

THE CATALYST

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

NEXT MEETING: TBD per COVID-19 regulations; tentatively planned for 7 PM on 7/8/2021 at Jennings Environmental Education Center. Pizza/pop return; social distancing will be followed.

6/10/21 meeting attendance: J. Belgredan, C. Denholm, S. Smith, W. Taylor, F. Van Atta

Save the Date #1

Moraine Regatta Celebrates 50 Years +1!

This is one summer event you won't want to miss! Covid-19 forced the cancellation of last year's Lake Arthur Regatta, which had been set to commemorate 50 years of park history. So this year, on **August 6-8**, we will celebrate a unique 50+1 years for one of the best parks in western Pennsylvania, and the largest manmade lake in the state, at 3,225 acres!

Sponsored by Diehl Toyota, the 2021 Regatta will include many activities that show off the park's natural and historic value. Diehl's strong ties to local businesses and work in the community are greatly appreciated, especially as the region continues to recover in 2021 and beyond. The inaugural Moraine 5k Race and newly relocated Pittsburgh Paddlesports Race will coincide with the 50+1 celebrations. Additional events and activities that celebrate the park and its ongoing development will continue to be announced as the Regatta approaches. You will want to check the official Regatta web site

The inaugural 5K race will take place Saturday, August 7 at 8:30 AM. The cost of this trail run/walk is \$30 per person, with a portion of the proceeds going to the Moraine Preservation Fund for park improvement projects. You can also join the American Cancer Society for the Pittsburgh Paddlesport Race (newly relocated!) and SurfSUP Adventures for the PA SUP Championships. These races will both begin at the non-motorized boat launch on the South Shore at 11:00 AM on Saturday, August 7.

Land recreation events will include classes and demonstrations of yoga, guided hikes, pilates, tai chi, martial arts, etc. hosted by local studios, gyms and YMCAs. Water recreation events include lake tours and workshops hosted by expert instructors and local outfitters. Kayaking, canoeing, rowing, stand-up paddle boarding, sailing, fishing and more will also be offered to Moraine guests. Nature activities will include Nautical Nature boat tours by the Moraine Preservation Fund and many hands-on activities and exhibits, like a showcase of local mammals, birds and other wildlife, that can be enjoyed by guests of any age.

Some planned highlights of the event include sailing races, vendor marketplace, a car cruise, fireworks display, 5k trail race, stand up paddle boarding, kayaking, fishing, eco-tours, children's activities, and a butterfly release. Come enjoy free family fun at the 2021 Moraine State Park Regatta and have a nature experience to remember!





Isaac Busler, SRWC intern, downloading a data logger near the mouth of Big Run, a tributary of Slippery Rock Creek.

Blacks Creek Presentation at EPA 319 Meeting

On May 19th, SRWC participant **Cliff Denholm** of Stream Restoration Incorporated provided a presentation at the EPA Section 319 Virtual Watershed Planning and Implementation Meeting. Cliff's talk was called "Implementation of the Blacks Creek AMD Restoration Plan". As part of the PowerPoint presentation Cliff provided a history of the SRWC's efforts to address AMD in Blacks Creek, a tributary to Slippery Rock Creek. The SRWC completed the original Blacks Creek Restoration Plan in 2007, which was revised in 2017 as part of a water monitoring project. The SRWC has built 3 passive treatment systems to address AMD in Blacks Creek, including BC19/19B (2004), BC16 (2008), and McIntire (2011). Those three systems treat almost 60% of the AMD pollution in Blacks Creek and have significantly improved water quality in the area. The SRWC is currently planning to do maintenance at the BC19/19B system next year and is working on trying to secure a landowner agreement to build another system that would treat three more discharges.

National Trails Day

Millions of people have found physical, mental, and emotional restoration on trails during the pandemic. June 5th was a day of service and advocacy for hometown trails. Thousands of hikers, bikers, rowers, horseback riders, trail clubs, federal and local agencies, land trusts, and businesses came together in partnership to advocate for, maintain, and clean up public lands and trails, and many took someone along that hasn't had an opportunity to explore these trails.

This month's Kids Catalyst page encourages kids to get outside and hike. For adults reading our newsletter, maybe you know a child spending too much time in front of a screen who could benefit from a little outdoor adventure. If you are looking for some ideas on trails to hike, take a look around PAHikes (<https://pahikes.com/>) where you will find over 200 hiking ideas.

If you live in Western Pennsylvania, there is no shortage of places to visit for an awesome hiking experience. Some of our favorite spots would be Jennings Environmental Education Center, Moraine State Park, McConnells Mills, Succop Nature Park, Wolf Creek Narrows, and Kennerdell. So be sure to get out and breathe in that fresh clean air! Enjoy summer!



The KIDS Catalyst

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION FUN ACTIVITY



Summer Coloring Fun!

Summer is here! Go take a hike! Ask a parent or other adult family member to go with you to enjoy the great outdoors! It's so fun to walk around outside in nature, and you never know what cool birds, insects, flowers, or other creatures you might see! We have seen baby raccoons, deer, turtles, snakes, frogs, toads, and many amazing birds and bugs on our hikes in Pennsylvania. We hope you have fun coloring the picture below! If you send us your completed paper, we'll email a \$1 Amazon credit to a parent's email that you can save to buy something really cool!



Name _____ Age ____ Parent email address: _____



Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition c/o Stream Restoration Incorporated
A PA Non-Profit Organization
434 Spring Street Ext.
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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. June distribution: 240 copies

Save the Date #2

2021 PA AMR Conference: October 27-28

With the theme “Overcoming Challenges — A Bright Future”, this year’s PA Abandoned Mine Reclamation Conference is set to take place **October 27 and 28**. The conference will be virtual in nature, but will still include many excellent exhibitors, presentations, speakers, networking opportunities, everyone’s favorite May-fly Awards, and more! This year’s conference will utilize the Whova Web Application, which not only incorporates Zoom for video chats and webinars but also has virtual networking (that will start before and continue well after the conference), surveys, virtual booth space where attendees chat with exhibitors, and much more. The virtual conference web applications will open weeks ahead of time for participants to get used to browsing around and start chatting with other registered attendees and exhibitors. This will be helpful in planning ahead and arranging schedules to sign up for particular sessions.

To access the virtual conference, the first step is to register through **treatminewater.com** and the EPCAMR store (like every other year) and you will be provided the credentials/instructions to access the Whova Virtual Conference Applications in a follow-up email. The email you registered with will be the one used to access the conference, so be sure to follow the instructions on the Registration Page carefully. Once you register, visit the Whova Web Application. The first time you visit Whova you will need to sign up for a free Whova Account. Please don’t try to access Whova Apps before registering as you will need the username (email) and password you will be supplied with. The Whova Application User Guide is a primer to help you get more out of virtual conference participation. The tutorial shows you how to do things in both the Web App and the Mobile App. There are instructions on how to:

- Sign in
- View the agenda and plan your schedule
- View live streams and session videos
- Use the session Q&A
- See who is attending the event
- Join discussions on the community board
- Start or join a virtual meetup

We hope to virtually see many of you in October!