

THE CATALYST

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

THIS MONTH'S MEETING: 7 pm on 11/8/12 at Jennings Environmental Ed. Center, pizza and pop provided.

10/11/12 meeting attendance: C. Denholm, M. Dunn, J. Puskas, R. Greenwald, G. Kefeli, V. Kefeli, B. Lubold, R. Mahony, B. Page, W. Taylor, H. Boylan, L. Miller, J. Rice, C. Park, L. Nice, C. Molnar, A. Shnarrenberger, K. Francois, H. Becker, P. Dingfelder, T. Umstead, B. Burell, K. Squelch, N. Reinthaler, H. Gabor, A. Craig, K. Ulisse, C. Conway, R. Carr, S. Stefan, A. Rice, D. Murtagh, D. Johnson

Westminster College Students Presentations At October SRWC Meeting!

At the 10/11/12 SRWC meeting, **Dr. Helen Boylan's** Advanced Chemistry students from **Westminster College** presented their findings from the water sampling events that they conducted at the De Sale Phase 1 and 2 passive treatment systems on 9/7/12. The students teamed up in pairs to perform the laboratory analyses and present their data. The students also compared their findings with online monitoring information available at *Datashed.org*. Their findings indicated that both systems were successful in neutralizing the acidity and removing the iron and aluminum after more than a decade of operation. The students also provided information on the response of other elements including zinc. A giant "Thank You" goes out to all who attended the meeting to support the students as well as **Dr. Boylan**, her students, and **Dr. Larry Miller**. Students who participated included: **Julie Rice, Cameron Park, Laura Nice, Chris Molnar, Ali Shnarrenberger, Katherine Francois, Heather Becker, Paul Dingfelder, Tyler Umstead, Brett Burell, Kelsey Squelch, Nick Reinthaler, Haley Gabor, AJ Craig, Krista Ulisse, Cari Conway, Ryan Carr, Sara Stefan, Allison Rice, Danielle Murtagh, and Danielle Johnson.**



All we can say is...WOW...and...THANK YOU...we were impressed!!!

New Publication "Art and Science" a Valuable Teaching Tool at RMU!

A new publication entitled "Art and Science: Plants-Fabricated Soil and Glazing Ceramic" has been printed, featuring the work of three participants of the SRWC! **Dr. Valentin Kefeli, Cliff Denholm, and Margaret Dunn**, in conjunction with **Robert Morris University**, have published a new book focusing on winter ecology and ways students can participate in developing ecological winter projects, among other topics. Several subjects elaborated on in the book include: fabricated soil, biomass formation, urban agriculture, iron and manganese oxides use in ceramic products (Green Technology), plant propagation, cutting/regeneration processes, plants for daylight atriums and as objects for student education, and more.

Dr. Kefeli is the SRWC's valued soil scientist, whose experience and enthusiasm in working with students over the years has no doubt created much student interest in many areas of environmental science. Dr. Kefeli, who has recently taught Environmental Health and Climate courses at Robert Morris University, has many areas of expertise to share with students! He has used the new publication as a text book at RMU, and other students are sure to benefit from its information in years to come!



Ryan Mahony, of Bio-Most, Inc. and participant of the SRWC, uses an excavator to place a rootwad deflector along the bank of Slippery Rock Creek, Worth Township, Butler County, PA. More details to come in future issues of the Catalyst!

7th Annual NW PA GIS Conference

October 18 and 19 marked the 7th Annual NW Pennsylvania GIS Conference, held at **Clarion University**, and attended by SRWC participant **Shaun Busler**. Local governments, utilities, environmental professionals, and those in the field of education gathered together to share new information, research, and the latest applications for GIS. The theme of this year’s conference, “Connecting Users and Integrating Workflows”, is reflective of the goal to create a GIS network of users, data, procedures, workflows, and all that it takes to make a better world with geographic information.

The keynote address at the opening session on the first day of the conference was given by **Craig Lobins**, Regional Manager of the DEP Oil and Gas Program. **Mike Bialousz**, GIS Director of the Bureau of Information Technology, PA DCNR, gave the afternoon’s keynote address. The conference included a poster session time, panel discussion with the Geospatial Technologies Council, Esri Hands-on Learning Lab, and many interesting presentations. Topics included: field inspections using mobile technology, a best management opportunity model for restoring the chestnut to the landscape, a feasibility study of the placement and public perception of offshore wind turbines in Lake Erie, GIS on the Allegheny National Forest, suitability assessment of prime peregrine falcon nesting habitats in Shenandoah National Park, addressing and mapping the gas industry in Marcellus shale, LiDAR visualization and data management capabilities of ArcGIS at 10.1, the American Red Cross Disaster Assessment Mapping Project, and many more!

Conference participants were posed a fun GIS “Global Challenge” to identify posted satellite images in Gemmell’s hallway for valuable hard drive and flash drive prizes. The 10 images participants needed to try to identify were Beijing, the Alps, Hong Kong, the Himalayas, Los Lunas (New Mexico), Sidney, Cairo, Abu Dhabi, Casa Blanca (Morocco), and London.



Thank you to the conference sponsors: Clarion University, Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc., Precision Laser & Instruments, Inc., Geotech Engineering, Latitude Geographics Group, and The Gateway Engineers, Inc. Many thanks also go out to the 11 members of the Conference Committee for all their hard work in organizing such a worthwhile event!



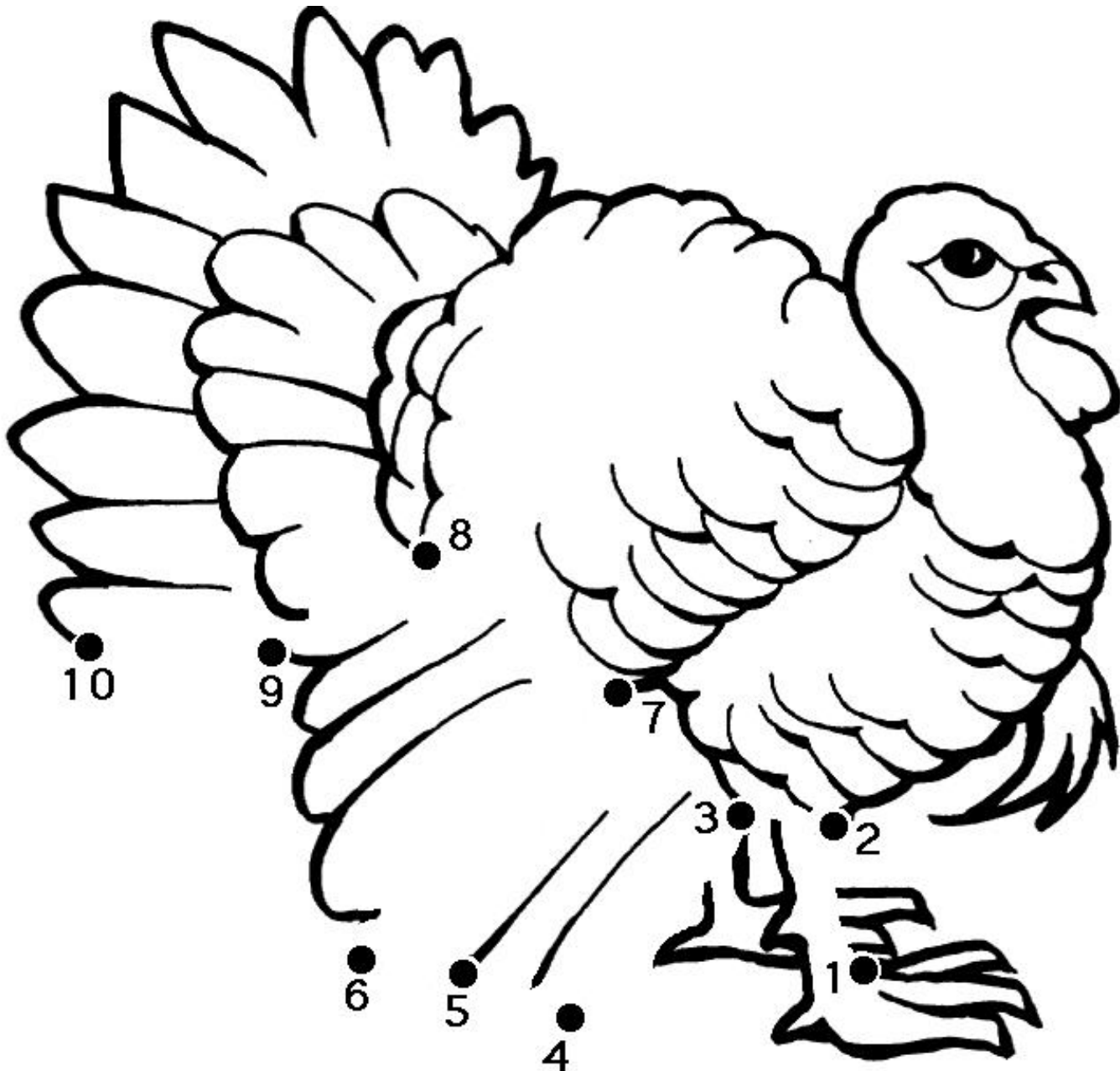
The KIDS Catalyst

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION FUN ACTIVITY



Turkey Time!

The turkey is a very popular bird, especially around Thanksgiving! Before sitting down to enjoy your holiday meal, we pay tribute to this splendid bird by sharing some interesting turkey facts. The wild turkey is the only type of poultry native to North America and is the ancestor of the domesticated turkey. Although wild and domesticated turkeys are related, there are some differences between the two. While wild turkeys are capable of flight, domesticated turkeys cannot fly. Wild turkeys typically have dark colored feathers, while domesticated turkeys are commonly bred to have white feathers. Male turkeys are called toms, female turkeys are called hens, baby turkeys are called poults and a group of turkeys is called a flock. According to the National Turkey Federation, 95 percent of Americans surveyed eat turkey during Thanksgiving, when 45 million turkeys are consumed! Finish the connect-the-dots turkey picture below, color it in, and mail it to us for a free gift certificate!



Name _____ Age _____

Address _____



Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition c/o Stream Restoration Incorporated
A PA Non-Profit Organization
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Mars, PA 16046

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Save The Date! 12/6/12 Student Symposium On The Environment

The Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition is once again partnering with **Westminster College**, who will host the Student Symposium on the Environment. The purpose of the event is to highlight environmental study, research, artistic expression, and service work being conducted by students in the region. Students from all disciplines and ranging from high school through graduate school are encouraged to participate. Research posters, art work, oral presentations, and even performances are welcome. The Symposium will take place on **December 6, 2012** in the Witherspoon Rooms of the McKelvey Campus Center at Westminster College from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm.

A networking and poster session will begin at 5:30 with oral presentations to begin at 6:30. Call for participants will be available online at www.westminster/environment. For more information email **Cliff Denholm** at sri@streamrestorationinc.org or **Dr. Helen Boylan** at env@westminster.edu. If you are free that night, please come out and support the students!!!



The McKelvey Campus Center at Westminster College

