



One Team, One Effort

*2012 Annual Report
Cambria County Conservation District*

Manager's Perspective

Robert W. Piper, Jr., District Manager

This Conservation District has a group of professional staff with about 150 years of experience. So, what makes a team effort from these eight individuals? Noted American author, Norman Shidle, would say, "*a group becomes a team when each member is sure enough of himself and his contribution to praise the skills of others.*" Is this enough? Maybe, and maybe not. What about execution, focus, trust, harmony and the foresight to not only praise, but recognize and use those skills of other co-workers to get to the end of a project on time and within budget or to meet a common goal.

I really like what Andrew Carnegie said:

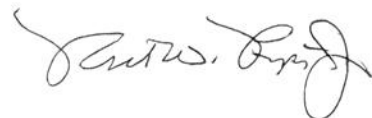
"Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishment toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results."

Common Vision - The Cambria County Conservation District deems to educate and assist the public through programs, projects and leadership in the stewardship of natural resources to sustain and enhance the quality of life.

Organizational Objectives - Enhance Water Quality & Clean up the AMD; Support the Farm Industry, Environmental Education and Forest Management.

The individual program accomplishments are what you will read about in the body of this report. I don't count our team here as common people, but the results are certainly uncommon. I hope that you will enjoy this year's annual report.

Sincerely,



Robert W. Piper, Jr.
District Manager

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Annual Awards Banquet

Cambria County Conservation District Banquet
May 16th—Carrolltown Fireman's Banquet Hall

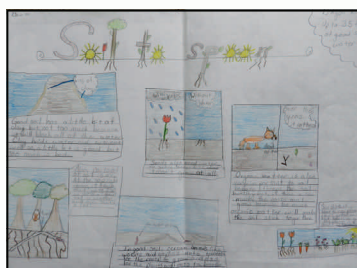


The Conservation Awards honor children, youth, and adults who have put forth an effort to improve their lives and others' through conservation practices and promotion through art, competition, projects, community support & outreach, and best environmental practices in their lives and/or businesses.

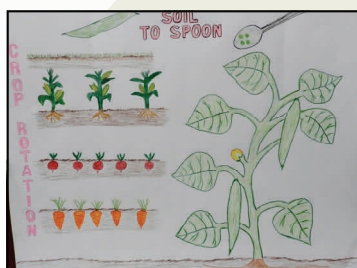
Poster Contest: "Soil to Spoon"

The contest was judged on April 19, 2012. The first place winners received a \$50 savings bond, a trophy, and entry in the state competition. Skyler Baroni placed first in the state level and will be judged at the national level in February of 2013. The second and third place winners of the county competition received ribbons. All winners were invited to the Annual Banquet for dinner and recognition of their accomplishment. Congratulations to the winners and thank you to all the students who participated!

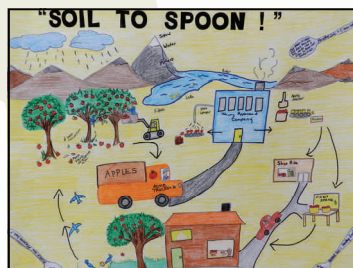
First Place Winners:



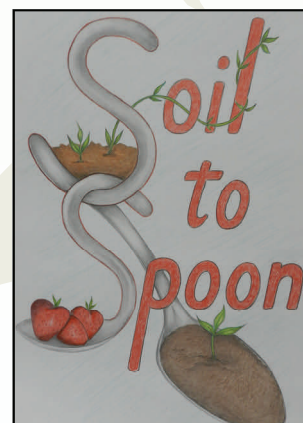
Claire Bawiec, Grade 2-3
Forest Hills Elementary



Alyssa Martinazzi, Grade 4-6
All Saints Catholic



Nikolas Suckinos, Grade 7-9
Bishop Carroll Catholic



Skyler Baroni, Grade 10-12
Greater Johnstown CTC

Second Place Winners:

Josilyn Wehner, Grade 2-3, Forest Hills Elementary
Kayla Simanski, Grade 4-6, All Saints Catholic
Ellen Simmerman, Grade 7-9, Indiana Junior High
Kelly Beyer, Grade 10-12, Forest Hills High

Third Place Winners:

Madeline Cecere, Grade 2-3, Forest Hills Elementary
Sarah McAndrew, Grade 4-6, All Saints Catholic
Courtney Cecere, Grade 7-9, Forest Hills Middle
Nicole Miller, Grade 10-12, Forest Hills High

The banquet was a wonderful success, thanks to the generosity of our many donors, the entertainment of "Just Dana" Fabina, and our presenters and award recipients. We thank everyone for their conservation efforts here in Cambria County!

Annual Awards Banquet

Cambria County Conservation District Banquet
May 16th—Carrolltown Fireman's Banquet Hall



**Farm Service Award:
10 Years of Service**
Mary Lou Smithmyer and Dennis Hines



2012 Cambria County Poster Contest Winners



Media Conservation Award
Anna Gibbs



Urban Conservation Award
Alternative Community Resource Program



Conservation Organization of the Year
Boy Scout Troop #115



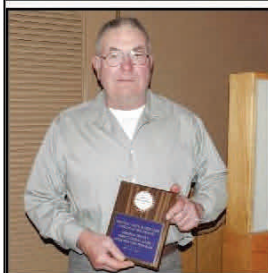
2012 Cambria County Envirothon Winners



Conservation Educator of the Year: Ben Watt
Special Conservation Service Award: East Carroll Township



E & S Pollution Control Award:
Colver Power Project
Watershed Protection Award:
Greater Johnstown Water Authority



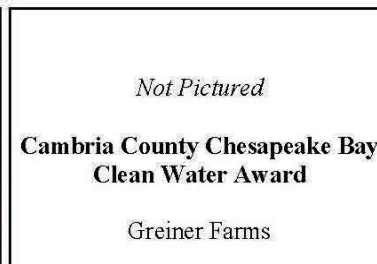
Natural Area & Heritage Preservation Award
CC Agricultural Land Preservation Program



Soisson Public Recreation:
Cambria County Fair
Conservation Farmer of the Year: Fred Brown



Forest Management Award
Ken and Marianne Borlie



Not Pictured
Cambria County Chesapeake Bay Clean Water Award
Greiner Farms

"If you believe in yourself, have dedication and pride and never quit, you'll be a winner. The price of victory is high, but so are the rewards." ~Paul "Bear" Bryant

Cambria County Envirothon

Jackie Ritko, Resource Conservation Supervisor

Nathan Marsh, AmeriCorps

The County Envirothon was held at the District's educational facility, Disaster's Edge, on May 3rd. The Cambria County Envirothon is an event in which students are tested on their knowledge of the environment and compete to become the designated team that represents Cambria County at the PA State Envirothon. Teams work together to apply their knowledge and problem solving skills in each category: Aquatics, Forestry, Wildlife, Soils, and the Current Issue—"Nonpoint Source Pollution and Low Impact Development."

Playing to Win!



This year, 24 teams (totaling 120 students) from 9 different school districts participated in the County Envirothon. Once again, Northern Cambria High School did very well, placing in the top three positions. Northern Cambria's three teams are coached by Ron Yuhas, who has been an Envirothon Advisor/Coach for the past 25 years. Mr. Yuhas works closely with his students each year, as is evidenced by their continued success. The other participating schools were Bishop Carroll, Cambria Heights, Conemaugh Valley, Forest Hills, Glendale, Penn Cambria, and Portage.

The separate stations were conducted by the Pennsylvania Game Commission, Department of Environmental Protection, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Bureau of Forestry, and staff of the Conservation District. The event was sponsored in part by AC Power/Colver Operations, Cambria CoGen, Valenty Bottled Water, Reighard Machine, and Galliker's Dairy.

Northern Cambria Team II: Amy Lieb, Zach Yuhas, Marina Leonard, Justin Tenerowicz, Ron Sharkey



Northern Cambria Team I: Adreinne Tubo, Mindy Bernard, Kevin Zedack, Brandon Daisley, Stephen Prasko

Northern Cambria Team III: Brennen Lee, Kaylee Krug, Katelin Fox, Joe Sclesky



All winning teams received a trophy, t-shirts, and an invitation to the Annual Awards Banquet. Sponsored by the District, Northern Cambria Team I placed 8th out of 62 teams in the PA State Envirothon on May 22-23 at the University of Pittsburgh, Johnstown.

"Individual Glory is insignificant when compared to achieving victory as a team." ~ Dot Richardson

Community Workshops

Mary Ellen Bard, Administrative Assistant

In conjunction with the Annual Tree and Plant Sale, the Conservation District provides education opportunities to the public, focusing on care and maintenance of ornamental plants and fruit trees. Mary Ellen Bard worked closely with Tom Ford, Area Commercial Horticulture Educator from the Penn State Extension Office, to organize a variety of workshops, which were offered at no cost to attendees.

On March 19th the *Selection, Planting, and Maintenance of Woody Ornamental Plants* workshop was held, with 32 people in attendance. The workshop covered the basic considerations when selecting woody ornamentals: soil, sun, and shade requirements, care needed, and landscape plan. Ford offered helpful tips on planting practices, such as making sure to amend the soil based on what is in the rootball of the ornamental and to be sure not to plant the rootball too deep. Finally, proper maintenance will ensure the success of all plants, including pruning, weed management, and proper mulching.



On March 26th the *Management and Care of the Home Fruit Planting* workshop was held, with 43 people in attendance. In this workshop, attendees learned about basic considerations when selecting fruit trees as well as the importance of proper site preparation. One of the most common mistakes made is not preparing the site at least a year in advance of planting. Ford discussed the correct way to choose root stock and the steps needed to take during the planting process, such as being sure to add needed nutrients to the soil at the planting site. In addition to pruning techniques and pollination requirements, the workshop also covered the importance of pest management. Ford informed everyone that dandelions are the worst weed to have in an orchard as they carry a virus that affects fruit bearing trees.



On October 18, the *Fall Landscape and Garden Chores* workshop was held, with 15 people in attendance. This workshop detailed the importance of preparing your trees and plants for the upcoming winter season. Ford advised those with fruit trees to evaluate harvested fruit, assess tree vigor, and protect trees from deer. Winter preparation for landscapes includes testing soil and planting bulbs in early fall, applying nutrients prescriptively, and selecting the appropriate grass species for the area. Ford also stressed the importance of managing weeds and rodents, removing girdling roots from trees, and clearing out dead and/or declining plants.

In a survey issued to workshop attendees, an overwhelming majority said that the sessions provided were extremely helpful and thoroughly enjoyable. We thank Tom Ford and the Penn State Cooperative Extension for their continued collaboration with the Conservation District.

Educational Programs

Jackie Ritko, Resource Conservation Supervisor
Nathan Marsh, AmeriCorps

Dreaming Big with Nanty Glo & Lilly Libraries

This Summer, the Cambria County Library System participated in the 2012 Collaborative Summer Library Program, “Dream Big – READ!” Dream Big is a high-quality summer reading program designed to prepare children for early success by developing their early language skills through a combination of reading, educational programs, and hands-on activities.

Jackie Ritko, Conservation District Educational Coordinator, was invited to Lilly and Nanty Glo Libraries to present an environmental program that tied into the theme of “Dream Big.” Since most of us do our dreaming at night, Jackie decided to highlight bats, creatures of the night. There were 55 children in attendance.



The program started off with a game that allowed the children to showcase their bat knowledge. Some of the questions were pretty easy, such as, “True or False – All vampires are bats and drink blood?” However, other questions were more advanced, “How do bats find their prey?” The answer: echolocation. We were surprised by how many children really knew their bat facts! After the game, the children designed their very own bat masks. They let their creative juices flow and made colorful creations. Once the masks were ready to wear, the children were excited to model their artwork!

Exploring Energy with Westmont Hilltop Middle School

In April 2012 Jackie Ritko, Resource Conservation Specialist, and Nathan Marsh, AmeriCorps, spent the day at Westmont Hilltop Middle School teaching 6th grade students about Renewable and Nonrenewable Energy Sources. A total of 120 students attended this program.

The session began with a brief overview of what it means when an energy source is renewable and what it means when it is nonrenewable. The students listed different types of energy and divided them into the appropriate categories of renewable or nonrenewable. They also discussed how energy is generated from the different sources.

Thanks to solar energy models supplied by the Disaster’s Edge educational facility, students were able to test how solar energy can provide power to everyday items like cars, radios, and lights. The students also participated in a wind energy experiment. Small groups of students worked together to design windmill blades. Once the windmill blades were constructed, the groups could test their design’s effectiveness at harnessing the energy generated by the wind.

Cold-Blooded Learning with Johnstown Christian School



On March 20, 2012 the 5th grade class of Johnstown Christian School visited the Disaster’s Edge. The 13 students who attended the field trip were excited to learn about reptiles and amphibians. To begin, everyone took a “pop quiz” to test their existing knowledge of reptiles and amphibians. After the quiz was completed, the students split up into small groups and visited different stations. The stations featured interactive items that helped teach the students the differences and similarities between reptiles and amphibians, including their skin, eggs, bones, and more. Everyone was particularly excited to visit the stations where they were able to view the live animals.

After the students had visited each station everyone came back together to review their answer sheets. With the remaining time, the students were able to look at and pet some of the turtles at the Disaster’s Edge.

Educational Programs

Jackie Ritko, Resource Conservation Supervisor
Nathan Marsh, AmeriCorps



In 2012, the Conservation District conducted 18 Environmental Education Programs for over 1,000 students. Most programs are taught at the Disaster's Edge facility and the 1889 Park, but can be taught off-site upon request. Throughout the year, students learned about energy sources, birds, PA wild-life, animal classification and habitats, tree identification, soil composition, and reptiles and amphibians. We have predesigned programs and we are able to design a

Improvements at Disaster's Edge Educational Facility

Thanks to Jacob Smith, a local Boy Scout with Troop #53, the Disaster's Edge Environmental Facility is looking quite refreshed! As part of the requirements for Jake to obtain his Eagle Scout rank he needed to plan, develop, and complete a service project for an organization in his community. Jake chose Disaster's Edge for his project "because of his positive experiences there during his participation in the Envirothon competitions." He said that he always felt that the staff welcomed all the schools and students with open arms and he wanted to do something meaningful to return the kindness.



Jake met with Jackie Ritko, Resource Conservation Supervisor, to discuss areas of need at the Edge. He then wrote a proposal which was approved by his Scout Master, Paul Glacken, and the Laurel Highlands Council of Boy Scouts. It was decided that Jake would paint the windows, doors, outside of the building, and stain the porch. The materials, totaling \$405.49, for this portion of the project were provided by the Conservation District. Jacob also noticed that the cement pads by the back porch needed to be reset and he generously did this with his own resources. The help of Michael Smith, Jacob's father, was enlisted to build birdhouses and feeders to be placed throughout the garden area. Jacob, his family, and Boy Scout Troop #53 worked together for a total of 115 hours to complete the proposed updates, saving the District approximately \$2,800 in labor costs. Jacob said he is very grateful to have had the opportunity to do his service project for Disaster's Edge. He said, "It feels good to do something nice for people who do nice things for others."

Clearfield Creek Watershed Association

Bryan Rabish, Watershed Specialist

Clearfield Creek Watershed Association (CCWA) 2012 Accomplishments

- ⇒ Completed 4 trash cleanups on Rte. 53, Dean to Syberton (9 miles), 10th year of project.
- ⇒ Initiated 2 stream cleanups of Clearfield Creek from Dean to Ashville (5 miles), aided by St. Francis University (SFU) students.
- ⇒ Organized the Ninth Annual Fishing Derby for kids at Dysart—112 participants.
- ⇒ Attained a membership of 115 members for 2012. Continued a junior membership category—\$1.00 fee.
- ⇒ Continued to provide financial support for the “Trout in the Classroom” project at Penn Cambria (PC) Middle School.
- ⇒ Provided a field day for 65 PC students, 3 teachers: released fingerlings, stocked trout provided by PA Fish Commission, lunch, visited two environmental sites—Brubaker Run (BR) and Klondike sites.
- ⇒ Provided a field day for 30 PC 7th grade students, teachers: planted 350 trees, lunch, visited our Klondike passive treatment sites.
- ⇒ Raised approximately \$20,000 in donations & volunteering to clean mud & silt from the Laurel Run Sportsman’s Dam.
- ⇒ Received the following Grants: an EPA 319 Grant of \$568,616 for construction of Phase 2 of the West Ferris Wheel treatment system; a Dominion Organizational grant—\$510.
- ⇒ Completed Phase 2 of revegetation at the long-abandoned Ferris Wheel site—reclaimed approximately 18 additional acres.
- ⇒ Rehabilitated the Kondike-1 treatment pond and buried piping into the slag bed at this site.
- ⇒ Completed design of the Gibson-Halstock treatment system and applied for EPA 319 construction funds.
- ⇒ Prepared for bidding on Phase 1 and 2 construction of the West Ferris Wheel systems.
- ⇒ Completed design of the Amsbry AM5 treatment system.
- ⇒ Sampled inflow & outflow of the Swank limestone channel, and are collaborating with SFU on a student project at the site.
- ⇒ Submitted a Growing Greener proposal to test flushable limestone bed methods at BR.
- ⇒ Collaborated with the US Army Corps of Engineers on selecting an optimum design for treatment of the Clay Mine on BR.
- ⇒ Participated with Clearfield Co. Conservation District on construction of treatment at the Morgan Run Ross Discharge.
- ⇒ Found many species of fish in Clearfield Creek at Amsbry in a fish shocking survey supported by Trout Unlimited, very few fish below BR (further documents the negative impact of BR on Clearfield Creek).
- ⇒ Collaborated with PSU Engineering seniors in designing treatment system, site near Blandburg—headwaters of Muddy Run.
- ⇒ Purchased a datalogger, partial funding from SFU, placed in Witmer Run, collect data on stream draining Marcellus gas wells.
- ⇒ Sampled the Ace Drilling site quarterly under contract with the DEP office, Ebensburg.
- ⇒ Exhibited a display and discussed CCWA activities at the annual Cider Festival at Prince Gallitzin Park and at the West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Symposium, State College.
- ⇒ Assisted PA Fish & Boat Commission with stocking of fish in Clearfield Creek from Ashville to Dysart.
- ⇒ Revised and updated our website (www.clearfieldcreekwatershed.org) and received newspaper coverage on activities and projects numerous times. Established a Facebook account.

Chest Creek Watershed Alliance

Bryan Rabish, Watershed Specialist

Chest Creek Watershed Alliance 2012 Accomplishments

- ⇒ Continued to support actions against the Harmony Landfill in Chest Township, Clearfield County.
- ⇒ Sponsored two grants for the Cambria County Conservation District for the Chest Creek Streambank Restoration Project. One grant (\$12,690) was from the Foundation for PA Watersheds and the other (\$1,000) was from Dominion Gas.
- ⇒ Initiated a water monitoring program for source water protection throughout the Chest Creek Watershed.
- ⇒ Continued to find innovative ways to attract new membership.
- ⇒ Applied for a Dominion grant to place educational signage strategically throughout the Watershed.



CLEARFIELD CREEK WATERSHED 2013 AGENDA

Clearfield Creek Watershed Association is, once again, planning an aggressive agenda in 2013

- ◇ Planning and raising funding for a future Dam Cleanout project.
- ◇ Continue to sponsor and raise funds for our very successful annual fishing derby.
- ◇ Partner with both Penn Cambria Middle School for the Trout in the Classroom & tree planting projects & field trips.
- ◇ Continue our efforts with the PFC and support of both the Cambria & Clearfield Co. Conservation Districts.
- ◇ Advance our projects to treat acid mine discharge, improve the water quality of Clearfield Creek in both Cambria & Clearfield counties and raise funds for educational purposes.
- ◇ Continue planting of seedlings, donated by PA Game Commission, on the Ferris Wheel Revegetation site.

CLEARFIELD CREEK WATERSHED 2013 OFFICERS

President - Ray Hollen; President Elect, Treasurer, Secretary, and one Board Member are to be voted on at the annual meeting in January. Art Rose continues as the Tech Committee Chairman.

CLEARFIELD CREEK WATERSHED 2013 MEETINGS

CCWA meets at 6:30 PM on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Winter meetings: Prince Gallitzin Park, Main Office.
Summer Meetings: Laurel Run Sportsman's Club, Dysart.

Agricultural Conservation Technician/ Engineer (ACT) Special Project

Louis Kopczyk, P.E., County Engineer

"I've always believed that if you put in the work, the results will come." ~ Michael Jordan

The PA Department of Agriculture provides funds for the ACT Special Project to county conservation districts through the State Conservation Commission. Authority to carry out the special project is provided under the Commission's Conservation District Fund Allocation Program Statement of Policy and the Conservation District Law. The purpose of the ACT Special Project is to provide county conservation districts cost-share incentives to provide increased levels of direct technical services and assistance to production agriculture cooperators and other landowners through the employment and training of agricultural conservation technicians and engineers.

The overall goals of the ACT Special Project include the following:

1. To provide increased levels of direct technical assistance and services to agricultural producers and landowners to assess natural resource problems and develop, update, and/or implement conservation plans and other natural resource plans such as nutrient management, integrated pest management, and pasture, crop and forest management plans.
2. To serve as a resource and technical advisor for cooperating agricultural producers and landowners that are actively working to meet local, state and federal environmental requirements.
3. To assist agricultural producers and landowners in understanding and working towards compliance with environmental rules and regulations.
4. To assist agricultural producers and landowners to obtain required permits and other project approvals required for the implementation of best management practices.
5. To provide information on financial resources available to assist agricultural producers and landowners in the installation of agricultural best management practices.
6. To serve as an interface between agricultural producers and federal, state, and local government agencies.
7. Where appropriate, to help facilitate the completion and submission of applications for the Commonwealth's Farmland Protection Program, to assist in yearly site inspections of approved program applications, and/or to provide other technical and administrative support necessary to facilitate the timely consideration of program applications.
8. To increase and strengthen the local, state and federal conservation partnership's capacity to provide adequate levels of technical assistance and services to our agricultural producers and other landowners.

\$22,425 was allocated to Cambria County through this program for Fiscal Year 2011-2012. In 2012, assistance with the following items was provided through the ACT Program:

- ◇ One-on-one assistance to ~50 farm operators concerning agricultural erosion control.
- ◇ Assistance with the Conservation District's drill rental program.
- ◇ Jackson Township Pond design, hydric soil delineation was completed. Meetings with personnel from the PA DEP were conducted to look at the site and determine permit requirements. Test pits were dug and logged.
- ◇ Brown Farm Upper Livestock Watering System design was completed. *\$1,100 value*
- ◇ Representation was provided at the USDA-NRCS Local Work Group meeting.
- ◇ Assistance was provided to five farm operators with REAP applications.
- ◇ The Trout Run mine drainage treatment project was surveyed and as-built drawings were prepared.
- ◇ The J. Hollen Farm Water Management Project design was completed.
- ◇ A tour of agricultural best management practices was arranged and conducted for a teacher training program at St. Francis University.
- ◇ The County was represented at meetings of Southwest Project Grass through this program and assisted with the Project Grass Grazing Conference conducted in Indiana on October 11 & 12.
- ◇ Conducted two meetings and met with many individuals to assist farm operators and livestock owners with the preparation of manure management plans.
- ◇ Arranged and participated in farm visits conducted by the NRCS Grazing Specialist. Prepared a grazing management plan for an operation in Washington Township.
- ◇ Arranged a meeting between government agencies and the Blacklick Creek Watershed Association to discuss the status and requirements of projects and programs.
- ◇ The Sawyer Farm diversion design was completed. *\$700 value*
- ◇ The O'Donnell Farm diversion design was completed. *\$500 value*
- ◇ Participated in a meeting with Ebensburg Borough concerning designs for Fairgrounds storm water management facilities.

Nutrient Management Program

Louis Kopczyk, P.E., County Engineer

The Nutrient Management Act took effect on October 1, 1997. The regulations were changed in 2005 under Act 38 as part of the Agriculture, Communities, and Rural Environment initiative. This regulatory program is administered by the State Conservation Commission and requires all high-density livestock and poultry producers to develop and implement nutrient management plans. This legislation is aimed at reducing the amount of nutrients lost from farmland and entering Pennsylvania's waterways.

Along with those required to abide by these regulations, other farm operators can participate on a voluntary basis. Plan writers must attend training, pass a test, and become certified prior to preparing a plan under the regulations. Prepared plans are submitted to the Conservation District for review and approval. Once approved, plans are to be implemented within 3 years.

All operations that land apply manure or agricultural process water that do not have a plan under the Act 38 are required to have a written manure management plan. This program was promoted in 2012 with the introduction of a workbook that serves as the mandated format for manure management plans.



Lou Kopczyk, P.E. instructs workshop attendees on manure management requirements

In 2012, three articles were prepared to provide information on the nutrient management and manure management planning to County residents through local newspapers and radio stations. One-on-one meetings and conversations were conducted with 65 farm operators to answer questions about the regulations. Three workshops were scheduled to provide information to farm operators concerning manure management planning, and 12 one-on-one meetings were conducted with farm operators to assist with the preparation of manure management plans. Cooperating agencies were contacted to gain input in planning for the educational needs of the Program. A meeting was conducted with representatives of the Cambria County Farm Bureau to discuss aspects of the manure management planning program. Input was provided through participation in two meetings of the Nutrient Management Act Delegation Agreement Workgroup to incorporate manure management activities into the agreement between conservation districts and the State. Training was conducted for 20 county nutrient management specialists. A presentation on the nutrient management regulations was given at the Cambria County Farm Bureau Agency Meeting and was attended by 50 people. Three manure spreader calibrations were conducted, four complaints were investigated, and three nutrient management plan status reviews were conducted. A tour of agricultural operations was arranged and conducted for a teacher training program conducted by St. Francis University to demonstrate nutrient management practices and to provide information on regulatory requirements.

Forest Management

Robert W. Piper, Jr., District Manager

Pennsylvania Forestry Association & Tree Farm Program

Robb Piper, board member of the Pennsylvania Forestry Association (PFA) Board of Directors, attended three board meetings and the Annual meeting held September 28-29, 2012 in Mercer County in Grove City, PA. The theme was based on early successional habitat for game and non-game species. Piper serves as a public sector director and has been on the board since 1990. He was appointed Vice-President in December due to Ken Manno's resignation.

Founded in 1886 by Dr. Joseph T. Rothrock, PFA is the oldest state forestry association in America. PFA is the state sponsoring organization for the American Tree Farm System. Tree Farm is a registered trademark of the American Forest Foundation. Landowners must have at least 10 acres of forestland and grow (i.e. trees, Christmas trees) to produce a forest product (i.e. maple syrup) to qualify for the program.

The Cronauer Tree Farm #2914, located in Jackson Township, reinspection and plan upgrade was completed. There were no new certifications or decertifications. Robb wrote an opinion on "White Nose Sydndrome" with bats and its effect on local timber harvesting and how it would negatively impact the forest industry and inhibit local landowners with timber management and invasive plants. He completed a tree farm inspector questionnaire for the national office.

Forest Stewardship Program

The Conservation District also provides landowners woodlot planning through the Forest Stewardship Program. This program was reorganized in 2010 at the national level and is now administered by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) through the EQIP program of the 2008 Farm Bill. They are now called CAP 106—Forest Management Plans. The PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry now acts in a technical advisory capacity to NRCS. Robb continued his qualifications as a plan writer under this program after going through the requirements to become a Technical Service Provider through USDA. No new plans were developed in 2012 in Cambria County.

PA Council of Professional Foresters

This organization was formed in the 1990's to promote the licensing of professional foresters in PA. Robb is a Charter member and on the Board of Directors. House Bill 1235 was introduced in January of 2012 to accomplish this goal. It never came to a vote and died in the House Professional Licensure Committee with the end of this two years session of the state Legislature. Efforts continue. The PA Association of Conservation Districts and the PA Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc. both approved policy to support this licensing effort.

"There is a kind of victory in good work, no matter how humble." ~ Jack Kemp

No-Till Drill Program Agricultural Land Preservation Program

John Dryzal, Assistant Manager
Mark Stockley, Resource Conservation Supervisor

No-Till Rental Program

John Dryzal, Assist. Manager, Louis Kopczyk, P.E., William Myers, Per Diem

Number of Rentals 23

8 New Customers

2012 experienced a 64% increase in No-Till Drill Rentals as compared to 2011. Thirty-five percent of the rentals were new customers who have never rented a drill in the past.

The trend of our traditional customers who have higher acres investing in a no-till drill for their own operations continues. Interest and requests for the drills remains high – especially among the smaller producers where the investment in no-till equipment is not economical.

Our no-till program continues to get conservation on the ground.

Total Acreage: 380.8 acres

Total Revenue: \$6,056.88

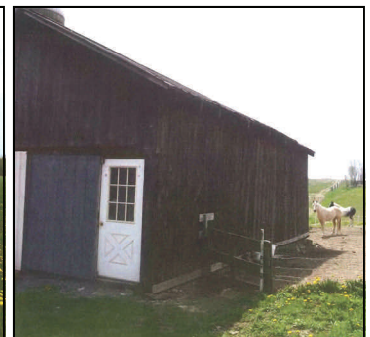
Drill	No. of Users	Acres Planted
Haybuster:	11	107.9
John Deere:	12	272.9

Drills are used for planting grass and small grains



Agricultural Land Preservation Program

Mark Stockley, Resource Conservation Supervisor
Stephen Balamuta, AmeriCorps



In 2012, one farm was added to the Agricultural Land Preservation Program. The 128.42 acre Shoemaker Farm, located in East Carroll Township, was preserved for \$159,882.90.

The Agricultural Land Preservation Board met five times in 2012.

2012 Officers: Richard Davis, Chairperson; Gene Eckenrode, Vice-Chair;

Keep Cambria County Beautiful

Mark Stockley, Resource Conservation Supervisor
Stephen Balamuta and Jocelyn Sauter, AmeriCorps

Fugitive Tire Collection



**KEEP
CAMBRIA COUNTY**
Beautiful



Empowering Pennsylvanians to make
our communities clean and *Beautiful*.

The Conservation District once again paired with KCCB to offer tire and appliance collections to county residents. This bi-annual program is held in an effort to encourage proper disposal of tires and both Freon and non-Freon containing appliances. Collections are held in the Spring and Fall. This year, a \$4,000 grant (not to exceed 50% of costs) was received through the DEP Hazardous Household Waste Collection Program, allowing the cost of tire disposal to be reduced. The reduced cost of \$1.00 for off-rim tires and \$2.00 for on-rim tires resulted in an enormous increase in the amount of tires received. The cost of Freon-containing appliances remained the same at \$12.00. The collection sites for 2012 were Cambria Township, Croyle Township, Patton Borough, Summerhill Township, and Tunnelhill Borough. The money received from the Tire and Appliance Collection is put toward proper tire disposal, Freon removal, and funding AmeriCorps time.

Items Collected	Spring 2012	Fall 2012	Total 2012
Tires off-rim	2,731	1281	4012
Tires on-rim	205	247	452
Freon Appliances	65	35	100
Non-Freon Appliances	33	20	53
Total Money Collected	\$4,186	\$2,217	\$6,403

Fugitive Tire Collection



In 2012, Boy Scouts Troop 115 of Hastings, PA collected 552 tires from Cambria County roadsides through the Fugitive Tire Program on April 1, 2012. The tires were illegally dumped along several different township roads located in the northern part of Cambria County. The program pays the troops \$0.50 per tire to help clean up roadways littered with illegally dumped tires. KCCB provided the funding for proper disposal costs at a DEP approved facility.

"If not you, who? If not now, when?" ~ Garry Herbert

Chest Creek Stream Restoration Project, Phase III

Mark Stockley, Resource Conservation Supervisor

In the Summer of 2010, the planning process for the Chest Creek Stream Restoration Project, Phase III was started. This past June, the project was completed after nearly two years of planning, grant proposals, permitting and implementation.



Before: Phase III improvements have not begun

Chest Creek Phase III was a continuation of Phase I and Phase II stream improvements, with habitat improvement and flood control at its main core. The stream is located in a man-made flood control area, which created an unsuitable habitat for aquatic life. The wide-bed construction of the channel allowed for sediment pollutants to be deposited in the stream, diminishing the fish population and quality of habitat.

During Phase I and Phase II, the wide channel was constructed into a narrow, low-flow meandering channel. The newly formed channel allowed the sediment to move through the flood control project area, thus improving the water quality and aquatic life habitat. Inserting specially designed habitat structures created habitat for the fish, improved oxygen levels, and stabilized the eroding bank.

The goal of the Chest Creek Phase III project was to continue the improvements made by Phases I & II on the final 4,000 feet of the stream. The modifications included:

- Lowering ten sediment/gravel bars in the stream channel. Material from the channel was excavated to increase flood control and improve the low-flow channel.
- Placing 25 habitat devices along the stream edge. In order to stabilize the stream beds and bank while improving habitat at the same time, the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission designed stone deflectors, log-faced stone deflectors, multi-log deflectors, single-log deflectors, and modified mud seals.



In Progress: log deflectors being placed in stream.



After: Phase III installation of habitat devices and stream bank stabilization have been completed.

Jocelyn Sauter, AmeriCorps, prepared a power point presentation on this project, based on an interview with Donna Dunegan, Patton Borough Secretary. The power point was viewed by the CCCD Board of Directors and the PA Fish & Boat Commission.

Chest Creek Phase III would not have been possible without the financial and physical assistance of many cooperating agencies. The total cost of the project was \$86,883, which was funded by:

- \$37,310 DEP Flood Protection Growing Greener Grant;
- \$31,103 DEP Growing Greener Grant;
- \$12,690 Foundation for PA Watersheds Grant
- \$2,000 Community Foundation for the Alleghenies Grant through the Foundation for PA Watersheds ;
- \$1,000 Dominion Grant through the Western PA Conservancy;
- \$2,780 in donations from the Park Avenue Pub in Patton, Fraternal Order of the Eagles, Chest Creek Watershed Alliance, Cambria County Commissioners, and Conservation District Clean Water Fund.

In addition to the grant monies received, the man hours devoted by our many partners were crucial to the completion of Chest Creek Phase III. We offer a special thank you to the PA Fish and Boat Commission, NRCS, DEP Waterways and Engineering, PACD Growing Greener of Somerset, Patton Borough, Steven Krieger Excavating, and District Staff, AmeriCorps Members & Interns.

Glendale Lake Shoreline Stabilization Project, Phase II

Mark Stockley, Resource Conservation Supervisor

"The quality of a person's life is in direct proportion to their commitment to excellence." ~ Vince Lombardi

The Glendale Lake Shoreline Stabilization Project, Phase II was completed in October of 2012. Due to severe erosion along the shoreline, Glendale Lake was experiencing loss of aquatic and fish habitat as well as increased sediment build-up. With help from Prince Gallitzin State Park, the Conservation District secured a DEP Growing Greener Grant in the amount of \$15,788. The PA Fish and Boat Commission provided additional funding, designed and constructed the shoreline stabilization plan.

Phase I of the Glendale Lake Shoreline Stabilization Project was completed in 2010. Phase I stabilized and protected 2,000 feet of shoreline, the longest project in Pennsylvania to-date. Phase II built on the success of Phase I. The shoreline stabilization was implemented at two separate sites on Glendale Lake: McKee's Run Boat Launch and Pickerel Pond. With the completion of Phase II, an additional 689 feet of shoreline was stabilized by the placement of rocks in varying sizes along the shoreline. The rocks will deflect the wave action on the shoreline, reducing erosion, increasing aquatic and fish habitat, and decreasing sediment deposition.



McKee's Run, Before Phase II improvements



McKee's Run, After Phase II improvements

Trout Run AMD Treatment Project/Puritan Discharge

John Dryzal, Assistant Manager

The Conservation District, in cooperation with the Trout Run Watershed Association, finished construction of the acid mine drainage (AMD) treatment system on the Puritan Discharge near Martindale. Earth Shapers, LLC began construction of the FeAlMn Limestone Bed system on March 6, 2012. The project was significantly completed on April 16, 2012.



Trout Run, Before



Trout Run, After

The total project cost was \$227,615.12. Funding sources and amounts for the project included a Growing Greener Grant for \$172,180.00, a grant from the Office of Surface Mining for \$35,314.00, and \$20,121.12 in in-kind match from project partners. Louis Kopczyk completed an in-house engineering as-built design survey of the project, valued at \$4,103.90.

It is anticipated that the water quality in 2.6 miles of Trout Run will be restored to a viable fishery. The initial water quality data show the system is performing as anticipated—raising the stream pH from 4.95 to 6.38.



Initial Reading

Chapter 92, 102, & 105 Programs

Bobbie Blossosky, Resource Specialist
Bryan Rabish, Watershed Specialist



Under the Chapter 92, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program, 19 NPDES General Permits and 2 NPDES Individual Permits were reviewed and/or approved during 2012. The Cambria Clean Water Fund received \$14,500.00 for the processing of new NPDES permit applications.



The Conservation District completed the initial review and commented on 78 erosion and sediment pollution control plans. The plan review fee schedule brought \$41,900.00 into the County. Twelve complaints concerning the Chapter 102 Erosion and Sediment Control Program were acknowledged and resolved during the year.



A total of 25 general permits were reviewed and acknowledged under the Chapter 105, Dam Safety and Waterway Management Program. The District also received and resolved 8 complaints concerning various aspects of the Chapter 105 program.

Jeff Fyock, Resource/Water Treatment Specialist, retired in February after serving 8 years with the Conservation District. We wish Jeff well and thank him for all of his dedicated work.

Datalogger Monitoring Program

Bryan Rabish, Watershed Specialist
Jackie Ritko, Resource Conservation Supervisor
Nathan Marsh, AmeriCorps

In 2011, the Conservation District was approached by the County Commissioners to address water issues dealing with Marcellus Shale. To accomplish this, the District expanded the Water Resource & Watershed Development Committee and concentrated on source water protection. The committee added members of local Water Authorities, Municipal Leaders, DEP Staff, along with Associate Directors and District Staff. By expanding this committee, issues pertaining to impacts associated with source water protection would be addressed, not just Marcellus Shale well development.

During 2012, the Conservation District monitored eight dataloggers located in Cambria and Somerset Counties. Solinst is the manufacturer of the datalogger, each datalogger is a Levellogger Jr. LTC Model 3001. The datalogger takes readings of water temperature, conductivity, and water level. The eight dataloggers are set up to take readings every 15 minutes—In one 24-hour day, each datalogger takes 96 readings. All of the data is then downloaded to a laptop computer and saved in a Microsoft Excel file and distributed appropriately.



Greater Johnstown Water Authority (purchased three dataloggers):

1. Allwine Creek: Installed on 8/25/2011. 46,493 readings as of 12/22/2012. No significant changes in water quality during 2012.
2. North Fork Bens Creek: Installed 8/25/2011. 46,470 readings as of 12/22/2012. All readings have been relatively consistent during 2012.
3. Saltlick Run: Installed 8/25/2011. 46,278 readings as of 12/20/2012. All readings have been relatively consistent during 2012.

Trout Unlimited (donated two dataloggers):

4. South Fork Branch of the Little Conemaugh: Installed 7/28/2012. 45,378 readings as of 11/17/2012. All readings have been relatively consistent during 2012.
5. Laurel Run: Installed 7/28/2011. 48,964 readings as of 10/20/2012. All readings have been relatively consistent during 2012.

CCCD—Dataloggers purchased by the County:

6. Slate Lick Run: Installed 4/26/2011. 58,428 readings as of 12/19/2012. This is the site for Chevron Appalachia's Smithmyer well. This well has had the vertical and horizontal drilling done, but the fracking hasn't begun. There has been no significant change in water quality at this site during 2012.
7. Hinckston Run: Installed 7/26/2011. 49,792 readings as of 12/20/2012. All readings have been relatively consistent during 2012.

Patton Borough Municipal Authority (purchased 1 datalogger):

8. Chest Creek: Installed 7/18/2011. 47,007 readings as of 11/14/2012. All readings have been relatively consistent during 2012.

Resource Conservation & Development Program

Robert W. Piper, Jr., District Manager

The Southern Alleghenies Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Council and committees meetings were held on January 27, April 20, July 17, and October 26. There was no quorum for the October meeting. Meetings were held at the Hoss's in Bedford. Commissioner Chernisky (Clair Dumm—alternate) and Bob Ritchey (Dennis Beck—alternate) represented Cambria County at Council meetings. Robb Piper, District Manager, is the Cambria County At-Large Member and was again elected Council Chairman at the April 2012 meeting. The Council Chair also has a seat on the Southern Alleghenies Conservancy (SAC) Board. John Dryzal, Assistant Manager, was elected again as the Resource Conservation/Land Use Committee Chair. Bobbie Blososky of the District staff and Robb continued to provide the quarterly updates to the Council for all projects in Cambria County. The appropriate District representatives presented these updates at each meeting.

There were no new projects submitted by Cambria County for 2012. The National RC&D program still does not receive any federal funding to support RC&D councils with staff and administrative funding. The Council continued on track along with the SAC meetings that were held bi-monthly. The conservancy is the non-profit arm of the council. Bob Ritchey, Conservation District Vice-Chair, and Jim Greco, Conservation District Associate Director and At-Large member, are County representatives on the SAC Board. Robb Piper also has a seat as the RC&D Council Chair. Susan Llewellyn continued as administrative assistant to the SAC.

The State Association of RC&D Councils came together on conference calls sponsored by the Cambria County Conservation District on our Cisco phone system and also through the Capital RC&D GoToMeeting software. Some Councils have reorganized and are moving forward while others are still struggling. By-laws were changed to allow alternate delegates to be officers. Robb Piper continued as Vice-Chair of the organization and Warren County Commissioner, Jack Preston, was still Chair until Fall elections. New officers elected in the Fall of 2012 were Doniele Russell (Penns Corner) Chair, Susan Moon (S. Alleghenies) Treasurer, Cheryl Burns (Capital) Secretary, and Jack Hanish (Pocono NE) Member at Large. Jack Preston's dedication and leadership for RC&D was tremendous. He did a great job for us all.

"I've never known anybody to achieve anything without overcoming adversity." ~ Lou Holtz

Cooperative Habitat Improvement Dirt & Gravel Road Maintenance

Robert W. Piper, Jr., District Manager
Bobbie Blossosky, Resource Specialist

Cooperative Habitat Improvement Program (CHIP)

Robb Piper, District Manager

Offered by the PA Fish & Boat Commission (PA F&BC), we continued the CHIP activities in Cambria County for the fourth year. The Conservation District had previously adopted the two Cambria Somerset Authority (CSA) impoundments in Cambria County under CHIP (formerly, Adopt-A-Lake) in 2008. They are Wilmore and Hinckston Run dams.

In the Summer of 2012, two events occurred. On June 26, 2012 twenty porcupine cribs were placed in Wilmore Dam, valued at \$2,168.41. At Hinckston Run Dam twenty-seven junior porcupine cribs valued at \$3,504.31 were placed on June 17, 2012. The CCCD ordered and retrieved the wood from the Wirt Sawmill in Howard, PA and purchased the concrete blocks from the Long Barn in Ebensburg. Approximately ten volunteers helped with the work at each dam with the carrying and loading of the blocks. Some helpers were members of the Jackson Township Community Rod & Gun Club, Johnstown Sportsmen's Association, and the Johnstown Rifle and Pistol Club. We couldn't have completed the project without their assistance.

A new three-year plan was delivered to us by the PA F&BC Lake Management Section in April 2012. The work listed above initiated the first of three years for this second lake habitat management plant.

All structures reported above have been mapped with a latitude and longitude coordinate and are available to those who fish on the PA F&BC's website:

- http://fishandboat.com/water/habitat/mgmt_plans/lake/wilmore.pdf
- http://fishandboat.com/water/habitat/mgmt_plans/lake/hinckston_run.pdf
- http://fishandboat.com/water/habitat/mgmt_plans/lake/glendale.pdf

Robb also participated in the Lake Habitat and Stream Habitat Section meeting as their guest at Station 22 in Union County. He presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Chest Creek Restoration and Stabilization Project completed in the Fall of 2012. It was well received. Staff from the Stream Habitat Section assisted the CCCD with five designs for the proposed projects that were submitted for funding to the Foundation for PA Watersheds. The applications would not have stood a chance of being accepted without the designs and technical assistance of the PA F&BC.

Dirt & Gravel Road Maintenance Program: Preventing Pollution from Dirt & Gravel Roads

Bobbie Blossosky, Resource Specialist

Cambria County Received the FY2012/2013 allocation in the amount of \$18,465.00. An additional \$15,695.25 was made available to townships for use on road improvement projects utilizing environmentally sensitive maintenance practices.

The Millers Road/TR-354 road improvement project located in Croyle Township was completed in December 2012. A total of \$3,038.75 was paid to Croyle Township for the stabilization of approximately 800 feet of roadway which included the installation of four new crosspipes, associated inlet and outfall protection, roadway drainage improvements and ditch stabilization.

Family Days

Mary Ellen Bard, Administrative Assistant
Jackie Ritko, Resource Conservation Supervisor
Jocelyn Sauter, AmeriCorps
Brittany Fabin and Ashley Orlosky, Interns

The 12th Annual Family Days, sponsored by the Cambria County Conservation District, was held on July 24th and 25th at our educational facility, Disaster's Edge in the 1889 Park in St. Michael, PA. As always, our program runs rain or shine and the few showers we had on the first day, certainly didn't dampen the fun! Everyone had a great time thanks to the fun, informative, and hands-on activities for children and adults of all ages. We were pleased to have over 200 people attend this year's event.

Day 1

Energy in Motion: The Drake Well Museum's Mobile Energy Education Training Unit (MEET-U) traveled to Family Days to spread awareness of energy creation and usage. On the first day, the MEET-U team educated children and adults on renewable energy sources. They talked about how the sun, wind, and water provide energy and how the energy is captured and used. Everyone was able to tour their Energy Mobile and see their interactive displays. One family really enjoyed this program, saying, "The renewable energy program was full of great information!"



Pollinator Putt-Putt: This new spin on mini-golf was a major fan favorite! Penn State Department of Agriculture loaned us the unique educational tool, which taught our mini-golfers all about pollinators. As they moved from hole to hole, each person learned what a pollinator is, why pollinators are important, and how we can protect them while getting rid of unwanted pests. When they weren't golfing, the children made unique Bee Flower Holders. We had many families tell us that the putt-putt activity was their favorite!

Ready to Rifle: The PA Game Commission joined us again this year, this time with their air rifles in tow. First, everyone learned how to safely handle and use the air rifles. Safety first is a must! Then, using air rifles provided by the Game Commission, everyone took turns practicing their shooting skills from a sitting position. Many people said they wished they had more time at this activity. Time sure does fly when you're having fun!



Butterfly Guy: Nationally recognized butterfly specialist, Rick Mikula, was the presenter for our special program on the first day. He shared his vast knowledge of butterflies with us in a very unique way. Rick had everyone in fits of giggles as he donned articles of clothing that transformed him into a giant butterfly. We learned all about the life cycle of a butterfly, the markings that set butterflies apart from one another, and how we can catch and care for our very own butterfly friends. The highlight of the program was when Rick brought out live butterflies for everyone to see.

Family Days

Mary Ellen Bard, Administrative Assistant
Jackie Ritko, Resource Conservation Supervisor
Jocelyn Sauter, AmeriCorps
Brittany Fabin and Ashley Orlosky, Interns

Day 2

Energy in Motion: MEET-U was back again with more information on energy consumption. On day two, we learned about non-renewable energy sources, such as oil, coal, and gasoline. The MEET-U team made sure everyone understood that these resources are non-renewable because once they are gone, they're gone. The kids got to smell the oil in a fractured piece of shale. They all made a silly face at the less than pleasant smell, until the MEET-U team jokingly told them that was the smell of money!



What's in your Water?: This interactive station allowed children to become a part of the water treatment process. Using a water model and fun props including cocoa, food coloring, and spray bottles, everyone saw firsthand how rain, river, ground, and waste water are all treated. If only real sewage smelled like hot chocolate! They learned how runoff can contaminate our drinking water and what can be done to prevent this. Finally, after a short walk along the nature trail, everyone had the opportunity to search the stream water for macroorganisms that would indicate the quality of the water.

Warbler What?: Emily Bellush, an IUP graduate student, gave an informative presentation on the Golden-winged Warbler, a bird in danger of becoming extinct. Emily taught us about the bird's appearance and habitat, what is threatening their survival, and how they are being tracked and monitored. Everyone especially enjoyed learning how much they weigh – as much as 10 m&m's to be exact! After the presentation, children were invited to create their own feathered friends in a paint/color by number craft.



Wild World of Animals: Our final program of Family Days left many people saying they couldn't wait to come back next year. Emily from Wild World of Animals amazed the crowd with her entourage of insects, birds, amphibians, reptiles, and mammals. We saw 14 animals, including an Albino Burmese Python, a Legless Lizard, an Emperor Scorpion, a Japanese Snow Monkey, and the show-stopping African Lion! A few lucky children were invited to touch the amphibians and reptiles and pose for a picture.

Thank you to all the presenters and volunteers whose time and expertise make Family Days the exciting, educational event it has become. We want to especially thank the 2012 Dairy Princess, Olivia Mullen, for stopping by both days with a delicious ice cream treat. Thank you to our District Staff, AmeriCorps Members, Interns, and volunteers. This year, Family Days was partially funded by the League of Women Voters of PA Citizen Education Fund under a grant from the PA DEP for Drinking Water Source Water Protection administered by the US EPA. A special thanks to the following businesses for their generous donations: Sheetz, Valenty Bottled Water, and Snyders of Berlin.

Municipal Workshops and Source Water Coalition Formational Meeting

Jackie Ritko, Resource Conservation Supervisor

Marcellus Shale Gas Development Workshops

League of Women Voters WREN Project: Potential Impacts from Marcellus Shale Gas Development Municipal Workshops

Two free municipal workshops were held in 2012. The workshops were provided through the League of Women Voters WREN \$4,200 grant that was received in 2011. The workshops were held at the Penn State Extension Conference Room and focused on issues surrounding Marcellus Shale Gas development in the county.



The first workshop, attended by 17 people, was held on March 1, 2012 and featured the Cambria County Planning Commission who discussed zoning issues and Penn State Extension Water Resource Expert Bryan Swistock who discussed gas well development and water resource protection.

The second workshop, attended by 11 people, was held on May 29, 2012 and featured Professor Ross Pifer, Director of the Penn State Agricultural Law and Resource Center. Mr. Pifer's presentation focused on what local officials need to know about Act 13: PA's new Oil and Gas Law.



Source Water Coalition Formational Meeting

The District worked closely with our DEP Source Water Protection Specialist and members of the Greater Johnstown Water Authority to develop an agenda, schedule speakers and hold the first meeting of the Stonycreek/Little Conemaugh Source Water Protection Coalition. The meeting was held on October 10, 2012 at the PA DEP Cambria District Office. Approximately 50 representatives from municipalities, water authorities, government agencies and local non-profit organizations attended the kickoff meeting.

The purpose of the coalition is to bring together a varied group of agencies, organizations and individuals that share a common goal, protecting our communities' drinking water sources now and well into the future. Each Source Water Protection Coalition is unique both in its members and methods. During this meeting, goals were prioritized and committees were developed to focus on different issues with the watersheds. Committees will be meeting and developing projects in 2013 based on the priorities identified at this meeting.

Public Outreach

The District on the Road 40th Annual Tree and Plant Sale Facebook and CCCD Website

The District on the Road

District Staff

The Conservation District Booth was once again traveling this summer. The main area of focus was the Golden-Winged Warbler, a bird in danger of becoming extinct. People could stop in to gather facts about the bird, what to do to prevent extinction, and how to create habitat for the bird. Children could play an educational game in which they learned about the Golden-Winged Warbler. Visitors picked up information on manure management and regulatory requirements. As usual, we had many entries to win the handcrafted Wildlife Boxes. Congratulations to our winners: Chuck and Erma Hanlon and Annette Farabaugh.

The District Booth could be seen at the Benshoff Farm Family Day on August 19 (~1,000 in attendance), The Cambria County Fair in September (35-45,000 in attendance), and the Apple Cider Festival in Prince Gallitzin State Park (16,119 in attendance) on October 7.



The District Booth also participated in a new event in 2012—The Free Kids' Fair, an information event sponsored by State Representative Gary Halska. This was a 2 day event held in Patton and St. Michael, PA in August. The theme of the event was: *Where does our food come from?* At the District's Booth, everyone learned about soybean plants. They were able to read about the "miracle bean," see it in its different forms, and play a fun guessing game.

40th Annual Tree and Plant Sale

Mary Ellen Bard, Administrative Assistant

2012 marked the 40th Anniversary of the Conservation District's Tree & Plant Sale. We celebrated by awarding a \$40 certificate to a randomly selected winner of the first 40 orders. We had another success with 11,967 items sold to over 350 customers. The profits from the sale are used to fund environmental education and conservation efforts. The tree sale continues to grow every year, which is made possible by a very organized process. Mary Ellen begins placing nursery stock orders in late November/early December. The catalog is put together in January and released early in February. Mary Ellen accepts orders up through the third week in March. The week leading up to Customer Pick-up Day is when all the hard work is done. Plants and trees are picked up and delivered from as far away as Michigan. Trees are sorted and any items with bare roots are dipped in a gel to keep them moist. Flowerpots are labeled. Orders are filled and organized alphabetically to make pick-up as smooth as possible. District Staff, Associate Directors, and members of the Board all work together over two days to get the thousands of items ready for pick-up. We are thankful to the variety of suppliers that stock our tree and plant sale: Endless Mountain Berry Farm, Musser Forests, Wildlife's Choice, AM Leonard, Plantra Inc, Black Lick Stake Co, Flickingers, Boyers, DeGrandchamps Farm, Pikes Peak Nursery, & Alpha Nursery.



Facebook and CCCD Website

Jocelyn Sauter, AmeriCorps



The effort to reach a wider range of people through social media networking continues. Since Anna Gibbs' creation of the District's Facebook Page in 2011, the Conservation District has received 105 "likes" on Facebook. Jocelyn also posts announcements about community workshops, Fall and Spring Appliance and Tire Collections, current projects, and other relevant information on the District's Page. The County website was restructured and the District's webpage received a new look. Up-to-date information on Board Meetings, educational events, No-Till Drill rentals, public outreach opportunities, tree and plant sale catalog, and E&S applications is uploaded and updated regularly.

Highlights

Annual Legislative Luncheon
Annual District Picnic
Quarterly Breakfast Meetings

Legislative Luncheon

Mary Ellen Bard, Administrative Assistant
Jocelyn Sauter, AmeriCorps

We gathered for the Conservation District's Annual Legislative Luncheon on Friday, October 5 at the Imperial Room in Ebensburg. The CCCD staff was joined by the Board of Directors & Associate Directors, Legislative Officials, Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts members, Department of Environmental Protection staff, and Cooperative Extension employees. David F. Reifsnyder, CEO of Aspen Fluid Logistics (AFL), was our guest speaker. Reifsnyder delivered a presentation educating our guests on the plans for a new water treatment facility located in downtown Johnstown. Robb Piper, CCCD Manager, highlighted the many accomplishments achieved over the course of the 2012 year. PACD Service Recognition Awards were acknowledged for Mary Ellen Bard, Bobbie Blososky, and Bryan Rabish—10 years; John Dryzal, Mark Stockley, and Jackie Ritko—15 years; Louis Kopczyk—20 years; and Robb Piper—25 years. Congratulations and a warm thank you to each for their dedicated years of service.



Mr. Reifsnyder with District Manager, Robb Piper

District Picnic

Mary Ellen Bard, Administrative Assistant



This year's annual Conservation District Picnic was held at Disaster's Edge in the 1889 Park in St. Michael, PA on August 2nd. The monthly Board Meeting was held immediately prior to the picnic. Our picnic was catered by Sassy Sisters and an ice cream dessert was dished out by 2012 Dairy Princess, Olivia Mullen. There were about 50 people in attendance, including our Board of Directors, Associate Directors, District Staff, and family members of the Board and Staff. We were also joined by President Commissioner Lengenfelder, Director Commissioner Chernisky, Dept. of Agriculture Western PA Regional Director James Kennedy, a representative from the office of Congressman Critz, NRCS & DEP Staff, and members of the Adams-Croyle Township Recreation Authority. Everyone in attendance had the opportunity to explore the nature trails and visit the

Miner's Museum. An informational display and power point presentation about the Golden-Winged Warbler was available for viewing in our educational facility. Thank you to everyone who attended!

Quarterly Breakfast Meetings

Quarterly breakfast meetings were scheduled at Kosta's Restaurant in Ebensburg in an effort to update associated agencies and the public on environmental activities in Cambria County.

January
July
April
October

Proposed EPA Regulations
Golden-Winged Warbler
Cancelled
Cancelled

Dennis Simmers—AC/Colver Power
Robert Piper—CCCD District Manager
No Speaker
No Speaker

Organizational Chart

District Staff/Board of Directors

District Staff

Robert W. Piper, Jr., Manager
John S. Dryzal, Assistant Manager
Mary Ellen Bard, Administrative Assistant
Mark A. Stockley, Resource Conservation Supervisor
Jacqueline Ritko, Resource Conservation Supervisor
Louis Kopczyk, P.E., County Engineer
Bryan Rabish, Watershed Specialist
Bobbie Blososky, Resource Specialist
G. William Myers, Per Diem

Directors

Clair J. Dumm, Chairman
Robert Ritchey, Vice Chairman
Dennis Beck, Secretary/Treasurer
Tom Chernisky, Commissioner
James Benshoff
Mike Illig
Jerome Carl
Bob Davis
Shelly Craft

Associate Directors

David Shoemaker	Bill Barbin
Mike Barton	Ray Gorman
Ed Smith	Bob Schweitzer
Walden Vorhauer	James Greco
Eugene Eckenrode	Pamela Piper
John Nibert	Charlie Moyer
Tony Sossong	Herb Wilson
Pat Stolz	George Hritz
Dave Heggeman	Gary Scott

AmeriCorps Members 2011/2012

Jocelyn Sauter Nathan Marsh
Stephen Balamuta

AmeriCorps Members 2012/2013

Jocelyn Sauter Nathan Marsh

Interns

Ashley Orlosky, Brittany Fabin, & Joseph Young



2012 Board Meeting Perfect Attendance

Clair Dumm, Jerome Carl, & Mike Illig



Conservation District Budget—Expenses

Mary Ellen Bard, Administrative Assistant

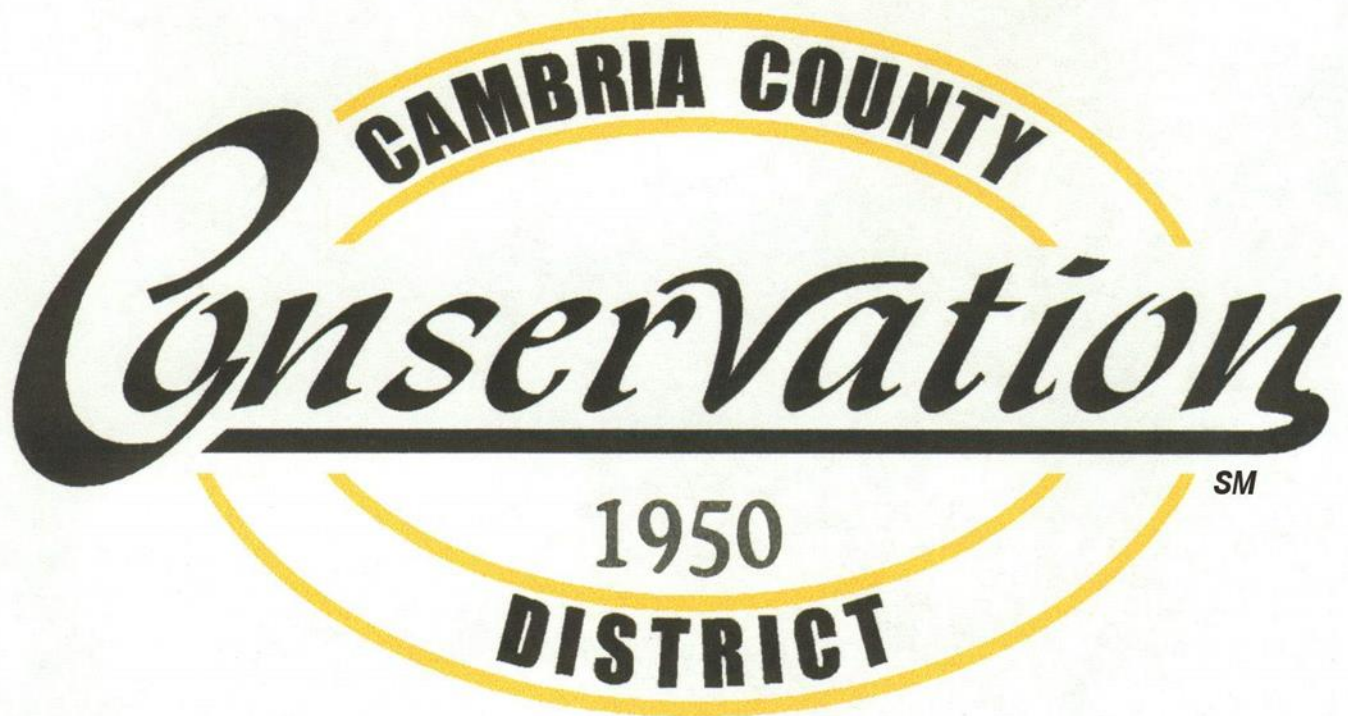
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>2012 BUDGET</u>	<u>2013 BUDGET</u>
Salaries/Personal Services	273,710.85	299,750.00
Staff Benefits	123,102.95	145,397.00
Office Supplies	947.67	1,500.00
Postage	2,070.66	3,100.00
Advertising	127.50	990.00
Audit	1,975.00	2,125.00
Telephone	2,631.95	2,520.00
Miscellaneous Operating Expenses	476.90	700.00
Copier/Fax Leases	7,108.40	7,635.00
Association Dues	3,421.00	3,921.00
Mileage, Tolls, Parking	5,029.49	6,000.00
Meetings, Lodging, Meals	945.01	1,500.00
Equipment Repair	110.6	600.00
Vehicle Repair	2,344.44	1,850.00
Water Sampling	-	600.00
Environmental Education Center Operation	3,353.33	4,460.00
Project Grass	-	-
AmeriCorps	15,600.00	15,600.00
Chesapeake Bay Program Costs	60.00	500.00
Chesapeake Bay Program Costs - Indiana Costs	-	250.00
PACD Mini Grant	-	1,000.00
Trout Run Phase I - Grant	155,211.00	-
Glendale Lake Shoreline Stabilization - Grant	15,788.00	-
Trust for Tomorrow - GenOn - Grant	58,000.00	57,500.00
Chest Creek Restoration - Grant	31,103.00	-
Energy Education - WREN - Grant	2,251.85	-
GenOn - N. Branch L Conemaugh - Grant	-	58,000.00
Shoemaker Flyash - Grant	-	4,363.00
Binder #2 AMD Project GG - Grant	-	65,512.00
Glendale Lake Pickerel Project GG - Grant	-	16,580.00

<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>\$ 705,369.60</u>	<u>\$ 701,953.00</u>
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Conservation District Budget—Income

Mary Ellen Bard, Administrative Assistant

INCOME	2012 BUDGET	2013 BUDGET
County Commissioners	198,346.83	132,602.00
Miscellaneous District Grants	1,000.00	-
Erosion & Sediment Fees	41,500.00	48,000.00
No-Till Drill Rental Fees	6,056.58	4,000.00
AmeriCorps Reimbursement	-	3,750.00
Copier/Postage/supplies/Mil Reimbursement	756.39	500.00
Manager/1st Technician/2nd Technician	32,621.85	66,830.00
Administrative Assistance	1,813.83	10,300.00
Watershed Specialists	46,149.40	64,000.00
Act 38/Nutrient Management	5,928.99	14,000.00
Agriculture Conservation Engineer	11,132.98	27,000.00
Chesapeake Bay Technician	51,213.41	57,000.00
Dirt & Gravel Roads Reimbursement	-	2,000.00
PACD Mini Grant	-	1,000.00
Farmland Preservation Admin Reimbursement	1,383.18	9,000.00
Keep Cambria County Beautiful	610.47	2,000.00
Education Program Fees	-	3,000.00
Trout Run Phase I - Grant	166,629.85	-
South Fork AMD - Grant	77,362.47	-
Glendale Lake Pickerel Pond Project - Grant	-	16,580.00
USDA/NRCS Contribution	2,609.87	-
Energy Education - WREN - Grant	2,253.50	-
Chest Creek Restoration III - Grant	-	-
Trust for Tomorrow - GenOn - Grant	58,000.00	58,000.00
GenOn - N Branch L Conemaugh - Grant	-	58,000.00
PUC/ACT 13 Grant	-	37,879.00
Binder #2 AMD Project - Grant	-	65,512.00
Shoemaker Flyash Grant	-	6,000.00
Barnes Watkins Remediation	-	15,000.00
Total Program Fees & Reimbursement	\$ 507,022.77	\$ 569,351.00
Total Income	\$ 705,369.60	\$ 701,953.00



401 Candlelight Drive, Suite 229, Ebensburg, PA 15931 (814) 472-2120

**Cambria County Conservation District
MISSION STATEMENT**

The Cambria County Conservation District educates and assists the public through programs, projects and leadership in the stewardship of natural resources to sustain and enhance the quality of life.

Layout/Design/Edit

Jocelyn A. Sauter, Communications Specialist/AmeriCorps
Report was written by District Staff and printed in house.

<http://www.co.cambria.pa.us/conservation-district.aspx>

