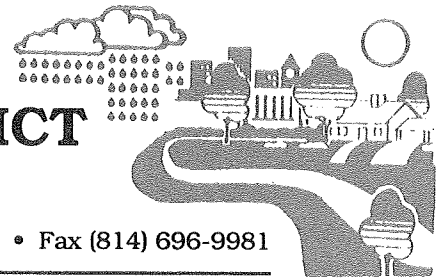


BLAIR COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT



www.blairconservationdistrict.org

1407 Blair Street • Hollidaysburg, PA 16648 • (814) 696-0877 Ext. 5 • Fax (814) 696-9981

February 4, 2008

Dear Friend,

The Blair County Conservation District, in partnership with the Altoona City Authority, is currently planning our 3rd annual **Blair County Water Festival!** Although all of the details for this year's festival have not been finalized, we do know that we're ready to get back into our local schools. Similar to last year, we'll be offering two different opportunities for schools to get involved – our annual poster contest and our water-themed classroom presentations. We would like to invite you to sign-up as soon as possible for these exciting events which are designed to “Appreciate, Educate (about) and Celebrate” water and watersheds.

As in previous years, our poster contest is run in conjunction with the state and national association of conservation districts. Therefore, winners of our local contest will have the opportunity to participate in the state and national level competitions. This year's poster contest theme is “Water is Life”. The poster contest helps students explore how their actions can impact water quality, and provides them with the opportunity to learn about the importance of clean water, as well as the need to protect their drinking water sources. Locally, prizes will be awarded in five different grade categories for first, second and third place. Cash prizes will be awarded in \$60.00, \$40.00 and \$20.00 values respectively. For additional details on the 2008 poster contest see the enclosed flyer or visit the District website at www.blairconservationdistrict.org.

In conjunction with our poster contest, we also offer in-school water festival presentations for 4th and 5th graders. The District has partnered with the City of Altoona, Altoona City Authority, Juniata Clean Water Partnership and Pennsylvania Rural Water to offer this programming free of charge to Blair county schools. The goal of these presentations is to encourage awareness and promote understanding of the importance of water as a resource that is needed by and connects all living things. Although presentations can be customized to meet your immediate needs, the three primary topics of focus will include; macroinvertebrates, non-point source pollution and water chemistry. Each presentation addresses the PSSA standards through a hands-on classroom presentation. Each presentation takes 30 to 40 minutes and is usually done concurrently in order to reduce the class size. Additional presentations or craft projects can be included in the visit as requested. If you have any questions related to our topics or would like to schedule a visit, please give Jim or Gabe a call at the Blair County Conservation District at 814-696-0877 x 5.

James Eckenrode

Watershed Specialist

Gabriel Tilove

Environmental Education Specialist/AmeriCorps



— Resource Conservation Since 1966 —

