

THE CATALYST

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

NEXT MEETING: 7 pm on 5/10/18 at Jennings Environmental Education Center, pizza and pop provided.
 4/12/18 meeting attendance: J. Belgraden, C. Denholm, M. Dunn, D. Johnson, B. Kuban, S. Smith, F. VanAtta, S. VanDerWal

SRU Students Monitor Wolf Creek

Cliff Denholm of Stream Restoration Incorporated has been having too much fun the last couple of weeks getting to work with students of all ages! On May 1st, Cliff was once again invited by **Dr. Shawn Davis** of Slippery Rock University to assist with a lab activity for the Natural History of Ecosystems course offered to Parks, Conservation, and Recreation Department students. The students conducted water quality monitoring, macroinvertebrate surveys, and flow measurements at the Wolf Creek Narrows. Cliff talked about the Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition, AMD, passive treatment, and water quality. He taught the students how to use the various meters and water quality testing kits and what the results meant. The students then worked in groups to perform their tests. They will use the data along with the macroinvertebrate data to determine the health of Wolf Creek. It was a perfect beautiful day and Cliff had great time working with the college students who were very interested and asked good questions. Cliff hopes to continue to work Dr. Shawn Davis in the future.



Reminder: PA AMR Conference Coming Up Soon!

“Reflections on 20 Years of Reclamation” will be the theme of this year’s annual PA Abandoned Mine Reclamation Conference. The conference will be held **June 20-21** at the *Ramada Inn and Conference Center in State College, PA*. This conference provides a forum for the sharing of information and encourages discussion between industry, watershed groups, and decision makers that can help to further innovations in public policy, abandoned mine reclamation, remediation, and restoration of PA’s watersheds and communities impacted by AMD and abandoned mine lands. For more information on lodging, presentations, tours (both guided and self-guided), sponsors, registration, and the latest news, please visit the web site <http://2018.treatminewater.com>. Consider making this worthwhile conference a priority if you or your organization is involved in any way with mine drainage issues. The Pennsylvania AMR Community is a very active constituency working on mine drainage issues and supporting the reclamation of our abandoned mine lands across PA. Participants have a passion for improving the health of the water and land in their local community and across the state. The shared ultimate goals collectively are many: clean water, reclaimed viable landscapes, sustainability, improved quality of life, job creation, local economic redevelopment opportunities out of mine-scarred lands, development of new energy sources, hydro-electric energy, geothermal energy, continued support of ARIPPA’s high-tech cogeneration plants for electrical generation and coal refuse bank removal, re-use of mine pool water to save fresh water reserves, creation of fish hatcheries, and the re-use of metal oxides for multiple markets. Please join us in making a difference!



Cliff Denholm of Stream Restoration Incorporated took part in Hillview Intermediate's Eco Club trout release, along Wolf Creek at Grove City College (see article below). Stream testing with water quality monitoring kits and fishing added to the fun of the day, which saw 170 student-raised brook trout released into the water!

Hillview Eco Club Trout Release

On April 26th, **Cliff Denholm** of Stream Restoration Incorporated was invited by the Hillview Intermediate (3-5 grade) Eco Club to attend their trout release event. The event took place along Wolf Creek near the "Rainbow Bridge" on Grove City College's campus. The students rotated through four different activity stations organized by the Eco Club teachers. The Neshannock Chapter of Trout Unlimited were on-hand and had full-sized trout that the students got to release. The teachers led the students on a macroinvertebrate (aquatic insects) sampling and identification and also had a fishing station. For some students, this was the first time they had ever had the opportunity to fish. Cliff manned the water quality station where the students used meters and chemical kits to test the water. While it was certainly the least exciting of the four stations, Cliff said the students were very interested and asked good questions. Many of the student thought it was "really cool" to be testing the stream and were interested to know if the stream was good for their fish that they had been raising. Once the students had completed all of the stations, they then each got a turn to release some of the 170 Brook Trout that they had been raising. Despite temperatures in the 50's, the kids did not shy away from getting wet and had a blast playing in the stream. Cliff had another wonderful day and really enjoyed spending time with both the students and their teachers. The kids were really awesome! Thanks to the teachers for inviting us and to the administration for supporting the Eco Club and the Trout in the Classroom project! To see how much fun the kids were having, librarian Corrie Timko made a short video that is available on YouTube at [#](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-lf1ycg0C0&sns=em)





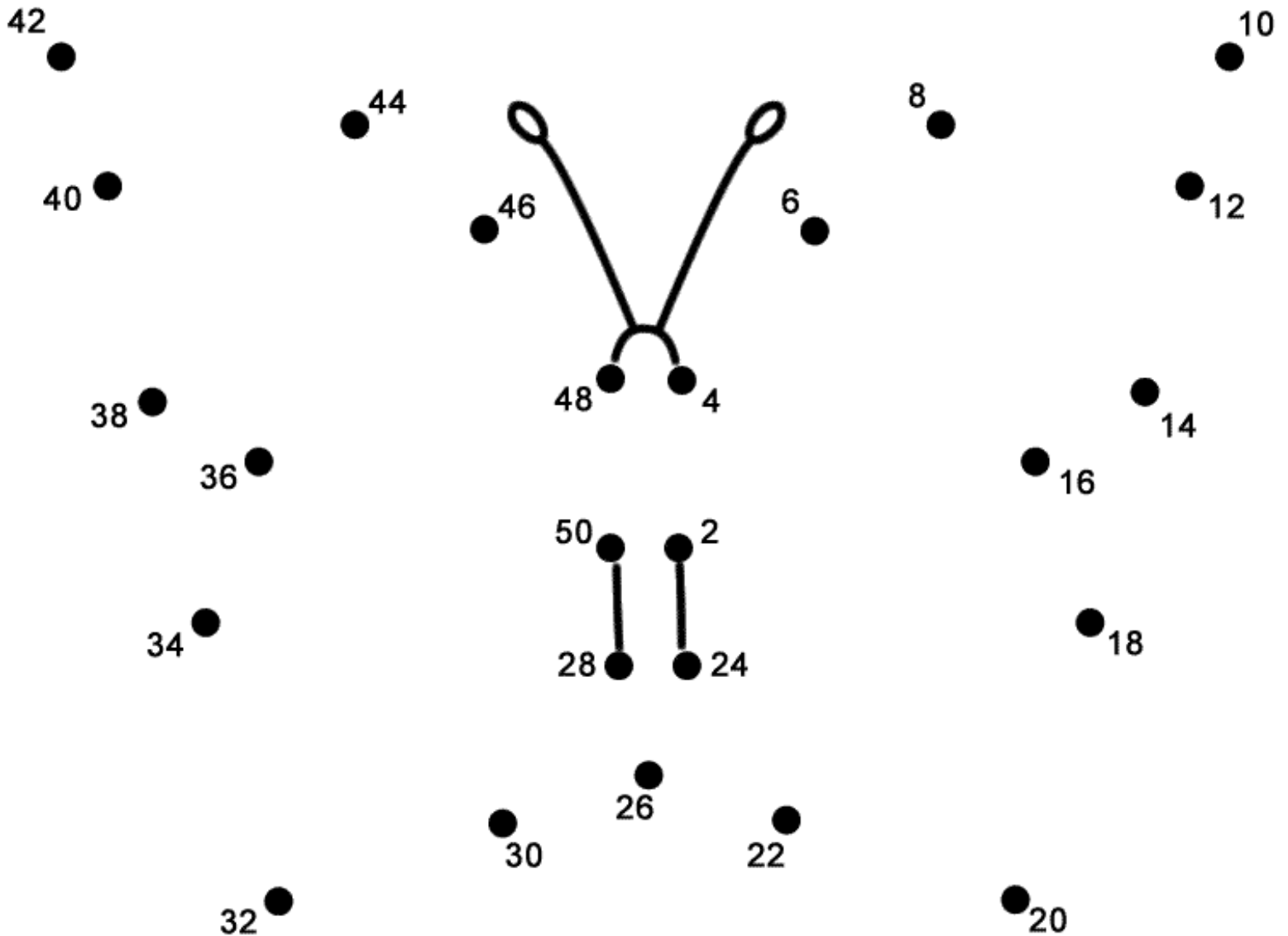
The KIDS Catalyst

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION FUN ACTIVITY



Springtime Connect the Dots

After a long winter, it finally feels like spring in western Pennsylvania! We once again get to enjoy the beauty of flowers in bloom, birds singing, and even lots of cool and amazing insect species! When you connect the dots below, counting by 2's (begin with the number 2) you will make a picture of one awesome kind of insect: the butterfly! Pennsylvania has 142 types of butterflies and moths (wow!!!), but a few of the most common are the cabbage white, eastern tiger swallowtail, spangled fritillary, monarch, and viceroy. Butterflies are beautiful to look at, and they also have an important job to do: many of them help pollinate plants! After you connect the dots below, you can color your butterfly in and mail us your paper. If you do, we'll send you a \$1 credit to spend on Amazon.com! The best thing is, you can save up your credits to buy something really cool!



Name _____ Age _____ Parent email _____

Address _____



Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition c/o Stream Restoration Incorporated
A PA Non-Profit Organization
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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), 434 Spring Street Ext., Mars, PA 16046 (724)776-0161, fax (724)776-0166, sri@streamrestorationinc.org, www.srwc.org. May distribution: 258 copies