
WUC

Water Utility Council of the
PA-Section, American Water
Works Association (PA-AWWA)



GOVERNMENT RELATIONS UPDATE

From Milliron & Goodman Government Relations, LLC.

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State Water Plan Water Resources Regional Committee Public Hearings

In accordance with Governor Tom Wolf's emergency disaster declaration and based on advice from the Department of Health regarding the mitigation of the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), the State Water Plan's Regional Water Resources Committees will hold six virtual public hearings for the purpose of accepting comments on the State Water Plan 2022 Update. The hearings will be held as follows:

- Delaware Water Resources Regional Committee: January 6, 2021, at 9 a.m.—10 a.m.
- Lower Susquehanna Water Resources Regional Committee: January 6, 2021, at 10 a.m.—11 a.m.
- Potomac Water Resources Regional Committee: January 6, 2021, at 11 a.m.—12 p.m.
- Ohio Water Resources Regional Committee: January 6, 2021, at 1 p.m.—2 p.m.
- Great Lakes Water Resources Regional Committee: January 6, 2021, at 2 p.m.—3 p.m.
- Upper/Middle Susquehanna Water Resources Regional Committee: January 6, 2021, at 3 p.m.—4 p.m.

Persons wishing to present testimony at a hearing must contact Mark Matlock for the Department of Environmental Protection (Department) and the Committee, at (717) 783-2285

or RA-StateWaterPlan@pa.gov at least 24 hours in advance of the hearing to reserve a time to present testimony. Language interpretation services are available upon request. Persons in need of language interpretation services must contact Mark Matlock by 5 p.m. on December 30, 2020.

Registration to present testimony at a hearing is on a first come, first served basis. To help provide interested persons with an opportunity to present testimony, organizations are limited to designating one witness to present testimony on their behalf at one of the hearings. Verbal testimony is limited to 5 minutes for each witness. Video demonstrations and screen sharing by witnesses will not be permitted.

Witnesses are requested to submit a written copy of their verbal testimony by e-mail to RA-StateWaterPlan@pa.gov after providing testimony at the hearing.

Information on how to access the hearings will be available on the Committee's webpage found through the Department's web site at <https://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Water/PlanningConservation/StateWaterPlan/Committees/Pages/default.aspx>. Prior to each hearing, individuals are encouraged to visit the Committee's webpage for the most current information for accessing each hearing.

Any members of the public wishing to observe the public hearing without providing testimony are also directed to access the Committee's webpage. The public hearings may be accessed by means of

telephone or internet connection. Those who have not registered with Mark Matlock in advance as described previously will remain muted for the duration of the public hearing.

Source: Pennsylvania Bulletin, 12/26/2020
<http://www.pacodeandbulletin.gov/Display/pabull?file=/secure/pabulletin/data/vol50/50-52/1814.html>

PA Senate 2021 Spring Session Schedule Announced; PA House & Senate Session Dates

The Pennsylvania Senate has released its 2021 Spring Session Schedule. Earlier this month, the state House announced its full Session Schedule for 2021. **The state Senate and House will both convene on Tuesday, January 5 at 12:00 PM.** For your information, below please find the 2021 Session Schedules.

Senate Spring Session Schedule

January	5, 25, 26, 27
February	1, 2, 3
March	15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24
April	12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21
May	10, 11, 12, 24, 25, 26
June	7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30

House Session Schedule

January	5, 11, 12, 13, 25, 26, 27
February	1, 2, 3
March	15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24
April	5, 6, 7, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28
May	3, 4, 5, 24, 25, 26
June	7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 28, 29, 30
September	13, 14, 15, 27, 28 & 29
October	4, 5, 6, 25, 26, 27
November	8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17
December	13, 14, 15

Source: PA General Assembly, 12/28/2020

PennDOT Extends Expiration Dates on Commercial Driver Licenses, Commercial Learner's Permits

On December 30, 2020, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) announced that expiration dates for commercial driver licenses and commercial learner's permits will be extended for Pennsylvania residents in response to statewide COVID-19 mitigation efforts.

The following products' expiration dates will be extended:

- The expiration date for a commercial learner's permit scheduled to expire from March 16, 2020, through February 22, 2021, is extended through February 22, 2021.
- The expiration date for commercial driver licenses scheduled to expire from March 16, 2020, through February 22, 2021, is extended through February 22, 2021.

Expiration extension deadlines on non-commercial driver license, photo identification cards, learner's permits and camera cards ended on August 31, 2020.

For a list of open driver license and photo license centers and the services provided, as well as their hours of operation, please visit <http://www.dmv.pa.gov/>.

Customers may continue to complete various transactions and access multiple resources online at <http://www.dmv.pa.gov/>. Driver and vehicle online services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week and include driver's license, photo ID and vehicle registration renewals; driver-history services; changes of address; driver license and vehicle registration restoration letters; ability to pay driver license or vehicle insurance restoration fee; driver license and photo ID duplicates; and schedule

a driver's exam. There are no additional fees for using online services.

PennDOT will continue to evaluate these processes and will communicate any changes with the public.

Additional COVID-19 information is available at <http://www.health.pa.gov/>. For more information, visit <http://www.dmv.pa.gov/> or <http://www.penndot.gov/>.

Source: PennDOT Press Release, 12/30/2020

DEP Announces More than \$5 Million to Fund Local Water Clean Up Projects in PA's Northeast Region

149 awardees statewide

On December 30, 2020, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announced that 22 projects to clean up waters in the state's Northeast region have been selected to collectively receive more than \$5 million in funding through DEP's Growing Greener program.

"Growing Greener awardees help keep Pennsylvania clean," said DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell. "It is imperative that communities in Pennsylvania receive the necessary funding to reduce pollutants in area waterways."

Statewide, more than \$34 million has been awarded to fund 149 projects to clean up waters. Grantees have up to three years to implement their projects from the award date.

Growing Greener is the largest single investment of state funds in Pennsylvania's history to address Pennsylvania's critical environmental concerns of the 21st century.

Growing Greener has helped to slash the backlog of farmland-preservation projects statewide, protect open space, eliminate the maintenance backlog in

state parks, clean up abandoned mines and restore watersheds, provide funds for recreational trails and local parks, help communities address land use, and provide new and upgraded water and sewer systems.

DEP is authorized to allocate these funds in grants for watershed restoration and protection, abandoned mine reclamation, and abandoned oil and gas well plugging projects.

Three other agencies also received funds to distribute for appropriate projects: the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture to administer farmland preservation projects, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for state park renovations and improvements, and the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority for water and sewer system upgrades.

Two Growing Greener project awardees in the Northeast region include a project at Harveys Lake to eradicate invasive Hydrilla and monitor harmful algae blooms, and a project benefiting Luzerne County to address nutrient and sediment load reductions in water bodies on agricultural operations.

Northeast Region's and Statewide Growing Greener Awardees:

Lehigh (2)

- Lehigh County Conservation District, Cedar Creek Enhancement, South Whitehall Township, \$60,375
- Wildlands Conservancy Inc., Lehigh Valley and Lehigh River Watershed Landowner Outreach Phase II, \$88,500

Luzerne (5)

- Harveys Lake Borough, Hydrilla Eradication and Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) Monitoring and Management, \$266,570
- Luzerne Conservation District, Toby Creek Watershed Restoration Projects, \$268,906
- Luzerne Conservation District, Huntington Creek Watershed Agricultural Best Management Practice Project, \$375,315

- Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority, Warrior Creek Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MD4) Stream Restoration, \$433,000
- Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority, Gardner Creek MS4 Stream Restoration, \$116,875

Monroe (2)

- Brodhead Watershed Association, Determination of Cause and Significance of Elevated in Forest Hills Run and Yankee Run, \$10,478
- Monroe County Conservation District, Sand Spring Stream Bank Restoration Project, \$911,400

Montour, Bradford, Clinton, Columbia, Luzerne (1)

- Columbia County Conservation District, Multi-County Soil Health 2020-2023, \$447,380

Northampton (3)

- Forks Township, Ramblewood Basin Retrofit, \$163,180
- Friends of Johnston, Inc., Johnston Preserve Stormwater Management Engineering and Permitting, \$94,016
- Plainfield Township, Little Bushkill Stream Restoration, \$100,000

Philadelphia, Lehigh, Bucks, Lackawanna, Monroe (1)

- The Academy of Natural Sciences, Headwater Climate Resilience, \$162,591

Pike, Wayne, Lackawanna, Monroe (1)

- Lake Wallenpaupack Watershed Mgmt. District, Environmentally Sensitive Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road Maintenance Program for Community Associations, \$500,000

Schuylkill (2)

- Mahanoy Creek Watershed Association, Packer 5 Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) Treatment Project Design, \$165,434
- Schuylkill Conservation District, Mahantango High Farms Best Management Practices (BMPs), \$750,500

Schuylkill, Franklin, Adams, Erie, Crawford, Warren (1)

- The Pennsylvania State University, Furthering the Master Watershed Steward Program in Pennsylvania, \$162,422

Wayne, Pike, Lackawanna, Monroe (1)

- Wayne Conservation District, Northeast Region Nutrient Management Plan Reimbursement Program, \$242,000

Wyoming (3)

- Mehoopany Creek Watershed Association, Inc., Mehoopany Creek - Windy Valley and North Branch - Restoration Maintenance Project, \$150,000
- Wyoming County Conservation District, Controlling Nutrients within a High-Quality Watershed, \$80,731
- Wyoming County Conservation District, Nutrient/Sediment Pollution Reduction Initiative, \$31,555

Statewide (4)

- Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts Inc, PA Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, \$1,522,910
- Pennsylvania Lake Management Society, Implementation of Lake BMPs Project IV, \$468,790
- Pocono Northeast Resource Conservation Development Council, Consortium for Scientific Assistance to Watersheds (C-SAW) X, \$703,638
- Western Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation, Quick Response 9: Fiscal Management for Repair of Growing Greener Projects, \$200,000

Source: DEP Press Release, 12/30/2020

DEP Announces More than \$3.7 Million to Fund Local Water Clean Up Projects in PA's Northwest Region

On December 30, 2020, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announced today that 20 projects to clean up waters in the state's Northwest region have

been selected to collectively receive more than \$3.7 million in funding through DEP's Growing Greener Plus program. The Northwest region has also received funding for several Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) Set Aside projects.

"Growing Greener awardees help keep Pennsylvania clean," said DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell. "It is imperative that communities in Pennsylvania receive the necessary funding to reduce pollutants in area waterways."

Statewide, more than \$34 million has been awarded to fund 149 projects to clean up waters. Grantees have up to three years to implement their projects from the award date.

Growing Greener is the largest single investment of state funds in Pennsylvania's history to address Pennsylvania's critical environmental concerns of the 21st century.

Growing Greener has helped to slash the backlog of farmland-preservation projects statewide, protect open space, eliminate the maintenance backlog in state parks, clean up abandoned mines and restore watersheds, provide funds for recreational trails and local parks, help communities address land use, and provide new and upgraded water and sewer systems.

DEP is authorized to allocate these funds in grants for watershed restoration and protection, abandoned mine reclamation, and abandoned oil and gas well plugging projects.

Three other state agencies also received funds to distribute for appropriate projects: the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture to administer farmland preservation projects, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for state park renovations and improvements, and the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority for water and sewer system upgrades.

Growing Greener projects in the Northwest region include Stream Restoration Inc. to provide continued access, web hosting, training, technical support, upgrades, and enhancements to Datashed (www.datashed.org), an online, user-friendly, data repository, and management tool that was

specifically developed to assist in restoring streams impacted by acid mine drainage. Another project by the Crawford County Conservation District will provide cost-share and technical assistance to agricultural producers.

Northwest Region's and Statewide Growing Greener Awardees:

Armstrong (5)

- Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania, Buffalo Creek Watershed Coalition, Education, and Assessment, \$231,389
- Armstrong Conservation District, Armstrong Conservation Green Parking Lot and Workshop, \$35,720
- Armstrong Conservation District, Cowanshannock Creek Streambank Stabilization, \$93,315
- Armstrong Conservation District, Todd Culp Agricultural Best Management Practice (BMP) Project, \$169,487
- Armstrong Conservation District, Huling Run AMD Treatment Phase II, \$170,000

Armstrong and Clarion (1)

- Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative's Reclamation Planting Approach - Reforestation of Coal Mine Sites, \$52,598

Butler (3)

- Valencia Borough, Valencia/Adams Twp. Stream/Floodplain MS4 Restoration Project, \$30,000
- Stream Restoration Inc., Datashed 4, \$263,228
- Adams Township, Adams Twp. Stream/Floodplain Restoration Project, \$300,000

Crawford (1)

- Crawford County Conservation District, Crawford County Agricultural BMP Cost-Share Program 2020, \$277,591

Erie (1)

- Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Elk Creek, Lake Erie Healthy Watershed Project, \$300,000

Indiana (4)

- White Township, Kennedy King "Stormwater Park" Expansion, \$57,500
- Stream Restoration Incorporated, Neal Run Restoration Project – Phase III, \$210,956
- Indiana County Conservation District, Lucerne 3A/Waterworks Passive Treatment System, \$491,515
- Blackleggs Watershed Association Inc., Big Run Treatment Complex Sludge Management, \$277,487

Jefferson (1)

- Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Clarion River Protection Project, \$154,812

Schuylkill, Franklin, Adams, Erie, Crawford, Warren (1)

- The Pennsylvania State University, Furthering the Master Watershed Steward Program in Pennsylvania, \$162,422

Venango (2)

- Venango Conservation District, East Branch Sugar Creek (Davis Road) Streambank Stabilization, \$15,649
- Venango Conservation District, French Creek Watershed Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs), \$226,209

Warren (1)

- Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Brokenstraw Creek Watershed Protection Phase III, \$200,932

Northwest Region's AMD Set Aside Projects:

Elk County (2):

- Headwaters Charitable Trust, Toby Creek Blue Valley AMD Operation and Maintenance, \$251,400
- Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Oxie Limestone Bed Maintenance and Performance, \$331,978

Indiana County (1):

- Stream Restoration Inc., Laurel Run #1 Passive System Rehabilitation, \$682,854

Source: DEP Press Release, 12/30/2020

DEP Announces More than \$3 Million to Fund Local Water Clean Up Projects in PA's Northcentral Region

On December 30, 2020, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announced today that 17 projects to clean up waters in the state's Northcentral region have been selected to collectively receive more than \$3 million in funding through DEP's Growing Greener program.

"Growing Greener awardees help keep Pennsylvania clean," said DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell. "It is imperative that communities in Pennsylvania receive the necessary funding to reduce pollutants in area waterways."

Statewide, more than \$34 million has been awarded to fund 149 projects to clean up waters. Grantees have up to three years to implement their projects from the award date.

Growing Greener is the largest single investment of state funds in Pennsylvania's history to address Pennsylvania's critical environmental concerns of the 21st century.

Growing Greener has helped to slash the backlog of farmland-preservation projects statewide, protect open space, eliminate the maintenance backlog in state parks, clean up abandoned mines and restore watersheds, provide funds for recreational trails and local parks, help communities address land use, and provide new and upgraded water and sewer systems.

DEP is authorized to allocate these funds in grants for watershed restoration and protection, abandoned mine reclamation, and abandoned oil and gas well plugging projects.

Three other state agencies also received funds to distribute for appropriate projects: the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture to administer farmland preservation projects, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for state

park renovations and improvements, and the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority for water and sewer system upgrades.

Growing Greener projects in the Northcentral region include a project by the Montour County Conservation District that is designed to reduce non-point source pollution by installing roofed concrete barnyards, manure storage, animal walkways, watering systems, and fencing at local farms. Another project by the Wysox Creek Watershed Association, Inc. will stabilize headwater tributaries, reduce stormwater runoff from municipal roads, and create retention basins to decrease time of concentration of stormflow and increase the groundwater recharge within the Bear Creek watershed.

Northcentral Region's and Statewide Growing Greener Awardees:

Bedford, Butler, Washington, Clearfield (1)

- Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Technical Assistance Benefiting Conservation Partnerships and Water Quality, \$157,000

Bradford (3)

- Wysox Creek Watershed Association, Inc., Comprehensive Watershed Conservation, \$100,000
- Bradford County Conservation District, Satterlee Creek Stream Corridor Rehabilitation 2, \$171,000
- Bradford County Commissioners, Bradford County Watershed Initiative 2020, \$325,000

Centre (1)

- Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Spring Creek Watershed Initiative - Stream and Riparian Restoration, \$38,528

Clearfield (3)

- Clearfield County Conservation District, Morgan Run Flushing Unit Replacement, \$21,417
- Clearfield County Conservation District, Agricultural Streambank Protection Project, \$22,000

- Clearfield County Conservation District, Morgan Run State Game Lands 98 Acid Mine Drainage Collection and Monitoring, \$151,142

Clearfield, Cambria, Huntingdon, Centre (1)

- Trout Unlimited Inc., Streambank Stabilization in the Chesapeake Bay - A Collaborative Initiative to Improve Stream Health and Reduce Nonpoint Source Pollution, \$49,363

Columbia (1)

- Columbia County Conservation District, Columbia County Water Quality Improvement Projects, \$60,732

Lycoming (2)

- Lycoming County Water and Sewer Authority, Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Chesapeake Bay Pollutant Reduction Plan Collaborative Stormwater Best Management Practice (BMP) Pollution Reduction Project, \$80,000
- Lycoming County Conservation District, Agricultural BMPs, \$292,206

Montour (1)

- Montour County Conservation District, Montour County Agricultural BMPs and Pasture Management Project, \$918,716

Montour, Bradford, Clinton, Columbia, Luzerne (1)

- Columbia County Conservation District, Multi-County Soil Health 2020-2023, \$447,380

Northumberland (1)

- Northumberland County Conservation District, Northumberland County Grazing Project, \$57,228

Snyder (1)

- Snyder County Conservation District, Snyder County Riparian Buffer Program, \$120,000

Tioga (1)

- Tioga County Conservation District, Charleston Creek Stream Bank Stabilization, \$85,315

Source: DEP Press Release, 12/30/2020

DEP Announces More than \$2.7 Million to Fund Local Water Clean Up Projects in PA's Southwest Region

On December 30, 2020, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announced today that 20 projects to clean up waters in the state's Southwest region have been selected to collectively receive more than \$2.7 million in funding through DEP's Growing Greener Plus program. The Southwest region also received funding for several Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) Set Aside projects and a Surface Mining Conservation and Reclamation Act Bond Forfeiture (SMCRA) project.

"Growing Greener awardees help keep Pennsylvania clean," said DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell. "It is imperative that communities in Pennsylvania receive the necessary funding to reduce pollutants in area waterways."

Statewide, more than \$34 million has been awarded to fund 149 projects to clean up waters. Grantees have up to three years to implement their projects from the award date.

Growing Greener is the largest single investment of state funds in Pennsylvania's history to address Pennsylvania's critical environmental concerns of the 21st century.

Growing Greener has helped to slash the backlog of farmland-preservation projects statewide, protect open space, eliminate the maintenance backlog in state parks, clean up abandoned mines and restore watersheds, provide funds for recreational trails and local parks, help communities address land use, and provide new and upgraded water and sewer systems.

DEP is authorized to allocate these funds in grants for watershed restoration and protection, abandoned mine reclamation, and abandoned oil and gas well plugging projects.

Three other state agencies also received funds to distribute for appropriate projects: the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture to administer farmland preservation projects, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for state park renovations and improvements, and the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority for water and sewer system upgrades.

Growing Greener projects in the Southwest region include a project by the Beaver County Conservation District to implement several natural stream design structures to stabilize a section of streambank on Raccoon Creek in Hanover Township. This phase two project is crucial to prevent erosion that is still occurring after the implementation of phase one by Allegheny County Conservation District. Another project in the region is the North Branch Blacklick Creek Stream Improvement Project - Phase II by the Cambria County Conservation District - that will stabilize 480 feet of streambank and install fish enhancement structures to reduce sediment pollution and improve fish and other aquatic resources in the North Branch Blacklick Creek.

Southwest Region's and Statewide Growing Greener Awardees:

Allegheny (3)

- Ohio Township, Pollutant Reduction Plan (PRP) Implementation, \$115,000
- Nine Mile Run Watershed Association, Inc., Wilkinsburg Stormwater Resiliency Project, \$581,589
- Borough of Sewickley Heights, Hunt Road Streambank Restoration and Culvert Improvement Project, \$28,244

Beaver (1)

- Beaver County Conservation District, Raccoon Creek Streambank Remediation Phase 2, \$25,285

Cambria (3)

- Headwaters Charitable Trust, Johnstown Inclined Plane Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) Treatment ID and Design, \$231,134
- Cambria County Conservation District, Laurel Run Stream Improvement Project, \$20,400

- Cambria County Conservation District, The North Branch Blacklick Creek Stream Improvement Project - Phase II, \$22,630

Cambria, Clearfield, Huntingdon, Centre (1)

- Trout Unlimited Inc., Streambank Stabilization in the Chesapeake Bay - A Collaborative Initiative to Improve Stream Health and Reduce Nonpoint Source Pollution, \$49,363

Cambria, Indiana, Armstrong, Somerset, and Westmoreland (1)

- Conemaugh Valley Conservancy Inc., Kiski-Conemaugh Stream Team Water Monitoring and Assistance Program II, \$121,061

Washington (3)

- Washington County Conservation District, Ten Mile Creek Watershed Agricultural Best Management Practice (BMP) Project, \$467,295
- North Franklin Township, North Franklin Township Streambank Stabilization, \$65,000
- Canton Township, Log Pile Run Floodplain Restoration, \$63,100

Westmoreland (8)

- Westmoreland County Conservation District, First Presbyterian Church of Murrysville Stormwater Retrofit - Phase 2, \$29,820
- Westmoreland County Conservation District, Westmoreland Heritage Trail Bridge Abutment and Streambank Stabilization Along Turtle Creek, \$34,960
- Westmoreland County Conservation District, Irwin Park Parking Lots/ Streambank Stabilization, \$85,756
- Westmoreland County Conservation District, Fox's Stormwater Detention Improvements, \$97,633
- Westmoreland County Conservation District, Derry Borough Municipal Water Authority Stormwater Retrofit, \$113,500
- Westmoreland County Conservation District, Manor Borough Stormwater Retrofit, \$133,500
- Westmoreland County Conservation District, Lowber Treatment Iron Removal and System Upgrades, \$151,891

- Westmoreland County Conservation District, Brinkerton Treatment Iron Removal and System Upgrades, \$277,238

AMD Set Aside Projects:

Greene County

- Stream Restoration Inc., Maiden Passive System, \$244,240

Westmoreland County

- Turtle Creek Watershed Association Inc., Turtle Creek Qualified Hydrologic Unit (QHU), \$75,560

SMCRA Bond Forfeiture Project:

Fayette County

- Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Purco Watkiss AMD Remediation Project, \$497,218

Source: DEP Press Release, 12/30/2020

DEP Announces More than \$12 Million to Fund Local Water Clean Up Projects in PA's Southcentral Region

On December 30, 2020, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announced that 43 projects to clean up waters in the state's Southcentral region have been selected to collectively receive more than \$12 million in funding through DEP's Growing Greener program.

"Growing Greener awardees help keep Pennsylvania clean," said DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell. "It is imperative that communities in Pennsylvania receive the necessary funding to reduce pollutants in area waterways."

Statewide, more than \$34 million has been awarded to fund 149 projects to clean up waters. Grantees have up to three years to implement their projects from the award date.

Growing Greener is the largest single investment of state funds in Pennsylvania's history to address Pennsylvania's critical environmental concerns of the 21st century.

Growing Greener has helped to slash the backlog of farmland-preservation projects statewide, protect open space, eliminate the maintenance backlog in state parks, clean up abandoned mines and restore watersheds, provide funds for recreational trails and local parks, help communities address land use, and provide new and upgraded water and sewer systems.

DEP is authorized to allocate these funds in grants for watershed restoration and protection, abandoned mine reclamation, and abandoned oil and gas well plugging projects.

Three other state agencies also received funds to distribute for appropriate projects: the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture to administer farmland preservation projects, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for state park renovations and improvements, and the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority for water and sewer system upgrades.

Growing Greener projects in the Southcentral region include a project by the Berks County Conservation District to implement Riparian Forest Buffers in the Chesapeake Bay and watersheds impaired by agricultural sources. Another project in the region is a stormwater retrofit by Conewago Township in Adams County. Fifteen Lancaster County projects received more than \$5.9 million in funding. Eight York County projects received more than \$1.9 million in funding.

Southcentral Region's and Statewide Awardees:

Adams (1)

- Conewago Township, Sherry Village Basin, \$108,000

Berks (4)

- Berks County Conservation District, Agricultural Best Management Practice (BMP) Implementation in High Quality Kittatinny-Pine Creek watershed, \$381,494

- Berks County Conservation District, Riparian Forest Buffer Implementation in Berks County, \$385,000
- Berks County Conservation District, Little Swatara Creek Tributaries TMDL Ag BMP Implementation, \$67,485
- Borough of Shoemakersville, Shoemakersville Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Pollution Control Bioswale, \$42,200

Blair (1)

- The Trust for Tomorrow, Poplar Run Repair and Maintenance Project, \$40,000

Cumberland (3)

- Commissioners of Lower Allen Township, Beacon Hill Stormwater Basin Retrofit Project, \$63,700
- Cumberland County Conservation District, Yellow Breeches Trout Habitat and Stream Bank Restoration at Allenberry, \$255,980
- Silver Spring Township, Detention Basin Retrofits, \$350,000

Franklin (2)

- Borough of Chambersburg, South Main Street Stormwater BMP Implementation Project, \$200,000
- Franklin County Conservation District, Installation of Horse Operation BMPs along two Different Streams, \$380,795

Fulton (1)

- Fulton County Conservation District, Upper Big Cove Creek Watershed Assessment, \$112,000

Huntingdon (2)

- Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Huntingdon County Ag BMPs, \$442,305
- Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Spruce Creek Stream Restoration, \$45,720

Lancaster (15)

- American Rivers, Chiques Roller Mill Dam Removal, \$140,255
- Conservation Foundation of Lancaster County, Cocalico Creek Headwaters Floodplain Restoration – Construction, \$769,271

- East Donegal Township, Evans Run Riparian Buffer Planting and Stream Restoration, \$200,000
- Lancaster Farmland Trust, Crossing the Finish Line: BMP Implementation on Strategic Farms in East Lampeter Township, \$670,947
- Lancaster Farmland Trust, Driving Pollution Reduction in the Mill Creek Watershed (Upper Leacock Township), \$274,405
- Little Conestoga Watershed Alliance, Indian Run Floodplain Restoration, \$72,000
- Manheim Borough, Chiques Creek Pollutant Reduction Project – Construction, \$437,931
- Mount Joy Township, Green Meadows Streambank Stabilization Construction, \$265,792
- Mountville Borough, Mountville Borough Dry Extended Detention Basin/Constructed Wetlands, \$200,000
- Penn Township, Chiques Creek Green Infrastructure Improvements - Basin Retrofits and Vegetated Swale, \$402,000
- Stroud Water Research Center Inc, Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs) and Forested Buffers for Lancaster Focus Areas, \$1,253,551
- Water Science Institute, Lancaster Dams and Nutrient Reduction Opportunities - Part 2, \$57,200
- West Hempfield Township, Stormwater Basin, Streambank Stabilization and Riparian Forest Buffer, \$315,000
- West Hempfield Township, Chiques Creek Stormwater Basin, Streambank Stabilization and Riparian Buffer Project, \$250,000
- West Lampeter Township, Groff Farm Floodplain Restoration – Construction, \$600,000

Perry (1)

- Perry County Conservation District, North Rice Farm Streambank Stabilization Project, \$22,970

York (8)

- Partnership for the Economic Development of York County, Codorus Creek Beautification Initiative, \$500,000
- Springettsbury Township, Springettsbury Township Turnkey Water Quality

Improvements for its 2018-2023 MS4 Permit, \$162,000

- The Borough of Hanover Stormwater Authority, Hanover Borough, \$103,000
- York County Conservation District, Bennett Run Restoration Design and Permitting, \$110,000
- York County Conservation District, Unnamed Tributary to Bald Eagle Creek Design and Permitting, \$90,500
- York County Conservation District, Unnamed Tributary to Leibs Creek Restoration Design and Permitting, \$80,000
- York County Rail Trail Authority, Oil Creek Watershed Restoration Plan, \$38,000
- York Township, Queenswood Improvements, \$39,325

Chester and York (1)

- Dickinson College, Developing High-Frequency Sensor Monitoring Tools for Managing Harmful Algal Blooms, \$171,624

Clearfield, Cambria, Huntingdon, Centre (1)

- Trout Unlimited Inc, Streambank Stabilization in the Chesapeake Bay - A Collaborative Initiative to Improve Stream Health and Reduce Nonpoint Source Pollution, \$49,363

Lancaster, York, Cumberland, Franklin, Bedford, Centre (1)

- Chesapeake Bay Foundation Inc, Prioritizing Forested Buffer Incentives, \$675,000

Montour, Bradford, Clinton, Columbia, Luzerne (1)

- Columbia County Conservation District, Multi-County Soil Health 2020-2023, \$447,380

Schuylkill, Franklin, Adams, Erie, Crawford, Warren (1)

- The Pennsylvania State University, Furthering the Master Watershed Steward Program in Pennsylvania, \$162,422

Source: DEP Press Release, 12/30/2020

DEP Announces More than \$4.9 Million to Fund Local Water Clean Up Projects in PA's Southeast Region

On December 30, 2020, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announced today that 24 projects to clean up waters in the state's Southeast region have been selected to collectively receive more than \$4.9 million in funding through DEP's Growing Greener program.

"Growing Greener awardees help keep Pennsylvania clean," said DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell. "It is imperative that communities in Pennsylvania receive the necessary funding to reduce pollutants in area waterways."

Statewide, more than \$34 million has been awarded to fund 149 projects to clean up waters. Grantees have up to three years to implement their projects from the award date.

Growing Greener is the largest single investment of state funds in Pennsylvania's history to address Pennsylvania's critical environmental concerns of the 21st century.

Growing Greener has helped to slash the backlog of farmland-preservation projects statewide, protect open space, eliminate the maintenance backlog in state parks, clean up abandoned mines and restore watersheds, provide funds for recreational trails and local parks, help communities address land use, and provide new and upgraded water and sewer systems.

DEP is authorized to allocate these funds in grants for watershed restoration and protection, abandoned mine reclamation, and abandoned oil and gas well plugging projects. Three other agencies also received funds to distribute for appropriate projects: the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture to administer farmland preservation projects, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for state park renovations and improvements, and the

Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority for water and sewer system upgrades.

Two Growing Greener project awardees in the Southeast region include the Pennypack Creek Streambank Stabilization and a project by the Schuylkill River Development Corporation to repair the Tidal Schuylkill River Bulkhead.

The Pennypack project will address a badly eroded section of streambank along the Pennypack Creek in Philadelphia through a natural material retaining structure and associated plantings. Another component of the project is the restoration of the adjacent riparian forest and improved public access. The Schuylkill project will repair the bulkhead in three underwater locations where gaps have been discovered. Once the repairs are made, the contractor will fill in the corresponding depressions and sinkholes with new soil and grass.

Southeast Region's and Statewide Growing Greener Awardees:

Bucks (4)

- Bucks County Conservation District, Equine Concentrated Animal Operation Best Management Practice (BMP) Implementation, \$305,140
- Heritage Conservancy, Bellwood Preserve Riparian Restoration, \$26,563
- Neshaminy School District, Restoration of Idlewood Environmental Station along the Neshaminy Creek, \$100,339
- Pennel Borough, Hydrodynamic Inlet for Pollution Reduction in Pennel Borough, \$199,461

Chester (8)

- Brandywine Red Clay Alliance, Plum Run Stream Restoration Phase 3 at Strode's Mill, \$194,689
- Chester County Conservation District, Chester County Chesapeake Bay Agricultural Waste Storage Project, \$46,200
- City of Coatesville, Millview Basin Stormwater Basin Retrofit, \$300,000
- Kennett Area Park Authority, Red Clay Stream Restoration at Anson B. Nixon Park, \$203,514

- Stroud Water Research Center Inc., Agricultural BMPs and Forested Buffers for Chester County Focus Areas, \$707,818
- Valley Forge Chapter Trout Unlimited, Valley Creek Monitoring Project at the Former Knickerbocker Landfill, \$7,275
- Valley Forge Chapter Trout Unlimited, Install More Infiltration Trenches in Neighborhoods of Upper Crabby Creek, \$256,300
- Valley Township, Valley Crossing Stormwater Basin and Swale Retrofit, \$188,000

Delaware (1)

- Delaware County Conservation District, Conservation Planting Trailer, \$11,285

Montgomery (5)

- East Norriton Township, Kimberly Drive Basin Retrofit, \$203,352
- Horsham Township, Witmer Road Basin, \$150,000
- Lower Merion Conservancy, Growing Greener Streets, \$184,960
- Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel, Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel Stormwater Improvements, \$265,000
- Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership, Jenkintown Creek Restoration: Alverthorpe Park Stormwater Management Project, \$543,250

Philadelphia (4)

- Delaware River City Corporation, dba Riverfront North Partnership, Pennypack Creek Streambank Stabilization, \$178,458
- Partnership for the Delaware Estuary, Inc., Shell Recycling in Philadelphia for Climate Resiliency Projects, \$103,784
- Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, TreeVitalize Watersheds XV, \$250,000
- Schuylkill River Development Corporation, Repairing the Tidal Schuylkill River Bulkhead, \$175,000

Chester and York (1)

- Dickinson College, Developing High-Frequency Sensor Monitoring Tools for Managing Harmful Algal Blooms, \$171,624

Philadelphia, Lehigh, Bucks, Lackawanna, and Monroe (1)

- The Academy of Natural Sciences, Headwater Climate Resilience, \$162,591

Source: DEP Press Release, 12/30/2020

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This newsletter provides general information, not legal advice as to any specific matter. It should not be used as a substitute for appropriate legal advice.