

Jefferson County Conservation District

2010 ANNUAL REPORT

Created under the Conservation District Law, districts are the local unit of state government that provides the link between you, the citizens, and the multitude of local state and federal natural resource management programs. A Board of Directors, appointed by the County Commissioners from nominations received from County-wide organizations, serves as your voice. A staff of professionals provides information, technical assistance, financial assistance and educational programs and support at the direction of that Board.

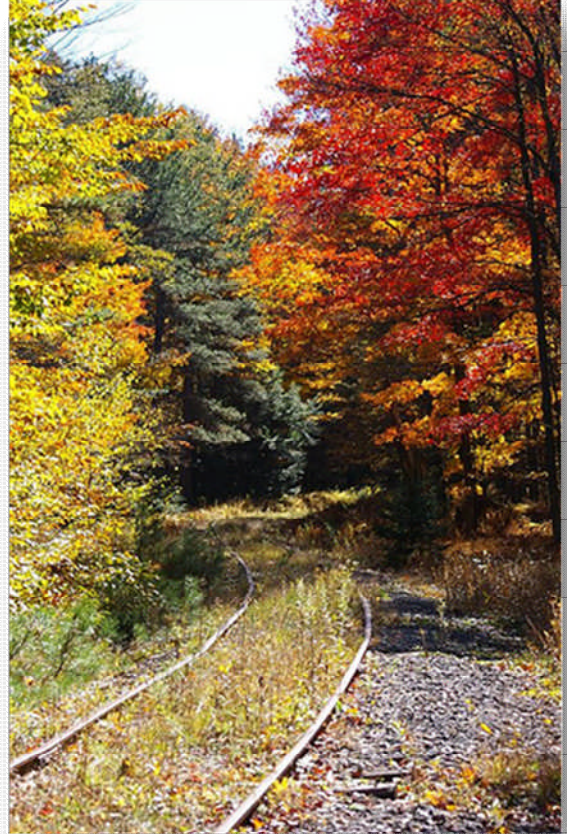
The Jefferson County Conservation District is composed of a six member, volunteer Board of Directors representing both urban and farm backgrounds and one County Commissioner. The Board members represent a variety of local communities, lead District programs and set District policies. In conjunction with the Board of Directors are eleven volunteer associate directors and 4 full-time staff associates.

Monthly board meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month at the Conservation Center, Route 28 in Brookville. The meeting date and time is published in the Courier-Express and is open to the public.

E & S/NPDES/Chapter 105 Programs

Through delegation agreements with the Department of Environmental Protection, the Jefferson County Conservation District participates in administration of the E&S Program (Erosion and Sediment Pollution Control), NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge and Elimination System), and Chapter 105 (Dam Safety and Encroachment Act – Water Obstruction and Encroachment) programs. Shaun Wessell, Watershed Technician, along with clerical support from Melissa Buck is responsible for these programs. Highlights of 2010 are as follows:

- ✓ Reviewed 35 E&S Control Plans for Chapter 102 Compliance.
- ✓ Conducted 70 site inspections in an effort to obtain voluntary compliance.
- ✓ Issued 3 General NPDES Permits.
- ✓ Acknowledged 29 General Permits for water obstructions & encroachments.
- ✓ Conducted 5 site inspections in response to Chapter 105 complaints.



2009 TEAM SHEET

Board of Directors	Associate Directors		District Staff
Chairman, Herb Landes	Chris Mitterer	Terry Shields	District Manager, Deborah Wilson
Vice-Chairman, Porter Duvall	Bill Keown	Jerry Chamberlin	Admin Assist/EE Coordinator, Melissa Buck
Secretary/Treasurer, Allen Campbell	Andrew Laska	Jessie Beatty	Watershed Technician, Shaun Wessell
Director, Jack Corbin	George Miller	Laura L Yohe	ACT/Nutrient Mgmt Specialist, Jim Berry
Director, Tom McFarland	Rich Bowser	Doug Catalano	
Director, Theresa Shick	Matt Ferut	Rusty & Claire Orner	
Commissioner Director, Paul Corbin			

Agriculture

The Nutrient Management Act requires all Concentrated Animal Operations (CAO's) to develop, submit, and implement a nutrient management plan. Jim Berry, Nutrient Management Specialist, works with area farmers and NRCS to design and implement nutrient management plans in Jefferson County.

The JCCD Board of Directors approved 6 nutrient management plans for implementation in 2010. This brings the total to 45 farms in Jefferson County with 8,853 planned acres. These landowners now have the added benefit of liability protection under Pennsylvania law.

Landowners now have more programs available to help them improve the quality of water leaving their property. The Resource Enhancement and Protective Act of Pennsylvania (REAP) is another tool to help landowners with their conservation efforts. REAP works by giving farmers a dollar for dollar Pennsylvania tax credit for money spent on Best Management Practices.



Manure Storage – John Delp Farm



Fly Ash Project – Smith Oak Farm

Dirt and Gravel Roads Program

Act 3 of 1997 provided for Dirt and Gravel Road Maintenance Program funding. The goal of the program is to improve gravel road conditions and maintenance practices in order to reduce erosion and sedimentation along streams. In 2010 8 projects were completed in 5 Townships.



Before



After

Education / Outreach

The District stays active with environmental education and outreach efforts in the county. A number of displays were set up and manned by District staff. Displays, publications and educational programs were made available at the following events: Jefferson County Fair, Brockway 6th Grade Conservation Field Day, Reynoldsville Envirothon, Cloe Lake Field Trips, Farm Safety Day, Watershed Festival, High School Envirothon, Earth Day, Project Grass Pasture Walk, Chicken Manure Workshop, and Jefferson County Twp. Supervisors Annual Meeting. Technical assistance, presentations and training is also provided to the local municipalities, contractors, watershed groups and civic clubs.



2011 High School Envirothon



2011 Farm Safety Day

The 13th Annual Grazing Conference, held in DuBois, PA, featured John Hopkins, who with his wife, own and operate Forks Farm and Forks Farm Market in Columbia County, PA. They raise, graze, process and sell 100% grass fed beef & lamb, woodlot port, and organically fed pastured chicken and turkeys.

A follow-up Cover Crop Field Day was held on April 22, 2010 at Smith Oak Farm to observe how cover crops planted at the October 9th, 2009 Field Day survived over the winter. Close to 60 local farmers and agency people learned about transitioning to no-till cover crops, aerial seeding, and energy crops. A farmer panel lead the group in a question and answer session in the afternoon.



November, 2009



April, 2010

Watersheds

Efforts to remediate major NPS pollution sources identified in the 2005 Pine Run Watershed Implementation Plan are continuing. Work is nearly completed on treatment system designs for the Nye Branch discharge and the Caylor Run discharges.

Phase II of the Sugar Camp Run Discharge as a Municipal Water Supply is nearly complete. Funding provided by a CEI Growing Greener Grant is being used to install access wells into the mine pool. Two access wells have been completed and are producing nearly 2,000 gpm. Two additional wells will be drilled in 2011. A system is being designed to treat the mine pool water to be used commercially and will be constructed in 2011. Phase III will include a study of Sykesville Borough's water supply infrastructure needs with the long term goal of re-using the mine water as potable water.



Access Well drilled to relocate mine discharge



Sugar Camp Run Discharge

The original Conifer Treatment System was built in 1998. The water chemistry changed in 1999. The ferric iron & aluminum in the discharge led to premature plugging of the ALD. In 2003 and 2004 rehabilitation efforts were made. Still, the system is providing very little or no treatment. A project to regrade the limestone in the ALD, and fill a portion of the settling pond with limestone to create a large limestone bed (FeAlMn bed pronounced Fel-al-men) was completed in July, 2010. Water monitoring has indicated improved pH and a decrease in iron content.

The Sawmill Run Streambank Stabilization project repaired flooding damages and helped prevent additional erosion and property damage along Sawmill Run in Punxsutawney Borough. The Filtrexx Edge Saver System technology was used to stabilize 100 feet of streambank.



Before



After