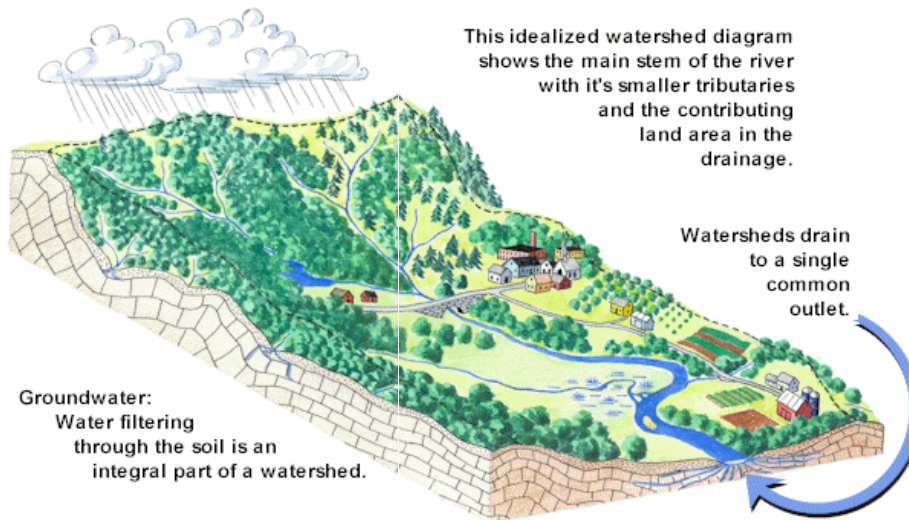


# Do you live in a watershed?

## *Everyone* lives in a watershed.

A watershed is a basin-like landform defined by highpoints and ridgelines that descend into lower elevations and stream valleys. A watershed carries water “shed” from the land after rain falls and snow melts. Drop by drop, water is channeled into soils, groundwater, creeks, and streams, making its way to larger rivers and eventually the sea. Water interacts with all that it comes in contact with - the land it traverses, and the soils through which it travels. Most importantly, **what we do to the land and air affects water quality for all communities living downstream.**



## Why protect rivers? It matters!

Sixty-one percent of drinking water in the U.S. comes from

## You are in the

## Kiskiminetas-Conemaugh River Basin

It is an 1,887 square mile basin and the location of the most scenic areas of Pennsylvania. The streams drain some of the state's highest mountains creating some of its deepest river gorges. The coal in the Basin made the region a key to American industrial development, but has left a legacy of abandoned mine drainage (AMD) which adversely impacts the streams and rivers throughout the Basin.



## What is AMD?

Abandoned Mine Drainage is drainage flowing from, or caused by, deep coal or surface coal mining and/or coal refuse piles.

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## What can you do?

Be a Kiski-Conemaugh Stream Team Volunteer and help monitor the streams in the River Basin. Volunteers are an essential part of the “grass-roots” efforts to restore the streams and rivers of the watershed. Many volunteer opportunities are available, such as:

- Water Monitoring
- Macroinvertebrate Sampling
- Riparian (Stream Bank) Assessment/Restoration
- Educational Presentations
- Office Administrative Support
- Committee Participation



Volunteers planting trees on stream bank

## Why should you volunteer?

- To be part of the K-C Stream Team
- To have an impact on restoring the water quality and environmental health of your watershed
- To gain new skills and knowledge
- To give something back to your community
- To meet people, make friends, and have fun!



**The Kiski-Conemaugh Stream Team** is a group of over forty volunteers who conduct aquatic monitoring and educational outreach throughout the Kiski-Conemaugh River Basin.



## Why protect rivers? It matters!

- Sixty-one percent of drinking water in the U.S. comes from rivers and river-fed lakes.
- Rivers provide diverse learning opportunities for everyone in such topics as biology, chemistry, ecology, and history.
- Rivers offer great opportunities for canoeing, kayaking, rafting, fishing, and provide settings for hiking, biking, bird watching, or picnicking.
- Rivers and streams provide essential habitat to countless plant and animal species.
- Rivers provide transportation corridors, and breeding, nesting, and feeding areas for wildlife.

Drainage flowing from, or caused by, deep coal or surface coal mining and/or coal refuse piles.



The drainage may be acidic or alkaline, and may contain metals iron, aluminum, or manganese. In many streams, the diversity of aquatic life has been reduced or entirely eliminated as a result.

This photo of Sulphur Creek, a tributary of the Little Cone-maugh River, shows an AMD discharge entering in the lower right corner, with the rust-colored iron oxide stain downstream.





River Basin.

Reaping the benefits of  
clean streams: canoeing  
through the Packsaddle  
Gap on the Conemaugh  
River

-----Tear off here-----

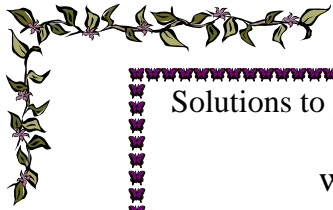
**Contact Information**  
K-C Stream Team      Phone: 814-467-0466  
501 15th Street      Fax: 814-467-8715  
Windber, PA 15963      [www.kcstreamteam.org](http://www.kcstreamteam.org)

*The production of this placemat was funded by the **League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Citizen Education Fund** through a Section 319 Federal Clean Water Act grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency, administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.*

metals such as  
diversity of  
result.



**Turn to other side for activities and games.**



Solutions to puzzles may be found on the Kiski-Conemaugh Stream Team's website:

[www.kcstreamteam.org/puzzles](http://www.kcstreamteam.org/puzzles)

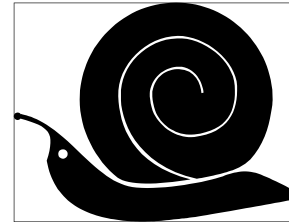
**Can you find the hidden words in the puzzle?**

ABANDONED	COAL	GROUNDWATER	POLLUTION
ACIDIC	CONSERVATION	IRON	RIPARIAN
ALKALINE	CREEK	KAYAK	RIVER
ALUMINUM	DOWNSTREAM	MANGANESE	STREAM
CANOE	ECOLOGY	MINING	WATERSHED
CHEMISTRY	FISHING	MONITORING	WILDLIFE

C L D W W C M X L E S C I D A  
 V O K E A A M I S A N K O S L  
 E X N N N K T E N A J W C E K  
 Y F O S L O N E L I N S G G A  
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 O K O L G R M N T S I G O R I  
 L C A N D I V R A H H R U T N  
 O C A Y N L E A S B J E N S E  
 C M S U A A I I T Y A V D I S  
 E K M R M K F W P I G I W M T  
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# Watershed activities and games

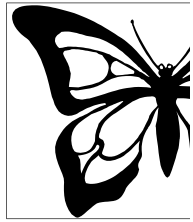
Unscramble the letters to name these watershed inhabitants.



islna



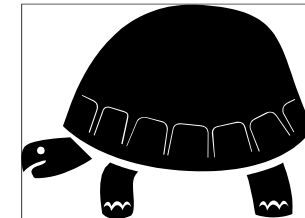
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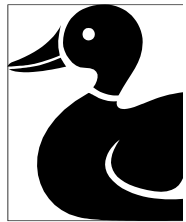
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fogdnayrl



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**Crossword Puzzle**

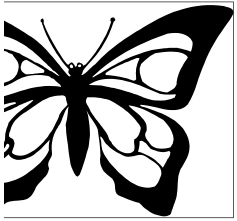
**Across**

- 4. Shrimplike animal that lives in the stream
- 6. A light slender boat with pointed ends
- 7. A black material used as fuel
- 11. Slope of land next to a body of water
- 12. An overflow of water onto dry land
- 13. The areas that are the source of a stream
- 15. Waterproof boots worn in the stream
- 17. Water in spaces between soil particles
- 18. Insect that lives on the stream bottom
- 19. Long narrow lowland between mountains

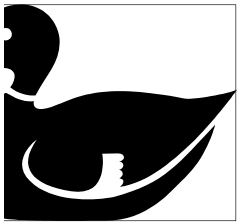
**Down**

# d games

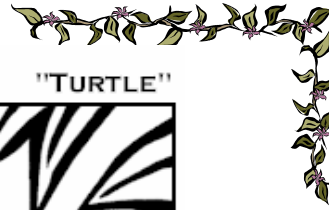
l inhabitants.



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## TESSERACT'S MAZES

"TURTLE"



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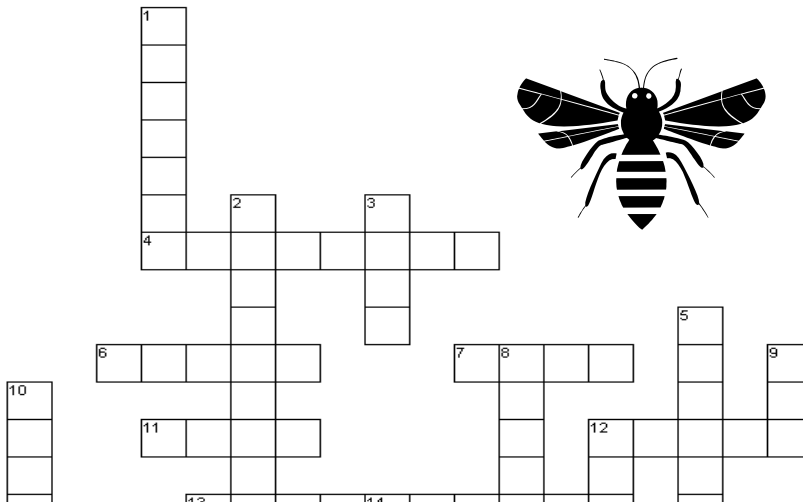
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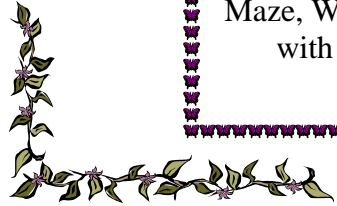
tains



U Y T R A B H N K E E R C D U



Maze, Word Search, and Crossword Puzzle created  
with Puzzlemaker on DiscoverySchool.com



- 18. Insect that lives on the stream bottom
- 19. Long narrow lowland between mountains

**Down**

- 1. Living or growing in, on, or near water
- 2. Spineless insect visible to the naked eye
- 3. Respiratory organ of a fish
- 5. Rain or snow melt that flows over land surface streams
- 8. An element that humans and fish need to breathe
- 9. Acronym for abandoned mine drainage
- 10. A common wetland plant
- 12. Cold-blooded animal that lives in water
- 14. Liquid that flows in the streams
- 16. A lowland area saturated with moisture

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