



2015

PENNSYLVANIA'S
Abandoned Mine Reclamation

CONFERENCE

"Reclaiming Our Communities"



www.arippa.org



Abandoned Mine Reclamation

June 25-26, 2015
Ramada Conference Center
State College, PA

www.treatminewater.com

Welcome



Dear 2015 Conference Attendees,

Communities...What are they? What makes them ours? Why do we as a watershed community, volunteers, and professionals become so engaged in them, particularly in our coalfield communities across PA? What is being done to take them back and restore them from past environmental mining practices that we are all so concerned about? Our communities are where we live, work, play, recreate, entertain, showcase to others, and raise our families.

The Pennsylvania AMR Community may be the most active constituency working on mine drainage issues and supporting the reclamation of our abandoned mine lands in the country, given our strength in the number of Coalitions that make up our PA AMR Community. We are the ones who are taking back and reclaiming our communities in more ways than one. Our ultimate goals collectively are many: clean water, reclaimed viable landscapes, sustainability, improved quality of life, job creation, local economic redevelopment opportunities out of mine-scarred lands, development of new energy sources, hydro-electric energy, geothermal energy, ARIPPA's high tech co-generation plants, re-use of mine pool water to save fresh water reserves, creation of fish hatcheries, and the re-use of metal oxides for multiple markets. This year's conference is a celebration of "Reclaiming Our Communities".

This is your conference. Have a great time and make the most of it!
Robert Hughes, Executive Director, EPCAMR

2015 Exhibitors

LARGE
LARSON DESIGN GROUP

STANDARD
EPCAMR & WPCAMR
Stream Restoration, Inc.
Hy-Tech Mushroom Compost, Inc.
Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful
Kiski-Conemaugh Stream Team

Harsco Minerals
Agri Drain
Mountain Watershed Association
Land and Mapping Services



Thanks for making the conference
possible!

2015 Planning Committee

- * Robert Hughes & Michael Hewitt
Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation, Ashley PA (lead organization)
- * Andy McAllister & Anne Daymut
Western PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation, Greensburg PA (co-lead organization)
- * Jeff McNelly & Cristy Doyle, ARIPPA, Harrisburg PA (co-lead organization)
- * Donna Wagner, PA Department of Environmental Protection, Harrisburg PA
- * Tom Grote, WPCAMR volunteer, Jennerstown PA
- * Glenn Florence, PA Department of Environmental Protection, Harrisburg PA
- * Tom Clark, Susquehanna River Basin Commission, Indiana PA
- * Leigh Ann Kemmerer, Borton-Lawson Engineering, EPCAMR Board Member, Ashley PA
- * Melissa Reckner, Kiski-Conemaugh Stream Team, Windber PA
- * Cliff Denholm, Stream Restoration, Inc., Mars PA
- * Arielle Avishai, OSMRE, Pittsburgh PA

Who will be awarded the 2015

Mayfly Award?

Welded sculpture by:
Michael Bestwick, Fennelton PA



Thursday - Synopses

Thursday

8:45 -
9:30

Ryan A. McCampbell, Bloomsburg University, "A Cost-Benefit Analysis of Acid Mine Drainage Recovery and its Implications for Potential Business Opportunities"

This study investigates the procedure for removing contaminants from rivers and streams that were left as a result of Acid Mine Drainage in order to investigate the marketability of the possible goods and services as potential sources of revenue.

Bob Hedin, Hedin Environmental, "Two Passive Treatment Systems that are Regional Community Assets"

Effective passive minewater treatment systems can be attractive to the public because they do not contain hazardous components, support wildlife, and communicate a resonating message of frugal ingenuity. This talk will focus on two passive treatment systems in Allegheny County, at Wingfield Pines and Pittsburgh Botanic Gardens, that have become central components of popular public spaces.

9:30 -
10:15

Kelsey Biondo, Dave Svab, Samantha Schafer, EPCAMR, "Processing Underground Mine Maps"

EPCAMR is scanning, cataloging, geo-referencing, and digitizing abandoned underground coal mining maps of Northeast and North Central Pennsylvania through a Mine Subsidence Insurance Program Grant instituted by PA DEP. This presentation will discuss the progress made, provide links to data, and discuss findings made by EPCAMR's GIS team.

Emilie Rzotkiewicz, Allegheny Land Trust, "Wingfield Pines AMD: Connecting to the Community and Beyond"

Wingfield Pines Conservation Area hosts an award-winning passive AMD system. Learn about the variety of programs, events and partnerships in this presentation where we explain how Wingfield Pines has become a community meeting space, living laboratory, and canvas for creativity.

10:45 -
11:30

Tom Clark, Susquehanna River Basin Commission, "Susquehanna River Mine Drainage Data Portal - Phase II Improvements and Phase III Ideas"

It's been two years since SRBC presented the Phase I version of the Susquehanna River Mine Drainage Portal. In those two years, SRBC has added more tools, more data coverages, and has some ideas for a Phase III version, which includes a smart phone app that will allow you to access this tremendous data resource when in the field.

Kitty Vagley, Pittsburgh Botanic Garden, "Reclamation at the Pittsburgh Botanic Garden"

The Pittsburgh Botanic Garden has been addressing acid mine drainage in its valleys and ridgetops for four years. Hear the story of the transformation of 460 acres of abandoned coal mining land into the region's first outdoor comprehensive botanic garden.

11:30 -
12:15

Eric Null, Conemaugh Valley Conservancy, "Incorporating Data Logger and Biological Monitoring to Diagnose Stream Pollutants and Aid in Reclamation Efforts"

Comparison of logger and biological data is allowing Conemaugh Valley Conservancy to more accurately diagnose pollutants and pinpoint critical areas for reclamation efforts within the Kiski-Conemaugh River Basin.

Gary Merritt, Nothern Star Generation LLC, "Big Yellow Taxi?...You don't know what you've got 'till it's gone"

Coal refuse-fired plants want to continue doing their good work and providing the benefits that are so important to our communities and waterways. For this to occur, we are asking for assistance in addressing technical concerns and regulatory requirements in a fashion that will result in appropriate environmental limitations with corresponding appropriate costs and burdens to these facilities.

Friday - Schedule

Friday

7:00 - 8:30	Registration and Light Breakfast (Exhibit Area) 7:00 - 8:30am		
8:30 - 8:45	Welcome (Grand Ballroom): Andy McAllister, WPCAMR		
8:45 - 9:30	John Stefanko, Deputy Secretary, Office of Abandoned Mine Operations, PA DEP KEYNOTE ADDRESS		
Track	Track 1 (Chairman's Room)		Track 2 (Forum Room)
9:30 - 10:15	<i>Michelle Dunn, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, "Great American Cleanup of PA, International Coastal Cleanup of PA, Litter Free School Zone and Camera Loan Program"</i>	<i>Bernie Hoffnar and Dave Mankameyer, "PA AML/AMD Reclamation History: A Grassroots Effort"</i>	
10:15 - 10:45	Break (Exhibit Area) 10:15 - 10:45am		
	Track 1 (Chairman's Room)	Track 2 (Forum Room)	Track 3 (Grand Ballroom)
10:45 - 11:30	<i>Matt Kierstead, Milestone Heritage Consulting, "A Mine is a Terrible Thing to Waste: Cultural Resources and Vermont's Elizabeth Mine Superfund Cleanup"</i>	<i>Mike Korb, PA DEP, "Mine Reclamation and Monarch Butterfly Habitat"</i>	<i>Beverly Braverman, Mountain Watershed Association and Bill Reichert, Schuylkill Headwaters Association, "Preserving the Future of Our Watersheds"</i>
11:30 - 12:15	<i>Joe Schueck, Agri Drain Manufacturers, "Flow Distribution Box"</i>	<i>Nora Sullivan and Natalie Kruse Daniels, Ohio University Voinovich School, "Water Quality Monitoring - There's an App for That"</i>	<i>John Curley, et al., PA DEP, "Emergency Projects to Extinguish Coal Refuse Bank Fires in Northeast Pennsylvania"</i>
12:15 - 1:30	Lunch Speakers: Eric Cavazza, PA DEP and Ryan Ellis, IMCC "Preparing for SMCRA Reauthorization in 2021" (Atrium) 12:15 - 1:30pm		
Track	Track 1 (Chairman's Room)		Track 2 (Forum Room)
1:30 - 2:15	<i>Missy Reckner, Kiski-Conemaugh Stream Team, "Building Capacity to Complete Restoration Work"</i>	<i>Russ Stutzman, "Drones: Environmental Monitoring and the Federal Rules for Their Use"</i>	
2:15 - 3:00	<i>Brad Shultz, OSMRE ""</i>	<i>Robert Hughes and Mike Hewitt, EPCAMR, "3D Modeling of Eastern Pennsylvania Anthracite Mine Pools"</i>	
3:00 - 3:30	Break (Exhibit Area) 3:00 - 3:30pm		
3:30 - 4:15	<i>Cliff Denholm, Stream Restoration Incorporated, "Passive Treatment of Acidic, High-Metal, Discharges"</i>	<i>Terry Schmidt, Skelly & Loy, "Big Run Restoration: A Success Story"</i>	
4:15 - 5:00	<i>Joe Pizarchik, OSMRE, "OSMRE Perspective"</i> (GRAND BALLROOM)		

7

8

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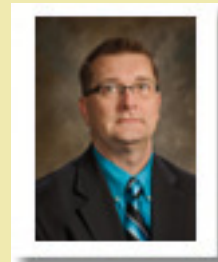
Friday - Synopses

8:45 *John Stefanko, Deputy Secretary, Office of Active and Abandoned Mine Operations, PA*
- *Department of Environmental Protection: KEYNOTE ADDRESS*

9:30

"Reclaiming Our Communities: Opportunities for the Future"

Deputy Secretary Stefanko will give a welcome to conference attendees on behalf of PA DEP and the Secretary's Office. DEP has been integral in AMR community efforts. Mr. Stefanko will innumerate multiple past successes of the Department and introduce you to proposed legislation that has the potential to increase funding for AMR, especially in communities that need it the most.



9:30 *Michelle Dunn, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, "Great American Cleanup of PA, International Coastal*
- *Cleanup of PA, Litter Free School Zone and Camera Loan Program"*

10:15

This presentation will be an overview of Keep Pennsylvania's mission, state wide accomplishments and core programs that are available to local governments, community organizations and residents of Pennsylvania who want to make their communities clean and beautiful.

Bernie Hoffnar and Dave Mankameyer, "PA AML/AMD Reclamation History: A Grassroots Effort"

In the beginning no state AML funds were allocated to W.Pa. All funds went to anthracite region. DER Mineral Resource Deputate, Dick Belecki, would not consider AML projects in W. Pa. SCS-RAMP (Rural Abandoned Mine Program) was available for AML projects but had limited funding. A group of four conservation districts worked to increase funding for RAMP and to push for state funding for AML projects in W. Pa. And the rest is history.

10:45 *Matt Kierstead, Milestone Heritage Consulting, "A Mine is a Terrible Thing to Waste: Cultural*
- *Resources and Vermont's Elizabeth Mine Superfund Cleanup"*

11:30

EPA's attention to cultural resource management issues during the Elizabeth Mine cleanup resulted in a well-documented site history that fulfilled the desires of the community and the State of Vermont, and in some instances also positively informed aspects of cleanup design and construction. To satisfy the project's public education requirement, EPA hired Milestone Heritage Consulting to create From Copperas to Cleanup: The History of Vermont's Elizabeth Copper Mine, a popular history report presenting the story of 150 years of industrial activity and how EPA and its project partners documented and reclaimed its legacy on the landscape. The mine cleanup educational mitigation also includes a series of on-site interpretive panels for a mine history trail.

Mike Korb, PA DEP, "Mine Reclamation and Monarch Butterfly Habitat"

Monarchs need milkweed as a breeding habitat. Loss of meadow and farm milkweed stands in eastern and Midwestern US due to no till farming, herbicides, "getting rid of weeds", and genetically modified corn has caused a major decline in Monarch Butterflies. We have started what may become a major initiative to utilize mineland reclamation as replacements for some of these habitats, and this presentation will discuss this effort.

Beverly Braverman, Mountain Watershed Association and Bill Reichert, Schuylkill Headwaters Association, "Preserving the Future of Our Watersheds"

This panel will include presentations about the work non-profits do to restore watersheds in east and west PA—pitfalls and problems; planning for the future; paying for it; who should be implementing the work; who should commit to it; and why it is so difficult to follow our plans. Will Pennsylvania's resurrected streams stay that way?

Friday

Friday - Synopses

Friday

11:30 - 12:15	<p>Joe Schueck, Agri Drain Manufacturers, "Flow Distribution Box"</p> <p>Passive mine drainage treatment systems are expensive to build. Flows going into the system that are in excess of what the system was designed to handle can overtax the system and lead to premature and devastating failure. A flow distribution box can prevent that failure by controlling the amount of mine drainage directed into the system. Flows going into multiple ponds can also be accurately distributed. Flow adjustments are simple and accurate.</p>
	<p>Nora Sullivan and Natalie Kruse Daniels, Ohio University Voinovich School, "Water Quality Monitoring – There's an App for That"</p> <p>The ODK Collect smartphone app can streamline water quality data collection. Watershed groups, state and federal natural resource departments, and citizen volunteers collect water quality data in the field to justify environmental protections and funding, and perform community health assessments. Adapted and tested by the Ohio University Voinovich School for Leadership and Public Affairs, this app can not only reduce the potential for data entry errors by transferring digitally recorded information directly to a database, but also reduces equipment needs by incorporating data recording, camera, and GPS functions in one device.</p>
1:30 - 2:15	<p>Missy Reckner, Kiski-Conemaugh Stream Team, "Building Capacity to Complete Restoration Work"</p> <p>The Consortium for Scientific Assistance to Watersheds (C-SAW) is a team of specialist who provide FREE organizational and scientific technical assistance to PA-based watershed and conservation organizations. C-SAW is designed to increase your organization's knowledge and capacity to implement projects that align with your mission. Watershed specific technical assistance, quality control, and mentoring is available.</p>
	<p>Russ Stutzman, "Drones: Environmental Monitoring and the Federal Rules for Their Use"</p> <p>The presentation by Russ Stutzman and Jacob Hayson will be covering the ability to use remotely operated craft, or drones as they have come to be known, in the collection of environmental samples and data. The discussion will include the Federal rules and regulations governing the commercial use of drones in the national airspace.</p>
2:15 - 3:00	<p>Brad Shultz, Office of Surface Mine Reclamation and Enforcement, ""</p>
	<p>Robert Hughes and Mike Hewitt, EPCAMR, "3D Modeling of Eastern Pennsylvania Anthracite Mine Pools"</p> <p>EPCAMR's recent mapping effort has reasonably found that almost 9 billion gallons of mine water resides in storage in 10 mines in the Southern Field and approximately 435 billion gallons in all the Northern Field.</p>

Friday - Synopses

3:30
- 4:15

Cliff Denholm, Stream Restoration Incorporated, "Passive Treatment of Acidic, High-Metal, Discharges"

In recent years, the capabilities of passive systems to treat highly acidic mine discharges with high concentrations of dissolved metals has been questioned. It is important to remember that with any treatment system, whether passive or active, proper design, suitable land characteristics, quality construction, proper maintenance and sufficient funding, are needed to provide a long-term, cost-effective approach for watershed restoration. This presentation will provide mini case studies that demonstrate, by example, that passive systems can and are effectively treating acidic, high-metal, discharges in Pennsylvania.

Terry Schmidt, Skelly & Loy, "Big Run Restoration: A Success Story"

Coal mine drainage emanating from underground mines in the Big Run watershed killed all life in Big Run and the lower five miles of Blacklegs Creek for over half a century. In the late 1990's, a watershed assessment was completed for Blacklegs Creek and its Big Run tributary, which was the first step to development of a restoration plan. Through numerous grants of all types and 15 years or so of hard work, bugs and fish returned to lower Big Run and Blacklegs Creek below the confluence.

4:15 -
5:00

Joe Pizarchik, Office of Surface Mine Reclamation and Enforcement, "OSMRE Perspective"

Joe Pizarchik is the Director of the OSMRE. In his previous position with PA DEP, he was one of the authors of Pennsylvania's Environmental Good Samaritan Act. Mr. Pizarchik helped develop Pennsylvania's program for volunteers to clean up abandoned coal refuse sites and helped develop Pennsylvania's program for mine operators to establish trust funds as a means of meeting their financial obligation to ensure funds are available to perpetually treat the discharges caused by their mining. Joe will provide an update on policies related to AMR.

5:00

Conference Ends *Door Prizes – Must be Present to Win!*

Friday

FRIDAY LUNCH SPEAKERS

&

Presentation of Mayfly Award:

Eric Cavazza, PA Department of Environmental Protection, and
Ryan Ellis, Interstate Mining Compact Coalition,

"Preparing for SMCRA Reauthorization in 2021"

Preliminary discussions and efforts have begun to reauthorize Title IV of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) to continue to provide funding for AML and AMD work across the country. Pennsylvania has been working with the National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs (NAAML) and the Interstate Mining Compact Commission (IMCC) to frame the issues and identify interested partners for the effort. A brief update of the efforts to date of these organizations and committees coupled with a brief presentation of the current state of SMCRA Title IV and the PA AML Program will be conducted followed by a question and answer session.

DEP's Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation

Welcomes Attendees of the 17th Annual PA AMR Conference



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