

THE CATALYST

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

NEXT MEETING: 7 pm on 8/8/19 at Jennings Environmental Education Center, pizza and pop provided. July meeting was cancelled.

Westminster College Students Present Findings on Resource Recovery at WPCAMR Meeting

Westminster College students from the Environmental Project Management Academy course presented their findings on resource recovery at the Western Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation (WPCAMR) quarterly meeting held on May 3rd. As previously reported, the class consists of a mixture of business and science students who work together on an environmental project. This past semester, the students were investigating the potential to develop markets for metal sludge recovered from passive treatment systems. The students had conducted their research at four passive treatment systems within the Slippery Rock Creek Watershed including De Sale Phase 1, De Sale Phase 2, McIntire, and BC16. During the presentation, the students discussed some potential markets such as pigments, catalysts, bricks, iron/steel, etc., as well as the challenges that resource recovery faces such as insufficient quantity produced compared to larger producers, price competition, legal issues, etc. They also provided recommendations for future research and partnerships, including the establishment of a co-op among watershed groups.



SRWC Receives EPA 319 Funding For Two Projects in Blacks Creek

The SRWC is happy to announce that we have recently received EPA 319 funding to complete two projects in the Blacks Creek subwatershed. These projects were outlined in the Blacks Creek Restoration Plan that was updated in 2017. The first grant will provide funding to build a new passive system that will treat three discharges (906-7, -8, -9) in the headwaters of Blacks Creek. The system will be designed to treat the entire tributary by installing a stream intake. The treated water will then re-enter the stream, which flows into a large wetland complex where it will mix and treat additional sources of acidity and metals before forming Blacks Creek. The second project will consist of building a sludge storage pond and the cleaning of the BC19/19B passive system, which was constructed in 2004 to treat two alkaline iron discharges. After 15 years of operation, a significant amount of iron sludge and debris has accumulated and needs to be removed.





SR89 passive treatment system under construction.

Construction of the SR89 Passive System Has Begun!

The SRWC is excited to report that construction of the SR89 passive system is underway. The passive system will treat an acidic metal discharge known as SR89 (a.k.a. Magnum discharge) that is located on PA Game Commission Gamelands #95 property. The system is being constructed by Vogel Disposal Services as part of a mitigation agreement with the PA DEP related to stream and wetland impacts associated with expansion of their Seneca Landfill. The passive system will consist of terraced iron formations for low pH iron removal, a Jennings-style (mixture of compost, wood chips, and limestone) vertical flow pond, and settling pond/wetland. The SR89 discharge is perhaps the largest untreated discharge remaining that flows directly into the main branch of Slippery Rock Creek in that area. Completion of this project along with the rehabilitation of older passive systems that are planned over the next couple of years should greatly improve Slippery Rock Creek.



SR89 discharge prior to construction.



The KIDS Catalyst

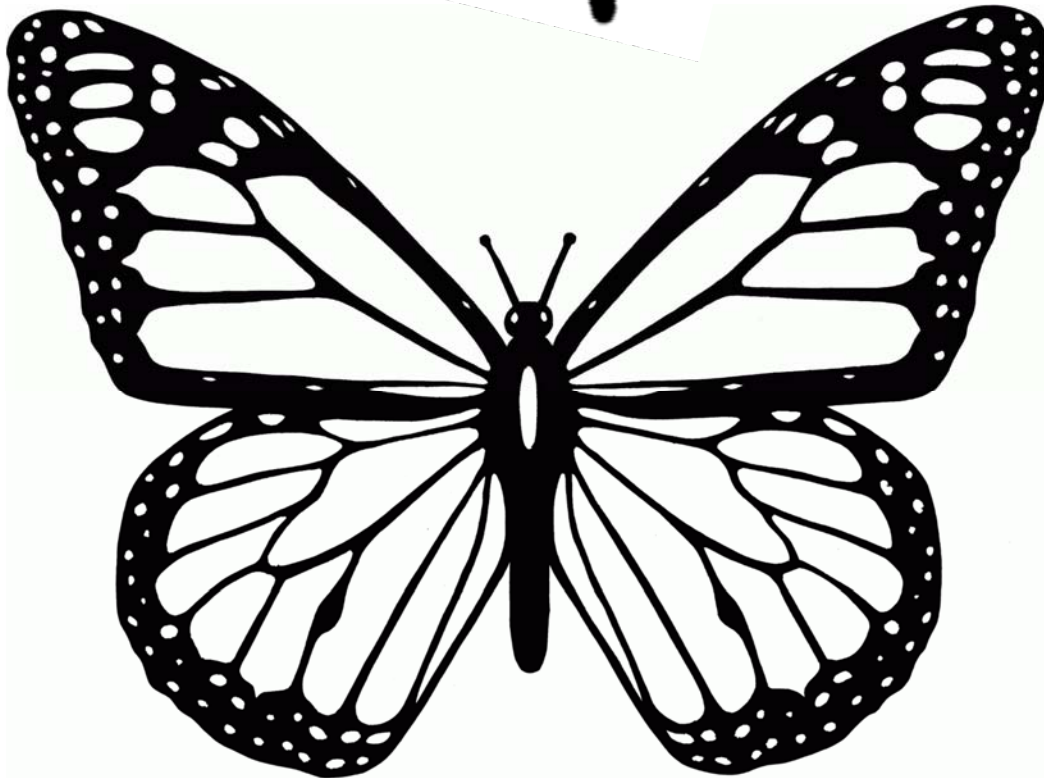
SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION FUN ACTIVITY



Beautiful butterflies!



Did you know 146 species of butterflies have been identified in Pennsylvania? That is incredible! Pictured here are two of the more common butterflies you may see: the eastern tiger swallowtail (top) and the monarch (bottom). The eastern tiger swallowtail is yellow and black, while the monarch is orange and black. If you look closely at the monarch picture on this page, you will see two small dots on the bottom wings. That means the monarch is a boy! No dots means a girl. We hope you enjoy coloring the butterflies and are able to see many pretty butterflies outdoors this summer. If you send us your completed coloring, we'll send you a \$1 Amazon credit to a parent's email. Credits can be saved up to buy something extra special!



Name _____ Age _____

Parent email _____



Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition c/o Stream Restoration Incorporated
A PA Non-Profit Organization
434 Spring Street Ext.
Mars, PA 16046

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. August distribution: 250 copies