

Robert E. Hughes Luzerne Conservation District AML Program Manager-EPCAMR

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December 2007 Monthly Report

Education and Outreach

- Attended an AMD Art Show at the AfA Art Gallery in Downtown to view 6 talented high school students book bindings created with iron oxide as an AMD/AML Outreach Awareness Exhibit, entitled "A River Runs Through It", where the students' art work were exhibited in the month of December
- Worked with Mike to download the <u>www.Goodsearch.com</u> Charity search toolbar to the EPCAMR Website
 and for our constituents and partners to help with EPCAMR Fundraising; Mike will be forwarding to our
 membership for them to register in order for us to receive donations based on web searches

Technical Assistance

- EPCAMR was awarded a \$2000 Convening Grant that was submitted to the Foundation for PA
 Watersheds to assist the EPCAMR Board with updating its Strategic Plan and redefining our organization's
 Board Development and future fundraising goals
- Provided Tom Clark, SRBC AMD Coordinator with information on sources of flow data for the Newport and Nanticoke Creek Watersheds, Luzerne County
- Provided Sam Adams, OSM Clean Streams Coordinator for the Head of Three Rivers Project, Whitesburg, KY with information and details on EPCAMR's iron oxide resource recovery efforts in Northeastern PA and other organizations that are working to recover iron oxides from AMD
- Corresponded with Dave Hamilton-OSM to inform him that the EPCAMR Program Staff will provide the
 necessary AMD Water Quality Monitoring to the area OSM/VISTAs; EPCAMR has an established AMD
 Monitoring Program utilizing field testing equipment (both HACH and LaMotte) that has been used for
 nearly a decade and we've self-certified our protocol for monitoring since it has been agreed upon by both
 Coalitions and it works well for the watershed groups and other volunteer groups that have been monitoring
 for AMD and follows the USEPA RPB Protocols; Carly Truman and Catherine Webster will be trained
 during the first guarter of 08

Project Coordination

- Talked with Jay Parrish-PA Topographic & Geological Survey about future publication and printing of our results of the GIS Mine Pool Mapping Project and encouraged further discussions to occur with Roger Hornberger, PA DEP DMO
- Reviewed Ian Palmer's description of work performed during the month of December 2007 on the GIS
 Mine Pool Mapping Project

Reviewed Mike's draft progress work on the *PEC Manure & Minelands Project*; going over some of the future BAMR Projects and maps created in the Susquehanna Drainage for Schuylkill County and adding landowner information details; Suggested to Mike to forward Duane Feagley's contact information to PEC to open some dialogue with the Active Coal Industry and to ARIPPA; Provided Dr. Rick Stehouwer, Associate Professor, Environmental Soil Science Dept. of Crop & Soil Sciences-Penn State University with a letter of support for an OSM Applied Sciences Grant that PSU was submitting related to the *PEC Manure & Minelands Project*, entitled *Surface Mine Reclamation for Sustained Biomass Production: From Fossil Fuels to Biofuels*

Conferences and Trainings

 The AMR Conference Planning Committee began with its first Conference Call to kick-off the planning for the 2008 AMR State-wide Conference; Began generating ideas and themes, setting up committees, as well as topics for discussion at the future Conference to be held in State College, PA

Internship Coordination

Worked with Carly Truman, from Maine, who has accepted the EPCAMR's OSM/VISTA Watershed
Development Coordinator position that would allow her to join the Appalachian Coal Country Watershed
Team; Submitted and signed the necessary paperwork for the position and sent it along to Torie BowmanACCWT Support Coordinator that would allow for Carly to register for the upcoming Pre-Service
Orientation Training in February 2008

Volunteer Community or Streamside Cleanups

Provided further information to Professor Neil Korostoff, Department of Landscape Architecture-PSU, who
has students who are interested in participating in a community project next season that would allow them
to use their classroom techniques to apply to a historic preservation/community gardening project for the
semester'; EPCAMR forwarded them needs of the Anthracite Living History Group on the Avondale Historic
Site Preservation Project for consideration, including some pictures and program event materials like the
header below for one of our previously coordinated ceremonies

