



Summer 2013 Newsletter

Summer, 2013

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| ChCWA at Wash. County Fair | 2 |
| Canonsburg Lake Project | 2 |
| Results of Spring Monitoring | 3 |

PLANNING TO MANAGE STORMWATER RUNOFF

On July 16, ChCWA met with representatives from East Washington and the City of Washington to discuss the initial stages of a stormwater management plan.

This will be a multi-year plan that will seek to bring the watershed, starting with these two municipalities, into compliance with PA Department of Environmental Protection MS4 standards. MS4, the common name for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System, is the program used by PA DEP to administer the requirements of the Clean Water Act.

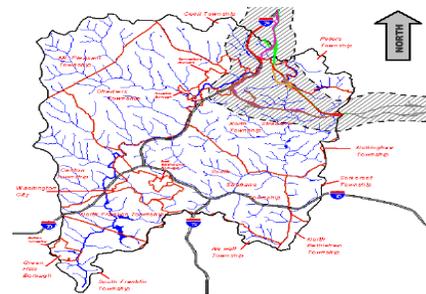
In 2011, PA DEP released its new storm water permit requirements and, as such, municipalities across the state are faced with updated standards that will affect their applications. East Washington and the City have reached out to ChCWA to assist them in developing a storm water management plan that will meet all MS4 standards of public outreach, storm drain mapping, and repair and discharge management.

The MS4 program requires municipalities to incorporate the following into their stormwater management programs:

Cont. on page 2

JOIN US— AT THE FAIR!

The Chartiers Creek Watershed Association will be at the Washington County Fair' as is customary. As usual, look for us in the Washington County Conservation District area, along with the Washington County Watershed Alliance and other watershed associations.



Our display will include a map of our watershed to help visitors understand current problems. We will also have informative brochures and other publications.

CALENDAR

JULY

31—mid-summer ChCWA meeting

AUGUST

10, 17 — Washington County Fair; visit displays for Washington Co, Watershed Alliance and ChCWA

SEPTEMBER

11—ChCWA meeting

Regular monthly meetings: 2nd Wed., 7 p.m.
2800 North Main St., Suite 105,
Cooper-Hinds Building, Meadowlands.

Cont. from page 1

The MS4 program requires municipalities to incorporate the following into their stormwater management programs:

Public education and outreach

- ◆ Public involvement and participation
- ◆ Illicit discharge detection and elimination
- ◆ Construction site runoff control
- ◆ Post-construction stormwater management in new development and redevelopment
- ◆ Pollution prevention and good housekeeping for municipal operations and maintenance

Discussion at the July 16 meeting focused on the beginning stages of the program, specifically the public education and outreach campaign. Strategies such as reaching out to local publications and organizations, as well as the use of social media, were discussed.

A major obstacle in the MS4 standard will be that few municipalities in the Upper Chartiers Creek Watershed have their storm drain systems mapped – crucial and required information in order to begin a comprehensive stormwater management plan. The hope is that initial public outreach will not only generate interested volunteers, but also information on storm drain locations from individuals who may know their locations from living or working nearby.

The outreach phase will likely make up the first year of what is likely to be a 5-7 year effort to meet all MS-4 standards. It is likely that all municipalities of the watershed will soon follow in East Washington and the City's footsteps by implementing similar plans to accommodate their own systems.

ChCWA will continue to offer updates on progress of the planning, and will to extend assistance to municipalities beginning to address MS4 standards.

If you are interested in becoming part of the volunteer effort in East Washington and the City of Washington, if you can offer information about storm drain locations in either community, or are interested in getting involved with the MS4 project in your municipality, please contact Jennifer Dann at the Washington County Conservation District, 724-503-4785, or Joan Jessen, 724-941-9370 .

Shannon Powers, Hamm Intern

NEW DEVELOPMENTS FOR CANONSBURG LAKE

At a recent meeting, Chad Davis of Baker Engineering reviewed the progress of the work to restore Canonsburg Lake.

Present at the meeting were the members of the Save Canonsburg Lake Committee (which includes representatives for Peters and North Strabane Townships and the Washington County Conservation District. Also present at the meeting were the Washington County Commissioners, a member of Sen. Matt Smith's staff, along with representatives of the PA Fish and Boat Commission and the Washington County Redevelopment Authority.

Chad Davis, for Baker Engineering, reported that construction of the weir to be built on Little Chartiers Creek at the upper end of the lake will begin soon. The weir is an important tool to cut down on siltation once the lake is cleaned up.

DOCUMENTARY SCREENING

The Washington County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America announces the Thursday August 1, 2013 showing of the documentary, [Triple Divide](#). This movie addresses nonconventional gas drilling occurring in Potter County, PA at the headwaters of rivers to three major watersheds. The Allegheny River flows to the Ohio, the Genesee flows to Lake Ontario, and the Susquehanna leads to the Chesapeake Bay and the mid Atlantic.

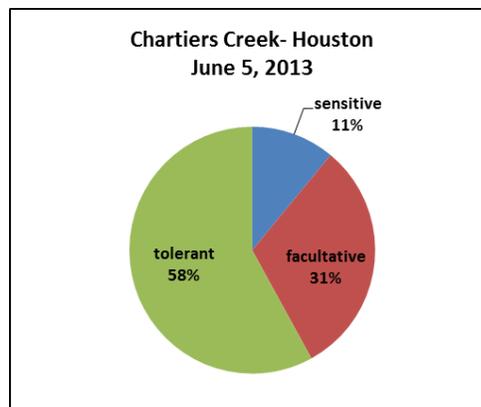
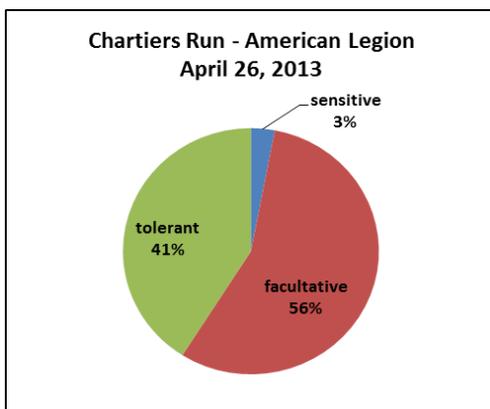
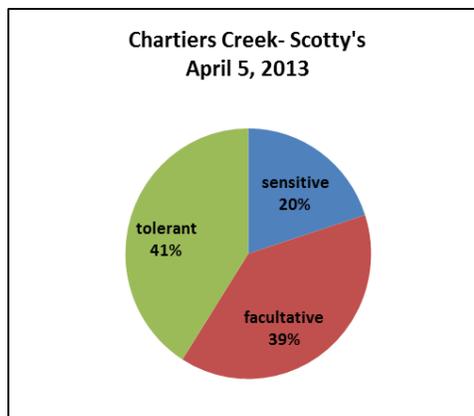
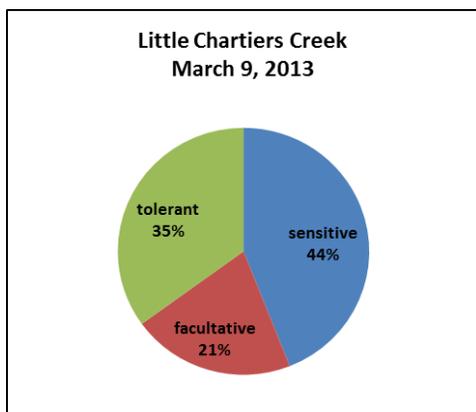
Sponsored by the Izaak Walton League of America, Wash. County Chapter, the screening will be 7 pm at 1720 Washington Road, Washington, PA at Benchmark Financial (site of former Brown Derby), off Conklin Road in North Strabane Twp. The producers of the documentary, Melissa Troutman and Josh Pribanic will be present for Q&A. The screening is free, but reservations are required. Contact Donna, IWLA WC secretary at [724-484-7537](tel:724-484-7537) or iwla.wc.pa@gmail.com to make your reservation asap. Seating is limited to 50. Please car pool if possible.

RESULTS OF SPRING 2013 MONITORING

The Chartiers Creek Watershed Association conducted water quality monitoring this spring at the association's four established locations in the watershed. The usual chemical tests were run, using a Hach kit, and macroinvertebrates were sampled by kick net, then identified and counted.

We again had the pleasure of assistance by students of Wesley Spectrum School for the Chartiers Run monitoring event. Monitoring at the other locations was done by Carrilee Hemington, Jean Bear, Tim Sheakley, and Beth Kahkonen. The results:

| Stream | Location | Date | # Sensitive Types | # Facultative Types | # Tolerant Types | Water Quality Rating |
|------------------------|-------------------|---------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Chartiers Run | American Legion | 4/26/13 | 2 | 34 | 25 | Good |
| Chartiers Creek | Houston Park | 6/05/13 | 13 | 36 | 67 | Fair |
| Little Chartiers Creek | Linden Creek Road | 3/09/13 | 58 | 27 | 46 | Very Good to Excellent |
| Chartiers Creek | Scotty's | 4/05/13 | 19 | 38 | 39 | Fair to Good |



CHARTIERS CREEK

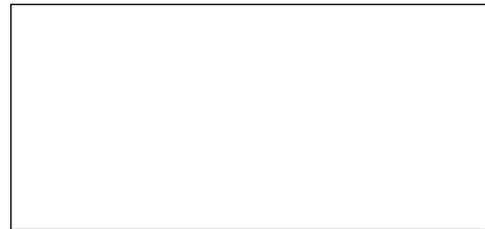


**WATERSHED
ASSOCIATION**

2800 North Main St., Suite 105
Washington, PA 15301



**Macroinvertebrate monitoring in
Chartiers Creek**



We're on the Web
www.upperchartierscreek.org

Contents:

- ◆ ChCWA at the Fair
- ◆ Triple Divide Documentary
- ◆ New Developments for Canonsburg Lake
- ◆ Results from Spring Water Quality Monitoring

ADDRESS CORRECTION?

Send to: Joan Jessen, editor
159 Canterbury Lane, McMurray, PA 15317;
or email: joanjessen159@gmail.com.

Chartiers Creek Watershed Association

Purpose: to enhance, protect and develop the ecosystem of the upper Chartiers Creek Watershed in Washington County, PA

Membership: open to anyone who lives in the watershed, as well as individuals, businesses and organizations that own property or are actively involved within the boundaries of the watershed.

Please join us! Annual Dues: Individual, \$10; Family, \$15;
Organization, \$50

MAIL THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK TO:

Chartiers Creek Watershed Association
Carrilee Hemington, treasurer
107 Williams Ave., McMurray, PA 15301

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel.: _____ Email: _____