



## Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

**Michael A. Hewitt, GISP**  
**Program Manager**  
101 South Main Street  
Ashley, PA 18706  
Main Line: (570) 371-3522  
E-mail: [hardcoal@epcamr.org](mailto:hardcoal@epcamr.org)

### May 2023 Progress Report

#### Highlights:

- EPCAMR staff scanned, georeferenced, mosaicked & digitized mine maps for the **DEP MSI** MMG program. QA/QC checked work.
- EPCAMR staff participated in weekly **PA AML Campaign** calls, a **PA AMR Conference Committee** call, a Solar on AML wrap-up call with **DEP EPO**, and hosted the EPCAMR 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Board Meeting
- Sampled Askam AMD Treatment System, upstream & downstream on **Nanticoke Cr.** for **EC**; sampled 3 AMD TS, upstream & downstream on **Loyalsock Cr.** for **LCWA** and **SCD**, sampled 27 discharge and instream sites in **Shamokin Cr.** for **SCRA**.
- Participated in filming of an episode of Reclaiming PA with **Centone Productions** & created a new domain to host Askam in Wonderland Virtual tour for **DEP EE** in the name of EE.
- Updated [www.PaSolarMinedLands.org](http://www.PaSolarMinedLands.org), [www.TreatMineWater.com](http://www.TreatMineWater.com) and [www.EPCAMR.org](http://www.EPCAMR.org); administered GobbaDaPile local domain, G Suite for Nonprofits, and social media sites.

#### Education, Outreach and Admin.:

- Aided Bobby with tax exemption renewal paperwork. Scanned the EPCAMR 990s for 2021 and will post them to Guidestar. Denise and I reviewed April's bank account statement and realize that Bobby's bank card was compromised. Several fraudulent purchases were on the bank statement. Called the toll free number listed in the Intelius transaction, one of the monthly reoccurring fees, to get the fees refunded. This company was able to tell us which card was used. Found that a John Skinker started an account on April 9th with an email of theour23@gmail.com and searched for about a dozen people to find their address, email and phone number. A couple of the transactions were charged then refunded. Called our bank to notify them of the fraud and let them go after Skype to get that \$53/month charged reversed. They also shutdown Bobby's card. Bobby went to the local branch of our bank to get a new card.
- Typed up Minutes from Last Meeting for the upcoming EPCAMR Board Meeting.
- Completed February EPCAMR Program Manager Board Report and started March.
- Updated the current EPCAMR board meeting webpage and saved the 2022 meetings to the past EPCAMR board meetings page. Updated the [www.epcamr.org](http://www.epcamr.org) website with a new version of WordPress and updated several plugins and themes.
- Worked on and published a draft virtual tour of the Askam Treatment System to the web at <https://virtualtours.epcamr.org/Maelstrom/index.htm> for the Askam In Wonderland EE project. [DEP EE]
- Participated in a Solar on AML meeting with Robert Young and EPCAMR staff. Steve showed the Solar on AML model and we brainstormed a presentation for the Summit in State College in July.

- More edits to virtual tour and uploaded a fresh copy to a new subdomain <https://virtualtours.epcamr.org>. Created a website to potentially host more tours in the future. Researched how to post files that people can download for their VR headsets. Posted a zip file and created a download link. Also posted a link to instructions to upload the files to the VR headset. [DEP EE]
- Aided Denise in QuickBooks to update an invoice for Claudia Meglin at Inquiring Systems Inc. (ISI) for the Reclaiming PA EE project.
- Worked in QuickBooks all day sorting out sales orders and invoices for the upcoming board meeting treasurer's report. Checked which members paid dues. Printed a list to review with Bobby and Denise. Checked board list against MailChimp audience segment to be sure we are sending meeting updates to all new members.
- EPCAMR management staff participated in an AMD Passive Treatment Training discussion with WPCAMR, OSMRE and DEP staff.
- Completed and uploaded EPCAMR Program Manager March report to [www.epcamr.org](http://www.epcamr.org). Created an agenda for the upcoming EPCAMR board meeting.
- EPCAMR staff chose meal for PA Solar on AML Summit and estimated a cost based on 50 attendees. Relayed info to Ramada. Updated [www.pasolarminedlands.org](http://www.pasolarminedlands.org) to include information about the Summit and how to register. Removed the free exhibit table from Eventbrite and added text to ask for paid sponsors to help cover the cost of lunch. Calculated that for approximately every 10 attendees we would need one \$250 sponsor. [SOLAR]
- Updated [www.epcamr.org](http://www.epcamr.org) donation options page to remove Amazon Smile and a few other corporate programs that have sadly stopped giving to nonprofits.
- Started EPCAMR Program Manager April report.
- EPCAMR staff hosted the EPCAMR 2nd Quarter 2023 Board Meeting. Took notes for the minutes and hosted 1 zoom attendee.
- Sent out an invite to register for the Solar on Mined Lands Summit to all attendees of the Focus Groups. Bobby also sent the invite to Dave Hess at Pa Environmental Digest. We got 20+ registrations over the weekend. [SOLAR]
- Helped Denise organize the Second Geologic Survey Grand Atlas maps for scanning next week. Found the best copy of each folio and stacked them on a table in the scanning room. Oriented the scanner so the scanned maps are dropped a few inches on to the desk. Brought in a folding table so she can re-stack them back into the folios. [MSI]
- Meeting with Frank Sindaco to address concerns he may no longer be able to complete MSI work. Helped Denise weed the garden and plant a few herbs.
- Corresponded with Katie Pugh from Tetra Tech and others associated with the Shamokin Sampling Project to relay information about the sampling event for June. Completed 1/2 (day 1) of Shamokin Creek Sampling PhotoBook. [SCRA]
- Finished the Shamokin Creek Sampling PhotoBook. We will need to go get 4 photos when we sample next month. [SCRA]
- Uploaded EPCAMR 2021 990s to Candid (formerly Guide Star) along with strategic planning info, financial info and info about our board/staff to gain a Platinum Seal for 2023 which is displayed on our Board Page of EPCAMR.org. Sent a document to our Treasurer for an electronic signature thru HelloSign.
- Filming for Iron Oxide EE Video at the office and Solomon's Creek Boreholes with Joe Sapienza and crew with Centone Productions and Jason with Most Wanted Fine Art.
- Spoke with Anne Daymut of WPCAMR and Mike Haney representing NASLR regarding registration for PA AMR Conference. There was a slight misunderstanding regarding how DEP employees will register for NASLR vs AMR Conference. Let the decision up to DEP.
- Completed April report and uploaded to [www.epcamr.org](http://www.epcamr.org). To Do list for May-June 2023 with at least 16 different tasks for projects.
- Worked up AMR Conference Budget projections with and without state employees to make sure our budget was solvent with missing registrations from DEP. Sent analysis to Anne Daymut in lieu of having a conference call. Rescheduled conference call to following week.

## **Technical Assistance:**

- Prepared for first Shamokin Sampling event. Printed labels and shopped for supplies (coolers, baggies, etc.). [SCRA]
- Sampled Loyalsock Upstream, Downstream, & in/out of 3 treatment systems (Connell B Vein, Connell C Vein and Gutten Drift). Recorded data in a database for reporting to the SCD & Loyalsock Creek Watershed Association. [LCWA]
- For the first day of sampling in the Shamokin Creek Watershed, EPCAMR sampled 5 discharges, then upstream and downstream of the discharge for a total of 13 sites with Brandon Zimmerman from BAMR, Katie Pugh from Tetra Tech and Jim Koharski from SCRA.
- For the second day of sampling Shamokin Creek, EPCAMR staff sampled 5 discharges, then upstream and downstream of the discharges for a total of 14 sites with Jim Koharski from SCRA. Dropped off samples to NCCD at 4:30 PM for them to refrigerate over the weekend and then call for pickup on Monday. Made a note to make sure in the future to sample the Corbin Mine Drift Site 15 on the first day to be sure we can meet NCCD by 3:00 PM on the second day. That will be 6 discharges and 16 sites total for the first day and only 4 discharges for 11 sites total on the second day. Also, the 2 day event should be done at the beginning of the week (Monday-Wednesday) so the NCCD will not have to refrigerate samples over the weekend. [SCRA]
- Discovered how to create pop up images of text information in Photoshop. There are several functions in the 3D Vista program that work in the web format but not with the virtual headsets. Pop up text is one of those functions. Drafted another virtual tour to post to the web. Still some glitches to work on with video playback and more text information to convert. With people now viewing the draft, there will likely be more glitches found. [DEP EE]
- Provided flow statistics of Nanticoke Creek Watershed for Earth Conservancy to help prepare a GG proposal. [EC]
- Reviewed Shawnese's MSI digitizing work for Forest City Quad and answered a question she had about disappearing source text in the attribute table. I found an article on ArcGIS.com that has some suggested fixes for the issue. Some fixes dealt with the order that you add info to the table vs adding a shape to the map. If you edit the point/polygon and add text to the attribute table at the same time, ArcGIS Pro will often delete the text when saved. If you save point/poly edits, then edit the table and save edits, they should stick. Hopefully the method suggestion fixes the issue. If not, I suggested that her geodatabase could be corrupt and she could try to copy her work into a new file geodatabase. [MSI]
- Added AMR Conference, Tour and Exhibit registration items as well as an AMD PTS Course registration to the EPCAMR store. Shared the links with Anne Daymut from WPCAMR to review them, but hid them from the store catalog. If you had the direct link you could view them, as we were working on the details.
- Received Shamokin Sampling data from the DEP lab via Bobby and entered it in the sampling spreadsheet on EPCAMR's SharePoint. Shared it with Katie Pugh from Tetra Tech and Matt Caccese from BAMR. [SCRA]
- Added EPCAMR\_015187-02, EPCAMR\_015186-01&02, and EPCAMR\_015185-02, 04, 06, 08& 10 to cover 1:400 maps in Forest City Up Pittston (Top Clark) Vein mosaic. Added EPCAMR\_15191-01&02 to cover 1:400 Maps in Forest City LRA (Clifford or Dunmore No 3) vein mosaic. Applied grayscale raster function fix to blue maps error. [MSI]
- Sampled Askam Boreholes, Treatment System, upstream and downstream on Nanticoke Creek, and 2 flow sites. Replaced the pen in Stevens Recorder. Tore out a new beaver dam above treatment system intake. Cleaned out of oxidizer as well. Delivered field sampling results to EC in spreadsheet form. [EC]

[ ] - Denotes funding source where applicable.