

## THE CATALYST

### SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

**THIS MONTH'S MEETING:** Thursday 9/13/07 at 7 pm at Jennings Environmental Education Center, pizza and pop provided. 8/9/07 meeting attendance: S. Busler, C. Cooper, C. Denholm, K. Durrett, V. Kefeli, W. Taylor

### Fun at Harrisville Community Days By: Brandi Miller

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July, with its excitement, food, and fun has come and gone for another year. The Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition and Jennings Environmental Education Center spent the day participating in the festivities at the Harrisville Community Days. A booth was set up with everything from AMD information and antique mining equipment to water samples and critters that live in a passive treatment system wetland. Children huddled around the table trying to identify the many macroinvertebrates and tadpoles. Older folks enjoyed the antique mining equipment but there was one thing folks of all ages seemed to enjoy...tie dying t-shirts.



Iron oxide, a by-product of AMD treatment, was used to dye the shirts a rusty orange color. This proved to be a great success. People of all ages tried their hand at the art of twisting and rolling shirts before putting them in the watery iron solution. Since this process takes several minutes to complete this gave a prime opportunity to teach participants about Acid Mine Drainage, SRWC, and why we are using iron oxide as a pigment for dye. As the day wound down and people began to prepare to watch fireworks our hands were stained orange; but we dyed around 100 shirts for folks and talked with many more.

### Come Cruise Pittsburgh's Rivers—Fun and Free!

One more reminder that the **6th Annual Ohio River Watershed Celebration** will be **Thursday, September 20th** at the Gateway Clipper docks in Pittsburgh's Station Square! You don't want to miss this fun and educational event! Remember to come early for the many pre-cruise activities available for all ages! The riverboat cruise will be from 1 PM to 4 PM aboard the Majestic, with boarding beginning at 12:30 PM. You must register ahead of time by going to the web site [www.streamrestorationinc.org/rsvp](http://www.streamrestorationinc.org/rsvp) to receive your confirmation paper which will be exchanged on September 20 for a boarding pass. There will be a lot to do and see, including guided narration of river landmarks and interesting sites, educational poster displays presentations by speakers in several watershed-related fields, a trip through a lock and dam, great door prizes, live entertainment, opportunities for professional networking, and lots more! Featured themes for this year's cruise (on the Monongahela River!) will focus on watershed stewardship, drinking water, river history, aquatic life, river recovery, river resources and Pittsburgh's energy leadership. Come learn more about your watershed and have fun as you do so! We'll see you on the water!

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John Dawes, Administrator of the Western Pennsylvania Watershed Program, proudly shows the Mayfly Award presented to him at the 2007 PA Statewide Conference on Abandoned Mine Reclamation (See article below).

### Another Excellent PA AMR Conference!

Over 130 individuals took part in the **9th Annual PA Statewide Conference on Abandoned Mine Reclamation** July 20 and 21 at the Ramada Inn and Conference Center in State College! Included among those participating were Stream Restoration Incorporated's **Margaret Dunn, Shaun Busler, Cliff Denholm, and Tom Grote**. They enjoyed reconnecting with old friends in the watershed field and learned a lot during their time at the conference.

At this year's conference **John Dawes**, Chairman of the **AML Campaign** and Director of the **Western Pennsylvania Watershed Program**, was presented with the first-ever "Mayfly Award" (see picture above) to recognize his effort and dedication to the AML Campaign. The mayfly was chosen as the symbol for this inaugural award because its presence in streams signifies clean, healthy water. Mr. Dawes gave Friday's keynote address, an interesting talk which featured accounts of the events and meetings that resulted in the passing of the amended Title IV in the final moments of the last U. S. Congress.

As usual, many varied exhibits and presentations were offered. Two of the best-attended sessions were "Highlights of SMCRA Reauthorization", where **Pam Milavec (PA DEP BAMR)** and **Bruce Golden** and **Andy McAllister (WPCAMR)** took attendees through the past, present, and future of Title IV; and "Appalachian Region Reforestation Initiative" (**ARRI**), presented by **Patrick Angel** with **Dave Hamilton** of the Office of Surface Mining (OSM). New this year was the track "Technologies and Materials", which provided participants the opportunity to see how private firms can assist with reclamation efforts.

Friday night's "Picnic By The Pool" gave conference attendees the opportunity to kick back and relax, enjoy some tasty food and friendly conversation. "The Down to Earth Band" provided live entertainment and a pick-up game of volleyball was great fun!

Saturday's morning sessions wrapped up the conference. **Malcolm Crittenden** and **Ron Horansky**, both of the **DEP**, led sessions on how to improve grant applications, with a focus on techniques for better proposal writing and explanation of how watersheds get prioritized.

All of the power point presentations and conference photos are available to view at <http://2007.treatminewater.com/> We look forward to the 10th Annual PA AMR Conference next year!!!

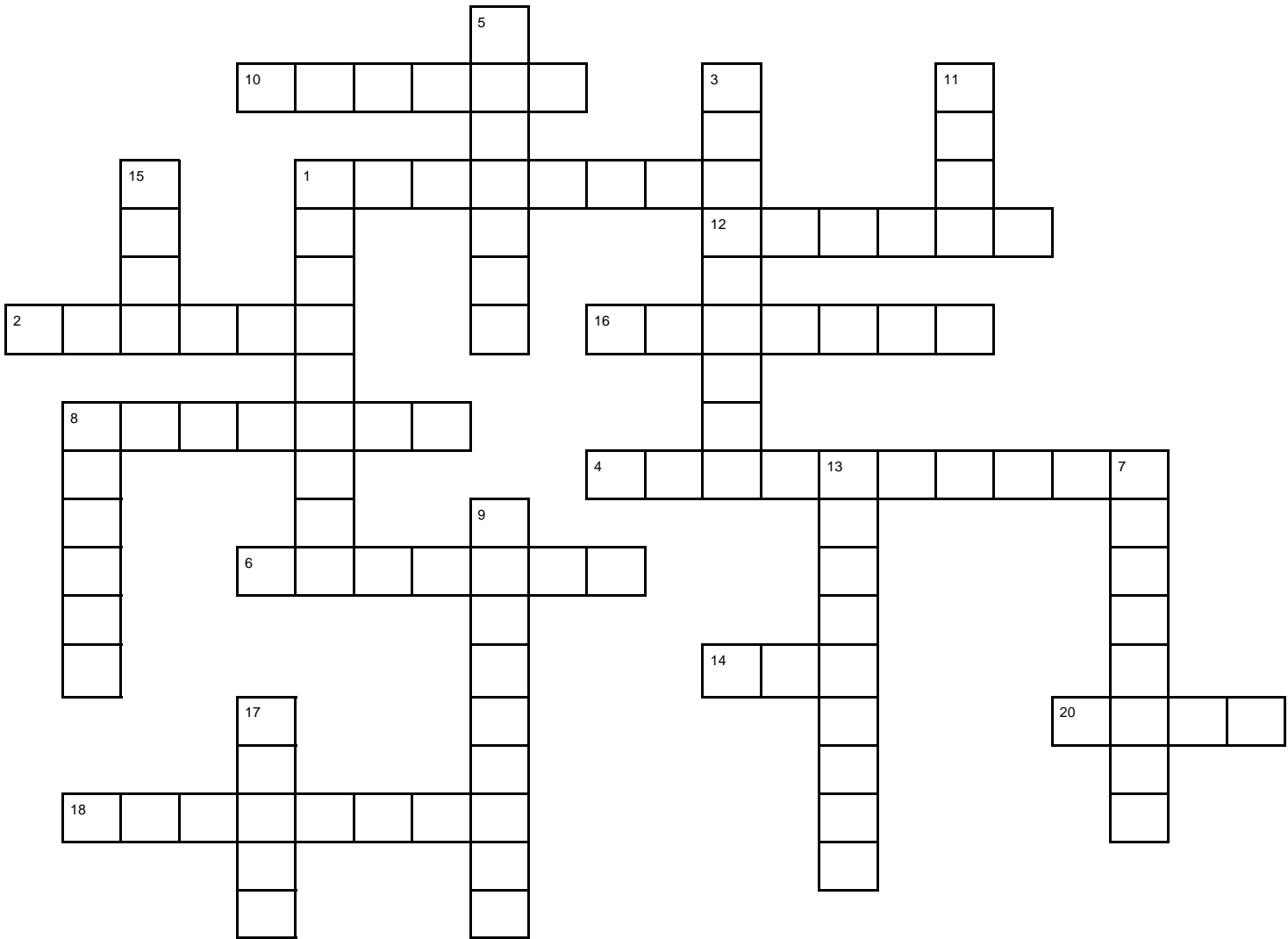


# The KIDS Catalyst

## SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION FUN ACTIVITY



### Summer Crossword Puzzle



#### **Down**

1. Many people plant tomatoes, potatoes, lettuce, and carrots in a summer \_\_\_\_\_ garden.
3. Wear \_\_\_\_\_ with SPF 30 or higher to protect yourself from the sun's dangerous UV rays.
5. A pretty orange and black butterfly
7. A water sports featuring the backstroke, doggie paddle, diving, and more
8. A light rain
9. A tropical cyclone with winds 74 MPH or greater
11. Put live bait or a \_\_\_\_\_ on your hook to catch a fish
13. Lights up the sky during severe thunderstorms
15. Fly a \_\_\_\_\_
17. Robin, cardinal, blue jay, and finch are types of \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Across**

1. During summer \_\_\_\_\_ there is no school!!!
2. A cool wind
4. Wearing \_\_\_\_\_ over your eyes shields them from the bright sunlight
6. A common beach bird
8. Warm weather footwear
10. Scientific word for shooting star
12. Beautiful colors in the sky seen during dusk
14. Very warm
16. Also called a lightning bug
18. Carried to keep dry when it's raining
20. A long walk in the woods

*As usual, if you mail us your completed paper, we will send you a free gift certificate!*

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



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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ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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Thanks to The William & Frances Aloe Charitable Foundation, Environmentally Innovative Solutions, LLC, Dominion Peoples, Amerikohl Mining, Inc., Quality Aggregates Inc., Drs. Ron & Kathy Falk Family, BioMost, 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@streamrestorationinc.org](mailto:sri@streamrestorationinc.org), [www.srwc.org](http://www.srwc.org). Sept. distribution: 1340

## Highlighting Other Partnership Efforts (HOPE!)

### Partnerships with Camp Lutherlyn

On a steamy June day in early summer as temperatures crept close to 90 degrees in western Pennsylvania, **Camp Lutherlyn** staff and **SRWC** volunteers joined forces to make adjustments to the passive treatment system located on camp property. The Lutherlyn passive system utilizes rock-lined spillways and wetlands as bioremediation filters to treat mine drainage that flows into Semi-connon Run, located near the headwaters of the Connoquenessing Creek Watershed in Prospect, PA.

Water had created preferential flow paths through the wetlands in the 4 years since this system began operation. More iron was flowing out of the system into the stream than should have been because of the channels. To increase the amount of time the water is being retained, hay bale check dams were installed in the channelized areas and level spreader boards were used to raise to water level in the lowest wetland. Lutherlyn staff **Heath Gamache** and **Todd Garcia-Bish**, along with SRWC volunteers **Jessica Rankin** and **Kyle Durrett**, all lent a hand in making the much-needed improvements.

Camp Lutherlyn staff monitor field conditions regularly at the site, with campers learning about stream restoration, and hope to see a measured improvement at the final outflow from the system.

To learn more about Camp Lutherlyn, visit their home page online at [http://](http://www.lutherlyn.com/)

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