

WEST VIRGINIA
STREAM PARTNERS PROGRAM

YEARBOOK

2010-2011



Stream Partners Program

West Virginia Stream Partners Program is a cooperative effort of the Department of Environmental Protection, the Division of Forestry, the Division of Natural Resources and the West Virginia Conservation Agency.

Purpose

To support community groups that are dedicated to assuring that their local rivers and streams are safe for: swimming, fishing, recreation, public and commercial purposes and provide habitat for plant and animal life.

How to get started

\$5,000 seed grants are available each year to applicants that are willing to organize community members to plan and complete a watershed improvement project. Applications are available online at www.wvca.us/stream.cfm.

Basin Coordinators

Four regional basin coordinators are available to:

- Help complete applications
- Advise on projects with agency and assist with partnership building
- Get your community involved by helping to organize and facilitate meetings

The Partners

In September of 2010 the West Virginia Stream Partners Program awarded twenty-two local watershed associations grants of up to \$5,000. These watershed volunteers spent the year coordinating their goals with those of state and federal agencies, local government and watershed stakeholders to implement projects that range from educational field days to on the ground stream restoration. Each of these organizations is very unique. Each has its own set of skills, abilities and obstacles.

The Stream Partners Program provides the volunteers with a small financial resource, technical support, and organizational skills. This annual yearbook will highlight each association's individuality and successes.

The West Virginia Stream Partners Program is truly a state-wide cooperative effort. Program support is provided by staff from each of the four partner agencies and the grant fund is an annual legislative appropriation.

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Baker Run Conservation Society

176 Timber Mountain Road,
Baker, WV 26801

Andrew Satmary

304-897-6298
tsatmary@comcast.net

Who We Are

Baker Run Conservation Society (BRCS) is the essence of a broad-based community organization. Its core leadership consists of farmers, teachers, bankers, foresters, local business owners, contractors, and even an attorney. The at-large members are made up of the concerned citizens and those who live and recreate within the Lost River/ Baker Run Watershed. The organization was formed in 1984 by a farmer who wanted to raise awareness about the importance of preserving a healthy watershed. BRCS has remained a strong and sustainable voice for improved water quality for the past 25 years.



Our Goals/Needs

The goals for this grant were to identify high priority areas and install either streamside riparian buffers, wetland plantings or wildlife enhancement plots; develop a Youth Advisory Board (YAB); and purchase a projector.

Issues

Sedimentation
Land development
Agriculture
Other pollutants
Tourism

Partners

Hardy County Commission
EHM
WV Conservation Agency
NRCS
Hardy County FFA
Landowners
WV Division of Forestry
Hardy County Parks
Commission
WV Division of Natural
Resources
Master Gardeners
Hardy County Board of
Education

Amount of Grant: \$3,900





What We Accomplished

- Purchased a projector
- Replanted lost trees on Bear's Hell Run riparian project
- Installed five nesting boxes and a bat box along Bear's Hell Run
- Planted forty evergreens on private property, the first step in implementing an approved wildlife habitat

improvement conservation plan

- Forty-nine students from the YAB and seven chaperones attended a full day field trip to Seneca Caverns and Learning Center where they studied the geology and water quality of the region, performed a stream assessment of Seneca Creek and toured the caverns. Each student performed 1-1/2 hours of community service at Sites Homestead.



Buckhannon River Watershed Association

112 Fayette Street,
Buckhannon, WV 26201

G. Paul Richter
www.buckhannonriver.org

304-472-3317
brwainc612@gmail.com

Who We Are

BRWA was formed on March 27, 2001 and approved as a 501(c) (3) organization in 2002. Its Board of Directors consists of a minimum of seven and maximum of nine voting members. The board has provided facilities free of charge for meetings and the city has paid for several hundred membership cards. The association's members come from varied backgrounds, including forestry, municipal and state government, construction, education, journalism, law, and the timber industries. Participants range in age from 20 to 70 years old.



Our Goals/Needs

Our goal for this grant pertains to water sampling to monitor selected acidic tributaries of the Buckhannon River. As a result we will need to pay for newsletters, which will disseminate the results and conclusions of the monitoring; high school students assistance; and chemical supplies.

Issues

Acidic deposition
Acidic mine drainage
Coliform bacteria
Declining fish population
and stream health
Erosion and sediment
Drinking water quality and
quantity
Public access
Flooding
Garbage

Partners

Local Channel 3 TV
AmeriCorps/VISTA
WV Strawberry Festival
WV Wesleyan College
City of Buckhannon
Carter Roag Coal Company
WV DEP
Upshur County
Commission
AllState Insurance Co.-
Buckhannon

Amount of Grant: \$2,308

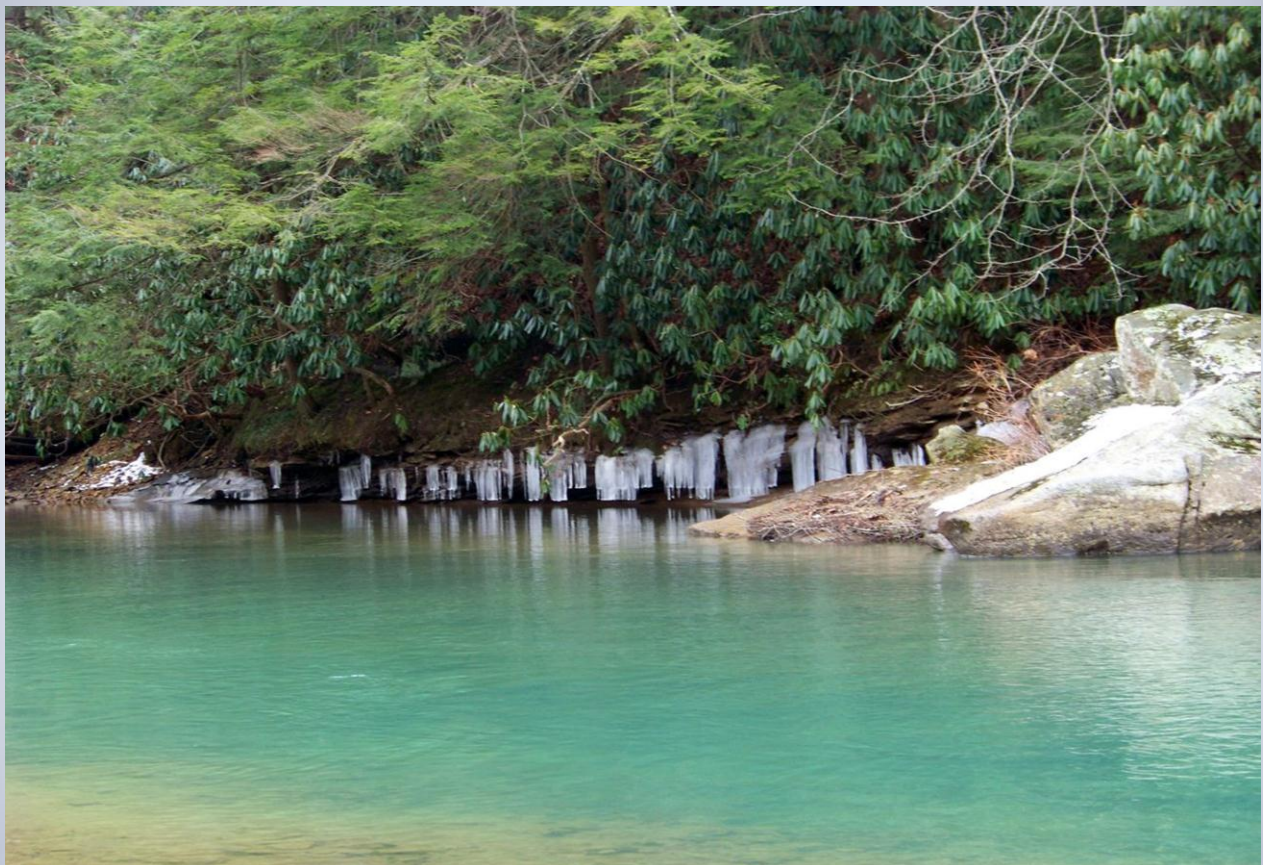


What We Accomplished

- Taped a video interview with Tender Loving Care
- Distributed three newsletters
- Installed three signs at boat ramps with DNR
- Sponsored Jack Barker Canoe Race
- Advertised in Strawberry Festival brochure
- Attended Maple Syrup Festival
- WVWC hired interns and attended workshop fairs
- Advertised for Earth Day
- Supervised WVWC intern Summer 2011
- Conducted presentation to Mountaineer Chapter of Trout Unlimited and to United Methodist Women of Buckhannon, 1st United Methodist Church
- Sponsored Tap Water Challenge with T. Landis of Buckhannon City Water Department
- Purchased four new 2x2 "entering watershed" signs
- Purchased postage stamps
- Continued monitoring at Smooth Rock Lick project (OSM funded) and Tenmile

Creek and Panther Fork (both DNR funded)

- BRWA members attended Short Paper Fiber project tour
- Held annual meeting with election of new officers



Buffalo Creek Watershed Improvement Association

1518 Otter Lick Road,
Ivydale, WV 25113

George Workman
www.bcwia.com

304-286-4114
claycoclerk@hotmail.com

Who We Are

The Buffalo Creek Watershed Improvement Association was formed in 2006. The agency lost members and interest dwindled until 2009 when a meeting was called to renew interest. Currently, the agency is made up of 29 members. In 2007 the group initiated a limestone treatment project. In 2008, the group hosted a Level One Save Our Streams workshop with 12 members present. They also hosted an annual cleanup.



Our Goals/Needs

Our goal pertains to the stream monitoring project which will include both chemical and macroinvertebrate data. Data collected will be useful in determining what, if any, effects a proposed mining operation will have in Lily Fork. We also hope to

Issues:

Acid mine drainage
Stream bank erosion
Inadequate sewage
treatment
Garbage

Partners: Private Donations

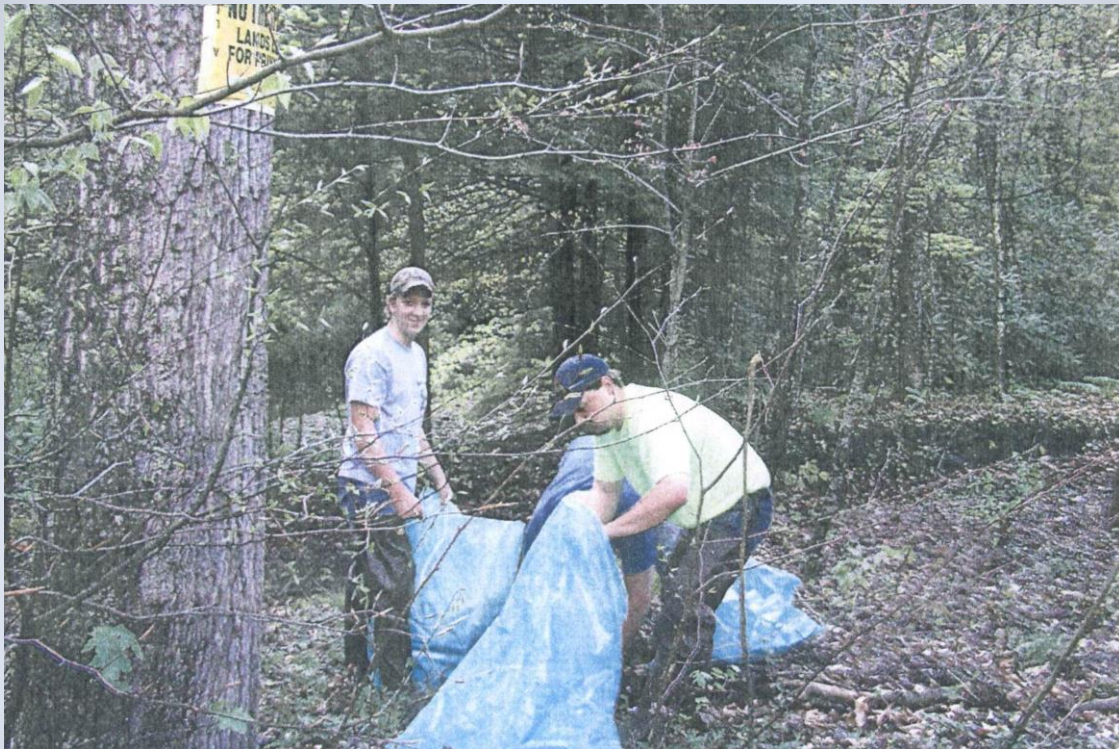
Amount of Grant: \$4,160



determine “hot spots” for fecal coliform contamination and we will use this information to promote sewage line expansion and implementation of alternative sewage treatment systems. Therefore, our needs include funding for equipment; mileage for the extensive water sampling and cleanups; and laboratory fees for fecal coliform.

What We Accomplished

- Held public awareness picnic
- Purchased domain name
- Developed Web site
- Held two stream cleanups
- Held two trout stockings



Campbells Creek Watershed Improvement Association

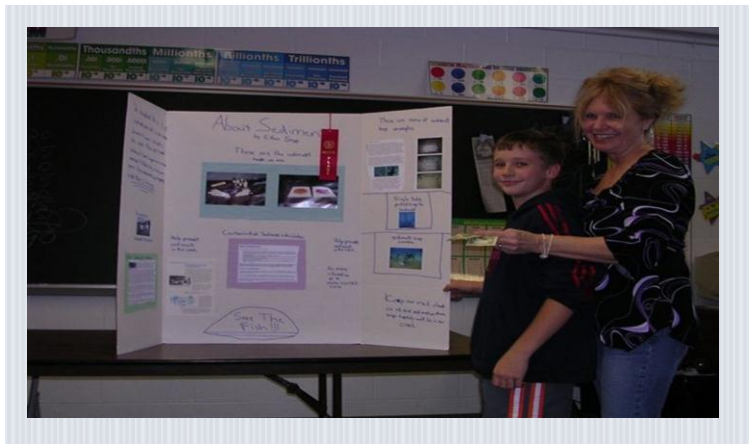
389 Campbells Creek Drive,
Charleston, WV 25306

Franklin Eugene Justice

304-925-8422
fejjustice@msn.com

Who We Are

The Campbells Creek Watershed Improvement Association is located less than 10 miles from the City of Charleston in Eastern Kanawha County. The watershed consists of an approximate 16-mile area. The group consists of area landowners and business owners. The group was founded in 2004 and has held monthly meetings since that date. In addition, the group has periodic steering committee meetings when necessary. We are very dedicated to improving the streams and surrounding landscape in our watershed.



Our Goals/Needs

We plan to establish a sampling program to complement the development of a comprehensive watershed based plan, develop an environmental education program at Mary Ingles Elementary School, and buy an additional LaMotte water sampling kit.

Issues

Stream bank erosion
Flooding
Littering
Impaired public sewer system
Abandoned structures

Partners

Mary Ingles Elementary School
Fairhaven Elementary School
WV DEP
WV Conservation Agency
WV Division of Natural Resources

Amount of Grant: \$2,930





What We Accomplished

Campbells Creek Watershed Association is going through some organizational changes this year and has not yet completed the project.



Coal River Group

P.O. Box 363,
St. Albans, WV 25177

William R. Currey
www.coalrivergroup.com

304-419-4417
bike1@suddenlink.net

Who We Are

The Coal River Group was established in 2003 by avid fishermen and outdoorsmen Bill Queen and Bill Currey, who were both exploring the outer reaches of the Coal River Watershed. They quickly found others with an interest in the river and its 90 miles.

The group determined the watershed was in need of clean up and improved water quality to support recreational activities and developed a Master Plan for bringing life back to the Coal River.



Our Goals/Needs

Our goal is to provide the basic fundamental financial resources, operation and administrative support needed by the Coal River Group to conduct day to day business and expand outreach to the tri-county (Boone, Lincoln and Kanawha) watershed.

Issues

Garbage
Stream bank erosion

Partners

WV DEP
WV DNR
WV DOH
Boone County Schools
Boone County Commission
Boone County Parks
Kanawha County Parks
Terradon Engineering
WV Legislature
City National Bank
Monarch Electric
Andrew Heights School
Girl Scouts/Boy Scouts
Kanawha Trails Club
St. Albans Rotary
St. Albans Garden Club
Bank of Whitesville
B&M Fuel
WV American Water
Penn-Virginia Coal
Rumble Elementary School
Monarch Service Company
BPS Company
AEP

Amount of Grant: \$5,000



- Worked for and received expansion of river structure program \$3 million commitment
- Expanded Big Coal Branch and grew community support



What We Accomplished

- Expanded water education in Boone/Lincoln Counties
- Restored public lake and stocked fish
- Completed construction of alternate energy building
- Improved public launch sites on water trail and printed 20,000 trail brochures
- Held education events for over 300 students



- Conducted stream cleanups in Ashford, White Oak, Upper and Lower Falls
- Developed park at Darmont, Boone County
- Conducted workshops for alternative energy



Friends of Deckers Creek

P.O. Box 877
Dellslow, WV 26531

Sarah Veselka
www.deckerscreek.org

304-292-3970
sarah@deckerscreek.org

Who We Are

The Friends of Deckers Creek was formed in 1995 by citizens concerned about the poor water quality of Deckers Creek, with the goal of making the stream fishable and swimmable. The poor water quality is due primarily to acid mine drainage and sewage from failing or non-existent wastewater treatment systems and combined sewer overflows in Morgantown. In addition, solid waste dumping has plagued sections of this watershed for years.



Our Goals/Needs

Our goal is to train the FODC Executive Director in applied fluvial geomorphology for future remediation projects; print three issues of the newsletter; create a membership campaign; find OSM VISTA matching funds; and pay for administrative and ongoing costs.

Issues

Acid mine drainage
Untreated sewage
Storm water runoff
Sediment

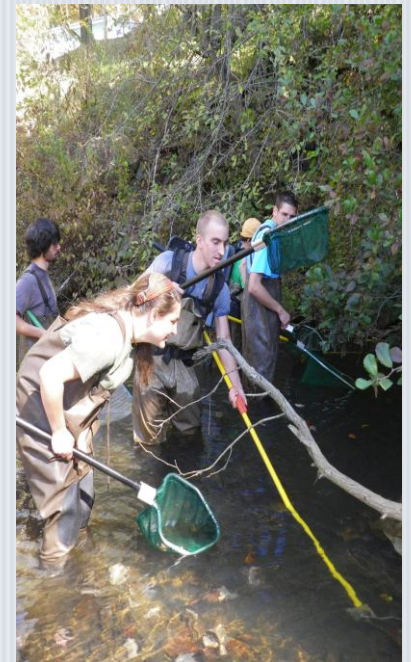
Partners

Natural Resources
Conservation Service
Morgantown Utility Board
Morgantown City Council
Monongalia County Comm.
Morgantown Area Chamber
of Commerce
WVU Wildlife and Fisheries
Department
Youth Advisory Board
Community Volunteers
Friends of the Cheat
WV Geologic Survey
American Fisheries Society
WVCNCS
BOPARC
Fairmont State
NASA ERC
Best Buy
Kodak American
State Farm
Skelly and Loy Inc.
Breakaway LLC.

Amount of Grant: \$5,000

What We Accomplished

- Held 2010 Deckers Creek Adventure Day
 - Held Clean Creek Program water chemistry, fish, and macroinvertebrate sampling
 - Distributed three seasonal newsletters to over 1,400 people
 - Produced and distributed two membership renewal letters
 - Held 10 public business and outreach meetings
 - Continued environmental education initiatives
 - Worked with engineer on Sandy Run project
- Chose contractor for Sandy Run project



Friends of Milam Creek

P.O. Box 159,
McGraws, WV 25875

Donna Burner

304-294-3150
director@milamcreek.org

Who We Are

Friends of Milam Creek was formed by community members disheartened by the dismal pollution and flooding conditions of the five miles of Milam Creek and the surrounding decaying communities. Milam Creek, which is the headwaters of Upper Guyandotte River, is degraded. Their mission is to promote, strengthen and advance the Milam, McGraws, and Ravencliff areas through the revitalization of Milam Creek and re-birth of Milam Creek Community Center and business incubator.



Our Goals/Needs

Our needs include water quality monitoring tools and supplies to measure current water conditions, future progress and potential recurring pollution sources; waist-high waders; water testing kits; and to set up a program to track testing results.

Issues

Rapid invasive species
growth

Lack of wastewater
treatment

Stream bank stabilization
Garbage

Partners

Lutheran Youth Org.

30 volunteers

Volunteer WV

Wyoming County CVB

WTCMC

Ravencliff/McGraws/
Saulsville PSD

Kopy Xpress

Wyoming County Comm.

WV Dept. of Corrections

Brenda Sinecoff

Southern Conservation
District

Local musicians

Mountain RC&D

Ben Sizemore

Amount of Grant: \$5,000

What We Accomplished

- Hosted community volunteers for a community-wide cleanup and work day. Built a k-dam, painted park/playground equipment, cleaned the school, repaired the community garden, cut multiflora rose, cleaned the paved area, picked up trash, and trimmed trees
- New VISTA Tim Crosby attended a grant writing workshop in Charleston, WV
- Set up a park marquee for community announcements
- Planned 2nd Annual Polk Gap Monster Festival
- Installed fencing around playground
- Conducted 2nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt where clean water strategies and littering were discussed
- Designed and printed brochures
- Attended volunteer water quality training with Kim Maxwell and Jennifer DuPree Liddle
- Hosted a Community Clean-up Day, cleaning up more than eight truckloads of trash and tires
- Purchased and installed two grills for park
- Received a house that will eventually be used as office and meeting space, museum and quarters for VISTA volunteers
- Held three fundraising events
- Installed three watershed kiosks
- Received and installed Milam Creek signs



Friends of the Cheat

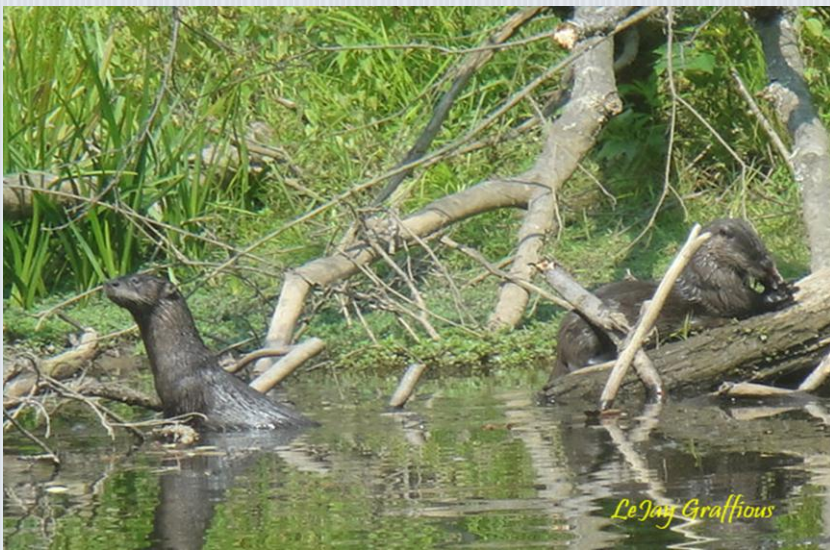
119 S. Price Street
Kingwood, WV 26537

Amanda Pitzer
www.cheat.org

304-329-3621
amanda@cheat.org

Who We Are

The group's first organizational meeting was in June, 1994, after an AMD blowout on Muddy Creek, which severely degraded water quality in the Cheat River. The Friends of the Cheat (FOC) established a mission "to restore, preserve, and promote the outstanding natural qualities of the Cheat River watershed". The strategy from the beginning has been to promote coalition building and shared commitments, minimizing confrontational and adversarial approaches. The FOC's membership, approximately 550, represents the whitewater and coal industries, elected officials, small businesses, landowners, residents, recreational users, academia, environmental advocacy, and a sub-watershed association.



Issues

Acid mine drainage
Recreational access
Garbage
Invasive plants

Partners

Private landowners
Mountain Watershed
Association
Preston CARES (Citizens'
Alliance for Resources
and Environmental
Safety)
Appalachian Coal County
Team
Office of Surface Mining
Summer Intern Program
DEP Intern Cody
Howdyshell

Amount of Grant: \$5,000



Our Goals/Needs

Our goal is to support the mapping and monitoring program. As a result, we need to pay for laboratory fees associated with analyzing

water from over 30 sites, expand monitoring to cover streams potentially impacted by Marcellus Shale natural gas drilling, and pay for mileage and maintenance of the FOC monitoring vehicle.

What We Accomplished

- Collected and analyzed data for lab comparison to evaluate accuracy
- Completed pre-construction chemical and benthic baseline monitoring at three stream crossing sites for a gas gathering pipeline
- Developed a volunteer monitoring handbook and recruited, trained and equipped five new volunteer monitors
- Executed spring water sampling on Sovern Run
- Completed benthic studies on Sovern Run, Pringle Run, and Muddy Creek
- Purchased and deployed two continuous conductivity data loggers in the Big Sandy watershed
- Collected and analyzed three data sets from the mouths of five major Cheat River tributaries for historical comparison purposes



Friends of the Lower Greenbrier River

P.O. Box 277
Alderson, WV 24910

Chris Chanlett
www.lowergreenbrierriver.org

304-445-2005
info@lowergreenbrierriver.org

Who We Are

The group, formerly known as Concerned Citizens of Alderson/Glen Ray, was founded and chartered in 1990 as a 501(c)3 organization. The group was formed in reaction to a significant threat to the groundwater and wells of the citizens of Alderson and Glen Ray - a CCA pressure treated wood plant was being built on the banks of the Greenbrier River in the flood plain. As a result, an ad hoc group of citizens came together and battled for the safety of the local drinking water for five years. The vigilance of the Concerned Citizens of Alderson/Glen Ray resulted in the closure of the polluting plant and the enforcement of state environmental laws in requiring the property owner to comply with permitting procedures.

Since that time, Concerned Citizens of Alderson/Glen Ray has monitored and intervened in the bankruptcy proceeding to guarantee groundwater and site clean up. The group has kept the public apprised of continuing action with press releases and letters to the editors of local papers.

In the spring of 1999, the Concerned Citizens of Alderson/Glen Ray changed the group name to Friends of the Lower Greenbrier River. The name change reflects an interest in broadening the geographic scope of the group's activities to include the entire lower Greenbrier river watershed, and to include a broader mission of monitoring and improving water quality and educating residents and seasonal recreational river visitors about water quality issues.

Issues

Maintenance of individual
septic systems
Garbage
Stream bank erosion
Quality of water
Fecal coliform bacteria
High sediment content

Partners

Southeastern Appalachian
Rural Alliance
High Rocks Inc.
Kiwanis
Greenbrier River Watershed
Association
WV Conservation Agency
WV Rivers Coalition
Pocahontas Parks and
Recreation
WV DEP
City of Ronceverte
Alderson Community
Market

Amount of Grant: \$5,000

Our Goals/Needs

Our goal is to establish an office location for the VISTA volunteer and purchase necessary

equipment and supplies for the Muddy Creek project.



What We Accomplished

- Co-created Greenbrier River Watershed Report 2011
- Created Greenbrier Geocache Trail which includes nine geocaches along the river
- Held Freshwater Mussel Workshop, History Alive! Presentation, conservation easements presentation, interpretive paddle, three movie nights, water education day at the Alderson Farmers Market, public meeting on algae, recreational paddle, and two open houses.
- Organized three Project WET curriculum workshops



- Started a business membership program
- Held an organizational retreat and drafted a strategic plan for the organization; VISTA volunteer supervision and project continuation
- Conducted two stream cleanups
- Organized a three-day expedition down the river
- Distributed two newsletters to 350 members



- Sponsored Alderson Pharmacy as a drug take back location
- Held two Muddy Creek public meetings and formed the Muddy Creek Project Committee
- Became a partner of the Greenbrier River Water Trail project and began the creation of a map for the river
- Made eight school visits reaching 373 children
- Presented to Green Bank Elementary Science Camp, Carnegie Kids College, Greenbrier and Monroe County 4H Camps, and the Freshwater Folk Festival



Greenbrier River Watershed Association

P.O. Box 1419
Lewisburg, WV 24901

Leslee McCarty
www.greenbrierriver.org

304-647-4792
greenbrierwatershed@yahoo.com

Who We Are

Greenbrier River Watershed Association (GRWA) was formed in 1991, by the joining of two groups: Greenbrier River Planning Council and Concerned Citizens of Alderson, Glen Ray. Both groups believed the future of a watershed and its communities rests in the hands of the citizens within the watershed. Also, both groups felt that education was central to the needs of the community and protecting the river and its tributaries. GRWA was incorporated in 1992 and received federal non-profit status in 1995. In 1995, a part-time staff position was created and an office space was rented in Lewisburg.



Our Goals/Needs

Funding from this grant will be used to match educational components of the 319 funding; such as purchase materials and supplies for classroom activities; and supplies for ongoing public education programs.

Issues

Pollution from improperly functioning sewage treatment plants
Leaking septic tanks
Improperly sited developments
Concentrated animal feedlots
Runoff from farms and logging
Lack of awareness about karst topography

Partners

Natural Resource Conservation Service
WV Conservation Agency
WV DEP
Canaan Valley Institute
Marshall University
Carnegie Hall
WV Cave Conservancy
Local artists
Lost World Caverns
Experience Works
Delegate Tom Campbell

Amount of Grant: \$5,000

What We Accomplished

- Compiled newsletter
- Unveiled karst trail at Lost World Caverns
- Completed large, complex signs for kiosks, kiosks erected and signs placed on kiosks
- Partnered with Experience Works and obtained a new assistant for the office
- Recruited a new board member. Sam Golston replaces Sandy Cowan as our treasurer
- NRCS and WVCA assisted with the accounting for the 319 funds on the karst awareness project
- West Virginia Cave Conservancy members helped with the signs, writing and providing maps
- Partnered with Carnegie Hall on photo show in December and had donations from local artists for our notepads



Lower Paint Creek Watershed Association

P.O. Box 142,
Hansford, WV 25103

Vanessa See

304-444-6840
vsee5077@suddenlink.net

Who We Are

On December 7, 1994, a public meeting was held in Fayetteville, West Virginia to discuss the possibility of Paint Creek participating in the WV Watershed Management Framework. A representative from Paint Creek attended this meeting and then presented this information to the people of Lower Paint Creek. On April 22, 1995, the Lower Paint Creek Association was formally organized, with by-laws passed on June 20, 1995.



Our Goals/Needs

Our goals are to sponsor "Kids Fishing Day" in May and an annual citizen participation creek cleanup in April, help sponsor the Trout Unlimited "Trout in the Classroom" project with 10 schools, improve the existing Danny Kitchens walking trail, and improve a 500-foot handicap walking trail through the forest to a K-Dam that was built on Ash Branch Creek with picnic table, benches and an information kiosk.

Issues

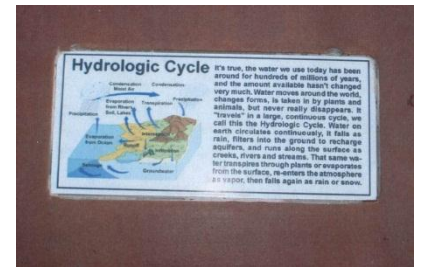
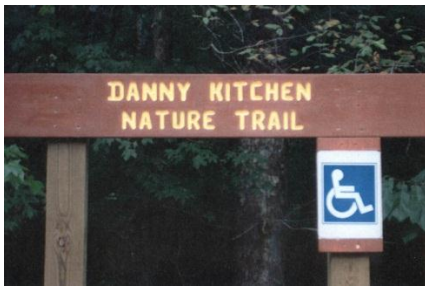
Acid mine drainage
Sediment
Erosion
Flooding
Quality of drinking water
Oil and fuel discharge

Partners

Tyler Morgan Coal Co.
RSC Equipment Rental
Watershed and community
volunteers

Amount of Grant: \$5,000





What We Accomplished

- Cleared land for project
- Built handicap ramp
- Rented Skidsteer to spread gravel on trail
- Placed benches, tables and timbers along trail
- Placed signs and trash cans along trail
- Placed birdhouses and bat houses along trail
- Placed grill along trail
- Placed kiosk along trail



Meadow River Watershed Association

P.O. Box 633,
Rainelle, WV 25962

Matthew Ford
www.meadowriver.org

304-438-6225
info@meadowriver.org

Who We Are

The Meadow River Watershed Association was formed in August of 2008 to address environmental concerns within the Meadow River Watershed. MRWA's mission is to promote the maintenance, preservation, protection, ecological integrity and other resources of the Meadow River Watershed. MRWA is faced with the challenges of balancing local economic interests with environmental concerns, and has developed partnerships to improve the environment while working with local industries.



Our Goals/Needs

This funding will be used to match other grants, begin our water quality monitoring program, promote environmental awareness and education, purchase sampling equipment and supplies, purchase insurance for volunteers, support new office in Rainelle, promote awareness through a website, newsletter and Western Greenbrier Youth Park, and help with costs in hosting a summer 2011 VISTA worker.

Issues

Fecal coliform
Stream bank erosion
Improper timbering practices
Abandoned mine lands
Active mining
Failing septic systems
Agricultural runoff
Flooding

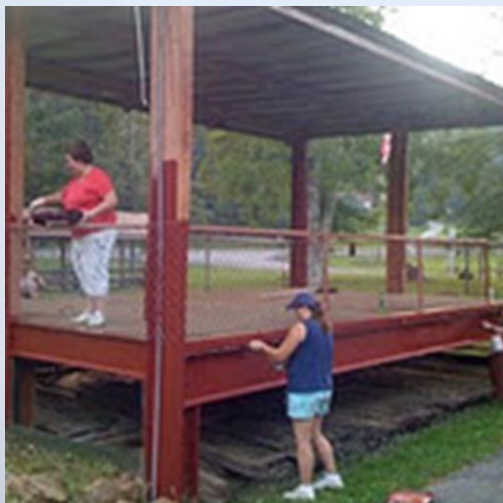
Partners

Greenbrier County
Commission
MeadWestvaco
Marshall University
Rupert Woman's Club
Wellspring of Greenbrier
WV Conservation Agency
WV DEP
Plum Creek Timber
Town of Rainelle
Greenbrier West High
School
Rainelle Lions Club

Amount of Grant: \$5,000

What We Accomplished

- Developed several new partnerships
- Started chestnut tree restoration project
- Sampled several impacted streams in Fall 2010
- Started Meadow River Watershed Association Facebook page
- Started a new website
- Made several improvements to Meadow River Community Roadside Park
- Increased membership



Morris Creek Watershed Association

P.O. Box 927,
Montgomery, WV 25136

Wanda King
www.morriscreekwatershed.org

304-442-4113
peewandie@hotmail.com

Who We Are

The Morris Creek Watershed was unofficially formed in June of 2001 with the first meeting held at the home of Mike and Wanda King. We invited speakers, Jennifer Pauer from the DEP Stream Partners and Marty Pritchard from the Paint Creek Watershed to educate and explain to the citizens of Morris Drive what a watershed is and what we can do as concerned citizens to improve our environment. By August we had outgrown the King's home. The Mayor of Montgomery, Melba White, graciously offered Montgomery City Hall as a meeting place. In September 2001 we adopted our by laws and mission statement and in October 2001 we elected officers and board members.



Issues

Sediment control
Stream bank stabilization
Acid mine drainage

Partners

AEP
Chesapeake Energy
Trout Unlimited
WVUIT
Marshall University
Clonch Industry
City of Montgomery
Pardee Resources
Pratt Elementary
Pinch Elementary
Chesapeake Elementary
Capital H.S.
South Charleston H.S.
Concord Univ.
Darmouth Univ.
Oliverian School
WV Conservation Agency
Marsico Brothers
Sweet Dreams Bakery
Triana Energy
St. John's Baptist Church
Montgomery Presbyterian Church
Morris Creek Church of Jesus Christ
Maple Coal Company
Asplundh Tree Company
St. Johnson's Catholic from Virginia Beach, Virginia

Amount of Grant: \$5,000

Our Goals/Needs

Our goal is to help pay for office supplies, phone, internet access, a website provider, water sampling materials, "Trout in the Classroom" materials, kitchen supplies, volunteer lunches, transportation, tree plantings and postage.



What We Accomplished

- Held annual stream cleanup
- Completed building repairs
- Worked on a Brown Fields grant to replace our worn out building

- Held Morris Creek reunion
- Held biannual stream walk
- Sponsored "Trout in the Classroom"
- Constructed and maintained five K-dams
- Held outdoor classroom with Marshall University, WVUIT, Bridgemont, Oliveria, and Darmouth
- Planted trees
- Planted natural habitat
- Maintained two cemeteries
- Applied for WHIP grant
- Wrote proposal for nine in-stream structures
- Planted two acres of pollinating plants
- Established 20 brush piles for wildlife habitat
- Created community garden
- Created butterfly garden



Northern Panhandle Watershed Initiative

1 Ball Park Drive,
McMechen, WV 26040

Elizabeth Fager

304-845-0482
efager@nprcd.org

Who We Are

This group of communities have come together to provide a forum for the discussion of issues that affect water quality in the five northernmost counties in West Virginia; Brooke, Hancock, Ohio, Marshall, and Wetzel and the corresponding four-county region of Ohio including the counties of Columbiana, Belmont, Jefferson, and Monroe. Additionally, the Northern Panhandle Watershed Initiative (NPWI) recognizes that to be effective the organization must necessarily expand its focus area to include additional headwater communities located in Pennsylvania. NPWI is hopeful that activities in the watershed lead to interest from others and will ultimately serve to enhance participation in these areas.



Issues

Fecal coliform
Sedimentation
Acidity
Heavy metals
Failing septic systems
Streambank erosion
Agricultural runoff
Industrial wastes
Combined sewer overflows
Lack of riparian buffers

Partners

Northern Panhandle
Conservation District
Wheeling Creek Watershed
Commission
Mountain RC&D
Grandview Park
WVU Extension-Brooke
County
Marshall County
Development Authority
Brooke Pioneer Trail
Ohio County Library
Brooke County Library

Amount of Grant: \$5,000

Our Goals/Needs

Our goal is to develop news releases, brochures, newsletters and fact sheets, develop website content to promote the program and publicize organizational events through available media.

What We Accomplished

- Cleaned up three tons of trash at two cleanups
- Presented three programs at local libraries
- Began trail sign project
- Planned Project WET training
- Planned rain barrel workshop



Opequon Creek Project Team

P.O. Box 4248,
Martinsburg, WV 25402

Lou Scavnicky
www.opequoncreek.org

304-262-7496
captainlou@comcast.net

Who We Are

The Opequon Creek Project Team is a West Virginia citizen based group supported by local, state, and federal government resources. The team meets monthly to fulfill its statement of purpose: to undertake projects that will lead to reduction in pollutants (primarily nutrients, sediment, fecal coliform bacteria and trash) entering the Opequon Creek and its tributaries in Berkeley and Jefferson Counties.



Our Goals/Needs

This funding will allow OCPT to plan a buffer along the banks of the Tuscarora, create an invitation to be sent to the community, advertisements in the local newspaper, on our website and at the event, and plant trees, shrubs, stakes and tubes.

Issues

Septic tank failure
Storm water runoff
Sediment
Litter
Farm animal access
Streambank erosion
Water pollution

Partners

Berkeley County PSSD
Mill Creek Watershed
Boy Scouts of America
WV DEP
Tuscarora Watershed
Martinsburg Journal
WV Division of Forestry
WV Conservation Agency
Faith Christian Academy
Berkeley County Safe and
Clean Agency
Eastern Panhandle
Conservation District

Amount of Grant: \$5,000

What We Accomplished

- Created Fun Float
- Planted Grantham buffer
- Planted Funkhouser buffer
- Presented to Faith Christian Academy



Piney Creek Watershed Association

P.O. Box 672,
Beckley, WV 25802

Phyllis Farley
www.pineycreekwatershed.net

304-256-1760
phyll.farley@gmail.com

Who We Are

This group formed in 2004 as a response to the City of Beckley's MS4 requirements with the hopes of engaging citizens in the process of water quality improvement and stormwater management.



Our Goals/Needs

Funding will allow us to focus on outreach with the public through our annual Watershed Festival, where we will need a pop-up table display, food and promotion. It will also allow us to purchase an Enviroscape model, maintain our organization's capacity such as construction of stormwater demonstration projects and rain barrels, volunteer monitoring, stream cleanups, a post office box, print newsletters, office and cell phones, the annual corporation fee and insurance premiums.

Issues

Water quality
Recreation
Fecal coliform
Litter
Stream access
Streambank erosion

Partners

Beckley-Raleigh County
Chamber of Commerce
Raleigh County Solid Waste
Authority
New River Clean Water
Alliance
Friends of Shady Spring
Library
Beckley Sanitary Board

Amount of Grant: \$4,985



What We Accomplished

- Purchased Enviroscape model
- Planned Watershed Festival
- Reorganized office space
- Newsletter sent to almost 200 people
- Developed stream walks schedule
- Held two stream walks
- Edited and printed brochure for constructed wetland at Shady Spring Library
- Participated in final draft of watershed-based plan
- Hired part-time executive director



Plateau Action Network

P.O. Box 482,
Fayetteville, WV 25840

Levi Rose
www.plateauactionnetwork.org

740-591-1750
levidrose@gmail.com

Who We Are

The Plateau Action Network is a community-based citizen's action group with diverse membership. The Network organized in 1997 to address issues such as fecal coliform, acid mine drainage, and the health and safety of Wolfe Creek as a popular recreational spot.



Our Goals/Needs

We need funding for a watershed coordinator; to buy new monitoring equipment; and support the quarterly production of the PAN newsletter.

Issues

Fecal coliform
Sedimentation
Abandoned mine lands
Streambank erosion
Pasture/cropland

Partners

WV Abandoned Mine
Lands
Fayette County
Commission
Fayette County Green
Advisory Team
Fayette County Health
Department
Historic Fayette Theater
National Committee for the
New River
National Parks
Conservation Association
New River Birding and
Nature Center
Penn State University
West Virginia American
Water

Amount of Grant: \$5,000

What We Accomplished

- Distribution of October 2010 Newsletter
- Distribution of March 2011 Newsletter
- Wild & Scenic Film Festival
- Wolf Creek Watershed Coordinator, matching funds
- Turbidity meter purchased for water quality monitoring
- Distribution of August 2011 Newsletter



Save the Tygart Watershed Association

P.O. Box 164,
Grafton, WV 26354

Leroy Stanley

304-363-7338
savethetygart@gmail.com

Who We Are

Save the Tygart Watershed Association came into existence on February 6, 2000. Several citizens of Taylor County decided in the light of a recent fish kill, the result of acid mine drainage, it was past time to join together before we lost the Great Tygart River forever.



Our Goals/Needs

Our goal is to expand the regular monitoring program, to include total dissolved solids and chloride, pay for a summer intern from Fairmont State University, support stream sampling and analysis, establish a water quality database for Sandy Creek, acquire a VISTA volunteer, maintain our website, plant 60 to 80 trees in Park View Park, and print trifold brochures.

Issues

Acid mine drainage
Fecal coliform bacteria
Inadequate septic systems
Sedimentation
Garbage

Partners

Fairmont State University
Tygart Lake State Park
Army Corp of Engineers
Alderson Broaddus College
WV DEP
Laurel Mountain
Fellowsville Watershed
Association
City of Grafton
Park View Park
Boy Scouts of America
Park View Reunion
Committee
WV Division of Forestry
Delegate Mike Manypenny
Rotary Club
Ten Mile Creek Watershed
Association
Trout Unlimited

Amount of Grant: \$1,837

What We Accomplished

- Continued monitoring Tygart River and Three Fork Creek for full analysis
- Completed benthic studies with Tim Craddock and Fairmont State University
- Obtained funding and initiated work on Sandy Creek Watershed-based plan
- Monitored Berkeley Run for mud runoff from raceway
- Updated website
- Spoke to legislators about Marcellus legislation
- Monitored water withdrawals from the Tygart River by Marcellus well water haulers
- With the help of WBOY-TV, informed the public about Marcellus water withdrawals and dumping of brine water in our streams and rivers
- Sampled and helped identify problem with public sewage in the Ten Mile Creek Watershed
- Sampled 181 individual sites resulting in 1,464 specific analyses
- Conducted 29 sampling trips since dozer placement on Three Fork Creek tributaries
- Monitored streams flowing into Tygart Lake in conjunction with Army Corps of Engineers
- Sampled swimming area of Tygart Lake State Park for possible reopening
- Placed trees in Tygart lake for fish habitat
- Held August 2011 meeting at Arden Community Center
- Gave talks at Rotary Clubs of Grafton and Clarksburg
- Added sulfate to in-house analytical capabilities
- Conducted bass fishing tournament
- Helped Dunkard Creek WSA with calibration of conductivity meters



Upper Guyandotte Watershed Association

P.O. Box 196,
Mullens, WV 25882

Val Page
www.ugwawv.org

304-250-7053
vp@ugwawv.org

Who We Are

The Upper Guyandotte Watershed Association (UGWA) was founded in response to the devastating flooding of 2001. Since that time, the founding members have gained a better understanding of the water quality and pollution problems present in the watershed and have taken on projects addressing a variety of issues. UGWA continues to grow and gain respect in the community with each passing year.

UGWA is a grassroots, community-based organization striving to empower citizens to take a leadership role on environmental issues in the headwaters of the Guyandotte River. The membership and board of UGWA are broad-based including persons from industry, environmental groups, local and state government, sportsmen's clubs, tourism, and local businesses. UGWA has garnered a tremendous amount of public support and has also partnered with a number of different local, state, and federal agencies.

Our Goals/Needs

Our goal is the completion of four of the wastewater projects; to continue long term monitoring program; resume the short term monitoring program; Fall 2010 and Spring 2011 stream cleanups; invasive weed removal, streambank stabilization and riparian restoration projects near the Ury Wastewater treatment site; obtain an Enviroscope interactive model; and support a Water Fest for 5th graders in Wyoming and McDowell counties.

Issues

Abandoned mine drainage
Sedimentation
Garbage
Stream bank erosion
Coal mining
Logging
Invasive weeds

Partners

Canaan Valley Institute
Crab Orchard-MacArthur PSD
Cliffs Natural Resources
Winding Gulf Restoration Org.
Corporation for National &
Community Service
Wyoming County 4-H Assoc.
WVU Extension
Groundwork Wyoming Cty
Mullens Area Chamber of
Commerce
Pocahontas Coal Company
City of Mullens
Hillbilly Bike Club
Wyoming County Comm.
Wyoming County BOE
WV HUB
Amigo Baptist Church
Cook Memorial Baptist
Church
River Network
WV Development Office

Amount of Grant: \$5,000

What We Accomplished

- Installed pet waste stations in Mullens
- Completed designs for Ury and Amigo Wastewater projects
- Held stream and trail cleanups
- Completed water monitoring
- Completed Phase I ESA & Revitalization Plan for old Itmann school building
- Attended 2011 River Rally by three board members and executive director
- Hosted board responsibilities/liabilities workshop
- Hosted fundraising workshop and developed annual fundraising plan
- Provided education and outreach
- Provided information about UGWA's projects and programs, distributed recycled promotional items and conservation kits, and hands-on educational activities for youth
- Engaged local citizens for project planning and promote responsible environmental stewardship
- Provided environmental education at four middle/consolidated schools



Warm Springs Watershed Association

P.O. Box 757,
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

Kate Lehman

304-279-0717
goldfairy39@gmail.com

Who We Are

Warm Springs Run was organized in 2008 as local people became increasingly concerned about county growth and development, and the resultant discharge for watershed protection. The goal of the volunteers is to form an all-encompassing organization that focuses on the health of the watershed.



Our Goals/Needs

Our goal is to improve the riparian buffer on a FEMA-designated property purchased by Morgan County in 1999 by purchasing and planting shrubs and trees; purchase and plant native wildflowers for the sunny area; and purchase two signs to be erected along the highway right-of-way.

Issues

Channel alteration
Erosion
Exposed pipes in/near
stream construction
Inadequate buffers
Debris
Invasive plants

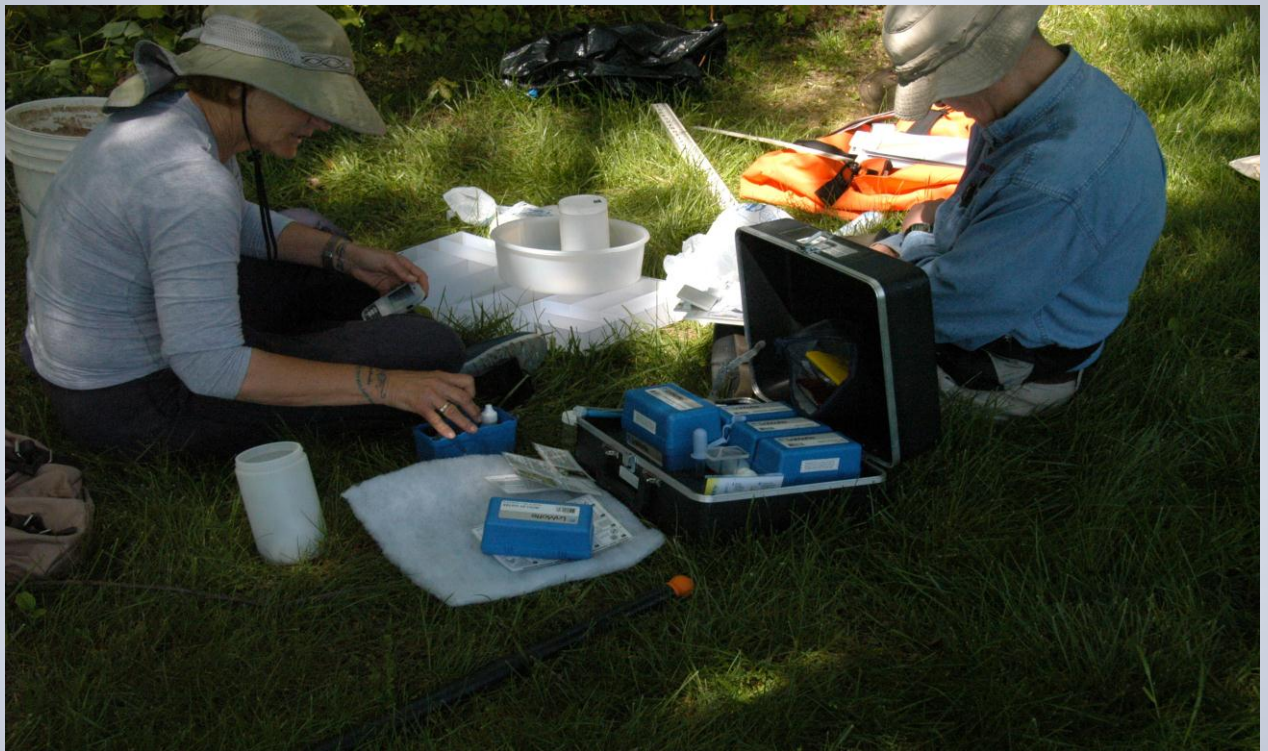
Partners

Morgan County
Commission
Morgan County Department
of Highways
Deborah Dhayer
Dawson's Ace Hardware
Tony's Butcher Black
Michael Merchant
Herb Peddicord
Jennifer Garlesky
Eastern Panhandle
Conservation District
Berkeley Springs High
School
Potomac Headwaters
RC&D
40 volunteers

Amount of Grant: \$5,000

What We Accomplished

- Permission was gained from the Morgan County Commission and a private landowner to plant trees along Warm Springs Run
- Both property owners agreed not to mow the area once the trees were planted
- 327 trees were planted on both sides of Warm Springs Run in a floodplain area
- A road sign was erected informing public that not mowing helps stop erosion and prevent flooding



Wastewater Treatment Coalition of McDowell County

P.O. Box 547,
Welch, WV 24801

Peni Adams

304-436-6556
mcdowellwtc@frontiernet.net

Who We Are

The Wastewater Treatment Coalition of McDowell County (WTCMC) came into existence after the 2001 and 2002 floods ravaged communities. These floods affected over 7,000 homes, causing more than \$66,000,000 in damages. Rebuilding efforts brought forth the critical need to address the historical lack of adequate wastewater treatment. The WTCMC formed at the charge of U.S. Congressman Nick Rahall's representative to complete a countywide assessment and design for addressing sewage issues collectively. Upon completion, the Congressman's office assisted in leveraging dollars for implementation of the plan. In February 2003, 23 agencies, faith-based, nonprofits, higher education, traditional and nontraditional wastewater system agencies, government and regional organizations met to form a coalition that could meet the charge for the county. The WTCMC immediately began an assessment of existing wastewater treatment in the county, and started educating themselves on both traditional and alternative approaches to wastewater treatment. The WTCMC developed an organizational structure to address their priorities: researching various technologies including site visits and internal workshops, identifying potential management models and prevailing regulations, and developing prioritization criteria to rank the many identified projects.

Our Goals/Needs

Our goal is to travel to communities along the North Fork of the Elkhorn Creek to speak to local residents about money available for septic systems, and hire a staff person to coordinate wastewater treatment for all residents and businesses.

Issues

Inadequate wastewater treatment
Fecal coliform bacteria
Litter

Partners

Mount View Middle/High Schools
Upper Guyandotte WSA
Coal Heritage Trail
Ashland Wastewater Treatment
McDowell County PSD
First Presbyterian Church of Welch
Community of Crumpler
Joe's Hardware
WV State Revolving Loan Fund
SAFE Housing and Economic Development
McDowell County Health Department
Mountain RC&D
Canaan Valley Institute
McDowell County EDA
WV Ministry of Advocacy and Work Camps
McDowell County FACES SHED

Amount of Grant: \$5,000

What We Accomplished

- Held 1st Annual Children's Water Festival
- Held planning meetings for 2nd Annual Water Festival
- Made home visits to discuss septic options
- Published one edition of Clean Water Chronicles
- Brownfield Assessment Phase 2 for Crumpler property completed and submitted to EPA
- Selected engineer for Crumpler PER and Lower McDowell design plan
- Held Crumpler community meeting
- Completed water

monitoring six times

- Completed weed maintenance in the Ashland wetland cells
- Presented project at WV Brownfields Conference
- Attended Southern Basin Watershed meeting



Winding Gulf Restoration Organization

P.O. Box 153,
Helen, WV 25853

Randolph Greer

304-774-0291
grandolph.7.poet@gmail.com

Who We Are

Citizens in the communities of Helen and Ury met in the fall of 2004 to begin working to unite residents in the Winding Gulf watershed, located in the southwestern portion of Raleigh County, in the development and implementation of projects that would improve the natural environment, protect persons and property, create educational opportunities, care for senior citizens and the mentally, socially and physically disabled, preserve the cultural heritage of the area, and support tourism and economic development. The WeGROw received 501(c) (3) status in 2006, with a mission to improve the quality of life for residents in the Winding Gulf region.

Our Goals/Needs

Our goal is to organize community and stream cleanups to remove litter and reduce pollutants; collaborate with Upper Guyandotte Watershed Association on invasive weed removal, install streambank stabilization and riparian restoration near the Ury Wastewater treatment site; develop a brochure; conduct membership campaigns; attend River Rally; travel to Water Celebration Day; pay presenters and buy materials for a board development workshop; travel for local networking; and pay for administrative expenses.

Issues

Inadequate wastewater
treatment
Litter
Abandoned mine drainage
Sedimentation
Streambank erosion
Coal mining
Logging

Partners

Community of Helen
Community of Ury
Helen Neighborhood Watch
Upper Guyandotte WSA
Beckley Area Foundation
Raleigh County Comm.
Gulf Preservation Authority
Coal Heritage Highway
Authority
Western Pocahontas
Properties
Coal Fillers
River Network
Crab Orchard-MacArthur
PSD

Amount of Grant: \$4,940

What We Accomplished

- Constructed baseball field
- Conducted board training
- Established Associate Memberships
- Collaborated with Upper Guyandotte Watershed Association
- Secured a dumpster for watershed trash
- Paved playground for improved safety
- Purchased office supplies
- Established liability insurance policy
- Obtained leased office space
- Rented post office box
- Tapped into national support with River Network
- Held board training workshop
- Obtained promotional materials
- Obtained software for financial records





West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

Division of Water and Waste Management

Nonpoint Source Program

Stephanie Ferrell

601 57th Street SE

Charleston, WV 25304

(304) 926-0495