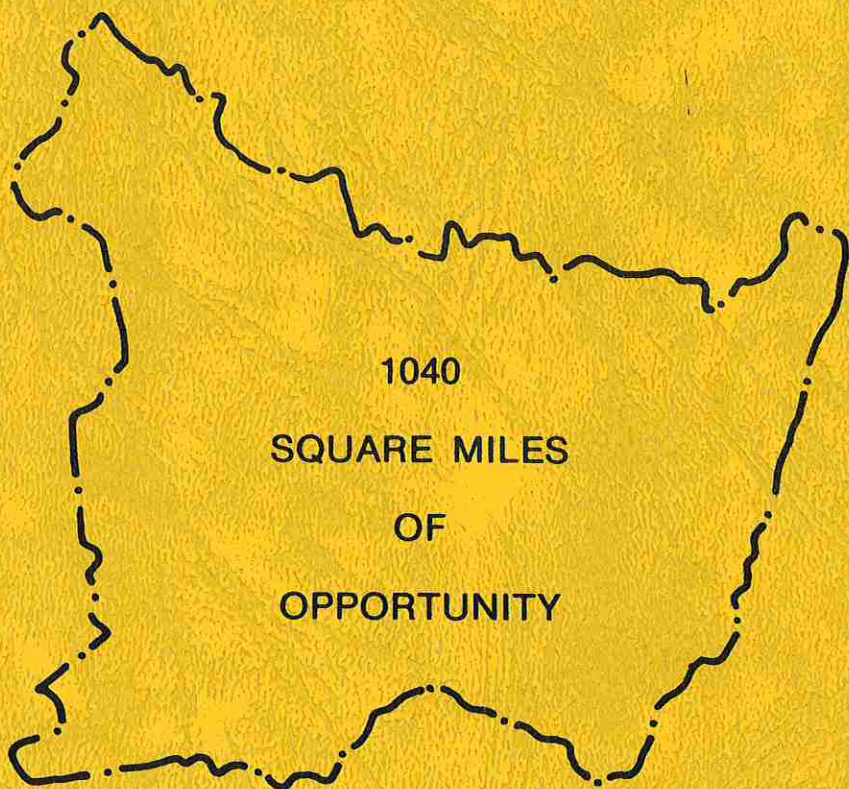


*WESTMORELAND
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT*

1981 ANNUAL REPORT



WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

**FEDERAL & STATE FUNDS CONTRIBUTED TO
WESTMORELAND COUNTY FOR CONSERVATION**

\$ 13,500.00	SCS	—	USDA, Soil Conservation Service
\$ 84,539.00	ASCS	—	Agriculture Stabilization & Conservation Service
\$220,000.25	RC&D	—	Resource Conservation and Development
\$ 754.00	DER	—	Pilot Water Conservation Project
\$ 10,000.00	DER	—	Jacobs Creek Administration Costs
\$ 7,998.27	DER	—	Department of Environmental Resources
\$336,791.52			TOTAL FUNDS RECEIVED

WESTMORELAND CONSERVATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

J. ROY HOUSTON..... Chairman
GILBERT HUTTER..... V. Chairman
FRANK E. SKACEL..... Treasurer
BOYD E. WOLFF..... Director
WILLIAM G. BUTTERMORE..... Director
ALEX J. SMITH..... Director
TED SIMON..... County Commissioner, Director

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

PAUL A. HEYWORTH	DR. WM. D. SHEA
CHARLES DeNUNZIO	MRS. GEORGE SHUPE
MILAN MARTINISKO	MRS. JOHN TURNAGE
MRS. HARRY S. SAXMAN	MRS. JOHN L. POLLOCK

STAFF

ELWOOD J. LESLIE..... District Manager
MARGE A. COPEMAN..... Administrative Secretary
GREGORY M. PHILLIPS..... Environmental Control Officer
MARLENE L. ARMBRUST..... Conservation Coordinator

Assisted by the
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

HARRY MEYER..... Field Representative

U.S.D.A. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

WESLEY M. GORDON..... District Conservationist

Purpose of the WESTMORELAND CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Westmoreland Conservation District is charged with the responsibility for coordinating conservation activities within our county. In this role the District is empowered to work with Federal, State, County and Civic Agencies in the promotion of conservation. The State Conservation Commission provides administrative, advisory, and financial assistance to Conservation Districts.

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED

Conservation Planning for Farms, Woodland and Wildlife
Watershed Protection
County Flash Flood Warning System
Conservation Technical and Planning Assistance
Erosion and Sediment Control
Storm Water Management
Rural Abandoned Mine Program (RAMP)
Resource Conservation & Development (RC & D)
Solid Waste & Sewage Effluent Disposal
Outdoor Recreation Development
Soil Survey
Developers Planning Assistance
Municipal Planning Assistance

We recognize that three of our basic purposes are to help assure Westmoreland County of adequate water supplies, the land capability to produce adequate supplies of food and fiber, and the continuing protection of our streams and rivers against pollution.

Conservation District meetings are held at 8 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month and are open to the public.

WESTMORELAND'S CONSERVATION TEAM

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

Bureau of Community Environmental Control

Bureau of Forestry

Bureau of Surface Mine Reclamation

Bureau of Water Quality Management

State Conservation Commission

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FISH COMMISSION

GAME COMMISSION

UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agriculture Stabilization & Conservation Service

Farmers Home Administration

Soil Conservation Service

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

Corps of Engineers

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

WESTMORELAND COUNTY

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

VOCATIONAL & AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS

The network of the teams listed have constructed working arrangements to cover the environment of Westmoreland County.

CONSERVATION SERVICES TO WESTMORELAND COUNTY

The Conservation District engages in and encourages conservation and environmental protection measures throughout the County. The Soil Conservation Service provides technical assistance to the District and residents of Westmoreland County. A summary of major services by Soil Conservation Service and the Conservation District include:

<u>Number of Items</u>	<u>Services Provided</u>
25	Pond Requests Serviced
31	Seperate Governmental Units Received Technical Assistance
4	Subdivision Reviews
4,700 acres	Benefited by Conservation Practices
14	Spring Developments
16,700 feet	Diversions
4 acres	Waterways
36,000 feet	Subsurface Drainage
875 acres	Stripcropping Practice Established
7	Inventories and Evaluations
90	E & S Plans Reviewed
405	Services Provided to Individuals
2,600 acres	Conservation Plans Completed
135	Site Inspections and Complaints Investigated
5	R.A.M.P. Project Sites Planned and Designed
5	R C & D — Critical Area Sites Planned and Designed Mammoth Park - Sediment Survey Completed.

EROSION AND SEDIMENT

The Erosion and Sedimentation Control Program continues to be a major priority in 1982. The Bureau of Soil and Water Conservation has assumed responsibility throughout the State for implementing the Erosion and Sedimentation Program. The Bureau conducts numerous training sessions for Conservation District inspectors. New guidelines and revised methods of achieving compliance at earthmoving sites are introduced at the training sessions.

PILOT WATER PROJECT

A "pilot water project" in the New Stanton area of Westmoreland County was initiated in the fall of 1980 by the Westmoreland Conservation District. Financial assistance was provided by the Department of Environmental Resources, Bureau of Resource Programming.

The purpose of the project was to inventory water usage in commercial, industrial, and residential sectors of New Stanton borough.

A majority of the motels have installed low-flow showerheads resulting in a substantial reduction in water usage. Water reduction saves money and consequently saves the money and the energy consumed to heat the water. (60% of the water used in bathing is heated.)

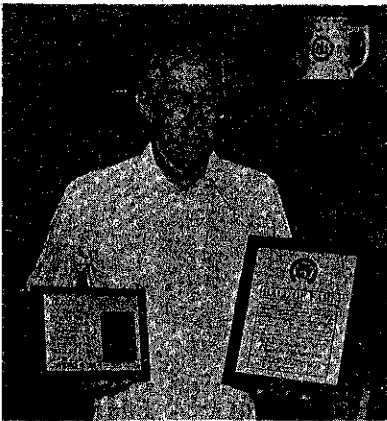
Seventeen residences were incorporated into the project utilizing water saving devices recommended by the Conservation District. The termination of the project disclosed an average savings in water use of 1,100 gallons of water per household, per month.

The Conservation District is implementing county-wide participation in the water savings project. Save water, Save energy, Save money!

Chuck Denunzio, pictured left, an avid sportsman and an Associate Director of the Westmoreland Conservation District, was inducted into the Hall of Fame for both the Westmoreland County Sportsmen's League and the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs.

Chuck has been active in conservation education and also coordinates the Junior Conservation School which is held annually at the Pennsylvania State University for students age 15-17.

Congratulations and good luck Chuck "Mr. Sportsman" Denunzio.



ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING

The Westmoreland Conservation District held its Annual Planning Meeting on November 18 at Mt. View Inn, Greensburg, Pa.

Attending the meeting were Federal, State and County representatives. The District reviewed 1981 objectives, and requested input for 1982 objectives.

There was strong emphasis concerning the loss of prime farm land in Westmoreland County. Also discussed were problems relating to Stormwater Management.

The projected objectives for 1982 are as follows:

CONSERVATION PLANS
EROSION & SEDIMENTATION
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT
LANDUSE PLANNING
FLASH FLOOD PROGRAM



CRITICAL AREA TREATMENT
R C & D FUNDING
PUBLIC RELATION PROGRAM
ENERGY CONSERVATION
R.A.M.P.

EARLY WARNING FLASH FLOOD PROGRAM

The Westmoreland Conservation District has been coordinating "The Early Warning Flash Flood Program" since its inception in 1972. Among some of the improvements to have been incorporated into the system are: improved communications with emergency facilities, annual reviews conducted with the rainfall observers and a constant updating of reporting procedures. Westmoreland County recently entered into an agreement with the National Weather Service regarding installation of radio reporting rain gauge stations. By recording and transmitting information regarding substantial rainfall in significant headwater regions it is anticipated that the radio rain gauges will enhance the



We especially commend all of the faithful rainfall observers who are dedicated to their volunteer

AGENCY BREAKFAST

A Conservation Agency Breakfast is currently being promoted by the Westmoreland Conservation District. It serves to stimulate communications between the various agencies and to better establish individual agency responsibilities.

The breakfast is scheduled for 7:00 a.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at the Lord Ligonier Inn, situated in Ligonier, Pa.

Representatives of the following agencies attend the monthly breakfast..

Bureau of Forestry
Loyalhanna Watershed Association
Soil Conservation Service
Pennsylvania Fish Commission
Pennsylvania Game Commission
Division of Oil & Gas
Bureau of Surface Mine
Reclamation
and the
Westmoreland Conservation
District



Pictured above are representatives of various agencies concerned with conservation work throughout Westmoreland County.

RURAL ABANDONED MINE PROGRAM (R.A.M.P.)

Provides long-term technical and financial assistance to land-users to reclaim, conserve and develop certain abandoned coal mined lands in rural areas. Funding is derived from taxation on coal currently being mined. Two projects have been completed in Westmoreland County at a total cost of \$60,000. Five other projects in Westmoreland County are planned and designed, estimated cost of \$520,000 if funding becomes available. Eligible landowners may apply for assistance with the Soil Conservation Service.

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (R C & D)

Penn's Corner Resource Development and Conservation Area provides financial and technical assistance to local sponsors in carrying out our eligible R C & D measures having community benefits. They are: critical area treatment, public water based recreation, land drainage, and agriculture-related pollutant control. Projects completed and in progress in all Westmoreland County Parks and several borough parks. \$28,000 in construction cost provided in 1981 throughout the county.

OUTSTANDING COOPERATOR

Honored in 1981 as the "Outstanding Farm Cooperator" in Westmoreland County was James Schenck. Mr. Schenck owns and operates Hays' Fancy Farm producing beef and grain. The farm is comprised of 625 acres and located in East Huntingdon Township near Scottdale. Implementation of conservation techniques has consequently resulted in a more functional farm and enhanced the overall aesthetics of the property. The Westmoreland Conservation District commends Hays' Fancy Farms for the progressive applications of conservation practices.

"BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE SOCIETY"



JAMES SCHENCK

At a time when there is a growing disregard for environmental problems, their economic consequences are becoming more apparent, according to Lester R. Brown in his new book, **BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE SOCIETY**" published by W.W. Norton. "Perhaps the most serious single threat humanity now faces is the widespread loss of topsoil," says Brown, President of Worldwatch Institute in Washington, D.C. "Although world food output has more than doubled since 1950 that impressive increase has entailed land abuse so severe that at least one-fifth, and as much as one-third of the world's cropland is losing topsoil at a rate that is undermining its long-term productivity. Civilization cannot survive this continuing loss of topsoil."

Brown notes, "If not arrested, this loss of soil could cause the food problems to unfold during the eighties as the energy problem did during the seventies. Just as the world has come to depend heavily on the Middle East for oil, so it now depends on North America for grain. And just as Middle Eastern oil is being depleted so too are North American soils. Recently released data show 34% of U.S. cropland now losing soil at a rate that is lowering its long-term productivity. At the existing intensity of cultivation, every ton of American grain exported means the loss of several tons of topsoil.



**THE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Above, left to right are:

**J. Roy Houston, Frank E. Skacel, William G. Buttermore,
Gilbert Hutter, Alex Smith and Boyd Wolff**

The Conservation District is administered by a duly appointed Board of Directors composed of four farmer directors, two urban directors and one County Commissioner director.



Ted Simon



John R. Regoli



Robert H. Miller

We express our appreciation to the Westmoreland County Commissioners who contributed greatly to the District's progress, not only through financial support, but through sincere interest and encouragement in carrying out programs to wisely use and conserve our natural resources in Westmoreland County.

**WESTMORELAND
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Donohoe Road

R.D. #8, Box 23-A

GREENSBURG, PA 15601