



YORK COUNTY
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Conserving Natural Resources for Our Future

2015 ANNUAL REPORT



A Message from our Chairman & Manager

We have had another busy year with changes in staff, Board leadership, programs and the uncertainty of the State Budget. During our reorganization meeting in January, Travis Sherman was sworn in as Director after serving many years as an associate, replacing longtime director Dan Wolf. Leroy Walker joined us for the year, but decided to step away, along with Dr Penny Grove who served 3 years. We look forward to welcoming new commissioner/director, Susan Byrnes and associates Rochelle Black, Dan Innerst and Dan Paulus in 2016.

We said goodbye and good luck in retirement to Lowell Luft after 12 years working with our Ag Team. We will all miss Lowell's no nonsense approach to getting the job done, no matter what the job might be. Soon after Lowell retired, we welcomed two excellent new staff members to the District Team – Garrett Miller with the Erosion Control Team and Grant Deller with the Ag team. They have much to learn but have blended in well and are quick studies in their respective roles.

The new Exelon Habitat Improvement Program saw several projects under construction in 2015 as did the new Low Volume Roads component of the Dirt Gravel and Low Volume Roads program. Until the enabling legislation changes, York stands to receive a significant amount of funding for these programs that will help improve our roads, stretch municipal road budgets and protect water quality.

We were pleased to award the first Paul Wilson Conservation Award scholarship to a 2015 Senior High Envirothon participant. We're certain Paul would be very proud of this effort to help support our next generation of conservation leaders.

We initiated a Facebook Page for the District to help with district program promotions hoping to participate in the social media revolution, at least a little. It complements the District's web page well.

The Chesapeake Bay again has risen to the forefront of agency agendas all around the state and region, with Pennsylvania feeling the first impacts of falling short of the established milestones, in the form of backstop measures now being implemented by EPA. This issue will likely reshape our Ag programs, and perhaps most everything we do in the coming months. Fortunately, we have taken big strides in York County to begin to address stormwater in a more sustainable, coordinated approach with great leadership from the York County Planning Commission.

It was a very busy year for construction site development and earthmoving, as activity returned to pre-recession levels. With the State & Federal Erosion Control and Permit program growing in complexity, our staff struggled to maintain the level of field presence we set in our goals. Fortunately, most of our rainfall this past year fell in manageable amounts, with a few exceptions in isolated areas of the County. Fortunately, the vast majority of sites found to have issues were brought into compliance voluntarily. We do have several significant highway projects in sensitive areas that will require our attention for some years to come. And we will have a significant pipeline project to oversee in the Northern part of the County, so 2016 looks to be another challenging year for the E&S team. Thankfully, we have an excellent team who are up to the challenge.

The York County Commissioners continue to be strong advocates of the District. Without their continued support, we would not be able to meet the opportunities that seem to come in waves. Our building committee continues to work with the County as we labor to determine how we can make our goal of an Ag Center a reality for York County. Stay tuned for more on that, right Jack?

We again are grateful for the continued excellent leadership provided by our Directors and Associates, as well as the excellent work put forth by the District employees and the many cooperating agencies we so depend on. Thank you all for another great year of conservation service to help make York County better than we found it, for present and future generations.

Sincerely Yours in Conservation, Harry Bickel, District Chairman
& Mark Kimmel, District Manager



York County Commissioners 2015

President, Steve Chronister (R)
Vice President, Doug Hoke (C)
Christopher Reilly (L)

Conservation District Directors 2015 Officers

Chairman Harry Bickel
Vice Chairman Jeff Gossert
Treasurer Michael Flinchbaugh
Assistant Treasurer Gordon L Brown

Staff

District Manager Mark Kimmel
Assistant Manager Jennifer Risser
Administrative Assistant Christina Dehoff
E&S Resource Conservationist/Program
Manager Eric Jordan
E&S Resource Conservationist/
Network Administrator Robert Fetter
Engineering Technician II Tiffany Crum
Engineering Technician II Karen Ward
Engineering Technician I Garrett Miller
Office Manager Whitney Leland
Secretary/Receptionist Robin Sharp
Senior Ag Resource Conservationist
Mark Flaharty
Ag Resource Conservationist Lowell Luft
(retired)
Ag Resource Conservationist Wendy Kindig
Ag Resource Conservation Specialist II
Sally Barnes
Ag Resource Conservation Specialist II
Grant Deller
Watershed Specialist Gary Peacock
Education/Communication Coordinator
Kim J Young

Directors

Commissioner Steve Chronister, Jack Dehoff, Pat Sueck, Travis Sherman, Jim Rexroth

Associate Directors

Kenyon Miller, Randy Craley, Leroy Bupp, Bruce Holbrook, Kevin Grim, Jackie Kramer
Beth Lucabaugh, John Riedel, Dr. Penny Grove, Leroy Walker

Directors Emeritus

Ellis Crowl, Rolla Lehman, Keith Eisenhart

*Board Members photographed at
Annual Awards Picnic, August 2016*

Sitting L-R:

*Pat Sueck, Kenyon Miller,
Jackie Kramer,*

*Standing L-R: Bruce Holbrook, Leroy
Walker, Travis Sherman, Michael
Flinchbaugh,
Harry Bickel, John Riedel,
Jeff Gossert, Jim Rexroth,
Jack Dehoff*





Director's State & National Involvement

We are fortunate to have tremendous leadership from our Board of Directors, with several of them active on the state and national level. **Director Pat Sueck**, *top left*, continued to serve as the PA Representative to the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) Board of Directors in addition to serving on the PA Association of Conservation District's (PACD) Executive Board.

District Treasurer Michael Flinchbaugh, *left with wife, Kate*, continues to serve as a farmer member of the PA State Conservation Commission (SCC) and was elected Vice-Chair for 2015/2016. Michael was also elected as a new executive officer for the Penn State Alumni Society.



Pennsylvania Envirothon News

The District's **Education & Communication Coordinator, Kim Young**, was elected as an Associate Board member for the state Envirothon and will serve a term of four years. In addition to serving on the board she is a member of the state's Current Issues committee and works on preparing test questions for both the county and state level competitions as well as preparing the Oral Component Scenario for the state competition. (*pictured bottom left*)



Capital Resource Conservation and Development Area Council (RC&D)

The Capital RC&D Area Council builds partnerships of concerned citizens, businesses, agencies and organizations to work together improving the quality of life within the seven county area: Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lancaster, Lebanon and York. The District has three representatives serving on the RC&D board: Julie Flinchbaugh represents the District Board of Directors, Nedette Otterbein of the Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education, represents the County Commissioners, and Patricia Devlin, Dillsburg, is a member-at-large. Patricia Devlin agreed to reappointment to a 3-year term as our member-at-large. Capital RC&D Council consists of volunteer representatives from local government, conservation districts, business, development organizations, nonprofit groups

and individuals. This council of 21 volunteers initiates and directs program activities. Projects are selected by evaluating local needs that promote conservation of our natural and community resources. The council provides the selected projects with necessary tools, such as technical expertise and assistance in locating funds. Resource Conservation & Development projects can focus on land conservation, water management, community improvements, alternative energy applications, recreation and tourism, forestry resources, recovery/recycling, rural economic development, as well as public information and education. We contracted with Capital RC&D to assist with the tillage survey in York County.

For more information about the Council, contact: Susan Richards, RC&D Coordinator at (717) 241-4361 or e-mail srichards@capitalrcd.org or www.capitalrcd.org

District Finances

The audit of the Conservation District accounts for the calendar year of 2015 will be available at the Conservation District office.

York County Conservation District Manager, **Mark Kimmel** (right), Assistant Manager, **Jennifer Risser** (left) & Administrative Assistant, **Christine Dehoff** (center)



NPDES Permitting Workshop,
Wyndridge Farms



GOAL: To Build The York County Agriculture and Natural Resource Service Center

The mission of the York County Conservation District is to protect and improve the natural resources of York County. To fully realize this mission, the Conservation District is planning to build the York County Agriculture and Natural Resource Service Center at an estimated cost of \$9,000,000. Constructed with numerous green technologies, this building will house offices and meeting space for the Conservation District as well as our key cooperating agencies, and thus serve as a headquarters for agriculture and natural resource conservation in York County. Citizens from all walks of life—farmers, developers, conservationists, municipal officials, students, etc.—will visit the Center to get technical assistance, apply for programs, attend workshops, investigate green building options, or partake in the numerous other services offered there.

Cooperating Agencies...
Penn State Cooperative Extension
York County Agricultural Land Preservation
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
USDA Farm Service Agency



Board meeting



Conservation Awards. Jeff Gossert, Vice
Chair & Jill Oles,
Outstanding
Educator



Ag Resources

2015 Agricultural Conservation Program Accomplishments

- Wrote conservation and grazing plans on 26 tracts – 1,204 acres.
- Implemented conservation plans and practices on 781 acres.
- Installed 23 Best Management Practices (BMPs) to control erosion on 20 acres & prevented 116 tons of sediment loss.
- Used cost share from CBP Special Project grant to assist the District with hiring an intern to help update the ACRE database and educational outreach visits - \$ 1,539
- Developed plans and implemented incentive contracts using USDA-NRCS funding. Installed 17 BMPs spending \$189,385 of incentive funds on 5 existing contracts.
- Provided educational opportunities to farmers, cooperators and the general public about the District ag program and manure management planning. Staff took displays and handouts to the following three events: the York County Corn and Soybean Clinic, the Ag Recognition banquet and Ag Night at the Revolution sponsored by the Ag Business Council. Gave a presentation about Ag Regulations and Landowner responsibility at meeting hosted by the Red Lion Municipal Authority.
- Published articles for the District newsletter about Stream bank Fencing, Manure Management Plans and Manure Spreading and Winter Application.



- Provided support for the REAP program administered by the PA Dept. of Agriculture. Performed 2 plan verifications for program applicants.
- Continued to support the agreement with DEP and the York County Solid Waste and Refuse Authority to monitor the Land Application of Biosolids program. Assisted with the monitoring of farms for conservation compliance and reviewed conservation plans for permitted farms.
- Continued Education and Outreach program to inform farmers and landowners of the changes to Chapter 102 (E&S) and Chapter 91(MMM). Completed the fourth round of 250 visits by June 30, 2015 and started on next 250.
- Assisted the District Erosion and Sediment program staff with implementing the Agriculture Complaint Handling Guidelines. This includes Ag E&S and Manure complaints site visits and plan reviews.
- Partnered with NRCS on a Contributory Agreement to provide engineering design and construction in spection assistance on federally funded projects. The District completed the original agreement and earned \$24,710 and also signed a new agreement for an additional \$30,000 from which we earned \$ 6,018.
- Implemented conservation practices with funding provided by the York County Community Foundation. One cooperator installed grass waterways and mulching using \$8,925.

Ag Conservation Program Accomplishments, con't

- Partnered with NRCS on a new Contributory Agreement to provide conservation planning assistance. Grant total is \$55,000. Funding will be used to support new ag position in 2016.
- Ag staff changes - Lowell Luft retired in March and Grant Deller was hired in April.
- Partnered with the York County Ag Business Council's Farm Tour event in October. The District had a tabletop display and handouts and also developed a self-guided tour of conservation practices for attendees at the Alta Vista Dairy Farm.



2015 Nutrient Management Act Program

The York County Conservation District is delegated by the State Conservation Commission to oversee Pennsylvania's Nutrient Management Act (Act 38) in York County.

Active plans on file:

- Twenty-four current nutrient management plans are on file for Concentrated Animal Operations (CAOs) in York County.
- Eleven of these operations are also regulated as Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs).
- One plan is for a Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFOs) only (not a CAO).
- Five plans are for Volunteer Animal Operations (VAOs). These operations are not required by Act 38 regulations to have an approved plan, but voluntarily choose to do so.

Annual Status Reviews:

- Under Act 38 regulations all CAOs are required to have an annual review conducted to determine if they are in compliance with the regulations. All CAOs received status reviews in 2015.

Plan Reviews and Approvals:

In 2015, 18 nutrient management plans were received for review by the District.

- 10 plans were updates for existing CAO or CAFO plans.
- 1 plan was for a new CAO/CAFO.
- 1 plan was for a new VAO.
- 1 plan was for an existing VAO.
- 13 plans were approved by the Board of Directors in 2015 (3 were under review from the previous year). 5 plans are still under review.
- 1 plan was disapproved but later approved following another review
- 1 plan was approved and later rescinded and subsequently approved by the State Conservation Commission after further review.

Nutrient Management Act Program, cont.

Educational Activities:

- In 2015 educational activities concerning nutrient management and manure management included displays at the Ag Night at the Rev's baseball game, the York County Corn and Soybean Clinic, the Ag Recognition Banquet and the York County Farm Tour.
- A one hour overview of the regulations for manure management and conservation planning was given to approximately 8 people at the York County Corn and Soybean Clinic breakout session. A second break out session was held for 45 minutes in the afternoon helping 6 people write their own plans.
- A Soil Quality and Conservation Forum was held at the Airville Fire Hall for about 40 people.
- Ag staff also assisted in developing a manure management plan for a local farmer which he needed for a REAP application.
- In order to maintain certification and keep informed on current nutrient management issues, Ag staff members attended trainings throughout the year.
- Staff worked with two individually certified nutrient management specialists (certified by PA to write plans for their animal operations) assisting them in acquiring certification update credits.
- As part of the Manure Management delegated responsibilities the District partnered with John Rowehl, PSU Cooperative Extension, to present a Manure Management Plan writing session for 15 attendees.



pictured above - Lowell Luft, Ag Resource Conservationist, retired in February



Ag Resource Staff pictured upper-right L-R

Grant Deller, Ag Resource Conservation Specialist II, Mark Flaharty, Sr. Ag Resource Conservationist, Wendy Kindig, Ag Resource Conservationist, Sally Barnes, Ag Resource Conservation Specialist II

2015 District Cooperators:

James G. Stelfox, Paradise Twp.; Gerald Whitcraft, Shrewsbury Twp.; Porters Community Farm Company, Heidelberg Twp.; Galen Keener, Springfield Twp.; David Sollenberger, L. Windsor Twp.; Sara Bhaduri Hauck, Delta-Peach Bottom Twp.; Eugene D. Deller, Chanceford/Windsor Twp.; Michael Shea, Monaghan Twp. ; Douglas Dillon, Dover Twp. ; Matt Kline, Springfield Twp.; Kevin Fake, Shrewsbury Twp.; Yoe Borough, York Twp.; Sadie Clemens, W. Manchester Twp.; Roy Thompson, Paradise Twp.; James Day, Fairview Twp.; Tracy Wagner, Carroll Twp.; Todd Kaltreider, Shrewsbury Twp.; Christine Vasellas, Chanceford Twp.; Lavere Miller, Manheim Twp.; Richard Billheim, N. Corderus Twp.; Wrightsville Borough Municipal Authority, Wrightsville Boro.; Craig S. Berkheimer, Washington Twp.; Erleanna Wolfgang-Calp, Codorus Twp.; Orie I. Gemmill, York Twp.



Education & Communication

Our full-color, magazine-style newsletter, *Conservation Horizons*, is mailed to over 8,000 homes & businesses 3X/year. Featured articles included steambank fencing, pollinators, spotted lanternfly quarantines, white-nose syndrome & the newly threatened northern long-eared bats, an update on the Avian Flu concerns for our poultry industry, manure management plans and Low Volume Dirt & Gravel Roads Grants.



Matthew Hunter is the recipient of our 2015 District College Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.00. *Please note that Matthew was listed in our 2014 Annual Report incorrectly. The 2014 Scholarship Recipient was actually Julia Zielinski. See left.* Matthew, is a Red Lion resident attending West Virginia University where he is majoring in Forest Resource Management. He is especially interested in Urban Forestry and Arboriculture. Matthew also has a strong background in the York County 4-H and Red Lion FFA and hopes to have a farm in his future while he follows a career in Forestry.

Julia Zielinski, (right) a graduate of Northeastern High School, and current student pursuing Environmental Studies at Franklin and Marshall College was our 2014 Scholarship Recipient, is planning a career in environmental foreign relations. A former Envirothon student through all consecutive grades, Julia is an extremely well-rounded student who excels in music, speaks Chinese and has traveled extensively in China in pursuit of her studies.



Education & Communications Coordinator, Kim J Young (at right)

2015 was the 30th Anniversary of the York County Envirothon!

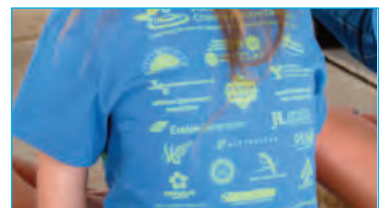
Nearly 1,000 students on 166 teams participated in this year's events. Here are the numbers:

- Senior High - 20 teams & coaches, 120 students, 5 testing stations, 12 school districts and 31 volunteers.
- Middle School - 30 teams & coaches, 180 students, 4 testing stations, one non-testing station, 13 school districts and 35 volunteers.
- 5th & 6th Grades - 46 teams & coaches, 276 students, 4 testing stations, one non-testing station, 13 school districts and 37 volunteers.
- 3rd & 4th Grades - 70 teams & coaches, 350 students, 3 testing stations, a scavenger hunt, 2 non-testing stations, 16 school districts and 42 volunteers.

Our Envirothon Committee had 29 members, 16 of whom were Station Leaders who created & edited study resources and taught & tested students on Aquatics, Environmental Current Issues, Forestry, Soils and Wildlife. The Senior High Current Issue was Urban Forestry and the Current Issue at the 5th thru 8th Grades levels was Biodiversity and Invasive Species. The Station Leaders presented a total of 106 study sessions for all grade levels in all topics during the study sessions at Nixon Park and surrounding sites.



Ethon sponsorship - Our 2015 Envirothon Sponsorships & Donations totaled \$24,032.00. This included the \$3,255.00 raised during our 7th Annual Clay Shoot, held on Saturday, September 27, 2014. The Fall Clay Shoot always kicks off our Envirothon Sponsorship Drive for the upcoming year.



Kendra Bierman, at left, of Dallastown High School, was our inaugural recipient of the Paul Wilson \$500.00 Conservation Award. The award is open to registered members of a York County Senior High Envirothon team.

Forty sponsors donating \$250.00 and up received the *Tulip Poplar Botanical* print from Millicent Neill Decker. When that limited edition print officially sold out we offered Mrs. Decker's *Just Curious* otter print to remaining sponsors. Of those sponsors, 19 donated \$500.00 or more to have their name and logo places on the back of our 2015 T-shirts.



2015 Envirothon Sponsors

Elk Silver Level (1,000.00) Sponsor: Izaak Walton League Of America, Inc.; York County Solid Waste & Refuse Auth.; Aquatics Resources Restoration Company, Inc.; Keystone Custom Homes; Jefferson Sportsmen's Association; Penn Waste Inc.; York Excavating Co. LLC.

Brook Trout Bronze Level Sponsor: Glatfelter Beyond Paper; York Audubon Society; Spring Grove Area School District; Exelon Generation; Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc.; C. S. Davidson; Jeffrey L. Henry; Modern Landfill; Rotary Club of York; Splash Supply Company Inc.; York Water Company; Trumbull Corporation

Mountain Laurel Patron: Albert Dehoff & Sons; Bruce Holbrook; Conewago Enterprises, Inc.; D H Funk & Sons LLC; Dr. & Mrs. Carroll Missimer III; First Capital Engineering, Inc; Germination - Mary C. Cline; Glatfelter Insurance Group; Hoover Engineering Services Inc.; LSC Design; Miller Plant Farm; Northeastern School District; PTO Ore Valley School; PTO Sinking Springs School; Shrewsbury Elementary School PTO; Spoutwood Farms Center; Tammy L. Grove; Wolfs Farms, Inc.; York County Ag Business Council; York Township

Ruffed Grouse Patrons: Deanna Stambaugh; Friendship Elementary PTO; Southern Elementary PTO; Carol Park; Central Penn Sporting Clays Inc.; Craig & Laura Franciscus; Flyway Excavating, Inc.; Gordon L. Brown & Assoc.; H. Edward Black & Assoc. LTD.; James E. Leaman; Lucy Kniseley; Saubels Market, Inc.; SKH Management Co.; Spring Grove Elementary PTO; Windsor Township; York County Farmers Forum; Grimm Trophy and Gifts; PTO Roundtown School; Chris Reilly; Craley Fish and Game Association; Ellis Crowl; Environmental Concepts Landscaping; Francis & Cynthia Owings; Keith Eisenhart; Keller-Brown Insurance Services; Ken Sheffer; 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.

Cooperating Agencies and Volunteers: York County Parks & Recreation Dept., York County Planning Commission, Pennsylvania Game Commission, Penn State Cooperative Extension, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Department of Conservation & Natural Resources, PA Department of Environmental Protection, PA Fish & Boat Commission, USDA-NRCS, York County Conservation District, York County Solid Waste Authority, York Water Company, and individual volunteers Amy Slagel, Jill Oles, Beth Lucabaugh, Judy Grove, Blaine Snyder and PA Game Commission WCOs Kyle Jury, Shawn Musser and Steve Knickel and PA Fish & Boat Commission's WCO Darrin Kephart and Penn State Extension's Tom Smith.

The 8th Annual Clay Shoot - Central Penn Sporting Clays - Friday, September 18, 2015

Our 2015 Clay Shoot helped kick off the 2016 Envirothon Sponsorship Drive with a profit of \$4,657.00 raised. This profit will be applied to our 2016 Annual Envirothon Sponsorship Drive. This was the first year we held the Clay Shoot on a Friday in an effort to reach a new market. Sixty-five shooters joined us for a barbecue lunch and afternoon shoot.



Due to a scoring error on our part, we had Co-Champions for High-Score Traveling Team Trophy: Northern Mountain Senior Open Trap Team, *at left*, and Aquatic Resource Restoration Company (ARRC). The top three individual scorers were Roger Becker, Steve Stambaugh and Dale Wertz (in order). George Snyder was our gun raffle winner and Galen Weibly won the silent auction of a limited edition white-tailed deer print (donated by John Riedel).

We would like to thank our **Event Sponsor:** Aquatic Resource Restoration Company. **Event Partner:** Resource Environmental Solutions **Station Sponsors:** Mark Flaharty, Trumbull Corporation and HRG. **Station Partners:** Commissioner Doug Hoke, Representative Kristin Phillips-Hill, Conewago Enterprises Inc., ELA Group Inc., JMT, LSC Design Our **Gun Raffle** was sponsored by State Representatives Stan Saylor, Mike Regan, Kate Klunk, Kristin Phillips-Hill, Seth Grove and Keith Gillispie

Annual Conservation Awards Picnic

Our 2015 Conservation Awards Picnic was held at Rocky Ridge Park on Thursday, August, 6th at 6:00 pm. The following were recognized for their contributions to conservation during an evening of catered dinner and fellowship.

Outstanding Donor & Supporter - Adams Electric Cooperative, Renee Benner
Outstanding Environmental Educator - Jill Oles
Outstanding Environmental Educator - Sherri Picone
Outstanding Watershed Stewards - Pam Shellenberger, York County Planning Commission's Long Range Planning Division
Chesapeake Bay Clean Water Farm Award - Randall & Sarah Patterson

David & Cathy Reifsneider's **Gobbler's Knob Farm** received the **Clean Water Farm Award** from the PA Association of Conservation Districts one year after we presented them with our county Chesapeake Bay Clean Water Farm Award.

The Distinguished Service Award was presented to **Dan Wolf** upon his retirement from the board. **Wendy Zwally** was recognized for her years of service as a Senior High Station Leader for soils upon her retirement from SCS/NRCS. And **Whitney Leland** received an "unsung Hero" Award



Jill Oles & Sherry Picone



Pam Shellenberger



DCNR Secretary Cindy Dunn, Renee Benner, Director, Michael Flinchbaugh



David Reifsneider with the District's Wendy Kindig



The Pattersons

Our Annual Seedling Sale



The year 2015 marked the 41st year for our annual Seedling Sale. Sales this year totaled \$30,121, with a profit of \$12,625 from the 546 orders. The profit will be used for the District's educational programs as well as discretionary expenses. Again this year, over 20,000 seedlings were sold, including favorites such as the white pine and Colorado blue spruce varieties. We also offered a coupon on our website and in our newsletter redeemable for a free bare-root white pine seedling.

An estimated 800 seedlings were donated to the York County Parks Department for planting on the hillside behind the boat rental area at Lake Redman, which had previously been overgrown with invasive species.



Erosion & Sediment Control

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS for Pollution Control and National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)

2015 was a busy year for the E&S program. The E&S Team comprised of Eric Jordan, Robert Fetter, Tiffany Crum, Karen Ward, Garrett Miller and two administrative staff, Whitney Leland and Robin Sharp continued to provide an active field presence to ensure that erosion and sediment (E&S) control and post-construction stormwater management (PCSM) plans are fully implemented on the ground. Our newest engineering technician, Garrett Miller, joined our team in March of 2015. The District continued to administer the E&S/NPDES program at Level III of the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) delegation agreement. Level III includes reviewing E&S plans, processing NPDES permits, investigating complaints, conducting educational workshops, site inspections, and enforcement actions at the local level.



The following is a summary of the E&S team's activities for 2015:

- Conducted 912 site inspections, pre-construction meetings, site meetings, plan review site visits & status checks.
- Investigated 163 new complaints.
- Due to lack of voluntary compliance, 2 sites resulted in an enforcement action.
- Reviewed 257 new and 197 revised plans.
- Processed 125 General NPDES permits.
- Issued 89 New General NPDES permits.
- Renewed 1 Individual NPDES permits
- Processed 2 Individual NPDES permits.
- Processed 5 Erosion and Sediment Control General Permits for Oil & Gas transmission lines.
- Issued 4 Erosion and Sediment Control General Permits for Oil & Gas transmission lines.
- Staff continued to foster a working relationship with the County's 72 municipalities.

Erosion & Sediment Control, cont.

- Rob assisted Gary Peacock, Watershed Specialist, with education and administration of the Dirt & Gravel – Low Volume Road program.
- Eric, Karen and Garrett presented a 2-hour long E&S PowerPoint presentation to 16 attendees at RGS & Associates' office in Lancaster.
- Eric assisted Ag staff with presenting at the District's Soil Quality & Ag Conservation Forum at the Airville Fire Hall in June. E&S technicians also attended. There were 40 attendees.
- E&S staff conducted a successful NPDES Permitting Workshop at Wyndridge Farms in York Township. There were 96 plan preparers and developers in attendance.
- Karen attended a 2 day PACD Staff Conference training in State College with Jen Risser, Assistant Manager.
- Eric, Garrett, and Tiffany attended the 3-day long Annual DEP Chapter 102/105 and NPDES training in State College.
- E&S technicians attended numerous meetings and trainings throughout the year at the PA DEP Southcentral Region Office in Harrisburg.
- Tiffany and Karen created an E&S BMP exhibit for the Annex lobby which was on display for the month of November.

E&S Staff (pictured L-R)

Tiffany Crum, Engineering Technician II
Karen Ward, Engineering Technician II
Eric Jordan, Resource Conservationist/Program Manager
Robin Sharp, Secretary/Receptionist
Rob Fetter, Resource Conservationist/
Network Administrator
Garrett Miller, Engineering Technician I
Whitney Leland, Office Manager



Watershed Programs

York County's water resources and watershed program continues to be a high priority for the Conservation District.



The York County Conservation District's annual work plan for 2015 identified four (4) priority watershed activity areas, and they were Special Projects, Stormwater Management, Water Quality Management, and Water Resources Management. In each of the four focus areas watershed activity included education and outreach, financial assistance (funding), technical assistance (watershed), training, and other District programs.

Water Resources Management

- Implemented the Floodplain Monitoring Program and assisted municipalities (2) in the National Flood Insurance Program and landowners (1) with floodplain assessments, time and resources allowed.
- Pursued dedicated or special funding for stream restoration and protection projects, including Commonwealth Finance Authority – Watershed Grants, Exelon Habitat Improvement, Growing Greener Program, and Regional Conservation Partnership Program.
- Continued supporting York County's Drought Task Force, as necessary.
- Provided technical assistance to the Red Lion Municipal Authority's Source Water Protection Plan implementation.
- Assisted local municipalities (72) and watershed groups (25) with Rivers Conservation Plan (4) implementation efforts, as requested.



Stormwater Management

- Assisted PennDOT, York County, MS4 Municipalities (43), individual municipalities (8), and citizens (5) in reviewing stormwater problems, recommending BMP solutions, and referred complaints (2) to appropriate local or state agencies.
- Assisted York County Planning Commission, Watershed Alliance of York (WAY) and other groups with stormwater management, watershed planning projects, MS4 program, and County-wide Chesapeake Bay Pollutant Reduction Plan.
- Referenced DEP's Stormwater BMP Manual in two (2) training sessions and complaint (5) handling.
- Coordinated with York County Planning Commission to hold 3 meetings of the York County MS4 Stormwater Collaborative to discuss ways to better work together in post-construction stormwater management process.
- Supported York County with its MS4 permit implementation by serving on the MS4 Committee and provided appropriate report information.
- Participated in three (3) public meetings for the York County Stormwater Authority Feasibility Study.

Special Projects

- Served as sponsor for projects to improve and protect water resources.
- Served on the York-Adams Regional Smart Growth Coalition Board of Directors.
- Implemented Large Woody Debris Program, using York Haven resources, completing 2 projects for \$3,670 total.
- Promoted use of rain barrels and rain gardens as effective stormwater BMPs at two (2) workshops.
- Continued developing a database of riparian stream buffers for York County.
- Supported York County's Total Maximum Daily Load Work Group and the York County Coalition for Clean Water, and the Watershed Implantation Plan.
- Implemented new Exelon Habitat Improvement Project (HIP) funding program. Received funding requests for 22 projects, approved 7, committing \$217, 578 total. Restored 400 feet of stream, riparian forested buffer and floodplain wetlands

Water Quality Mgmt. cont.

- Planned to co-sponsor a 2016 workshop on soils and septic systems for municipal officials and others, with appropriate state and local agencies. Provided on-lot disposal systems (OLDS) resource publication/presentation to local municipal officials, builders, homeowners, and others as requested.
- Educated homeowners (>50,000) on their contributions and impacts to water quality.
- Assisted landowners (23) with Chapter 105 Regulations for stream encroachments and wetlands protection and referred them to the appropriate state or federal agency.
- Administered Dirt and Gravel (DGR) and Low Volume Road (LVR) Programs. Promoted both programs in the District's newsletter, online and through direct contact. Sponsored four (4) grant application rounds, generating potential project applications (22) from local road maintenance entities (8), resulting in environmentally sensitive road maintenance projects (7 LVR; 6 DGR). Total project funding committed for DGR and LVR projects was \$160,502 and \$394,632, respectively. Encouraged all municipalities to attend the DGR training for project eligibility. Chaired the DGR/LVR Quality Assurance Board and appoint members as necessary. Hosted one (1) training workshop.
- Assisted landowners (3) with pond-related concerns and issues by referring them to the Pond Management Guide, PSU Coop Extension's Water Resources web site, and other resources.
- Advised and assisted existing watershed associations (25) as requested. Actively assisted the Codorus Creek Watershed Association's Board of Directors with implementation and management of their Growing Greener and 319 NPS projects (3).
- Continued supporting the WAY, via the approved MOU.
- Continue implementing the Headwaters Environmental Legacy Program (HELP) encouraging landowners (28) with headwater streams on their property to be good stream stewards by providing financial incentives (Exelon HIP funding) and technical assistance.



Fig. 1 Watershed Program Areas 2015

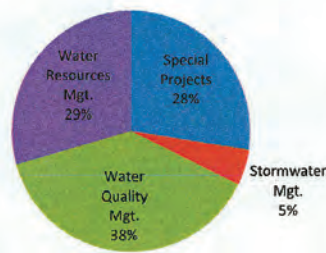
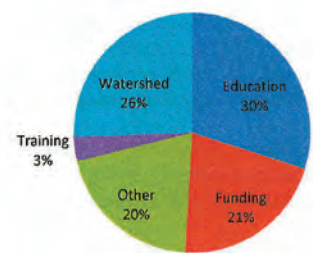


Fig. 2 Watershed Program Activity 2015



Other

- Worked closely with the District's Education/Communications Coordinator writing three (3) educational articles for the Conservation Horizon's newsletter and website offerings.
- Supported the District's York County Envirothons at the elementary, intermediate, middle, and high school levels educating 1,000 school students in grades 3-12.
- Assisted District with its annual tree seedling sale at Rocky Ridge County Park.

Watershed Specialist, Gary Peacock (at right)



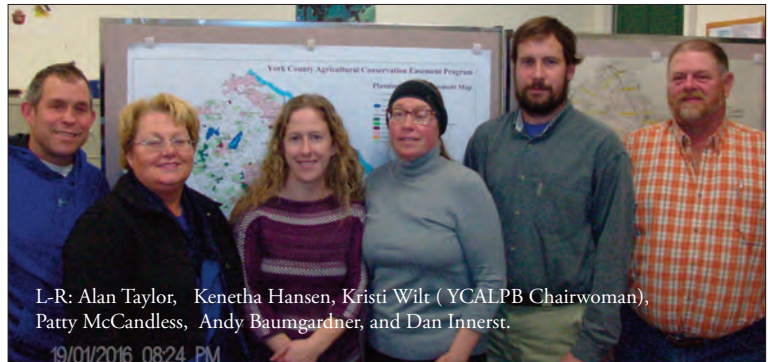


York County Agricultural Land Preservation Board

"It shall be the mission of the York County Agricultural Land Preservation Board to protect York County's agricultural resources through the preservation of economically viable farms and the creation and maintenance of stable agricultural communities."

Board Members

Kristine Wilt, Chairwoman
 Mack Smith, Vice Chairman
 Daniel Innerst, Rep. Farmers
 Alan Taylor, Rep. Elected Officials
 J. Kenetha Hansen, Rep. Citizens
 John Eaton Jr, Rep. Farmers
 Andrew Baumgardner, Rep. Farmers



L-R: Alan Taylor, Kenetha Hansen, Kristi Wilt (YCALPB Chairwoman), Patty McCandless, Andy Baumgardner, and Dan Innerst.

- YCALPB welcomed John Eaton representing Citizen-At-Large replacing outgoing Nelson Roth and welcomed J. Kenetha Hansen, Citizen-At-Large replacing Dennis Martin.
- The York County Agricultural Land Preservation Board reviewed and approved changes to the County of York Conservation Easement Donation/Bargain Sale Program.
- York County continues to rank 3rd in Pennsylvania for acres of farmland preserved.
- Since program establishment in 1989, the York County Agricultural Land Preservation Board has preserved 273 farms, covering 40,988 acres of productive farmland.
- Board and staff received a total 49 easement applications on 4,628 acres offered for farmland preservation and ranked 28 qualifying applications, covering 2,305 acres. Additional program inquiries were received from 26 citizens representing 1,977 acres.
- The York County Agricultural Land Preservation Board selected 6 farms for preservation, covering a total 516 acres.
- Staff conducted annual inspection visits on 247 farms, covering 37,836 acres of productive farmland.
- YCALPB staff co-inspected three Heritage Conservancy easements located in York County on 393 acres with Heritage Monitoring staff.
- YCALPB staff conducted 25 Municipal Agricultural Security Area reviews in cooperation with the YCPC and Municipal Officials, involving 777 parcels involving 40,624 acres.
- YCALPB staff, in cooperation with York County Planning Commission, updated the GIS layers involving conservation easements and agricultural security areas.
- The York County Agricultural Land Preservation Program conservation requirements contributed to York County's conservation planning efforts on 19 tracts, covering 1,903 acres.
- The York Board of Commissioners certified easement funds totaling \$164,875 for farmland preservation, and received \$1,117,557 in matching State funds for 2015 preservation efforts.
- The YCALP Office, with Conservation Partners, hosted a November 19, 2015 Public Meeting on "Protecting Your Farmland" with 32 in attendance.
- The YCALPB provides citizens with agency and program information via the County of York's web site www.yorkcountypa.gov under the Property & Taxes banner with total visitors numbering 1,065 in 2015.



L_R: Eric Naylor, Farmland Preservation Tech; Mack Smith Board Member, Dave Boose, Ag Res Cons.

U.S.D.A York Field Team Report

- NRCS, District & Ag Preserve employees wrote or updated 116 plans on 5,603 acres of land in York County for FY 2015.
- The York Field Team implemented conservation practices that benefited water and soil quality on approximately 5100 acres.
- Obligated over \$135,000 in 7 new contracts through the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) in 2015.
- Certified 103 contracted items accounting for 31 different practices in 2015. Total incentive money paid to the Farm Bill Program participants totaled over \$362,000.
- Enrolled or reenrolled 31 CREP contracts totaling 244.8 acres.
- Reenrolled 10 expiring and enrolled 3 new Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) contracts totaling over 7900 acres.
- Finalized two easements under the Wetland Reserve Enhancement (WRE) Program totaling over 33 acres. Completed the first WRE restoration in York county creating or enhancing 1.8 acres of wetlands.
- Soil Conservationist Wendy Zwally retired in July after 35 years with NRCS and 22 years working in York County.



pictured left to right: Eric Samus, Steve Ludwig, Charissa Mohn, Tara Lauer, Ryan Corneilius



U.S.D.A. Farm Service Agency FSA

- USDA's York Farm Service Agency (FSA) works to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural Americans. Some of the agency's efforts include facilitating income support, disaster assistance and conservation programs, providing operating loans for the procurement of farm equipment, seed and fertilizer, as well as offering ownership loans to help new and veteran producers purchase a farm.
- York County FSA has nearly 3700 producers associated with 4,973 farms in York County. Last year was an exciting and busy year for us as we worked to implement the Agricultural Act of 2014 (2014 Farm Bill).
- Over 400 York County producers on approximately 2800 farms are eligible for the Price Loss Coverage (PLC) and Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) programs. These replaced the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) and help protect producers when there are either price or revenue losses. In October we issued over \$1,775,000 in payments to York County farmers for crop year 2014 losses.
- We still offer our Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) contracts and have 245 contracts for CRP and CREP, consisting of over 2400 acres and receiving annual rental payments in excess of \$420,000. Additionally, we provided thousands in cost-share and incentive payments for the installation of long term resource conserving covers, much of which was matched by Pennsylvania's Department of Agriculture.

- Our Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) program remains an important tool for producers of noninsurable crops to protect against natural disasters. The 2014 Farm Bill authorized additional coverage levels ranging from 50 to 65 percent of production, in 5 percent increments, at 100 percent of the average market price.
- York FSA also assisted local grape growers with our Tree Assistance Program (TAP), which provides financial assistance to eligible orchardists and nursery tree growers to replant or rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes, and vines lost by natural disasters. We are able to help cost-share replanting of lost vines after the 2015 spring cold snap killed off vines for several of our growers.
- Our Farm Loan staff provides Direct and Guaranteed Farm Ownership loans and Operating loans to producers in York County who may have difficulty receiving credit through traditional lenders. For 2015, FSA made 10 loans to York County producers totaling nearly \$694,000.
- York producers who participated in our 2015 Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL) have received over \$2.1 million dollars to allow for more flexibility on when to market their crops. Producers can also take advantage of our many other programs; Margin Protection Program for Dairy (MPP-Dairy), Farm Storage Facility Loans (FSFL), Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), and the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP) to name a few.
- We are looking forward to another exciting year implementing the Farm Bill. Visit our website www.fsa.usda.gov or sign up for our newsletters at <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USFSA/subscriber/new> for updates as they are available.

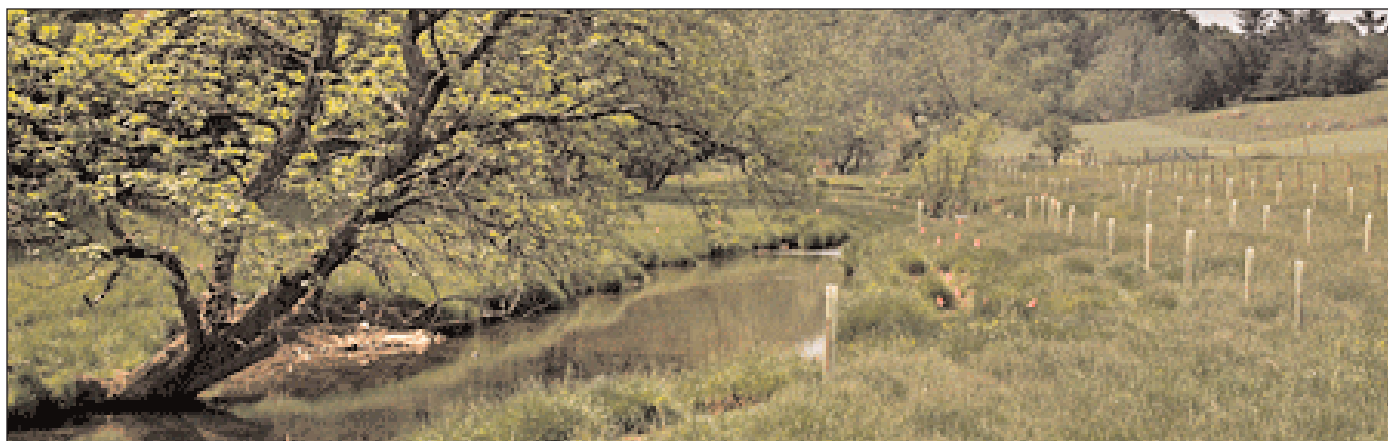
We look forward to continuing to provide exceptional service to the farmers and ranchers of York County.

For the York County Committee,

Richard Csutoras, County Executive Director



Pictured L-R: Katie Sherman, Tina Gross, Rick Csutoras, Anne Crist and Jan Dehoff.



Cooperating Agencies

PENN STATE EXTENSION—YORK COUNTY

112 Pleasant Acres Rd, York, PA 17402
PHONE: (717) 840-7408 / extension.psu.edu
District Extension Director: Nina Redding

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT

401 E. Louther St. Suite 304, Carlisle, PA 17013
PHONE: (717) 218-3002
FAX: (717) 218-3006
Supervisor: George Klaus

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

PHONE: (717) 755-2966 ext. 190
Supervisor: Richard Csutoras

YORK CO. PLANNING COMMISSION

28 E MARKET ST 3rd FL, YORK, PA 17401
PHONE: (717) 771-9870
Director: Felicia A. Dell
Watershed: John Seitz

US FISH & WILDLIFE

David Densmore PHONE: (814) 234-4090

DEPT. OF CONSERVATION&NATURAL RESOURCES MGMT:

(DCNR)-FORESTRY: Region 3
Jim Nagy (717) 772-4362
Service Forester: Matt Kern
1066 Blooming Grove Road; Codorus State Park, Hanover, PA 17331
PHONE: (717) 637-1770

ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS/BALTIMORE DISTRICT

401 E. Louther Street, Suite 205 Carlisle, PA 17013
Enforcement-Frank Plewa: PHONE: (717) 249-0425 (717) 249-2522
Permits:
Pat Strong - PHONE: (410)962-1846 FAX: (410)962-6024
Mike Danko PHONE: (717)249-0425 (717) 249-8730

YORK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

400 Mundis Race Road
York, PA 17402 (717) 840-7440
Director—Tammy Klunk 717-840-7227

THE HORN FARM CENTER FOR AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

4945 Horn Farm Road
York, PA 17406
(717) 757-6441

FISH & BOAT COMMISSION ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE

For draw down permits, pond assessment, stream classification
PHONE: (814) 359-5147
Mark Martel (717) 657-4521
York County WCO: Darrin Kephart

PA ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS- PACD

25 North Front Street , Harrisburg, PA 17101
PHONE: (717) 238-7223
FAX: (717) 238-7201
Executive Director: Brenda Shambaugh

PA DEPT OF AG PHONE: (717) 787-8861

State Conservation Commission: Karl Brown
2301 N. Cameron Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408
Eastern Regional Director: Daniel Naylor
(570) 836-6266 email: dnaylor@pa.gov
RT 92 PO Box C, Tunkhannock, PA 18657

DIRT & GRAVEL ROAD PROGRAM

Dave Creamer PHONE: (717) 787-2103
DGR (866)668-6683

PA GAME COMMISSION—

SOUTH EAST REGIONAL OFFICE
448 Snyder Rd Reading, PA 19605
PHONE: 1-610-926-1966
Land Management: Bruce Metz
York County WCOs: Kyle Jury - kjury@pa.gov
Shawn Musser - shmusser@pa.gov
Steve Knickel - sknickel@pa.gov

PENN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Penndot District 8
Manager—Stephen Grassetti
1920 Susquehanna Trail, York, PA 17404
PHONE: (717) 848-6230
District Engineer: Barry Hoffman (717) 772-0778
Right of Ways – Larry Sarver 717-783-1235

IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE of AMERICA (IWLA) – York Chapter

Phone: 717-428-2000, Secretary – Cathy Wilson

PA Department of Environmental Protection

Bureau of Watershed Management

DIV. OF WATERWAYS, WETLANDS & EROSION CONTROL

Rachel Carson State Office Building

400 Market Street, 10th Floor, PO Box 8775

Harrisburg, PA 17105-8775

PHONE: (717) 787-1384 FAX: (717) 772-5986

Ken Murin,

Stream Improvement – Larry Oliver – 717-787-7432

DIV. of CONS. DISTRICT/NUTRIENT MGMT

Rachel Carson State Office Building

400 Market Street, 11th Floor, PO Box 8465

Harrisburg, PA 17105-8465

PHONE: (717) 783-7577 FAX: (717) 772-5156

Division Chief: Steve Taglang

CBP Specialist: Elwood Blake

PHONE: (717) 705-4778 FAX: (717) 705-4760

Bureau of Watershed Management

DIV. OF WATER USE PLANNING

STORMWATER PLANNING & MANAGEMENT

PHONE: (717) 783-7577

Barry Newman

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL (DEP) OFFICE

Assess & Planning Emergency Response – 888-975-9690

909 Elmerton Ave, Harrisburg, PA 17110-8200

PHONE: (717) 705-4700 FAX: (717) 705-4930

Regional Director: Lynn Langer

Service Rep: Jeff Minskey (717) 705-4704

Program Manager: Scott Williamson (717) 705-4802

Conservation, Restoration & Inspection Section: Andrea Blosser (717) 705-4802

Waste Management Program: Anthony Rathfon (717) 705-4706

York County Recycling Coordinator: Jeff Fox (717) 845-1066

Local DEP offices: WATER SUPPLY MANAGEMENT & AIR QUALITY (outside)

150 Roosevelt Ave York, PA 17404-3337

Water Testing (717) 771-4481 Supervisor: Susan Foster

BWM : Dir. Office (717) 787-5267 / CD & NM (717) 783-7577

WS Prot. (717) 772-5707 / Planning (717) 772-4048

WW & SWM (717) 787-6827

York County Conservation District



York County Conservation District
118 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402

Our Vision: The York County Conservation District is committed to the improvement and protection of our environment and the wise use of our County's diverse natural resources.

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

District main office Phone: 717-840-7430 / Fax: 717-755-0301

Envirothon Info: 717-840-7190

Website: www.yorkccd.org

