

L

OOK AT A CHILD AND YOU FACE THE  
FUTURE. NURTURE AND RESPECT A CHILD

AND THE CHILD WILL

GROW WELL.



THE SAME GOES FOR THE

ENVIRONMENT. A LONG TERM

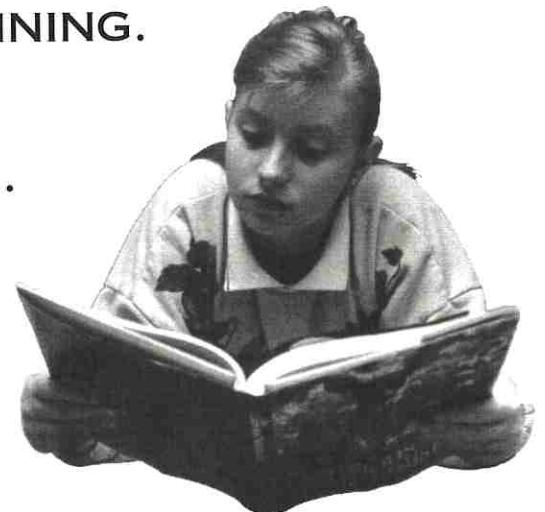
COMMITMENT TO CONSERVE

NATURAL RESOURCES TAKES PLANNING.

THE DISTRICT IS ABOUT PLANNING.

TURN THE PAGE AND BEGIN

THE JOURNEY...



**We are the**  
**Westmoreland**  
**Conservation**  
**District**

Created under state enabling law, we are a public organization and special-purpose district, whose duties are to develop and carry out programs of soil, water, and related resource conservation within Westmoreland County. We enlist and coordinate help from all public and private sources that can contribute to accomplishing District goals.

**DISTRICT PROGRAMS**

- Agricultural Conservation Planning & Application
- Christmas Tree Recycling
- Conservation Education
- Farmland Preservation
- Landowner Reclamation Program
- Laurel Ridge Geographic Information System
- Leaf/Yard Waste Composting
- Newsprint Recycling
- Nutrient Management
- Pennsylvania Conservation Partnership
- Resource Conservation and Development
- Rural Abandoned Mine Program
- Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control
- Stormwater Management
- Water Conservation
- Western Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation
- Westmoreland County Envirothon
- Westmoreland County Soil Survey
- Westmoreland Woodlands Association
- Woodland Management

**Reach us at 837-5271**

## A YEAR IN SUMMARY

It was a year of growth for the Westmoreland Conservation District. We were quite fortunate to receive a generous increase in County funding for our conservation activities. Guided by our Board of Directors, we conscientiously applied that funding to the priorities highlighted in this - our 1991 Annual Report. Please take a few minutes to read the Annual Report and learn about the District, our mission, recent accomplishments and next year's objectives.

During the year, we focused on and completed a long overdue revision to our Long Range Plan. The support of the Board, Associate Directors, staff, the voluntary steering committee, and the many people and organizations who provided input was greatly appreciated. The Long Range Plan will be used on a regular basis to establish priorities, as well as to educate, inspire and persuade.

It was a year for staff changes as well. Tony Quadro concentrated more on promoting woodland management as our Forester/Resource Specialist. Lorrie Stouffer was hired as the Administrative Assistant and is responsible for financial administration and clerical supervision. Kelly Sofaly assumed responsibility for implementing the Erosion and Sediment Pollution Control Program and Kathy Fritz expanded her duties to include office administration for the Erosion Control Program. Kelly Mankamyer was hired to fill the new Farmland Preservation Specialist position and Betty Reefer became the Secretary for the Farmland Preservation Program.

Administratively, job descriptions were revised, a personnel manual was completed, a new computer was purchased and our accounting software was upgraded.

Many items are on the District's agenda for the immediate future. Among them are a greater commitment to conservation education, more involvement with yard waste composting, and the acquisition of a computer for the Laurel Ridge Geographic Information System. We will begin to charge fees for erosion control plan reviews. The Farmland Preservation Program Board will make their initial conservation easement purchases. Plans are in the works for a woodland management area to be developed in the Loyalhanna Gorge. Finally, the search for additional work space and better access to our clients and cooperating agencies will continue.

So we have grown. But our mission remains the same. We are dedicated to the conservation, restoration, and proper use of our natural resources. What goes on around us is changing and we must keep up with it.





# CONSERVATION AWARDS PRESENTED TO SPECIAL PEOPLE

## 1991 Special Conservation Recognition Award

John Lohr, County Executive Director  
Agricultural Stabilization and  
Conservation Service  
Greensburg, PA

John spear-headed the development of the Westmoreland County Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) and is responsible for the formation of over 60,000 acres of Agricultural Stabilization Areas. He authored FPP policy and coordinated public relations efforts.

## 1991 Outstanding Farm Cooperator

Ray King  
King's Nursery  
R.D. 5

Greensburg, Pennsylvania

Ray King, the owner of a large commercial nursery and garden center, has always demonstrated his stewardship for the land. He has worked with the District and the Soil Conservation Service since 1956 to diligently incorporate many conservation practices into his nursery fields which are located throughout Unity Township. Since 1959, an impressive 23,500 feet of diversions have been constructed across several slopes to convey water runoff and reduce soil erosion. Other conservation improvements include 400 feet of rock waterway, 550 feet of grass waterway, and 450 feet of sod waterway.

## 1991 Ann Rudd Saxman Conservation Award

Mark Jackson  
Jackson Graphics  
Greensburg, PA

This state award is given to a person who displays outstanding volunteer accomplishments in the conservation of Pennsylvania's soil, water, and related natural resources. Mark, along with the Westmoreland Conservation District Staff, helped develop and launch the Pennsylvania Conservation Partnership, a conservation education program of the PA Association of Conservation Districts. He contributed the design of the launch issue of the Partnership's publication, *Pennsylvania Resources*, and continues to work with the PACD public relations committee to promote and build the Partnership.



Left to right: Lona Spaugy, accepting for Lucas and Duva, Attorneys; Patty Bradish, Sportsman Specialties; Dave Schmidt, West Penn Power; John Lohr, County Executive Director, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.



Left to right: Ricarda and Ray King of King's Nursery, Greensburg.



Terri Vrable, Westmoreland Conservation District Student Intern.

## Certificates of Recognition

- Terri Vrable, Student Intern
- Patty Bradish, Sportsmen Specialties
- Dave Schmidt, West Penn Power
- Lucas and Duva, Attorneys
- Heather Eisaman, Student Volunteer



## LONG RANGE PLAN TO GUIDE DISTRICT

The District Board adopted a comprehensive Long Range Plan on November 15, 1991, culminating a year of goal setting and meetings.

In January of 1991, a committee was formed to discuss goals and priorities. The committee consisted of Chairman Paul Heyworth, John Surmacz, Greg Phillips, Tony Quadro, Wes Gordon, Alex Smith, Jim Pillsbury and Lorrie Stouffer. Monthly meetings were held to plan a forum in which agency, business and public input would be heard and brought before the Board of Directors. More than fifty people attended this forum held in April and the results were impressive. A truly representative cross section of people gave valuable assistance. Attendees took program surveys and worksheets and gave additional input.

During the next several months, many revisions of the Long Range Plan were made. District Directors were questioned regarding their vision of the future for the District. Agency and business personnel were asked to edit and comment on drafts submitted by the Committee.

In late October, a summary was attached and plans were made to finalize the Long Range



Richard Hixson of the PA Game Commission, makes a point at the Westmoreland Conservation District planning forum at Mt. View Inn.

Plan by adoption at the District's Annual Planning Meeting. Following this approval, the Plan will be submitted to the County Commissioners and State Conservation Commission. The Plan will be printed and distributed in 1992.

## SCOPE OF WATER QUALITY PROGRAM EXPANDS

Our Long Range Plan emphasizes the importance of water quality in Westmoreland County. The relationship between water quality and quantity was never more evident than during the drought that persisted in 1991.

The District together with the Soil Conservation Service, Cooperative Extension, and Penn State cooperated to study how atrazene, a common herbicide, affects water quality. Four farms were selected, and thirty-five samples from field tile drains were analyzed.

Although results were inconclusive, eight of the samples tested showed high levels of atrazene. The remaining samples showed none.

In conjunction with the testing project, the District used federal funds to purchase a Hach

Colorimeter. This equipment enables us to test water for contaminants such as nutrients and mine-related minerals. The colorimeter, which measures light passing through a sample, will be a useful tool for the District. The Sewickley Creek Watershed Association made good use of the equipment to test samples drawn from streams in their watershed.

In 1992, we will work with several farms as demonstration sites to develop data for nutrient management. Baseline data will be collected to document economic and production related information. In 1993, we hope to develop and implement nutrient management plans for these farms.

### MISSION STATEMENT

#### TURTLE CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

Located in Southwestern Pennsylvania, this non-profit organization is dedicated to the conservation of natural resources and stewardship of the environment within the Watershed, which encompasses a 147 square mile area in portions of Allegheny and Westmoreland Counties. They are involved in numerous projects such as stocking of the trout in Turtle Creek, enforcement of the State Erosion and Sedimentation laws, water quality tests of Turtle Creek and its tributaries, working with areas school students, and answering residents' questions.





## LOTS OF ENERGY AT ANNUAL ENVIROTHON

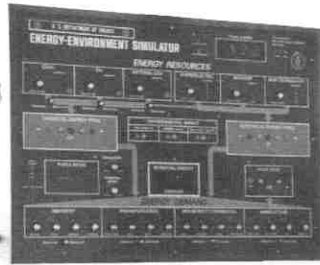
The 1991 Envirothon was won by Franklin Regional School District. It marks the fifth straight year in which a Franklin team has won the event. The team of Chris Szejka, Janice Conner, Wendy Condit, Paul Moser, and Justin Augustine were coached to victory by their advisor Tom Pearson. Second and third place honors went to Yough and Derry School Districts respectively.

Franklin Regional went on to take second place at the Pennsylvania State Envirothon which was held at Bald Eagle State Park. Westmoreland County has placed teams in the top three, statewide, since the District started the program in 1986.

The first, second, and third place teams were awarded trophies, and all participants received a specially designed T-shirt and were treated to a cookout lunch. Each school district received a tree, paid for by West Penn Power and the Penn ReLeaf Program, to be planted on school property.

The 1991 "current environmental issue" was energy conservation. And, after the competition, the teams participated in a program conducted by the Pennsylvania Energy Centers and Indiana University of Pennsylvania. They had the students match wits with an "energy-environment simulator" to distribute energy supplies to varying demands.

The Westmoreland County Envirothon was sponsored by the Westmoreland Conservation District, Westmoreland County Department of Parks, West Penn Power, Charley Brothers, the Westmoreland County League of Sportsmen, and the Latrobe Giant Eagle. The District thanks all of the agency people, students, teachers, and others who helped make the 1991 Envirothon a huge success.



Envirothon participants match wits with an "energy-environment simulator" and learn how our energy resources might last under various use situations.



## EARTHMOVERS: CHANGING THE FACE OF THE EARTH

by Betty Reefer

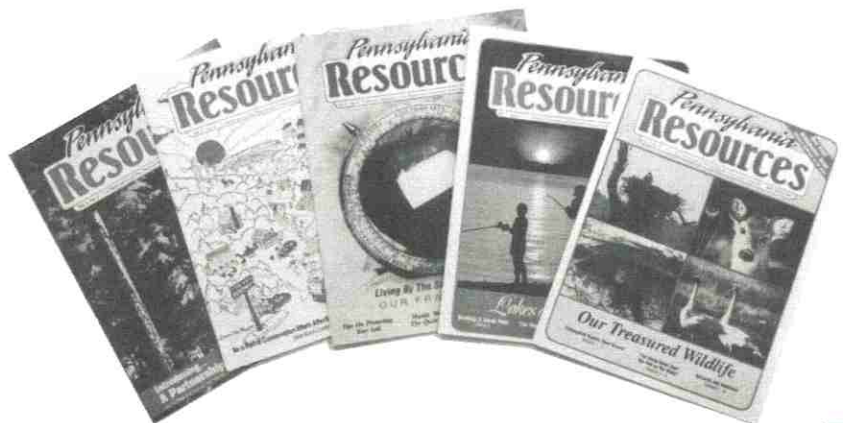
Earthworms are some of the most important animals in the soil of gardens and farms. Without the lowly earthworm, our world would be concrete and without plant life. Earthworms protect themselves from enemies in burrows made by eating away soil or by wedging themselves into small crevices and pushing aside loose dirt. As they tunnel, they 'eat' soil and bring it from one level to another. At the same time soil is loosened and allows the roots of plants to penetrate it more

easily. Water trickles into the tunnels during a rain to help prevent soil erosion. Because of the burrows, air is able to reach the soil, providing the roots with much-needed oxygen. The organic materials, such as dried leaves and grass clippings, that the worms mix with the soil in their castings, provide nutrients for new plants. The next time you dig in your garden and come face-to-face with a worm, remember, he's one of the world's greatest soil conservationists!

## CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP CELEBRATES FIRST ANNIVERSARY

The Partnership continued to grow during 1991 as membership reached 650. Themes for PA Resources, the printed voice of the Partnership, were Our Treasured Wildlife, Energy For the Future, Our Fragile Soil, and Lakes as Resources. The goal of the Partnership is to showcase Pennsylvania's rich natural resources and to educate the public about resource conservation.

The District maintained a database of subscribers and financial records, helped with bulk mailing, and assisted Jackson Graphics, Greensburg, with layout and proofreading duties during the year.





## DISTRICT BATTLES SEDIMENT POLLUTION

1991 was yet another busy year for District staff involved with the Erosion and Sediment Pollution Control Program (E&SPC). A record number of inspections (351) were performed to help keep sediment out of Westmoreland County streams.

The District hired a part-time inspector, Kelly Sofaly, to keep up with the growing workload. Kelly also reviewed E&SPC plans, and met with several municipalities to explain the District's role in erosion control and to review the municipal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Two municipalities, Derry Boro and Sewickley Township, entered into MOU's with the District in 1991.

This brings the total number of MOU's to 11. MOU's cover plan reviews, site inspections and complaint investigations.

The Greensburg Bypass was one of the projects which was directly responsible for increased inspection activity. Six active sections of the project led to nearly 70 inspections throughout the past year.

Six enforcement actions were initiated in 1991. With the help of Department of Environmental Resources (DER)

Regional Soils Engineer

Darl Rosenquest, and Program Specialist Ken Murin, the District assessed \$22,300 in penalties for the State's Clean Water Fund.

Last Fall, the DER conducted an evaluation of the District's E&SPC program. The District was rated 'very good' in the performance of its responsibilities.

Top priority in 1992 will be the implementation of a fee schedule for plan reviews. The review fee will enable the District to continue its timely reviews/responses, and also to hire Kelly Sofaly on a full-time basis. A workshop covering permit requirements and the fee schedule is proposed for March of 1992.



### MISSION STATEMENT

#### BUREAU OF ABANDONED MINE RECLAMATION

Annually, the Bureau receives more than 600 citizen inquiries about potential abandoned mine problems. In 1991, the DER/BAMR's Ebensburg District Office conducted 40 inquiry investigations in Westmoreland County. The Bureau conducts reclamation projects by competitively bid construction contracts. In the County last year, there were 6 projects funded by the Federal Office of Surface Mining and three funded by the state. Seven of these projects were completed, reclaiming 175 acres of land.

## STORMWATER ACTIVITY UNAFFECTED BY DROUGHT/ECONOMICS

It was a dry year for Westmoreland County. A drought left us short on water supplies, as reservoirs fell to record lows. The economic downturn slowed or stopped many projects, with capital drying up as rapidly as the lakes. For the District's Hydraulic Engineer, however, the year was a busy one.

Our engineer reviewed 192 erosion control plans and 103 stormwater management plans. He inspected 107 earth disturbance activities and visited 103 other sites. He also assisted with resolving stormwater related problems and answered stormwater and wetland related information requests 123 times.

Also during 1991, the engineer designed a storm water detention facility for the Greensburg-Salem High School. The detention pond was needed to control excess runoff from the school property. The school district constructed the pond during a renovation project at the high school.

The completion and adoption into law of the Turtle Creek Stormwater Management Study in 1991 capped several years of work. The engineer reviewed and commented on the plan, helped municipalities respond to it, and will be reviewing stormwater management plans for the watershed in the future.



## FARMLAND PRESERVATION EFFORT OFF TO GREAT START

When the Westmoreland County Agricultural Land Preservation Board adopted their program to protect agricultural lands and received state approval, things began to happen.

The 1991 Farm-City Dinner was used to announce and explain Westmoreland County's new Farmland Preservation Program. Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture, Boyd Wolff was the featured speaker.

A \$25,000 grant was received from the Richard King Mellon Foundation to help defray administrative expenses. Kelly Mankamyner was hired as the County's first Farmland Preservation Specialist to handle conservation easement applications. The Board held a series

of four public meetings to explain the program to farmers in preparation for the first enrollment period that is scheduled for January 1992. Agricultural Security Areas were added in Murrysville and in Rostraver, Bell, South Huntingdon, East Huntingdon, Loyalhanna, Sewickley, Mt. Pleasant, Salem, Ligonier, Fairfield and Unity Townships.

The program is off to a great start but 1992 should be prove to be a successful year as well. Board members and staff will be working hard to develop a public information program, seek additional funding, work with Agricultural Security Areas, review easement applications, and make the first conservation easement purchases.

## ASCS REPORTS ON AG PROGRAMS

The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service(ASCS) administers farm commodity, conservation, environmental protection, and emergency programs.

In 1991, Westmoreland ASCS paid participants over \$250,000 in cost-sharing and annual rental payments in the Agricultural Conservation program, and Conservation Reserve. In these two 1991 programs, Westmoreland County had 150 farms participating. The ASCS's commodity programs provided over 200 participants with more than \$350,000 crop price deficiency payments.

Because of the 1991 drought and resulting crop damage, ASCS implemented the Livestock Feed Program to provide cost-sharing

to eligible livestock owners for the purchase of feed. More than 40 owners enrolled in this program.

All program participants are required by the ASCS to be actively applying approved conservation plans on their farms.

As always, the ASCS is there to assist you.



## SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE WORKING TO IMPROVE RESOURCES

After many years of planning and delay, the Bridgeport Dam construction began in the Spring of 1991. The structure is the third to be constructed as part of the Jacobs Creek Watershed Project, sponsored primarily by Westmoreland county. The weather conditions during 1991 allowed for more construction than planned. When Winter construction started the first week of December, the project was nearly completed. All major earthwork is done and remaining construction items will be completed in the Spring of 1992.

Conservation Planning & Application for Food Security Act compliance continued throughout 1991 by the SCS staff. During 1991, the SCS assisted 160 producers with the installation of 15,000 feet of diversion, 550 acres of stripcropping, 7 acres of grass waterway,

and numerous management practices such as conservation tillage and cropping systems.

The Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) program in cooperation with the District provided funding for a water quality project. Water sampling and testing was conducted on four crop land sites and that sampling is expected to continue in 1992. The year brought a leaf composting project and an urban forestry seminar with funding from the RC&D.

The Soil Conservation Service also took an active role in the cooperative efforts towards a Westmoreland Farmland Preservation Program. A county Land Evaluation & Site Assessment priority ranking system was also developed with the local farmland preservation committee.

All in all, the SCS had a busy year.



## FORESTS – EVERYONE CAN BE INVOLVED

Because healthy forests are essential for the protection of our soil and water resources, the District Board of Directors decided to intensify the forestry assistance program in 1991. Professional forestry assistance was made available through the District to help woodland owners meet their management objectives while protecting the productivity and natural beauty of the forest.

The District's program is designed to increase public understanding of woodland management issues, professional forestry services that are available, and the importance of resource conservation. The District works with private woodland owners, loggers, developers, consulting foresters, and other related agencies.

### 1991 Accomplishments

- Developed 9 woodland management plans for landowners
- Inspected 12 timber harvest sites
- Prepared 4 tree planting plans
- Conducted 2 "tree farm" inspections
- Held an Urban Forestry Workshop
- Provided technical assistance and advice to the Westmoreland Woodlands Association
- Responded to numerous requests for gypsy moth information
- Distributed 8,000 seedlings
- Completed a forestry assistance informational brochure
- Provided erosion control advice
- Initiated work on a forest management demonstration area
- Received training in the Forest Stewardship Program

In 1992, the District will continue to provide forestry assistance to the residents of Westmoreland County. We hope to keep the County's forestland productive and beautiful for generations to come.



## LEAVE IT TO NATURE

Many requests for assistance from the public, farmers, landscapers, and municipal representatives concerning composting methods and regulations were serviced by the District in 1991.

Technical assistance to several commercial leaf composting and agricultural mulching operations was provided in cooperation with the Soil Conservation Service. The District cooperated with PA CleanWays to conduct the 2nd Annual Christmas Tree Recycling Program to recycle over 1,500 trees.

A commercial demonstration project is planned for 1992. A backyard composting brochure, made possible by Resource

Conservation and Development funding will be printed and distributed during the year. There are also plans to organize "neighborhood composting experts" in the West Point area in cooperation with PA Cleanways. Through these steps, we hope to introduce compost as a valuable resource for backyard, agricultural, municipal, and commercial use.

### MISSION STATEMENT

#### WESTMORELAND COUNTY FARMERS ASSOCIATION

A general farm organization with 425 farm family members, it is one of 54 county units of the Pennsylvania Farmers Association (PFA). The largest general farm organization, the PFA provides many programs and business service opportunities to its members. Its power comes from a grass roots policy development system and an extensive committee structure.





# EDUCATION - THE KEY TO A BETTER ENVIRONMENT

by Betty Reefer

The Westmoreland Conservation District has a strong commitment to helping our citizens become better educated in ways they can help protect our environment. We are pleased to be able to offer brochures, comic books, and informational publications in many areas of soil, water, and forest conservation. The following educational videos are now available on loan from the District office for teachers, scout leaders, farmers, or concerned citizens groups. I have rated the videos with a star system to indicate my favorites. **Five stars is excellent, two stars fair.** Many are suitable for all audiences. Contact the District Office if you are interested in our videos or education materials.

## Conservation Videos

**Lines on the Land:** Explains lines and patterns of landscape and the farming practices that make them. (Contour strips, grassy waterways, terracing.) Activity and study guides are provided with the film. Recommended for 5th-8th grade. 30 min. VHS

★★★★

**Agriculture in the Classroom:** Shows how Ag in the Classroom works and offers a glimpse of enthusiastic teachers and students involved in the program around the country. 16 min. VHS

★★

**21st Century Explorers:** Illustrates to Jr. High School science students that agriculture is a highly sophisticated industry which evolved through utilization and application of science and technology. Students will also learn about the many career opportunities in agriculture. 20 min. VHS

★★★

**Farmers... Entrepreneurs:** This is an upbeat, positive video showing how farmers are succeeding through innovative marketing and management. 20 min. VHS

★★

**The Envirothon:** Explains the annual competition for high school students designed to cultivate an interest in the environment and understanding our natural resources. Developed as an introduction to the program by the Westmoreland Conservation District for schools interested in the competition.

★★★★

**The Wealth In Wetlands:** An overview of wetlands loss, restoration and methods and sources of help in wetlands conservation. From National Association of Conservation Districts. 30 min. VHS

★★★★

**Wetlands, Maligned Treasures:** PA's wetlands, the values and functions of wetlands from colonial times to the present. Film is courtesy of the Department of Environmental Resources, Bureau of Water Resources Management. 30 min. VHS

★★★★★

**Power To Dream:** Governor Casey and the Pennsylvania Energy Office discussion of our energy use in the past and for the future. Fast pace film for upper elementary to Jr. high students. 28 min. VHS

★★★

**No-Till, The Common Cents Solution:** This video offers farmers information on how to plant crops no-till. 12 min. VHS

★★

**Conservation On Your Own:** A "how to" video that will help farmers plan soil conservation methods while working with the Soil Conservation Service. 53 min. VHS

★★★★

**A Special Kind of Care:** Urban and community forestry presentation that explains the benefits of developing a community forest program and how to go about organizing your town or city. National Arbor Day Foundation. 13:10 min. VHS

★★★

**A Celebration of Trees:** Trees are the tallest, oldest, largest living things on earth. This excellent film discusses the history of our forests from the ancient bristle comb pines of the Northwest to the Cypress trees of Florida. 1 hr. VHS

★★★★★

**Trees Are Terrific:** Study guide booklets and film that teaches students in 4th-5th grade how to identify trees. Narrated by Carly Cardinal. National Arbor Day Foundation.

★★★★

**Farmland Conservation:** The American Farmland Trust has created this video to show how many farmers have preserved their farmlands for future generations.

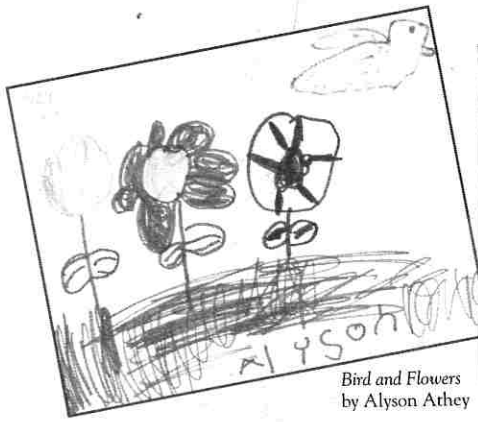
★★★★★

## Coming Soon!

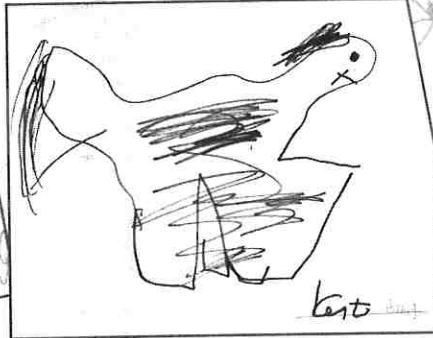
**In These Ancient Trees:** Scenic footage of biology of ancient forests. National Wildlife Federation.

**It's Arbor Day Charlie Brown:** A fun video for early elementary students. Charlie and his friends discover the meaning of planting trees.





Bird and Flowers  
by Alyson Athey



Horse  
by Kent Huang



Stream and Fish  
by Stephanie Lowden

## WESTMORELAND CONSERVATION DISTRICT 1992 OBJECTIVES

### Natural Resource Inventories

Obtain funding to revise the Westmoreland County Soil Survey.

Begin to inventory surface and subsurface water supplies.

Acquire funding to develop a Geographic Information System for Laurel Ridge.

### Stormwater Management

Work with Murrysville and Penn, North Huntingdon, and Hempfield Townships to implement the Turtle Creek Watershed Stormwater Management Study.

Help municipalities to create ordinances, review plans, and inspect facilities.

Work with smaller municipalities in the Turtle Creek watershed on an as-needed basis to answer complaints, review plans, and draft ordinances.

Conduct a permit workshop for engineers, developers and municipal representatives.

Provide design services to municipalities, governments, etc., to remedy small stormwater management problems.

Work with Sewickley Creek Watershed Association to advocate stormwater management in their watershed.

### Wetlands

Explain the permit process to engineers, developers, municipal officials, and farmers.

Educate the public as to the values of wetlands.

Work with PA Fish Commission and the Department of Environmental Resources to monitor wetland conditions and to report instances of flagrant illegal filling activity.

Artwork courtesy of High Acres Learning Center.  
Selections taken from:  
Miss Jane's (Phillips) Nursery Group;  
Miss Susan's (Shields) Pre-Kindergarten, and  
Miss Sandee's (Farrell) Kindergarten.

### Erosion & Sedimentation Pollution Control

Assign high priority to plan reviews, site inspections, and complaint investigations.

Encourage selected municipalities to enter into the District MOU.

Review the District MOU with four municipalities.

Monitor Greensburg By-pass activity.

Conduct two educational workshops and give five presentations to professionals involved with erosion control.

Implement the fee schedule for plan reviews.

Hire an additional full-time technician.

### Woodland Management

Distribute surplus Game Commission seedlings.

Seek funding for Gypsy Moth education.

Provide information on the Forest Stewardship Program.

Provide woodland management planning, urban tree planting, reforestation, and erosion control consultation to woodland owners and timber harvesters.

Manage the Forestry Demonstration Area.

Serve as advisor to the Westmoreland Woodlands Association.

Hold a workshop for woodland owners and/or timber harvesters.

### Abandoned Mine Reclamation

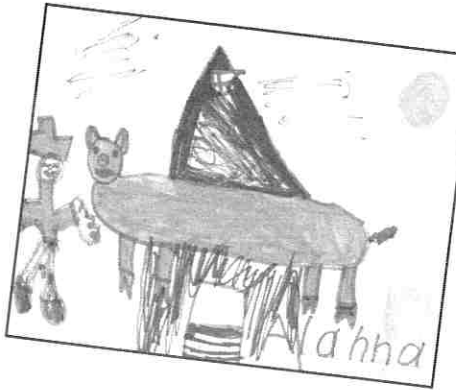
Assist the Western Pennsylvania Coalition of Abandoned Mine Reclamation's efforts to secure additional funding.

Complete two additional Landowner Reclamation Program sites.

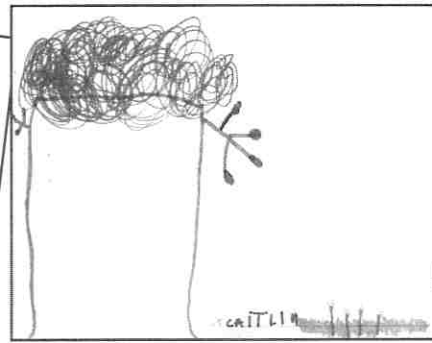
Participate in the Rural Abandoned Mine Program and state's Abandoned Mine Land Program.

Develop a prioritizing system for County sites.

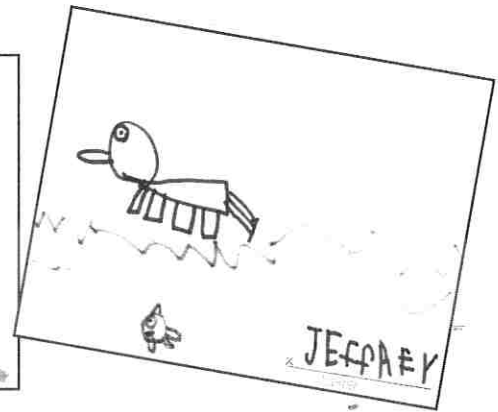




Farm  
by Alanna Konat



Tree  
by Caitlin Santone



Fox and a Fish  
by Jeffrey Luttner

## Recreation

Coordinate recreational enhancements at the Bridgeport Dam.

Establish more environmental education opportunities at existing recreation sites.

## Solid Waste

Serve as advisor to PA CleanWays.

Form a committee to facilitate newspaper recycling.

Continue to coordinate County yard waste recycling.

Formalize assistance with the land application of sludge and septage.

## Conservation Education & Public Relations

Continue quarterly distribution of the "Landmarks" newsletter.

Host and coordinate the County Envirothon.

Develop a video/slide show lending library.

Seek funding for a part-time environmental education coordinator.

Print and distribute the Long Range Plan.

## Landuse

Conduct a landuse management workshop.

Promote the development of a County-wide Geographic Information System.

## Farmland Preservation

Develop a public information program.

Seek additional administrative and conservation easement purchase funding.

Assist in the establishment of Agricultural Security Areas.

Review conservation easement purchase applications.

Purchase first conservation easements.

## Energy Conservation

Serve as clearinghouse for energy conservation inquiries.

Work with local utilities to disseminate energy conservation information.

## Agricultural Conservation

Cooperate with Soil Conservation Service to meet Food Security Act requirements for local farmers.

Initiate contacts with farmers to develop and/or revise conservation plans, and install conservation practices on the land.

Seek funding to employ an additional conservation planner to help with the Soil Conservation Service workload.

## Water Quality & Quantity

Form a committee to develop water conservation strategies.

Cooperate with local USDA agencies to conduct a water quality study.

Seek funding for a non-point source pollution abatement project.

Provide nutrient management planning services for farmers.

## Physical

Press for construction of a Joint Agricultural Facility to house the District, Cooperative Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, and Farmers Home Administration.

Expand and improve work space for District staff.

Increase employee access to personal computers.

Upgrade accounting software.

## Personnel

Enhance the staff's technical/managerial proficiency.

Update employee job descriptions and the District's personnel manual.

Develop an orientation program for new employees and District Directors.

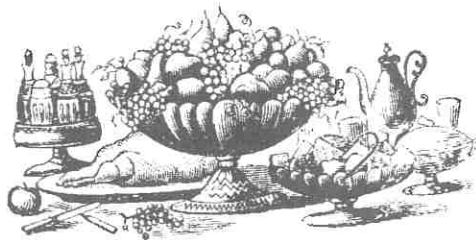
Inform nominating organizations of the Director nominating process.

Utilize student interns to assist with workload.





## Naturally DELICIOUS!



*Submitted by Kelly Mankamyer*

### Garlic Beef with Carrots

Marinade: 2 tbs. vegetable oil, 2 cloves garlic, minced, 1 tbs. white wine, 1 tbs. soy sauce, 1 tsp. sugar, 1/2 tsp. salt, 1/4 tsp. sesame oil, 1/8 tsp. ground ginger. Combine marinade ingredients.

1 lb. boneless beef sirloin, cut in 1/8" strips, 1/2 c. sliced green onion, 1/2 c. sliced green pepper, 3 medium carrots, 2 tsp. water, 1 tbs. vegetable oil, 2 tsp. cornstarch, 2 tsp. cold water.

Add marinade to beef, onion, and green peppers. Stir to coat. Cover and refrigerate 30 min. Place carrots in 1 qt. microwave casserole. Cover and zap for 2 to 3 minutes at Power level 10, or until tender-crisp. Set aside.

Place oil in 2 qt. microwave casserole, at power level 10 for 1 minute. Add meat mixture, stir to coat. Microwave at level 10 three minutes. Add carrots. Set aside. Blend cornstarch and water. Add to meat mixture. Microwave at power level 10 for 8-9 minutes or until sauce thickens. Serve with rice. Serves 4.

## WE BELONG TO -

**Central Westmoreland Chamber of Commerce** - Advancing the economic, commercial, industrial, professional, cultural, and community well-being of Westmoreland County.

**Penn's Corner Resource Conservation & Development Area** - Providing technical and financial help for natural resource development within Southwestern Pennsylvania.

**Western Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation** - Providing local leadership for the reclamation, development, and wise use of abandoned mine lands in the bituminous coal area of Western Pennsylvania.

**Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts** - serves as the collective voice of Pennsylvania's 66 conservation districts. PACD works with state and federal agencies, the state legislature, farm organizations, and environmental groups to facilitate the work of conservation districts.

**National Association of Conservation Districts** - represents 3,000 conservation districts and their state associations as a national voice on soil and water conservation issues.

### MISSION STATEMENT

#### WESTMORELAND COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S LEAGUE

The League's purpose and aims are to unite all of the sportsmen and conservation groups within Westmoreland County into an effective force for promoting the education and protection of our natural resources through wise use. Also, the league strives to improve hunting and fishing, and to use the county organization in protecting clean streams from pollution.

They promote better cooperation and relations among the sportsmen, landowners, public, Game and Fish Commission, Department of Environmental Resources, and all federal, state and local agencies concerned with conservation and the use of our natural resources.

The Sportsmen also work with the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Club's and the National Wildlife Federation for the passage of sound conservation laws.



# WESTMORELAND'S CONSERVATION TEAM

## COUNTY

### Department of Emergency Management

Richard Hunger, Executive Director  
12 Courthouse Square  
Greensburg, Pa 15601  
830-3758

### Department of Parks and Recreation

Anthony Miele, Director  
RD 12, Box 203, Donohoe Road  
Greensburg, Pa 15601  
830-3950

### Department of Planning

Larry Larese, Director  
601 Courthouse Square  
Greensburg, Pa 15601  
830-3600

### Loyalhanna Watershed Association

Lysle Sherwin, Executive Director  
P.O. Box 561  
Ligonier, Pa 15658  
238-7560

### PA CleanWays

Sue Wiseman, Secretary  
RD 11, Box 631  
Greensburg, Pa 15601  
925-9653

### Penn State Cooperative Extension Service

William Kelly, County Extension Director  
P.O. Box 250, 971 Old Salem Road  
Greensburg, Pa 15601  
837-1402

### Sewickley Creek Watershed Association

Bob Hepler, President  
17 South 6th Street  
Youngwood, Pa 15697  
925-2901

### Turtle Creek Watershed Association

Craig Toal, Executive Director  
700 Braddock Avenue, Suite 412  
East Pittsburgh, PA 15112  
829-5042

### Western Pa Conservancy

Tom Stickle  
316 4th Avenue  
Pittsburgh, Pa 15222  
288-2777

### Westmoreland County Land Preservation Board

Don Fretts, Chairman  
932 St. Clair Way  
Greensburg, Pa 15650  
837-5271

### Westmoreland Woodlands Association

Fred Lau, President  
540 Leger Road  
North Huntingdon, Pa 15642  
863-2584

## STATE

### Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

William King, District Environmental Manager  
P.O. Box 459  
Uniontown, PA 15401  
439-7155

### Department of Environmental Resources

#### Bureau of Soil and Water Conservation

Harry Meyer, Field Representative  
Darl Rosenquest, Soils Engineer  
3913 S. Washington Road  
McMurray, Pa 15317  
941-7100

#### Community Environmental Control

Lee Huffon, Supervising Sanitarian  
Armbrust Professional Building  
RD 2, Box 603-C  
Greensburg, Pa 15601  
925-8115

#### Bureau of Forestry

David Williams, District Forester  
P.O. Box 519  
Laughlintown, Pa 15655  
238-9533

#### Bureau of Oil & Gas Management

Chuck Eisiminger, Oil & Gas Inspector  
RD 2, Box 435  
Monongahela, Pa 15063  
258-7914

#### Bureau of Surface Mining

James Brahosky, District Mining Engineer  
Armbrust Professional Building  
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Greensburg, Pa 15601  
925-8115

#### Bureau of Air Quality Control

Joseph Pezze, Air Quality Chief  
400 Waterfront Drive  
Pittsburgh, Pa 15222-4745  
442-4000

#### Bureau of Dams and Waterways Management

Larry Busack, Civil Engineer, Manager  
482 Route 30  
Clinton, Pa 15026  
899-2377

#### Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation

C.H. Myers, District Engineer  
122 South Center Street  
P.O. Box 149  
Ebensburg, Pa 15931  
(814) 472-9666

#### Bureau of Waste Management

Sharon Svitek, Resource Recycling and Planning Coordinator  
400 Waterfront Drive  
Pittsburgh, Pa 15222  
442-4000

#### Bureau of Water Quality Management

Dave Roote, Water Quality Specialist  
Armbrust Professional Building  
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Greensburg, Pa 15601  
832-5543

#### Bureau of Waste Management

Anthony Orlando, Solid Waste Manager  
400 Waterfront Drive  
Pittsburgh, Pa 15222  
442-4000

#### State Conservation Commission

Paul Swartz, Director  
P.O. Box 8555  
Harrisburg, Pa 17105-8555  
(717) 540-5080

### Pennsylvania Game Commission

Harry Richards, Regional Director  
P.O. Box A, 339 West Main Street  
Ligonier, PA 15658  
238-9523

### Pennsylvania Fish Commission

Thomas Qualters, Regional Manager  
RD 2, Box 39  
Somerset, PA 15501  
(814) 445-8974

### Bureau of State Parks

**Keystone State Park**  
Michael Bucheit, Park Superintendent  
RD 2, Box 101  
Derry, Pa 15627  
668-2939

### Laurel Hill, Linn Run, Laurel Ridge and Laurel Mountain State Parks

Robert Huffman, Superintendent  
Rt. 4, Box 130  
Somerset, Pa 15501-8501  
(814) 445-7725

## FEDERAL

### United States Department of Agriculture

#### Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

John Lohr, County Executive Director  
932 St. Clair Way, Route 30 East  
Greensburg, PA 15601  
834-0830

#### Farmer's Home Administration

Michael Jankovic, County Supervisor  
938 St. Clair Way, Route 30 East  
Greensburg, PA 15601  
834-0396

#### Soil Conservation Service

Wesley Gordon, District Conservationist  
932 St. Clair Way, Route 30 East  
Greensburg, PA 15601  
834-3970

### Army Corps of Engineers

Col. Harold Alvord, District Engineer  
Federal Building, 1000 Liberty Avenue  
Pittsburgh, Pa 15222-4186  
644-6800

### Fish and Wildlife Service

Charles Kulp, Supervisor  
Suite 322, 315 South Allen Street  
State College, PA 16801  
(814) 234-4090

### Office of Surface Mining

Joseph Geissinger, Area Office Manager  
319 Washington Street, Room 360  
Johnstown, PA 15901  
(814) 533-4223



# THE WESTMORELAND CONSERVATION DISTRICT THANKS YOU!

We would like to extend a special "Thank You" to all those who made it possible for us to meet our goals in 1991. Your commitment to conservation and generous financial support have enabled us to strengthen and expand our natural resource conservation programs.

**Westmoreland County Commissioners**

**USDA Soil Conservation Service**

**Pennsylvania State Conservation Commission**

**Department of Environmental Resources,  
Bureau of Soil and Water Conservation**

**Westmoreland County Department of  
Planning**

**Westmoreland County Department of Parks  
and Roads**

## INVOLVE YOURSELF! JOIN US AT DISTRICT MEETINGS

The Westmoreland Conservation District is administered by a Board composed of five farmer directors, three public directors, and one County commissioner. The Board convenes at least once a month to plan, prioritize, and supervise the implementation of programs. Regular meetings are scheduled at 8:00 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month, and held at the Peoples Natural Gas Company in Greensburg. The District office is located at 932 St. Clair Way, Rt. 30 East, Greensburg, PA 15601.



"Conserving together  
for a better tomorrow."

*Published by:*

### **Westmoreland Conservation District**

932 St. Clair Way, Rt. 30 East  
Greensburg, PA 15601 Phone: 412-837-5271

#### **Board of Directors**

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*Vice Chairman*

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*Treasurer*

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*Director*

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*Commissioner, Director*

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*Director*

AL BARNETT  
*Director*

PAUL ROY KEMERER  
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GEORGE HAPCHUK

SUE WISEMAN

#### **Staff**

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*District Manager*

LORRIE STOUFFER  
*Administrative Assistant*

KATHLEEN FRITZ  
*Secretary/Erosion Control Administrator*

ANTHONY P. QUADRO  
*Forester/Resource Specialist*

JAMES W. PILLSBURY  
*Hydraulic Engineer*

KELLY M. SOFALY  
*Environmental Control Officer*

BETTY J. REEFER  
*Farmland Preservation Specialist*

JILL BATES  
*Student Intern*

#### **Department of Environmental Resources, Bureau of Soil & Water Conservation**

HARRY MEYER  
*Field Representative*

DARL ROSENQUEST  
*Regional Soils Engineer*

#### **USDA Soil Conservation Service**

WESLEY M. GORDON  
*District Conservationist*

JOE OBENSKI  
*Soil Technician*

LARRY STOKUM  
*Soil Technician*



# PA CLEANWAYS CLEANS UP ON CHRISTMAS TREES

by Sue Wiseman



Above: 'Tis the season of giving, and girls from Harrison City Girl Scout Troop 274 helped give previously discarded Christmas trees a second life. Right: Over 600 Christmas trees were recycled thanks to efforts from members of the Turtle Creek Watershed Association.

Many groups chipped the trees and will use the chips for landscaping or lining nature trails. Others added the chips to non-acidic materials to create a compost that will become a rich soil building additive. Several groups chose to return their whole trees back to the environment as fish and wildlife habitat. Over 500 trees were formed into fish habitat at the recently constructed Bridgeport Dam near Mt. Pleasant, under the observation of Westmoreland County Parks Department and the PA Fish Commission. The Westmoreland Woodlands Association placed their trees in Donegal Lake. Over 200 trees were trucked to the Loyalhanna Dam for Wildlife habitat through cooperation with the Army Corps of Engineers. And, trees collected by the Boy Scouts in New Florence will be placed in nearby state game lands by the PA Game Commission.

Transportation of the trees to Loyalhanna Dam and Bridgeport Dam was donated by Y&S Maintenance of Scottdale. Greensburg Concrete Block donated the block used to weight the trees of the fish habitat structures.

Sponsors for this year's program included West Penn Power, Tri-Valley Waste Systems of New Kensington, Peoples Gas of Greensburg, and the Westmoreland Sportsmen League.

## MISSION STATEMENT

### PA CLEANWAYS

The goal of this organization is to protect, restore, and maintain the environmental and scenic qualities of our roadways, waterways, pathways, and other areas both public and private, from illegal dumping and littering. The Westmoreland county chapter meets the second Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. (winter) or 7:30 p.m. (summer) in the Westmoreland County Parks and Roads Building on Donahue Road, Greensburg. Contact Sue Wiseman 925-9653. Meeting dates and times for the new Fayette Chapter can be obtained from Bob Croushore, 737-5130.

Over 3,200 trees were collected at thirteen locations during this year's Westmoreland County Christmas Tree Recycling Program. It is a comparable increase from last year's 1,500 trees recycled from eight locations. This is the second year PA CleanWAYS and the Westmoreland Conservation District coordinated the program. Participating groups included businesses, youth groups, service groups, watershed associations, environmental groups, and local governments.

Each participating group managed its own collection which resulted in a variety of arrangements for the actual collection and for ways of recycling the trees. Collections were either "manned" by volunteers with one or two designated days, or were "open drop-offs" where people could drop their tree any time. Non-profit groups accepted donation to cover their costs, or to raise money for their environmental projects.



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Greensburg, PA 15601

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