

*Pennridge Area Coordinating Committee
Status Report
Thursday, March 27, 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**

- **Suggested future roundtable events**
 - Discuss implementation of the Pennridge Area Greenway Plan
 - Ongoing updates to Park & Recreation Plans and Open Space Plans based upon Greenway Plan recommendations.
 - Stream assessment training, how to form watershed groups, and funding available to construct riparian corridors.
 - Information pertaining to both Forums will be placed on the PACC website.
- **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 met with the Township Planning Commission on March 6, to review audit.
 - **West Rockhill Township:** Invasive species audit - Heritage Conservancy staff met with the Planning Commission in January to review audit.

➤ **Implementation Activities**

- East Rockhill is the only municipality that has adopted the Pennridge Water Resources Plan as an amendment to their comprehensive plan (Nov 28, 2006).
- Discussion of the status in other municipalities and resources needed to move ahead.

➤ **Educational**

- **WREN GRANT**
 - Compiled information to be included in the BMP brochure to be distributed to tour attendees, PACC members BC municipalities.
 - Going through final editing and reformatting of brochure.
 - Working with Information Technology and BCPC staff to create a website link to the BCPC and PACC websites.
 - Finalizing survey forms and compiling handouts to be distributed to tour attendees.
 - Finalizing presenters; DVDs for distribution on day of tour; transportation (including parking availability at each location); audiovisual equipment; time line for day's event; name tags, meals, informational folders, bus operator

agenda and directions, presentation topics, and parking and signage requirements.

- **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.
 - Paul and Rea 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 to survey 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 email or mail, or to Paul 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**
 - Submitted Residential Waste Management & Recycling Survey & the Regional Leaf Waste Management Questionnaire & Checklist surveys to Steve Deasy from Gannett Fleming.
 - Steve is in the process of preparing a Report for PACC
 - Steve will outline various options/strategies in the Report
 - PACC members will decide who will participate and at what level
- **Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy Action Plan Effort**
 - The PWC is establishing a Conservation Action Plan that will guide their efforts and grant requests for the next five years for the 362 square-mile watershed.
 - PWC is hosting a meeting to present their findings to date regarding regional goals and objectives.
 - PWC is requesting input about how best to focus PWC's limited funding and personnel resources.
 - The meeting will take place at the PWC at 3:00PM on Thursday, April 3.
 - If interested, please RSVP to Crystal Gilchrist at the PWC
- **PACC materials on the web**
 - As a reminder, a new PACC website has been developed.
<http://pennridgepacc.webs.com>
 - Please update any links on your municipal websites to reflect the new website address.
- **Plan Implementation & Grants Status**

○ SOURCE WATER PROTECTION GRANT PROGRAM.

- 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.
- Have received review comments from PA DEP. Working with Borton-Lawson to update the documents based on PA DEP comments.
- 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 (Perkasio) branch of the Bucks County Free Library System
- Public meeting date, including PACC members, TBD

○ STORMWATER BASIN RETROFIT PROJECT

- Met with Pennridge School District representatives on 3/3 to obtain their feedback and input prior to the development of final engineering drawings. Primary feedback had to do with concerns regarding student safety. Borton-Lawson currently developing a revised design based on feedback received.
- 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.
 - Draft brochure text currently being reviewed internally prior to meeting with Upper Bucks Vocational Technical instructors and their classes.
- Growing Greener Grant
 - Pending approval and feedback from PACC, will be submitting a 2008 Growing Greener Grant application for the funding of the actual basin retrofit.
 - Grant requires a 15% match, either via in-kind services or cash. Currently working with Borton-Lawson on final estimate in order to determine potential cash match funding needed.
 - Application deadline is May 16, 2008

○ WATERSHED MONITORING PROGRAM

- Shandor Szalay would like to come and speak with the group next month regarding Project Headwaters
- This is a program that focuses on the importance of restoring and/or protecting the headwater streams first prior to downstream restoration efforts
- Currently working in the Pennypack Watershed (See handout being circulated)

➤ **Next Steps: (April-May)**

- **Continue Source Water Protection grant work.**
- **Continue to work on WREN project.**
- **Develop Growing Greener Grant application for West Rockhill basin retrofit**
- **Initiate work on basin retrofit with Upper Bucks Vo Tech**
- **Continue to investigate funding sources for ongoing implementation activities.**

Next PACC Meeting:

Thursday, April 24, 2008 7:30pm - Bucks County Community College, Perkasie Campus