

THE CATALYST

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

NEXT MEETING: 7 pm on 9/12/13 at Jennings Environmental Education Center, pizza and pop provided. 7/11/13 meeting attendance: C. Denholm, M. Dunn, V. Kefeli, B. Kuban, W. Taylor, F. VanAtta

**MEETING
CANCELLED**

August SRWC Meeting Has Been Cancelled!!!

The monthly meeting of the Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition has been cancelled, due to the PA AMR Conference (June 8-10 at State College). Our next meeting will be held **Thursday, September 12 at 7 pm** at Jennings Environmental Education Center (2951 Prospect Road,

Slippery Rock, PA - just off of Route 8). Did you know we always provide free pizza and pop? Hope to see you there in September, new faces are always welcome! Come and learn about what is new in our efforts to restore the watershed!

12th Annual Ohio River Watershed Celebration: Registration Update

July 1st marked the opening day to register for the Ohio River Watershed Celebration, and we're pleased to report that many of you did just that! The Imagination Cruise (aboard the NEW riverboat *Three Rivers Queen*!!), for students and their teachers and/or parents, reached registration capacity the very first day! While **this cruise is full**, there is a waiting list available in case of cancellation by other planned participants. If you would like your name added to the waiting list, please call 724-776-0161. Please be advised, there are over 70 people currently on the waiting list. If a new spot becomes available, guests will be selected from the waiting list in the order in which they were placed on it.



Space remains open on the Networking Cruise, for professionals and adults age 18+. This cruise, aboard *The Empress*, offers participants the chance to enjoy guided narration of points of interest (both historical and current) along the river, a trip through a lock and dam, speakers, 60+ onboard displays related to energy and watersheds, and networking with representatives of many organizations, watershed groups, energy conservation advocates, professionals, government personnel, business and industry leaders, educators, and interested citizens. When registering, please register each participant individually, not as a group. Registration is available online at www.orwc.org. Because of the generosity of the ORWC's Sponsors, the cruise is free of charge for everyone. If you or your organization or company would like to be a sponsor of this year's cruise, please let us know by calling 724-776-0161. We are always looking for new sponsors!

Please remember to arrive early at the docks of Station Square on **September 19th** to experience interactive displays, educational posters, speakers, and more, beginning around 10 AM. Boarding of the *Empress* and of the *Queen* will begin promptly at 12:30 PM, and we all will set sail at 1 PM for approximately three hours along the Ohio River. "Working Together for Clean Water" is the theme of this year's event, and we look forward to seeing you there for a fun, relaxing, and educational day on Pittsburgh's rivers! You won't want to miss it!



Ben & Cassie Busler, ages 7 and 4, enjoy an afternoon walk through the relict prairie (Left) and a swallowtail rests on a Blazing Star (Right) at **Jennings Environmental Education Center**. Don't let the summer pass you by without a visit to JEEC, where you can see wetlands, forests, streams, and so much more — even a unique indoor/outdoor bee colony with glassed-in hive! Look for our article in next month's *Catalyst* on Jennings' "Celebrate the Bloom" July event.

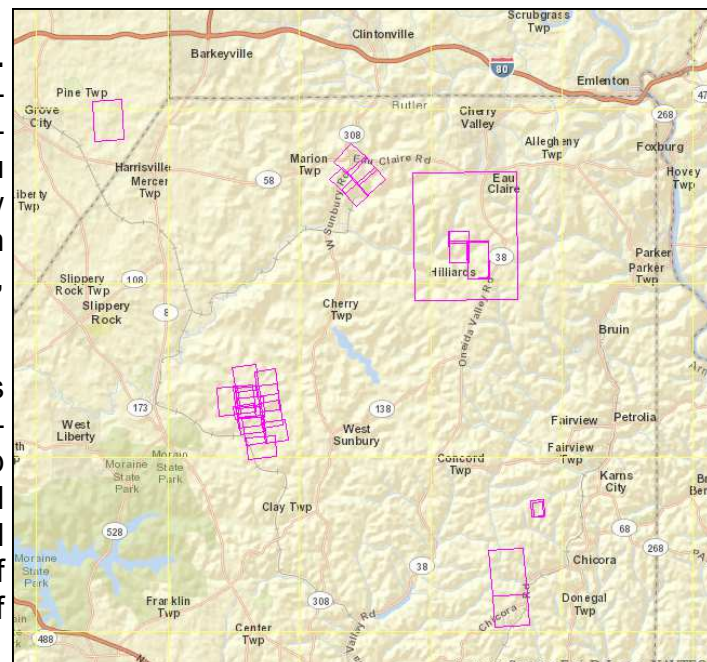
Pennsylvania Mine Map Atlas

A new tool is now available to help find old underground mines in Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania Mine Map Atlas was created through a partnership between the PA Department of Environmental Protection and PA Spatial Data Access (PASDA). This tool allows you to quickly find and view many underground mine maps located throughout the anthracite and bituminous coal fields of Pennsylvania.

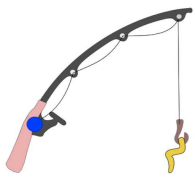
The PADEP has been collecting historical mine maps for many years. As technology has improved, these maps have been scanned with large flatbed scanners and georeferenced to aerial photos and topographic maps. As with any historical document, these maps are not exact, but they provide a better understanding of the mine locations.

The atlas is available at <http://www.minemaps.psu.edu/>. To use the website, you can either enter an address or simply zoom into the area of interest. The mine maps are represented by pink rectangles. When you find an area you are interested in, left click on the map and download or view the map right on the web. The downloaded files can then be used within other applications, including photo editors, GIS, and CAD.

A quick look at the Slippery Rock Creek Watershed shows a number of underground mines to the west of West Sunbury, to the east of Grove City, and near Hilliards (see map to the right). Much more of the watershed has underground mine workings. The website will be updated as additional mine maps are scanned and georeferenced. Other parts of the state, particularly around Pittsburgh, have hundreds of mine maps.



Thanks to everyone for making such a useful and potentially life-saving tool! And thanks to **Matt Cavanaugh** and **Patrick Jaquay** of the **PA DEP** who presented this great information at this year's PA GIS Conference!



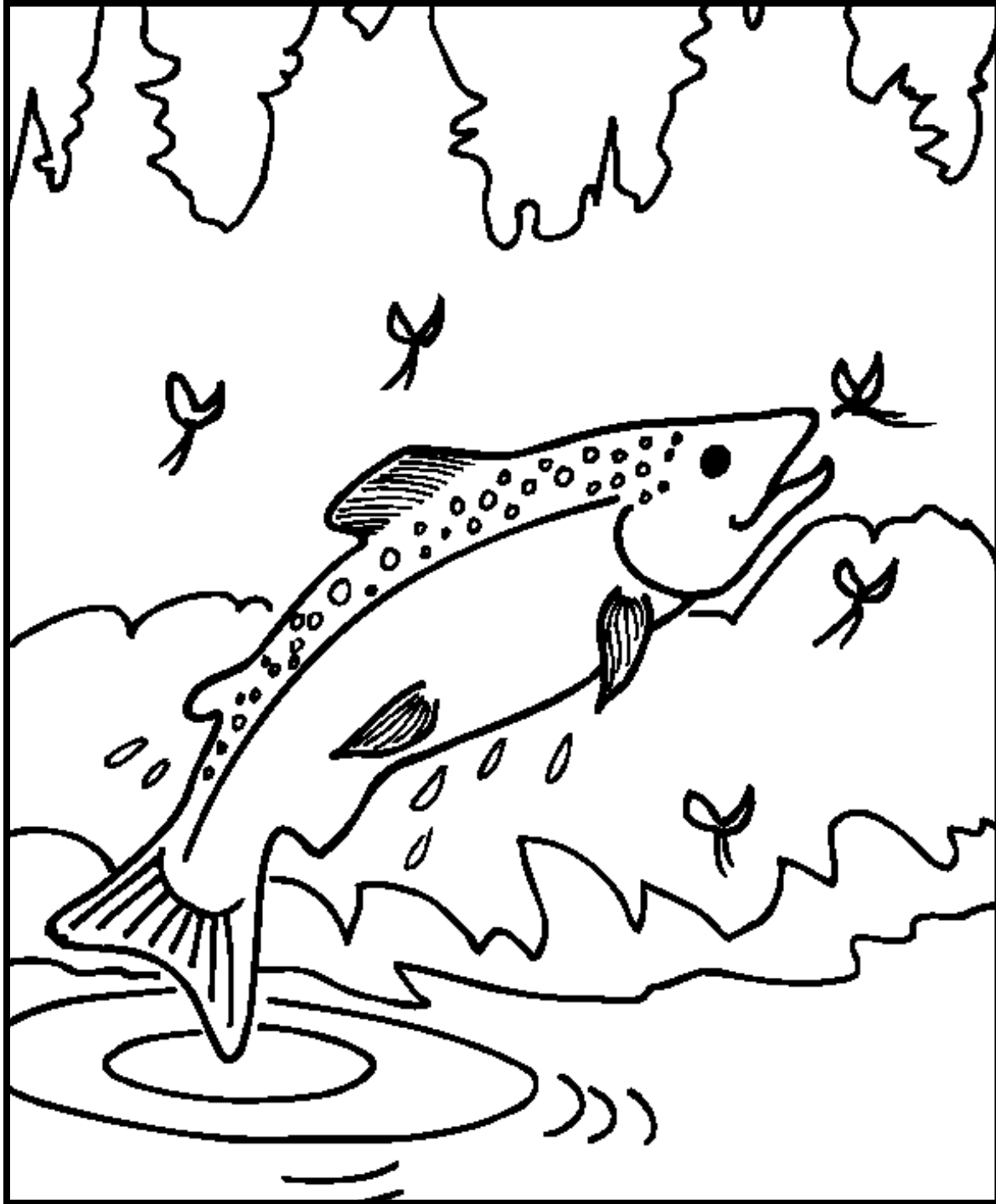
The KIDS Catalyst

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION FUN ACTIVITY



Color a Brook Trout!

The Brook Trout was designated as the official state fish of Pennsylvania in 1970. The only trout native to Pennsylvania, the Brook Trout lives under water conditions that are cool, clean, and pure. They are green to brown in basic body color, with a distinctive marbled pattern of lighter shades across the flanks and back and extending at least to the dorsal fin. A sprinkling of red dots surrounded by blue haloes occur along the flanks. The belly and lower fins are reddish in color with white edges. The belly often becomes very red or orange when the fish (especially the males) are spawning. Enjoy coloring this picture of the state fish of PA! If you send us your colored picture, we'll mail you 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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Teachers Tour De Sale Phase I

On June 25th, a group of 14 teachers from Western Pennsylvania toured the De Sale Phase 1 passive treatment system. **Cliff Denholm** of the SRWC was on hand to give the tour where he discussed the history of the site, AMD, passive treatment, etc. The tour was part of a five-day teacher's academy providing a multi-disciplined training session for teachers grades K-8. The academy, which is sponsored by the **Drinko Center for Experiential Learning at Westminster College**, provides Act 48 continuing education credits to teachers and was organized by **Dr. Patrick Krantz**.



Chemistry professor **Dr. Helen Boylan** organized this particular aspect of the workshop. During the tour, teachers had the opportunity to use water chemistry test kits loaned to Westminster College by the **Jennings Environmental Education Center** to see how the water chemistry changes from low-pH, acidic water with lots of metals to circum-neutral, alkaline water with low metal concentrations after treatment. The teachers seemed very interested in the subject and some mentioned that they would like to bring their students to the site in the future.

