



Inside this Issue:

Schuylkill Scholastic Award Winners 2

Schuylkill River Sojourn 2

Pennvest Funding continued 3

Spring Event Calendar 3

Gov. Award for Env. Excellence 4

Taste of the Summit Videos 4

SAN CONNECTIONS

PENNVEST Grant and Loan Application Help Now Available



The PENNVEST Nonpoint Source Pollution (NPS) Program Application Developer position is based out of the PACD office in Harrisburg and is designed to bridge the gap between a complex and potentially lengthy grant and loan application process. It's hoped that the number of applicants wanting to fund stormwater, agriculture, brownfield and acid mine drainage projects will increase, as well as an improved quality of these applications.

Paul Herzer was hired for this position to accomplish these goals by meeting with local conservation districts, small municipalities, farmers, and other non-profit organizations seeking funding for these kinds of non-point source pollution prevention projects, evaluating the organizations' application status, and answering questions about the application process. "I look forward to my role to service Pennsylvania's conservation districts, small municipalities, and nonprofit organizations," said Herzer.

Until now, there has never been an individual to solely serve the application needs of these conservation districts, small municipalities, farmers and non-profits. "We're hoping that this position will get the word out to municipalities, conservation districts and watershed groups about PENNVEST's new nonpoint source funding program and familiarize them with the

Continued on Page 3



Schuylkill Scrub

APRIL 15th – MAY 31st

For years, conscientious groups in beautiful Southeastern Pennsylvania have charged into spring to diligently clean up a little piece of paradise. Now, thanks to the collaborative efforts of many individuals and organizations, an improved united effort is being launched as the Schuylkill Scrub.

The Schuylkill Scrub will register existing and new waterway cleanup efforts from the headwaters of the Schuylkill River down to the confluence of the Delaware River in Philadelphia. We expect that the cumulative amount of trash removed through this campaign will be very impressive and immediately benefit the entire Schuylkill River watershed!

- ◆ **More effective**, with planned activity to positively affect the Schuylkill Watershed!
- ◆ **More visible**, featuring collaborative promotions before and during the Schuylkill Scrub!
- ◆ **More accountability**, with an organized effort designating specific areas to specific groups!

TO PARTICIPATE AS AN INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANIZATION CONTACT SCHUYLKILL SCRUB:

www.SchuylkillScrub.org



SAN Drinking Water Scholastic Awards

On May 5th, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Schuylkill Action Network will recognize four schools in the Schuylkill River Watershed for their contributions to the effort of protecting drinking water. The awards will be presented during National Drinking Water Week, which runs from May 1st through May 7th.

Students from three of the schools will be presented with a SAN Drinking Water Scholastic Award. These are given to select classes and youth groups who carry out educational programs or restoration projects that help to keep the Schuylkill River clean. In addition to learning about protecting drinking water, these students

completed various hands-on projects including planting a rain garden on their school campus, testing water along Mill Creek, and restoring streamside areas with trees.

Also, For the first time ever, students from the Miquon School will receive the Schuylkill Stories Contest award, which recognizes their efforts in creating short videos explaining how and why the Schuylkill River and their local streams and creeks are important to them. These videos were shared through popular social networking sites and are available on the Schuylkill Stories section of the SAN website: <http://www.schuylkillwaters.org/stories>.

The schools receiving the awards include:

- ◆ Hereford Elementary School (*Elementary School award recipient*)
- ◆ Amy Goldfischer (*Middle School award recipient*)
- ◆ Upper Perkiomen High School (*High School award recipient*)
- ◆ Miquon School– (*Schuylkill Stories Video award recipient*)



2011 Schuylkill River Sojourn June 4th to 10th "Take Conservation Personally"

The Schuylkill River Sojourn is a 112 mile guided canoe or kayak trip on the Schuylkill River. Beginning in Schuylkill Haven and ending in Philadelphia, Sojourn participants register for as many days as they can, or for the entire trip.

Sometimes it is wet and wild. At other times it is peaceful and inspiring. There are a few rapids, calm water, plenty of laughs,

songs at the campsites, and celebrations in the river towns. There is a little bit of everything in store for canoers and kayakers who take part in the week-long sojourn down the Schuylkill River that begins the first weekend of June. And though the same route is paddled every year, a different river greets us every June. Programming this year is being provided the by PA Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources.

For more information about the sojourn or to register, please visit: <http://www.schuylkillriver.org/sojourn>

Spring 2011 Watershed Events

The Schuylkill is budding with many opportunities to get out and experience the watershed this spring. Below are some of the different opportunities. Be sure to also check the SAN website's news stories for up-to-date event announcements.

April 15-May 31, 2011

Schuylkill Scrub

Sign-up your cleanup or Volunteer for one

www.schuylkillscrub.org

April 30, 2011 9:00 AM -1:00 PM

Wissahickon Creek Annual Clean Up

Volunteers Needed Call Bob: 215-646-8866

www.wvwa.org

April 29th and 30th, 2011 8:45– 4:00

Schuylkill County ARRI Tree Planting

Volunteers needed

www.schuylkillheadwaters.org/

May 21, 2011 9:00 – 2:00 PM

Perkiomen Creek Canoe Sojourn

Pre-registration required and additional fees apply.

www.perkiomenwatershed.org

June 4-10, 2011

Schuylkill River Sojourn

Registration Required See article on page 1

www.schuylkillriver.org/Sojourn.aspx

May 15th, 2011 12:00 - 4:00 PM

Bear Creek Festival

Schuylkill Conservation District

www.schuylkillheadwaters.org/

July 11-15, 2011 (Register NOW)

14th Annual Delaware Estuary Watershed Teacher Workshop

Pre-registration required

<http://www.delawareestuary.org/>

[activities_teachers_watershed_workshop.asp](http://www.delawareestuary.org/activities_teachers_watershed_workshop.asp)



Find more events at
www.SchuylkillWaters.org

Contact tvidock@DelawareEstuary.org to list your events in future publications



electronic application process," said DEP Environmental Planning Supervisor Steve Lathrop.

Potential applicants are reminded that there is no limit to the amount of funding that can be requested. The applications are reviewed based solely on need. For example, Chester County Conservation District recently received a grant for \$1.5 million to construct wastewater collection, storage and treatment facilities

Pennvest (continued)

as well as stormwater control facilities to reduce nutrient pollution of local streams by runoff from mushroom and dairy farms in various localities in the county.

Paul's services are available at no cost. Contact him if you have questions and need guidance on submitting PENNVEST applications. Since May 18 is the next application deadline, it is too late for this round but now is the time to start planning projects for the next round in late summer/early fall. Paul can be reached at paul-herzer@pacd.org or 717-712-6996.

For more information visit the Pennvest Green Initiative website:

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/funding_programs/9322/green_initiatives/541807

Schuylkill Headwaters Association receives Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence

By the Department of Environmental Protection

HARRISBURG — Gov. Tom Corbett [on April 2/39/2011] announced that 13 environmental projects from across the state will be awarded the 2011 Environmental Excellence Award.

The projects include abandoned mine drainage reclamation, solar panel installation, and reducing the environmental impact of glass processing.

Among those receiving funds is the Schuylkill Headwaters Association, which is working with a multitude of partners on creating anoxic and oxic limestone drains, retaining basins, and/or wetlands to greatly reduce AMD flow by thousands of gallons per minute into the Schuylkill River headwaters.

By decreasing acidity and iron sedimentation in this water resource, these projects will restore and protect aquatic habitats, and ensure eco-based economic security and recreational enjoyment for present and future generations. Partners include

the Schuylkill Action Network Acid Mine Drainage Workgroup, the Schuylkill Headwaters

Association, the Schuylkill Conservation District, the United States Geological Survey, and the state Department of Environmental Protection, with support from the Philadelphia Water Department, Aqua Pennsylvania, and the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

"These businesses, schools and organizations have demonstrated a commitment to finding new approaches to reduce our impact on the environment," Corbett said. "I commend them for their efforts, as these projects certainly raise the bar for all citizens, businesses, and organizations to be more environmentally conscious."

Any business, school, government agency, trade



organization, nonprofit or agribusiness involved in efforts to promote environmental stewardship and economic development in the state was urged to apply for the award program. Applications were then reviewed in conjunction by the Department of Environmental Protection and the nonprofit Pennsylvania Environmental Council.

The award winners were honored at a dinner hosted by the Pennsylvania Environmental Council, with acting DEP Secretary Michael Krancer offering keynote remarks.

"It is no secret that innovation is paramount to our ability to craft a sensible environmental policy," Krancer said. "We applaud the forward-thinking of these organizations and businesses."

SAN Dates to Remember

- 5/12: SAN Planning Meeting
- 5/31: SAN WLC meeting
- 6/3: SAN Planning Meeting
- 6/23: SAN Pathogen Meeting

Delaware Estuary Science and Environmental Summit Videos Online.

This past January, as Part of the Delaware Estuary Science and Environmental Summit, the PDE and SAN organized a live broadcast of part of the event. Some technical challenges prevented the afternoon sessions from streaming to the satellite location, but we are happy to announce that the videos are now up online. You can find them at the PDE YouTube channel (<http://www.youtube.com/DEESTUARY>) or by clicking the links below. Please feel free to share them within your networks.

- ◆ [Chris Crockett on Philadelphia's Green City, Clean Waters](#): This lecture was given by Christopher Crockett, director of planning and research for the Philadelphia Water Department.
- ◆ [Easy Web-based Tools for Projects, by Whitney Hoffman](#): This lecture was given by Whitney Hoffman, CEO of Hoffman Digital Media
- ◆ [Social Media 101 for Scientists & Organizations, by Whitney Hoffman](#): This lecture was given by Whitney Hoffman, CEO of Hoffman Digital Media.

Ideas for the next edition of SAN Connections?

Contact Tom Davidock,
SAN Coordinator:
(800) 445-4935 x109
or email:

Tdavidock@DelawareEstuary.org