

2018 - The year in review.....

The Annual Report of District Manager David R. Rupert.....

The Armstrong Conservation District responded to several new challenges and redefined itself once again to cope with the ever changing conservation environment. July, 2018 saw the awarding of another Pennvest funding offer for constructing another non-point source pollution control project in partnership with the Allegheny Valley Land Trust, and the Clarion Conservation District. This project will be the third and final Non-Point Source Pollution funding offer. Early in 2018, the Board of Directors dedicated themselves to concentrate on implementation of the 5 year Strategic Plan to guide the District. Please visit our website to view the current Strategic Plan. Our “2018 Action Plan” set forth numerous objectives that the Board wished to see fully implemented by the end of the year. As you read the individual reports of our Staff, you will be able to see how each person contributed to completion of the Annual Action Plan. The Board continued to update our Annual Action Plan in four priority areas-Capacity Building, Technical Assistance, Resource Conservation and Protection, and Outreach and Education. Specific measurable objectives were adopted by the District Board and assigned to the appropriate individuals or the Board as a whole for implementation. The highlights of the individual staff in the Annual Report will tell you how well those objectives were achieved.

In our continuing effort to build the District Capacity, numerous professional development opportunities were made available to the Staff, Directors, and Associate Directors. Staff meetings were conducted by the District Manager on a bi-weekly basis to keep the staff informed, exchange information, and coordinate our limited resources. Late April saw the district offices relocated to Kittanning from our long standing home base of the Armsdale Administration Building. Our new office is located at 120 South Grant Avenue, Suite 2 in Kittanning. Please stop in AND visit us if you are in the area. The District continued to grow the Cooperator Assistance and Outreach Programs through updates to our website, informational brochures, field days, and the use of our Dayton Fair and crops night displays. 2018 saw the District expand its education and outreach efforts with an expanded offering to 16 different Conservation District in Western Pa. through the Mobile Environmental Display (MED). In July the Mobile Environmental Display was taken on the road to Lancaster for the NACD - Northeast regional meeting and the PACD-Joint Annual Conference. The District continued to participate in the AmeriCorps program and welcomed a new CorpsMember - Jillian Matthews. Our two former members, Heidi Krigar and Catherine Schnur ended their terms at the District to pursue other avenues. In 2018, the District continued to apply for Growing Greener Watershed Protection and Restoration Grants to implement other facets of the District Program. Work continued to administer and close out those currently awarded Growing Greener grants. The District continued to be represented with the Board appointing delegates to the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts (PACD), Western Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation (WPCAMR), Penn's Corner Resource Conservation & Development Council (RD&D), and the Dirt and Gravel Road Quality Assurance Board (QAB).

In the area of Technical Assistance, the District provided assistance to several County organizations and Municipalities as they were striving to attain their conservation goals. District Staff also worked to retain participation by local elected municipal officials in the creation and maintenance of Agricultural Security Areas (ASA's) within the County. Staff assisted various municipalities interested in participating in the Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Roads Program. The District continued its participation in the Commonwealth REAP program by providing assistance to area agricultural producers interested in applying for these tax credits.

In the field of Resource Conservation and Protection, the District conducted Erosion and Sediment Pollution Control Plan reviews and performed the required site inspections of active earthmoving sites within timeframes established by the Commonwealth. District staff participated in Southwest Project Grass and provided technical and administrative assistance to the Armstrong County Agricultural Lands Preservation Board as they selected the purchase of the seventh Agricultural Conservation Easement. Work continued on several Watershed Restoration Projects such as the Darmac#14 Passive Wetland Treatment System, The Silver Rock - Phase I Passive Wetland Treatment System, the Gerald Kimmel Landowner Reclamation Project, the Huling Run Passive Wetland Treatment System, and many other restoration projects in various phases of development. Those specific accomplishments may be found under the appropriate staff section of this Annual Report.

For 2017, the District continued its Outreach and Education efforts. Those efforts included the County Envirothon and active participation by all high schools within the County, the Arbor Day Program, the Fruit Tree and Seedling sale, the Armstrong County Agricultural Banquet. District also completely revamped the District webpage, publishing our Annual Report, various articles for newsletters and participation in local, regional, and statewide workshops, and our use of multi-media presentations to area groups about the natural resources of Armstrong County. The district hired Laura Sue Stewart as our part time Mobile Environmental Display Coordinator. The District continued its annual spring legislative Breakfast meeting for our local, state, and federal elected officials and continued to host the annual fall conservation tour of recently completed conservation work within the County. In March, 2018, the District was asked to present recent accomplishments at the statewide County Commissioners Association (CCAP) meeting in Harrisburg. In October, 2018, the District sponsored a kayak trip along to Kiski River for attendees of the National Land Trust Alliance (LTA) conference that was held in Pittsburgh. The kayak trip highlighted recent conservation and protection efforts of the district and its partners at sites along the Kiski River from Avonmore to Apollo. District staff continued working with local municipal officials to expand participation in our Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road Program. For 2019, we will continue to offer technical assistance to our District Cooperators within the limits of our technical abilities and funding.

Ms. Holly Dill continued her professional development as the District E&S Technician. Ms. Dill continues to perform E&S plan reviews, conduct site inspections, and handle E&S related complaints. The entire staff continued their professional development by being cross trained in other areas by staff utilizing their expertise.

For all of these efforts by the Board, Associate Directors, and staff, I am extremely proud of what the Armstrong Conservation District has accomplished in 2018 and look forward to the challenges outlined in our 2019 Action Plan. The individual staff reports are also enclosed, so please review them over at your pleasure and provide us with your feedback so that we may better serve you in the future. I hope that 2019 doesn't blow by as fast as it seemed to in 2018. I know that as I approach 38 years as your Conservation District Manager it seems that time goes by more quickly.

Should you have any questions about the annual report, or any of the District Programs, please stop by our new office location at 120 S Grant Avenue, Suite 2, Kittanning, PA, call me at 724.548.3425 or email me at drupert@co.armstrong.pa.us Please visit our webpage at www.armstrongcd.org or like us on Facebook.

Resource Conservationist – Erosion & Sedimentation

Holly Laird - halaird@co.armstrong.pa.us

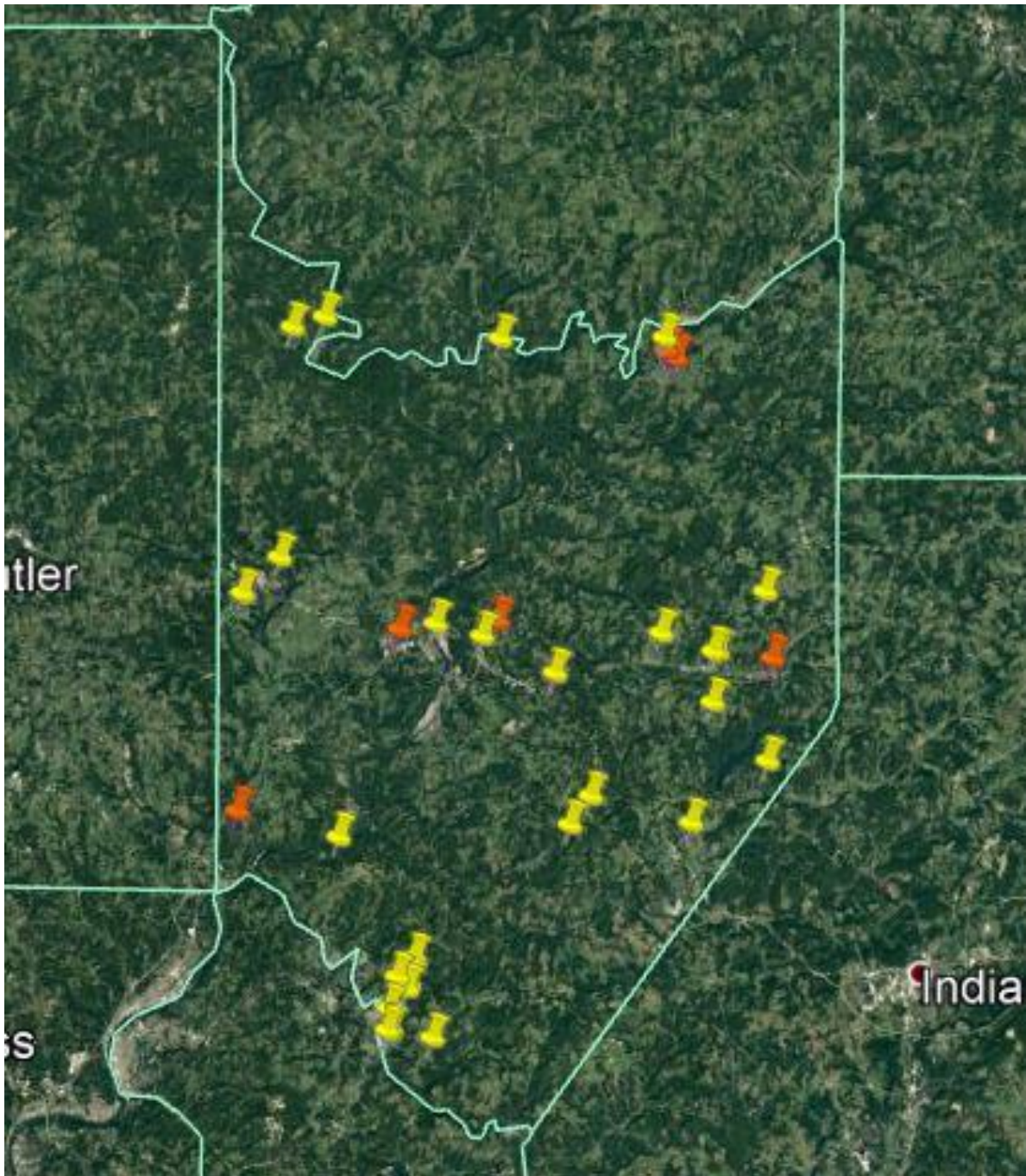
Phone: 724.545.3626

The Armstrong Conservation District has Level III delegation from the PA Department of Environmental Protection to administer the erosion and sediment pollution control program. PA Code, Title 25, Chapter 102 of the Pennsylvania Clean Streams Law requires that steps be taken to control erosion during regulated earth disturbance activities. Under this jurisdiction, the Armstrong Conservation District administers the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program, reviews E&SPC plans for adequacy to prevent accelerated erosion, provides technical assistance, conducts site inspections, reviews plans, and holds education workshops for the regulated community.

The accomplishments over the past year include:

1. E&SPC plan reviews were conducted on 27 plans.
2. E&S plan reviews were conducted on a total of 736 total acres and 112 disturbed acres.
3. NPDES permits were received, processed, and reviewed for 2 Individual permits and 7 General permits.
4. One ESCGP permit was issued for a project associated with oil and gas distribution.
5. Received and investigated 13 complaints pertaining to erosion and sedimentation.
6. Technical assistance was provided to 32 people during the year.
7. To ensure that E&SPC plans were properly implemented and maintained, 99 site inspections were conducted.
8. Notice of Termination requests for 4 sites were reviewed and approved.
9. Two news releases were provided to the public.
10. One workshop was held in 2018 for earth moving contractors that had 9 contractors in attendance.
11. In 2018, review fees received totaled \$21,388, NPDES permit fees totaled \$7,000, and DEP disturbed acre fees totaled \$4,800.





Yellow pins represent E&S plans less than 1 acre approved by ACD

Orange pins represent NPDES permits issued by ACD

In 2018 the Department of Environmental Protection developed an online training academy for Conservation District staff known as Clean Water Academy. The academy is made up of several different modules that are similar to webinars for District staff to complete. These modules educate staff on many different topics from plan reviews to how to conduct a pre-construction meeting.

An earth-moving contractor's workshop was held on Wednesday, December 12th, 2018 in the ACD conference room (pictures below). This was a joint workshop with Clarion County Conservation District and Jefferson County Conservation District with 9 contractors in attendance. Information on PA 1 Call, trench and excavation safety, newly approved E&S BMP's, creating an E&S plan, compliance, and common problems with BMP's was presented on by conservation district staff and other presenters.



Projects of 2018

Wray Plan Road

- In late 2018 PennDOT finished up the Wray Plan Road project which entailed widening State Route 422, as well as the realignment of Ping Wing Hollow Road, Lasher, Road, and Wray Plan Road. As part of this project, a stream was also realigned and a wetland was created. The project is set to be terminated in 2019 along with its corresponding waste sites.

Bergad Specialty Foams and Composites

- Bergad Specialty Foams and Composites, located on State Route 85, was issued an NPDES permit in 2018 for an addition to accommodate their expanding business. The addition was over 46,000 square feet and will allow the manufacturing facility more storage and work space. Bergad Specialty Foams and Composites is planning to expand again in 2019.

Future Plans for 2019

As for 2019, the Erosion and Sediment Control program here at ACD is looking to involve more outreach. An engineering/plan preparing workshop is set for March to educate the regulated community on Chapter 102 updates. A grant application was also submitted for obtain funding to hold a stormwater workshop for Armstrong County Residents. The District is also reaching out to local municipalities that have Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System permits to assist them in being MS4 compliant.

Dirt, Gravel & Low Volume Roads Specialist

A Gregg Smith - agsmith@co.armstrong.pa.us

Phone: 724.545.3610

The Dirt Gravel & Low Volume Roads Specialist is responsible for administering the Dirt, Gravel & Low Volume Roads (DGLVR) Program within the County. I have a degree in Civil Engineering Technologies and have been certified as a DGLVR Specialist through multiple trainings and workshops. I work with applicants to develop plans for projects and assist with the logistics of project work whenever possible. I am responsible for keeping all records of projects and maintaining an inventory of all completed and current work sites using a GIS system. Project inspections are done prior to work starting, during construction and when site work is completed. A portion of the annual DGLVR Program funding is required to be used for Training & Education purposes. The District applies these Training and Education funds toward demonstration construction projects and the purchase of equipment for the municipalities to borrow. This policy allows us to provide

additional monies toward ESM construction and place more ESM techniques onto the roadways.

Dirt, Gravel & Low Volume Roads Program (DGLVR)

A statewide program passed into law in 1997, as Section 9106 of the PA Vehicle Code. The program was established to reduce sediment and dust pollution by utilizing Environmentally Sound Maintenance (ESM) practices generated by unpaved roads. A local Quality Assurance Board (QAB) consisting of members from the PA Fish & Boat Commission, USDA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (NRCS) and the District review and score project proposals and recommend which projects the District should fund. The District makes grants to the municipalities to perform ESM work on their roads. In 2015, the Program expanded to allow paved or tar and chipped roads that have an average daily traffic count of less than 500 vehicles become eligible for funding.

The DGLVR Program funded 28 projects during the 2018 construction season. Three of projects involved installing aquatic organism passages (AOP) across the stream. Municipalities normally use a round pipe for a stream crossing; an AOP provides a bank full width opening and allows the aquatic life to travel further up the stream. The wider structure reduces scouring, streambank erosion and gravel deposition near the crossing. The larger structure reduces flooding concerns and future road repairs.



Seven projects involved filling in entrenched roads. Entrenched roads do not allow drainage to escape which causes road and ditch erosion to occur. By filling the roadway up to the surrounding profile, water can sheet flow off the road, which reduces erosion damage and keeps sediment from entering the streams. Municipalities use aggregate from local quarries to fill in the embedded roadways providing a cost effective

method to add 75 to 100 years to the life of the road while providing economic benefits to the regional economy.



To date, the DGLVR Program has assisted local municipalities apply ESM practices along 318 project sites by installing:

- 1,115 cross pipes
- 27 stream culverts
- 44,600 feet of piping
- 174,500 feet of under drains
- 318 miles of ditch stabilization
- 1,267,000 sq. ft. of vegetative management

2019 DGLVR Season

Twenty-three projects are on the schedule for the 2019 construction season totaling \$938,000.00. A regional ESM training in Armstrong County is on the schedule in October. Additional information about the DGLVR Program and a list of the 2019 projects is on the District's website.

Elevated Sand Mound (ESM) Design

The District offers Elevated Sand Mound design services if you are applying for an On Lot Sewage Disposal System Permit. You can contact me directly at 724 545 3610 or the District at 724 548 3425 for additional information.

Resource Conservationist – Agricultural Conservation / Nutrient Management

Jessica Schaub - jschaub@co.armstrong.pa.us

Phone: 724.545.3628

I coordinate the Armstrong County Agricultural Land Preservation Program, review Nutrient Management Plans, and perform fieldwork as an Agricultural Conservation Technician. I also coordinate the Armstrong County Envirothon, Annual Tree & Seedling Sale, and the Annual Fall Conservation Tour. You can contact me by phone at 724-545-3628 or email me at jschaub@co.armstrong.pa.us

Nutrient Management

Armstrong County has 13 agricultural operations that have current Act 38 approved Nutrient Management Plans for a total of 4,150 managed acres. I am currently working with 3 farmers to develop their Nutrient Management Plans.

A farm is required to get an Act 38 Nutrient Management Plan if they are a Concentrated Animal Operation (CAOs). CAOs are defined as operations where the animal density exceeds two animal units per acre on an annualized basis (AEU). An AU is defined as 1,000 pounds of animal live weight. However, farms with less than 8AEUs are not required under this law to have an approved Act 38 Nutrient Management Plan regardless of the animal density on the farm.

Manure Management

Every farm in Pennsylvania that land applies manure, whether they generate the manure or import it from another operation, is required to have a written Manure Manual Plan. For farms not defined as Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) or Concentrated Animal Operations (CAOs), Manure Management Plans can be prepared by the farmer. Manure Management Plans do not have to be submitted for approval but must be kept on the farm and made available upon request to DEP or the local county conservation District.

Pennsylvania Chapter 91.36 addresses pollution control and prevention at agricultural operations. Chapter 91.36 refers to the DEP Manure Management Manual (MMM) as containing standards for development of a Manure Management Plan. The MMM is available to assist farmers to develop a written Manure Management Plan.

The Armstrong Conservation District hosted a Manure Management Workshop on February 20 and March 20, 2018 for farmers in Armstrong County. The Armstrong Conservation District will host a Manure Management Workshop on February 12, 2019 for farmers in Armstrong County. I will continue to work individually with farmers to create Manure Management Plans and hold workshops in the County as needed.

ACT Program

I work with the NRCS staff at the Conservation District to assist producers and landowners with implementing Best Management Practices on their land. Funds from the PA Growing Greener Program, REAP, and other federal programs have provided cost-share incentives to farmers wishing to install Best Management Practices.

The Armstrong Conservation District is continuing to help farmers install best management practices (BMPs) in the Campbell Run Watershed (DEP Growing Greener Grant). Campbell Run Farms installed streambank fencing, riparian forest buffer, stream crossing, and a manure storage facility. We are currently working on implementing additional agricultural BMPs for their operation. Edward Huston is in the process of installing a Roofed Heavy Use Area with a Manure Storage Facility.

The Armstrong Conservation District is continuing to help 3 farmers install agricultural best management practices (BMPs) in the Garretts Run Watershed. The agricultural BMPs could include up to 2 Heavy Use Area with Manure Stacking Facility, 1 Manure Storage Facility, Watering Facilities, Stream Crossings, and Streambank Fencing, and 3 Act 38 Nutrient Management Plans.

The Armstrong Conservation District is continuing to help farmers install best management practices (BMPs) in the Cowanshannock Creek Watershed (DEP Growing Greener Grant). Paul Stubrick's Farm in Kittanning Township installed a spring development, pipeline, watering system, and a water control structure. We are currently working on implementing additional agricultural BMPs on his operation (Roofed Heavy Use Area with Manure Storage Facility).

The Armstrong Conservation District applied for 2 DEP Growing Greener Grants to help 2 farmers in the Cowanshannock and Crooked Creek Watersheds implement agricultural best management practices (BMPs) on their farms.

The Armstrong Conservation District helped 4 farmers fill out REAP applications in 2018 for a total of \$119,127 in tax credits. The Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Program allows farmers and businesses to earn tax credits in exchange for "Best Management Practices" (BMPs) on agricultural operations that will enhance farm production and protect natural resources. Eligible applicants may receive between 50% and 75% of project cost as state tax credits for up to \$150,000 per agricultural operation.

Armstrong County Agricultural Land Preservation Program

The Armstrong County Agricultural Land Preservation (ACALP) Board consists of seven board members that reside in Armstrong County; Bill Kronen, John Bennett, Paul Stubrick, Spurgeon Shilling, Terry Bowser, Marlene Kammerdiener, and Troy Goldstrohm.

The purpose of the program is to protect viable agricultural lands by obtaining agricultural conservation easements, which prohibit the development or improvement of the land for any use other than agricultural production. This program provides up to \$2,000/acre

compensation to landowners in exchange for them to voluntarily give up the right to develop their private property.

The ACALP Board and the County Commissioners purchased 6 agricultural conservation easements from the following landowners; Suzanne and Edgar Bruce (Burrell Township), Meredith Patterson (Kiskiminetas Township), Scott Morrison (South Buffalo Township), George and Marsha Kepple (Sugarcreek Township), and Richard Shirey (Redbank Township) for a total of 539 preserved acres. The ACALP Board is currently working on purchasing an agricultural conservation easement from Clayholm Farms for 149.00 acres located in West Franklin Township.

Armstrong County Envirothon

The 13th Armstrong County Envirothon was held at the Outdoor Discovery Center at Crooked Creek on April 25, 2018. Eleven teams of high school students from Armstrong High School, Apollo-Ridge High School, Freeport Senior High School, Leechburg High School, Lenape Tech School, and West Shamokin Jr. Sr. High School competed against each other in the event.

The Envirothon is designed to give students an opportunity to acquire and demonstrate their knowledge of environmental resources and their connection to each other and human activities. The students are challenged in the areas of aquatic ecology, forestry, soil / land use, wildlife, and a current environmental issue. The 2018 current environmental issue was “Benefits of Grassland and Pasture Management.”

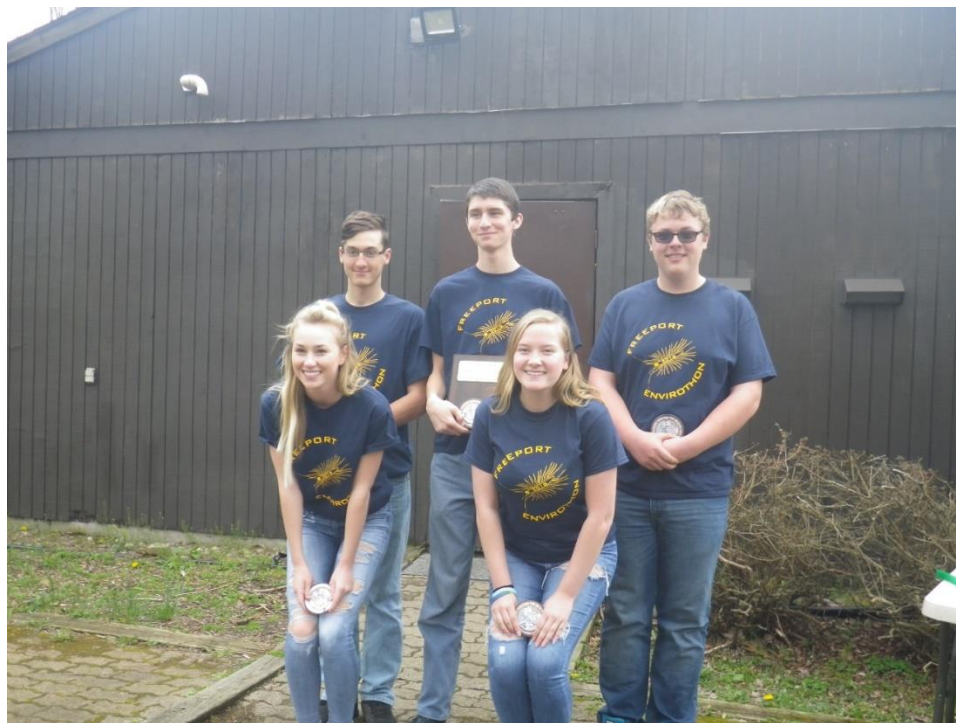
The West Shamokin High School winning team represented Armstrong County at the Pennsylvania State Envirothon at Susquehanna University on May 22 and Camp Mount Luther on May 23, 2018.





1st Place- West Shamokin High School-Canis Lupus

Left to right: Sam Barker, Ethan Adamson, Colt Snyder, Matt Petras and Sydney Dailey



2nd Place- Freeport Senior High School-Scutigera Coleoptrata

Josh McCoy, Tori Negley, Hayden Bash, Dave Kinniburgh, Nick Mattivi



3rd Place Team-West Shamokin High School-Canis Lupus Arctos

Left to Right (front row): Haley Bradeis, Jenna Miller, Sarah Stephenson,
(back row): Carter Eddy and Shane Krizmanich

The next Armstrong County Envirothon will be held on April 24, 2019 at the Outdoor Discovery Center at Crooked Creek. Competitors must be enrolled in grade levels 9 through 12 or equivalent home education program ranking. Teams comprising of five students are tested in the five subject areas including aquatics, forestry, soils, wildlife, and a current issue. A new current issue subject is chosen each year.

If you are a business or an individual and would like to donate to the Envirothon, please contact Jessica Schaub at 724-545-3628 or e-mail jschaub@co.armstrong.pa.us. For more information about the Envirothon, please visit www.envirothonpa.org.

Annual Fruit Tree and Seedling Sale

As a service to the area landowners, the Armstrong Conservation District conducts an annual fruit tree and seedling sale in April. The fruit trees and seedlings offered each year are dependent on the availability at the nurseries.

We sold 295 fruit trees and 3,275 seedlings for in 2018:

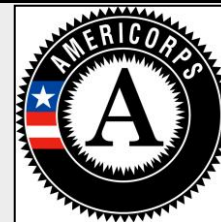
The following varieties of fruit trees were available for sale in 2018:

- Apple:** Buckeye Gala, Da Rosa, Daybreak Fuji, Granny Smith, Honeycrisp, Shizuka
- Apricot:** Harlayne, OrangeRed
- Peach:** Loring, Redhaven, Sugar Giant, White Lady
- Pear:** Blakes Pride, Seckel, Sunrise
- Plum:** Queen Rosa, Ruby Queen, Santa Rosa
- Seedlings:** American Elder (Elderberry), Black Cherry, Button Bush, Canaan Fir, Colorado Blue Spruce, Concolor (White Fir), Japanese Red Pine, Norway Spruce, Ponderosa Pine, and White Flowering Dogwood.



The Armstrong Conservation District also provides an annual donation of evergreen seedlings to all the 3rd grade students in Armstrong County. These total over 900 seedlings distributed. We would like to thank Mr. Steve Misera and his students from Lenape Tech Natural Resources Department for all of their help to package the trees. The Annual Tree Sale and Arbor Day distribution would never be successful without their support and assistance. Thank you!

If you would like to receive an order form or if you would like to offer any purchase suggestions for next year, please contact Jessica Schaub at the Armstrong Conservation District Office at 724-545-3628.

2018 AMERICORPS MEMBER**Jillian Mathews - AmeriCorps / jpmathews@co.armstrong.pa.us****Phone: 724-545-3658**

My name is Jillian Mathews, and I am serving my first term as a Pennsylvania Mountain Service Corps member (a local initiative of AmeriCorps). From August 24, 2018 through August 10, 2019, I will be serving 1700 hours with the Armstrong Conservation District. I work closely with our Agricultural Technician, Jessica Schaub, who is serving as my supervisor during my internship. There is much I aspire to accomplish during my service with the Armstrong Conservation District, and I look forward to learning new things from the district staff.

The AmeriCorps National Service Movement engages thousands of Americans of all ages and backgrounds in a domestic Peace Corps. The members serve their communities in the areas of education, environment, public safety, and human needs and receive a living stipend, educational scholarship rewards, and a wealth of experience. Located in Southwest and Southcentral Pennsylvania, PMSC provides service opportunities through nonprofit and government organizations across a 16,000 square mile region.

In the first six months of my AmeriCorps service term, I have been involved with many of the Armstrong Conservation District's programs. These programs include Agriculture, E&S, and Dirt, Gravel, & Low-Volume Roads. The following report is a brief description of my involvement and contributions to each of the listed programs to date.

Mobile Environmental Display

A key component of my service term is to travel with the Mobile Environmental Display trailer. The display has made numerous appearances at various schools and events throughout Armstrong County and the surrounding counties, providing children and adults with an educational experience on the importance of water quality and water characteristics. This educational display, along with related educational materials and activities, is facilitated by the District staff and AmeriCorps members.

Agriculture Program

Throughout my service term, I have been most involved with the District's Agriculture Program. Nutrient Management Specialist Jessica Schaub serves as my on-site supervisor and welcomes my assistance with her numerous projects. Construction is currently underway for three farms that received Growing Greener funds, Campbell Run Farms, Ed Huston and Stubrick Farm LLC. Together, Jessica and I surveyed the agricultural best management practices as well as performed construction inspections throughout the process. I took part in assisting Jessica with document preparations, assistance notes, and preparing reimbursement requests. Through my involvement and experience with the Growing Greener projects, I have come to understand the need and

the importance of these state-grant programs. Each project has provided me with a wealth of new information, and a wonderful learning experience.

In addition to Jessica's Growing Greener grant projects, I have also been highly involved in the Farmland Preservation Program. This year I have assisted Jessica in working with Clayholm Farms preserve a 149 acre farm in West Franklin Township.

Fall Conservation Tour 2018

In addition to her Agriculture-based Programs, there are many other projects that Jessica coordinates. Her role in organizing the Fall Conservation Tour had allowed me to make many contributions to the 2018 tour. I aided in coordinating a route for the bus to navigate, accounting for the distance between each stop as well as maintaining a timeline for the day. Once this information was determined, I created a formal schedule of events to provide to the participants of the tour. Lastly, on the day of the tour I provided photography of the presenters and participants at each site.

Outdoor Discovery Center



A significant portion of our environmental education efforts are focused at the Outdoor Discovery Center at Crooked Creek. At the ODC, children and adults alike are educated on environmentally-focused subjects during various events, field trips and summer camps. The ODC is also home to the Annual Armstrong County Envirothon that is organized by the Armstrong Conservation District staff. Armstrong County High School students in grades 9-12 compete in five different subject areas: wildlife, aquatics, soils and land use, forestry and a current issue.

Training Opportunities

Since the beginning of my internship, I have had the privilege to attend many informational conferences, meetings, and trainings with the Conservation District as a way to enhance my skillset.

Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Roads Program

A major component of the Conservation District is DGLVR program. This program assists in the prevention of stream pollution caused by runoff and sediment from a municipality's public roads. I have been fortunate enough to assist Gregg Smith, the DGLVR Specialist, with his various projects.

Erosion & Sedimentation Program

Throughout my internship, I have been involved in learning about the E&S program. I have assisted Holly Laird, the E&S Specialist, in performing construction inspections, and

have also gotten experience in the process of reviewing construction plans and investigating complaints.

ACD W.A.T.E.R. GeoTrail

In 2016 the AmeriCorps members successfully applied for a grant to fund a series of Geocaches that were placed on sites where the District has conservation projects in place. The AmeriCorps members designed every aspect of the GeoTrail, including promotional materials, brochures, a webpage, GeoTrail maps, and cache boxes that contain informational materials about the cache site. The GeoTrail highlights conservation projects within Armstrong County.

The GeoTrail continues to be updated and maintained by the new AmeriCorps members. In September of 2018, 14 new geocache sites were added to the GeoTrail. The current number of GeoTrail sites is 24, with numerous more sites to be placed as construction projects finish in 2019 and future years.

2017-18 AmeriCorps Service Projects

As part of my AmeriCorps Service Projects this year, I was able to volunteer my time on September 11th, 2018 at the Flight 93 National Memorial in Shanksville. My duties during this service project included directing visitors during their visit to the memorial, as well as assisting visitors with any questions or concerns.