



REAP Applications are now available

Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP) Applications for 2011-2012 are now available at www.pda.state.pa.us/REAP.

REAP allows farmers and businesses to earn tax credits in exchange for "Best Management Practices" on agricultural operations that will enhance farm production and protect natural resources. The program is administered by the State Conservation Commission and the tax credits are awarded by the PA Department of Revenue.

How can farmers participate? There are three ways for farmers to participate in the REAP program – Self, Sell, or Sponsor:

Implement eligible BMPs and receive tax credits directly to reduce a state tax bill (self)

Sell tax credits to another Pennsylvania taxpayer (sell)

Work with a sponsor that will help finance a farmer's BMPs. The farmer will be compensated for making improvements and the sponsor will receive the tax credit (sponsor).

What do farmers need to have in order to be eligible for REAP? Agricultural operations must have a current conservation plan (or an NRCS approved grazing (529) plan); an agricultural erosion and sedimentation control plan (an Ag E&S Plan is part of a properly written conservation plan); and a nutrient management plan, if required (for a CAO or CAFO). The cost of developing an implementing these plans may be included to qualify for the tax credit. An agricultural operation with an animal concentration area (ACA) such as a barnyard or loafing area, must have implemented the BMPs to abate

stormwater runoff, loss of sediment and nutrients, and runoff of other pollutants from the ACA, or the implementation of these BMPs must be included in the application for a tax credit. An Ag operation with uncompleted crop field and nutrient management BMPs required in an Ag E&S plan and/or a nutrient management plan must first include the remaining BMPs included in these plans in the application for a tax credit.

Eligible BMPs and equipment:

Tax credits for 75% of eligible costs include:

Nutrient Management Plan, Ag E&S Plan and/or Conservation Plan development

BMPs for ACAs and barnyard runoff, stream bank fencing with 50 foot forested riparian buffers, and 50 foot forested riparian buffers

Tax credits for 50% of eligible costs include:

Any Commission approved BMP or equipment necessary to reduce existing sediment and nutrient concerns, such as manure storage systems, alternative manure treatment practices, filter strips, grassed waterways, management intensive grazing systems and no-till planting equipment.

Stream bank fencing with 35 foot riparian buffers (grassed or forested).

No tax credit will be provided for a publicly funded (taxpayers) portion of a project.

The tax credit is to be returned if the practice is not maintained for the life span of the practice.

Tax credits can only be awarded to projects completed or equipment purchased after the effective date of the ACT, which is October 23, 2007.

REAP differs from traditional conservation programs. It is a tax credit where, unless the farmer works with a sponsoring business, the farmer must finance all up-front costs. The tax credit is issued after the installation of a practice or purchase of eligible equipment. State or federal cost-share portions of a project are ineligible for REAP tax credits. REAP tax credits can be used by the farmer for up to fifteen years, and are transferable and can be sold to other taxpayers. Through REAP's sponsorship program, another business could help finance a project and apply for the tax credit instead of the producer. An accountant or other financial professional can advise farmers on the benefits of REAP for their operation.

If you have questions on REAP, contact Amy Smith, REAP Administrator, at 717-787-8821 or contact the Sullivan County Conservation District at 928-7057.

Applications will begin to be accepted on August 1st in Harrisburg on a first come first served basis until the allotted credits have been used. Addendum applications for FY 2010-2011 which were not considered because credits were unavailable will need to be submitted to the Commission by July 15, 2011. Mail your completed application to PA Department of Agriculture, Attention Amy Smith, Administrator, at 2301 North Cameron Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110.

Chesapeake Bay Program Updates

The District's Chesapeake Bay Program has completed its 2009-2011 Special Project Grant in the end of June. The project provided incentive funding for the implementation of cover crops and no-till planting practices. Through the program, the district provided incentives for 125 acres of cover crops and 302 acres of no-till. As part of the program, participants agreed to maintain the practices on equivalent acreage for a second year at their own cost.

The district will again have funding available for cover crops and no-till in 2012. If you are interested in converting to these practices, please contact Corey Richmond at 570-928-7057 for more information or to enroll.

The District will be starting it work on a new educational outreach program this summer. The program will focus on providing information to the agricultural community regarding environmental regulatory requirements that

apply to all farms in Pennsylvania. The effort is part of Pennsylvania's Watershed Implementation Plan approved by the Environmental protection Agency for cleanup efforts for the Chesapeake Bay. Agricultural regulatory requirements apply to all operations, regardless of size. If you have a significant animal operation or just one horse or cow, you can expect district staff to be contacting you to raise awareness of requirements - in the immediate future.

Dirt and Gravel Roads Program Q.A.B. Approves Projects

Ten projects were approved by the Q.A.B. for funding with the 2010 monies that were released by the State Conservation Commission. One in Forks Township and Colley Township, two in Cherry Township and Elkland

Township, and four in Fox Township. These projects will total approximately \$62,500.00 of work. For a municipality to be eligible for project money they must have gone through the 2-day Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance

Training within the last five years.

The Q.A.B. would like to thank all the Municipalities and other State Agencies that have participated in the program.

Dirt & Gravel Roads Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance

The Sullivan County Conservation District recently was host to a 2-Day Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance for Dirt & Gravel Roads Workshop. The workshop is designed to provide road maintenance professionals with knowledge and techniques to maintain roads in a manner that reduced both maintenance costs and environmental damage. The class is taught by professionals from Penn State's Center for Dirt and Gravel Roads Studies and is funded by the PA State Conservation Commission Dirt and Gravel Roads Program.

There were 43 participants who attended the Sullivan County training coming from as far away as Juniata County. Effective January 1, 2006 at least one person representing the entity that has applied for grants funds from the Dirt and Gravel Roads Program needs to attend the training every 5 years.

The purpose of the Dirt and Gravel Roads Maintenance Program is to help eliminate dust and sediment pollution from entering Pennsylvania's streams from unpaved roads, to help educate and

empower local road-owning entities on the use of cost-effective and environmentally sound maintenance practices for unpaved roads and to provide grant funding to local road-owning entities in order to correct erosion and pollution problems by dirt and gravel roads.

If you missed our training and want to become eligible, please go to www.dirtandgravel.psu.edu and you can find other trainings to attend.



Randy Reibson, E&S Technician giving his presentation at the ESM Workshop.

PROGRAM VALUE STATEMENT

Dirt & Gravel: Townships and municipalities who participate in the D&G Program receive financial assistance and education.

Townships and municipalities who participate in the Dirt and Gravel Road Maintenance Program learn how to maintain roads using environmentally sensitive practices to reduce erosion and build more stable roads for less cost. The public benefits from improved roads, less road maintenance, and reduced sediment in the streams, which results in better water quality and reduced water treatment costs.

Students Take Top Honors at Local Envirothon

Fifteen Sullivan County High School students took part in the 2011 Local Envirothon Competition held at the Consolidated Sportsmen's Club on Route 87 near Montoursville. The Envirothon Competition is a combined event with Lycoming County Conservation District, Sullivan County Conservation District, Sullivan County High School and Lycoming County schools. The event challenges students in grades 9-12 to focus studies in the natural resource areas of forestry, aquatics, soils and land use, wildlife, and a current issue. The 2011 current issue topic was salt and freshwater estuaries.

When scores from each testing station were totaled, Sullivan County's A team came out on top of the competition with a score of 333 out of 500. Sullivan's B and C teams finished in 13th and 15th

respectively. A total of 19 five member teams took part in the event and represented Loyalsock High School, Montoursville High School, St. John Neumann School, and Sullivan County High School.

Sullivan's A team consisting of Calen Wylie, Grant Shultz, Becky Hamilton, Ethan Craft, Justin Potuck and Loyalsock's A team went on to represent their counties at the PA State Envirothon held on the campus of Susquehanna University and Shikellamy State Parks on May 24-25.

The state competition's tests are designed to provide for more of a challenge to students and the state event also factors in an oral component score. The oral component is a team presentation where the teams are given a scenario that ties all of the testing station information

together and the teams must prepare and deliver a presentation to a panel of five judges. The Sullivan team finished in 55th place with a score of 309 and the Lycoming team finished in 41st place with a score of 338.6.

Penn Crest High School of Delaware County took top honors for the state competition and will travel to New Brunswick to represent Pennsylvania at the 24th Annual Canon Envirothon to be held on July 24-29.

In 2012, the Canon Envirothon will be held in Pennsylvania at Susquehanna University. The 2012 Canon event will mark the 25th anniversary for the North American Envirothon Program. It is a great honor for Pennsylvania to host the anniversary event as the Envirothon program is a product of conservation districts in PA.



These students competed in the Sullivan/Lycoming Envirothon in April.



Winning Sullivan A team left to right: Calen Wylie, Grant Shultz, Becky Hamilton, Ethan Craft, and John Potuck.

Final Payment made on ARRA Grant

In 2009 the district was awarded \$870,642.00 from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) after applying for grant monies from the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST) grants program. Insinger Excavating was awarded the bid to complete seven projects in 5 municipalities (Cherry, Colley, Elkland, Forks and Laporte) with the

funding. The projects all were on dirt and gravel roads that directly impact waters of the commonwealth. The projects comprised of under surface drainage, cross pipes, road profile adjustment and driving surface aggregate.

The projects started in October 2009 were completed by the end of June 2010. Final inspections and administra-

tive reviews were completed in February 2011 to release the hold back funds from PENNVEST and final payment was finally made in April 2011. The Conservation District would like to thank the municipalities for their cooperation with the projects. We would also like to thank Insinger Excavating, Inc for their willingness to work with the system and a job well done.

Conservation District Director Receives Distinguished Service

The 2011 PA Association of Conservation Districts and State Conservation Commission Joint Annual Conference was held on Monday and Tuesday July 11-12, 2011 at the Ramada Inn in State College. Presentations and discussions were on Marcellus Shale activities and enforcement issues in Pennsylvania, policy support for an impact fee, leadership development session on budgeting, PACD Committee meetings, networking between conservation district directors, staff, agency representatives, and the public meetings of the State Conservation Commission and PACD.

Of special interest to Sullivan County was the presentation of the SCC Distinguished Service Award. This award was given to Bruno Najaka for his years of service with the environment, especially with cleaning up the acid mine scars from the coal mining era. Bruno has been on the front line of Sullivan County's reclamation efforts since 1970 when he was appointed to serve as a Public Director of the Sullivan County Conservation District. Shortly afterward, he took on the position of coordinator of the abandoned mine projects. In this capacity, he has helped to oversee the reclamation of hundreds of acres of mine-affected lands. In October 1997, Bruno provided a guided tour of two reclaimed AMD sites in Colley Township. By conducting such tours, and educating our elected representatives about the problems associated with abandoned mine drainage, he was helping to secure funding for mine projects throughout Pennsylvania.

Bruno initiated the organization of the first Envirothon Club for Sullivan County High School, served as a 4-H

leader, and a Boy Scout leader. Bruno was honored for his decades of volunteer service when he received one of six Environmental Partnership Awards through the PA Environmental Council in 2000. He continues to work with Eastern PA Coalition of Abandoned Mine Reclamation (EPCAMR), Office of Surface Mining (OSM), Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation (BAMR), White Ash Land Association, and the Sullivan County Conservation District for continuing his work to clean up the mine scars in the county. Bruno will be the "Story Teller" at EPCAMR's upcoming 15th Anniversary Celebration on August 4, 2011 at the Best Western Genetti Inn & Suites in Hazleton. If you're interested in attending, please contact the Sullivan County Conservation District.

In Bruno's acceptance speech, he thanked the SCC for the award presented to him. Sullivan County is between 96% and 98% cleaned up of the mine scars. He wanted everyone to know that he hopes to be remembered by his legacy of cleaning up the acid mine drainage problems and for starting the county's Envirothon Club. His hope is that everyone there would think about their own legacy that they leave behind.

Sullivan County Conservation District also received a certificate from the State Conservation Commission for 50 years of service and dedication to the conservation of natural resources in Sullivan County. The district will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary on Friday evening November 4, 2011 at the Ag Resource Center. Look for more details later.



CAPTION:

Sullivan County Conservation District Director Bruno Najaka and District Manager Jacquelyn Rouse following the awards Luncheon at the 2011 Joint Annual Conference of PACD/SCC on July 12, 2011 at the Ramada Inn in State College. Bruno received the State Conservation Commission's Distinguished Service Award. The District received a certificate of appreciation for the District's 50 years of service and dedication to the conservation of natural resources in Sullivan County.

Calendar of Events

August 9 Board Meeting at Worlds End State Park

September 5—Office Closed for Labor Day

October 10—Office Closed for Columbus Day

November 4—Ag Agency Annual Banquet

November 24-25 Office Closed for Thanksgiving

August 31—September 5 Sullivan County Fair, Forksville

September 13—Board Meeting

October 11—Board Meeting

November 8—Board Meeting and Election Day

December 23,26—Office Closed for Christmas

Conservation District's 50th Anniversary – Part 3

Earl Insinger was the Conservation Farmer for 1970. Bruno Najaka and John Peterman, Sr. are Public Directors on the board. Bill Hart received the award in 1971, and Arthur Saxe received the award in 1972. No plowing contests took place because of wet conditions.

Effective October 21, 1972 D.E.R. established new rules and regulations concerning accelerated erosion and sedimentation. Everyone engaging in an earthmoving activity must develop, implement and maintain an erosion and sedimentation control plan. The plan must be available at the earthmoving site. **DEP now is enforcing the earthmoving activity with farmers in 2011. The District will be conducting educational outreach visits in 2011 and 2012.** It would not be until January 17, 1984 that Eric Brown would begin work as the E&S Technician for both Wyoming and Sullivan Counties (25% for Sullivan). Bill Frazier & Dick McCarty became directors.

In 1973 John McMahon was the Conservation Farmer. Prior to 1973, the Annual Reports were printed in leaflet form. Since the 1973 edition, the Annual Reports have been printed in The Sullivan Review. Bernie Walsh was the county commissioner director in 1973.

Shirley Ambs collected the Recreational Inventory data in 1974. Jackie Rouse was hired as the district's Executive Assistant (now District Manager) to help John Peterman, Sr., the district's secretary. Conservation Farmer was Pardoe Brothers. Paxton Wolfe was transferred to Harrisburg. Mr. Wolfe's daughter, Margie, was a friend of Jackie's at Towanda High School. Pax still resides in Mechanicsburg in 2011. Jackie and Margie continue their friendship.

1975 was the last year RC&D assisted in the Municipal Roadbank Seeding Program. Obie Ashford followed Pax Wolfe in January. George Rohrer replaced Obie in February 1976.

By 1976 there were 63 Executive Assistants hired throughout the state. Sullivan County's allocation was \$470. Mileage was at \$.14. Postage allocation was at \$160. There were no farmer awards, banquets, nor plowing contests in 1975 and 1976. Maynard Reibson was the county commissioner director from 1976-83.

In 1977 a "216" streambank project was completed on the Loyalsock Creek at Forksville. The outdoor meeting toured White Ash Land Association's P&G project. Benton Air Force Base became the Job Corps Center. The 30th Joint Annual Conference was held in Scranton. Saxe-Crest Farms received the Conservation Farm Award – an engraved sign. In 1978 the Soil Survey was completed. Earl & James Warburton received the Conservation Farm Award.

Bob-Wood Acres received the 1979 Farm Award. Jim Lambert received the District's \$100 Ag/Forestry Scholarship.

In 1980, director John Peterman, Sr. received the Maurice Goddard Forestry Award (plaque). 100% of the NACD Dues were paid. The Conservation Farm award went to Eugene and Michael Rouse at the banquet held at Gardner's Inn in Forksville. Bill Gregory retired as Extension's County Agent. Rick Smith became the new Extension Agent. Bob Coombs was a farmer director.

William Frazier was Farmer of the Year because of his vast committee participation. The banquet was held at Gardner's Inn.

Jackie Rouse resigned as Executive Assistant in December 1981. Peggy Anderson came on board in January 1982. Robert Epler was the Farmer of the year.

John Young earned the Farm Award in 1983 at the banquet held at Hotel Laporte. Bureau staff conducted an evaluation of the E&S district program. The January fire destroyed the block that encompassed the Cooperative Extension Service office.

The June 1984 outdoor meeting was held at Violet Peterman Miller's solar heated home in Nordmont. The group viewed John Peterman's trout hatchery. Eric Brown serves Sullivan County as E&S Technician. Harvey Vough received the Farmer Award. John Potuck was CC director from 1984- 87.

Robert Woodhead became the Conservation Farmer for 1985. John Peterman, Sr. was recognized for 15 years of service as a district director – a plaque in the shape of a fish. RC&D funded a section of streambank stabilization of the Loyalsock in Forksville Borough. Peggy Anderson resigned as District Manager. Jackie took

over the position again in June.

1986 brought about the district's 25th Anniversary held at Jaybird's Restaurant. Art Rohe handcrafted a plaque in the shape of Sullivan County. Labels were attached with the names and terms of directors and the managers. In July, Rick Ryan replaced Eric Brown. Sam Browning retired in September. Steve Hanczar was hired in December. Art Rohe was the Conservationist of the Year. "Urban" directors were now called "Public" directors. Ed Patchcoski was assigned to Sullivan County as SCS District Conservationist. Emerson Horn replaced John Peterman, Sr. as a public director.

In 1987 the daytime dinner meeting was held at the Red Fox Restaurant. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed with Cooperative Extension Service. 300 soil surveys were distributed to the courthouse. The outdoor meeting was held at Connell's Dam. Bruno Najaka was chosen Conservationist of the Year because of his conservation related committee involvement.

The PACD Auxiliary sponsored quilt was completed in 1988. Anna Horn embroidered Sullivan's block with names of directors, county commissioners and district managers. Sam Browning passed away on November 19, 1988. There is a room at the Stoll Resource Center in Wysox in Sam's memory. Art Rohe made the plaque. The Seedling Sale sold over 8500 seedlings and plants.

Hillsgrove Ranger Station was recognized as the Conservationist of the Year in 1989 at St. Francis Hall in Mildred. John Peterman, Sr. died in a farming accident.

The 1990 outdoor meeting was held at Connell's Dam. Herb and Mark Eby were presented with the Conservation Farm Award. Art Rohe was presented with the Extension Service Award.

Director Art Rohe passed away May 4, 1991. Francis Moll was appointed to fill his term of office. William B. Saxe also came on the board. "319 Clean Water Funds" provided a manure tour at the Mike Rouse Farm in July, along with the purchase of an Olympus camera for the district. The outdoor meeting was also held there later that day. The 25th Anniversary Directors Plaque was revised for the 30th Anniversary. The "Take Price" sign was presented to Milo & Betty Reibson as the Conservation Farm

Conservation District's 50th Anniversary – Part 3 continued

Award. Dick VanNoy, Division Chief for Conservation Districts, and Bill Lange of the State Conservation Commission, attended the banquet held at Mildred. The Loyalsock Watershed was approved for participation in the Chesapeake Bay Program.

In 1992 Low Input Sustainable Agriculture (LISA) funds were used to purchase sheep fencing on the Tracy McCarty farm. Chesapeake Bay Mini Grant funds were used to purchase a pasture pump. Chesapeake Bay funds were used for the Watershed Assessment of the Mehoopany, Loyalsock and Muncy Creeks prior to the hiring of a nutrient management technician. Walt Dacheux was awarded Farmer of the Year in Mildred. The District signed a delegation agreement for Chapter 102 and NPDES, and has been involved with E&S since 1984. Tony Marek was CC board member through 1995.

Long Term Goals were developed in 1993. D.E.R. (now D.E.P.) initiated a new Municipalities Liaison Program. Two high school teams competed at Regional Envirothon held at Keystone College. Seedling Sale proceeds sponsor these county teams. Michael Krause was hired as the first Nutrient management Technician in February, but resigned in September. Corey Richmond filled the vacancy on November 1, 1993. Extension provided a room for the technician when they added a small conference room. Five landowners signed up for the Chesapeake Bay Program for a chance at the first \$30,000 allocation per farm. Bill Zavislak was hired as an Engineering Assistant to assist Rob Sweppenheiser in Bradford County. White Ash Land Association was the Conservationist of the Year at the banquet at Mildred. Rick Ryan was successful with a "319 Clean Water Fund" project on wetlands. Bruno was appointed to the State R.A.M.P. Committee. He was also a new Regional PACD Director for a term of 2 years.

A Poster Contest for 4th – 6th grade students began in 1994. The district began printing the Bi-monthly newsletter. David Hewit was Conservationist of the Year. Classification of the district as a Non-Profit Organization was utilized for bulk mailings. The District signed a Chapter 105 Delegation Agreement that allows for permitting of work in or around water impoundment.

Randy Reibson replaced Rick Ryan as E&S Technician in 1995. Randy works 100% of his time in the county. Corey and Randy became county employees. The county was reimbursed 100% with Chesapeake Bay funds for Corey and 50% for Randy with state funding. High Hart Farm was selected for the Conservationist Farm at the banquet held at the Endless Winds Fire Hall at Shunk. Mark Eby received a Chesapeake Bay sign with the completion of their animal waste storage. Total Quality Management training was attended by staff and some directors. The Passerella RAMP project was completed. Funding looked promising for the Abandoned Mine Discharge Project (AMD) involving 2 mine tunnels near Lopez. Janet Oertly became the new State Conservationist for NRCS. Karl Brown was hired as the Executive Director for the State Conservation Commission.

Envirothon Teams were sponsored at Keystone College and at the state level in 1996. The East Allen Mine Site has been completely reclaimed. The Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation (BAMR) is proceeding with the AMD project near Lopez. The banquet was held at Shunk with Kevin Dangle receiving the Conservation Award. New office was obtained in July where ASCS was housed, meeting the Disability Act requirements for both Extension and the District. Wyoming County now services Sullivan County with the Farm Services Agency. A satellite office is in the Extension office one day a week in the county. Former director David Vough passed away in June. Reorganizations of NRCS, FSA and DEP, along with the Bureau of Land & Water Conservation have taken place. Richard VanNoy retired as of July 1996. He currently works part time for PACD. Bruce Holbrook, section chief, filled the position temporarily until Cedric Karper was hired as Division Chief. For the 35th Anniversary Banquet in November 1996, Emerson Horn made a plaque for the District. The first name added was County Commissioner Member Betty Reibson. (There's no more room on Art's plaque.) Susan Fox replaced Kurt Leithoff as Executive Director of PACD.

The Percival Mine Site was completed in 1997 at a price of \$1,474,999. Senator Madigan's legislative tour went to both Percival and East Allen sites. The district

was successful in obtaining 3 PA Department of Agriculture Mini Grants (Bella's Best Management Practices coloring book, Poster Contest, and a laptop for nutrient management). Keepers of the Flame CDs and cassettes were purchased as a fundraiser. Lone Pine Acres was Farmer of the Year. Rouse Farms and Warburton Farms completed Chesapeake Bay Projects. Russ Gunton of PDA presented Rouse Farms with a Century Farm Certificate. Delegation Agreements were signed for the Floodplain Pilot, Level 1 of the Nutrient Management (ACT 6), and Dirt & Gravel Roads Program.

The Biosolids Delegation was signed in 1998. Two more PDA Nutrient Management Mini-grants were obtained: 1) Essay Contest, 2) Farm Tour. Two "319" Mini-grants were also successful: 1) Soil Testing, 2) EnviroScape Model. A Watershed Restoration and Assistance Program (WRAP) grant was obtained for \$2173 to start watershed organizations in Muncy and Loyalsock Creeks. Senator Roger Madigan provided funds for a new RC&D Watershed Coordinator for two years. Sullivan County has a radio station.

The district prepared a slide presentation to let others know what the District is and has to offer. Raylene Rouse Russell developed the website. Randy Reibson, Kevin Rohe and Ed Patchcoski received "Hammer" Awards for 1996 flood restoration projects. E.M. Brown from Clearfield, PA was the successful bidder on the Lopez mine tunnel projects at a cost of \$587,767 of 10% Set-A-Side funding. MOUs were revised with 7 townships. Fishing Creek Watershed became a reality. Sullivan County now falls into the North Central Region for DEP work, but remains with the Northeast Region for PACD. William Kahler, DEP Field Representative now serves Sullivan County. Rob Boos covers the Chesapeake Bay Program in place of Peter Tarby. The Governor's 21st Century Commission Environmental Report was published. The banquet was held at the school cafeteria and auditorium with Vough Acres receiving the Farmer of the Year Award and 1st farm in the Farmland Preservation Program. Francis Moll was recognized for having attended 100 consecutive meetings. The district's Mission State-

Conservation District's 50th Anniversary – Part 3 continued

ment was developed. The D.E.P. provided a computer to PA districts.

In 1999 the State Conservation Commission required all districts to have a CPA Audit, not just administered by county auditors. The library received "My Life & Love for the Land" by Amos Funk. Lloyd Mordan placed first at the state poster contest. The district combined with the Flaming Foliage Festival for a farm tour. The Lopez AMD Mine Tunnel Project was completed early. Warburton Farms was the Farmer of the Year. Richard Higley completed a Chesapeake Bay Project. Bruno Najaka was instrumental in bringing about the Loyalsock Trail parking lot on Mead Road at Ringdale. The Muncy, Loyalsock, and Mehoopany Creek Watershed Associations are beginning. Jason Fellon replaces Robert Boos as Chesapeake Bay Field Representative.

In 2000, Corey Richmond became the Watershed Specialist for both Sullivan and Lycoming Counties. In return Lycoming County hired Diana Mengel as the Nutrient Management Technician for both counties. The district participated in the Northern Tier Work Force Consortium with a "Job Shadow". Robert Heinrich, Jr. placed first at the State Poster Contest. The Governor's 21st Century Commission Report continues to play an important part in the programs the district implements, as we have seen with watersheds and Growing Greener Initiatives. The District was one of six counties "visited" by the Leadership Development Team that brought to light what areas are working well in the district, and in what areas further development is needed. The outside team was surprised to see what all gets done in a small district. The 2nd part takes place in 2001. Another Flaming Foliage Farm Tour took place. Corey developed a Power Point Presentation on the AMD sites to assist Bruno in letting the public know about the mining

projects and their benefits. With all of Bruno's efforts, the District Manager was successful in nominating him for a 2000 Environmental Partnership Award. The Chamber of Commerce honored him as Citizen of the Year. The Daily Review honored him as Citizen of the Month in 2001. The Chamber was an active Nominating Organization by attending district meetings. The Tri-Co RDC completed its agency brochure with a "zero budget". An "Importance of Agriculture" Essay Contest was possible with another PDA grant for \$400. Dr. T.W. Shoemaker was the Conservationist of the Year. The District developed a Memorandum of Understanding with the County Commissioners. The Dirt & Gravel Roads Program gained momentum. Terry Deibler became the new representative for the Fish and Boat Commission. Mark Madden joined the Cooperative Extension Staff as a Nutrient Management/Water Quality Specialist.

Jay Bagley began his duties as Agricultural Conservation Technician (ACT) on January 2, 2001. The county purchased the former Dr. Saul home and office for office space for the Conservation District, Cooperative Extension, and Headstart. Headstart has already moved in. Renovations will begin soon for the district and Extension. Some office equipment was obtained through the Northern Tier Regional Planning & Development Commission relocation. Bruno Najaka was featured in PACD's Newsletter Profile. \$400 was received from the Loyalsock Creek Watershed Memorial Fund for educational efforts. This year it funded the Envirothon Teams at Keystone and state programs. Staff reports are being mailed to directors with the minutes and agenda. A Chesapeake Bay Mini-Grant was obtained for 2 display units for watershed use. The West Nile Program is being

administered through the district with grant money channeled through the county commissioners. Chesapeake Bay Program Audit took place. Over \$900 was realized from the Seedling Sale. Regulations have changed for the Chapter 105 General Permitting Program. Eastern PA Coalition of Abandoned Mine Reclamation (EPCAMR) provided a \$5,000 grant for a lake on White Ash property. Bill Williams is the new WCO for Sullivan County. Muncy Creek Watershed received its 2nd Growing Greener Grant for natural stream restoration on Muncy Creek in Sullivan County (\$375,000). Both projects are scheduled to be completed in 2002. The first ever logging projects took place utilizing helicopters at Ricketts Glen and Sones Pond. Biosecurity becomes an important part in prevention of the Foot and Mouth Disease now in England, Ireland and other countries. Janet Oertly, State Conservationist transferred to South Dakota. Robin Heard is the new State Conservationist. Our prayers have been with Ed Patchcoski, D.C. for NRCS as he undergoes further surgery to restore his health. NRCS will be providing a computer to every Conservation District across the nation to assist with the conservation planning efforts. The district's long-range plan was being revised. The district participated in the "Local Motion" Workshops. These helped the district develop their Strategic Action Plan for assisting with future programs. ACT 6 Nutrient Management Projects are being constructed at the Hembury and Insinger Farms. The banquet was held on November 1, 2001 at the new 4-H Building at the Sullivan County Fairgrounds in Forksville. The Conservationist of the Year was a husband and wife team- Dr. Henry & Ann Street.

District activities have increased with the increase of district staff. The next issue will cover years beginning in 2002.

Save the Date

The Sullivan County Conservation District will be having its Outdoor Meeting at World's End State Park on Tuesday, August 9th. Jane Swift, environmental educator at World's End will give us a presentation on the CCC Camp specifically at World's End. If you attended

our banquet last November and heard John Eastlake speak about the various CCC camps, you'll enjoy Jane's presentation, also. We'll even walk to some of the sites. This meeting is in conjunction with the district's regular meeting and is open to the public. If you plan on attend-

ing and wish to join us for the picnic lunch at noon, please give us a call at 928-7057. Jane's presentation will begin at 11:00 AM at the pavilion at the end of the parking lot.



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COUNTY CONSERVATION TEAM

Directors

Francis Moll - Chairman
Harvey Vough - V. Chairman
Richard Ryan- Secretary
Bruno Najaka - Treasurer
Duane Reibson
Michael McMahon
Betty Reibson - Commissioner

Staff

Jacquelyn Rouse - Manager/ACT Technician
Carrie Richmond - Administrative Assistant
Corey Richmond - Watershed Specialist/CBP
Randy Reibson - E&S Technician

Associate Directors

Jo Ann Dunn
Lois Richmond
Jay Bagley
Edward Zinser

USDA Staff

Mike Hanawalt- Supervisory District Conservationist
Michelle Hanley - Soil Conservationist
Tammy Finan - Farm Service Agency
Jason Pontillo, CED - Farm Service Agency

DEP Field Staff

William Kahler - Conservation Program Specialist
Robert Hollenbach- Chesapeake Bay Program Field Rep
Jason Fellon- Watershed Manager

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