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WREN Awards Grants to 26 Community Based Water Resources Education Projects

The Water Resources Education Network (WREN) Project, a program of the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Citizen Education Fund announces the award of nearly \$110,000 in funding to community partnerships across the state. Projects will carry out water resources education projects in the coming year. Funding comes from PA Department of Environmental Protection for activities that will either address nonpoint source pollution issues on a watershed basis or help protect sources of drinking water. The successful grantees of the 2004-2005 WREN grant program are:

Drinking Water Source Water Protection (SWP) Projects

(funding provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) by virtue of the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1996, section 1452 (State Revolving Loan Fund for Drinking Water SWP))

Ambridge Water Authority, Beaver County; \$3,937 to produce and print a map and post "Water Supply Area" signs in critical locations of the source water protection area in the Service Creek Watershed. *Jeff Allen, 724-266-6784, xxl_h2oguy@hotmail.com*

Bucks Co. Planning Commission, Bucks County; \$5,000 to hold a water awareness day for the Pennridge area in conjunction with National Drinking Water Week and work with the school district to integrate source water protection issues in the curriculum. *Cynthia Unangst, 215-345-3884, ckunangst@co.bucks.pa.us*

City of Titusville, Crawford County; \$4,094 to post "Water Supply Area" signs in the Oil Creek watershed where state roadways intersect the delineated water supply area and announce sign installations to citizens of the area via a bill stuffer. *Mary Ann Nau, 814-827-5300, manager@titusvillepa.com*

Dillsburg Borough, York County; \$4,610 to design a mobile educational display and make presentations that highlight source water protection initiatives in the Yellow Breeches watershed. *Sally Holbert Pat Devlin, 717-697-0127, [sbholbert@comcast.net](mailto:sbolbert@comcast.net)*

Eastern Armstrong Co. Municipal Authority, Armstrong County; \$1,800 to produce and distribute a brochure to area citizens about source water protection in the Plum Creek watershed and to introduce educational materials to the Elderton School District for use in their water resources awareness curriculum. *Donald Cessna, 724-354-2540, n/a*

Keystone College, Northampton County; \$5,000 to purchase a groundwater model to demonstrate to students in the middle and secondary schools of the Bangor Area School District how to identify and protect their source water supply and to distribute brochures to residents of the Slateford Creek watershed designed to inform about measures citizens can take to prevent the pollution of their drinking water. *Robert Cook, Ph.D., 570-945-8411, robert.cook@keystone.edu*

Lehigh Valley Water Suppliers, Lehigh, Northampton County; \$5,000 to expand the successful "Hydromania" water festival to include participation of more school districts as well as higher level

students to educate about the importance of source water protection in the Lehigh River Basin.
Liesel Smull, 610-398-2503, liselsmull@lehighcountyauthority.org

Little Conemaugh Watershed Assn, Cambria County; \$5,000 to hold a Children's Water Festival during which sixth grade students in Cambria County school districts will learn about groundwater basics, the sources of their drinking water, and pollution identification and prevention in the Little Conemaugh watershed. *Jacqueline Ritko, 814-495-4380, ritko@co.cambria.pa.us*

Natural Lands Trust, Schuylkill, Berks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Bucks, Philadelphia County; \$5,000 to highlight to local environmental organizations and municipal officials the need to protect buffer lands for public drinking water supply systems in the Delaware River Basin before they are sold for development. *David Harper, 610-353-5587, dharper@natlands.org*

PA Environmental Council, EAC Network, Montgomery County; \$5,000 to create a poster board display, brochure, and presentation that will promote the formation of municipally based Environmental Advisory Councils (EACs) to accomplish source water protection initiatives in the Schuylkill River Watershed. *Jeanne Barrett Ortiz, 215-563-0250x113, jortiz@pecphila.org*

RSVP of Lehigh, Northampton & Carbon Counties, Lehigh, Northampton County; \$4,989 to continue its source water protection mentoring program aimed at students and adults of Lehigh and Northampton counties using groundwater simulators, TAPWater kits, and water testing kits.
Diane Schrameyer, 610-391-8211, rsvp@diakon.org

The PEAK Center, Inc., Bucks, Montgomery County; \$5,000 to conduct twelve educational workshops aimed at citizens and municipal officials designed to educate about the importance of preventing nonpoint sources of pollution in the lower Delaware watershed in order to accomplish source water protection for the North Penn Water Authority service area. *Robert Kutler, 215-362-7432, sec@peakcenter.org*

Washington Twp. Supervisors, Westmoreland County; \$5,000 to produce newsletters, posters, brochures, and presentations for citizens of the Beaver Run Reservoir emphasizing the need to eliminate discharge points that lead to pollution of sources of the community's drinking water supply.
John Turack, 724-727-3515, jturack@washingtontownship.com

Watershed Protection Projects

(funding provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) Nonpoint Source Management Program through Section 319 of the federal Clean Water Act)

Berks Co. Conservation District, Berks, Lehigh, Schuylkill County; \$5,000 to design and conduct two workshops: 1) a watershed forum to educate stakeholders about nonpoint source pollution issues in the Delaware River watershed and 2) Innovative Stormwater Workshop aimed at engineers and municipal officials responsible for stormwater management in Berks County. *Pam Spayd Bryon Ruhl, 610-372-4657x208, bruhl@countyofberks.com, pspayd@countyofberks.com*

Borough of North East, Erie County; \$4,820 to produce and distribute laminated cards designed to educate citizens of the Baker Creek Watershed about proper disposal of materials which contribute to nonpoint source pollution. *Diana Hatfield, 814-725-4262, nechamber@lakeside.net*

Chester-Ridley-Crum Watersheds Assn., Delaware, Chester County; \$5,000 to use reference materials, displays, local cable television access, website postings, and workshops for homeowner groups to promote

best watershed stewardship practices that will reduce nonpoint source pollution the Ridley Creek watershed. *Anne Murphy, 610-892-8731, crc@nni.com*

Greene Co. Conservation District, Greene County; \$2,700 to conduct a streambank stabilization and riparian buffer installation workshop for municipal officials, agency personnel, and local leaders who are focusing on causes and prevention of nonpoint source pollution in the South Form of Ten Mile watershed. *Lisa Bennett, 724-852-5278, lbennett@co.greene.pa.us*

Lawrence Conservation District, Lawrence County; \$4,200 to conduct a workshop for homeowners in the Borough about the causes of nonpoint source pollution in North Fork Little Beaver Creek, especially failing septic systems, and the need to properly manage on lot septic systems. *Megan Murphy, 724-652-4512, mmurphy@lawrenceconservationdistrict.org*

Loyalhanna Watershed Assn, Westmoreland County; \$5,000 to design and distribute a Citizen Guide to the residents of the Loyalhanna Creek watershed to raise awareness of the causes of nonpoint source pollution and engage the community in various aspects of watershed restoration. *Carole Wright, 724-238-7560, cjpwright@laurelweb.net*

Mehoopany Creek Watershed Assn., Sullivan, Wyoming, Bradford, Luzerne County; \$2,000 to produce presentations and newsletters to inform citizens and municipal officials about nonpoint source pollution and install watershed identification signs around the Mehoopany Creek watershed. *Lars Lundin, 570-833-3545, lundin2015@epix.net*

North Area Environmental Council, Allegheny County; \$5,000 to produce a booklet, brochure, and table top displays to illustrate to citizens of the Pine Creek watershed the negative impacts of nonpoint source pollution and actions local government and property owners can take to protect the watershed. *Mary W. Wilson, 412-487-9542, kipperbeast@juno.com*

PA Assn. for Sustainable Agriculture, Centre County; \$4,000 to coordinate field days and workshops aimed at farmers who are interested in learning about cover crop strategies as a way to reduce the nonpoint source pollution which occurs in farming operations. *Heather House, 814-349-9856, heather@pasafarming.org*

Pike Co. Conservation District, Pike County; \$2,675 to develop and present programs to municipal officials at public meetings which will identify planning and public involvement measures and land use strategies that officials can take to reduce nonpoint source pollution in the watersheds of the county. *John Jose, 570-226-8220, jjose@pikepa.org*

Pocono Heritage Land Trust, Monroe County; \$3,740 to work with key landowners in the Brodhead watershed to implement practices that will prevent nonpoint source pollution and to restore areas in the watershed that need improvement. *Michael Pressman, 570-643-2890, poconoheritage@yahoo.com*

Shenango River Watchers, Inc., Mercer County; \$4,415 to distribute door hangers, placemats and stencil storm drains in the City of Sharon to emphasize how citizens' actions can prevent nonpoint source pollution in the Shenango River watershed. *Jennifer Barborak, 724-342-5453, shenangoriver@hotmail.com*

Snyder Co. Conservation District, Snyder County; \$1,450 to promote agricultural best management practices (BMPs) to farmers and municipal officials by conducting a tour of local farms showcasing recently installed BMPs that are reducing nonpoint source pollution in the Middle, Penns, and Mahantango Creeks watersheds. *Barry Spangler, 570-837-0007x114, barry-spangler@pa.nacdnet.org*