

THE CATALYST

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

THIS MONTH'S MEETING: January 10 @ 7:00 PM, Jennings Environmental Education Center, Pizza and Pop will be provided!! 12/13/01 meeting attendance: C. Cooper, D. Johnson, V. Kefeli, M. Dunn, S. Busler, J. Belgraden, C. Treter, D. Funkhouser, C. Denholm, K. Denholm, W. Taylor, T. Turner, J. Reidenbaugh, L. Spencer

De Sale Phase II Flushing

On December 12, 2001, researchers from the Department of Energy's National Energy Technology Laboratory conducted another scientific experiment on the flushing of the De Sale Phase II Vertical Flow Pond System as a continuation of the study that was begun in June of 2001. This time Vertical Flow Pond West was used and a more thorough flushing was conducted, completely draining the pond.



The purpose of the study is to determine the effectiveness of the innovative two-tiered piping system designed to flush out the accumulated metal precipitates and other solids retained within the vertical flow ponds. Participants included **George Watzlaf, Karl Schroeder, Tim Danehy** of SRI and **Candace Kaires**, of the DOE NETL.

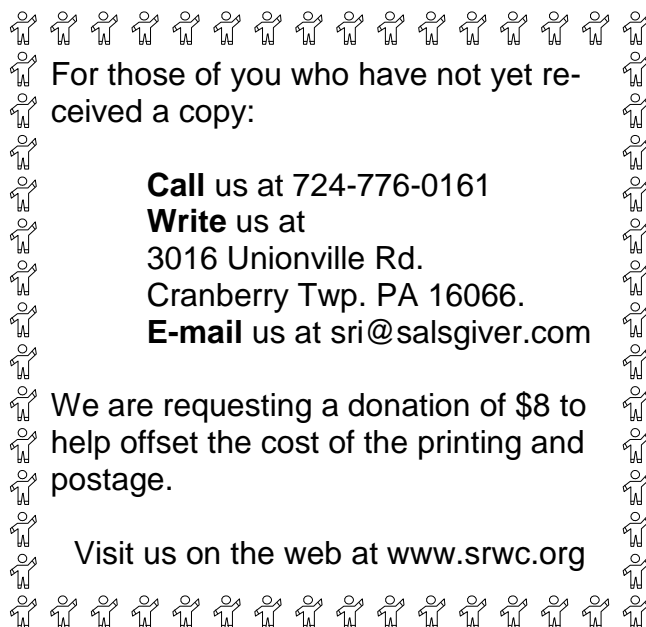


We are looking forward to seeing the results of this study and hope that they will help to further the development of passive treatment systems!

Accepting The Challenge In The News

Since the release of this remarkable book, local papers have begun to publish articles. On November 30th the Slippery Rock / Grove City Eagle had a short article under Quick Takes on the front page. It was entitled "Book Offers Insight Into Mine Drainage." In the Allied News on December 12th there was an article titled "Book Sheds Light On Effects Of Mine Drainage On Environment." The article, written by Felicia Petro, went into depth about the book and included quotes from Will Taylor and Margaret Dunn. In addition Shaun Busler, Will Taylor, and Margaret Dunn were interviewed by Scott Deacle of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. Look for an article on *Accepting The Challenge* to be published soon.

Thank you to all of you who are helping us get the word out about this informative book.


 For those of you who have not yet received a copy:
Call us at 724-776-0161
Write us at
 3016 Unionville Rd.
 Cranberry Twp. PA 16066.
E-mail us at sri@salsgiver.com
 We are requesting a donation of \$8 to help offset the cost of the printing and postage.
 Visit us on the web at www.srwc.org

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Pictured above are members of the PA DEP participating in a stream assessment of Blacks Creek, a tributary to Slippery Rock Creek. **Sherry Carlin** (back left), watershed manager, assists **Tim Gillen** (back right) Hydrogeologist with flow measurements while **Scott Alexander** (front left), Water Pollution Biologist measures pH. Thanks to Sherry, Tim and Scott!!!

Stream Assessments with the PA DEP

Thorough stream assessments are extremely valuable to watershed groups. They help to characterize the ecological health of streams within a watershed which allows you to identify and prioritize problem areas for restoration projects as well as identify those streams which are of good quality.

Scott Alexander, PA DEP Bureau of Mining and Reclamation has been an extremely valuable resource and excellent partner of the Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition. Although not from this area, Scott none the less, has an interest in watershed restoration, AMD issues, and the work of the Coalition. So much so that he is willing, wanting, and able to come all the way out from the Ebensburg office about two hours away to assist us whenever he can.

This past summer and fall Scott assisted **Shaun Busler, Stream Restoration Inc.**, in the assessment of Big Run and Blacks Creek, both tributaries to Slippery Rock Creek. Blacks Creek is affected by abandoned mine drainage and the data collected from the stream assessment will be submitted as part of a Growing Greener grant to reclaim the McIntire site, the prime source of degradation to Blacks Creek.

In addition, **Sherry Carlin** and **Tim Gillen** of the **PA DEP Knox District Mining Office**, came out to assist with the assessment. Just another example of the value of public-private partnerships and what they can accomplish.

Watch For In Next Months Catalyst:
News on the SRWC Symposium in April of 2002



The KIDS Catalyst

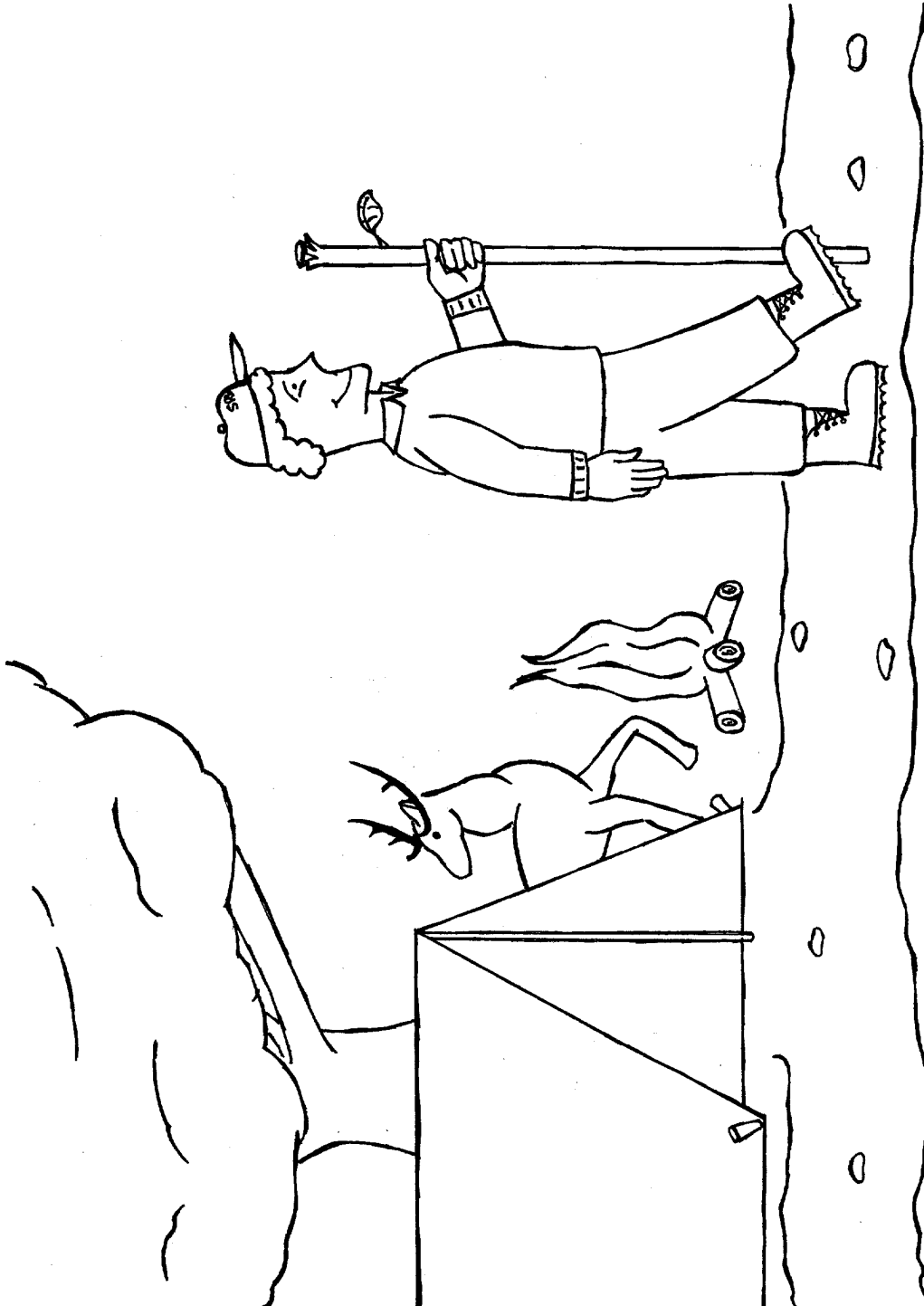
SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION FUN ACTIVITY



Hiking The North Country Trail

Here is a picture of Hiker Joe hiking along the North Country Trail. While hiking he came across many different animals and plants. Hiker Joe wants to tell you, you should always hike with a buddy. If you are interested in hiking read the article on the back page.

After you color Hiker Joe send him back to us to receive a gift certificate.



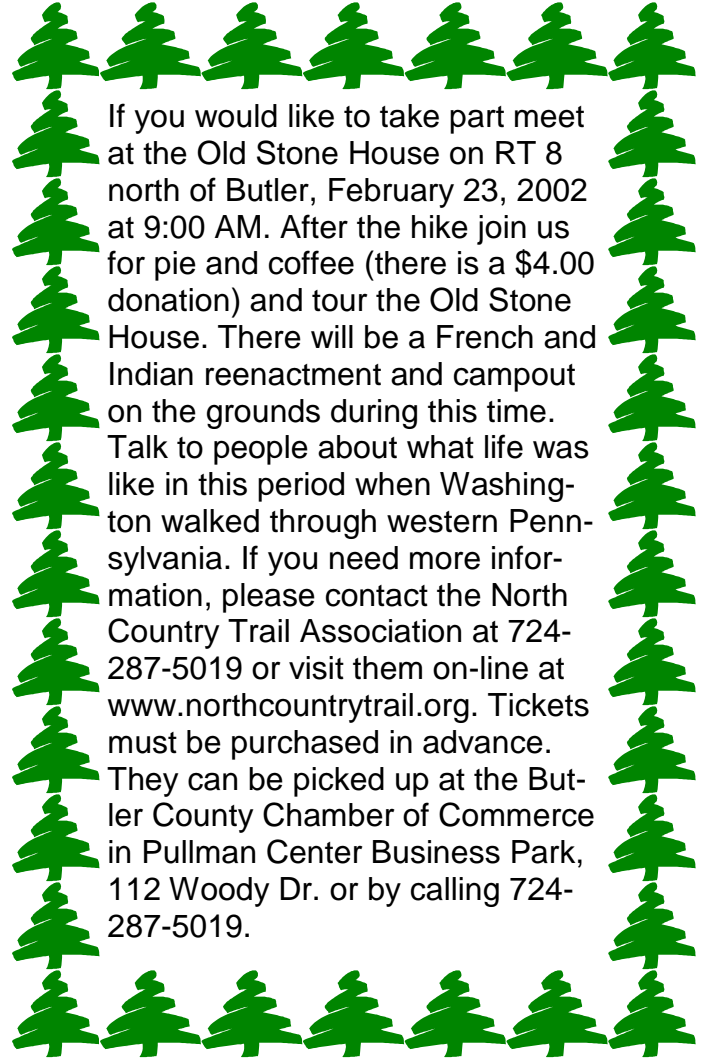
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The North Country Trail Association Third Annual Cherry Pie Hike

The North Country Trail Association is sponsoring a hike to celebrate George Washington's birthday by hiking along the North Country Trail on February 23, 2002. The North Country National Scenic Trail, when completed will be approximately 4,200 miles long making it the longest continuous trail in the United States, starting in North Dakota and ending along the New York/Vermont line.

A section of the trail cuts through the Slippery Rock Creek watershed and passes by several of our passive treatment systems as well as the passive treatment demonstration site at Jennings Environmental Education Center located at the junction of RT8 and RT 528 north of Butler, PA across from the Old Stone House. We hope to put up informative signs explaining these systems in the near future.



If you would like to take part meet at the Old Stone House on RT 8 north of Butler, February 23, 2002 at 9:00 AM. After the hike join us for pie and coffee (there is a \$4.00 donation) and tour the Old Stone House. There will be a French and Indian reenactment and campout on the grounds during this time. Talk to people about what life was like in this period when Washington walked through western Pennsylvania. If you need more information, please contact the North Country Trail Association at 724-287-5019 or visit them on-line at www.northcountrytrail.org. Tickets must be purchased in advance. They can be picked up at the Butler County Chamber of Commerce in Pullman Center Business Park, 112 Woody Dr. or by calling 724-287-5019.

Thanks to The William & Frances Aloe Charitable Foundation, Amerikohl Mining, Inc., Quality Aggregates Inc., Allegheny Mineral Corporation and PA DEP 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: 817 copies



Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition c/o Stream Restoration Incorporated
A PA Non-Profit Organization
3016 Unionville Road
Cranberry Twp., PA 16066

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