WCCD Newsletter
July - September 2021

Photo: Emma Loch
2021 Fair

The Wyoming County Fair was held over the Labor Day weekend with another great showing by the Conservation District along with our booth partner, Bureau of Forestry. Three informative “Who Am I???” banners decorated the walls giving fair goers the chance to identify native reptiles & amphibians, woodland mammals & wetland birds. Along with the banners we had our mounts & infamous pond with plant life & fish. The District, Forestry & NRCS provided stickers, posters, wildflower pollinator mix & canvas backpacks for the kids to decorate with stencils & markers. This has been a huge hit over the years for young & old alike.

Many thanks go out to our Staff and Director’s who took shifts working at the Conservation District’s booth. We had a great time talking to the fair patrons & answering as many of their questions as we could. Plenty of informational pamphlets were there for the taking from all different topics ranging from Pa Fish & Boat Commission flyers to E&I, Ag, Watershed & other educational information.

It was great to see so many people out to enjoy the fair especially after the last year we had.
Planning has already started for the 2022 Wyoming County Fair. I’m sure we will come up with some more great ideas for next year.

EWEN ENT:

Local Resources:
Bureau of Forestry: 570-945-7133
DEP: 570-626-2511
Game Commission: 570-675-1143
PA Fish & Boat Commission: 570-477-5717
The Freeman Farm, located in Monroe Township, is a mixed livestock operation consisting of cow/calf pairs, finishing beef, meat goats, finishing swine, broilers and layers. The farmstead has had several resource concerns identified that had been contributing to nutrient and sediment pollution. The farmstead had consisted of a very large earthen ACA (Animal Concentration Area) and lack of manure storage with the stockpiled manure exposed to uncontrolled surface runoff. The issues with the operation were alarming to the conservation district since it is located within a high quality-cold water fishery (HQ-CWF).

The district was fortunate to obtain grant funding to complete a roofed concrete barnyard and manure storage facility to address environmental concerns and improve animal conditions. There was an additional partnership formed with NRCS that allowed more funding to be made available for completing the project. The funding will allow for a 210’ x 50’ facility to be constructed. The building will have a perimeter drain, gutters, and underground outlets to control water on site to prevent contamination of clear water.
The Quality Assurance Board (QAB) was able to meet & discuss which projects would be recommended to our District Board of Directors for approval. We had 6 applications for the Dirt & Gravel Roads, 2 applications for the Low Volume Roads Program & 1 amended project from the spring round. Here is a list of the approved projects with the funding amounts for the DGLVR program.

### D&GR Projects:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Road Name</th>
<th>Grant Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Noxen</td>
<td>Wilson Road</td>
<td>$28,190.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falls</td>
<td>Stoneridge Road</td>
<td>$67,671.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falls</td>
<td>Brides Road</td>
<td>$49,818.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northmoreland</td>
<td>Bass Road</td>
<td>$21,396.40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicholson</td>
<td>Padula Road</td>
<td>$106,084.90</td>
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<td>Forkston</td>
<td>Townline Road</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$340,361.32</strong></td>
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### D&GR Amended Project:

<table>
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<th>Grant Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Noxen</td>
<td>Root Hollow Road</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$908.00</strong></td>
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</table>

### LVR Projects:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Road Name</th>
<th>Grant Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Factoryville Boro</td>
<td>Riverside Drive</td>
<td>$3,680.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factoryville Boro</td>
<td>Capwell Avenue</td>
<td>$11,011.64</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$14,691.64</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>

The Dirt, Gravel & Low Volume Road Program saw a little return to normal this past year. Two grant rounds were held, one in the spring & a follow up round in the fall. This year the District awarded 14 grants with a total of $616,502.22 for the dirt roads portion of the program & 3 grants totaling $20,266.64 in the low volume roads portion. These amounts are the most that the District has awarded in any single year. This was due to less activity in the program for 2020.

We are always on the lookout for more projects to fund through the program & to help out as many municipalities as we can. This year we were able to work with some townships that are regular applicants to the program & we worked with a couple that it was the first time in many years that they put in for any grant money through this program.

As the construction season winds down for this year we do expect a pretty busy 2022 & look forward to helping out our municipalities for a long time to come.

All the program requires is that there is a proximity to a stream, pond, or wetlands where any road runoff or sediment from the road might be negatively affecting that body of water.

If there are any roads that you feel could qualify for a grant please contact your local municipality & they can get in contact with us here at the District. We will be more than happy to come out & take a look to hopefully design a project to help maintain those roads too.
TASD Summer Camp
with Laura Anderson, EE Coord.

The event was a success, even with 97+ degree weather, the students were excited to learn & had fun while doing just that! After they unloaded from the bus, I welcomed students, teachers & guests to Lazy Brook park, distributed maps & schedules then sent them on to their first learning station.

Bill Kalinauskis introduced them to the wildlife in PA showing mounts & pelts from our fur bearing mammals. Shane Kleiner took the children on a nature hike through the park helping them to really see their surroundings including the many types of trees found here in PA. Bernie explained how macro invertebrates help determine the quality of the water found in our streams. I helped them understand the Habit needs of wildlife with an activity called "Habittracks". The students follow a map of the park with "tracks" of the animal they are tracking, finding cards representing food, water, space and shelter. (the cards were strategically placed by either the stream a tree or open space accordingly.) Also, the cards are color coded for each team of students. They enjoyed following their animals tracks & were excited to report that they had indeed found all their animals needs! Next, if there was time left before they needed to move to the next station, they could participate in the activity "Animal Habitat Run". In this activity, the students listen while I call out an animal, then decide if the habitat the animal lives in is either land, water or sky. Then they run to the designated picture representing that habitat, which is taped to a container and make a line behind it. Repeating this over and over to see if they make the right choices. They also enjoyed making the connection between animals and their habitat, while having fun! A big thank you to Bernie, Shane and Bill for all their hard work, especially with the extreme heat that day!

![Image of children and adults at TASD Summer Camp]

Shupp Hill Farms Veteran Outreach Event
with Dave McCoy, NRCS

Despite the weather, veterans and their spouses came in droves to the Read's farm on Saturday, 8/12/21. Corey and Esther Read hosted the most recent PA Veteran Farming Project’s farm field day to showcase their Dexter cattle & conservation practices. The Reads explained to the 20 attendees how they have utilized the NRCS, REAP & the Ten Million Tree Partnership to install numerous BMPs improving the soil health and water quality on their farm.

A very special thanks to Mimi Booker-Thomas for planning the event, Dave Hartman for presenting and the Read family for hosting.

![Image of Shupp Hill Farms Veteran Outreach Event]
All About The Apples

Arkansas Black  IDared
Baldwin        Jonagold
Braeburn       Lodí
Courtland      Macoun
Delicious      McIntosh
Empire         Northern Spy
Fugi           Pink Pearl
Gala           Pippin
Granny Smith   Rome
Honeycrisp     Winesap

Pink Pearl

Until Next Time With Conservation Comments...