



PA Environment Digest

An Update On Environmental Issues In PA

Edited By: David E. Hess, Crisci Associates

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Western PA Conservancy Watershed Conservation Program Celebrates 10th Anniversary

Ten years ago, the [Western Pennsylvania Conservancy](#) started a program to provide technical assistance to watershed groups around the region. Nick Pinizzotto was the lone employee of what was then known as the [Watershed Assistance Center](#).

This “one-stop shop” was designed to help groups with a variety of water conservation needs-- from learning how to prepare grant proposals to accessing technical resources and planning tools.

(Photo: Watershed staff installs a multilog vane deflector in Tubmill Creek, used for erosion control and creation of fish habitat. [Click Here](#) for other photos.)

Pinizzotto finished that first year realizing just how important such a center was for Western Pennsylvania. With its mission and scope of work rapidly expanding, the program and its six full-time employees soon moved to a new office in Blairsville that could accommodate the increasing demands.

The program’s growth continued through what Pinizzotto describes as, “calculated risk-taking that made good business and conservation sense.”

