

THE CATALYST

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 5/12/99 @ 7:00 pm, Macoskey Center - Harmony House. Pizza 'n pop will be provided!!! Our last meeting was a part of the "Get-Together" held 4/14/99 at the Epiphany Catholic Church, Boyers, PA

1999 SRWC "GET-TOGETHER" and SYMPOSIUM

The attendance at both events **"far exceeded our expectations" !!!!!** A special thanks to the organizers and speakers, particularly Janice Belgraden, the Jennings Staff, PA DEP Deputy Secretary Robert Dolence, and Dr. Robert Hedin, for sharing their talents and their patience(!). **168!!!!) of the new Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition ball caps were selected as mementos by Symposium participants.** A "sea" of hats were noted as the Lincoln High School students from Rick Bartolomeo's Biology Class returned to their buses. The overwhelming response has prompted us to plan an expansion of our program next year to more specifically address the various levels of interest. Anyone with comments or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us. Attached to this month's newsletter is a copy of the agenda. A separate section of "The Catalyst" will be dedicated next month to describe the highlights of these events. Abstracts of the student presentations are also planned to be included. **Thanks....thanks.... thanks!!!!**

GIRL SCOUTS "SPRING" INTO ACTION AT JENNINGS

"Spring has sprung" at the mine drainage passive treatment demonstration site at Jennings Environmental Education Center.

Girl Scout Troop 653 Invites Bluebirds to Jennings --- No Foolin'

On April 1, 1999, Debbie Bower's Troop from West Sunbury set six bluebird boxes on the north side of the demonstration site. It may have been April Fool's Day for others, but neither these Scouts nor the bluebirds were foolin' around. The boxes were set in pairs - one for the bluebirds and one as a decoy for the trouble-making sparrows who tend to harass the bluebirds. We can not thank the Scouts enough for their interest!!!

Girl Scouts Work With Boy Scouts and Many Volunteers to Conduct Repairs

Jeanne McGuire-Conlon's Girl Scout Troop from Slippery Rock joined some "hard working" Boy Scouts and many interested volunteers from "all over the place" under the tutelage and supervision of Dave Johnson and other Jennings DCNR personnel on a beautiful Saturday, 4/24/99, to seed, install underdrain, repair the aggregate walkways, and other work at the demonstration site and elsewhere at Jennings. The volunteers received a delicious lunch and a Jennings' tee shirt(!) for their efforts. More importantly, they had the opportunity to sense the burgeoning watershed effort!!!! If you want to have some fun and meet some nice people, join Dave Johnson and the DCNR Staff at the next volunteer day.

Girl Scout Troop 653 "Summerizes" Quonset Hut

Girl Scouts braved the sauna-like heat in the in the quonset hut on a warm Thursday, 4/22/99, to remove the plastic cover. Removing the cover requires a team effort and that team spirit is what makes these girls special. The Scouts finished the job the following Thursday(4/29/99) by removing and storing the framed ends. The quonset hut is a valuable asset to the pilot-scale demonstration effort at Jennings as this enables the operation of the systems throughout the year. By using the clear plastic cover, no electricity is needed for lighting. Thanks to Debbie Bower's G.S. Troop 653!!!!

SHALISTON TRUCKING AND QUALITY AGGREGATES DONATE STONE TO SRU MACOSKEY CENTER

Stacy Moore, Graduate Assistant, Sustainable Systems Program contacted Coalition participants for assistance in the construction of an interpretive trail through an area used for on-going restoration with native vegetation and for demonstration composting utilizing pre-consumer cafeteria food waste and borough leaf litter. A very special thanks to Quality Aggregates and Shaliston for donating the stone and trucking!!!!

Thanks to The William & Frances Aloe Charitable Foundation, Amerikohl Mining, Inc., Quality Aggregates Inc., and Allegheny Mineral Corporation for their support.

For more information contact: Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition, c/o Stream Restoration Incorporated (PA non-profit), 338 Glen Eden Road, Rochester PA 15074, (724)774-2813, fax (724)774-1219, sri@ccia.com. May Distribution: 356 copies

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