

THE CATALYST

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

NEXT MEETING: 7 pm on 9/13/18 at Jennings Environmental Education Center, pizza and pop provided. No August SRWC meeting was held.

Pennsylvania Abandoned Mine Reclamation Conference Celebrates 20 Years

Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition participants **Margaret Dunn** and **Cliff Denholm** attended the 20th Annual Pennsylvania Abandoned Mine Reclamation (PA AMR) Conference, which was held on June 21st and 22nd at the Ramada Inn & Conference Center in State College, PA. The theme of this year's conference was appropriately titled "Reflections on 20 Years of Reclamation". The conference kicked off with an all-day tour on Wednesday, beginning with a stop at the Graymont underground limestone quarry and lime plant. Tour participants were able to ride in a bus underground to tour the mine and then see how lime is made in some very large kilns. Next stop was the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission's Fisherman's Paradise Hatchery to see where a large portion of Pennsylvania's stocked trout are hatched and raised. A fish shocking demonstration was also conducted. The final stop of the tour was the Barrel 21 distillery.



Thursday was filled with a variety of interesting presentations ranging from environmental education to passive treatment to recovering Rare Earth Metals from coal waste products. During lunch, the prestigious Mayfly Award was presented to **Dave Mankamy** of Somerset County and **Craig Morgan** of Schuylkill County, both of whom have significantly contributed to watershed restoration efforts in their regions. Also during lunch, previous Mayfly Award winners (including our own **Margaret Dunn**) were honored and a group photo taken (*See Photo of the Month on p.2*). It was another successful conference! We give a huge thank you to all of the efforts of the organizing committee and the sponsors for putting together such a wonderful (and inexpensive!) conference! We look forward to September 2019 when the conference will be combined with the National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs, which will be held in Pittsburgh, PA.





Previous Mayfly award winners gather for a group photo at the 20th Annual PA AMR Conference. From Left to Right are Louise Dunlap, Joe Pizarchik, Andy McCallister (presenter), Margaret Dunn, Tom Grote, Pam Milavec, John Dawes, Russ Wagner, Dave Mankamyer, Art Rose, Bob Hedin, Craig Morgan and Robert Hughes (Presenter)

“Pioneers in Conservation” Awards go to Dr. Fred Brenner and Student

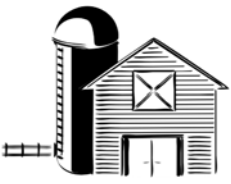
SRWC participant and Grove City College Professor of Biology **Dr. Fred Brenner** and his student **Lexie Arkwright** were recently honored by the Mercer County Conservation District with Pioneers in Conservation awards. Dr. Brenner was given a Lifetime Achievement Award for his work with the Conservation District, dedication to education, a massive body of research, and a commitment to ecology and conservation. He has been on the Grove City College faculty for 49 years and is recognized as a certified senior ecologist, wildlife biologist, and environmental inspector and a professional wetland scientist. Arkwright, a Conservation Biology major from Mercer, has worked with and for the Conservation District since she was in high school, and was honored for her enthusiasm and efforts to advance environmental education.

The awards recognize those who have made a significant investment in the idea of natural resource conservation. Dr. Brenner and Arkwright were among those recognized at the Conservation District’s annual dinner on April 27. Grove City College alumnae and Conservation District staffers Larissa Cassano-Hamilton ’12, a watershed specialist, and Jacqueline L. McCullough ’10, environmental education coordinator, presented the awards.



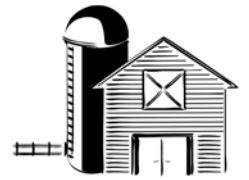
“It was an honor to present Dr. Brenner with an award, especially because I had him as a professor,” Cassano-Hamilton said. Beyond his professional and educational qualifications, “Dr. Brenner has donated his time and served on the Mercer County Conservation District Board of Directors for almost 50 years. His dedication is truly inspiring,” she said. She also noted that Brenner invests in future generations by being involved with Boy Scouts of America and sharing his love and respect for the outdoors, has shaped Munnell Run Farm, the outdoor educational complex where the Conservation District is headquartered, by overseeing wetlands construction and best management practices, and advocates for environmental education in our schools and communities.

Congratulations, Dr. Brenner and Lexie!



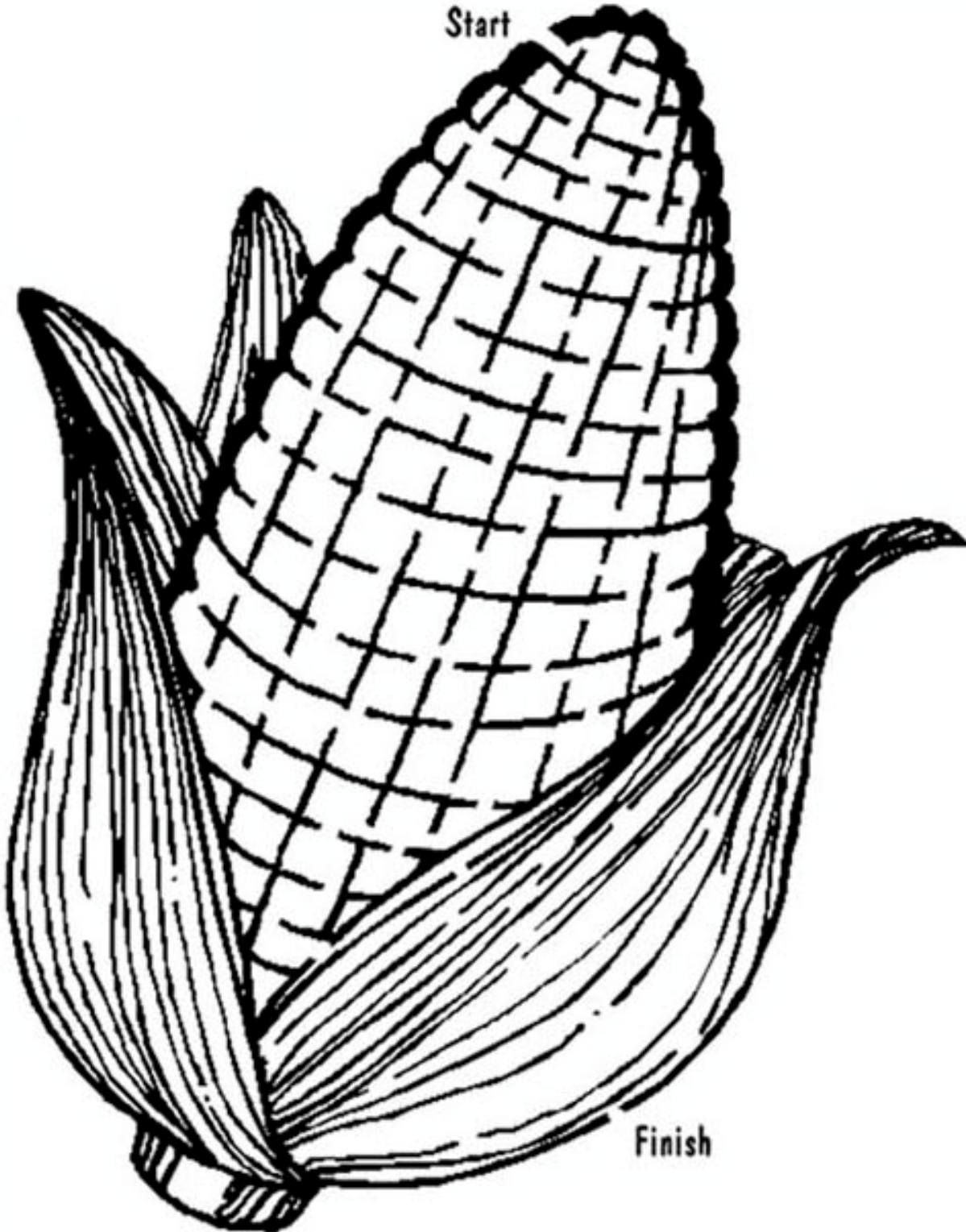
The KIDS Catalyst

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION FUN ACTIVITY



Corn Maze Challenge!

It's the time of year for harvesting crops and enjoying farm-fresh produce! The United States is the largest producer of corn in the world, with 96,000,000 acres of land devoted to corn production! And after all of that corn has been harvested, what fun it is when the farmers carve out cool walk-through corn mazes through the stalks! The first corn maze was actually in Pennsylvania, in the town of Annville. We have our own version of a corn maze for you to try this month! If you mail us your completed paper, we'll send you a \$1 credit for Amazon through a parent's email address. You can save up your credits to buy something really awesome! We hope you have a fun fall!



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. Sept. distribution: 250 copies