

CHARTIERS CREEK

WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

Vol. 11, #1

Winter, 2013

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ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS IN THE YEAR AHEAD

A tradition for the Chartiers Creek Watershed Association, a springtime walk through the North Franklin Wetlands is again being planned. This event, first held in 2004, has been popular with members of the Chartiers Creek Watershed Association. Families with small children are welcome to bring the kids. High school and college students are also welcome to join the walk. Details about the walk will be included in the Spring, 2013 newsletter.

Among the year's projects will be the continuation of the watershed monitoring program (more volunteers welcome!) and work on the restoration of Canonsburg Lake. Association members will also staff displays at the Washington County Fair, Ag Days, and other community events.

Also in the planning for the Chartiers Creek Watershed Association is a project at Washington Park—to replant a restored

area there. Funds for this project were secured in 2012, but the site was not ready for planting last fall.

We will be looking for volunteers to help with plantings at this site—details to be decided soon.

The Association expects that the capacity-building project for the Washington County Watershed Alliance will be completed this year. The project began in 2011 and was conducted under the direction of the Bayer Center for Nonprofit Management with funding from the Foundation for PA Watersheds. The Alliance is continuing to seek funding to hire an executive director.

To do all this requires people power, as well as money. New members (**and volunteers**) are needed—and welcome at any time. Not already a member? Please use the form on pg. 4 to join us now.



CALENDAR

JANUARY

9 — ChCWA monthly meeting, 7 pm

30 — Washington Co. Watershed Alliance Annual

Meeting

FEBRUARY

13 — ChCWA monthly meeting, 7 pm

MARCH

13 — ChCWA monthly meeting, 7 pm

Tba — Ag Days

ChCWA regular monthly meetings: 2nd Wed., 7 p.m.,
(7:30 pm April-Sept.) Cooper-Hinds Building, Meadow-

EPA REPORT, WEBINARS ON IMPACTS OF HYDRAULIC FRACTURING

Recently, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a report highlighting the progress on its national study to understand the potential impacts of hydraulic fracturing on drinking water resources. The report has been posted online at EPA's Hydraulic Fracturing Study website.

EPA initiated the study in 2010 at the request of the Congress and today's progress report outlines work currently underway. The progress report summarizes the current status of 18 research projects undertaken as part of the study and updates information about the chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing. The report does not draw conclusions about the potential impacts

of hydraulic fracturing on drinking water resources.

In addition to the progress report, EPA will be hosting a one-hour public webinar on Thursday, January 3rd, 2013 at 2:00pm EST, and again on Friday, January 4th, 2013 at 12:00pm EST.

The webinar will provide project-specific updates that include research approach, status, and next steps. The webinar will also provide updates on five technical roundtables held in November 2012.

To register for a public webinar, please visit: <http://www.epa.gov/hfstudy/getinvolved.html>



BLUE HERON, a bird often seen at Canonsburg Lake

2013 Board of Directors

Election of officers and directors was postponed until the January 9, 2013 meeting of the Chartiers Creek Watershed Association. As provided by the bylaws, the 2012 officers and directors will continue to serve until their successors are elected.

THE TREASURE THAT IS CANONSBURG LAKE

[Editor's Note: The following came some time ago from Mark Weiner, a fervid friend of Canonsburg Lake, and a frequent paddler on the lake.]

Just returned from a week at the North Carolina Outer Banks. Paddled about 2 miles of the nature preserve near Kitty Hawk and saw 2 deer, a Sparrow and a Mockingbird. No other birds except 2 cruising vultures, high in the sky. No turtles, no snakes, not even any insects!

On another day looked over at least a square mile of salt water marsh and only one strange, coastal duck apart from the usual seagulls. Did see 4 or 5 egrets in one spot but miles of gnarly pine and swamp with no creatures visible!

Compare this with Canonsburg Lake with Ducks, Canada Geese, Herons, Kingfishers, songbirds, butterflies and even a pair of nesting Bald Eagles, a few deer and muskrats and some turtles! I hope some heed is given to not spoiling the deep woods and running off the eagles with the planned "improvements". I hope extra heed is paid to the quality of Linden Creek entering the Lake. I used to live in Carrollton Texas where in the name of improvements like manicured grassy areas and concrete lined banks and paved trails, beavers and egrets were driven off, 200 year old trees were felled or killed and water was spoiled with fertilizer and herbicides so as to maintain golf course like grass instead of native plants. (aka weeds!)



2013 Annual Meeting and Banquet, Jan. 30 at Julian's in Washington

The Washington County Watershed Alliance's first annual meeting with a banquet dinner will provide members of the Alliance and its member Watershed Associations with a special opportunity to socialize and to network.

Members of the Alliance and the associations will also get to enjoy presentations and displays from regional groups who can assist their Watershed Associations with work in the upcoming year!

This event is also intended to make it easy to join both the Watershed Associations and the Alliance, as membership dues will be accepted at the event

Dinner

Door Prizes

Vote! for At Large Board Members of the Alliance

This event will be held at Julian's
78 West Maiden St.
Washington, PA 15301



**GUEST SPEAKER:
R. JOHN DAWES,**

**Executive Director,
Foundation for PA Watersheds**

Doors will open at 5 pm so that those attending can visit the various displays, both those of the watershed associations and of the vendors that have been invited to participate.

Banquet Reservations (Required)

Please return before January 16, 2013

Make checks payable to: Washington County Watershed Alliance

Send to: Washington County Watershed Alliance, c/o Jennifer Dann, 2800 North Main St., Suite 105, Washington, PA 15301

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Number of Attendees : _____

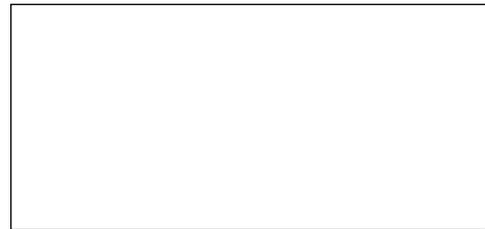
Amount Enclosed (\$10/person): \$ _____



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



**Collecting Macros in
the Chartiers Creek
Watershed**



We're on the Web
www.upperchartierscreek.org

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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

Non-member Volunteer: sign up to help with projects.

MAIL THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK TO:

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel.: _____ Email: _____