

THE CATALYST

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

THIS MONTH'S MEETING: Thursday September 14 @ 7:00 PM, Jennings Environmental Education Center, Pizza and Pop will be provided!!

SRWC Meetings will be held on the second Thursday of every month here on!!!

Kim Kosick Received Award in TriBeta Competition

Kim Kosick received **SECOND PLACE** at the regional **Beta Beta Beta** competition at Ganon University in May. TriBeta is a national biological honorary dedicated to improving the understanding and appreciation of biological study and extending boundaries of human knowledge through scientific research. Kim presented a paper co-authored by **Corey Gardener** and **Shaun Busler** concerning the treatment of acid mine drainage with a test tank Vertical Flow Pond and test bed wetland. Under the guidance of **Dr. Fred Brenner** and **Charles Cooper**, Kim, Corey, and Shaun have worked for over two years at Jennings Environmental Education Center constructing the pilot scale Vertical Flow Pond and test bed wetland and analyzing samples. Through this research, larger scale passive treatment systems can be more effectively designed to treat acid mine drainage.

During this past summer, Kim was an Ecology/Conservation director at the French Creek Boy Scout camp. She has received a full scholarship to Clemson University and plans to study Aquatic toxicology.

Completed Reclamation Projects Summary

The Slippery Rock Creek Watershed has seen a lot of action this summer. Several projects have been completed and Final Reports have been submitted to the PA DEP.

Charlie Cooper, Darcy Peart, and Shaun Busler finished dye tests on several Vertical Flow Ponds within the watershed, including Jennings, the Ferris Complex (pictured below), and SR109.

De Sale Phase I was_ amazingly constructed in five weeks by **Amerikohl Mining, Inc.** consisting of two Vertical Flow Ponds with **innovative** flush pipes (pictured below), a settling pond/wetland, and a Horizontal Flow Limestone Bed. This passive treatment system treats one of the worst discharges within the Seaton Creek sub-basin.

At Goff Station (below), coal refuse extending into Murrin Run has been removed, neutralized, and placed within an abandoned strip pit. A total of over 78,000 cubic yards of coal refuse was removed, **approximately four times the amount originally estimated!!** Because of the strong partnerships and in-kind contributions from **Quality Aggregates Inc.**, this project was completed.



Modernizing Catalyst Distribution

The Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition is experimenting with distributing *The Catalyst* via email. For anyone who has access to HTML based email and is interested in receiving *The Catalyst* in this form, please send us an email requesting to change the method of delivery.

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The Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition was honored to host a field tour organized by Chuck Cravotta, PhD, (USGS) of several passive treatment systems within the watershed, including the Goff Station Restoration Area (pictured above). Professors and students from Australia, who have similar problems with acidic discharges, toured the watershed with personnel from PA DEP, USGS, EPA, Aquascape, Amerikohl Mining, Inc., Quality Aggregates Inc., Susquehanna River Basin Commission, U.S. Department of Energy, Ohio State University, University of Pittsburgh, Penn State University, Hedin Environmental, BioMost, Inc., and Stream Restoration Inc. (Notice everyone wearing Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition hats. Some of these hats are going to travel to the land Down Under!)

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), 3016 Unionville Road, Cranberry Twp., PA 16066, (724)776-0161, fax (724)776-0166, sri@salsqiver.com. September Distribution: 533 copies