

Kayak Events

Thanks to the financial support from the Youth Philanthropy program at the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies, the Conservation District is able to hold kayak events for those who wish to get out on the water and spend time kayaking.



Our first kayak event was held at Wilmore Dam on June 28th. A total of 46 people signed up for the event. Not only were people able to kayak, but those in attendance who were younger than thirteen were able to bird watch, go on a nature scavenger hunt, and go fishing.

Following the success of the first kayak event, our second kayak event was held at Hinckston Run on August 8th. This event was organized into three sessions throughout the evening. We also had some paddleboarders and a kayaking dog! We look forward to offering more kayak events in the future.

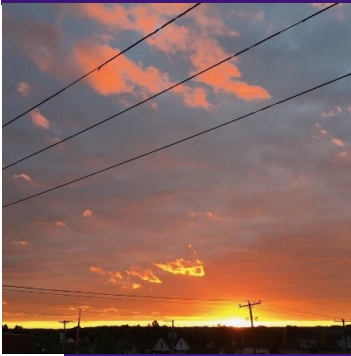


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Special Dates to Remember

- 9/3-9/9:** Cambria County Fair
- Visit us at Building #3 and H2O Lab
- 9/7:** 10am, Board Meeting
- 9/9:** Appliance & Tire Collection, 8am—1pm at
- Tunnellhill Borough Municipal Building
- 9/23:** Appliance & Tire Collection, 8 am—1 pm at
- Summerhill Township Municipal Building
- 10/6:** 9am, Legislative Breakfast/Board Meeting at Kosta's Restaurant
- 11/2:** 10am, Board Meeting



Family Day at Duman Lake

On July 11th, the Conservation District hosted its annual Family Day event at Duman Lake County Park. The event is intended to bring families and friends together to enjoy the outdoors, while learning about the environment and other issues concerning conservation practices. Families are provided with drinks, snacks, and an ice cream treat. This year, our stations included Kayaking & Canoeing, Scales & Tails, Aliens in Your Back Yard, and That Guy With the Birds.



Kayaking & Canoeing: Families learned how to kayak properly and safely on the lake with kayaks and life jackets provided for use by the Conservation District. Canoes were available for children under 13 years old.



Scales & Tails: Children were able to get up close and personal with amphibians and reptiles. The program featured native and domesticated animals. Families learned about the differences between amphibians and reptiles, plus cool facts and neat adaptations.



Aliens: Families received a lesson from Natural Biodiversity on native and invasive plants that grow in our own back yards. Families went on a hike through the woods to find out what plants are native to the area, and which were brought here.



That Guy With the Birds: Kenny Sprouse, also known as "That Guy With the Birds," is fascinated with exotic birds and loves sharing these birds with others. Children were able to see these birds first hand and learn about them, while also getting their photos taken with them.

Awards Banquet



Beth Garner, Prince Gallitzin State Park
Educator of the Year



Dave Myers, Myer's Dairy
Conservation Farmer of the Year



Ray Trybus, Portage High School
Conservation Organization of the Year



Forest Hills Team Three: Envirothon 2nd Place
Coach Joel Kosmac. Autumn Holdsworth, Rebecca
Williamson, Natalya Teno
Missing: William Ayers, Donovan Faith



Portage Team One: Envirothon 4th Place
Coach Mary Kenny, Summer Viscusi, Madelyn Single,
Abby Chobani
Missing: Hunter Kalinoski, Olivia Kissell



Poster Winners
Front: Karlee Beyer, Grace Petrunak, Hannah Beyer
Back: Owen Nagle, Faith McMullen

Theodore Farabaugh,
East Carroll Township
Dirt & Gravel
Participation Award



Patton Garden Club: Urban Conservation Award
Front: Donna Krise, Barb Pompa, Mary Jane Lauer, Mary Lou Colussy,
Mary Davis, Mona Weakland, Paula Sutton
Back: Sandy Haluska, Vickie Legros, Janice Davis, Monica Wojno

2017 Envirothon



Teams compete at five different stations, which include wildlife, aquatics, forestry, soil, and a current issue, which this year was agriculture conservation.



1st Place: Northern Cambria Team One

Coach Mary Beth Kerr, Sydney Roach, Sarah Tibbott, Emily Weaver, Michael Delosh, and Mallory Bernard



2nd Place: Forest Hills Team Three

Coach Joel Kosmac, Rebecca Williamson, Natalya Teno, William Ayers, Autum Holdsworth, and Donovan Faith



3rd Place: Penn Cambria Team One

Coach Chris Oravec, Sierra Beiswnger, Alyssa Beisweinger, Emmy Harvey, and Neil Suttan

Absent: Dallas Hite



4th Place: Portage Team One

Abby Chobany, Summer Viscusi, Hunter Kalinoski, Olivia Kissell, Madelyn Single, and Coach Mary Kenny



5th Place: Bishop McCort Team One

Coach Kourtney Penatzer, Kyleigh Way, Mary Majercsik, Kristin Diehl, Devin Nau, and Hunter Gleason

45th Annual Tree & Plant Sale

The 2017 Tree and Plant Sale was held on Friday, April 7th. Each year, this fundraising event yields profit that is used to further education efforts and conservation projects within the district.

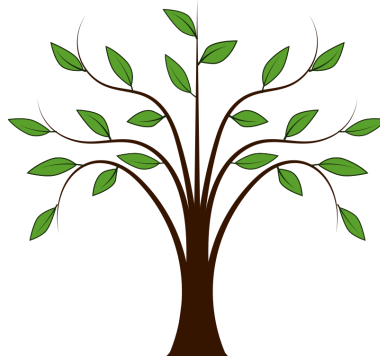
The process of conducting this sale begins with contacts made to various nurseries and vendors in December of the previous year. Once stock is pre-ordered, a colorful, informative catalog is created and mailed to customers early in February. Orders are taken through the third week of March and vendors are contacted to firm up final counts and delivery or pick-up of the trees and plants.

District staff, directors, associate directors, and friends of the district gathered at the Cambria County Fairgrounds the second week of April to sort and label the stock and pack customer orders. This year, we were grateful to have the help of three Penn State Extension Master Gardener's.



Numbers

- 285 Customers
- 8,605 Items Sold
- 60 Items Donated



Emeigh Run Streambank Stabilization Project



This project received \$4,505 from a Growing Greener Grant

Emeigh Run is located in Susquehanna Township, Cambria County and is a tributary to the West Branch Susquehanna River. In the past, the stream has been negatively impacted by mining, sewage, and encroachment. However, in recent years there has been documentation by PA Fish & Boat Commission and local citizens of a wild trout population in Emeigh Run, including downstream into the West Branch Susquehanna River. A streambank located on an unnamed tributary to Emeigh Run is showing signs of severe erosion. This is caused by high flows during storm events and the rainfall infiltrating upslope and seeping through the bank. The eroded streambank is adding sediment into Emeigh Run and eventually the West Branch Susquehanna River. Research has shown that sediment can cloud the water and make it difficult or impossible for aquatic plants to grow. Sediment can also destroy aquatic habitats. Water polluted with sediment becomes cloudy, preventing animals from seeing food. Murky water prevents natural vegetation from growing in the water. Sediment in stream beds disrupts the natural food chain by destroying the habitat where the smallest stream organisms live and causing massive declines in fish populations. Sediment can clog fish gills, reducing resistance to disease, lowering growth rates, and affecting fish egg and larvae development.

The project was a coordinated effort with the Conservation District and the PA Association of Conservation District's Growing Greener Engineering Southwest Regional Office. The Project related to the West Branch River Conservation Plan compiled by the Cambria County Conservation & Recreation Authority and the Cambria County Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategy Plan compiled by the Conservation District, with both plans demonstrating the need for restoration of streambanks and streambeds of the West Branch Susquehanna River Watershed.

Appliance & Tire Collections

Keep Cambria County Beautiful, in agreement with participating municipalities, held three Appliance and Tire Collections this spring. These collections were held in Croyle Township, Cambria Township, and Patton Borough. At these collections, people were able to bring appliances such as refrigerators, dehumidifiers, air conditioners, etc. for a small cost. Appliances containing Freon cost \$6.00, while non-Freon containing appliances are free. Off rim tires cost \$1.00, on-rim tires cost \$2.00, and tires that are four feet tall and/or wider than 14 inches cost \$15.00. Collections will continue in next fall.



2017 Spring Appliance and Tire Collections	Croyle	Cambria	Patton
Tires	1,181	1,147	1,128
Appliances	27	52	41

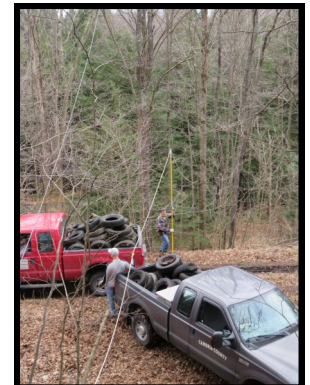


Ghost Town Trail Extension Tire Clean Up

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's 25 in 25 Grant Program, in conjunction with Keep Cambria County Beautiful, as well as the Bridgestone Tires4Ward program, funded a tire clean up along the future extension of the Ghost Town Trail on Saturday, March 25th. The Cambria County Conservation & Recreation Authority, Cambria County Conservation District, Boy Scout Troop #115, Mountain Laurel Chapter of Trout Unlimited, and Saint Francis University Environmental Engineering Club participated in the event.

According to the Cambria County Conservation & Recreation Authority's website, "The estimated 800 tires have sat along the C and I railroad corridor, which is the path of the trail extension. For over 50 years a junkyard used to exist along the corridor. Blacklick Creek follows the trail on this portion and tires exist on both sides. The tires will be recycled into reusable material such as rubber mulch, playground turf, or athletic turf."

In total, 1,001 tires were collected. As part of the Fugitive Tire Program, Boy Scout Troop #115 earned a donation of 50 cents for each tire they collected.



Education Programs

Camp Conshatawba



At Camp Conshatawba in Summerhill, Girl Scouts learned about reptiles and amphibians. The Girl Scouts discussed the differences between reptiles and amphibians, learned about their habitats, and were taught interesting facts about different species. They were introduced to two of the education center's turtles and a snake.

After the Girl Scouts were done learning about reptiles and amphibians, they went on a nature hike to see what sorts of species they could find on their own. They saw a snake, newts, salamanders, snails, and centipedes.



Forest Hills 2nd Grade & Portage 3rd Grade

Throughout the month of May, the Conservation District holds various education programs at Disaster's Edge, where students from local school districts come for field trips. Forest Hills 2nd graders and Portage 3rd graders participated in multiple programs.

- Bird watching: students identified birds by sight and sound
- Farm to table: students learned about where food comes from
- Water bracelets: students learned about the water cycle
- Reptiles and amphibians: students were introduced to the center's animals



Capitol Legislative Visits



Senator Gene Yaw, Chair, Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee; Brenda Shambaugh, PACD Executive Director; Sandy Thompson, McKean County Conservation District Manager; Cliff Lane, McKean County Conservation District Director and PACD North West Region Director; Andy Trostle, Sullivan County Conservation District Director; John Dryzal, Cambria County Conservation District Manager; Joanne Day, Sullivan County Conservation District Director; and Senator Elder Vogel, Chair, Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee. Not pictured are Berks County Conservation District attendees who were visiting Senator Schwank at the time.

Tuesday, April 25, directors and staff from four Pennsylvania conservation districts visited their legislators in Harrisburg. The districts involved included Berks County, Cambria County, McKean County, and Sullivan County. Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts' Executive Director, Brenda Shambaugh, joined the visits to both House of Representatives members and Senate members. Our district manager, John Dryzal, attended.



2018 Poster Contest Rules



Any media may be used to create a flat or two-dimensional effect (paint, crayon, colored pencil, charcoal, stickers, paper or other materials on regular posters). (No computer category this year)

Poster size must be between 8.5" x 11" and 22" x 28" (or as rules at your local or state level)

All posters entered must have the entry form completed and attached to the back of the poster. (Local winners will be asked to complete an additional entry form in order to send the poster on to the state competition.)

- **The 2018 title "Watersheds: Our Water, Our Home" must be on your poster.** (No other title.)
- Although younger students will most likely receive help in planning from parents or teachers, NACD encourages each student to do as much of the work as possible by him/herself. Entries completed by students in their handwriting and coloring will score better than those designed, drawn and colored by adult assistance.
- Posters must be submitted to the Cambria County Conservation District office by **May 1st, 2018**, but can be turned in any time up until the due date.

POSTER EVALUATIONS

Posters will be evaluated on the following

Conservation message (50%)

Visual Effectiveness (30%)

Originality (10%)

Universal Appeal (10%)

PRIZES

Local Contest: **1st Place** – trophy/\$50 Cash

Dinner at Awards Banquet

2nd & 3rd Place – Rosettes & Dinner

State Contest: **1st Place** - \$35

National Contest: \$200, \$150, \$100 (1st through 3rd place)

TIPS TO REMEMBER

- Don't use too many words.
- Use a combination of illustrations and words.
- Be as neat as you can.
- Blend colors when using crayons or colored pencils.
- Depending on design leave white space on the poster.
- Make sure the poster is balanced.
- Brainstorm ideas and make a list.
- Decide on information to include on the poster.
- Research the theme topic.
- Sketch out your idea.
- Mark guidelines for lettering (lightly).
- Clean up the poster so it is neat. Erase any guidelines that are showing.

THINGS YOU SHOULD NOT DO

- Use staples, tacks or tape
- Use fluorescent poster board
- Create a poster that is all words or a poster that is all pictures.
- Have your parent or others draw your poster for you to color in.
- Include too many ideas or activities on your poster.
- Make up another theme title.

Websites you can visit when researching information for your poster:

<https://www.fs.fed.us/rm/boise/research/techtrans/projects/scienceforkids/watersheds.shtml>

<https://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/education/kids/healthy.php>

<https://www.epa.gov/environmental-topics/water-topics#our-waters>

<http://allaboutwatersheds.org/library/kyw-poster-files-and-links/know-your-watershed-homepage/>

<http://www.noaa.gov/resource-collections/watersheds-flooding-pollution>

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/ws/wtrcnsv.html>

<http://www.discoverwater.org/>

<http://wateruseitwisely.com/kids/>

CHOOSE COLORS CAREFULLY

- | | |
|---------|-------------------------------|
| Black: | formal, neat, rich, strong |
| Blue: | cool, melancholy |
| Purple: | royal, rich |
| Yellow: | warm, light, or ripe |
| Green: | fresh, young, growing |
| White: | clean and neat |
| Red: | attracts the eye, high energy |
| Orange: | attracts the eye, high energy |

- **We might suggest using this activity for extra credit in the classroom.**
- **This is a good fall, winter, and spring activity, but we think the earlier in the year, the better.**



KEEP CAMBRIA COUNTY BEAUTIFUL SETS APPLIANCE AND TIRE RECYCLING DATES

Keep Cambria County Beautiful, in conjunction with cooperating municipalities, will hold its semi-annual Appliance and Tire Recycling program this fall. All collections will be held on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and are open to all Cambria County Residents. The dates and locations are below:

September 9th

Tunnelhill Borough - Take Rt. 22 E to Gallitzin exit, take left travel ½ mile, take left onto Portage Street, travel 400 feet to municipal building on the left, located at 808 Portage Street.

September 23rd

Summerhill Township - Take Rt. 869 East to Beaverdale, turn left onto Irvin St. Township building on left.

COSTS:

Appliances:

\$6.00 - for freon-containing appliances

FREE - for non-freon containing appliances

Tires (passenger and light truck):

\$1.00 off-rim

\$2.00 on-rim

\$15.00 tires over 4 ft. in diameter

NO ELECTRONICS

**For further information please contact the Cambria County Conservation District at
(814) 472-2120**



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Suite 229
Ebensburg, PA 15931

Phone: (814) 472-2120
Fax: (814) 472-0686
Email: cccd@co.cambria.pa.us

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

Permit No. 179

Ebensburg, PA 15931

Return Service Requested

- If you wish to be added or removed from our mailing list, please contact the Cambria County Conservation District office at (814) 472-2120.
- If you would like to help conserve resources and receive your newsletter via email, send your email address to bard@co.cambria.pa.us

www.cambriacountypa.gov/conservation-district.aspx

and



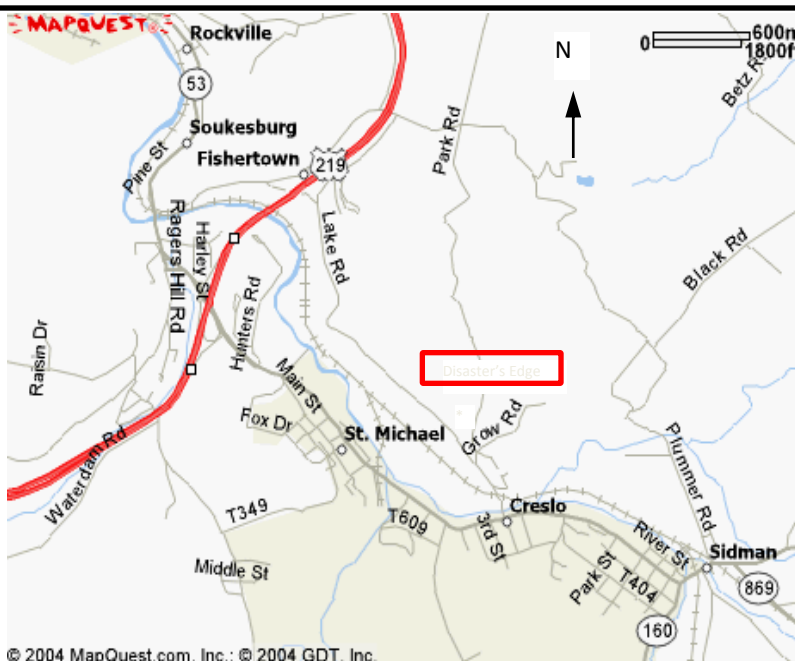
Where is Disaster's Edge Environmental Education Center?

Take Route 219 North/South to the Sidman/St. Michael exit. At the bottom of the ramp, turn onto Route 869 toward Sidman and the Johnstown Flood National Memorial. Travel approximately 3 miles. Turn left onto Lake Road, traveling over the bridge then over the railroad tracks and entering the 1889 Park. Disaster's Edge Environmental Education Center will be on the right across from the baseball field and the coal miners museum.

Call Jackie Ritko at the Cambria County Conservation District Office to schedule programs or to discuss events.

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.



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Road Map to The Disasters Edge Environmental Education Center.