

What's New ...

WREN Source Water Protection Workshops Continue

Workshops will be held throughout the state in April and May.

A full day workshop on Source Water Protection Implementation Strategies will be held on March 25 in State College, in conjunction with the PRWA Annual Conference.

Call 267-468-0555 or visit www.drinkingwaterwise.org for latest info and registration forms.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT REPORTS' AVAILABILITY CLARIFIED

DEP has asked us to clarify the information we provided in the October issue of WPN regarding availability of the Source Water Assessment Reports.

Water suppliers, municipalities and county planning agencies will receive the complete reports. Summary Reports will be posted on DEP's website and sent to public libraries. Summary Reports will not contain maps or location information but will list top protection priorities. Summaries will also be reported by water suppliers in their Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). To see the complete report, the public must go to the DEP office, the water supplier, the municipalities or the county planning office. Thus, the public can still be involved in developing local SWP efforts based on the assessment.

Most, but not all assessments are completed, so info is not yet posted on the DEP website. Check with your water supplier or DEP Regional Office to learn the status of the Assessment for your water system.

GALLUP SURVEY FINDS HIGH DRINKING WATER AWARENESS

Most of the people in the United States know where their drinking water comes from. In a survey commissioned by US EPA and conducted by the Gallup Organization, 94% of those surveyed could identify whether their water came from a public water system or their own well. And of those who knew they were on a public water system, 71% were able to identify the source of their drinking water.

This heartening news for those of us involved with water education is included in a report issued by EPA in August 2003, *Analysis and Findings of The Gallup Organization's Drinking Water Customer Satisfaction Survey*, (EPA 816-K-03-005) The survey was done in August and September, 2002, and involved 1000 interviews with a reported margin of error of plus or minus 3% at a 95% confidence level.

The survey also dealt with the value of Consumer Confidence Reports -- reports on water quality put out by public water systems annually in accordance with the Right-To-Know provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act. Only 29% of those surveyed read their CCRs, 37% remember seeing them. Of those who read them, 80% felt the information was useful.

And perhaps of most interest to water educators is the report that 65.8% remember receiving information about their drinking water from the media, 38.5% from their water company and 34.8% from environmental groups. But they trusted the information received from doctors or health care professionals the most (79.2%).

In light of these results, community groups planning education

(Cont on p. 2, Survey)



The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay has installed four rain gardens and a rain barrel at the Homebuilders Association of Metropolitan Harrisburg office in Harrisburg. Educational displays and materials will be developed to explain the benefits of rain gardens in treating pollutants in stormwater runoff. For info contact Rebecca Wertime, rwertime@acb-online.org

Passing Go – The Road to Stronger Watershed Organizations

Is your watershed organization feeling burned out, overwhelmed, in need of more members and dollars? Help is on the way! The Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation (EPCAMR) will be sponsoring **Passing Go** workshops in Northeastern PA in 2004. The South Western PA Passing Go Team, PA DEP-Bureau Watershed Management Section 319 PG, and others may follow.

Passing Go is a series of four quarterly workshops designed to give watershed groups training that will ensure the longevity of the organization. There is a one-time \$25 fee for the workshops to cover lunch and materials. The workshops will be held at the Pennsylvania State University Hazleton Branch Campus. Space is available for 15 watershed groups to send two representatives each. Your representatives will be given tasks to complete with your board of directors between sessions. The sessions will provide practical, one-on-one, fun and interactive advice. Trained facilitators will be available to guide you between sessions.

When completed with the four training modules, the participants will have an organizational business plan for their group and will have the ability to submit more competitive and complete grant applications.

Interested? Contact Michael Hewitt, EPCAMR Watershed Outreach Coordinator, 570-674-3414, e-mail: hardcoal@epcamr.org

Survey (cont. from p. 1)

projects might tap into their medical professional associations as new partners, and consider how to make better use of the media in their communication plans.

To read the EPA report, visit http://www.epa.gov/safewater/consumer/pdf/survey_gallup_customersatisfaction2003.pdf

SOCIAL MARKETING AND BEHAVIOR CHANGE

After three days of presentations at the Nonpoint Source Pollution Information and Education conference in Chicago last fall, I was convinced that in the future WREN's nonpoint source projects had to go beyond providing information and move to working toward behavior change. Speaker after speaker emphasized that education is not enough, making use of that education to change behaviors is the only way that nonpoint source pollution will be addressed.

Information alone is not enough to change behavior. If it were, we would all buckle seat belts, stop smoking and wear bike helmets, all the time. Changing behavior is achieved through effective social marketing campaigns.

Social marketing applies

commercial marketing principles to social issues to achieve results that affect society at large. Examples of social marketing campaigns abound – a few are listed above, others have dealt with recycling, drinking and driving, drugs and even water conservation. Through the use of the well-researched tools of commercial marketing campaigns, social marketers can promote behavior changes that will help protect water resources.

WREN wrap-up project representatives at last June's meeting at Allenberry Resort got a brief taste of how to put together a social marketing campaign. Look for even more this coming June. And, as we find tools that may be of use to you in your communities, we'll find a place for them on the WREN website, <http://pa.lwv.org/wren>

SOURCE WATER PROTECTION...IN GOD'S COUNTRY

As you travel across Route 6 in northern Pennsylvania, you will see a sign that states "Potter County – God's Country". This is a route that Judy Muehl, Groundwater Technician for PA Rural Water Association has taken often as she helped ALL the water suppliers and one school district in Potter County develop Source Water Protection programs.

Last winter, PRWA held a workshop to train teachers, SWP committee members, and officials on how to demonstrate and teach about groundwater with the groundwater flow model. Each of the 8 community water systems in Potter County purchased groundwater models for public and student education. Two Potter County Commissioners attended the workshop, an important addition since Potter County has the regulatory power for subdivision and land use in Potter County.

Information brochures are being developed for each community and school. The brochures will be sent out to residents of the municipalities as well as to residents outside municipal boundaries in the area of the recharge for the wells. Potter County SWP Committee members know that whether you live in a recharge area or not...what you do on top of the ground can affect someone's well...someplace downstream...or down-gradient...or just "down there many, many miles away".

Potter County is just one of the many areas helped to protect their drinking water supplies by the PA Rural Water Association. For more information contact Judy Muehl, jmuehl3@aol.com, Joel Jordan, jjordan@prwa.com or visit www.prwa.com or www.waterwatchdogs.org

Resources ...

GETTING IN STEP: ENGAGING AND INVOLVING STAKEHOLDERS IN YOUR WATERSHED

(US EPA, 2003, 75 pp) Information on how to generate participation in watershed assessment, planning and management. Available at www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/outreach/documents

COMMUNITY CULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT: A GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING A SENSE OF PLACE

(US EPA, 2002, pub no. 842-B-01-003) tools for working cooperatively in a community. Available from NSCEP, 800-490-9198.

STRATEGIC PLANNING: A HANDBOOK FOR SMALL WATER SYSTEMS

(US EPA, 2003, 30 pp, pub no. 816-R-03-015) designed to help small drinking water systems meet public expectations and regulatory requirements while maintaining organizational and financial stability. Available on-line at: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/smallsys/ssinfo.htm>. or by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 For more information, please contact Andrew Bielanski at (202) 564-3824.

AMERICA'S LIVING OCEANS: CHARTING A COURSE FOR SEA CHANGE

(Pew Oceans Commission, '03, 138 pp) Reports on a 3-year study of ocean use and U.S. policy. Available at: www.pewoceans.org

MANAGEMENT OF CANADA GEESE IN SUBURBAN AREAS - A GUIDE TO THE BASICS

New Jersey Dept of Environmental Protection, 2001, 26 pp) Available on line at: http://www.state.nj.us/dep/watershedmgt/DOCS/BMP_DOCS/Goosedraft.pdf

PENNSYLVANIA'S WILDLIFE AND WILD PLACES: OUR OUTDOOR

HERITAGE IN PERIL (PA DCNR, Wild Resources Conservation Fund, 2003, 32 pp) describes development impacts on wildlife habitat and discusses habitat threats and trends. Available on-line at: www.dcnr.state.pa.us

THE INFLUENCE OF GROUNDWATER ON NITROGEN DELIVERY TO THE CHESAPEAKE BAY

(USGS, 2003, 6 pp, USGS Fact Sheet FS-091-03) Summarizes a multi-year study of the discharge, nitrogen transport, and age of ground water into streams of the Chesapeake Bay watershed Available on-line at: <http://chesapeake.usgs.gov>

SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS: THE CHESAPEAKE BAY'S SECOND LARGEST SOURCE OF NITROGEN

POLLUTION (Chesapeake Bay Foundation, 2003, 10 pp) reports on the contribution of STP's to the Bay's nitrogen pollution problems. http://www.cbf.org/site/DocServer/STP_final_no_watermark.pdf?docID=1283

FINDING AND CHOOSING ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION MATERIALS

(PA Center for Environmental Education (PCEE), 2003, 39 pp) part of the *Essentials of Environmental Education for Pennsylvania* series. Available from PCEE at pcee@sru.edu or 724-738-4555, or on-line at: www.pcee.org, click on "Essentials of EE" under "Resources for EE."

2004 INTEGRATED LIST OF WATERS

(PA DEP, 2004, 400+ pp) formerly known as the 303(d) and 305(b) lists, this report summarizes the condition of PA's streams and lakes. Available on-line at <http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/wqp/wqstandards/303d-Report.htm>

WATER QUALITY ANTIDEGRADATION IMPLEMENTATION GUIDANCE

(PA DEP, 2003, 134 pp) Manual for DEP staff and the public on implementing the state's Antidegradation program.

<http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/wqp/wqstandards/wqstandards.htm>

ADOPT-A-BUFFER TOOLKIT: MONITORING AND MAINTAINING RESTORATION PROJECTS

(Delaware Riverkeeper Net '03, 133pp) designed for local watershed groups, restoration practitioners and volunteer monitors. Available for \$15.00 plus shipping or on CD for \$5.00 by calling 215-369-1188; or on-line, free, at: <http://www.delawareriverkeeper.org/monitoring/Toolkit-Final.pdf>

CYCLE OF HARM: MERCURY'S PATHWAY FROM RAIN TO FISH IN THE ENVIRONMENT

(Nat'l Wildlife Federation, 2003, 28pp) analyzes mercury in precipitation at 35 monitoring sites, including 7 in PA, and discusses causes and impacts. Available on-line at: <http://www.nwf.org/nwfwebadmin/binaryVault/CycleofHarm111.pdf>

Grants, Grants, Grants

Tis the season to be writing grant applications:

2004 Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Grants - due Feb 2 - <http://www.nfwf.org/chesapeake/index.htm>
Growing Greener, Source Water Protection and flood protection – due March 5 - <http://www.dep.state.pa.us/growgreen/watershedprotection/default.htm>

\$\$ FOR STREAM CLEANUP

The Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) will provide funding (up to \$2,000) and training for local nonprofit organizations in the PA portion of the Susquehanna River Basin to conduct streamside cleanup projects in 2004.

Training workshops will take place in April. Requests for funds should be submitted to SRBC no later than February 13, 2004. Funding request forms are available from SRBC at 717-238-0423 and www.srbc.net.

Conferences ...

February 5-7 State College, PA *Pathways to Prosperity: The New Face of Agriculture*

13th annual Farming for the Future conference sponsored by the Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture
Contact: 814-349-9856 or visit www.pasafarming.org

February 28 State College, PA *Managing Runoff - Urban and Rural*

2004 Keystone Coldwater Conference
Contact: 814-863-5100 or visit www.outreach.psu.edu/C&I/cildwaterconservation

March 6-7 Malvern, PA *Schuylkill Watershed Congress*

Contact: Chari Towne, 610-469-6005, chari@delawareriverkeeper.org
Visit www.delawareriverkeeper.org

March 6 Villanova, PA *Southeast PA EAC Conference*

Contact: Alison Linder, 215-563-0250, ext. 113, alinder@pecphila.org or visit www.eacnetwork.org

March 10 Shippensburg, PA *PA's Outdoor Heritage - Vanishing Before Our Eyes*

15th annual environmental issues conference sponsored by Kings Gap Environmental Education Center and Shippensburg University. Contact: Kings Gap at 717-486-3799 or e-mail kingsgapsp@state.pa.us.

March 26-27 Chambersburg, PA *Conference on Sustainability and the Environment*

Sponsored by Wilson College
Visit <http://www.wilson.edu/events/sustainability>

April 2-3 Lancaster, PA *2004 Pennsylvania Land Conservation Conference*

Sponsored by the Pennsylvania Land Trust Association
Contact: Donna Morelli, 717-230-8560, e-mail: dmorelli@conserveland.org.

April 16-22 Morgantown, WV *21st Annual Meeting, American Society of Mining and Reclamation*

Short courses on stream restoration/channel design, satellite imagery, etc
Contact: <http://www.wvu.edu/~agexten/landrec/land.htm>

April 20-23 Chicago, IL *Enhancing the States' Lake Management Programs Effective Monitoring Programs for Lakes and Reservoirs*

Sponsored by the Chicago Botanic Garden, U.S. EPA and the North American Lake Management Society
Contact Bob Kirschnr: bkirschn@chicagobotanic.org

May 11-14 Harrisburg, PA *Developing Sustainable Communities: State and Local Practices, Technologies and Policies --*

Fourth Annual Goddard Forum
Contact: 877-778-2937 or email shortcourse@psu.edu

May 17-19 Nashville, TN *Geographic Information Systems and Water Resources*

Sponsored by the American Water Resources Association. Visit <http://www.awra.org/meetings/Nashville2004/index.html>

May 21-25 Charlottesville, VA *National River Rally 2004 (Fifth Annual)*

Contact Wendy Wilson, wwilson@rivernet.org or visit www.rivernet.org

June 9-12 Indiana, PA
Pennsylvania's 6th Annual Abandoned Mine Reclamation (AMR) Conference
Contact: Sara Tumulty or Deb Simko, 724-837-5271, saratumulty@aol.com. www.amrclearinghouse.org

June 15-18 Denver, CO 2004 *Community Involvement Conference*

Sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Water.
Visit <http://www.epancic.org/2004>.

Water Policy News is published three times a year by the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Citizen Education Fund for the Water Resources Education Network (WREN) Project. Funds for **Water Policy News** and the WREN Project are provided by the PA Department of Environmental Protection.

The WREN project provides funding for local groups engaged in water education projects and communications links between groups and individuals interested in improving local policy making for water resource protection. Local and statewide activities that focus on water resource education will be highlighted in each issue of **Water Policy News**.

Articles about water education activities are solicited from the readers of Water Policy News. Send newsletter items to Editor: Edith Stevens, RR 1, Box 1550, Cresco, PA 18326, estevens@ptd.net.

To receive this free newsletter or inquire about the resources available from the WREN Project, call the LWVPA at 1-800-692-7281 or write them at 226 Forster St., Harrisburg, PA 17102. Please send address changes to the LWVPA office.

WREN Grant applications due April 2
<http://pa.lwv.org/wren/grants/local.html>

WREN Orientation / Wrap-Up Meeting
June 10 -11

Pennsylvania Water Resources Education Network
<http://pa.lwv.org/wren> & www.drinkingwaterwise.org
Water POLICY NEWS
January 2004