

THE CATALYST

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

NEXT MEETING: 7 pm on 2/8/18 at Jennings Environmental Education Center, pizza and pop provided.
1/11/18 meeting attendance: C. Denholm, M. Dunn, W. Taylor, F. Van Atta

Seeking Volunteers for Data Loggers!

Are you looking for a fun, interesting way to volunteer and help us help our watershed? You may want to consider volunteering as a data logger monitor! We are looking for one or two folks to download the data that is automatically tracked in our data logger devices. A "data logger" is an electronic device that records data over time or in relation to location either with a built in instrument or sensor or via external instruments and sensors. The data loggers will be located outdoors in the headwaters of Slippery Rock Creek. Volunteer monitors will be trained at how to download the conductivity and temperature data onto a waterproof shuttle. The downloading is done on a flexible schedule, just monthly or bi-monthly, and all you need to know will be taught in an easy training session. The information collected will help us determine the health of this area of Slippery Rock Creek, and signal problematic environmental events. If you are interested in becoming a data logger monitor, please contact Shaun Busler at 724-776-0161.

Hazardous Waste and Electronics Collection Dates

Many chemical products found in the home, garage, workshop, and garden contain hazardous ingredients. These products, such as weed killer, fertilizer, paint, oven cleaner, drain cleaner, and rat poison, need to be used and stored safely. When they are disposed of, they must be handled differently than ordinary trash because even small amounts can cause environmental damage.

Not sure what to do with that old tv, computer, paint, pesticides, batteries, fluorescent bulbs and CFLs, etc.? For those residing in Butler County, the county is pleased to continue with its electronics and hazardous waste collection. Thanks to the Board of Butler County Commissioners and grant funding from the PA Department of Environmental Protection, several collection dates are offered throughout the year. The next two hazardous waste collection dates will be **March 18** and **April 22**. Drop-off times are made only by appointment, by calling ECSR at 1-866-815-0016. You must call to schedule a drop-off time. Nominal fees apply for most items. The location is 129 Ash Stop Road, Evans City. The following household chemicals, e-Waste, and small appliances are accepted:

Cleaning products	Pesticides	Batteries	Automotive products
Flammable products	Fluorescent bulbs	CFLs	Lawn and Garden
Pool chemicals	Aerosols	Chemicals	Paint and paint products
Propane cylinders	Mercury thermometers	TVs	Stereos and tape players
Laptop computers	Computers	Printers	Copiers
VHS, CDs, DVDs	Cassette tapes	CD players	Fax machines
VCRs	Air conditioners	Dehumidifiers	Dorm-size refrigerators

Remember once you purchase a hazardous product, you are responsible for handling and disposing of it properly. Follow some simple tips: Buy only what you need. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for proper use and handling. Old paint can be mixed with cat litter or sawdust and left to dry. Once dry, it can be put in the garbage. Be sure no liquid is left because liquid is not allowed in a landfill. If you are unsure about what to do with a product, don't put it down the drain. Hazardous wastes can be a danger in the sewer lines, to the workers who service the sewer system, to your neighbors, your local environment, and to the waste water treatment plant. Take advantage of your local hazardous waste collection sites!



Jennings Environmental Education Center in Slippery Rock is monthly host to our SRWC meetings, as well as a beautiful location for a winter hike! Catalyst writer Melissa Busler and her family enjoyed a fun walk on the Jennings trails on a warm January weekend. Be sure to try a winter walk before the snow is gone for good!

Think Spring!

Spring is just around the corner! Here are some interesting regional activities to get you thinking warm, sunny thoughts!

Even though not located in the Slippery Rock Creek Watershed, Munnell Run Farm is offering people of all ages and abilities a chance to be inspired by nature, agriculture, and local history. A conservation ethic is nurtured in visitors both young and old, through chances to participate in hands-on programs at the farm's 163-acre classroom. A fun destination for school children, educators, civic organizations, agriculture producers, and families, the farm offers guests the opportunity to explore and discover the interrelationships between agriculture, and the natural, cultural and economic environments. Munnell Run Farm is located 1 mile north of Mercer, PA on State Route 58 West, a.k.a. Greenville Road. It contains 163 acres of cropland, woodland, pasture, and riparian forested wetland owned by the County of Mercer and managed by the Munnell Run Farm Foundation, Inc. The Mercer County Conservation District provides valuable support for the Farm's mission. Here are a few of their interesting up-coming events:

“All About Woodpeckers DIY” Thursday, February 27: Mercer County Conservation District educator and special guest Brandon Cowie from Outland Studios will lead a cooperative program learning about woodpeckers. Program will include your own DIY suet feeder to take home! Time is 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM, \$30 cost, at Munnell Run Farm Pig Barn.

“Creative Art With Outland Studios” Monday, March 5: A painting class of “Moose on Wood” medium. No experience necessary, all materials are supplied. Time is 6:00 PM to 8 PM, \$30 cost, at Munnell Run Farm Pig Barn.

“Tigers of the Sky” Thursday, March 8: Join the District educators in conjunction with the Mercer Area Library to learn about Pennsylvania owls. Time is 6:00 PM to 7 PM, no cost, located at Mercer Area Library.

“Jump Into Spring — 3D Wooden Sign” Tuesday, March 20: Georgia Mosebach will lead instruction to create and paint a lovely pastel sign for your spring décor. All materials are supplied. Time is 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM, cost is \$35, at Munnell Run Farm Pig Barn.

“Maple Sugaring Week” March 19-23 with details upcoming on the Munnell Run Farm web site.

To register for a program or learn more about all the farm has to offer, be sure to check out the official web site: <http://www.munnellrunfarm.org>.



The KIDS Catalyst

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION FUN ACTIVITY



A-maze-ing Animal Dads!

In honor of Valentine's Day, we have a fun tracing maze for you to try that is all about male animals who are really honorable and impressive animal fathers! These dads are very active for their young! Simply follow each box with the description of the amazing animal dad behavior to find out which animal it matches. You can guess ahead of time and see if you were right! Then write the correct answer inside the box. If you mail us your completed paper, we'll send you a \$1 credit for Amazon through a parent's email. You can save up your credits to buy something really cool! We hope you had a great Valentine's Day!

The male actually becomes pregnant and will give birth to an average of 100 to 200 babies!

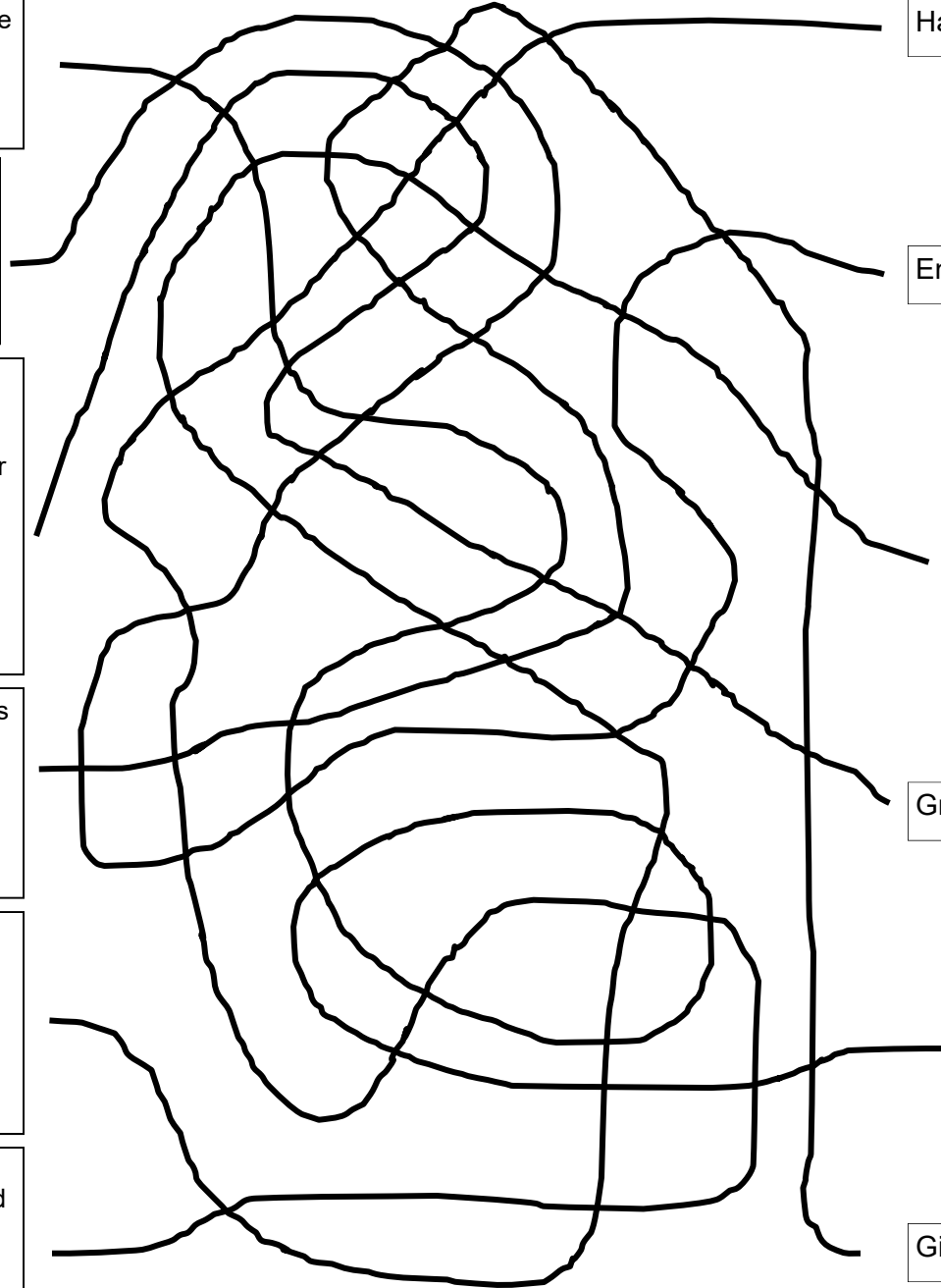
The males watch the eggs and go for months in the freezing arctic without a meal!

This giant-beaked bird will spend months making up to 5 trips a day to locate and bring food to his mate, and later their chicks, who seal themselves into a hollow tree using mud and feces (with only a small food-passing slit).

The father totes up to 150 eggs on his back at once, keeping them safe and drying them out to prevent mold, for 3 weeks until they hatch.

This desert bird flies to water and dips his belly feathers in like a sponge to bring water to the helpless chicks, who drink water right from his feathers.

This male fish puts up to 48 fertilized eggs in his mouth and carries them there for 60 days without eating!



Hardhead catfish

Emperor penguin

Sandgrouse

Greater hornbill

Seahorse

Giant water bug

Name _____ Age _____ Parent email _____

Address _____



Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition c/o Stream Restoration Incorporated
A PA Non-Profit Organization
434 Spring Street Ext.
Mars, PA 16046

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