

EPCAMR



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August 2012 Progress Report

Education & Outreach

- Conducted an AMD Education/Outreach Program on “Macros & AMD” and an AMD Tie Dye Workshop at Camp Shehaqua, at the Hickory Run State Park Complex for **23** campers who were attending the Carbon County Conservation Camp
- Meeting with Bode Murin, the new Executive Director of the Eckley Miner’s Village to introduce him and familiarize him with EPCAMR and our work in the region to support historic preservation efforts
- Coordinated an AMD Tour of Luzerne/Lower Lackawanna Counties for PACD/SCC, Luzerne and Lackawanna County Conservation Districts on August 27, from 9-3pm to update them on EPCAMR’s regional activities and progress with our partners in the area; (<http://epcamr.org/home/2012/abandoned-mine-reclamation-tour-offers-first-hand-view-at-conservation-practices-to-preserve-environment/>); Cindy Kern, a new Community Service Volunteer with EPCAMR donated her time for the day as the Executive Director’s Assistant Photographer to take photos of the tour for us; Cindy has a background in photography and has offered to donate her time, equipment, development, and cameras to assist EPCAMR in our outreach efforts in the future; See an article in our NEWS section on Cindy! (<http://epcamr.org/home/2012/cindy-kern-eyes-up-epcamr-and-puts-her-camera-work/>)
- EPCAMR Executive Director prepared an article for the West Branch Susquehanna River Coalition where Trout Unlimited would like to highlight EPCAMR and our work on the West Branch
- Created a group space on www.shalnetwork.org for EPCAMR

Technical Assistance

- Prepared a letter to Widener University Law Clinic to see if their graduate students would assist EPCAMR in putting together Citizen Guides on laws related to AMD that EPCAMR then can provide as a free resource to our community watershed groups in the region to help them better understand the existing laws at both the Federal and State levels that govern water quality related to AMD and abandoned mine lands
- EPCAMR Staff worked on the budget, narrative, and Scope of Work for the **EC Espy Run AMD Treatment System AMD Water Monitoring Proposal** and submitted it to the Earth Conservancy to conduct an additional year of monitoring before further improvements are made

to the design of the treatment system to retain more iron; ~ \$2400.00 was approved for EPCAMR over the next year from August 2012 to August 2013

- WJP Engineers, out of Pottsville, PA were working on some added Permit Revisions in the Western Middle Coal Fields and wanted to check to see if PA DEP BAMR or EPCAMR had any updated pool information on the following: Hickory Ridge, BH 50, Hickory Swamp, Luke Fidler, BH 38, Glen Burn BH 53, Cameron; EPCAMR informed them that we could do some of the work for a professional service fee and they mentioned that they would get back to us if they needed additional data
- EPCAMR Staff have been working with the PGC on Bat Conservation, a new area for us, that ties directly into our RAMLIS AML Inventory and our wildlife habitat restoration projects in the region; EPCAMR is trying to become officially tied into the Bat Conservation International (www.batcon.org) group by providing them with data and locations of AML Sites that could be potential breeding areas or habitat areas in PA that could be surveyed in the future; EPCAMR included some of these action items in the PGC's Wildlife Habitat Action Plan for implementation just a few short months ago and are now following up on our recommendations
- Provided Ben Hedin with a tour of AMD sites in the Wyoming Valley where he needed to collect iron hydroxide samples for a research project using AMD for phosphorus uptake and control in animal manure management
- Jim Gusek, CO had his paper was presented by a colleague (Dennis Dunham) from a teaming partner firm, Cellular Concrete Solutions (CCS) at our PA AMR Conference in August; CCS was based in Allentown initially but now have their base of operations in Golden, Colorado; About two years ago, Jim met the folks with CCS and subsequent synergy resulted in a patent application for an innovative technology for delivering materials known to suppress acid rock drainage or AMD; They use foam (think shaving cream consistency) to deliver via borehole injection or batch/continuous mixing whatever anti-ARD/AMD reagents you can think of, from bactericides (which coincidentally help to make the foam or what we're calling GoldpHoam™), to crushed limestone or steel slag, to municipal biosolids, etc. with very little water. Jim is looking for demonstration sites and is asking for any candidates
- Worked with Ed Gerst, from PSU Harrisburg to travel around obtain additional culm samples from 3 locations in the Southern Wyoming Valley for his biofuels cultivation on abandoned mine lands research project

Project Coordination

- Performed the monthly **Wyoming Valley Borehole Monitoring** for August 2012 with EPCAMR Staff as a part of our work for the Susquehanna River Basin Commission on Mine Pool Mapping for the Anthracite Region
- Field Meeting with PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry District Forester, Nick Lylo, John Uzupis, and Bob Pepperman from Synagro to take them on a field tour of reclamation sites and to discuss with them our **Waterboxx Research Tree Planting Project** on the Huber Miner's Memorial Park site (<http://epcamr.org/home/2012/epcamr-tree-planting-project-selected-for-reforestation-research-effort-at-huber-miners-memorial-park-site/>)

- Meeting with Todd Wood-PA DEP BCR, Pierre MaCoy, and Tom Clark from SRBC about the proposed **Brookside Mine Pool Consumptive Use Manipulation Project** in the Rausch Creek watershed in the Southern Anthracite Coal Fields and DEP's interest in removing stream water from being treated at the **Rausch Creek Treatment Plant** so as to reduce/eliminate the times that the capacity of the plant is exceeded
- EPCAMR Staff worked on preparing several Powerpoint Presentations and printing Mine Pool Maps that were presented at the **Qualified Hydrologic Unit Plan Development Public Meeting on the Lower Lackawanna River** with LRCA and SRBC at the Duryea Borough Building, Duryea; Informed residents, surrounding municipalities, local college and university interests, historical societies, and the public who were invited on our partnership efforts to complete this plan to obtain future federal funding to assist with cleaning up the Old Forge AMD Borehole and the Duryea Outfall
- EPCAMR Staff and Interns conducted two full days of electro-shocking surveys on the Solomon Creek Watershed at 12 locations with Trout Unlimited as a part of our **Solomon Creek Coldwater Heritage Conservation Planning** effort; Received some information from Rebecca Dunlap from the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture organization on trout populations and statistics in PA
- Received our copy of the **Hicks Creek Natural Stream Channel Design Extension** Letter from the Growing Greener Grants Center until June 30, 2013

Conference Coordination

- Finalized the Conference Program with Anne Daymut-WPCAMR Watershed Coordinator; Followed up with our Keynote-John Arway, PA Fish & Boat Commission Executive Director; Finalized Rebecca Holler's TU AMD Education Curriculum Presentation and the bus schedule for the Pre-Conference Tour; Co-coordinated the 14th Annual PA AMR Conference with WPCAMR and the PA AMR Conference Planning Committee at the Ramada Inn, State College, PA from August 2nd thru the 4th, including the Pre-Conference Tour; www.treatminewater.com; 120 attendees for 2012; Conference Wrap Up Committee Conference Call was held on August 24th and discussions were around next year's Conference, the positive feedback, Evaluations, the Pre-Conference Tour, Budget, Tweaks, and Minor Improvements
- EPCAMR Staff, along with Tom Clark-SRBC will be co-presenting an Abstract and Paper at the **2012 National Association of Abandoned Mine Lands Program** (NAAML) Conference in Des Moines, Iowa from the 23rd of September through the 27th; EPCAMR was invited because of our work on the 3D Modeling of the Mine Pools in the Anthracite Region (<http://www.2012naamlp.com/Pages/TechnicalSessions.aspx>)
- EPCAMR Staff were guest speakers at the Annual 2012 ARIPPA Technical Symposium, along with WPCAMR to announce this year's recommended grant recipients of the ARIPPA/EPCAMR \$5000 awards; 4 awards were chosen this year by EPCAMR-**Babb Creek Watershed Association** (\$1000)- *Funds will be utilized to pay for labor and installation of 50% of the electrical equipment to power the Antrim AMD Micro-Hydro Turbine owned by the Antrim Treatment Trust (Woodlands Bank, Trustee) that is treating 2 billion gallons of the Antrim AMD discharge/year, operated by the Babb Creek Watershed Association, Inc. and overseen by the*

*PA DEP Moshannon District Mining Office; **Loyalsock Creek Watershed Association** (\$2500)- Funds will purchase 110 Tons of limestone to treat AMD seeps in on the White Ash Land Association Property, known as "WALA Lake", just northeast of Lopez, PA off of State Route 487, which drains to Pigeon Creek, an Exception Value tributary of the Loyalsock Creek; **Eastern Middle Anthracite Region Recovery, Inc.** (\$1000)- Funds will be utilized to pay for nearly 50% of an electrician's labor to test and verify all the control components and replacement of the limit switches of the electrical equipment to power the Audenreid AMD Micro-Hydro Turbine Treatment System operated by the Eastern Middle Anthracite Region Recovery, Inc., Schuylkill Conservation District, and the Catawissa Creek Restoration Association and the **Shamokin Creek Restoration Alliance** (\$500)- Funds will be utilized to pay for the removal of sediment from a haul road on the south side of Pond 2 at the Carbon Run Site #42 AMD Treatment System(<http://epcamr.org/home/2012/epcamr-awards-regional-watershed-groups-funding-for-amd-treatment-operation-maintenance-and-repairs-through-5k-donation-by-arippa/>)*

- EPCAMR Staff have been asked to present at the 7th Annual NW PA GIS Conference (<http://www.clarion.edu/330395/>) at Clarion University on our RAMLIS and earthVision 3-D Mine Pool Mapping work in the Anthracite Region and how GIS overlaps with the models and mine maps

EPCAMR Program Administration

- Completed the July 2012 EPCAMR 319 Reimbursements & Progress Reports; Reviewed Mike's monthly Board Reports
- Presented our 2012-2013 Annual Operating Budget that was approved at the Annual Board Meeting at Genetti's Hotel & Conference Center in Hazleton, PA on August 16, 2012
- Continue to fill Iron Oxide Pigment Orders and other items listed on our EPCAMR Online Store
- EPCAMR Staff attended the Non-Profit Community Assistance Center's (NCAC) Awards Dinner at the Radisson, Scranton and was awarded a **Runner-Up Award**, Plaque, and year-long membership to the NCAC for our Mine Pool Mapping of the Anthracite Region by NCAC and the NEPA Alliance
- EPCAMR Executive Director promotes Community Service Volunteer, Kelsey Biondo to Watershed Outreach Intern (<http://epcamr.org/home/2012/kelsey-biondo-joins-epcamr-staff-as-watershed-outreach-intern-for-the-summerfall-2012/>); Kelsey can only work one day a week, part-time, however, she will be a great addition to the existing Staff and will compliment the work that Justyna Sacharzewska is also doing as a Watershed Outreach Intern with EPCAMR on the Mine Pool Mapping efforts
- EPCAMR Executive Director is working with another Community Service Volunteer, Rebecca Weinberger, who has a background in marketing that is willing to help us move forward with some of our implementation goals in our updated Marketing Plan and Strategic Plan; Forwarded her off copies of our Plans for her to review and asked her to get back to us in the early Fall 2012