flourishing economy are not mutually exclusive.

This is our opportunity as voters to keep the momentum and success story going. Please ask your family, neighbors and friends to express their priority for a greener future by voting "yes" on May 17th.

### Events Highlight Growing Greener Ballot Question

Groups in Chester and York counties and in the Lehigh Valley highlighted the need to pass the Growing Greener ballot question this week.

**Chester County:** Sen. Thompson (R), Rep. Rubley (R), Rep. Ross (R), and Rep. Hershey (R) joined Chester County Commissioner Andrew Dinniman, Pennsylvania Environmental Council President Andrew McElwaine and Natural Lands Trust President Molly Morrison this week to urge voters to approve the Growing Greener ballot question.

Also represented at the event were PennEnvironment, Brandywine Conservancy, Willistown Conservation Trust, Willistown Township, Chester County 2020, Greenspace Alliance, Chester County League of Women Voters, county Republican Party and Democratic Party.

**Lehigh Valley:** The Green Valley Coalition, with its mission of promoting healthy communities, sensible land use and open space preservation throughout the Lehigh Valley, urges Pennsylvanians to vote in favor of the Growing Greener bond question appearing on the May 17 primary ballot.

**York County:** Watershed Alliance of York County urged its members this week to support the Growing Greener ballot question.

### In Other News

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#### Coldwater Heritage Partnership Announces 2005 Grant Awards



The [Coldwater Heritage Partnership](#) this week announced over \$44,000 in grants to local organizations to protect and conserve Pennsylvania's coldwater stream habitats.

Funded organizations will be responsible for creating a Coldwater Conservation plan that: gathers existing data about the coldwater ecosystem; identifies potential impacts, threats,

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problems and opportunities to our coldwater streams; formulates a plan of action for proposed conservation and protection strategies; and builds community awareness and support for the conservation of our coldwater streams.

The grant awards included:

- \$5,000 will be awarded to the Bucks County Chapter of Trout Unlimited for assessing existing watershed health and identifying area for improvement in the Aquetong Creek, Bucks County.
- \$5,000 to the Lawrence County Conservation District to develop conservation plan for Hell Run, Lawrence County.
- \$4,180 to the Bucktail Watershed Association, Cameron County, to collect water quality data for the development of a conservation plan on Hunts Run.
- \$5,000 to the Moshannon Creek Watershed Coalition to develop a protection plan to preserve and protect the headwaters of Moshannon Creek, Clearfield County.
- \$5,000 to the Western PA Conservancy to identify problem areas and develop restoration and protections recommendations for the Northern Branch of Bear Run in Indiana County.
- \$5,000 to the Clearfield County Conservation District to develop a protection plan for the conservation of Rogues Harbor Run, an exceptional value wild trout stream in Clearfield / Cambria County.
- \$5,000 to the Mifflin County Conservation District to conduct macroinvertebrate sampling and develop a conservation plan for the Tea Creek Watershed in Mifflin County.
- \$4,968 to the Ken Sink Chapter of Trout Unlimited to create a restoration and conservation plan for the Two Lick Creek in Indiana County.
- \$4,220 to the Clearwater Conservancy of Central PA to create a conservation plan for the upper section of Spring Creek to maintain and protect wild trout populations on this high quality coldwater fishery.

The Coldwater Heritage Partnership is a cooperative partnership between Pennsylvania Trout Unlimited, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Fish and Boat Commission, and the Western Pennsylvania Watershed Program.

Besides offering grants, CHP works to provide technical and educational assistance to organization interested in protecting coldwater ecosystems. Over the past three years, the Coldwater Heritage Partnership has awarded over \$120,000 to protect our coldwater streams.

CHP anticipates opening the next application period in the Fall of 2005.

For more information, contact Deborah Nardone at 814-359-5233, or visit the [Coldwater Heritage website](#).

### Mingo Creek, Buffalo Creek Celebrate Watershed Awareness Month



The Buffalo Creek (Washington County) and the Friends of Mingo Creek Watershed Association (Montgomery County) celebrate Watershed Awareness Month with significant events.

**Buffalo Creek:** On May 22 the Buffalo Creek

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Watershed Festival will be held at the former Dutch Fork Lake near Claysville

The restoration of Dutch Fork Lake will be the theme of this third annual Festival that will feature a free kids' casting tournament sponsored by Cabela's. First and second place prizes will be awarded in age groups 7 - 11 and 12 - 15 years of age. Cabela's will also put on fly casting demonstrations.

Another festival feature will be Bob Heyer and the Cabin Fever String Band. The popular Wheeling-based band will get the toes tapping with Old Time Mountain Music and will also accompany the youth meadow dancers of Bob and Kathy Tomlinson.

Three River Birding Club of Pittsburgh will hold bird walks throughout the day. Unlike last year's "walks," which were by canoe on the then-existing lake, this year's will actually be walks. Special presentations and activities will include eco-exploration and animal programs by the Oglebay Schrader Center and the Oglebay Good Zoo.

Meadowcroft Village crafters and independent crafters and artists will give demonstrations, and historian William Garbarino will discuss area history. The BCWA will hold an adult fee-charged casting contest with prizes.

Organizations presenting educational displays will include the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Washington County Parks and Recreation, the Pennsylvania Game Commission, Jose Taracido –California University of PA, Three Rivers Birding Club, Buffalo Valley Alliance, Wheeling Creek Watershed Conservancy, and Jacobs Birdhouses.

For further information, contact Ted Flickinger at 724-663- 4292, e-mail to [tflick@cobweb.net](mailto:tflick@cobweb.net) , or Kevin Barletta, 724-484-0516, e-mail to [kevinbarletta@msn.com](mailto:kevinbarletta@msn.com).

**Mingo Creek:** On April 23, a group of 5 adults and five students set out early to help out Friends of Mingo Creek with their annual Earth Day clean up of the Mingo creek watershed.

Despite threatening rains, the band of volunteers dispersed to different sections of the creek and managed to clean more than a dozen large bags of miscellaneous bottles and cans and junk from entering the stream, cleaning our roads and opens spaces from the back of the local high school property down to the confluence of the Schuylkill River and up stream towards Royersford.

Six years ago Friends of Mingo Creed held the first clean up and each year we find less trash because volunteers living along the creek keep their sections clean.

Upper Providence township removed the collected trash and they continue to support Friends of Mingo Creek to help keep the waterways clean.

Some of the participating students were from Spring-Ford Area School District, working on an "eco fair project" seeing the effects of littering on the environment.

Five Royersford Elementary students cleaned the school property along with their parents. Students in the district were encouraged by Mary DeAngelis, their environmental teacher to do some type of project with their parents in their own yards and neighborhoods, like plant a tree or butterfly garden. Check out [Ms. DeAngelis' website](#) for more information.

This year to make students in the watershed more aware of the local streams, Friends of Mingo Creek is holding another "stream naming" contest in Upper Providence Township where there are about six tributaries of the Mingo creek and 5 streams that drain directly to the Schuylkill River that are unnamed.

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Students will have a chance to choose a name and then go before the supervisors for their approval before the names are submitted to the mapping company. The process will take several months to complete then the township will install signs with the names of the streams.

For more information on Friends of Mingo Creek activities, contact Alice Lang by email to [Mingowatershed@aol.com](mailto:Mingowatershed@aol.com)

### America Celebrates Wetlands Month

For the past 15 years, May has been designated American Wetlands Month, a time for educating the public about the value of wetlands.

This year's theme is "It Pays to Save Wetlands" and focuses on the economic benefits that wetlands provide. In addition to replenishing and cleaning water supplies and reducing flood risks, wetlands are important spawning grounds for the fishing industry, essential habitat for many wildlife species and provide places for recreational activities like birding, canoeing and hunting.

This year the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will join with elected officials, local and state environmental agencies, corporate officers, representatives from environmental groups, and individual citizens at local wetlands events across the country.

For more information, visit EPA's [May is American Wetlands Month webpage](#).

### Watershed Stewardship Toolbox Workshop June 7

On June 7, the Watershed Academy, in cooperation with [Western Pennsylvania Conservancy](#), will hold a free one-day workshop to introduce participants to the new "[Watershed Stewardship: A Planning and Resource Guide](#)."

Watershed managers, watershed specialists, municipal officials, planners, and watershed organizations would significantly benefit from this training.

The Watershed Stewardship Guide focuses on six components, all of which will be discussed at the workshop:

- Watershed Organization Development and Sustainability - How to identify key players in your community and forge a cooperative and collaborative relationship to work toward common goals that ultimately benefit your watershed; also addresses the bottom line on how to maintain your organization.
- Securing Financial & Human Resources - How to identify and locate financial and human resources (private and government) to develop and implement your watershed management plan.
- Watershed Assessments - Getting acquainted with and discovering what is going on in your watershed in terms of water quality and water quantity and the environment within its boundaries.
- Developing the Watershed Management Plan - How to develop a detailed vision and strategy that identifies specific actions to restore, maintain, enhance, and protect your watershed.
- Implementation - How to systematically carry out prioritized projects using financial and human resources efficiently.

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- **Monitoring for Success - How to measure your success against established goals to evaluate and quantify progress at regular intervals in the continuing implementation of your watershed management plan.**

The workshop will be held from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm in Greensburg at the Westmoreland Conservation District. There is no cost for this workshop and lunch will be provided for all attendees.

To register, contact the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy's Angela Zimmers by telephone at 724-459-0953 ext. 113, or by e-mail at [azimmers@paconserve.org](mailto:azimmers@paconserve.org).

### **Online "Growth and Water Resources" Training Module Available**

A new on-line, distance learning training module called "[Growth and Water Resources](#)" has recently been posted on [EPA's Watershed Academy webpage](#).

The training module explains how changes in land use affect water resources, and presents national data on trends in development patterns and activities on land that have become increasingly significant challenges for achieving water quality standards.

The module describes a combination of approaches to accommodate future growth in a way that benefits the economy and the environment and will help us meet our water resource goals. The module also includes a "tools" section with links to on-line resources. This training module was developed by EPA's Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds Smart Growth Team.

### **Chesapeake Bay and NPS Source Pollution Prevention Educational Grants Due**

The PA Association of Conservation Districts is now accepting applications for 2005-06 [Pennsylvania Chesapeake Bay Educational Mini-Grants and Nonpoint Source Pollution Prevention Educational Mini-Grants](#).

The application deadline is June 15.

These grants provide up to \$2,500 to conservation districts for educational projects that promote water quality.

For more information, contact Shannon Wehinger, PACD 717-238-7223.

### **Better Stormwater Management Through Site Design Workshop – June 15, 16**

The Pennsylvania Environmental Council together with the York County Planning Commission, York County Conservation District, and Cahill Associates is conducting a two-part workshop "Better Stormwater Management Through Site Design" on June 15 & 16 for municipal officials, Environmental Advisory Council members and engineers.

This practical training session addresses one of the most important issues facing suburban and rural areas with respect to water resource management: how to improve development proposals to incorporate best management practices with respect to water quality and quantity.

The workshop provides background on hydrology, impact of development, new stormwater regulations, overview of best management practices, municipal roles in stormwater management, and local project examples.

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The engineer session will highlight issues such as infiltration testing, soil testing, and site testing.

All Participants will receive hands-on experience through case study work, will be provided a 'checklist' for design review, and will work together to evaluate an actual site design.

For more information or to register, contact Erin Albright, Pennsylvania Environmental Council, at [ecalbright@pecpa.org](mailto:ecalbright@pecpa.org) or 717-230-8044, ext. 18.

### Chesapeake Watershed Voluntary Environmental Programs Conference

The [Chesapeake Watershed Voluntary Environmental Programs Conference](#), will be held on May 10 in Annapolis, Md. in recognition of the importance of voluntary environmental programs in solving environmental problems.

The purpose of the conference is to assist managers, coordinators, and staff of voluntary environmental programs in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. This conference is offered to help groups work more effectively, network with other organizations and hear the latest in program evaluation and implementation. Attendees will hear case studies, results from academic research on the effectiveness and structure of programs and environmental priorities of the Chesapeake Bay Program .

For more information and to register visit the [conference webpage](#).

### PUC Celebrates National Drinking Water Week with New Education Program

Marking National Drinking Water Week, the Public Utility Commission this week unveiled a new consumer-education effort to inform consumers about the importance of water issues such as: the value of water service; how water is brought from the source to the tap; conservation tips; infrastructure improvements; and assistance available for low-income ratepayers.

The event featured comments by Chairman Wendell F. Holland and Commissioner Kim Pizzingrilli; a presentation of a House Resolution designating drinking water week by Rep. Rubley (R-Chester/Montgomery); water-related demonstrations by water companies; and a portrayal of one of this country's founding fathers, Ben Franklin, who wrote some profound words about water -- "When the well is dry, we know the worth of water."

Also attending the event were fourth-grade students from the Saint Vincent School in Honesdale, Wayne County, and the Sacred Heart School in Havertown, Delaware County.

The PUC education program-- 'Prepare Now' for Summer' – offers consumers tips on how they can reduce the use of water—

- If you need to water your lawn, do so during the coolest part of the day, early morning or evening. Avoid watering on windy days and position the sprinkler to watering only the lawn or garden and avoid paved areas;
- Use a soapy bucket of water to wash the car and rinse with a hose fitted with an automatic shut-off;
- Use a broom to sweep clean pavements and driveways instead of hosing them clean;

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- Check your home plumbing for leaks and fix them promptly to help save water and money;
  - Take a shorter shower using a low-flow showerhead instead of taking a bath;
  - Turn off the faucet while brushing your teeth or shaving;
  - Use dishwashers and washing machines only with a full load; and
  - Install water-efficient appliances in your home.
- Visit the [PUC's Consumer Education webpage](#) for more information.

### Applications Due July 22 for Next Round of Energy Harvest Grant Program

The Department of Environmental Protection this week announced it is accepting applications for the next round of Energy Harvest Grants. DEP anticipates \$5 million will be available for the program.

Applications must be postmarked by July 22.

The Energy Harvest Program provides financing for clean and renewable energy projects to be built in the Commonwealth from sources such as biomass, wind, solar, small-scale hydroelectric, landfill methane, coal-bed methane and waste-coal. This third round will fund deployment projects that promote awareness and build markets for cleaner or renewable energy technologies.

Local governments, conservation districts, nonprofit organizations and school districts, colleges and universities, and for some sources of funding, farms and businesses are eligible. Farmers interested in the grant program can apply through local conservation districts or other eligible organizations.

DEP is particularly interested in supporting proposals that are market-driven, spur investment, create jobs and produce economic development within Pennsylvania. Proposals should manage the state's indigenous energy resources in a way that improves the environment, supports economic development and enhances quality of life.

DEP made the announcement at Petroleum Products Corp. in Middletown, Dauphin County, where Worley & Obetz, a Energy Harvest grant winner in 2004, is building the first available and commercially viable storage and blending system of biofuels in the state.

Biodiesel blends reduce emissions of particulate matter, sulfur and air toxics normally found in diesel fuel. Since biofuels can be produced from homegrown feedstock, increasing the use of biofuels contributes to state and national security, and supports farmers, keeping dollars in Pennsylvania and contributing to a healthy state economy.

In its first operating year, Worley & Obetz's new facility will avoid 207,500 pounds of carbon monoxide, 17,845 pounds of particulate matter and 17,845 pounds of sulfur dioxide emissions annually. It replaces 2.5 million gallons of foreign oil with domestically produced biodiesel every year. This means Pennsylvania will not export \$3.2 million in energy dollars in just the first year.

DEP anticipates posting applications on the [Energy Harvest webpage](#) in the near future.

[Visit Our Professional Services Directory](#)

## Applications Due Sept. 30 for Recycling Performance Grants

The Department of Environmental Protection this week announced applications for the 2004 Recycling Performance Grants are due September 30.

DEP said grant applications would be posted soon on the [Recycling Grants webpage](#).

**NewsClip:** [DEP Awards Recycling Performance Grants](#)

## Schools Recognized for Protecting Schuylkill River

The Schuylkill Action Network, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, DEP and other agencies recognized six Southeastern Pennsylvania schools this week for developing environmental and educational projects that benefit the Schuylkill River watershed.

Each school was presented with the [Schuylkill Action Network's](#) Source Water Protection Award as part of EPA's celebration of National Drinking Water Week and the 30th anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

The schools receiving the awards included: James Dobson Elementary School, Philadelphia, Candlebrook Elementary School, King of Prussia, Green Woods Charter School, Philadelphia, Souderton High School - Students Against Violating the Earth (SAVE), Souderton, Springside School – Philadelphia, and Ursinus College - Collegeville, Pa.

The awards were presented on behalf of the Schuylkill Action Network, which was formed in 2003 to create a team approach to cleaning up and protecting the Schuylkill River and its tributaries. Members include EPA, Department of Environmental Protection, Philadelphia Water Department, Delaware River Basin Commission; conservation districts, local, state and federal agencies, watershed organizations and other non-governmental organizations.

The award recipients for 2005 have implemented source water protection programs such as adopting a local stream, designing educational wetland areas, planting native species on streambanks to prevent erosion, designing stormwater retention basins, and teaching students and members of the community about protecting water quality.

Source water is untreated water from streams, rivers, lakes, or underground aquifers that is used to supply private wells and public drinking water. The Schuylkill River and its tributaries are an important source of drinking water and fish habitat.

**NewsClip:** [Schuylkill Action Network Sponsors Drinking Water Conference](#)

## Erie Teacher Receives Carnegie Award for “SCUBA Do’s” Project

Jim Rutkowski, a biology and environmental science teacher at Strong Vincent High School in Erie, was recently recognized as the ‘High School Teacher of the Year for 2005’ by the Carnegie Science Center.

Rutkowski was recognized for his work in bringing a very unique project called “SCUBA Do’s” to fruition. During this program, a group of 8th and 9th graders from Strong Vincent High School and Villa



Jim Rutkowski



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Maria Academy in Erie studied to become certified SCUBA divers in order to participate in a sediment-collection and sampling project in Presque Isle Bay.

Rutkowski received a grant from Pennsylvania's Coastal Zone Management Program to support the project.

Last June, student-divers went into the waters of Presque Isle Bay to place a number of sediment-collection devices at the mouths of both Cascade and Mill Creeks. These newly-designed devices were placed in 18 feet of water.

In September, the students retrieved these devices and replaced them with a new set; this set will be retrieved this spring. The collected sediment samples were tested for heavy metals and PAHs and early results are encouraging as Presque Isle Bay continues as an EPA 'Area in Recovery'.

Rutkowski, who has been a teacher for 34 years, was a runner-up for the Carnegie award two years ago but has called this award the "frosting on the cake." He believes in learning by doing and instilling a strong sense of environmental stewardship in his students.

For more information on 'SCUBA Do's', contact Jim Rutkowski at Strong Vincent High School in Erie at 814-874-6522 or e-mail: [jk.touch@verizon.net](mailto:jk.touch@verizon.net)

### **Nominating PA Educators for National Environmental Ed Awards**

June 1st is the deadline for nominations for the nine prestigious awards that will be presented at the North American Association for Environmental Education conference being held October 25-29 in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Now is the time to think of deserving educators and educational organizations that are deserving of wider recognition for their efforts.

Each year, NAAEE bestows awards in the following categories: Walter E Jeske Award (for outstanding service to the NAAEE, and leadership in the field); Outstanding Service to Environmental Education for Individuals at the local, regional and global levels; Outstanding Service to Environmental Education for Organizations at the local, regional and global levels; Outstanding Affiliate (state/provincial environmental education membership association); and Outstanding Contributions to Research in Environmental Education.

This is a great opportunity to recognize those individuals and organizations in environmental education in the state who deserve wider recognition for their accomplishments.

Complete nomination details are available at the [NAAEE Awards webpage](#) or by contacting Tim Grant, the NAAEE Awards Committee Co-chair, at [tim@greenteacher.com](mailto:tim@greenteacher.com) or 416-960-1244 or Jennifer Tucker Visitacion, [jenv@usee.org](mailto:jenv@usee.org) or 801-328-1549.

Nominations must be submitted by June 1 to Caroline Alston at [calston@plt.org](mailto:calston@plt.org).

### **PA Center for Environmental Ed May Newsletter Available**

The May issue of [EE Connections](#) from the [PA Center for Environmental Education](#) is now available online.

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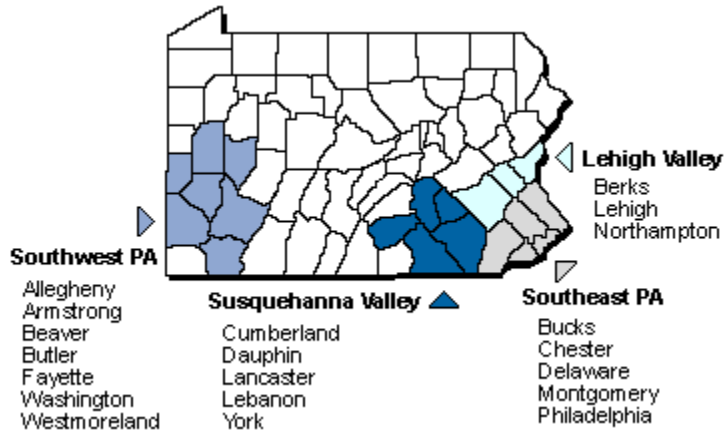
This month's features include an updated events calendar, new educational resources like NatureMapping, a Ducks Unlimited Wetland Education website, the launch of a new green schools initiative, EPA EE training opportunities and much more.

To receive your own copy by email, sign up online at [EE Connections](#).

### Free Ozone Alerts Available from Regional Air Quality Partnerships

Again this year, residents in the Susquehanna Valley, Southwest Pennsylvania and Lehigh Valley/Berks County can receive free air quality forecasts and early warning of bad ozone days by email.

Individuals without Internet access can call the partnerships' toll-free ozone hotlines: Susquehanna Valley, 1-888-772-1306; Lehigh Valley/Berks County, 1-877-517-2969; Southwest Pennsylvania, 1-800-333-7688; and Southeast Pennsylvania, 1-800-872-7261.



The forecast features the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's standardized Air Quality Index that uses color to represent ozone concentrations (green signifies good, yellow means moderate, orange represents unhealthy ozone levels for sensitive people, and red warns of unhealthy ozone levels for all). DEP also provides year-round forecasts for fine particulate matter, commonly called PM2.5.

You can also [monitor ozone and PM2.5 levels](#) in your area in almost real time.

For more information visit the [Air Quality Partnerships webpage](#). [Vea este sitio en Español](#)

**NewsClip:** [Summer Ozone Season Begins in Pennsylvania](#)

### Certified Emission Reduction Credits Registry Updated

The Department of Environmental Protection this week published a notice of availability of emission reduction credits, by company, in the state's Emission Credit Registry and a summary of recent transactions ([May 7 PaB 2811](#)).

Included in the Registry are credits for nitrogen oxide, volatile organic compounds, carbon monoxide, lead, sulfur oxides and particulate matter.

Credits in the Registry can be used to satisfy new source review requirements and to trade and sell to companies that need them or have an excess.

For more information contact Virendra Trivedi, Bureau of Air Quality, 717-787-4325 or go to [Emissions Credit Registry background paper](#).

[Visit Our Professional Services Directory](#)

## PA Companies Pledge Greenhouse Gas Cuts as Climate Leaders, Receive Awards

Caterpillar, Frito-Lay, Xerox, Staples, and the Gap, all doing business in Pennsylvania, were among 10 corporations pledging to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as part of [EPA's Climate Leaders](#) – a voluntary program that works with companies to measure greenhouse gas emissions and set aggressive, long-term emissions reduction goals.

[Mack Trucks, Inc.](#) of Allentown was one of ten new companies to join the Climate Leaders program this week.

Another Pennsylvania company-- York International Company -- was among 25 individuals and organizations from around the world recognized by EPA for outstanding efforts to protect the Earth's climate. Other winners included such companies as McDonald's, Coca-Cola and 3M.

EPA estimates that the 37 Climate Leaders' greenhouse gas reductions will prevent more than 8 million metric tons of carbon emissions equivalent per year. These reductions are equal to the annual greenhouse gas emissions of five million cars.

Since its inception in 2002, Climate Leaders has grown to include 68 corporations whose U.S. emissions represent eight percent of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. The following 10 corporations committed to new greenhouse gas reduction goals:

- Caterpillar Inc. – reduce global GHG emissions by 20 percent per dollar revenue from 2002 to 2010.
- Frito-Lay – reduce U.S. GHG emissions by 14 percent per pound of production from 2002 to 2010.
- Green Mountain Energy – achieve net zero U.S. GHG emissions by 2005 and maintain that level through 2009.
- Xerox – reduce its total global GHG emissions by 10 percent from 2002 to 2012.
- Staples – reduce its U.S. GHG emissions by 7 percent from 2001 to 2010.
- Gap, Inc. – reduce its U.S. GHG emissions by 11 percent per square foot from 2003 to 2008.
- [Exelon](#) – reduce its total U.S. GHG emissions by 8 percent from 2001 to 2008.

York International was honored in the Corporate/Government category of the Climate Protection Awards. York International was the first manufacturer to introduce and actively promote the application of variable speed drive technology to centrifugal chillers. This effort began in 1979 and continues today with the latest generation of products. The technology has evolved from large, expensive floor-mounted drives to compact, unit-mounted and factory installed drives.

As a result of York's leadership, 70 percent of York centrifugal chillers have variable speed drive and all chiller manufacturers now offer centrifugal chillers using this technology. The application of variable speed drive will typically reduce annual energy consumption of centrifugal chillers by enhancing off-design performance. York is also the first company to apply variable speed drive technology to the air-cooled screw chiller platform, offering the same significant kWh savings in an air-cooled package.

For more information, visit [EPA's Climate Leaders webpage](#) and the [2005 Climate Protection Awards webpage](#).

### **National Clean Diesel Campaign Announces Grant Opportunities**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency this week announced it will be accepting grant applications under its [National Clean Diesel Campaign](#) for projects that will reduce emissions from nonroad vehicles and equipment.

The deadline for receipt of applications is July 1.

Eligible projects would reduce diesel emissions through the use of retrofit technologies on various types of vehicles, such as construction, agriculture and port-related equipment.

EPA anticipates awarding 8-12 cooperative agreements, ranging in from \$50,000-\$150,000.

For additional information, visit the [National Clean Diesel Campaign grant webpage](#).

### **EPA Offers Smart Growth Implementation Assistance**

The Development, Community and Environment Division in U.S. EPA's Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation is seeking applications from communities that want to develop in ways that meet environmental and other community goals.

Communities selected will work with a team of multidisciplinary experts that will work with local leaders to provide technical assistance to help with either policy analysis (e.g., reviewing state and local codes, school siting guidelines, transportation policies, etc.) or public participatory processes (e.g., visioning, alternatives analysis, build-out analysis, etc.).

For more information and application materials, please go to [EPA's Smart Growth Assistance webpage](#).

### **Harrisburg Falcon Eggs Hatch In Time for Mother's Day**

The Department of Environmental Protection reported this week that right on schedule, the Peregrine Falcon eggs nurtured by a pair of falcons on the Rachel Carson Building in Harrisburg started to hatch this week.

This follows the pair of Peregrine Falcons [nesting at the Gulf Tower nest in Pittsburgh](#) whose eggs were laid earlier and hatched last week.

Just a reminder the Pennsylvania Game Commission will hold a [live event on May 26](#) at 12:30 pm in the Rachel Carson State Office Building to band the young falcons. The event will again be available to watch online through a live webcast by clicking on the "[Register to Watch the Webcast](#)" link beginning May 25.

For more information on Peregrine falcons visit the [Falcon Focus webpage from GreenTreks](#).



## **Taking Positive Action**

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### **What's the Value of Volunteer Time, More Than You Think!**

Independent Sector announced that the value of volunteer time has reached \$17.55, up 36 cents from a year earlier.

Nationally, Independent Sector estimates the total value of hours volunteered in 2004 was equivalent to approximately \$272 billion of contributed services, assuming the total number of volunteer hours held constant from previous years.

The hourly value, updated yearly, is based on the average hourly earnings of all non-agricultural workers as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). To arrive at its figure, Independent Sector took the BLS number and increased it by 12 percent to estimate for fringe benefits.

"No number can adequately capture the true value volunteers bring to so many causes and communities across this country," said Independent Sector president and CEO Diana Aviv. "Nevertheless, this yearly estimate helps us all focus on the enormous contribution of our nation's volunteer corps."

For more information visit the [Independent Sector website](#).  
(Courtesy [Watershed Alliance of York County](#))

## **Opinion**

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### **The Susquehanna: A River Under Stress -- But Not The Nation's Most Endangered** *By Paul O. Swartz, Executive Director, [Susquehanna River Basin Commission](#)*

Given my position with the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC), it comes as no surprise that people are asking me for my reaction to the recent American Rivers report declaring the Susquehanna River the nation's number one endangered river. Many people are concerned by American Rivers' characterization of the Susquehanna River as a cesspool, while others have embraced it without question. The Commission's position is one of balance, because we are relying on the facts to guide us.

And the facts tell us that, while the Susquehanna River admittedly has its share of serious water quality problems, it is by no means the most endangered. American Rivers' efforts to raise awareness of the water quality problems in the Susquehanna may be well intended, but the endangered designation did create confusion. Some people have even concluded that the Susquehanna is a filthy river to be avoided. And that unintended consequence troubles me.

Yes, there are localized and some regional water quality problems, but by-and-large, the water quality of the Susquehanna River is in good condition and continuing to improve. In fact, there are areas in the Susquehanna basin, including the New York portion, where the water quality is exceptional. Our own monitoring data, which we collect and analyze based on sound science, show significant reductions in nutrients and sediments in the river. That reduction in the Susquehanna translates to reduced levels reaching the Chesapeake Bay.

There are many other indicators that point to the Susquehanna as being a healthy riverine system. The Susquehanna enjoys the reputation as a world-renowned

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smallmouth bass fishery. It's also host to recreational outfitters like Endless Mountain Outfitters, Blue Mountain Outfitters and Shank's Mare. The construction of fish passage facilities at the dams in the lower Susquehanna River, at a cost exceeding \$50 million, has enabled American shad and other migratory fish species to return to their historic spawning water in the Susquehanna and its tributaries.

There are also many local success stories of improved water quality. For example, in my own watershed, coal mining from the 1850s virtually eliminated all aquatic life in the upper reaches of the Swatara Creek Watershed in Lebanon and Schuylkill Counties. But now, because of stream improvements, native brook trout have returned and their numbers and species continue to increase every year. Similar success stories can be cited for other projects throughout the Susquehanna basin.

Despite all the successes, much work remains to be done to further improve water quality. Cathy Curran Myers, Pennsylvania's Alternate SRBC Commissioner, put it very well when she recently referred to the Susquehanna River as a "crown jewel under stress." She pointed out that less than 15 percent of it is included as impaired on EPA's dirty water list. "The Susquehanna sends the cleanest water of any tributary to the Chesapeake Bay, but it is not clean enough."

Nutrients, sediment and drainage from abandoned mine lands (AMD) are three of the primary sources of water quality impairment in the basin. Based on 2000 estimates, the Pennsylvania portion of the Susquehanna basin has more than \$2.8 billion in AMD reclamation needs. Even more sobering are EPA's cost estimates for the overall effort to restore the Chesapeake Bay: \$27 billion in capital expenditures and an additional \$2.7 billion annually.

We also agree that there are tremendous infrastructure improvement needs for Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) systems. As of 2000, the estimated cost to solve this problem in Pennsylvania alone was \$4 billion. Incidentally, the CSO issue is by no means unique to the Susquehanna basin or to Pennsylvania.

The Susquehanna River is a tremendous resource, but it has some very real needs to ensure its long-term management and protection. Given the sheer size of the Susquehanna River Basin - with more than 31,000 miles of streams - meeting those needs in the long term will require everyone's best effort.

Among other legislative remedies, the Susquehanna needs help from our elected officials to reauthorize the federal Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund. Constituents who care about the Susquehanna need to voice their support for legislative initiatives such as the one introduced by Pennsylvania Senator Ray Musto to provide funding for CSO system upgrades.

Just as important, there is simply no substitute for stewardship of the Susquehanna "back home." We are grateful for all the good work being done by the 189 active watershed organizations in the basin.

American Rivers' designation of the Susquehanna River as the nation's most endangered may not be an accurate characterization of the overall water quality of the river. However, I hope that it will serve as a call to action for everyone who cares about its future.

*(courtesy [Susquehanna River Basin Commission](#))*

**[Visit Our Professional Services Directory](#)**

## Quick Clips

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[Op-Ed: Use of Alternate Energy Sources must not inflate business costs](#)

[Editorial: Vulnerable on Energy](#)

[Mobile Ag Lab Teaches Food, Farming](#)

[Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Celebrates 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Earth Day](#)

[PennDOT's war on litter may be gaining ground](#)

[As oil prices soar, consumers of renewable energy smile](#)

[Envirothon tests students on knowledge of nature](#)

[Envirothon takes learning to new heights](#)

[Students create projects to help environment](#)

[Groups tour reclaimed Mather coal refuse pile](#)

[Farmer Wins Environmental Award](#)

## Watershed NewsClips

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[Builders Group Has Designs on Developing Consensus for the Bay](#)

[Editorial: Permanently Extend Abandoned Mine Tax](#)

[Canoeists to Pick Up Debris in Swatara Creek](#)

[Lake only thing missing from festival](#)

[Children's Groundwater Festival to be Held at Cal. U.](#)

[West Branch of Susquehanna Worth Messing About](#)

[Watershed Plan Includes Major Facelift](#)

[Muddy Grub Day Expected to Draw Crowd](#)

[Book Explores PA Waterfalls](#)

## Regulations

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The Independent Regulatory Review Commission has [formally received](#) and will meet May 12 on final regulations on the regulation and storage of explosives from the Environmental Quality Board for its final review.

### [Pennsylvania Bulletin – May 7, 2005](#)

**Comment Deadlines:** [Regulations](#) [Technical Guidance](#)

[Copies of Proposed Regulations](#)

[Status of Regulations, 6-Month Calendar](#)

## Technical Guidance & Permits

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The Department of Environmental Protection this week [published nine new draft policy documents for comment and finalized at tenth.](#)

**NOTE:** comments are due June 6 for each of the draft guidance documents.

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Draft: DEP ID: 250-4000-001. Citing Inspection Violations. This guidance establishes a uniform methodology across all Department regions for citing violations within municipal, residual and hazardous waste programs.

Draft: DEP ID: 250-4000-002. Enforcement Actions. This document provides guidelines for Department staff to implement a uniform methodology across all Department regions for enforcement actions within municipal, residual and hazardous waste programs.

Draft: DEP ID: 250-4000-003. Violations Requiring and Extended Time Period to Correct. This document provides consistent guidelines across all Department regions to ensure that violations within municipal, residual and hazardous waste programs are corrected with 180 days from the date that the Department determined that a violation occurred.

Draft: DEP ID: 250-4000-004. Program Implementation Guidance. This document provides a formal methodology by which the Bureau of Land Recycling and Waste Management will implement a compliance and enforcement program throughout this Commonwealth.

Draft: DEP ID: 250-4110-001. Notices of Violation (NOVs). This document provides a formal methodology by which the Bureau of Land Recycling and Waste Management will cite similar violations in a similar manner.

Draft: DEP ID: 251-3120-001. Performing Hazardous Waste Facility Inspections. This document establishes a formal methodology for conducting hazardous waste facility inspections in a similar fashion across all six regions of the Department.

Draft: DEP ID: 254-3120-001. Performing Municipal and Residual Waste Facility Inspections. This document provides a formal methodology for conducting municipal and residual waste facility inspections in a similar fashion across all six regions of the Department.

Draft: DEP ID: 257-3120-001 Storage Tank Program Internal Policy on Inspections and On-Site Visits. This document establishes uniform procedures for Storage Tank Program inspections.

Draft: DEP ID: 257-4000-001. Guidelines for Identifying, Tracking, and Resolving Violations for Storage Tanks. This document establishes guidance for the Storage Tank Program "Corrective Action Process for Owners and Operators of Storage Tanks and Storage Tank Facilities and other Responsible Parties."

Final: DEP ID: 362-2192-003. Guidelines for Agricultural Utilization of Sewage Sludge. This is a minor modification to existing guidance that provides a coordinated and consistent Statewide process for determining compliance with requirements contained in permits issued under 25 Pa. Code Chapter 275 (relating to land application of sewage sludge).



[For copies of Draft Technical Guidance](#)   [For copies of Final Technical Guidance](#)

## **Calendar of Upcoming Events**

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Upcoming conferences, meetings, workshops, plus links to other online calendars. [Go To: PA Environment Digest Calendar Page](#)

- **May 9** – Joint Legislative Air and Water Pollution Control and Conservation Committee Environmental Issues Forum to discuss greenhouse gas action plans.
- **May 9** – House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee meets to consider [House Bill 1114](#) (Yudichak-D-Luzerne) further providing for the cleanup of waste tires and [Senate Bill 149](#) (M.White-R-Venango) reinstating the earmark of a portion of the Capital Stock and Franchise Tax for the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund and [House Bill 86](#) (Steil-R-Bucks) authoring state agencies to hold and save certain U.S. Army Corps of Engineers fee from certain projects.
- **May 9** – Senate Appropriations Committee will consider Senate Appropriations Committee is set to consider [Senate Bill 410](#) (M.White-R-Venango) establishing the PA Center for Environmental Education
- **May 10-11** – [Delaware Estuary Science Conference “Linking Science and Management for the Delaware Estuary](#), Newark, DE.
- **May 18** – [Delaware River Basin Commission meeting](#) on TMDL development, update on water planning, flooding on the Delaware and other topics.
- **May 31** – DEP Energy Advisory Board meeting.
- **June 21** – House Environmental Resources & Energy Committee information meeting on global climate change.

### **DEP Calendar of Events**

#### **Watershed Events**

*(courtesy [PA Organizations for Watersheds & Rivers](#))*

#### **Environmental Education Workshop/Training Calendar**

*(courtesy [PA Center for Environmental Education](#))*

[Senate Committee Schedule](#)   [House Committee Schedule](#)

## **Helpful Web Links**

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[Daily NewsClips](#)   [Daily DEP Update](#)   [GreenTreks Network](#)   [Watershed Weekly](#)

[DEP Press Releases](#)   [DEP Advisory Committee Meetings & Agendas](#)

## Stories Invited

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Send your stories about environmental issues, programs and positive actions to **PA Environment Digest** - [DHess@HolstonCrisci.com](mailto:DHess@HolstonCrisci.com) or go to [www.PaEnvironmentDigest.com](http://www.PaEnvironmentDigest.com) .

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