

'eers to volunteers



Moutaineers Recycle already has saved enough energy to power more than 5 houses for a year! **Page 4**



Award of Excellence winner

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indepth

news from the west virginia department of environmental protection

Mercury hearing set

Both DEP, DHHR studies are available online

By Jeanne Chandler

CHARLESTON — A statewide informational meeting and public hearing will be held Tuesday, Nov. 28 to provide updated information on the Department of Environmental Protection's mercury study.

Representatives from DEP will present results on its evaluation of the technical and economic feasibility of control technologies for mercury air emissions from coal-fired power plants and other industrial facilities, as well as mercury measurement technologies. In addition, the Department of Health

and Human Resources will present results from its final "Public Health Report – Exposure to Mercury in West Virginia."

The results from these evaluations will be important in assessing policy options and determining whether the state mercury rule for coal-fired power plants is adequately protective of public health. Those interested may participate in the combination meeting/hearing at DEP's Charleston office or through video conferencing locations at three regional offices. This event will provide an opportunity to find out the results of these studies, as well as to ask questions of agency personnel.

Coal-fired power plants, a mercury-cell

MERCURY continued on Page 2



Photo by Rich Carter

Gov. Manchin talks about the benefits of the Volcano Island Indoor Water Park in Marion County.

Brownfields site to be water park in Marion County

FAIRMONT – Gov. Joe Manchin joined City of Fairmont officials and representatives from The Water Works LLC and American Resort Management LLC to announce the development of an \$87 million indoor water park and family resort on a 25-acre site along the Monongahela River near I-79 in Marion County – a destination tourism project that is expected to infuse millions of dollars into the local economy and create as many as 475 new jobs.

Developed by The Water Works LLC and designed by Omni & Associates, the Volcano Island Resort is a unique all-inclusive resort. The resort will be managed by American Resort Management LLC of Erie, Pa., and will feature: the 50,000-square-foot Volcano Island Indoor Water Park; a 30,000-square-foot conference center; a five-acre outdoor water park; marina and recreational lake with paddle boats; RV park; multiple restaurants; a full-service day spa and 300 attractively appointed suites overlooking the Monongahela River. The project is the largest private development project in Marion County history, and one of the largest in state history.

The project site is part of the former Exxon Fairmont Coke Works/Sharon Steel industrial site. Portions of the 107-acre site have been remediated under a Project XL agreement among Exxon Mobil, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection. The 25-acre portion of the site that is being developed for the Volcano Island Resort project was not environmentally impacted under the site's prior use.

"Volcano Island Resort will have a lasting economic impact upon Marion County and the entire North Central West



Photo by John King

Members of the Morris Creek Watershed Association are shown during a Make It Shine cleanup. The group received a plaque and a \$5,000 cash award for earning top watershed association honors.

Morris Creek is state's Watershed of the Year

ROANOKE — For the seventh consecutive year, watershed groups from all across West Virginia were recognized by the Department of Environmental Protection for their efforts in protecting and restoring local watersheds.

More than 100 volunteers attended the Watershed Celebration Day on Nov. 4. The group gathered at Stonewall Jackson Resort to honor 15 watershed groups and one individual for their hard work and commitment in protecting and restoring streams and educating their communities about the importance of watershed protection. The event was sponsored by the West Virginia Watershed Network.

"Every year, I'm amazed at the creativity and perseverance of watershed association volunteers," said DEP Cabinet Secretary Stephanie R. Timmermeyer. "I certainly appreciate the volunteers' time and energy put into restoration of the state's streams."

The highest honor went to the Morris Creek Watershed Association of Kanawha County as the 2006 Watershed Association of the Year. The group received a plaque and a \$5,000 cash award donated by the Dominion Foundation. The Division of Highways also provided highway signs designating the watershed association as the

WATERSHED continued on Page 3

BROWNFIELDS continued on Page 3



Students get an inside look at the Mt. Storm power station.



Steve Brown of the Division of Natural Resources conducts a tour of the Limestone Drum Station for Acid Mine Drainage Treatment in Davis.



Megan Casteel and Sam Wilson of the Sandy Pals 4-H Club in Preston County share ideas for projects.

Teens take in sights during youth weekend

BLACKWATER FALLS – Ninety teenagers gathered recently for the 31st Annual Youth Environmental Conference at Blackwater Falls State Park for a weekend filled with educational environmental activities.

Frank Young from the Highlands Conservancy spoke to the students about wind power. Participants also attended energy efficiency, geocaching, and recycling craft workshops presented by Department of Environmental Protection employees Jeanne Chandler, Brad Blaine, John King, Caron Melton, Phyllis Farley and Theodora Plumley. They also enjoyed games that promote team building and organizational skills.

Participants were taken by Tucker County school buses to Mt. Storm Power Station, the Mountaineer Wind Energy Center wind farm, and the Davis Limestone Drum Station for Acid Mine Drainage Treatment. They later gave group reports on the information received from touring these sites.

Some of the participants also made centerpieces from recycled materials to be used on the banquet tables that were judged. Attendees also shared ideas and suggestions for environmental projects that can be adapted to their local communities during an idea swap session.

To learn more about the Youth Environmental Program's activities for students, contact Diana Haid at dhaid@wvdep.org or (304) 926-0440.

Watershed

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watershed of the year. Other winners were:

- Forestry – Sleepy Creek Watershed Association, Morgan
- **New Watershed of the Year** – Opequon Creek Project Team, Berkeley
- City Slicker Urban Work – Friends of Deckers Creek, Monongalia
- Flood Mitigation – Magazine Branch Watershed Association, Kanawha
- Solid Waste – Twelvepole Watershed Association, Wayne
- Habitat – Davis Creek Watershed Association, Kanawha
- Non Point – Elk Headwaters Watershed Association, Webster
- Outreach and Education (*two winners*) – Indian Creek Watershed Association, Monroe County, and Friends of the Blackwater's North Fork Project, Tucker
- Polluted Coal Mine Drainage – Buckhannon River Watershed Association, Upshur
- Recreation – Dunkard Creek Watershed



Morris Creek volunteers pose with their prizes.

- Association, Monongalia
- **Stream Partners** – Guardians of the West Fork, Harrison County
- Water Quality – Friends of Deckers Creek, Monongalia
- Guiding Light – Joe Crowder, Kanawha
- Natural Stream Restoration – Friends of Springs Run Wild Trout, Pendleton
- Wastewater Treatment – Upper Guyandotte Watershed Association, Wyoming
- Youth Participation – Baker Run Conserva-

tion Society, Hardy

The West Virginia Watershed Network is comprised of the Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Forestry, Division of Natural Resources, West Virginia Conservation Agency, U.S. Office of Surface Mining, U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service, Canaan Valley Institute, River Network, and the Rivers Coalition.

'Dam Man' takes DEP's top honor

Scientific work on State of Environment Report got Secretary's attention

By Colleen O'Neill

CHARLESTON – Brian Long has manned the state's dam safety program for 30 years, including a time when the program included coal-related dams and waste ponds. Nowadays, the program addresses dams related to West Virginia's lakes and rivers – 350 of them to be exact.

Long is manager of the dam safety program. Along with his inspectors, he works to ensure the safety of the structures and monitors them closely during heavy rainfall events. He now can add to his list of career accomplishments the title of 2006 Employee of the Year for the Department of Environmental Protection.

He was presented the award by Cabinet Secretary Stephanie R. Timmermeyer during the agency's annual picnic in September.

"In addition to his regular duties, he is always quick to accept additional responsibilities. He has spearheaded the effort to update the State of the Environment report, and has made great headway in a short amount of time," she said. "His work has taken the place of a contractor, saving the agency money and providing valuable in-house expertise in identifying new environmental indicators to make the second edition of the report more comprehensive and strengthening the science behind it."

Long began working for the state in 1974, a year and a-half after the Buffalo Creek Disaster.

"I was hired to get the coal refuse dams and impoundments into compliance. I traveled all over Southern West Virginia



Photo by Jessica Greathouse

Brian Long accepts a plaque designating him the DEP's 2006 Employee of the Year from Cabinet Secretary Stephanie R. Timmermeyer.

– Nicholas, Mercer, Logan and Monroe counties, to name a few," he explained.

Long left his state job in 1977 to further his education. He had an undergraduate degree in geology from Alfred University in New York. Making his way to Morgantown, he spent the next two years at West Virginia University obtaining his master's degree in geology.

It was 1979 when he returned to government, joining the Reclamation Division in the Department of Natural Resources. He worked there until 1985 until a reorganization moved reclamation to the Department of Energy. In 1986, coal and noncoal dams were separated. Long stayed with noncoal

dams and was transferred to the Office of Water Resources. Even more reorganizations through the years eventually brought his program to its current home within the Division of Water and Waste Management's Environmental Enforcement section. Long says the dam safety program is still where he wants to be. In fact, he has a nickname.

"I'm called 'The Dam Man'," Long said. "It sounds funny. Other states have changed the name of their program, flip-flopping it from dam safety to safe dams in an effort to defuse the joke. I kept the name. Although it does make the Legislature chuckle, the lawmakers know who we are."

DEP's building, landscape design honored

CHARLESTON – During a ceremony at its headquarters in Kanawha City, the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection was presented with a 2006 Design-Build Excellence Award for the completion of its headquarters project.

TERRADON Corporation, the firm responsible for the site/civil elements of the project as a consultant to the design builder BBL Carlton LLC, presented the award on behalf of the Design-Build Institute of America Ohio Valley Chapter.

The building also was recently honored

with an EPA Star Energy Award for superior energy efficiency and environmental performance. It is also the first state-owned LEED certified building by the U.S. Green Building Council.

"This is the flagship of design build projects in West Virginia," said Steve Engelhardt, director of marketing and personnel for TERRADON Corporation. "We're proud to have been able to lend our experience to this project and continue our tradition of design-build excellence as a part of this magnificent project."



Steve Engelhardt of Terradon Corporation talks about the winning design.

Brownfields

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Virginia region. This project is an outstanding example for brownfields redevelopment in West Virginia, transforming this vacant land into new jobs and new economic opportunities with construction of a year-round destination resort that will attract families from throughout West Virginia and the greater Mid-Atlantic region," Manchin said.

For more information on the facility, call 1-866-9-VOLCANO (86-5226) or visit www.volcanoislandresort.com.

Mercury

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chlor-alkali plant, industrial boilers, and some large industrial processes are examples of the main stationary source categories of reported mercury emissions to the air in West Virginia.

The meeting and hearing will be from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Coopers Rock Training Room at DEP's Charleston headquarters, 601 57th St. S.E. It may also be accessed via video conference from regional offices:::

■ Wheeling: 131A Peninsula Street; (304) 238-1220

■ Fairmont: 2031 Pleasant Valley Road, Suite 1; (304) 368-3910

■ Romney: West Virginia Division of Motor Vehicle office, second floor, located between Mayhew Chevrolet and Burger King on U.S. Route 50; (304) 822-7266

Background information, DEP's assessments of control technologies, as well as measurement technologies of mercury air emissions can be obtained by visiting www.wvdep.org/daq/ and selecting the link to mercury. DHHR's Public Health Report is available at www.wvdhhr.org/rtia/atcdr.asp.

For information, contact Renu Chakrabarty at (304) 926-0499, ext. 1246, or at rchakrabarty@wvdep.org.

Agencies monitor energy loss

DEP, Development Office save power, money with Million Monitor Drive

By Jessica Greathouse

CHARLESTON — The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection and the West Virginia Development Office are saving energy, money and protecting the environment by putting their computer monitors to sleep.

The agencies are joining the Million Monitor Drive, an initiative by the ENERGY STAR program, which aims to activate monitor power management on one million computer monitors. Through the program, DEP and WVDO will set monitors to go into a low-power sleep mode during periods of inactivity.

The DEP has signed a memorandum of understanding with ENERGY STAR to enable the power management features on 850 computer monitors. This move will save about 324,849 kWh over the next year or enough electricity to light 259 West Virginia homes for one month.

The WVDO has also signed a memorandum of understanding with ENERGY

STAR to enable the power management features on 90 computer monitors, an initiative that will save about 18,000 kWh over the next year or enough electricity to light 20 West Virginia homes for one month.

"This is a really simple way to make a significant impact on the environment," said DEP Cabinet Secretary Stephanie R. Timmermeyer. "I hope other West Virginians will follow suit and pledge to save energy with their computers both at home and at work."

"Every watt counts," said Steve Spence, executive director of the WVDO. "The West Virginia Development Office is committed to using energy efficiently and the simple act of powering down our computer screens is helping us reduce our energy use, save money and set a positive example in the community."

Other organizations or state agencies that want to join the effort or that want more information on how to become a partner may contact Bill Willis, program coordinator, Energy Efficiency Program at (304) 558-2234 ext. 765. For more information about ENERGY STAR and monitor power management, visit www.energystar.gov/powermanagement.

Computers are only used an average of four hours each business day, but continue

to consume energy even when idle. Most of the energy used by computers and monitors is wasted because 65 percent of computers and monitors are left on at night and 45 percent of monitors are not enabled for power management. The ENERGY STAR Million Monitor Drive is helping organizations such as DEP and WVDO eliminate waste by making the organization-wide activation of monitor power management quick and easy.

ENERGY STAR, jointly managed by the EPA and the U.S. Department of Energy, allows consumers to easily identify energy-efficient appliances, electronics, office equipment, lighting, heating and cooling equipment, buildings and homes.

The DEP is the state's environmental regulatory agency. The agency's Charleston headquarters recently earned the ENERGY STAR award for its green building design and energy efficient features.

The WVDO is the state's chief economic and community development agency. The West Virginia Energy Efficiency Program provides technical assistance to West Virginia industries, public institutions, local governments and the transportation sector to enhance energy efficiency and identify modernization opportunities.

Let's go ... Mountaineers Recycle

Enough energy has been saved recycling to power 5.5 homes for a year

By Lalena Price

MORGANTOWN – It's halftime in the game of recycling at Mylan Puskar Stadium and by the looks of the scoreboard, West Virginia University fans can give themselves a roaring Mountaineer cheer.

With just three more home games to go during football season, Mountaineers Recycle, the fan-driven recycling program that benefits the WVU Children's Hospital, has collected more than 14,000 pounds of recyclables from fans in and around Mountaineer Field. Nearly \$1,400 has gone to benefit the hospital.

Greg Adolfson, who helps coordinate the program for the Department of Environmental Protection, can be seen walking through the parking lots on game day speaking the benefits of the program. He's part of a team of dedicated fans who want to see the environmental benefits as well as the good that the program does for the hospital. Fan participation and response has been excellent, he said.

"It's a win-win – we are helping the kids and also promoting a healthy environment," Adolfson said. "The environmental impacts are really impressive. We saved about 79 cubic yards in landfill space, conserved 59,872 kilowatt-hours of electricity, saved 54 trees, and conserved enough energy to power 5.5 households per year."

Adolfson, a public outreach specialist with the DEP, along with Les Mullins, Lisa



During every Mountaineer home game, volunteers meet up to help with the Mountaineers Recycle program. To become a volunteer, call the REAP program at (800) 322-5530 and ask for Mountaineers Recycle.

Facemeyer, Sandy Rogers and Jim Hill, all of the REAP – The Next Generation program, played key roles in the program's creation working to form partnerships with WVU facilities management, the Monongalia County Solid Waste Authority and Coca Cola Bottling Co. Consolidated. Mountaineers Recycle also is being touted statewide in an advertising blitz by Coca Cola.

"If fans want to volunteer to help us out at games, that would be fantastic," Adolfson said. "We give community credit hours for the program if students need them."

The program rebounds into basketball

season with the first home game, Mount St. Marys vs. WVU, Nov. 10 at 7:05 p.m. at the Coliseum. Forty bins will be available for fans to use for recycling bottles.

Governor Manchin has encouraged other universities, colleges and schools around the state to contact the REAP program to learn about starting their own recycling campaigns. REAP is located within the DEP and provides supplies, support, and even a helping hand in community cleanup, recycling and beautification projects.

To learn more about Mountaineers Recycle or to find out how to start a similar program, call (800) 322-5530.

Sustainable Communities leader on job

Second year of program will target Fayette, Gilmer, Nicholas, Braxton counties

By Lalena Price

CHARLESTON – An expert in sustainable communities with a special interest in ecotourism has been named project leader of the next West Virginia Sustainable Communities Project.

Doug Arbogast, a Pennsylvania native and avid outdoor enthusiast, will lead six young adult interns in their efforts to conduct pollution prevention projects focused on energy efficiency, water conservation and waste minimization throughout 2007. The project will begin in January and will focus on all four sectors of the community including homes, schools, businesses and community institutions.

“This is such an amazing opportunity for us, not only to continue on with this grassroots effort, but to see what people can do when you give them the right tools,” Arbogast said. “We are right now building an enthusiastic and committed team of interns who are willing to roll up their sleeves and make a difference one person, one community, one county at a time.”

The project is a joint effort of the West



Doug Arbogast will lead a group of SCA interns in the West Virginia Sustainable Communities Project in Fayette, Gilmer, Nicholas and Braxton counties.

Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation and the SCA – Students Conserving America (formerly the Student Conservation Association.)

In 2005-2006, a team of SCA interns was based in Summersville to target Nicholas and Braxton counties. In 2007, the momentum will continue in those areas while also targeting Gilmer and Fayette.

There will be a statewide outreach and education campaign, but these four counties are targeted specifically because they are Alliance of West Virginia Champion Communities, which is a publicly and privately funded grassroots movement to empower communities to achieve sustainable development.

“We will strive to have as broad an impact as possible while working hard to make a difference to individual citizens and communities,” he added.

Arbogast earned his bachelor’s in environmental geo-science and a master’s in recreation, parks and tourism resources from West Virginia University. He was involved in the implementation in Richwood and Pineville of “Creating A Value Added Community Curriculum,” a pilot project for Appalachian communities developed to provide a business plan for poverty reduction and the creation of community wealth.

He has served as a project coordinator for the West Virginia Ecotourism Association and earned a certificate in ecotourism planning and management from Humboldt State University in Arcata, Calif. He, his wife Susan and daughter Abby will reside in Fayette County during the project.

For more information on the program, contact Arbogast at (304) 846-4268, (304) 619-0668 or darbogast@thesca.org.

Dedicated interns sought for sustainability project

Applicants must apply online through the SCA

By Lalena Price

CHARLESTON – Young adults with an interest in the environment and sustainability are encouraged to apply online for an internship with the West Virginia Sustainable Communities Project.

This unique internship, which begins in January, offers young adults a chance to make a difference in the Mountain State. They will be part of a team that will conduct pollution prevention projects focused on energy efficiency, water conservation and waste minimization. The project focuses on all four sectors of the community: homes, schools, businesses and community institutions.

Online applications will be accepted through Nov. 20.

Members of the corps will conduct energy audits, help communities start

recycling and composting programs, construct rain barrels, promote national and state programs related to conservation, and provide outreach and education through group presentations. They also will operate displays at community events and develop educational programs for schools and youth groups. Interns will spend half of their time in the field and the other half conducting research and coordinating events. They will report to a project leader.

The project is a joint effort of the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation, and the SCA – Students Conserving America (formerly the Student Conservation Association.)

In 2005-2006, the program was based in Summersville so interns could target Nicholas and Braxton counties. In 2007, it will keep the momentum going in those areas while also targeting Gilmer and Fayette. There will be a statewide outreach and education campaign, but these four counties are targeted specifically because

they are Alliance of West Virginia Champion Communities, which is a publicly and privately funded grassroots movement to empower communities to achieve sustainable development.

Candidates must have a valid driver’s license and a clean driving record. They should have strong interpersonal skills, the willingness to work as part of a close team, the ability to work independently when necessary, a strong commitment to service, and a passion for sustainability issues. Experience in pollution prevention projects and programs as well as a background in environmental studies and sustainable practices are also desired. Housing and a stipend will be provided. Interns will be based in Fayette County.

For more information and to apply online, go to www.thesca.org, select internships and jobs then West Virginia Sustainable Communities Project. For more information on the project, contact Doug Arbogast, project leader, at (304) 846-4268, (304) 619-0668, or darbogast@thesca.org.

Clean Water State Revolving Fund helping to bring sewage lines to Raleigh residents

CRAB ORCHARD – Residences in the Crab Orchard-MacArthur Public Service District will soon have public sewer service available to them, thanks to funding from the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection’s Clean Water State Revolving Fund.

The DEP and the public service district recently closed on a loan for \$1,314,606 for the proposed project. The loan carries a zero percent interest rate and will be repaid over the next 30 years.

Combined with a grant of \$1.5 million from the Small Cities Block Grant program administered by the West Virginia Development Office, the total project cost is \$2,814,606.

Water and sewer projects are part of Governor Manchin’s focus for building infrastructure for West Virginia.

The project consists of extending sewer service to an additional 140 residential customers in the Harper Heights, Circle View and Harper Road areas of

Raleigh County.

Upon project completion, citizens will have centralized sewage collection facilities for the first time.

Existing health hazards associated with failing septic tanks and direct sewage discharges into local streams will be eliminated.

The Crab Orchard-MacArthur PSD currently serves 3,485 customers near Beckley with its own wastewater treatment and collection system.

Coal mining areas can get watershed grants

Proposed projects must be part of comprehensive watershed protection plan

By Jessica Greathouse

CHARLESTON — Grants totaling \$270,000 are available to West Virginia watershed associations for stream restoration projects in coal mining areas.

Up to \$150,000 is available through the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection's nonpoint source program for watershed associations with streams that have been affected by coal mining in Boone, Fayette, Kanawha, Logan, Marshall, McDowell, Mingo, Nicholas, Raleigh, Wayne, Webster, and Wyoming counties.

Grants will range from \$10,000 to \$50,000. Qualifying projects must be part of a comprehensive watershed protection or restoration plan addressing nonpoint source pollution and result in measurable water quality outcomes.

Watershed associations must be able to illustrate support through partnerships and include other sources of funding.

The watershed association also must commit to operating and maintaining the project for up to 10 years.

"This is an unprecedented opportunity for local watershed groups to plan, fund,

and implement broad-scale watershed restoration projects in their communities," said DEP Cabinet Secretary Stephanie R. Timmermeyer. "These projects will serve not only to improve water quality, but also to forge partnerships within communities in the name of environmental protection."

The submission deadline is March 1, 2007. Grants will be awarded in May.

Another \$120,000 is available as a result of a consent order between DEP and four Massey Energy subsidiaries. The DEP will accept two funding proposals for up to \$60,000 each for projects in the Guyandotte and Coal River watersheds.

Project proposals must address a nonpoint source pollution problem and be submitted by watershed groups in the affected watersheds. Projects must also be part of a comprehensive plan to improve water quality, document partnerships, serve as education and outreach opportunities and be implemented within two years of the grant award.

The first project submission eligible for \$60,000 is due March 1, 2007. The grant will be awarded in May. The second round of funding will be awarded in February 2008. The deadline for project submission is December 1, 2007.

For a comprehensive list of project and evaluation criteria, contact Jennifer Pauer at (304) 926-0499 ext. 1038, or jpauer@wvdep.org.

Inspector leads national group; awards W.Va. firm top honors

By Lalena Price

PHILIPPI — As his first duty as president of an organization recognized as the authority on reclamation, Mike Kromer presented two national awards to a West Virginia company.

Kromer, an inspector with the Division of Mining and Reclamation and the new president of the National Association of State Land Reclamationists, ascended to the position during a recent annual conference in



KROMER

Williamsburg, Va. Shortly after he took the post, he presented to Greer Lime Company an award for outreach and education and another for noncoal reclamation.

"That was quite an honor to award a company from the Mountain State two of only four national awards given this year," Kromer said. "It was amazing."

Greer Lime Company is based in Riverton and earned the outreach and education award for its Germany Valley Operations in Pendleton County where it raises trout onsite and sponsors a public Trophy Trout Rodeo and Springfest annually. The company also purchases livestock from the Tri-County Fair for Hardy, Grant and Pendleton

counties and donates them back to the 4-H clubs, FFA and food pantries. The company contributes to the Craig See Memorial Scholarship Fund, a nonprofit scholarship fund in Petersburg named in honor of Craig See, a 22-year mining inspector with the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection. The scholarship goes to a deserving member of the senior class of Petersburg High School.

For the noncoal reclamation award, Greer routinely backfills highwalls, spoil piles and outcrops with grading and revegetation and takes great care in visually buffering its operations at points of public view despite the lack of any such requirements in the state quarry law. Greer works with the Division of Natural Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the DEP in monitoring two endangered species of bats — the Virginia Big Ear Bat and the Indiana Bat — setting up monitoring stations at the cave where these bats are found to ensure that mining has no impact on their population.

"These awards are a first for Greer and give a fine example of how a large company can get along with its neighbors," said Kromer, who has served one year as an elected vice president and who will, following his term as president, serve on the association's executive board for another year. He has been with the DEP for 14 years.

NASLR advocates the use of research, innovative technology and professional discourse to foster the restoration of lands and waters affected by mining related activities. More than 25 states and Canadian provinces are or have been members of NASLR.

Company to clean up former Cabell station

HUNTINGTON — Scott Hutchison Enterprises has submitted an application to the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection to clean up petroleum contamination at a former Cabell County gas station.

The 1.45-acre site is located at 6063 Ohio River Road in Huntington. The site was once a Rich Oil gas station, but is currently not in use. Petroleum products were once stored at the site in three 10,000-gallon underground storage tanks.

The applicant is working with the Office of Environmental Remediation in an effort to address environmental conditions at the site following the closure of the three tanks.

The OER is currently negotiating a voluntary remediation agreement with the applicant. The agreement will include provision for identifying human health and ecological risks associated with current and potential future uses of the site in order to establish appropriate cleanup standards. It also will include provisions for additional remedial actions, if any, necessary to meet those standards. A final report will be submitted to the OER for review to confirm that the work meets all applicable remediation standards.

The company will address contamination from the petroleum operations and the 2004 removal of the UST system. At the time of the removal, a petroleum release was documented.

Chemicals of potential concern include petroleum hydrocarbons commonly associated with the storage and dispensing of gasoline including volatile organic compounds.

Ashland to clean up former Wayne station

WAYNE — Ashland Inc. has submitted an application to the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection to clean up petroleum contamination at an old gas station in Wayne County.

The 0.8-acre site is located at 1229 U.S. Route 52 in Wayne. The site was used as a service station from 1972 through 1985. It is now being used as an automobile dealership.

The applicant is working with DEP in an effort to address environmental conditions at the site following the closure of two 8,000 gallon gasoline underground storage tanks.

The OER is currently negotiating a voluntary remediation agreement with the applicant. The agreement will include provision for identifying human health and ecological risks associated with current and potential future uses of the site in order to establish appropriate cleanup standards. It will also include provisions for additional remedial actions, if any, necessary to meet those standards. A final report will be submitted to the OER for review to confirm that the work meets all applicable remediation standards.

Chemicals of potential concern include volatile organic compounds commonly associated with gasoline fueling operations.

CSX to clean up potential issues at loadout facility

BERKELEY SPRINGS – CSX Transportation, Inc. has submitted an application to the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection to clean up potential petroleum contamination at an old loadout facility in Morgan County.

The 3.37-acre site is located at 107 Williams Street in Berkeley Springs. The site was once used as a raw lumber and wood pulp handling yard and is currently inactive.

The applicant is working with the Office of Environmental Remediation in an effort to assess environmental conditions at the site and characterize the potential for redevelopment.

The OER is currently negotiating a voluntary remediation agreement with the applicant. It will include provisions for identifying human health and ecological risks associated with current and potential future uses of the site in order to establish appropriate cleanup standards. The voluntary remediation agreement will also include provisions for additional remedial actions, if any, necessary to meet those standards. A final report will be submitted to the OER for review to confirm that the work meets all applicable remediation standards.

No environmental areas of concern have been identified, but CSX will conduct an assessment for potential future use for commercial or light industrial development. Given the historical uses of the site, chemicals of potential concern consist of petroleum hydrocarbons and related constituents, including semi-volatile and volatile organic compounds and metals.

DEP reclaiming abandoned mine in Nicholas

CALVIN – The state is reclaiming a 124-acre Nicholas County mine site near Summersville that was abandoned nearly eight years ago.

The Department of Environmental Protection Office of Special Reclamation has awarded a contract to Collins Building and Contracting of Flatwoods for \$551,080.

Triple A Coals Inc. forfeited its bond in 1998.

The contractor is required to eliminate 225 linear feet of highwall and construct a 200-foot-by-250 feet wetland and spillway.

The contractor also will upgrade five ponds by cleaning out sediment and grouting existing decant pipes, eliminate two ponds by regrading to establish a drainage pattern, and construct another five ponds, associated spillways and entrance channels. More than 2,000 linear feet of open limestone channels and 450 linear feet of underdrain will be installed to treat water to technology based effluent limits.

In addition, more than 2,000 linear feet of existing access road will be upgraded and another 1,125 linear feet of new road will be built. All disturbed areas will be regraded and reclaimed and the site will be fenced and double gated.

The mine is located along Little Beaver Road near Little Beaver Creek. The project is to be completed in August 2007.

The project is made possible through the Special Reclamation Fund, which gets its money from forfeited bond collections, civil penalties, and the special reclamation tax on mined coal.

Agency fixing collapsed mine portals in Barbour

PHILIPPI – The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection is correcting abandoned mine issues at a former Barbour County mine.

The Office of Abandoned Mine Lands and Reclamation awarded a \$101,895 contract to G. L. Stone, Inc. of Hamlin for the yearlong project.

Homeowners on Dogwood Street in Philippi have been dealing with three collapsed mine portals one of which is draining, some small refuse piles, and acid mine drainage in their front yard. The contractor will install mine seals, construct grouted riprap channels and under drains to control drainage from the site, as well as install culverts and drop inlets. The access road also will be repaired and affected areas seeded and mulched.

Funding comes from the Abandoned Mine Land Fund supported by fees on each ton of coal produced by active coal mining operations. The fee collection is set to expire Sept. 30, 2007.

Fayette water pollution issues being repaired

DEMPSEY – The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection is correcting water pollution issues at an abandoned mine site in Fayette County.

The Office of Abandoned Mine Lands and Reclamation has awarded a \$317,136 contract to Eastern Arrow Corp., Inc. of Charlton Heights for the yearlong project.

The project includes three former polishing ponds and a wellhead that is discharging water from underground mines and pipes. The contractor will demolish the borehole tower, structures and the old wellhead. The borehole and associated drainage system will be replaced. Two ponds will be backfilled and regraded and an outlet channel on another pond will be improved. Drainage pipes from the borehole to the pond will be repaired. All disturbed areas will be reseeded and mulched.

Funding comes from the Abandoned Mine Land Fund supported by fees on each ton of coal produced by active coal mining operations. The fee collection is set to expire Sept. 30, 2007.

Problems from draining mine portal in Kanawha fixed

HANDLEY – A draining mine portal and a seeping coal seam causing problems in a Kanawha County town are being corrected by the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection.

The Office of Abandoned Mine Lands and Reclamation has awarded a \$339,212 contract to McCourt & Sons Construction, Inc. of Sutton for the yearlong project.

The contractor corrected problems at the site, which is located at the intersection of Route 61 and County Route 61/4. The site consists of a draining mine portal, coal seam seepage, and drainage collecting behind a retaining wall. The drainage affects Upper Creek.

Funding comes from the Abandoned Mine Land Fund supported by fees on each ton of coal produced by active coal mining operations. The fee collection is set to expire Sept. 30, 2007.

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Former Cabell gas station to be cleaned up by Chevron

HUNTINGTON — Chevron Environmental Management Company has submitted an application to the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection to clean up petroleum contamination at a former Cabell County gas station.

The site is located at 3125 U.S. Rt. 60 in Huntington. The site was once a Texaco gas station, but is currently being used as a Muffler America retail auto parts supply and repair facility. Petroleum products were once stored at the site in four 4,000-gallon underground storage tanks, and one 550-gallon tank for used oil.

The applicant is working with the Office of Environmental Remediation in an effort to address environmental conditions at the site following the closure of the tanks.

The OER is currently negotiating a voluntary remediation agreement with the

applicant. The agreement will include provision for identifying human health and ecological risks associated with current and potential future uses of the site in order to establish appropriate cleanup standards. It will also include provisions for additional remedial actions, if any, necessary to meet those standards. A final report will be submitted to the OER for review to confirm that the work meets all applicable remediation standards.

The company will address contamination from the petroleum operations and the 2003 removal of the UST system, removal of 955 tons of non-hazardous petroleum impacted soil, and groundwater treatment. Chemicals of potential concern include petroleum hydrocarbons commonly associated with the storage and dispensing of gasoline including volatile organic compounds.

Catlettsburg Refining to clean up Wayne property

KENOVA — Catlettsburg Refining, LLC has submitted an application to the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection to clean up petroleum contamination at its bulk petroleum terminal in Wayne County.

The site is located at 237 23rd Street in Kenova, was known as the Tri-State Terminal property, and is still being used as a bulk petroleum terminal. Petroleum products are received from a local refinery and stored at the 20-acre site in above-ground storage tanks before being transferred to other terminals for distribution.

The applicant is working with the Office of Environmental Remediation in an effort to address environmental conditions at the site. The OER is currently negotiating a voluntary remediation agreement with the applicant. The agreement will include provision for identifying human health and ecological risks associated with current and

potential future uses of the site in order to establish appropriate cleanup standards. It will also include provisions for additional remedial actions, if any, necessary to meet those standards. A final report will be submitted to the OER for review to confirm that the work meets all applicable remediation standards.

The site has been home to petroleum storage and refining activity since the late 1890s. Cleanup will include the recovery of spills, facility drainage and tank upgrades to separate oil water from storm water, and tank replacement.

The company will enhance secondary containment through the construction of concrete dike walls and all the piping will be moved above ground. Chemicals of potential concern include volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds and metals commonly associated with petroleum storage operations.

Volunteers make Kanawha River cleanup a success

CHARLESTON – Kanawha Valley volunteers collected nearly 8 tons of trash and 3.31 tons of tires in two counties during the 17th Annual Great Kanawha River Cleanup.

Kanawha and Putnam county volunteers came out in full force – including 72 participants from the Coal River Group of St. Albans. More than 125 people logged 527 hours in the massive cleanup. Department of Environmental Protection employees also participated, pulling trash and debris from the river by boat.

DEP Cabinet Secretary Stephanie R. Timmermeyer logged several hours in the cleanup effort.

“It is fantastic to see so many young people out here spending a Saturday to

make their communities more beautiful,” Timmermeyer said. “Let’s face it: kids can affect social change in a big way. As they see the damage littering and open dumping does to the place they call home, it makes them never want to do it themselves and it makes them intolerant of it when their friends or family members do it.”

Volunteers gathered at the Verizon boat ramp, Magic Island, in St. Albans and also in Winfield to participate in the event sponsored by Governor Manchin’s Rehabilitation Environmental Action Plan, or REAP – The Next Generation, which encompasses all of the state’s volunteer-driven cleanup programs.

To find out how to volunteer for a cleanup near you, call (800) 322-5530.

Ashland Inc. to clean up pipeline site in Kenova

KENOVA — Ashland Inc. has submitted an application to Ashland Inc. to clean up its property in Wayne County located at 101 23rd Street in Kenova. The vacant 4.5-acre site once had petroleum pipelines.

The pipelines, formerly owned by Ashland Petroleum Company, cross the eastern edge of the property and were the source of a historical product release. The site also once housed a glass factory and a ceramic electrical insulator manufacturer.

The applicant is working with the Office of Environmental Remediation to address environmental conditions at the site

associated with the petroleum contamination. Chemicals of potential concern include petroleum, metals, volatile organic compounds and semi-volatile organic compounds.

OER is negotiating a voluntary remediation agreement with the applicant that will include provisions for identifying human health and ecological risks associated with current and potential future uses of the site in order to establish appropriate cleanup standards. It will also include provisions for additional remedial actions, if any, necessary to meet those standards.



Photo by Greg Rote

REAP Chief Danny Haught awards Wayne Eads the Clean County award.

Webster cleans up again in clean county competition

PIPESTEM — For the fourth consecutive year Webster County has been awarded the West Virginia Make It Shine First Place Clean County Award.

The award goes to the county that goes above and beyond normal efforts to clean up its environment. Counties are judged in the categories of litter cleanup, beautification, recycling and environmental education.

Greenbrier won the second place award and third place went to Wood. Webster has won first place since 2003. Wayne Eads, litter control officer, accepted the honor.

Awards were presented during the Annual Educational Conference on Litter Control and Solid Waste Management held at Pipestem State Park in late October. The event was sponsored by the Association of West Virginia Solid Waste Authorities and the Department of Environmental Protection’s REAP — The Next Generation program.

Surface Mine Board sets docket for November

The West Virginia Surface Mine Board will meet Nov. 14-15 at DEP’s Charleston headquarters. The docket is as follows:

■ Nov. 14: 8:30 a.m. – Hearing: Goals Coal Company and Coal River Mountain Watch, Appeal Nos. 2006-15-SMB and 2006-16-SMB.

■ Nov. 15: 8:30 a.m. – Hearing: Goals Coal Company and Coal River Mountain Watch, Appeal Nos. 2006-15-SMB and 2006-16-SMB.



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