

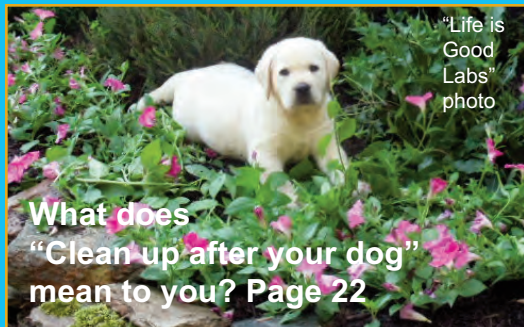
Conservation Horizons



*Since 1948 * 67 Years of Conservation, Education & Stewardship **

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"Life is
Good
Labs"
photo

**What does
"Clean up after your dog"
mean to you? Page 22**

30th Anniversary of the Envirothon!

See page 11 for all the results.



**< Do you know
this insect?
You should!
See page 7
for details**

York County Conservation District

Our purpose is to promote wise use and management of soil, water, air, plants, wildlife and other natural resources through four program areas: Agricultural Resources, Education, Erosion & Sediment Control and Watersheds

We have served York County since 1938, when a group of 554 farmers from 18 townships signed a petition to form the York County Conservation District. This petition was approved by the state Soil Conservation Commission in 1948. Like all Conservation Districts, we are a legal subdivision of state government like townships or school districts. Our budget is supplied by county, state and federal programs, as well as foundation grants & fees for services. And we are managed by a board of environmentally aware York County citizen volunteers.

We have traditionally assisted agricultural producers and other landowners in protecting soils & reducing erosion in our waterways. Today, the District also works with non-agricultural landowners, developers and local government officials to protect our natural resources.

We do this by coupling technical & financial assistance with conservation planning and permitting requirements.

Education is a cornerstone of the District and we target a wide audience about effective pollution-prevention techniques to farmers, landowners, local officials, watershed associations, conservation organizations, civic groups, churches, schools, teachers and youth.

Our Vision - We are committed to the improvement & protection of our environment and the wise use of our County's diverse natural resources.

Our Mission - To achieve that vision we will be proactive providing conservation education, technical services and financial assistance, to enable the citizens of York County to be good stewards of our natural resources.



Conservation District Staff

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Christina Dehoff | Administrative Assistant |
| Whitney Leland | Office Manager |
| Robin Sharp | Secretary/Receptionist |
| Robert Fetter | E&S Resource Conservationist /Network Administrator |
| Eric Jordan | E&S Resource Conservationist /Program Manager |
| Tiffany Crum | Engineer Technician II |
| Karen Ward | Engineer Technician II |
| Garrett Miller | Engineer Technician I |
| Mark Flaharty | Sr. Ag Resource Conservationist |
| Grant Deller | Ag Resource Cons. Specialist II |
| Wendy Kindig | Ag Resource Conservationist |
| Sally Barnes | Ag Resource Cons. Specialist II |
| Gary R Peacock | Watershed Specialist |
| Kim J Young | Education-Communications Coordinator |
| Jennifer Risser | Assistant Manager |
| Mark Kimmel | District Manager |

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Jackie Kramer, John Riedel, Beth Lucabaugh,
Bruce Holbrook, Dr. Penny Grove,
Kenyon Miller, Leroy Walker

Directors Emeritus:

Rolla Lehman, Ellis Crowl, Keith Eisenhart

Sponsor contact information and the advertisement of services in this newsletter is provided without any implied endorsement from the Conservation District staff or management

Conservation Horizons is published 3 times each year & mailed to nearly 8,000 York County homes & businesses at no charge.

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Please direct all inquiries to: York County Conservation District, 118 Pleasant Acres Rd, York, PA 17402
Phone: 717-840-7430 / Fax: 717-755-0301 / Email: yorkccd@yorkccd.org / Website: www.yorkccd.org



Around the District

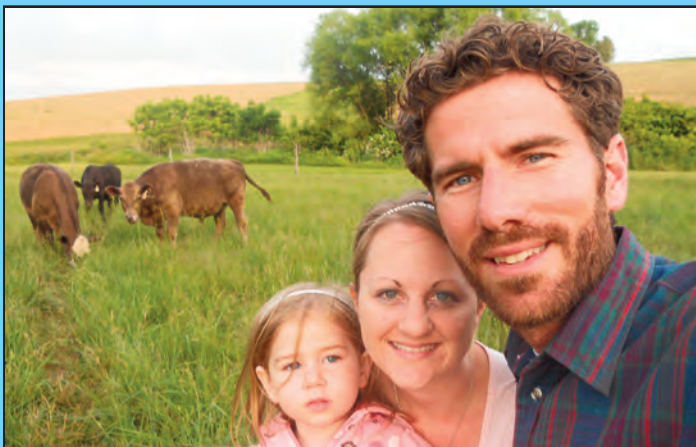
Profile: Kenyon Miller, Associate Director

Kenyon Miller has been serving on our District board as a farm & public associate director for two years. His decision to accept the appointment comes from his strong desire to involve himself in both public service and land preservation. As Kenyon puts it, "I want to be able to give back to the community, and strengthen relationships within the farming community by passing along knowledge and information."

Kenyon has always had a strong interest in agriculture and the outdoors. He works for Risser Grain in Red Lion - an ag-based business. As a Facilities Manager for the past four years, he has been exposed constantly to the many diverse aspects of farming. And farming has always been a part of his life. Both he and his wife, Chasity, grew up on family farms.

A graduate of Kennard-Dale High School in 2002, Kenyon grew up in Southern York County, near Felton. He, Chasity and their daughter, Isla, currently have horses, chickens and steers. They also raise pigs on a seasonal basis. Kenyon hopes to one day manage a large farm or an ag- related operation. His goal - "To manage the land and its resources in a manner that leaves it in a better state for future generations."

The Millers are all very interested in being as self sufficient as possible. They garden and can their own harvest as well as raise and freeze their own meat. Kenyon likes to fix and fabricate things, while Chasity makes her own natural soaps, in addition to being a nurse and health coach. They also love the Chesapeake Bay and crabbing on the Wye river, horse-back riding, hunting and sharing the outdoors with family.



Tiffany Crum, pictured at left with District Director, Mark Kimmel, recently received recognition for her ten years of service with the District. Tiffany is an Engineer Technician II in our Erosion & Sediment Control office.

Also celebrating anniversaries this year are Associate Director, **Kevin Grim** (5 years), Administrative Assistant, **Christine Dehoff** (10 years), Vice Chair, **Jeff Gossert** (15 years) and Director, **Pat Sueck** has served for 25 years.

Around the District, con't



Grant Deller, left, recently joined our Ag staff as an Ag Resource Conservation Specialist II. Grant grew up in Red Lion where he worked on a local dairy farm and graduated from Red Lion High School.

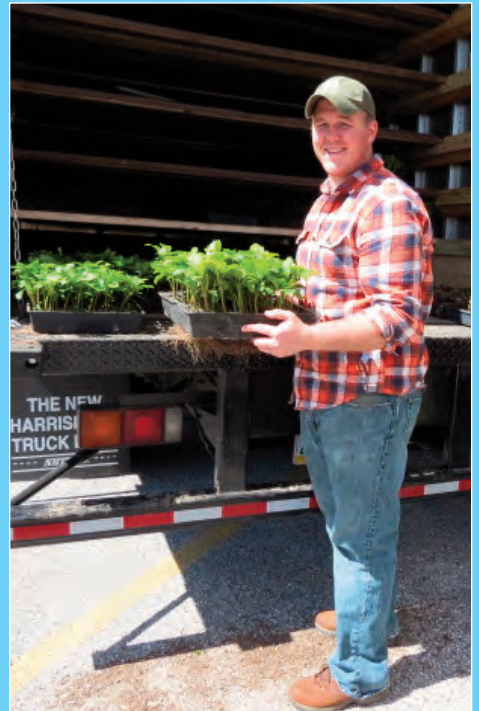
Before attending Mansfield University, where he studied Fisheries, Grant spent time working in Montana and Alaska where he was an outfitter hunting & fishing guide. After graduation he worked in his family's paving business, C. Joseph Deller & Sons, before moving on to Aquatic Resource Restoration Company in Seven Valleys.

Grant has always enjoyed outdoor activities and believes the conservation, protection and enhancement of our natural resources is of the utmost importance. He and his wife, Celia, and son, Holden, are all awaiting a second child at the beginning of August.

Garrett Miller, pictured at right, has also recently joined the District. His position of Engineer Technician I is within our Erosion & Sediment office. Garrett attended Millersville University where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Geography after a senior internship with the Lancaster Farmland Trust.

Although he grew up in Lancaster, he and his wife, Megan, currently live in Lititz. Garrett attends the Middle Creek Church of the Brethren and is an avid sports fan and enjoys spending time outdoors and fishing. Garrett was also drawn to his work at the District because of the value he places on protecting our environment and natural resources.

Welcome to both Grant & Garrett.



Horn Farm photo

The York County Government is an Equal Opportunity Employer and shall in no way discriminate against employees or applicants for employment on account of age, religion, color, national origin, sex, ancestry, disability, and/or any political or union affiliation.

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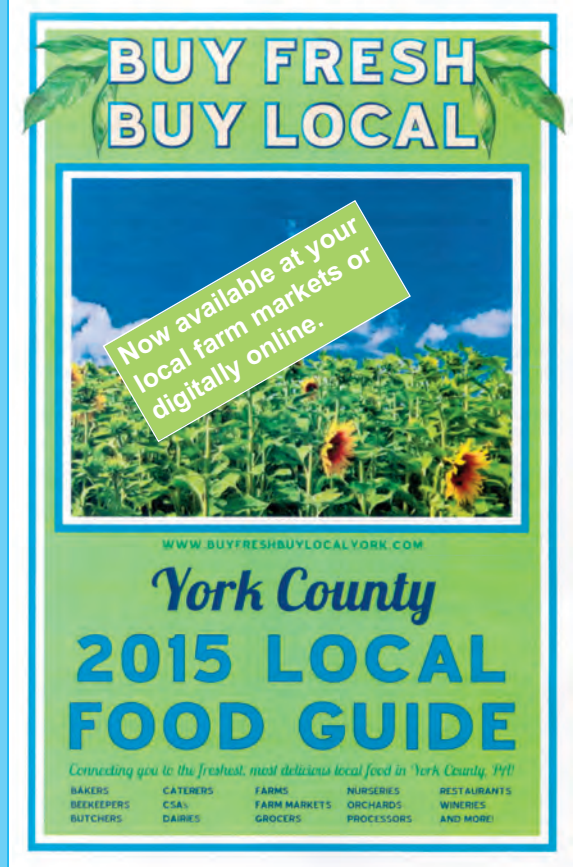
The **York County Buy Fresh Buy Local® Chapter** is a volunteer organization to connect the people of York County to locally produced food & farm products.

Buy Fresh Buy Local® is the premier trademark of the local foods movement in the United States, administered by our National Partner, FoodRoutes Network and coordinated in the state of Pennsylvania by the Pennsylvania Association of Sustainable Agriculture. For updated listings of local events, fresh, local foods & farms, and farm products: www.buyfreshbuylocalyork.com

Their **2015 Local Food Guide** is now available. It is a wonderful resource for locally grown, fresh, healthy food choices.

The **Buy Fresh Buy Local Scavenger Hunt** starts June 13. All participating farms are listed in the 2015 Local Food Guide. The **Wrap-Up Party** is **August 8th at Flinchbaugh's Orchard & Farm Market**.

Farm to City Dinner on Sunday, October 4th, 2:30 pm. Join the feast on Beaver Street beside Central Market for the finest fall harvest from local farms, wineries & pastures. All proceeds benefit BFB, the Horn Farm and & Healthy World Cafe.



Sasquatch Stadium

Presented By

Saturday, July 11 Gates Open 5:30 pm Game Starts 6:30 pm VS

AG & FARM NIGHT

Come out for a night of exciting baseball, while learning and supporting the local agriculture & farming on Saturday, July 11 for the 6th annual Ag & Farm Night when the York Revolution takes on the Lancaster Barnstormers. Throughout the night, fans can enjoy an evening of entertaining agriculture and farming themed contests, events, and educational displays!

\$2 Off all ticket orders will benefit the York County Agriculture Business Council.

Post-Game Fireworks Presented by

\$10.50 Field box seat **\$15.50** Field box seat & Food voucher

Food voucher includes: 1 Halffield hot dog 1 Pepsi product 1 bag of Mott's potato chips

Please mail or fax to: Brandon Tesluk | Address: 5 Brooks Robinson Way, York, PA 17401 | Fax: 717-901-4499 | Direct Mail: 717-901-4494 E-mail: btesluk@yorkrevolution.com

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Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

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_____ x \$15.50 = \$ _____

Total: _____

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* Payment by check: Make checks payable to "York Revolution Baseball" A check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.

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Ag Resources

Manure Management Questions about your Manure Management Plans, Part 1

Now that the days are longer and there is no need to wear your heavy coveralls, it's time to get afield! Whether you're a farmer readying fields for crops, a horse owner preparing for trail rides or a dairyman emptying manure pits, you need to think about manure management.

This article on Manure Management Plans (MMPs) is the first in a series of three. In upcoming issues we will discuss manure spreading and pasture management. Let's start by answering manure management questions commonly received by the District - which should help clear up some common misconceptions.

“So who needs a Manure Management Plan?” It's simple. Every farm in Pennsylvania that land-applies manure or agricultural waste water is required to have and implement a written Manure Management Plan. This includes farms that mechanically apply manure, and farms where manure is deposited directly into animal concentration areas (ACAs) or pastures by animals.

Farms that are defined as Concentrated Animal Operations (CAOs) under the Nutrient and Odor Management Act Regulations or Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) under Pennsylvania's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) are required by law to follow a more stringent set of guidelines. These plans are called Nutrient Management Plans and need to be developed by a state certified writer. To determine whether an operation is defined as a CAO or CAFO or both, go to the Penn State Cooperative Extension website at <http://extension.psu.edu/plants/nutrient-management/manure/understanding>.

“Who can write a Manure Management Plan?” MMP's can be prepared by the farmer or anyone with knowledge of the operation. Some people benefit from obtaining assistance from individuals trained and experienced in developing these plans. Certified nutrient management specialists and certified manure brokers and haulers can also help write your plans. The Conservation District partners with Penn State Cooperative Extension in several annual plan writing workshops that are open to the public.

“Do I need to use the manual or the format in the manual?”

YES! The manure management plan format supplied by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) must be used unless approval from DEP is granted to use an alternative format.

In the Manure Management Manual (MMM) workbook, under the MMP format checklist there are seven required sections:

- Contact Information page
- Operator Information page
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas Worksheet
- Winter Application Worksheet
- Manure Management Plan Summary
- Farm Map
- Record-keeping pages



The sections of Managing Manure Storage in Structures and Stockpiling Areas, Managing Manure in Pastures, and Animal Concentration Areas only need to be filled out if they apply to your specific farm. Once completed the MMP does not need to be submitted to any agencies, but it does need to be kept on site and implemented. Staff from DEP or the conservation district may request to see a copy of the plan when they visit a farm.

- con't on next page



A map does need to be included in the plan. Section three of the workbook deals with this. This can be hand drawn or a copy of the Agriculture Erosion & Sedimentation Plan (or conservation plan) map is an excellent source. Penn State University has a "One Plan" mapping process available at www.paonestop.org.

The map must include the boundaries of both the farm and individual fields. All the fields must be identified separately with a label and the acreage shown. All environmentally sensitive areas and setbacks on the Environmentally Sensitive Worksheet must be identified, along with locations of all manure stacking, stock piling areas, and all proposed areas must be labeled as well. All ACAs and pastures must be shown.

Copies of the Manure Management Manual can be picked up at the District office. Please see the next issue of Conservation Horizons for Part 2, *Manure Spreading and Winter Applications*.

Last September, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture & the Pennsylvania Game Commission confirmed the presence the **Spotted Lanternfly** (*Lycorma delicatula*) in Berks County as part of their responsibility to identify plants/weeds, insects and mites, nematodes, fungi, bacteria and viruses that impact Pennsylvania's natural resources, flora and economy. In November a quarantine was announced with the intent to restrict the movement of this pest. **This is the first detection of Spotted Lanternfly in the United States.**

The **Spotted Lanternfly is an invasive insect** from Asia that can attack 25 different plant species which grow in Pennsylvania - specifically effecting the grape, fruit tree and logging industries. But the pests can also attack apples, pines, stone fruits and more than 70 additional species.



In late April-early May nymphs will hatch from egg masses laid on smooth bark (right), stone & other vertical surfaces. Nymphs appear black with white spots and wingless in their first stage. As they grow they start to develop red patches in addition to the white spots. They spread from their hatch site by crawling and feeding on woody and non-woody plants.

Adults can appear as early as July (bottom right). Egg masses appear in October on trees, especially Tree of Heaven and other smooth bark trees. Even lawn furniture, stone and brick work, and outdoor recreational vehicles can hold egg masses. The egg masses pose a serious risk for potential accidental transport of the insects.

For more information on the Spotted Lantern Fly, its egg masses, and what to do with them, go to the websites for Penn State Extension or the PA Department of Agriculture and search for Spotted Lantern Fly.



Unlocking the Secrets in the Soil, by Eric Samus, District Conservationist, U.S.D.A. -NRCS

The soil is a living, breathing ecosystem that supports all the crops and food we grow. **Farmers are discovering that by using certain practices on their operation they can increase the health of their soil**, helping to ensure the growth of a better, more productive crop. Specifically the use of **no till methods** - which refers to planting into the prior crop residue instead of plowing - thereby reducing the amount of loose, bare soil on your fields. In addition, farmers are **planting cover crops**, whose plant roots help hold the soil in place in between the planting seasons, and diversifying the number of crops planted. The increased **diversity in crop rotations** helps with managing pests and adding nutrients and organic matter to the soil.

Farmers using these practices annually over time have seen some dramatic benefits. There has been documentation that farmers have, at the very least, reduced their fertilizer and pesticide usage. Some have even eliminated those inputs completely. Using no till, cover crops, and diverse crop rotations has led to increased infiltration of storm water, which reduces runoff. It has also led to increased water-holding capacity of the soil, which helps reduce crop stress during dry times of the year. The increased soil structure also helps reduce soil erosion from any water that does run off.

Building the organic matter and keeping living plants in our fields are some of the critical components in keeping our soil healthy. The local Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has programs and technical assistance to help both farmers and producers meet their soil health goals. To learn more about soil health and hear testimonials from farmers, please go to www.nrcs.gov and click on the link for "Unlocking the Secrets in the Soil" or contact your local NRCS office at 717-755-2966 x3.



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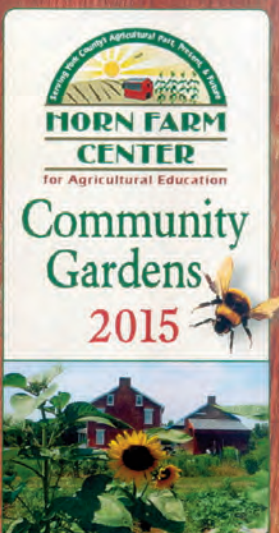
717-840-7190 or
kyoung@yorkccd.org



Foraging for Wild Edibles

Class Dates

Saturday, March 14 — 10am-Noon —
~~Saturday, April 18 — 10am-Noon —~~
~~Monday, June 15 — 6pm-8pm —~~
Saturday, July 18 — 10am-Noon
Monday, August 17 — 6pm-8pm
Saturday, September 19 — 10am-Noon
Monday, October 12 — 6pm-8pm
Saturday, November 7 — 10pm-Noon
call 717-757-6441
for these free classes!



The Community Gardens at Horn Farm Center offer the opportunity to raise good fresh food on prime farmland in the company of a community of enthusiastic and dedicated gardeners.

Did you know you can **rent a 20' x 20' garden plot at the Horn Farm** for \$40.00 for the season? The seasonal gardens are open from mid-April through the end of October. A community garden committee will help ensure you get the help you need to create your own garden and grow your own food. Learn to raise your food from seed to harvest, foster a connection with the natural world and enjoy healthy local food in season. Contact communitygardens@hornfarmcenter.org

The Horn Farm Stands are OPEN

Saturdays: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
@ The Horn Farm

Fridays: 4:00 - 8:00 pm
@ John Wright Restaurant Parking lot

*Fresh, organic, locally grown,
healthy produce & foods*



The Horn Farm Center Photo

Access The Horn Farm's activities & upcoming schedule
at: www.hornfarmcenter.org



Erosion & Sediment Control

E&S Program Accomplishments for February - May 2015

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|-------------------------|-----|
| Preconstruction meetings | 32 | General NPDES Issued | 20 |
| New Plan Reviews | 73 | Total site inspections | 140 |
| Revised Plan Reviews | 29 | Sites in compliance | 29 |
| Total Project Acres | 2,328 | Complaints Investigated | 63 |
| Total Disturbed Acres | 508 | | |

The Northern Long-eared Bat Now Considered Threatened: *Its Impact on Permit Reviews*

On April 2, 2015 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) announced that it is protecting the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) as a federally threatened species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). **This change in status is primarily due to the threat posed by white-nose syndrome**, a fungal disease that has devastated bat populations, especially here in Pennsylvania.

What does that mean for permit applicants here in PA and York County?

- PA Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) searches conducted prior to May 4, 2015 *are no longer valid for permit applications* under review by DEP, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and/or County Conservation Districts. A new PNDI search must be completed and submitted to have a complete and/or technically adequate permit application.
- NPDES and other DEP permits issued prior to May 4, 2015 *remain valid however if the permitted work has not yet been completed the permittee is still responsible for complying with the new listing of the Northern Long-eared Bat as a threatened species.*

To ensure compliance, the permittee should complete a new PNDI search using the PNDI tool, and conduct any and all avoidance measures listed on the PNDI receipt or required in a clearance letter from the USFWS.

For more information, please see the following link at:

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/bureau_of_waterways_engineering_and_wetlands/11202/guidelines_and_guidance/1828560.

All bats in Pennsylvania are insectivores - each one feeding on thousands of insects each night during warmer weather. **Bats are our best insect repellent, especially of mosquitoes.** But in addition to dying from White-nose Syndrome in alarming numbers, bats have always suffered from a serious identity problem. Ours. It is difficult to dispel life-long myths about these important mammals and too many have been killed based on misinformation.

Despite what you may have been taught, bats are not blind - they see just fine, but their hearing is superb. They do not breed like mice - they actually only have 1-2 pups per year. They do not get caught in your hair - their echolocation is far too sophisticated for them to collide with anything in pitch darkness. And while all mammals can get rabies - unless you are holding a bat in your hand - it is unlikely you would ever need to worry about getting rabies from a bat. **They need and deserve our protection.**



NY Dept of Environmental Conservation photo

york county ENVIROTHON



THE 2015 ETHON-NEWS - Envirothon by the Numbers!

As they say, "It takes a village." For the **30th** Anniversary of outstanding Environmental Education in York County, let's take a look at our numbers for the year: We had about **1,000** students participate in four grade level events beginning last fall. **Twenty-nine** people staff our Envirothon Committee. **Sixteen** of those are Station Leaders who create, teach and test team members on Aquatics, an Environmental Current Issue, Forestry, Soils & Wildlife. **One hundred and six** Study Sessions are presented by those Station Leaders at Nixon Park throughout the spring.

At the Senior High level we had **20** teams & coaches, **5** testing stations, **12** school districts and **31** volunteers; At Middle School - **30** teams & coaches, **180** students, **4** testing stations, **13** districts and **35** volunteers; At 5th & 6th Grades - **46** teams & coaches, **276** students, **4** testing stations, **13** districts and **37** volunteers and at 3rd & 4th Grades had **70** teams & coaches, **4** testing stations, **16** districts and **42** volunteers. We work with **11** cooperating agencies and had the support of **68** sponsors. Nearly **1,200** T-shirts were presented to coaches, students, staff and volunteers. We provided **1,000** bags of animal crackers, **800** apples and **102** gallons of cold drinks to all teams during our four competition events at John Rudy County Park.



Central York High School wins our County event & takes 3rd Place overall at the PA State Envirothon - page 14



Northern High School



York Homeschool



Hershey ZooAmerica



Southern Elementary

Thank You to our Sponsors!

The Envirothon is a success because of our sponsors - it would not happen without them. Our fundraising starts in September with our **Annual Clay Shoot** and continues through April. Thank you to the many individuals, companies, cooperating agencies, and schools, who continue to support us. **We raised \$24,032.00 this year**, including \$3,255.00 during our Clay Shoot!!! And thank you to **John Rudy County Park** - "The Official Home of the Envirothons."



Please mark your calendars for Friday, September 18th
for our **8th Annual Clay Shoot!**

@ Central Penn Sporting Clays

to kick off our 2016 Envirothon Sponsorship Drive.

Register your co-workers, friends and family for
a catered barbecue lunch & afternoon shoot.

Join us in supporting a great cause in a beautiful setting!

Thank you to our 2015 Clay Shoot Sponsors:

**Aquatic Resource Restoration Company (ARRC), Mark Flaharty,
Steve Ehrenzeller, Conewago Enterprises, LSC Design
ELA Group, Inc. and County Commissioner Doug Hoke.**

**We had 62 registered shooters,
all of whom helped make this annual event profitable.**

For more information go to www.yorkccd.org



**We wish to thank the following for graciously donating at the
\$1,000.00 & up ELK SILVER LEVEL**

Aquatic Resource Restoration Company;
Keystone Custom Homes;
Izaak Walton League of America, Chapter #67;
Jefferson Sportsmen's Assoc.; Penn Waste Inc.;
York Co Solid Waste Authority; York Excavating Co. LLC.



**We wish to thank the following for donating at the
\$500.00 & up BROOK TROUT BRONZE LEVEL**

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Spring Grove Area School District;
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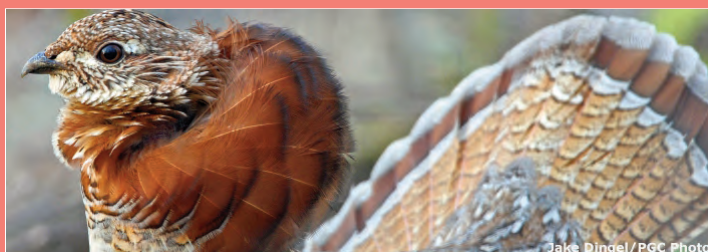


**We wish to thank the following for donating as
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PTO Ore Valley School; PTO Sinking Springs School;
Spoutwood Farms Center; Shrewsbury Elementary School
PTO; Tammy L. Grove; Wolfs Farms, Inc.; York County Ag
Business Council; York Township

**We wish to thank the following
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Craley Fish and Game Association; Ellis Crowl; Environmental Concepts Landscaping;
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Norma Prewitt; PACD; Shiloh Garden Club; Stewartstown Elementary PTO;
Christine & Travis Sherman; Pat & Elmer Sueck; Robert G. Yancey Jr.;
Waterbody Builders LLC; Ryan D. White; T. C. Transport Inc.

Thank you to our Cooperating Agencies & Volunteers

York County Parks & Recreation Dept., York County Planning
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Boat Commission, Penn State Cooperative Extension, Natural Resource
Conservation Service, Department of Conservation & Natural
Resources, PA Department of Environmental Protection, York Rotary
PPE Committee, York County Conservation District, York County Solid
Waste & Refuse Authority, The Envirothon Committee and the many
additional volunteers who help make our competitions such a success.
Thank you to Rutter's Dairy; Brown's Orchard and Farm Market,
Stauffer's, and Millicent Neill Decker for their In-Kind Donations.



A special acknowledgement to Hershey ZooAmerica,
Ryan Bridge - The Bugman, and Linda Spahr & Alpacas of York
for their entertaining and educational programs.



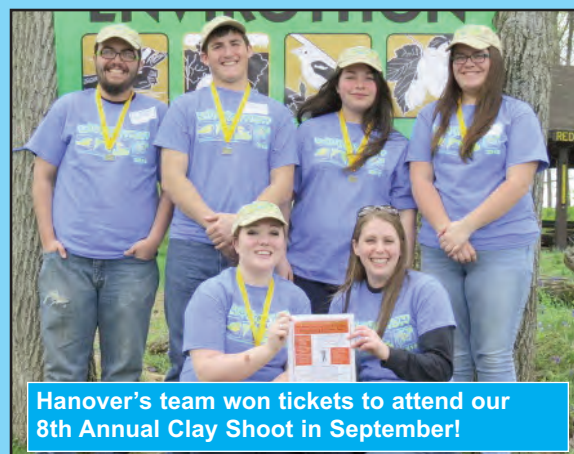
Senior High Event - 19 Teams

The **Central York Bad Bass** won our Senior High event. It was the first time Central has won at the Senior High level since 1987 and they did York County proud, turning in a stellar performance at the University of Pittsburgh @ Johnstown on May 19 & 20 for the **PA State Envirothon**. The students took **3rd Place Overall out of 63 teams and won the Aquatics division**. Each team member received a **\$500.00 College Scholarship**. It was a grand showing for a team and coaches who had never participated at the State Level. *Pictured L-R on the page one*, at the PA State Envirothon, are Nate Shaffer, Mercy Harris, David Myers, PA Sec. of Agriculture, Russell Redding, Liz Cross and Emily Goss. Not pictured are coaches Stephanie Linz, Anne Harris & alternate team member Lauren Chronister - a member of the County winning team!.

All have been competing in the Envirothon since the third grade and all have impressive career goals. Mercy Harris will attend McGill University in Montreal majoring in Environmental Biology & Wildlife. Nate Shaffer will go to Washington and Jefferson College with plans to attend medical school and serve in the army as a surgeon. David Myers will major in Mechanical Engineering at Penn State. Elizabeth Cross will attend Valley Forge next year with hopes to gain an appointment at West Point where she will major in Political Science. Emily Goss is a junior, and she also plans to go to Medical School. Congratulations to the team and coaches and to Central York High School. Well done!

Senior High top-ten overall placing (total score 500)

- 10th Place – Central York Capricious Catfish - 295.5
- 9th Place – Susquehannock Big Trees – 315.5
- 8th Place – West York Windstorm - 316.5
- 7th Place – West York Wildfire - 319
- 6th Place – Spring Grove Wetland Warriors - 338
- 5th Place – Northeastern Ginko Forest Trees – 349
- 4th Place – Northern Nighthawks - 372
- 3rd Place – Dallastown Hellbenders - 372.5
- 2nd Place - York Homeschooled Som Nom-noms- 408
- 1st Place – Central York Bad Bass - 430



Hanover's team won tickets to attend our 8th Annual Clay Shoot in September!

Testing Station Results

Aquatics – 3rd – York Homeschool Som Nom-noms
2nd – Dallastown Hellbenders
1st – Central York Bad Bass

Current Issues – - "Urban Forestry"

3rd – West York Wildfire
2nd – York Homeschool Som Nom-noms
1st - Central York Bad Bass

Forestry – 3rd - Northern Nighthawks
2nd – York Homeschool Som Nom-noms
1st – Central York Bad Bass

Soils – 3rd - Northeastern Ginko Forest Trees
2nd – Spring Grove Wetland Warriors
1st – Central York Bad Bass

Wildlife – 3rd – York Homeschool Som Nom-noms
2nd – Northern Nighthawks
1st - Central York Bad Bass



Middle School Event - 29 teams



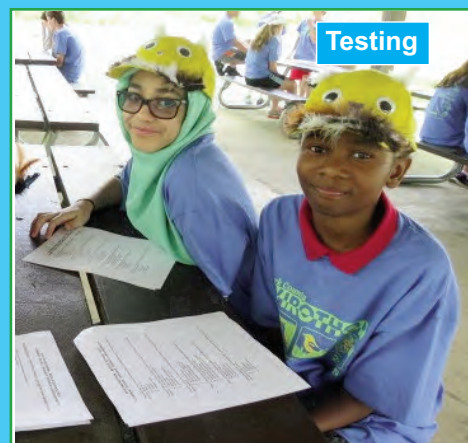
York Suburban



Southern Middle

Top-ten overall placing (out of 400)

- 10th Place – Northeastern Wild Woodchucks - 320
- 9th Place – Southern Middle Musk Ducks - 324
- 8th Place – Central York Tree Tappers - 325
- 7th Place – West York Warrior Wolves - 333
- 6th Place – York Suburban Blue Raccoons - 334
- 5th Place – Dallastown Rabble Rousing Didymos - 336
- 4th Place – Central York Defiant Didymo - 340
- 3rd Place – Home School Turbo Trout - 355
- 2nd Place – Southern Middle Mysterious Starlings - 361
- 1st Place – Home School Precocial People - 363



Testing

Testing Station Results

- Aquatics:**
- 3rd – Southern Middle Mysterious Starlings
 - 2nd – Home School Precocial People
 - 1st – Home School Turbo Trout



Forestry Station

Current Issues: "Biodiversity & Invasive Species"

- 3rd – West York Warrior Wolves
- 2nd – York Suburban Intuitive Turtles
- 1st - Southern Middle Mysterious Starlings

Forestry:

- 3rd – Northeastern Wild Woodcocks
- 2nd – Southern Middle Mysterious Starlings
- 1st – Home School Precocial People

Wildlife -

- 3rd – Dallastown Rabble Rousing Didymos
- 2nd – West York Warrior Wolves
- 1st – Dallastown Mile-a-Minuteman

5th & 6th Grades - 47 Teams



Dallastown Excellent Evergreens



Sinking Springs Terrifying Timberdoodles

5th & 6th Grades top-ten overall Placing (out of 400): (TB- tiebreaker)

- 10th Place – South Mountain Fiery Foxes - 349
- 9th Place – Indian Rock Daring Doves – 349 TB
- 8th Place – Sinking Springs Feral Swine - 350
- 7th Place – South Eastern Gregarious Goldfish – 354
- 6th Place – North Hills Invasive Invaders - 355
- 5th Place – Dallastown Fast Flying Falcons– 356
- 4th Place – Dallastown Excellent Evergreens - 365
- 3rd Place – Sinking Springs Rusty Cray-crayfish - 369
- 2nd Place – York Homeschool Flaming Falcons - 378
- 1st Place – Sinking Springs Terrifying Timberdoodles - 380



Christian York Ferocious Fish

Testing Station Results

Aquatics:

- 3rd – Dallastown Excellent Evergreens
- 2nd – Clearview Crazy Caddisflies
- 1st – Sinking Springs Terrific Timberdoodles

Current Issues: "Biodiversity & Invasive Species"

- 3rd – St. Joseph Super Sophisticated Snipes
- 2nd – Sinking Springs Terrifying Timberdoodles
- 1st - Pleasant View Majestic Monarchs

Forestry:

- 3rd – Sinking Springs Terrifying Timberdoodles
- 2nd – York Home School Flaming Falcons
- 1st – Sinking Springs Rusty Cray-crayfish

Wildlife:

- 3rd – Dallastown Excellent Evergreens
- 2nd – Dallastown Ballistic Barn Owls
- 1st – York Home School Flaming Falcons



Getting ready for competition



Awards Ceremony

3rd & 4th Grades - receive proficiency level ribbons and fun prizes - 68 Teams



Gold Level - Blue Ribbon category - scoring between 265 & 294 out of total of 320 pts:

Dallastown Intermediate Raging Rivers, York Homeschool Marvelous Maples, Dallastown Intermediate Brilliant Bobcats, Shrewsbury Crazy Crepuscular Caterpillars, Ore Valley Excellent Eagles, Indian Rock Forestry Fanatics, Dallastown Intermediate Funky Foxes, Southern Elementary Prickly Porcupines, Leib Elementary Sly Foxes, North Hills Crazy Coyotes, Shrewsbury Freaky Frenzy Fireflies, Sinking Springs Striking Snakes, Leaders Heights Spunky Skunks, Stony Brook Bright Beavers, Locust Grove Awesome Opossums, St. Joseph Wicked Wolves, Trimmer Scarlet Tanagers, Macaluso Little Jumping Mustelids

Top-scoring Aquatics: Southern Elementary Prickly Porcupines

Top-scoring Forestry: Dallastown Intermediate Raging Rivers

Top-scoring Wildlife: Indian Rock Forestry Fanatics

Best Teamwork-1st Place: Lincolnway Elementary Envirothon Bulldogs

Best Teamwork-Runner up: South Mountain Elastic Eels



Your 2016 Envirothon Event Dates

Senior High - Tuesday, April 26th

Middle School - Tuesday, May 3rd

5th & 6th Grades - Wednesday, May 4th

3rd & 4th Grades - Tuesday, May 10th



Silver Level – Red Ribbon category - scoring between 242 & 264 out of total score of 320:

St. Rose of Lime Pokey Porcupines, Spring Grove Dazzling Dogwoods, Spring Grove Awesome Opossums, Lincolnway Envirothon Bulldogs, Hanover Street Awesome Opossums, York Home School Skunk Patrol, Dallastown Elementary Super Skunks, Wellsville Wacky Lizard Wizards, Roundtown Nature Elite, York Township Forest Friends, Locust Grove Bionic Bobcats, Trimmer Tough Thrashers, Hayshire Remarkable Red Foxes, Delta's Flaming Phoenixes, Macaluso Living Jammin Mammals, Indian Rock Fierce Foxes, Ore Valley Fantastic Foxes, Hanover Washington Coy-yotes, St. Joseph's Virginia Creepers, Dillsburg Paralyzed Opossums, Loganville-Springfield Polluting Poison Ivy, Paradise Persevering Pumas, St. Patrick's Radical Raccoons, Hayshire Glorious Grey Foxes, Sinking Springs Forest Predators, Hanover Street Clever Carnivores, Lincolnway Wildlife Team, Delta's Super Seahawks, South Mountain Elastic Eels, Hopewell Winterstown Jumping Jaguars, Stewartstown Stunning Smelly Skunks, Dillsburg Brilliant Buzzing Bees, South Mountain Outrageous Otters

Bronze Level - White Ribbon category – scoring between 154 & 234 pts. out of total of 320:

Clearview Forceful Foxes, Southern Elementary Rabid Raccoons, Northern Rockin' Raccoons, St. Rose of Lima Rad Rockin Raccoons, Hopewell Winterstown Freaky Frogs, Hanover Washington Zany Zoo, St. Patrick's Optimistic Opossums, Northern Cool Caterpillars, Clearview Barbaric, Bears, Stewartstown Stunning Electric Eels, Wellsville Warrior Woodpeckers, Christian York Rad Raccoons, Paradise Pride Prickly Porcupines, North Hills Wolf Pack, Leib Elementary Playful Platypuses, Hanover Washington Crazy Farm, Christian York Cool Cats



York Township Forest Friends



A blue ribbon!



One wild testing station

At the Senior High level, over 10 million people have participated in the Envirothon nationally since 1979. More than one million dollars in scholarships have been presented and 55% of Envirothon students go on to careers in natural resource & conservation.

Although traditionally a Senior High program, York County Envirothons begin in 3rd grade.

*Is your child & school involved?
Contact The York County Conservation
District for more information 717-840-7190*



Education & Communication



Congratulations to Kendra Bierman of Dallastown High School. Kendra was our inaugural recipient of the **Paul Wilson \$500.00 Conservation Award** - open to students who are registered members of their Senior High Envirothon team and planning a career in conservation. In addition to serving on her School's Envirothon team, which placed third at our County event, Kendra takes many honors and AP level science, math and social studies classes.

Kendra has also attended the Marine Science Consortium in Wallops Island, VA, participated in the Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Agricultural Sciences and attended the George Mason University's National Youth Summit on the Environment. She is planning to pursue a degree in Environmental Sciences at Juniata College this fall and minor in Environmental Law.

York County Conservation District \$1,000 College Scholarship

Our application process is now open.

This annual scholarship is available to York County residents attending college or university in the United States and majoring in agriculture, conservation, environmental, natural resource management or a related field.

Senior High students may apply if they are already accepted at school and attending in the fall of 2015.

The deadline for applications is September 30, 2015.

Please go to www.yorkccd.org, then click on education and on 2015 College Scholarship Announcement for a complete application packet.

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Manager

Business Hours
M, W, F 10-6
T, Th 10-8
Sat. 10-5



Summer/Fall



July

- Average temperatures: 60-84f; Sunrise by 5:30 am and sunset around 8:45 pm.
- Spring woodland wildflowers give way to the sun-baked blooms of the open meadows and along streams & ponds: jewelweed, joe-pye weed, Queen Anne's lace, goldenrod and chickory.
- Blackberries and raspberries are ripening on the vine where the fields meet the woodland edge.
- Dragonflies & damselflies are in full flight, while young bat pups are just learning to master the art of flight.
- As the days heat up the first buzzing of the cicasadas will fill the afternoons, while tree crickets and katydids will stir the nighttime chorus.
- Standing water in your yard and on your farm can attract mosquitoes - which can spread West Nile virus and other diseases.
- If you have water sitting in troughs and buckets, or backyard toys or debris, empty the water regularly and clean the containers.
- Use insecticides sparingly, since flies and other insects can quickly become resistant to them.
- On farm fields and in your gardens spread manure in thin layers during field applications so it dries out as quickly as possible.



- Bald eagle fledglings have likely left their nests (eyries) by early July. When mature at 4-5 years, with fully white heads & tails - they should return near their fledging site to mate and raise their own chicks. That's how Pennsylvania began re-stocking its bald eagle population nearly 30 years ago - by removing eggs from stable Canadian eagle nests and raising the chicks here in the Commonwealth. Years later, at maturity, as predicted, the artificially-raised eagles started nesting in our state. It is a great wildlife management success story.

August

- Average temperature is 80 degrees in daylight, which we have almost an hour less of per day.
- Songbirds bring their young into backyard bird feeders.
- The spun nests of fall webworms start to appear, encompassing bundles of tree leaves in their grasp to feed the growing caterpillars.
- Elderberries are ripening and cardinal flowers and snakeroot are blooming.
- A calm settles over the woods and meadows as most songbirds end their mating calls, replaced by the humming and buzzing of late summer insects.
- Monarch butterflies are beginning to migrate and snapping turtle eggs should start hatching if the summer weather has cooperated.



- August is a good time for farmers to update their fertilizer & manure application records and begin applying lime to alfalfa and grass fields.
- Cool season annual forages, like oats and brassicas are good planting options.
- Livestock with access to streams should be restricted by stabilized stream crossings to reduce hoof problems, and prevent eroded stream banks and excess nutrients in the water.
- Pasture management should include paddocks to reduce overgrazing and help balance nutrients.
- The beautiful pink peach flowers of spring orchards have given way to golden, sun-kissed peaches that are being stockpiled in markets and roadside stands everywhere.
- 'Tis the season of blueberries and nectarines, tomatoes and sweet corn. Pears are ripening and an array of apples varieties are heavy on the branches. Fresh cider is being pressed and our local farm markets are filled with the colors & textures and wonderful scents that only high summer in Pennsylvania brings.



September

- Average highs are 73f and lows are 52f, with sunrise near 6:30 am and sunset at about 7:30 pm.
- A change is afoot as blackbirds begin to gather in flocks and egrets start to disperse along the Susquehanna River.
- Migrating dragonflies, chimney swifts, barn swallows and more are on the move.
- Broad-winged hawk migration is in full order as considerable numbers of these raptors circle above in large flocks called "kettles." Many other birds of prey have preceded them or will follow behind as the raptor migrations continue into November.
- Wild grapes cluster on the vine, their ripened fruit providing sweet treats for bears, wild turkeys, foxes, skunks and a whole host of other creatures.
- Black walnuts are dropping from branches, their distinctive "thunk" notifying squirrels that food has hit the ground.



- If you are planting cover crops in corn fields do so early enough to achieve 4-6" of growth and 25% ground cover to help control possible pollution runoff. Rye is a good choice for its ability to retain nutrients in the soil.
- This is a good time of year to examine your manure management storage areas - check empty concrete walls and floors for cracks. In earthen storage, look for signs of erosion or settling.

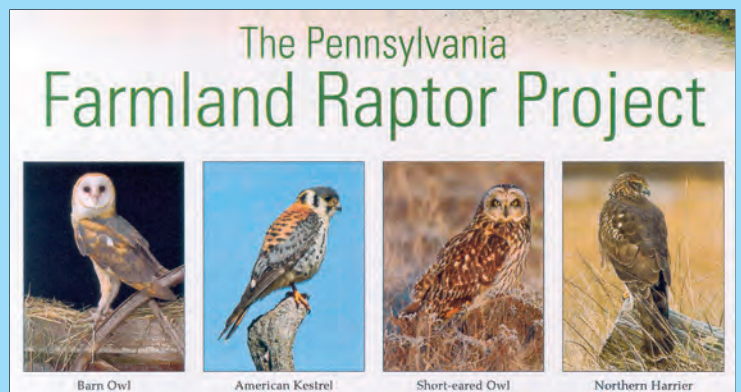
October

- Temperatures average in the 50s, although days in the 80s are not uncommon.
- By the end of the month, sunrise is at 7:30 am and the sun sets in the evening by 6:00.
- Our first frosts can be expected by mid-month, helping to heighten the intensity of the fall foliage. Even though the change in leaf color is brought on by the ever shortening lengths of sunlight each day.
- While our summer birds are migrating south a host of winter birds are arriving in their place. Juncos, cardinals and white-throated sparrows are starting to appear. Even the cardinal that nested in your yard in June will be replaced in October by a northern cardinal that considers Pennsylvania "south" for a few months.
- Scraggly yellow witch hazel flowers are blooming on bare branches and woolly bear caterpillars are out in abundance as they search for winter shelters.
- Deciduous trees begin their prep for winter by sealing off the sap vessels between leaf & twig: The final step before the leaves gently drop to the ground and decomposition begins to enrich the soil to feed the roots of the trees that dropped the leaves.

Have you seen these birds?

Hawk Mountain needs your help for their important Farmland Raptor Project.
Help these rapidly declining species.

Go to: www.hawkmountain.org/farmlandraptors

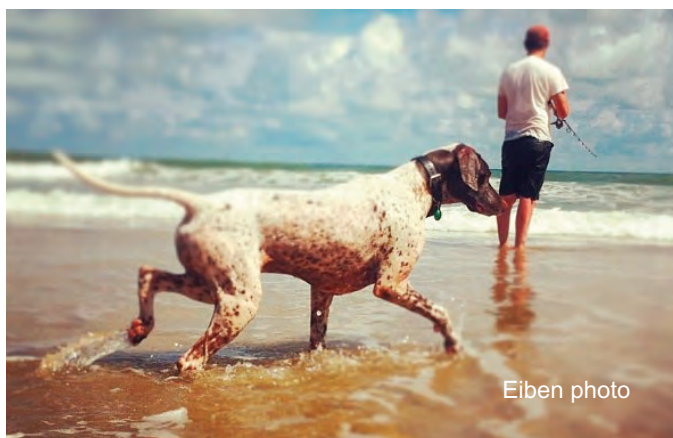




Watershed Specialist

Gary Peacock

For as long as dogs have been our companions, dog waste has posed a sanitary issue for us. Now science has revealed it's actually an environmental pollutant. In the mid-1990s, **scientists perfected methods for tracking the origin of nasty bacteria in streams and seawater.** From Clearwater, Fla., to Portland, Oregon, the trail has led **straight to "Fido"** — and to owners who don't pick up after their pets. At some beaches, dogs help raise bacteria levels so high that visitors must stay out of the water. Goaded by such studies, some cities have directed as much as \$10,000 in the last few years to encourage dog owners to clean up after their pets. A few municipalities have started issuing citations to those who ignore pet clean-up ordinances.



In surveys, the reasons dogowners give for not picking up their dog's waste are varied.

- It eventually goes away
- Too much work
- It's on my own property
- It's on the grass, not the sidewalk
- It's in the woods
- I wasn't prepared
- My dog is small with little waste
- It acts as fertilizer

Dogs are certainly not the only contributors to water pollution by far. But **dog waste can generate disease-causing bacteria** that can make people sick. In the last few years scientists placed dogs 3rd or 4th on the list of contributors to bacteria in contaminated waters. From mutts to blue-blooded champions, all dogs harbor so-called coliform bacteria, which live in the gut. The group includes E. coli, a bacterium that can cause disease, and fecal coliform bacteria, which spread through feces. Dogs also carry salmonella, giardia and a host of parasites that can be passed to people, especially children playing on the lawn. Common parasitic worms like roundworm & whipworm can remain in the soil for years, repeatedly re-infecting your dog.

Environmental officials use measurements of some of these bacteria as barometers of how much fecal matter has contaminated a body of water. This wouldn't matter if dog ownership was a minor issue. **But 2015 statistics show that 54.4 million American households own 77.8 million dogs.** Forty-five percent of those dogs were considered "large" and roughly 40% of Americans *never* pick up after their dog.



Most people would never consider leaving their own body waste in their yard or emptying their child's diapers onto their property or anyone else's - just leaving it there hoping the sun and rain will eventually decompose it. We understand *that* is inherently unsanitary. So why is there so much resistance to cleaning up after our dogs?

Officials say it is a lack of education and the disconnect between how residue on our land can end up in local waterways. But consider this - no matter where you pet poops - you need to clean it up. Whether it is on grass, mulch, leaves or sand. In a woodland or on a meadow. Whether it is on a cement walkway or a natural surface - it is your dog and your responsibility to dispose of its waste properly - in the trash. It is not just a courtesy to your neighbors. It is a sanitary issue for you. **So unless your dog is leaving behind solid blocks of gold bullion - do the right thing - Clean Up After Your Dog!**

The York County Ag Preservation Program

Patty McCandless, Program Director

118 Pleasant Acres Road, Suite F

York PA 17402

717-840-7400 / Monday-Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm



The York County Agricultural Land Preservation Board (YCALPB) is pleased to announce that from 1990 through January 1, 2015, two-hundred and sixty-five farms covering 40,094 acres have been preserved!!! This includes farms preserved through easement purchase or easement donation. These farms represent working lands across the county which produce field crops, milk, fruits, berries, vegetables, Christmas trees, nursery stock, timber, and a variety of livestock. On behalf of the County of York and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, we thank the farm families who have made this forever commitment.

So far in 2015, the YCALPB Board has received 43 applications totaling 3,688 acres. **So far this year, the YCALPB has selected six farms on 504 acres for easement purchase.** Of the 43 total applications, 25 applications were found to be complete and qualified for our program.

In order to qualify for land preservation a farm must be enrolled in an Agricultural Security Area; be comprised of 50% lands in Soil Classes I – IV utilized for commercial ag. production; must also generate \$10,000 of gross farm income for a three year average and have a current conservation plan that is 50% implemented. The easement purchase program also has a 50 acre minimum or, if adjacent to a previously preserved farm, a 10 acre minimum.



Since 2012, the YCALPB has been offering an **Easement Donation Program** which allows landowners to have a say in easement provision, such as deciding where future buildings are to be situated and what types of buildings may be built. This option results in a conservation easement that is tailored to the landowners individual needs and wants. So far, the YCALPB has received four easement donations, one in York Township, two in Warrington Township, and one in Shrewsbury Township. This program results in tax incentives for the donation, rather than receiving a check at settlement. For more information on the Donation Program, call us. It's a great way to leave a lasting legacy on York County Agriculture!

Funding for land preservation efforts comes from sources such as Clean & Green penalties, York General Fund, Marcellus Shale funds, Growing Greener funds, and state & federal sources. Preservation, through easement purchase, may only occur when easement funds have been allocated and certified by a County to the State. In December, York County Commissioners approved \$164,875 for the YCALPB preservation use. In February, The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Farmland Preservation allotted \$1,117,557, bringing our county total to \$1,282,432 available for Agricultural Land Preservation.

The YCALPB welcomes new chairwoman, Kristina Wilt of New Park and board member, John Eaton of Airville. Kristi has been serving on our board for many years. Mr. Eaton will be representing citizens. He is a graduate of Penn State University with a major in Agricultural Business Management. He has 23 years of Agricultural lending experience, and currently operates a sheep farm in Airville.

Interested land and farmowners may contact the agency at (717) 840-7400, or go to www.YorkCountyPA.gov. Useful Links and a Preservation Map now show all preserved farms within the county. See if any preserved farms are near you. The York County Ag Land Preservation Program continues to rank third in the state and ninth in the Nation for acres of farmland preserved. YCALPB Office Hours are 8 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Friday. We are located in the County Annex Building at 118 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402.



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Conservation District
118 Pleasant Acres Road
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"Farewell," they cried,
"Wherever you fare till your eyries
receive you at the journey's end!"
That is the polite thing
to say among eagles."

- J.R.R. Tolkien

Would you like to be on our mailing list?

Our newsletter *Conservation Horizons* is published **3 times each year free** to over 8,000 York County homes & businesses. To be put on our mailing list call or email: 717-840-7430 or yorkccd@yorkccd.org.

If you would rather "Go Green" and save paper, send us an email request and put "Electronic Newsletter" in subject line to receive your newsletter electronically.

Or contact us with address changes or to be dropped from our mailing list. Thank you.

YCCD District Calendar

July 2015

July 3 Office Closed - Independence Day
July 8-9 PACD SCC Annual Joint Conference
@ Monroeville
July 9 YCCD Board Mtg – 11:00 am Annex
July 11 Ag Night @ York Revolution
July 17 Capital RC&D Mtg, Cumberland CCD

August 2015

Aug 2-4 NACD NE Region Mtg, West Virginia
Aug 6 Annual Conservation Awards Picnic @
Rocky Ridge Park, 6:00 pm
Aug 18-20 Ag Progress Days, Rock Springs

September 2015

Sept 7 Office Closed - Labor Day
Sept 10 YCCD Board Mtg. 7:00 pm Annex
Sept 18 8th Annual Clay Shoot Fundraiser @
Central Penn Sporting Clays
Sept 27-27 Watershed Weekend

October 2015

Oct 8 YCCD Board Mtg, 7:00 pm Annex
Oct 12 Office Closed - Columbus Day Holiday
Oct 19 PACD Regional Directors Mtg,
Cumberland County