

# TOMORROW NEWSLETTER

## 2025 CONSERVATION FARMER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Washington County Conservation District awards committee considered multiple farms this fall for the 2025 Conservation Farmer of the Year award. The award is presented in recognition for outstanding commitment to conservation in Washington County. The Washington County Conservation District would like to recognize the Foster Family Acres as the recipient of the 2025 Conservation Farmer of the Year award.



*From left: WCCD Agricultural Technician Tom Ulrich, Washington County Commissioner Larry Maggi, Foster Family Farms - Stephen Reihner, Bristol Reihner, Rachele Reihner, Bryan Dickson, Amanda Dickson, Dave Dickson, Washington County Commissioner Nick Sherman, Renee Dickson, and WCCD Chairman of the Board of Directors Bill Iams.*

The farm is located in Buffalo Township and is operated by Dave and Renee Dickson and family. Currently, the entire farm consists of 340 acres, of which 165 acres is cropland and 175 acres is dedicated pasture. The farm primarily grows corn, oats, and mixed grass hay. They operate a 60 cow-calf operation and finish a portion of the calves for freezer beef sales.



One thing to point out is the period from initial visit to implementation takes some time. Dave attended one of the WCCD manure management workshops back in 2015. A farm visit was conducted by WCCD staff who assisted in developing a manure management plan that year. During those visits, there was discussion on how to address certain resource concerns on the farm. Dave and WCCD Agricultural Technician, Tom Ulrich, frequently discussed the possibility of implementing a project at the farm. As part of the project, Foster Family Acres installed over 17,000 ft of fence, an access road, animal trails, stream crossings, a roofed animal heavy use area with manure storage, watering facilities, and underground outlets. The project was funded through the Agriculture Conservation Assistance Program and completed in 2024.

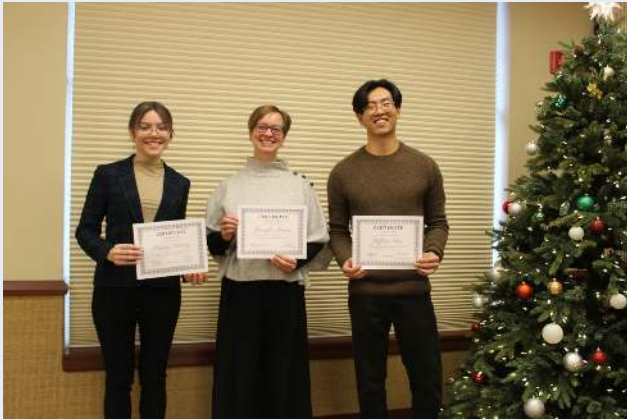
The Washington County Conservation District would like to congratulate Foster Family Acres as the recipient of the 2025 Conservation Farm of the Year award.



# Washington County Conservation District Awards Recipients



The Washington County Conservation District was proud to honor the following award recipients at the December 2025 Meeting.



*From left: Resource Conservation Technician Hayley McEvoy, District Manager Jennifer Dann, and Watershed Specialist Jeffrey Kim*

District Manager Jennifer Dann was honored for 15 years of service with the Conservation District.

Resource Conservation Technician Hayley McEvoy and Watershed Specialist Jeffrey Kim were recognized for two years of service with the Conservation District.

These staff members devote many hours of time and expertise to their positions and are always willing to help with answering any questions anyone may have.

**Congratulations ~ Jennifer, Hayley, and Jeffrey!**

*Pictured left to right are Jason Fillhart, WCCD Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road Technician and Bob Collett, award recipient.*



Robert Collett, of Avella, was awarded the Distinguished Service Award in recognition for years of stewardship of Washington County streams and continuous promotion of the Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road program. We are grateful for all of his help with many projects.

**Congratulations, Bob!**



Our sincere thanks to the talented McGuffey High School students who created the beautiful sign and table centerpieces. Their creativity and dedication are wonderful examples of the talent and spirit in our community.



As we move into the new year, the WCCD staff would like to extend sincere thanks to our community and share our best wishes for a healthy, happy, and successful year ahead.

Please stop by the office if we can ever be of any help.

*Pictured left to right: DGLVR Technician Jason Fillhart, Resource Conservation Technician Hayley McEvoy, Agricultural Technician Tom Ulrich, District Manager Jennifer Dann, Lead Resource Conservation Technician Matt Golden, Resource Conservation Technician Hanna Bourcier, Resource Conservation Technician Ian Reinstadtler, Administrative Assistant Susan Toth, and Watershed Specialist Jeffrey Kim.*

# IN PERSON FARM SUCCESSION WORKSHOP



**March 17, 2026**

**9:30 - 3:00**

**Washington County  
Conservation Office  
50 Old Hickory Ridge Rd  
Washington, PA 15301**

## TOPICS INCLUDE

- Getting Your Financial House in Order
  - Phil Taylor, Horizon Farm Credit
- Farm Family Communication
- Long Term Care and the Risk to the Farm
  - Darlene Livingston, PA Farm Link
- Legal Considerations
  - Attorney Rob Clark

## REGISTRATION

- Registration fee is \$10 and will be refunded at the workshop. Space is limited.
- Includes lunch, farm succession planning workbooks and Long Term Care and the Farm booklet.
- Registration deadline: **March 10, 2026**

## REGISTER HERE

[WWW.PAFARMLINK.ORG/EVENTS/](http://WWW.PAFARMLINK.ORG/EVENTS/)

OR 724-541-0387



### THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS!



## MEET THE SPEAKERS



### Phil Taylor

Phil Taylor, M.S., is a farm business consultant with Farm Credit in western Pennsylvania with over ten years of consulting experience. He is a Certified Farm Succession Coordinator through the International Farm Transition Network. He has more than 35 years of agriculture industry experience, specializing in accounting, financial business analysis, farm succession and transition, feasibility investigations, and team facilitation. He helps farm families understand the importance of complete and accurate financial and production records for making the best management decisions for future success.



### Robert Clark

Clark & Clark, Attorneys at Law is a father-son practice located in New Wilmington, PA. Bob Clark had the opportunity to spend the first 33 years of his life on an operating Jersey dairy farm. He began the practice in 1983, and son, Robert Jr., joined the firm in 2018.

The practice focuses on Estate Planning (Wills, Power of Attorneys, Living Wills) Real Estate (representing buyers and sellers and providing title insurance), Estate Administration, establishment of business organizations, Oil and Gas Law, and Farm Family Representation, assisting families with transitioning farms to the next generation.



### Donna Truesdell RN, MS

Donna is a registered nurse and licensed independent health insurance and Medicare broker in Pennsylvania. She has also been involved in farming for more than 30 years. Donna has been involved in case management of health care needs in various settings and has supported financial planners with client strategic planning. Currently Donna assists families with planning for, understanding the options, and arranging for long term care needs of family members.

Previously Donna was an administrator in two Massachusetts hospitals where she presented and published in the field of healthcare quality.

### Darlene Livingston



Darlene has served as the Executive Director of PA Farm Link for 16 years. Leading the organization's farm succession education and facilitation services and developing next level farm succession programming.

She oversees continued education programs for ag professionals, online learning academy for farmers, along with many digital and print resources. Most recently Darlene and Joy Kirpatrick, University of Wisconsin co-edited of Cultivating Continuity, Expert Insights for Farm Succession.

Born and raised on a diversified farm, Darlene has a lifetime of farm experience working with three generations on the farm. Her family currently owns and operates Mahoning Creek Farm, a preserved century farm in Indiana County.

Fun fact: Darlene's first fulltime job was Washington County 4-H Agent in 1985-86.

**For more information on farm succession, check out Farm Link's resource hub, learning modules and blog at [www.pafarmlink.org](http://www.pafarmlink.org).**

## Washington County Evening Forage Meeting

Thursday, March 26, 2026  
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Washington County Conservation District  
50 Old Hickory Ridge Road, Washington, PA



### Featuring presentations by:

**Justin Brackenrich, "Weed Control in Hay Fields"**  
PSU Extension Educator, Agronomy

Weeds can significantly reduce the quality and yield of hay by competing for sunlight, moisture, and nutrients. They can also introduce unwanted seeds and toxins that may affect livestock health. Therefore, managing weeds is crucial for maintaining high-quality forage production.

**Katie Payne, "Summer Annuals, Management, Opportunity"**  
WVU Forage Agronomy Specialist

Payne earned a Bachelor of Science in Soil Science from WVU and continued her education with a Master of Science in Crop and Soil Sciences from the University of Georgia, followed by a Ph.D. in Integrated Plant and Soil Sciences from the University of Kentucky, focusing her research on forage agronomy. Before returning to WVU in July 2025 as the Forage Agronomy Extension Specialist, Payne spent six years as the Applied Forage Systems Specialist at the Virginia Tech Southern Piedmont Agricultural Research and Education Center in Blackstone, Virginia. She enjoys working closely with extension agents and producers to help improve the production, profitability, and sustainability of their forage and livestock systems.



**For more information or to register for the meeting, please call  
WCCD Ag/E & S Technician, Tom Ulrich at 724-705-7098**

# JOIN US IN 2026 TO CELEBRATE THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE WOMAN FARMER



**Stay tuned for activities planned  
for 2026 to showcase local  
women in agriculture**





# Dirt, Gravel, & Low Volume Roads



## GET FUNDING FOR YOUR LOCAL ROADS!

It's time to start thinking about potential projects for the spring of 2026! The upcoming DGLVR grant round will be open soon and will remain open until August 31, 2026. If you know of a potential project within your municipality, contact the DGLVR Technician,

Jason Fillhart - jfillhart@pawccd.org or call (724) 705-7098 Extension 203.

- WCCD received nearly 20 applications for FY 25/26 projects.
- A total of six projects were awarded for FY 25/26.
- Four Dirt and Gravel projects, totaling \$352,625.00, are Hickory Nut Road (upper) in Independence Twp., Crossover Road in Smith Twp., and Delashawn and Klages Roads in Donegal Twp.
- Two Low Volume Road projects, totaling \$129,953.00, are Pogue Road in Donegal Twp., and McDonough Drive in Beallsville Borough.

The Washington County Conservation District (WCCD) Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Roads Program (DGLVR) completed seven (7) projects in 2025.

### Dirt and Gravel Roads Completed Sites

Project	WCCD Payment	In-Kind	Total Value
Hickory Nut Road, Independence Township	\$99,200.00	\$17,485.55	\$116,685.65
Narigon Road, Independence Township	\$93,988.00	\$13,335.00	\$107,323.00
Ramage Road, Donegal Township	\$76,163.42	\$17,500.00	\$93,663.42
Spud Drive, Somerset Township	\$240,970.00	\$172,362.42	\$413,332.42
Beech Knob Road, Cross Creek Township	\$35,969.03	\$12,288.00	\$48,257.03
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$546,290.45</b>	<b>\$232,970.97</b>	<b>\$779,261.42</b>

### Low Volume Roads Completed Sites

Project	WCCD Payment	In-Kind	Total Value
Sugar Run Road, Independence Township	\$129,100.00	\$65,010.88	\$194,110.88
Spring Road, Centerville Borough	\$8,021.39	\$9,364.84	\$17,386.23
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$137,121.39</b>	<b>\$74,375.72</b>	<b>\$211,497.11</b>

- In total, WCCD spent \$683,411.84 on finished projects.
- Municipalities spent \$307,346.69 as in-kind payments on their projects.
- Total spent on all projects equaled \$990,758.53
- The average in-kind of all projects was 31%.



*Hickory Nut Road:* This Dirt and Gravel project replaced 7 cross pipes, added 4 new pipes, and installed new inlets and outlets. 1,386' of riprap lined ditches were added along with the re-establishment of 650' of roadside ditch. 365' of 18" HDPE storm pipe was used for the project.



*Ramage Road:* This Dirt and Gravel project added 3 new cross drains with headwalls and R6 riprap energy dissipators at the outlet. Approx. 500' of roadway was raised 12-18". 75' of riprap streambank stabilization occurred adjacent to the roadway. 675' of riprap-lined ditches were added, using 90' of 15" HDPE storm pipe for the project.



*Beech Knob Road:* This Dirt and Gravel Project added 8 new cross drains with headwalls and R6 riprap energy dissipators at the outlet. 400' of riprap-lined ditches were added, along with re-establishing 1,481' of roadside ditch. 4 new turnouts were also installed. 240' of 15" HDPE storm pipe was used for this project.





# Dirt, Gravel, & Low Volume Roads



## ...continued

*Narigon Road:* This Dirt and Gravel project replaced 4 cross pipes, added 7 new pipes, and installed new inlets and outlets. 800' of riprap-lined ditches were added along with the re-establishment of 640' of roadside ditch. 320' of 18" HDPE storm pipe was used for the project.



*Spud Drive:* The Spud Drive Dirt and Gravel project replaced a failing multi-pipe stream crossing with a new bottomless arch culvert with a span of 34'11", rise of 11'6", and width of 15'. The new culvert was set onto large steel express foundations. (2) in-stream grade breaks were installed as part of the project.



*Sugar Run:* The Sugar Run stream crossing Low Volume Road project replaced a decades-old, failing bridge with a new bottomless arch culvert in Independence Township. The old, undersized, and failing bridge caused bank erosion and a large scour pool at the outfall. The new bottomless arch culvert (40'6" by 18'2" by 4'7" high) now has proper alignment and six in-stream grade control structures.



*Spring Road:* The Spring Road Low Volume Road project added two drop inlets and 160 feet of underdrain to control water coming from both National Pike Road and Spring Road. Water now flows via a vegetated swale, then to a drop inlet, and finally to the local tributary.

# EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION - CHAPTER 102 PERMITTING



**GET YOUR  
INSPECTOR'S GADGETS  
READY!**



As of December 8th, 2025, all Ch. 102 NPDES permits now require that visual site inspections be conducted by a qualified visual site inspector (QVSI) who is trained and experienced in the construction, function, and maintenance of Erosion & Sediment (E&S) and Post-Construction Stormwater Management (PCSM) Best Management Practices (BMPs). This is intended to ensure compliance with DEP's E&S controls and PCSM standards. Having effective erosion and sediment control measures on a construction site assists in minimizing accelerated erosion and sediment pollution to Pennsylvania's waterways.

To become qualified, you must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Has completed the QVSI training in DEP's Clean Water Academy.
- Holds an active certification as a certified professional in erosion and sediment control (CPESC) or as a certified erosion, sediment and stormwater inspector (CESSWI) from a recognized organization.
- Can demonstrate to the satisfaction of DEP or a delegated County Conservation District that they have qualifications that meet or exceed criteria #1 and #2.

## Qualified Visual Site Inspector Training Program

This learning path (Program) is a series of courses is available for your professional development. Applicable staff are encouraged to complete this program.

- Assigned as an individual.

Date assigned: June 26, 2025

Due date: No due date set

**Intended Audience:** Anyone responsible for conducting visual site inspections of earth disturbance activities under Chapter 102. Completion of the QVSI Training Program is one of three options in the 2024 PAG-02 General Permit for demonstrating that someone is qualified to conduct inspections on construction sites with PAG-02 coverage. Once all courses are complete, a Record of Completion can be printed and used as verification of program completion.

**Content:** This training program includes **05** courses.

**Timing:** Clean Water Academy estimates that this training program will take approximately 10 hours to complete.


Completion of this training program will generate a Record of Completion worth 10 credit hours.

~ *Qualified Visual Site Inspector Training Program on DEP's Clean Water Academy.*

The QVSI should conduct site inspections weekly, after rain events of 0.25 inches or more, or to document corrective actions. QVSI should use DEP's Ch. 102 Visual Site Inspection Report (Form 3800-FM-BCW0271d). If the site inspector chooses to use their own report, it should contain the same information shown in DEP's Form. All Visual Site Inspection Reports (VSIR) should be kept on site or made available upon request. At minimum, inspectors should be taking monthly color photographs of the site if there are no deficiencies identified. When deficiencies related to E&S and PCSM are observed, they must be documented with at least one digital color photograph and a brief description.

# EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION - CHAPTER 102

## PERMITTING...CONTINUED

3800-FM-BCW0271d Rev. 8/2024  
 Inspection Report  


COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
 BUREAU OF CLEAN WATER

### CHAPTER 102 VISUAL SITE INSPECTION REPORT

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

Project Site Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Permit No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Permit Type:  PAG-01  PAG-02  Individual NPDES  Individual E&S  ESCGP

Approval Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Permittee Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Municipality: \_\_\_\_\_

Inspector Name: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Inspector Firm: \_\_\_\_\_ Inspector Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Inspector Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Inspector Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

The inspector named above is qualified (check the appropriate box below)

DEP's Clean Water Academy Program  CPESC  CESSW  Other (equivalent)

#### INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Inspection Time: \_\_\_\_\_ AM / PM Inspection No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Precipitation (Previous 24 hrs): \_\_\_\_\_ inch(es) Source: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Site Conditions:  Active Earth Disturbance  Fully Stabilized  Snow Covered  Other

Current Weather Conditions:  Rain/Sleet/Snow  Overcast  Sunny/Partly Sunny

Inspection Type:  Routine (Weekly)  Post-Storm ( $\geq 0.25$  inch)  Corrective Action

#### INSPECTION CHECKLIST

**Inspect all of the following areas of the project site. Check the box to certify these areas have been inspected and describe problems or deficiencies identified, if any. Use a separate sheet as necessary.**

1. Areas that have been cleared and grubbed, graded, excavated, or otherwise disturbed and are not yet stabilized.

These areas have been inspected  N/A (no areas on-site meet these conditions)

Areas are dormant for four (4) days or longer and are not temporarily stabilized.

Areas have been final graded but have not yet been stabilized.

All disturbances are being actively graded and are not yet ready for temporary or permanent stabilization.

2. BMPs/SCMs installed to comply with the permit (including site perimeter BMPs).

BMPs/SCMs have been inspected  N/A (there are no BMPs/SCMs on-site at the time of inspection)

Photographs of BMPs/SCMs on-site are attached with a date/time stamp.

Photographs of all observed deficiencies are attached with a date/time stamp.

A BMP/SCM Inspection checklist has been completed and is attached for one or more BMPs/SCMs.

Description of problems or deficiencies identified: \_\_\_\_\_  No deficiencies identified

Left: DEP's Visual Site Inspection Form (Form 3800-FM-BCW0271d)



### Photograph Taking Tips:

- Bring something with you for scale, such as a measuring tape.
- Include an existing reference object in the background, such as a road sign, to remember where the photo was taken.
- Include directional language in the brief photo descriptions (i.e. North, East, South, and West).
- Naming of E&S BMPs and PCSM SCMs should remain consistent with what is shown on the approved E&S and PCSM Plans.
- Date and time stamp on photos if possible.



Not only does this task satisfy conditions of the NPDES permit, but it also assists in maintaining compliance with the Chapter 102 regulations and the Clean Streams Law. Regular inspections by QVSIs can also reduce downtime, maintenance costs, and keeps site personnel informed on the conditions of a construction site



# Chapter 105 – General Permitting

There are several helpful online tools to help with identifying and delineating streams, floodways, and wetland resources. This article aims to identify a few helpful online resources to aid in analyzing these water resources. Links to these resources are provided.



## ***Integrated Report: Integrated Report 2024***

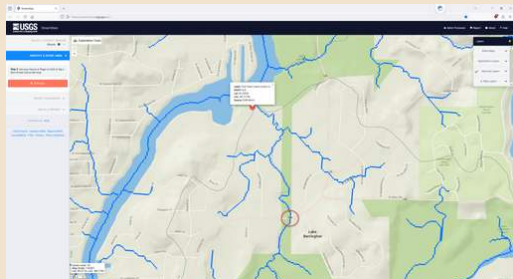
<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/368a9200df5e43eb8267dcbdb34a0ccc/page/Page/?views=Search>

DEP's Integrated Report can assist in identifying the name, length, impairment/impairment cause, designated use, and other parameters. This tool is very intuitive in that it uses mapping to identify each watercourse within Pennsylvania. Using the search bar within the page to find the nearest address and clicking on the desired watercourse will bring up all parameters. Any questions can be directed to your local Conservation District or DEP Office.

## ***eMAP: eMapPA***

<https://gis.dep.pa.gov/emappa/>

eMapPA is a GIS based website and mapping tool that focusses on the display of relevant environmental data to Commonwealth Agencies, contractors and the public. In addition to DEP-permitted facilities, there are over 50 map layers relating to administrative and political boundaries, culture and demographics, geology, mining, streams and water resources, and transportation networks. Tools for navigating, querying, identifying, extracting, buffering, and address matching are available for GIS analysis. All of the tools and their uses are fully explained in the Help option on the menu bar.



## ***StreamSTATS: StreamStats***

<https://streamstats.usgs.gov/ss/>

StreamStats is a national web-based application that provides selected water-resource information for Pennsylvania. Users can easily obtain descriptive information, basin characteristics, and streamflow statistics for USGS streamgages and ungaged stream locations throughout the Commonwealth.

## ***National Wetland Inventory: National Wetlands Inventory***

<https://fwsprimary.wim.usgs.gov/wetlands/apps/wetlands-mapper/>

The National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) was established by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to conduct a nationwide inventory of U.S. wetlands to provide biologists and others with information on the distribution and type of wetlands to aid in conservation efforts. (Note: This is not a comprehensive listing of all existing wetlands. These are generally only wetlands that have been reported to the FWS. Usually, these water resources are considered significant. Projects should still be analyzed for smaller wetland resources that may not have been identified by this tool.)



## ***FEMA Flood Map/PA Flood Risk (alternative)***

<https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home>

Flood maps are one tool that communities use to know which areas have the highest risk of flooding. FEMA maintains and updates data through flood maps and risk assessments. Floods don't follow city limits or property lines. Using a flood map, you can see the relationship between your property and the areas with the highest risk of flooding. There is no such thing as a "no-risk zone," but some areas have a lower or moderate risk.

# RIPARIAN BUFFERS

## DEFINITION

Riparian buffers are areas beside a stream that contain trees, shrubs, and other plants.

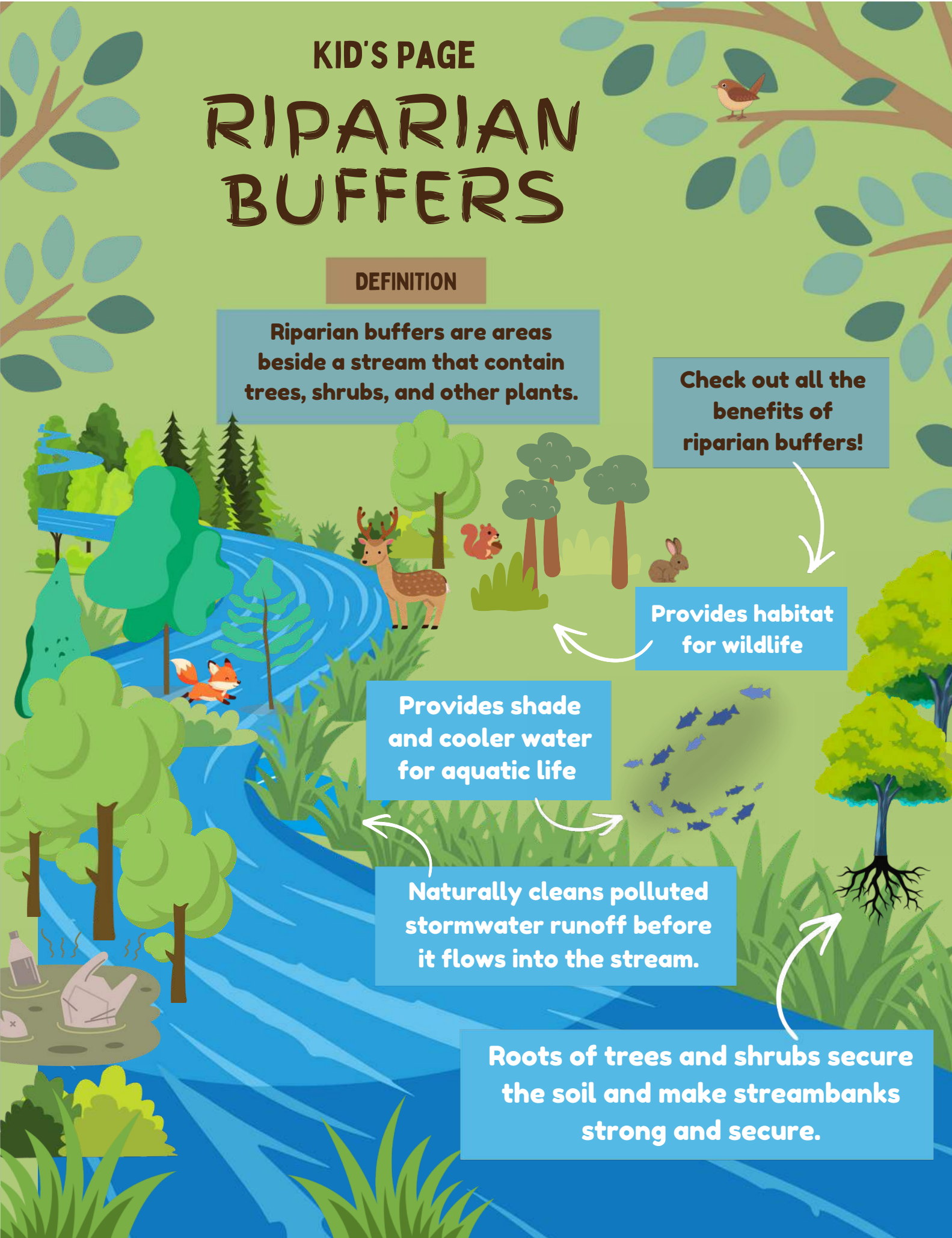
Check out all the benefits of riparian buffers!

Provides habitat for wildlife

Provides shade and cooler water for aquatic life

Naturally cleans polluted stormwater runoff before it flows into the stream.

Roots of trees and shrubs secure the soil and make streambanks strong and secure.



# From the Watersheds...

## The Washington County Watershed Alliance

50 Old Hickory Ridge Road, Suite 1, Washington, PA 15301

Website: [www.wcwalliance.org](http://www.wcwalliance.org), on Facebook and Instagram

Email: [info@wcwalliance.org](mailto:info@wcwalliance.org)



Meetings: Hybrid Meetings (In-Person and on Zoom) on the First Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. Please contact us for the link to the meetings. All are welcome to attend.

### Next Generation Creek Signs

WCWA installed three educational creek signs for Catfish Creek.

These are not your everyday static archaic signs. The new signage includes creek name markers and secondary signs that are QR codes. Scan the code using your phone camera and you will be linked to interactive story maps, videos and more!

Sign Location 1: Park Ave ( 40.163084, -80.246283 )

- Sign Station 1: Trinity HS | WCWA

Sign Location 2: Washington Park. ( 40.165808, -80.220780 )

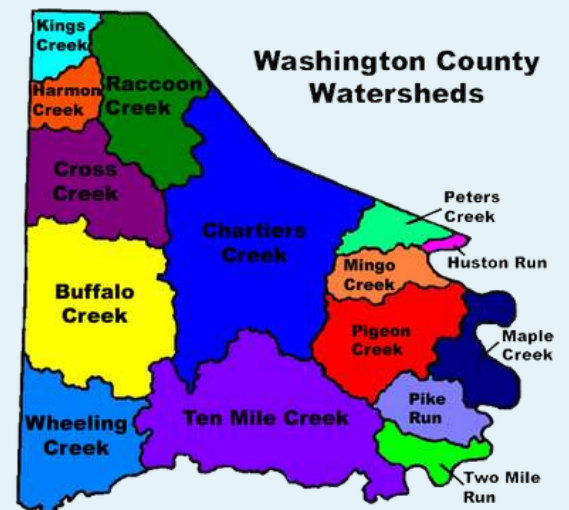
- Sign Station 2: Wash Park | WCWA

Sign Location 3: Elm Street ( 40.164496, -80.234044 )

- Sign Station 3: Elm St | WCWA

Special thanks to Kara Meadows, from West Virginia University, for creating the story map, Bradley Martin, from Didius, for the drone footage, and PA Correctional Industries for creation of the signs.

*This project was made possible by the generous support of the Sierra Club Huplits Grant.*



# Upper Chartiers' Creek Watershed Association

50 Old Hickory Ridge Road, Suite 1, Washington, PA 15301

Website: [www.upperchartierscreek.org](http://www.upperchartierscreek.org) , on Facebook and Instagram

Email: [Chartierscreekwa@pawccd.org](mailto:Chartierscreekwa@pawccd.org)

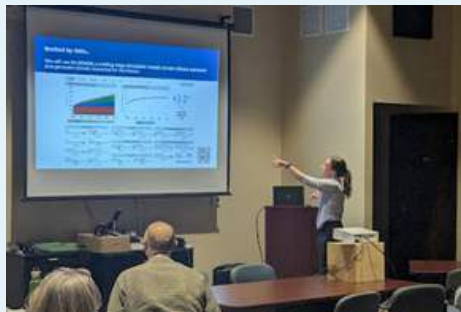
Meeting: Hybrid Meetings (In-Person and on Zoom) on the second Tuesday at 7 pm.

Please contact us for the link to the meetings. All are welcome to attend.



What a year it has been! The Upper Chartiers Creek Watershed Association (UCCWA) closed out 2025 with a bang. From diving into the world of fungi with the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club to completing our fall water quality assessments, our team has been hard at work. We owe a huge thank you to our dedicated water monitoring volunteers—stay tuned for details on our upcoming participation in the Izaak Walton League's Winter Salt Watch. To finish out the year, we enjoyed fantastic conversation during our annual dinner where we enjoyed delicious soup and engaging conversation while learning about the EN-ROADS climate simulator.

Also, a huge shout out and congratulations to Houston Borough for receiving a fantastic grant late in December of \$188,000 awarded through the Commonwealth Financing Authority's (CFA) Local Share Account (LSA) Program. The funding will support the Houston Borough Streambank Rehabilitation Project, which will stabilize erosion along Chartiers Creek at the Houston Ballfield Park—improving safety for community members and helping prevent further environmental damage.



As we look ahead to 2026, we have some exciting events on the horizon:

- January: We Joined local brewers for a pint and conversation at Mondays Brewing Company in McMurray.
- February: We're hosting an environmental film festival! Come share some popcorn and connect with fellow nature enthusiasts. Details TBD- Follow us on Facebook or Instagram for details.

### ***Clean-up locations needed!***

We are currently scouting locations for our next watershed cleanup. If you know of a local spot in need of a little love and understanding, please alert us via Facebook, Instagram, or email.

### ***Join Our Board***

The UCCWA is seeking new board members to bring fresh perspectives and energy to our mission. If you are passionate about steering the future of local environmental conservation, we want to hear from you. Reach out today to start a conversation!

# 2026 Spring Tree Sale

Fifty years ago, the WCCD started its Small Package Tree program. Running until 2000, it distributed countless trees to the community. This year, we're excited to bring that tradition back with this list of native trees and shrubs...



**American Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*)**- Large, multi-stemmed shrub with large white flowers in June/July followed by dark purple berries. Great for attracting birds and other wildlife. Grows in any type of soil and is very hardy. Will grow anywhere from 5 to 15 feet tall.



**American Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)**- Small flat-topped tree that produces pink blooms in early spring. Large, heart-shaped leaves that turn yellow in the fall. Grows in well-drained soil and protected locations. Can grow anywhere from 20-30 feet tall.



**Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*)**- Tall, valuable timber tree which can be planted in the open or as an underplanting. Great species for wildlife and restoration. Does well in wide variety of soil types and typically will grow 50 to 80 feet at maturity.

**Butternut/White Walnut (*Juglans cinera*)**- Native nut tree, resembles its cousin the Black Walnut. Medium size, with smaller, oily nuts with spicy flavor. Grows in variety of soils but best in well-drained, fertile locations. Mature height of 40 to 60 feet.



**Arrowwood Viburnum (*Viburnum dentatum*)**- Small woody shrub with white flowers in the spring and produces blue-black berries in late summer. Leaves turn red/orange in the fall. Tolerates heavy soil but grows best in moist, slightly acidic soil. Typically, only grows about 7 feet tall.

**Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)**- Small woody shrub that blooms in July and August with cream-colored flowers that eventually develop into nutlets that last remain into the winter. Thrives in wet, low-lying areas, growing up to around 9 feet tall.



**Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*)**- Medium sized tree, produces dark berries and grows to about 40 feet. Tolerates most soils and conditions, very hardy. Great for wildlife and restoration.

**Pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*)**- Small fruit bearing tree, growing 15 to 20 feet. Blooms with purple flowers in the spring, large edible fruits in summer, and golden leaves in the fall. Grows best in moist, well-drained soils. Fruit has custard-like texture and tastes like bananas and berries.



**Persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*)**- Medium sized tree, fragrant white flowers in spring yield orange edible fruit in the fall. Grows to about 60 feet, tolerating difficult, extremely dry soils.

**Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*)**- Medium sized evergreen with dense foliage. In fall, it develops dark blue, fleshy, fragrant berry-like cones which are great food for birds and other wildlife. Thrives in swampy areas with full sun, growing from 40 to 50 feet. Long lived species, with some reaching 300 years old. Great windbreak option in rows or ornamental.



**River Birch (*Betula nigra*)**- Medium sized tree, growing 40 to 70 feet at maturity. Produces papery bark that peels in sheets. Thrives in streambank/wetland areas but does well in many soils. Resistant to the bronze birch borer.

**Scarlet Maple (*Acer rubrum*)**- Large maple, growing 50 to 80 feet. Has silver-grey bark, with leaves turning brilliant crimson in the fall. Thrives in all soil types.



**Tulip Poplar/Yellow Poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)**- Large hardy ornamental and forest tree. Unique lobed leaves and greenish-yellow tulip-shaped flowers. Grows 80 to 100 feet tall, in moist, well-drained soils.

**White Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*)**- Popular native flowering tree. Small/medium at maturity. Covered in white flowers in the spring and red leaves and berries in the fall. Thrives in well-drained, slightly acidic soils.



**White Oak (*Quercus alba*)**- Iconic long-lived native with broad, spreading branches. Leaves remain on tree well into the winter. Prefers to grow in moist, well-drained soils and can grow to over 100 feet tall at maturity.

# 2026 Tree Order Form

Washington County Conservation District

\*All seedlings are PA native  
and bare root stock

Variety	Size	Quantity Per Package	WCCD Price Per Package	# of Packages	Total Cost
American Elderberry	12/18"	5	\$15.00		
American Redbud	12/18"	5	\$15.00		
Arrowwood Viburnum	12/18"	5	\$15.00		
Black Cherry	12/18"	5	\$15.00		
Butternut	12/18"	5	\$15.00		
Buttonbush	12/18"	5	\$15.00		
Hackberry	12/18"	5	\$15.00		
Pawpaw	12/18"	5	\$15.00		
Persimmon	12/18"	5	\$15.00		
Red Cedar	8/16"	5	\$15.00		
River Birch	12/18"	5	\$15.00		
Scarlet Maple	12/18"	5	\$15.00		
Tulip Poplar	12/18"	5	\$15.00		
White Flowering Dogwood	12/18"	5	\$15.00		
White Oak	12/18"	5	\$15.00		

Total amount for trees & shrubs (\$): \_\_\_\_\_

*All funding raised from the tree sale will go  
towards a student scholarship award*





## Additional Pricing for Tree Support Supplies

Supplies for protecting and supporting tree growth may optionally be purchased in addition to tree bundles.

Each package will include 1 tree tube, 1 oak stake, and 1 weed mat (3' x 3').

Tree support Materials	Size	WCCD Price Per package	# of packages	Total Cost
Tree support package (small)	24"	\$4.00		
Tree support package (large)	60"	\$6.00		

**Total amount for materials (\$):** \_\_\_\_\_

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### PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY YOUR ORDER FORM

Cash or Check

Stop by our office or mail in your order

Please make check payable to:

**Washington County Conservation District (WCCD)**

**50 Old Hickory Ridge Road, Suite 1**

**Washington, PA 15301**

First come, first served - stock is limited. No refunds on items not picked up.

For questions, please reach out to Jeffrey Kim at

**724-705-7098 ext. 205** or [jkim@pawccd.org](mailto:jkim@pawccd.org)

**Total Due (Trees & Materials)**

**(\$):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_



**ORDERS & PAYMENTS  
MUST BE IN BY  
March, 6<sup>th</sup> 2026**

**Pick up date** is estimated for  
**early April at WCCD building.**

*Final pickup date will be  
informed at a later date.*



Washington County Conservation District  
50 Old Hickory Ridge Road, Suite 1  
Washington, PA 15301



1947 - 2026

**Board of Directors**

- William Iams, Chairman
- Jose Taracido, Vice-Chairman
- Jan Marchezak, Secretary-Treasurer
- Nick Sherman, Commissioner Director
- John Hunter
- Mike Lusk
- Ed Martin

**Associate Directors**

- Byron Black
- Dr. Jason Kilgore
- Chet Kreil
- Larry Maggi
- Tom Sierzega
- Jessica Ullom

**District Location**

50 Old Hickory Ridge Road, Suite 1  
Washington, PA 15301

Phone: 724-705-7098

Website: [www.pawccd.org](http://www.pawccd.org)

Email: [Washcoed@yahoo.com](mailto:Washcoed@yahoo.com)

Hours: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday - Friday

**District Staff**

- Jennifer Dann, District Manager
- Matt Golden, Lead Resource Conservation Technician
- Tom Ulrich, Agricultural Technician
- Jeffrey Kim, Watershed Specialist
- Ian Reinstadtler, Resource Conservation Technician
- Hayley McEvoy, Resource Conservation Technician
- Hanna Bourcier, Resource Conservation Technician
- Jason Fillhart, Dirt, Gravel, & Low Volume Roads Technician
- Susan Toth, Administrative Assistant

**Cooperating Agencies**

- Russel Gibbs, PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry
- Jonathan Stark, Fish and Boat Commission
- Adam Traynor, PA Game Commission
- Caroline Sinchar, Washington County Planning Commission
- Jeff Donahue, Washington County Parks & Recreation
- Michal Roup, Washington/Greene County Farm Service Agency
- Rennie Stoy, NRCS
- Jack Lee, NRCS
- Penn State Cooperative Extension