

Pennridge Area Coordinating Committee

Status Report

Thursday, January 31, 2008

Project Team:	> Coordination:	Bucks County Planning Commission
	> Lead Consultant:	Borton-Lawson Engineering, Paul DeBarry, P.E., Project Mgr
	> Subconsultants:	Hazlett-Kincaid, Spotts, Stevens, McCoy, Boucher & James

➤ **Partnership with Heritage Conservancy**

- Pennridge Area Water Resources Sustainability Forum
 - Outcome/level of satisfaction with event
- Suggested future roundtable events
 - Discuss implementation of the Pennridge Area Greenway Plan and ongoing updates to Park & Recreation Plans and Open Space Plans based upon Greenway Plan recommendations;
 - Stream assessment training, formation of watershed groups, and funding available to construct riparian corridors.
- Audits of Municipal Ordinances for Water Resource Protection to establish stronger linkage between land use controls and water/natural resource protection. Participating Municipalities include:
 - East Rockhill Township: comparison of ordinances for consistency with the PWRP Model Ordinance completed. Heritage Conservancy staff will meet with the Township Planning Commission in February, to review audit.
 - West Rockhill Township: Invasive species audit - Heritage Conservancy staff will attend February 4 Planning Commission meeting to review audit.

➤ **Educational**

- **WREN GRANT**
 - Prepared invitations, surveys and registration forms, which will be mailed tomorrow;
 - Working on brochure to include the text, pictures and contact information.
 - Will have links to the BCPC and PACC websites for download of the document.

➤ **Comprehensive Plan Update and the Greening of Bucks County**

- BCPC staff has prepared a draft survey to include questions pertaining to sustainable and green technologies and regulations in place within Bucks County municipalities.
 - Goal of survey is to ascertain what BC municipalities are doing to implement sustainable practices.
 - Rea and Paul will interview each Community Planner to gain a greater understanding of the regulations and programs already in place.
 - Will incorporate Community Planners' recommendations regarding which questions to add and/or eliminate.
 - PACC pilot study - BCPC staff will distribute updated surveys, based upon input from Community Planners, to PACC members to be completed and returned to Rea via mail, or via a website survey, which will be posted to the new PACC site
 - Date of PACC Pilot Study TBD

➤ **Recycling Technical Assistance Project -Regional Leaf & Yard Waste Management Overview**

- Need to notify Steve Deasy, from Gannett Fleming, of PACC's preferences.
- Please complete and submit the Residential Waste Management & Recycling Survey & the Regional Leaf Waste Management Questionnaire & Checklist form to Rea

➤ **Topics:**

- **Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Program**
 - Haverford Township, DE County, has contracted with the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) for the Climate Protection Campaign (CCP).
 - Over 700 communities in the U.S. have joined this campaign, which is organized around five Milestones:
 - Conduct an Inventory of overall energy use and greenhouse gas emissions
 - Set a Reduction Target
 - Develop a Climate Protection Action Plan
 - Implement the Plan
 - Monitor and Re-evaluate progress
 - Haverford has contracted with ICLEI to undertake Milestones 1 and 3 of this process. Township staff member Jon Knauer is developing a Climate Protection Action Plan to reduce GHG and energy costs.
 - BCPC staff met to discuss the County's role with regard to ICLEI and the Cool Counties program.
 - BCPC discussed whether BCPC and/or PACC members should meet with Jon Knauer at a future date to discuss these programs in further detail.
- **PACC materials on the web**
 - New PACC website has been developed. <http://penridgepacc.webs.com>
 - Incorporates information on the PACC and its activities, previous status reports, and incorporates the Greenway Plan and Water Resources Plan in full. Also contains a section dedicated to Water Resources Education.
 - Has a section designated for posting of Source Water Protection draft documents once those are ready to be reviewed.
 - Will post WREN grant project on PACC and BCPC websites
 - Please take a look at the new site and let us know what you think. Also, please let us know if any of the links are not working correctly, as well as letting us know if there are other things you would like to see added.

➤ **Plan Implementation & Grants Status**

- **SOURCE WATER PROTECTION GRANT PROGRAM.**
 - Meeting held on October 11 with Bruno Mercuri, Borton-Lawson, H2H Modeling Group (formerly Hazlett-Kinkaid) and DEP
 - Mercuri Associates was hired by Perkasio Borough Authority to review the initial draft documents. Mercuri Associates raised some concerns regarding the approach and information used by Hazlett-Kincaid to identify the wellhead protection areas, specific to Perkasio Borough Authority.

- H2H and Borton-Lawson have outlined the process and costs associated with reworking the models. Perkasio Borough Authority will need to evaluate their interest in having the models revised.
 - Borton-Lawson in the process of submitting the current draft documents to PA DEP for review.
 - Upon agreement and final input from consultants, documents will be edited to incorporate feedback, and revised copies made available for public review on PACC and Bucks County website, and a hard copy will be available in the Samuel Pierce (Perkasie) branch of the Bucks County Free Library System
 - Public meeting date, including PACC members, TBD
- **STORMWATER BASIN RETROFIT PROJECT**
- Growing Greener Grant received for \$18,150
 - Thoughts, comments, or feedback regarding various design schematics presented back in November
 - Worked with Judy Decker to submit grant progress report
 - Educational component.
 - In partnership with the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy, we will create a new educational brochure/pamphlet to distribute to PACC municipalities and schools within the Pennridge area.
 - Met with Jeremy Kunkle, horticulture instructor, and Chuck Kollar, graphic communications instructor, at Upper Bucks County Vocational Technical School to gauge their interest in participating in two ways:
 1. Horticulture students will be supplied with a plan showing the different components incorporated into the basin retrofit design. The students will develop a suggested planting plan and Borton-Lawson will review their suggestions and provide comment on possible plant substitutions.
 2. Graphic Communications students will be given the opportunity to assist in the design and layout of the pamphlet and will be offered the opportunity to bid on the printing of the pamphlet.

Jeremy is excited about the opportunity to partner on this project and any projects. To engage with Jeremy and his students we need to obtain feedback and input from the school district regarding which design schematic, and components would be acceptable to them.

Chuck is assessing the ability of his students to take on the challenge of creating, laying out, and printing the brochure we discussed.

➤ **Next Steps: (January-February)**

- Continue to work on stormwater basin retrofit design project.
- Continue Source Water Protection grant work.
- Continue to work on WREN project.
- Continue to investigate funding sources for ongoing implementation activities.

Next PACC Meeting:

Thursday, February 28, 2008 7:30pm - Bucks County Community College, Perkasio Campus