



CUMBERLAND COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

310 Allen Road, Suite 301, Carlisle, PA 17013

Business Hours 8:00am to 4:30pm

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



CUMBERLAND COUNTY

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Commissioner Jean Foschi



Commissioner Gary Eichelberger



Commissioner Kelly Neiderer

Not pictured: Stacy Snyder
Chief Clerk



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2024 TEAM SHEET

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
310 Allen Road, Suite 301, Carlisle, PA 17013-9101
Business Hours: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM**

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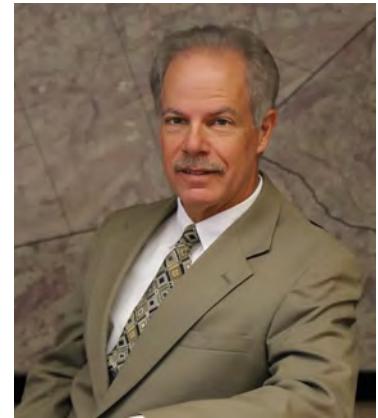
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CONSERVATION DISTRICT DIRECTORS & STAFF



Commissioner Vince Difilippo

Glenn Kimmel, Denny Garman, Michael Berkheimer, Victor Barrick, Mike Wadel, Duff George



Front Row: Michele Marsh, Rachel Zimmerman, Kim Falvey, Brooke Basehore, Emily Stambaugh

Back Row: Carl Goshorn, Vince McCollum, Matt Stough, Robin Sukley, Mike Lubinsky, Dylan Varner

2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS CUMBERLAND COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

JANUARY:

- 1 New Year's Day - Office Closed
- 10 Water Testing - District Office
- 12 College Scholarship Applications Due
- 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday - Office Closed
- 17 Educational Ag Visit - CV High School
- 23 Board Meeting - 9:00AM - Penn Twp Firehall
- 25 Educational Ag Visit - Shippensburg High School
- 25 PACD Executive Council Meeting (Virtual) 10:00AM

FEBRUARY:

- 7 Manure Hauler Cont. Ed. Credits - Franklin County
- 8 Manure Hauler Level 2 Cert. Exam - District Office
- 13 Educational Ag Visit - Big Spring High School
- 14 Water Testing - District Office
- 19 President's Day Holiday - Office Closed
- 20 Educational Ag Visit - Big Spring High School
- 27 Board Meeting - 7:00PM - District office

MARCH:

- 7 PACD Regional Directors Meeting - District Office
- 13 Water Testing - District Office
- 14 E&S/NPDES Workshop for Contractors - Dist. Off
- 16 Yellow Breeches Angler's Outdoor Show - St Patrick's Church Auditorium
- 22 Deadline to order tree seedlings
- 26 Board Meeting - District Office 7:00PM
- 29 Friday before Easter Holiday - Office Closed

APRIL:

- 10 Water Testing - District Office
- 17 Tree Seedling Bundling - Allen Road
- 18 Tree Seedling Sale - Allen Road - 9:00 to 5:00
- 19 Tree Seedling Sale - Allen Road - 8:00 to 12:00
- 23 Board Meeting - District Office - 7:30AM
- 24 County Envirothon - Pine Grove Furnace State Park

MAY:

- TBD Annual Rain Barrel Sale
- 8 Water Testing - District Office
- 20 Pre-Sidress Nitrogen Testing Program begins
- 22 State Envirothon (Camp Mt Luther in Union Co)
- 27 Memorial Day Holiday - Office Closed
- 28 Board Meeting - TBD - 7:00PM

JUNE:

- 12 Water Testing - District Office
- 21 Pre-Sidress Nitrogen Testing Program ends
- 25 Board Meeting - District Office - 7:00PM

JULY:

- 4 Independence Day Holiday - Office Closed
- 10 Water Testing - District Office
- 23 Board Meeting - TBD - 7:00PM

AUGUST:

- 14 Water Testing - District Office
- 27 Tree Sale Committee - 6:00PM
- 27 Board Meeting - District Office - 7:00PM

SEPTEMBER:

- 2 Labor Day Holiday - Office Closed
- 11 Water Testing - District Office
- 24 Board Meeting/Awards Ceremony - TBA - 5:30PM
- 27 District Golf Tournament - Rich Valley Golf Course

OCTOBER:

- 9 Water Testing - District Office
- 22 Board Meeting - District Office - 7:00PM

NOVEMBER:

- 11 Veteran's Day Holiday - Office Closed
- 13 Water Testing - District Office
- 28 Thanksgiving Day Holiday - Office Closed
- 29 Day after Thanksgiving Holiday - Office Closed

DECEMBER:

- 10 Board Meeting - District Office - 8:00AM
- 11 Water Testing - District Office
- 18 Corn Planter Clinic - Shippensburg Auction Center
- 24 Christmas Eve Holiday - Office Closed
- 25 Christmas Day Holiday - Office Closed

EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL/NPDES PROGRAM

The goal of the erosion and sediment control (E&S) and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) programs are the protection of aquatic resources. Through the implementation of these programs, the District strives to minimize accelerated erosion and sedimentation resulting from earthmoving activity and ensures the management of stormwater quantity and quality after construction is completed. The District is given the authority to administer the E&S and NPDES programs by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Program staff activities include conducting plan reviews, site inspections, complaint investigations, holding workshops, and processing NPDES permits. The District is delegated Level III - Program Enforcement by DEP, which makes the District responsible to prepare and execute enforcement actions in accordance with the program's Compliance Assistance and Enforcement Manual. Additionally, the District has the post construction stormwater management (PCSM) delegation with DEP, which enables the District to conduct engineering reviews of the PCSM plans for all Individual NPDES permits and General NPDES permits as staff resources allow. These delegations enable the District to provide technical assistance during the land development process at the local level to better serve Cumberland County residents and effectively protect our valuable natural resources.

PA DEP's current General NPDES permit (PAG-02) for discharges of stormwater associated with construction activities will expire on December 7, 2024. This means all existing authorized NPDES permits under the PAG-02 General NPDES permit will expire on that date. NPDES permits not terminated by that date will need to renew their permit. DEP expects to provide a streamlined Notice of Intent (NOI) for this purpose in the Fall of 2024. The District will not be able to accept permit renewal applications until DEP publishes the final reissued PAG-02 permit. More information can be found on DEP's website.

www.dep.pa.gov/constructionstormwater

E&S/NPDES PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

E&S Plan Reviews	140
Disturbed Acres	2,351
Inspections	489
General NPDES Permits	61
Individual NPDES Permits	26
Complaints	19
Civil Actions	1
E&S Plan Review Fees	\$ 358,931.25
NPDES Permit Fees	\$ 74,500
PCSM Fees	\$ 52,000
DEP Disturbed Acre Fees	\$ 81,100



TOWNSHIPS WITH THE MOST PROJECTS

Silver Spring	30
North Middleton	17
South Middleton	14
Hampden	14

Cumberland county is still one of the fastest growing county in PA. In 2023, the E&S program saw a significant increase in the number of plans submitted to our office for review. The picture above is from a new residential development in South Middleton Township.

AGRICULTURAL COST-SHARE PROGRAMS

Conservation Excellence Grant (CEG)

Projects completed in 2023 5 project sites

Total BMPs completed 19 separate BMPs

Total amount for 90% cost shared \$1,288,308.49

Total farmer out of pocket expense \$1,748,105.58



After—West Pennsboro



Before—West Pennsboro Twp

Agricultural Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP)

Cost share amount \$99,847.50

Farmer out of pocket expense \$11,094.17

BMPs completed

- Waste storage facility
- Waste transfer
- Underground outlet
- Obstruction removal



Before—Southampton Twp



After—Southampton Twp

AGRICULTURAL COST-SHARE PROGRAMS

Cover Crop Incentive Program

81 Farmers signed up to participate

Total acres signed up: 9,124

No-till: 7,476

Minimum till : 1,649

Total acres incentivized: 4,191

No-till: 3,613

Minimum till: 575



Chesapeake Bay Ag Inspections

Total ag inspections— 73

Individual farms inspected— 33

Acres inspected—10,099.54

In 2023, many farmers had Manure Management plans but did not have an Ag Erosion & Sediment Control plan. Since being inspected, all farmers are working on compliance or are in compliance already.

Inspections Per Municipality

Hopewell: 5

Lower Frankford: 3

Lower Mifflin: 2

Mechanicsburg Borough: 1

Middlesex: 3

Monroe: 24

North Newton: 4

Penn: 0

Silver Spring: 5

South Middleton: 9

South Newton: 4

Southampton: 11

Upper Frankford:1

Upper Mifflin: 1

West Pennsboro: 6

Best Management Practice Verification

In 2023, 105 BMPs were verified across 32 farms. Some of the BMPs verified include: heavy use area protection, grassed waterways, waste storage facilities, watering facilities, and roof runoff structures.

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Nutrient Management

The Cumberland County Conservation District (CCCD) continued 2023 as a participant in Pennsylvania's ACT 38 Program (Nutrient Management) as a Level 2 delegated district. The State Conservation Commission (SCC) delegates the tasks of writing and reviewing Nutrient Management Plans and inspecting ACT 38 participating farms for compliance. CCCD reviewed 10 plans that were approved by our Board of Directors. 21 on-site status reviews were performed on ACT 38 participating farms to ensure the practices outlined in each farm's plans were being implemented. In addition to those on-site status reviews, 12 Chesapeake Bay initial inspections were conducted. Nutrient Management Plans aid farmers by identifying a plant's nutrient needs, and therefore, the plans continue to be the best tool to help farmers prevent pollution by over application of manure, while maximizing crop yields. Pennsylvania encourages every farm to consider the benefits of a Nutrient Management Plan to be written, approved, and implemented. If you have interest in obtaining an ACT 38 Nutrient Management Plan, please contact us and we can discuss options to have it written.

Manure Management

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) continued to delegate the responsibility of outreach, education, and complaint investigation of the Manure Management Program to Cumberland County Conservation District through 2023. Manure Management Plans (MMPs) are required by every farm in Pennsylvania that generates or uses manure. The CCCD has continued to assist farmers in writing the plans and educate them on the requirements of manure management at local events. This year, five farmers had plans written, were assisted in writing or had plans reviewed written by commercial writers. If you would be interested in receiving assistance writing a Manure Management Plan please contact our office and we will assist you in getting your MMP written.



In 2023 the District investigated four complaints regarding manure. As Cumberland County continues to be a leader in agriculture, we must work together to achieve high yields while protecting the natural resources of the county. Both are possible through careful planning and implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) outlined in Nutrient and Manure Management Plans.

Dragline Manure Spreading Cum-

Manure Hauling
The Conservation District was host to two Manure Hauler Level 2 Exams where six haulers became certified. A certified commercial manure hauler is a person that transports and or land applies manure as a contract agent for an agricultural operator or commercial manure broker. Level 2 haulers can land apply manure based on application rates and adhering to any application restrictions noted in a current Nutrient Management Plan, Nutrient Balance Sheet, or Manure Management Plan.



Pre Side-Dress Nitrogen Testing

The Cumberland County Conservation District once again offered the Pre Side-Dress Nitrogen Testing (PSNT) Program for corn in 2023. PSNT helps determine if additional nitrogen is needed to reach the desired yield goals. This year, 19 farmers, eight which were new, participated. 114 fields, equaling 2,624 acres were tested.

Soil Sampling for PSNT

DIRT, GRAVEL & LOW VOLUME ROADS PROGRAM



Flooding of Green Hill Road
West Pennsboro Township



30 inch cross pipe on Pipeline Road
Lower Mifflin Township



Completed Phase 1 of Green Hill Road



Completed stream crossing replacement on
Pipeline Road

Low Volume Roads: Two projects were completed in 2023 for Low Volume Roads. Green Hill Road in West Pennsboro Township completed their first phase of construction which created an eight foot wide by one foot deep drainage swale (pictured bottom left). This feature will collect and transfer stormwater runoff along the road, rather than flooding the road.

LVR Completed Projects

Year	Muni	Road	Grant Amount
2023	Lower Mifflin	Pipeline Road	\$ 143,775.70
2023	W. Pennsboro	Green Hill Road	\$ 15,769.24

WATERSHED PROGRAM

Yellow Breeches Trout Habitat & Stream Restoration at Barnitz Church and the Woodcreek Development

In Summer 2023, two stream restoration projects took place along the Yellow Breeches Creek in Cumberland County. The first project was a stream restoration project completed along 750 linear feet of the Yellow Breeches Creek at Barnitz Church, which is located at 23 Church Lane in Dickinson Township. This project implemented best management practices for stream restoration which included the installation of long vane deflectors and in stream habitat structures for trout and other aquatic organisms.

The second project was a stream restoration project that was completed along 1,500 linear feet of the Yellow Breeches Creek within the Woodcreek Development in Lower Allen Township. This project implemented best management practices for stream restoration, which included rock and log vane deflectors, mudsill cribbing, and random boulder clusters. Both restoration projects were followed up with the planting of native plants. Funding was provided through the Chesapeake Bay Program Countywide Action Plan through the Chesapeake Bay Program at the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Construction and guidance was provided by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and Cumberland Valley Trout Unlimited.



Log van deflectors along the Yellow Breeches at Barnitz Church



Log vane deflectors along the Yellow Breeches at the Woodcreek Development

Stuart Park Restoration: Stream Habitat and Vegetative Management

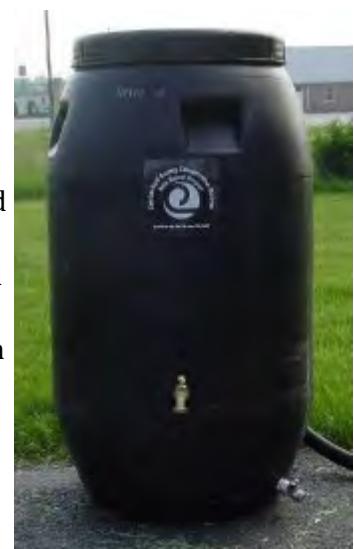
In 2022, this project installed trout habitat structures along 800 linear feet of the Yellow Breeches and removed 4.5 acres of invasive species. It also had an additional 200 native trees, shrubs, wildflowers, native grasses, and native wetland species planted. A Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts grant was used to create an environmental educational sign at Stuart Park. Keep an eye out for this sign to be installed within the next few months at Stuart Park!



Educational Signage for Stuart Park

RAIN BARRELS

During a thunderstorm, hundreds of gallons of rain water can runoff the roof of an average home. One inch of rain on a 1000 square foot roof produces over 600 gallons of rain water. This water typically ends up running onto streets or other impervious areas and enters storm sewers and is discharged to streams. Collecting and delaying this water can help in controlling peak storm water runoff during rain events. A simple and inexpensive way to help do this is through the use of a rain barrel. A rain barrel is a device that collects and stores rain water for later use. Rain barrels can be constructed using a used 55 gallon food grade barrel or something similar, such as a plastic trash can or a wooden whiskey barrel. The components of a rain barrel can include a bottom drain, a spigot, an overflow hose, a screen to keep debris and insects out, and a downspout diverter to carry the water into the rain barrel. The water harvested by a rain barrel is typically used for flower and vegetable gardening, washing your hands after working outside, and potentially washing your car. Using a rain barrel is a great way to conserve your municipal or well water.



Each year the District holds an annual rain barrel sale. We partner with local high school students or Penn State Master Watershed Stewards to construct the rain barrels. Our prices are dependent upon current market value of parts . If you are interested in purchasing a rain barrel and would like to be placed on our pre order list, please contact Brooke Basehore at bsbasehore@cumberlandcountypa.gov or (717) 240-7812.



Conservation District staff construct rain barrels for the 2023 sale



Watershed Specialist, Hunter Slear, gives a presentation at a rain barrel workshop in collaboration with Lower Allen Township.

TREE SALE



451 customers

12,405 seedlings sold

Tree Sale Totals	
Colorado Blue Spruce	1,700
White Pine	3,300
Red Spruce	1,000
Concolor Fir	2,000
Swamp White Oak	1,400
Scarlet Maple	900
Redbud	1,350
Pear Pack (2 per pack)	80
Apple Pack (3 per pack)	130
Cherry	204
Blueberry (2 per pack)	240
Wildflower Mix (in ounces)	400
Tree Shelters	395
Wood Stakes	405



CUMBERLAND COUNTY ENVIROTHON

The Envirothon is a scholastic competition that challenges high school students to learn about the natural environment. The Big Mouth Bass from Cumberland Valley High School took the top prize and represented Cumberland County at the 2023 Pennsylvania State Envirothon where they placed 19th out of 63 teams.

Coming in second were The Tree Huggin' Pine Marten from Cumberland Valley High School, and third place went to the Global Warmers from Carlisle High School.



2023 Envirothon Champions: The Big Mouth Bass from Cumberland Valley High School



2023 Envirothon at Opossum Lake

There were 80 students competing from Big Spring, Boiling Springs, Camp Hill, Cumberland Valley, Carlisle, East Pennsboro, and Shippensburg High Schools.

Partner agencies help administer the tests and provide students with an opportunity to interact and ask questions with professionals in their fields of expertise.



Students gather to test their knowledge at the soils station hosted by the Natural Resources Conservation



Students identify leaves at the Forestry Station hosted by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.



Students interact with wildlife specimens at the wildlife station hosted by the Pennsylvania Game Commission.



Students identify aquatic organisms at the Aquatics Station hosted by Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

2023 AWARD WINNERS



Paul MacNamara
Farmer of the Year



Friends of Opossum Lake Conservancy
Conservation Organization of the Year



Pioneer Management, LLC
Clean Water Award

2023 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Riley Ward

Riley is a graduate of Big Spring High School and is currently attending Shippensburg University studying Geoenvironmental Science.



Quinn Eisenberger

Quinn is a graduate of Cumberland Valley High School and is currently attending Delaware Valley University studying Environmental science.

Tyler Koser

Tyler is a graduate of Big Spring High School and is currently attending Penn State University studying Science of Forest Technology.



Drew Shaffer

Drew is a graduate of Cumberland Valley High School and is currently attending University of Utah studying Environmental and sustainability Studies.



Elizabeth Blymire

Elizabeth is a graduate of Carlisle High School and is currently attending Messiah University studying Biology.



Madison Ramper

Madison is a graduate of Cumberland Valley High School and is currently attending Shippensburg University studying Geoenvironmental Science and sustainability.



Brooke Basehore

Brooke is a graduate of Big Spring High School and is currently attending Shippensburg University studying Geoenvironmental Studies.

Winners not pictured: Logan Weiser, Helaena Holjies, Samuel Bartoski-Valez, Gerald Crispino III

GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 21st annual Cumberland County Conservation District golf tournament was held September 22nd at Rich Valley Golf Course. Thank you to the 122 golf participants and to our generous hole sponsors and prize sponsors! This year's event was the largest since the inception of the tournament and generated \$8,700 for student scholarships. To date, the Conservation District has raised almost \$67,000. The weather cooperated and we were able to get the event in before the effects of Tropical Storm Ophelia entered our region. The winning team of Kevin Rucker, Kelly Kelch, Brady Crouse and Wes Warehime shot a 20 under par, 51. Nice job!

The District would like to thank everyone at Rich Valley Golf that helped make the day a success. Also, a special thank you to all our hole sponsors, especially the Conservationist Hole Sponsors below. Their contributions allow us to continue our efforts in providing scholarships to Cumberland County students. Finally, thank you to all the golfers. We hope to see you all again in September 2024!



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