

THE CATALYST

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

THIS MONTH'S MEETING: Thursday January 11 @ 7:00 PM, Jennings Environmental Education Center, Pizza and Pop will be provided!! 12/14/00 meeting attendance: J. Belgredan, F. Brenner, S. Busler, C. Cooper, T. Danehy, C. Denholm, M. Dunn, D. Johnson, V. Kefeli, J. Reidenbaugh, and W. Taylor.

DCNR's EDUCATION COORDINATOR COMMENDS JENNINGS

In the October issue of the *Resource*, DCNR's monthly publication, **Joan S. Clippinger**, the newly appointed education coordinator, complimented Jennings Environmental Education Center:

"I have an excellent point of comparison as far as where we stand nationally in environmental education," said Clippinger.

"Attending a biodiversity conference this summer in Florida, I quickly learned this state is a national leader in EE."

She points to Jennings Environmental Education Center in Butler County where a coalition of state agencies, private businesses, miners, scientists, and students all are committed to rectifying severe acid mine drainage. The project on the center grounds has gained international prominence.

"The Jennings project has emerged as a case study in what can be accomplished when everyone gets involved," Clippinger said. "I will be seeking a balance in our environmental education programs that fosters more business and industry involvement. Too often, I believe, industry thinks environmental educators are picking on them, and that is not the case. They are a valuable information source, as the Jennings project shows."

EXCITING, UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY "TO SPREAD THE WORD"

A call for papers has been issued by the **Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration, Inc. (SME)** for it's 2002 Annual Meeting and Exhibit to be held in Phoenix, Arizona from February 25-27, 2002. The Environmental Division of SME is planning a session titled "**Conquering Abandoned Mine Land Issues With Public/Private Partnerships**".

Pennsylvania is THE recognized leader(!!!) in this initiative and individuals from several states have asked us to share our experiences. Several abstracts are being planned by various participants in the SRWC. **Individuals from government, private industry, and students are encouraged to participate.** This meeting is commonly attended by **about SIX THOUSAND PEOPLE** from all over the United States and numerous foreign countries. You do not have to be a member to submit an abstract.

This is an exciting opportunity to spread the word!!! **100-word abstracts are due by FEBRUARY 1, 2001!!!** Please submit your abstracts to **Mike Leon, Senior Engineer, Harding ESE, Inc., Carnegie Office Park, Building IV, 700 North Bell Avenue, Suite 200, Pittsburgh, PA 15106 or Margaret Dunn, Stream Restoration Inc., who will be chairing the session.** THANKS TO SME FOR PROVIDING THIS WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY!!!

NEW ACTIVITY PAGE - THE KIDS CATALYST

The beginning of a new millennium marks the newest addition to the ever changing *Catalyst*. One of the goals of the Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition is to provide an opportunity for individuals, community groups, and students to become involved in restoration efforts. Everyone is invited to participate in all projects within the watershed. In order to involve **younger students**, the Coalition has put together an activity page. In this section you will find **games for all ages, contests, and you may even learn a thing or two.**

In this issue, the first 100 kids that color and return the rock truck picture will receive a free gift certificate for McDonalds.

There will be future projects for the young and the "young-at-heart"!



8th ANNUAL MONASTERY RUN PROJECT SYMPOSIUM AT SAINT VINCENT COLLEGE

Once again, members of the Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition seek to broaden their horizons, network with fellow watershed organizations, and spread the word about the work being done in the Slippery Rock Creek watershed. The destination, Latrobe, PA. On Thursday, November 16th, the Saint Vincent College Environmental Education Center in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency held a symposium entitled “**Abandoned Mine Drainage Education**” at the Saint Vincent College Science Center. As the title implies, education was the focus of this event. **Daniel A. Dougherty**, a Grove City College biology student of **Dr. Fred Brenner**, authored an abstract and presented a poster titled “Seaton Creek Water Quality Monitoring”. The poster illustrated data obtained via several years of monitoring Seaton Creek, a stream heavily impacted by abandoned mine drainage, by Grove City College students. In addition to Dan, **Will Taylor** and **David Johnson** from the Jennings Environmental Education Center were on hand with a poster demonstrating the educational programs offered by Jennings that deal with abandoned mine drainage. Jennings and Grove City College greatly appreciate the opportunity to present their programs and thank Saint Vincent College for a rewarding day.

JENNINGS COMMUNITY PROGRAMS WINTER/SPRING 2001

Join the highly trained education specialists at Jennings Environmental Education Center in environmental programs including:

- Tell-Tale Tracks- January 7
- Project Feeder Watch- January 20
- The Return of the Coyote and Bobcat- February 4
- Adventure in Penn's Woods: Wildlife Along Our Waterways- February 25
- Maple Sugaring- March 18
- Natural Egg Dyeing- April 8
- Mushroom Mania- April 29

Call Jennings at (724) 794-6011 for more information.

SRWC WEBSITE UPDATE GOFF STATION RESTORATION SITE ONLINE

Check out the latest updates about the Goff Station Restoration Project. Items are continually coming online. To visit the interactive site, go to:

www.srwc.org/projects/goffstation.html

Or visit the projects page and click onto the completed project symbol of Goff Station. New features include:

- Fact Sheet
- Meeting Minutes
- Photos
- Updates

More projects will be expanded in the future!

Coming Next Month: Jennings Environmental Education Center receives Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence!!

THE *KIDS* CATALYST

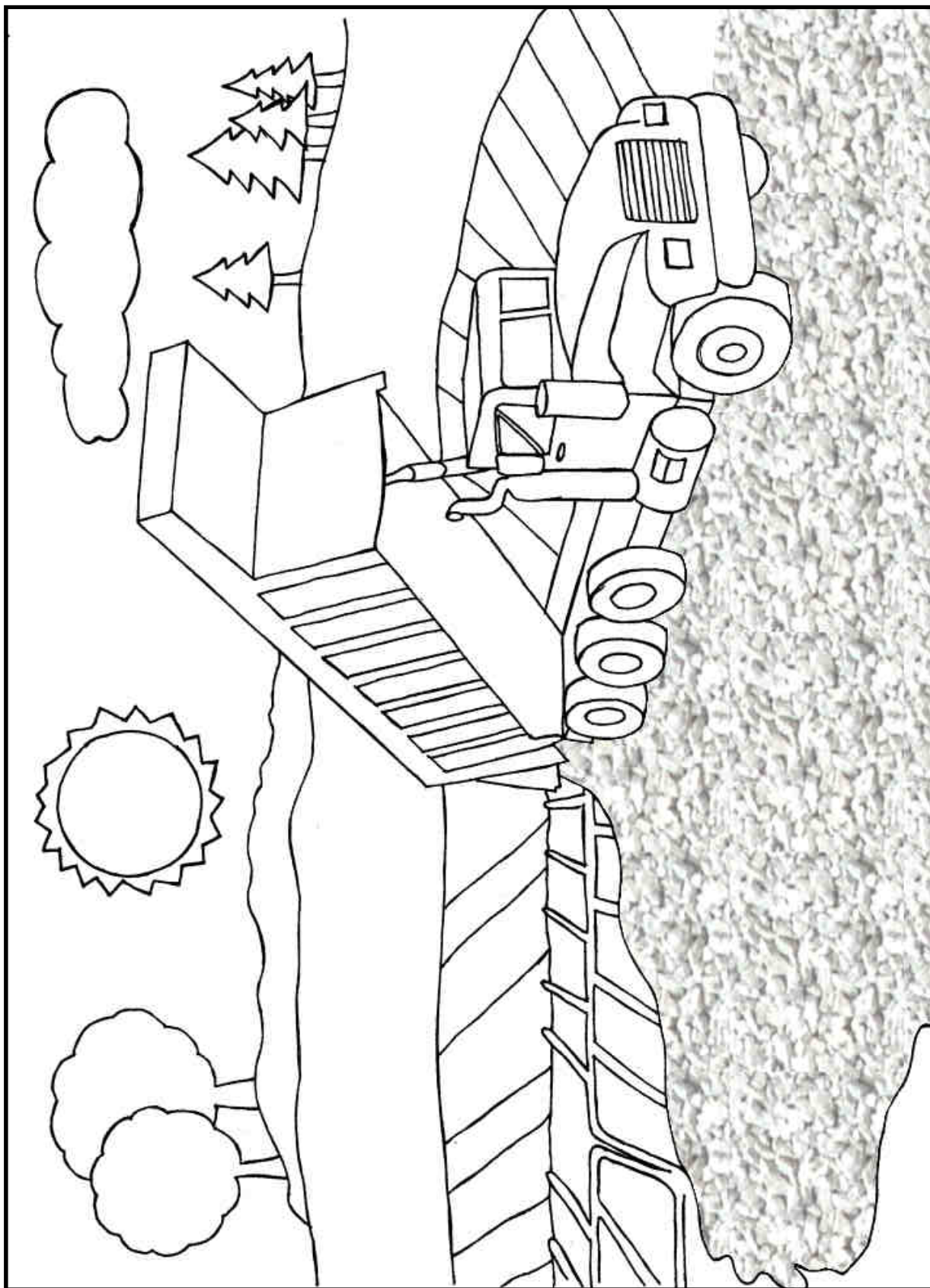
SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION FUN ACTIVITIES

COLORING CONTEST!

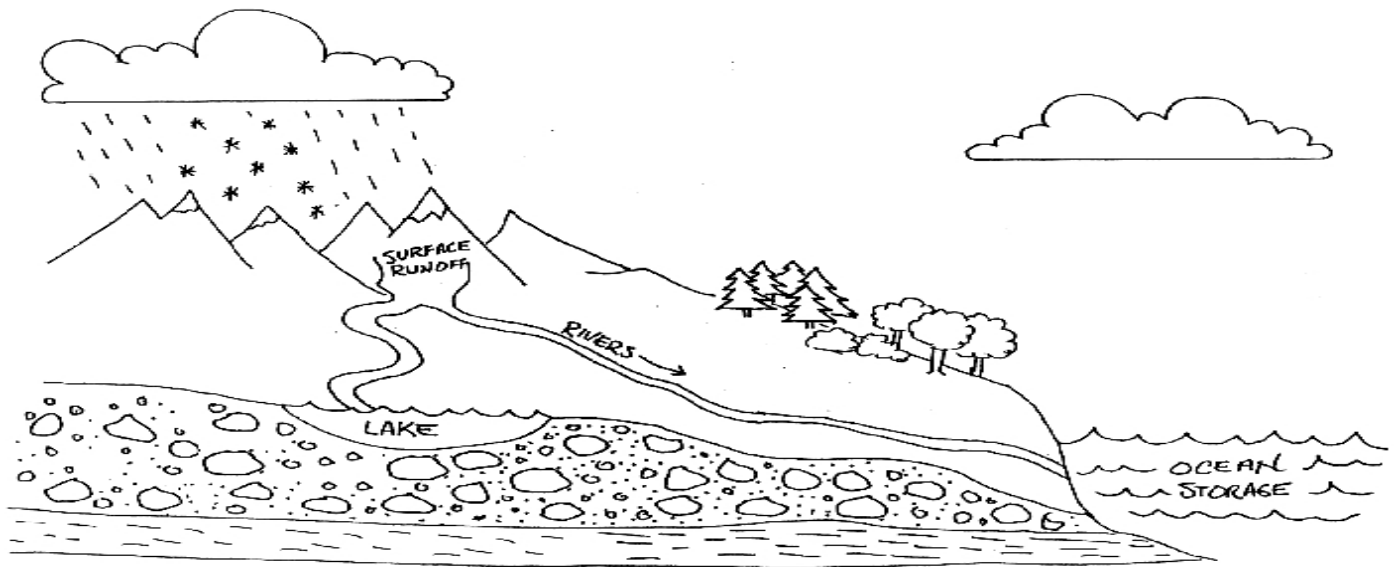
Tired of playing N64 or Playstation after months of being inside? Take up your crayons, markers, glitter, coal, or whatever, and color in the picture below. The first 100 kids that send in a colored picture to the Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition will win a **FREE HAPPY MEAL OR A GIFT CERTIFICATE TO MCDONALDS!!**

Picture colored by: _____ Age: _____ School: _____

Address: _____



A 25 ton rock truck dumps its load of limestone into the Vertical Flow Pond, carefully not crushing the pipes beneath.



Source: Colorado Division of Wildlife SnowSchool Program.

What is a watershed?

A watershed is any area of land drained by water. Everyone lives in a watershed, even you! When it rains or snows on an area of land, it eventually runs downhill until it reaches a stream. Small streams flow into other bigger streams, which flow into rivers, which flow into even bigger rivers, until it reaches the ocean.

So what is the big deal about watersheds? Water is a precious gift. Without it, life would not exist on earth. Out of all the water on earth, only about 2% is freshwater; the rest is too salty to be of use to us. The water used by the people, plants, and animals living downstream is affected by what happens to the water upstream, and by what happens to it along its journey downstream.

The Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition was formed to help restore a watershed impacted by abandoned mine drainage. You can help us! By learning more about watersheds, you can help to wisely manage our resources. In addition, if you would like some hands on learning, contact the Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition at (724) 776-0161.

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@salsgiver.com, www.srwc.org. January Distribution: 590 copies



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