

# THE CATALYST

## SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

**THIS MONTH'S MEETING:** March 14 @ 7:00 PM, Jennings Environmental Education Center, Pizza and Pop will be provided!! 2/14/02 meeting attendance: C. Cooper, D. Johnson, T. Danehy, V. Kefeli, M. Dunn, W. Taylor, S. Busler, L. Spencer, J. Reidenbaugh, & S. Carlin

### Erico Bridge—Gob Getting' Gone!!!



Construction activities are well underway at the Erico Bridge Restoration Area. The photo to the left shows Quality Aggregates personnel removing the acidic coal refuse (gob) from a pile located within Seaton Creek. A naturally functioning wetland specifically designed to maximize wildlife potential as well as provide water treatment will be constructed in the foot-print of the barren gob pile.

The photo to the right shows McKay & Gould Drilling operating an air-rotary drill as Margaret Dunn, PG keeps a record of the geology of the site. This is the first step in completing the Passive Treatment System Design.

Thanks to all, especially Mike Hollabaugh and Jim Ruscoe from McKay & Gould, who are braving the February weather to get this project rolling!!! Keep up the good work and keep warm!!!



### Cliff Denholm Spoke At MS3 Sustainable Systems Seminar Series



On Wednesday February 13th Cliff Denholm, Stream Restoration Inc., traveled to Slippery Rock University to participate in their MS3 Sustainable Systems Seminar Series. This series is designed to assist Slippery Rock University graduate students in the field of Sustainable Systems.

Cliff's topic was: "Toward Local Restoration and Health: Sustaining Community Supported Coalitions Through Public-Private Partnership Efforts." He covered what Acid Mine Drainage is as well as explaining Passive Treatment Systems. He also spoke about those involved in the Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition as well as giving examples of successful public/private partnerships efforts. Cliff reportedly illustrated the impact of the restoration efforts very well. Here is one illustration: Over 8 tons of aluminum no longer enter Slippery Rock Creek every year, this is enough aluminum to make 273,333 soda cans!!!

The audience appeared very interested in the accomplishments of the Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition. Great Job Cliff!!! Much thanks to **Dr. Steven Doherty** for giving us the opportunity to talk about our watershed restoration effort that means so much to us.



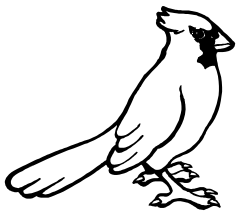
Original artwork sent to us by Michael Kay of Harrisville, PA.  
Thank you Michael for sharing your talents with us!!!!

### **Quality Aggregates Inc. Donated Much Needed Fire Truck to Slippery Rock Township Volunteer Fire Department**

On Friday December 21st many of the Quality Aggregates employees were on hand for the donation of a 2,200-gallon tanker truck to the Slippery Rock Township Volunteer Fire Department. Making the presentation, prior to the Fire Department's Christmas party, was Craig Myers, superintendent of Quality Aggregates and Jeff Ankrom, Vice President. Fire Chief Phil Dean accepted the truck on behalf of the department. In addition to the truck, Quality Aggregates donated limestone for the department's parking lot.

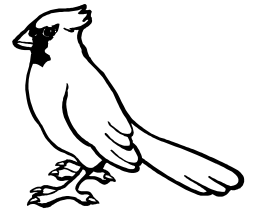
### **On an Educational Note...**

Work completed by Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition participants that studied the use of biosolids as a safe, economical and effective organic alternative medium for the standard spent mushroom compost to be used for the passive treatment of abandoned mine drainage has been incorporated into the curriculum at Jennings Environmental Education Center. This was made possible by a grant funded through the PA DEP Watershed Restoration and Protection (WRAP) grant 1998-1999. Thanks to **DEP and Jennings Environmental Education Center PA DCNR**, and all the hard-working coalition participants that made this possible!!!



# The KIDS Catalyst

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION FUN ACTIVITY



## Spring Is On It's Way

When winter starts to fade the first sign of spring is the chirping of birds! The birds are beginning to chirp again and that means that spring and warm weather is on its way!

Connect the dots below to find your own chirping bird! When you are done color it and send it in to us to receive a gift certificate! And remember we will be displaying these pictures at the symposium in April!!!



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

## The 7th Annual SRWC Symposium

### Sunday April 7th at 2 pm

Community Watershed Tour: Participate in a virtual tour of the Slippery Rock Creek Watershed and see the onsite passive treatment system for acid mine drainage remediation.

### Thursday April 11th from 6 pm to 9 pm

*Building Partnerships for the Future: An Evening Symposium to Connect Students and Professionals*

Student research presentations will be the focus of a networking evening designed to connect students and professionals interested in the fields of watershed research, soil science, ecosystem recovery, environmental education and acid mine drainage remediation.

### Friday April 12th from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm

7th Annual Symposium: learn how partnerships work to successfully design and implement passive treatment systems for abandoned mine drainage remediation and create wetlands and wildlife habitat. Join us for a field tour in the Slippery Rock Creek headwaters. Lunch is provided.

Pre-registration is preferred, but not required for Friday's program. The first 50 people to pre-register will receive a **free t-shirt**. To register for Friday please call Deanna Funkhouser at 724-776-0161 or e-mail [sri@salsgiver.com](mailto:sri@salsgiver.com). Remember to visit our web site at [www.srwc.org](http://www.srwc.org)! We hope to see you all there come April!!!!!!!

### SRWC Donated Book To Butler County

A copy of *Accepting the Challenge* was donated for the "Basket of Butler" which was a door prize at the Office of Mental Retardation Conference in Hershey, PA. The basket served to showcase the diversity in the community. Jennings Environmental Center donated a soup mug to the basket. It is always nice to help our community in any way possible!!!

### GIS Database Under Construction

Joelle Kerr is currently creating a GIS Database that will incorporate all of the Slippery Rock University data on the watershed restoration activities since 1995 into an easy to access format. With this database, she will be able to spatially analyze the data. Thank you Joelle for creating such a valuable resource!!!

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](mailto:sri@salsgiver.com), [www.srwc.org](http://www.srwc.org). March Distribution: 840 copies



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