

# EPCAMR



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March 2012 Progress Report

## Education & Outreach

- EPCAMR Executive Director was asked by Karl Brown-Executive Director to update the State Conservation Commission on July 10, 2012 in Scranton, PA on EPCAMR activities related to AMD in the region; Some state-wide issues associated with mining & reclamation as it ties to the Gas Industry, the Anthracite Industry, and our innovative 3D Underground Mine Pool Mapping technology efforts throughout the Coalfields, it's applications for future mining, reclamation, AMD remediation, and economic redevelopment projects
- Attended Wilkes University's Social and Public Service Career Day to set up our EPCAMR Exhibit to recruit Summer and Fall 2012 Interns, to accept resumes, and to inform students about our line or work
- Attended King's College's Liberal Arts Career Expo to set up our EPCAMR Exhibit to recruit Summer and Fall 2012 Interns, to accept resumes, and to inform students about our line or work
- Worked with Ricky Ruggiero, Hazleton Area HS student EPCAMR Volunteer to provide him with directions and instruction on how to collect manganese oxide and iron oxide from the Silver Brook AMD discharge outside of McAdoo, along State Route 309 for EPCAMR to create a third color of pigment to sell on our website; Also provided him with instructions on where to take photographs within the Solomon Creek watershed along intersecting and parallel streets and highways that bisect the watershed for the ***Solomon Creek Coldwater Heritage Conservation Plan***
- EPCAMR Executive Director completed an online 6 module training conducted by Penn-State University to become re-certified as a Master Well Owner Volunteer as of March 15, 2012; Final Cumulative score on all exams was a 97%
- Requested how EPCAMR can participate in the **YouthGo** Initiative with the Office of Surface Mining and become a partner; <https://youthgo.gov/>
- Conducted an AMD Outreach Watershed Field Tour with **25** Mt. Top Cub Scouts- Pack 106 and their parents on the Southern part of the Wyoming Valley to teach them about mining impacts, water quality, pollution, and ways in which groups like EPCAMR are helping to clean up our rivers and streams

## Technical Assistance

- Reviewed the 2012 Bond Rates for discussion at upcoming MRAB Meeting on April 26, 2012 in the PA Bulletin; <http://www.pabulletin.com/secure/data/vol42/42-7/292.html>.
- Informed Tom Galya, OSM of dates in May that EPCAMR staff would be able to attend a final meeting of the ASTM Geospatial Coal Mine Data Standards Team since the consolidated standards that we've worked on for several years have now been approved

## Conference Coordination

- Conducted an AMR Conference Call on March 19, 2012 with the Planning Committee to begin working on the agenda for the **2012 AMR Conference** at the Ramada Inn State College, PA August 2-4<sup>th</sup>, 2012; Followed up with Mario Carello and Mike Smith-Moshannon DMO who will be assisting us with arranging a possible AMD Tour Route in the Centre/Clinton County area

## Project Coordination

- EPCAMR Staff and interns conducted a stream walk visual habitat assessment, water quality monitoring, and biological monitoring on two unnamed tributaries to Pine Creek and on a few unnamed tributaries and two AMD discharges to Solomon Creek in Hanover Township, PA on the Doran's Family Farm, Hanover Twp., for the **Solomon Creek Coldwater Heritage Conservation Plan**;
- Worked with Bernie McGurl to coordinate the daylighting of the Winton Street borehole in Peckville (Gravity Slope Mine Pool) and the Jermyn borehole (Jermyn Mine Pool) to install new collars that will allow EPCAMR to continue monitoring them monthly as a part of the **SRBC Mine Pool Mapping Project** for the Anthracite Region; Completed the construction and installation of the reconstructed borehole collars on March 7, 2012 in Jermyn and Peckville; Also created a 6" cut into the Old Forge AMD borehole concrete culvert to begin to obtain an accurate flow measurement and to install a pressure transducer real time monitoring system; Reviewed and provided comments on Bernie's sketch plan for the installation of the pressure transducer at the Old Forge AMD Borehole
- Completed a **Hicks Creek AML Natural Stream Channel Design Project** Progress Report from January 2010 through March 5 2012 and Reimbursement and forwarded it along to our Project Officer Dennis Palladino-PA DEP BAMR; EPCAMR respectfully requested an extension of the grant through June 30, 2013 due to our having to go through the planning and zoning approval process with Exeter Borough, Luzerne County Planning Commission, and some issues with a private landowner who is in litigation with Exeter Borough within the project area; Coordinated with Skelly & Loy to update them on the progress to date; EPCAMR also set up an ACH Vendor transfer into our appropriate banking account for the project through the PA DEP Grants Center at the request of Joan Bame, Management Technician with the Growing Greener Grant Center; Attended a meeting on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012 with Exeter Borough Council during a work session to inform the public of the progress being made to date and to continue to seek their support for the project; They informed us that we should submit the plans to the Planning and Zoning Department for further review before they would comment on the project; Scheduled a meeting with the Zoning Officer, Dominic Peppi to review the plans on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012

- Created a slideshow and Progress Report for the Healthy Communities Challenge Grant that the Huber Breaker Preservation Society received last Fall in preparation for a celebration event on March 13, 2012; Submitted to our Project Manager Michelle Schasberger
- Field investigation with Dave Rineheimer-PA DOT District 4-3 Maintenance Supervisor to inspect and try and locate another borehole monitoring plate along State Route 11 near Avondale Hill, Plymouth Township, PA
- EPCAMR Staff and Spring Interns sampled **Earth Conservancy (EC) Espy Run Treatment AMD Wetlands** for our quarterly monitoring progress report
- Meeting with Ray Clarke at the Wilkes-Barre Career & Tech Center with Janice Leiby and her Horticulture Class to give them background information on the Huber Breaker, EPCAMR, and the Huber Breaker Preservation Society's efforts to construct a Miner's Memorial Park in Ashley, PA; A **\$4500** FFA Grant prepared by EPCAMR on behalf of the HBPS, from Living2Serve, a program funded by the USDA will be utilized to landscape portions of the park; Coordinated a BIG EVENT Community Service Program sponsored by Wilkes University and 30 volunteers for the HBPS on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 at the park for a cleanup, brush removal, scraping, priming, and painting of the fence; EPCAMR Staff tagged trees, shrubs, and flowering bushes, that should not be cut down on the HBPS property that should be saved for inclusion in the design of the park and trail network through the 3.1 acre property
- Conducting EPCAMR's monthly borehole monitoring of the Mine Pool elevations within the Lackawanna Valley for the **SRBC Mine Pool Mapping Project**
- Trips to Harbor Freight and HOME DEPOT with Mike Corcoran, W-B Science Coordinator to put a purchase supply order together from the **PPL Solar AMD Kiln Education Grant** to begin to construct two Solar AMD Kiln with 6<sup>th</sup> grade students from the Plains-Solomon Elementary; One solar AMD kiln is being donated to EPCAMR to dry our iron oxide

## EPCAMR Program Administration

- Reviewed and submitted our February 2012 PA DEP 319 Progress Report along with a February 2012 reimbursement request form
- EPCAMR received a free Strategic Planning Toolkit after completing a survey from BoardSource; <http://www.boardsource.org/userfiles/file/StrategicPlanning.pdf>



**Huber AMD Discharge to an Unnamed Tributary to Solomon Creek along the Doran Farm property**