

A Formal Thank You... *Annual Awards Banquet*

The Westmoreland Conservation District's office facility (affectionately referred to as "the Barn") has a new Hall of Honor. Paying tribute to its first inductee, the late Gilbert J. "Gib" Hutter, was the highlight of the awards presentations at the district's annual banquet held at the Four Points by Sheraton in Greensburg.

Hutter, who used conservation techniques on his farm in Mt. Pleasant Township, served the district for three decades as a director, vice chairman and chairman of the board. His contributions impacted conservation efforts throughout the county, and his legacy is still felt at the district.

"He took me by the hand and mentored me, and taught me to love conservation," district manager Greg Phillips said. "He laid the groundwork for our very first plan."

Hutter's widow Jane, and sons Blaine and Dale, who still run the farm, accepted the award – with over 30 family members in attendance. The family also received special recognition by the Smart Growth Partnership with a presentation being made by Alex Graziani.

The district also presented significant awards in other areas. The Conservation Volunteer Award was shared by Linda Alworth-Arnold and Michael Jupina for landscaping around the Conservation Education Center. Tom Fitzgerald of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry received the Conservation Service Recognition Award for his many years of dedicated service. Earl and Judy Sadler of Stahlstown were named Conservation Farmers of the Year for their numerous practices and farming ethic implemented on their land.



WCD Director Conrad Donovan and wife Sandy serve punch to Kathy Gordon at the barn reception.



Enjoying the barn reception, l to r back, Vivian Bernardo, Joanne Kitsko, Jill Jackson, front, Richard and Eleanore Pearson.



A warm welcome from Master of Ceremonies, WCD Director, Kim Miller.



Honoring PA Forester, Tom Fitzgerald, left is WCD Director Ron Rohall, right.



Conservation pioneer Gib Hutter is inducted as the First WCD Hall of Honor Member by friends and family. l to r Dale Hutter, Jane Hutter, (Gib's wife), Blaine Hutter, WCD Director Roy Kemerer, WCD Associate Director, Paul Heyworth



WCD Director Al Barnett, center, helps recognize the outstanding landscaping expertise donated to the WCD Conservation Education Center by l to r, Michael Jupina and Linda Alworth-Arnold.



Conservation Farmer of the Year recipients Earl and Judy Sadler are honored by WCD Directors Dorothy Stoner and Bill Doney.



l to r WCD Staff Jim Pillsbury and Karen Barnhart are recognized for their years of service.



WCD Director Roy Kemerer presents the Conservation Partner award to the Costello family.



Capping off the evening, the big band sounds of the Graham Grubb Orchestra invited everyone to get up and dance!

Westmoreland Conservation District

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 MILADYS N IRIZARRY-RIVERA, *Soil Scientist*

Continued from page 1

Joseph and Michael Costello of Friendship Farms near Lycippus, received the Conservation Partner Award not only for their practices, but also for volunteer efforts.

Several certificates were given out for volunteer and service by the Westmoreland Conservation District board of Directors (see sidebar). Master of Ceremonies Kim Miller kept

the evening moving, while staffers Greg Phillips, and Lorrie and Tony Quadro made presentations on the "state of the conservation district" throughout the past year.

The evening was a huge success, with nearly 200 in attendance for the "Big Band" dance following the awards. The local Graham Grubb Orchestra entertained with "swing" music for listening and dancing.



2003 Westmoreland Conservation District Annual Awards Recipients

Conservation Volunteers
 Linda Alworth-Arnold and Michael Jupina

Conservation Service Recognition
 Tom Fitzgerald

Conservation Partner
 Friendship Farms

Conservation Farmer of the Year
 Judy and Earl Sadler

Conservation Hall of Honor
 Gilbert "Gib" Hutter

Certificates of Recognition

Courthouse Plantings
 Botanical Society of Westmoreland County,
 PA CleanWays, and Brush Creek 4-H Club

**Westmoreland County Public Works
 Maintenance Crew**
 Roxanne Stefanon, Mike Kootsourdīs
 and Ed Kohl

Eagle Scout Recognition
 Sam Nicholson and Breon Kunkle

Staff Service Recognition
 Karen Barnhart and Jim Pillsbury

Associate Director Service Recognition
 William Kotsenas, Robert Ackerman
 and Jack Driscoll

Director Service Recognition
 J. Roy Houston, Ronald Rohall
 and P. Roy Kemerer

Find the Artist's Paint Brush

By Joanne Kitsko



As our Colors of Conservation year draws to a close, you have one last opportunity to locate the artist's brush and create your unique environment masterpiece. The spectacular, vibrant fall foliage color blends of vermilion, gold, russet and crimson are now transformed into the stillness of winter's various shades of gray, frosted white tinged with an iridescence of glistening silver radiance. Hidden somewhere in this issue of *Landmarks* is the artist's precision paint brush tool, and the 5th, 11th, and 18th callers to Joanne at 724.837.5271 correctly identifying its whereabouts in this Winter issue, will win some wonderful prizes! Previous contest winners are not eligible; however, comments regarding our publications are

always welcome and appreciated. Good Luck!

Several callers lamented that the last "contest was a tough one!" And, for those of you who *really* scanned our Fall issue and were not successful in locating the artist's brush, well it was disguised in the acorn symbol alongside the left frame on the very page where your address label appeared.

George Pozzuto of Irwin, Debra Moffett of Vandergrift, and Ray Byers of Latrobe were the winners of our "Find the Artist's Paint Brush" contest in the Fall, 2003 issue. "Mighty oaks from acorns (do) grow," and perseverance *did* pay off for our three lucky winners!

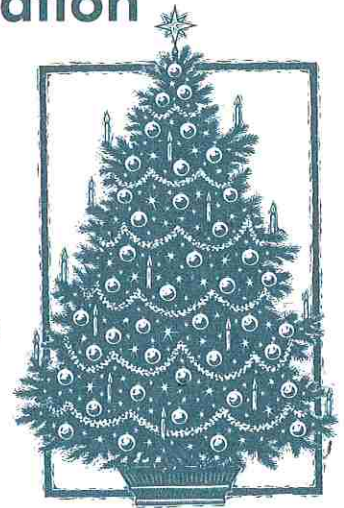
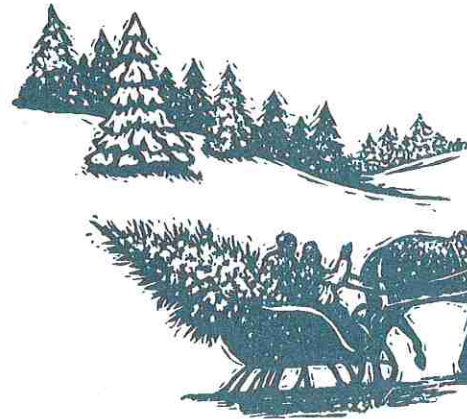
Christmas Trees and Conservation

By Tony Quadro

One of the most frequently asked questions regarding Christmas trees is: "Am I harming the environment by cutting a tree down for Christmas? And, shouldn't I just use an artificial tree, doesn't that save resources?" The answer to both of these questions is "No".

Christmas trees are a crop, just like corn or soybeans (albeit they take a bit longer to grow). These trees are grown on private lands, some are actually "Tree Farms", for both the pleasure and profit of the grower. When a tree is harvested, another is planted in its place. The cycle of planting usually takes from 5-10 years depending on the species. Growing Christmas trees is hard work. Besides the actual planting, trees must be sheared, and insects and diseases must be monitored and managed. Weed control and mowing is essential. On larger operations trees are cut, bundled and shipped.

Christmas tree farms have many benefits. Trees help to clean our air of pollutants and give off oxygen. They provide valuable habitat for birds, small



mammals, and even large animals like bear and deer. The small mammals especially need the winter cover for protection. Trees also protect the land from erosion, reduce stormwater runoff, and help to purify water. Growers plant more and more trees as the demand increases, not less. According to the National Christmas Tree Growers Association, 70 million new Christmas trees were planted this year on farms across North America.

So, you have two choices, you can use a non-renewable, non-biodegradable, plastic and metal product which was

probably made in China, or you could use a renewable, recyclable, natural tree grown right here in Westmoreland County and help to provide all of the benefits mentioned above. Remember, if the demand is there, people will grow more trees, not less.

To find out more about Christmas trees, visit the Pennsylvania Christmas Tree Growers Association at info@christmastrees.org. To find out where to recycle your tree after Christmas, contact PA Cleanways at 724-836-4121.

Water Conservation Act 220

By Nicole Foremsky

Pennsylvania has cycled through years of droughts like 2002 and wet weather like 2003 without knowing how well we manage to use our water resources. The passing of the Water Resources Planning Act (Act 220) gave the state the ability to plan for the future.

The Act is not designed to keep a hand over people's water use. It is simply a way to inventory the water use in the state and look at the projected needs in order to answer this question: are we using water at a rate that can be supported in the future?

The Act calls for large water users to register their water use. Large water users are those using over 10,000 gallons of water per day averaged over a 30 day period. An average household with a family of 5 uses approximately 450 gallons of water a day. Therefore, unless you are providing showers for

every teenager in the tri-county area, a typical homeowner will not have to register their water use. For farmers, if you are milking 300 head of cattle, you may be in the ballpark for registering your water usage.

To measure how much water you use can be done two ways. First, you can place a meter on your well. There isn't a free supply of meters so you would have to either purchase one or you could use the second method of estimating the water usage based on the number of animals and their daily water requirements. This requirement only applies to those using private wells, springs, or streams or a combination of public and private water supplies. If your operation runs solely on a public water supply, then the municipal authority providing the water is required to report, not you.

If you are not a large water user,

take a minute to look at your water bill over the past 6 months. See how much water you use per day. You may be surprised to note you are using less than you expected, or more than you expected. This is the perfect time to check around your home and fix those faucet, toilet, or showerhead leaks, install low-flow toilets or showerheads, or take more water conservation measures like keeping a full pitcher of water in the refrigerator so you will always have a cool glass of water, or shutting off the water instead of letting it run while brushing your teeth or shaving.

Everyone benefits from conserving water. The fact is, it is cheaper to save water than waste water. With the Water Resources Planning Act (Act 220) we will now be able to see where we are using water in order to better plan for our water needs in the future.



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Growing Greener Grants Awarded

By Mike Barrick and Leanne Griffith



The Westmoreland Conservation District and a number of partners were awarded Growing Greener Grants from the Department of Environmental Protection in the fall of 2003. The growing greener grants are designed to educate and implement best management practices to minimize non-point source pollution to the waters of Pennsylvania streams. The Westmoreland Conservation District received \$30,000 to offer non-point source workshops and best management practice tours and \$68,000 to implement agricultural best management practices on farms in the Kiski-Conemaugh Basin.

The following grants were awarded to our partners:

City of Lower Burrell - \$30,000 for a watershed assessment and restoration plan for the Pucketa and Chartiers Run Watershed.

City of Monessen - \$50,000 for stream restoration through soft engineering, energy dissipation and planting.

Jacobs Creek Watershed Association - \$25,000 to study water quality and develop a conceptual design of abandoned mine drainage treatment along Stauffer Run; \$75,060 to stabilize eroded stream banks flowing through Donegal Highlands Golf Course.

Kiskiminetas Watershed Association - \$32,265.15 to investigate the Tinsmill abandoned mine drainage site and design a treatment plan.

Loyalhanna Watershed Association - \$30,000 to address abandoned mine drainage into Loyalhanna Creek; \$6,000 to stabilize stream bank along Loyalhanna Creek.

Saint Vincent College - \$45,000 to develop and publish abandoned mine drainage curriculum.

Sewickley Creek Watershed Association - \$115,035 to address abandoned mine drainage into Wilson Run.

Western Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation - \$10,000 to evaluate 18 passive treatment systems for efficiency, state of repair and impact on reducing pollution loading.

Westmoreland County Industrial Development Corporation - \$65,781.50 to remediate the Irwin Discharge through passive treatment and resource recovery.

If you would like information on any of these projects contact Mike or Leanne at the Conservation District.

Cortina Marie Plan Receives Flood Relief

By Chris Droste, Erosion Control Specialist

A continuing flooding issue has plagued residents for years in the Cortina Marie residential plan along Rizzi Drive in Penn Twp. Residents located near the bottom of a large 70-acre drainage area at the Koelsch Farm have been flooded numerous times by frequent heavy rain events. Water simply concentrates from the roads and farm fields during heavy rains and releases at one point. The pipe that collected the water was undersized and could not handle the heavy rain events. Penn Township, with the aid of state funding through Penn-Vest, directed their engineers (The Eads Group) to come up with a plan to address the flooding. The project consisted of installing 1380 lineal feet of 5-foot diameter concrete pipe (the pipe is big enough for most people to walk through). The pipe was installed to collect the Koelsch Farm runoff and take it through resident yards with acquired easements and down the middle of Rizzi



Chris Droste, WCD inspector standing in the 5 foot Diameter Stormwater collection pipe headwall near the Koelsch Property

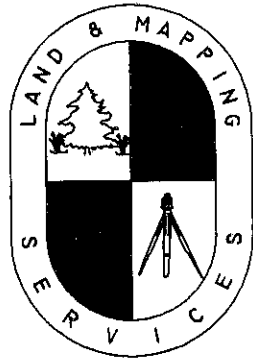
Drive. The street was excavated more than 10-15 feet down to install the mammoth sized pipe. The pipe terminates at a large detention pond that is about 250ft x 300ft in area. The pond holds the water for the 2, 10, 25, and 100 year period storm events that may occur and releases it much slower to prevent downstream flooding.

The project also entails capturing a storm water collection pipe from another residential development that has no stormwater management, which has caused massive erosion to stream banks downstream of the detention pond installed. Residents were losing 3 feet of their yards to erosion each year. One resident stated that his property suffers every time it rains hard. This part of the project will result in reducing the velocity of the water by tying the pipe into a "T" pipe. This will reduce the energy and prevent the severe erosion to residential properties. Also, "gabions" (baskets filled with rock), will be installed to prevent further erosion to the stream.

Both projects will benefit the residents' concerns of flooding, stream bank erosion, and will improve the tributary of Bushy Run and the health of the Turtle Creek Watershed.

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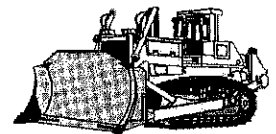
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Committee Serves Up A New Dish?

By Jim Pillsbury

Committees are both notable and notorious in history. Some can be good—an ancient Committee of Seventy translated the Bible into Greek a couple of millennia ago—the Septuagint version was the result. On the flip side, some people might remember the USSR’s Committee for State Security by its more common name: the KGB!!! And nearly everyone has heard the joke about the giraffe (it is a horse designed by a committee). Recently the Conservation District launched a new committee of our own: the Stormwater Management Committee (SMC). Its goal is not to design a new beast, nor to monitor subversives, nor to create sacred texts. Rather, SMC will guide the future of WCD’s Stormwater Management program.

Since its inception fifteen years ago, the District’s SWM program (and the Hydraulic Engineer) has reviewed many hundreds of plans, visited countless sites, and provided technical assistance to engineers from all over. The program has been quite successful by most accounts. But, after so many years, a review was necessary: Is the program meeting the needs of our county? What can we do to make it better?

Composed of a dozen and a half well respected local engineers, municipal officials, attorneys, and citizens

[see sidebar], the committee met for the first time early in November. Guided by a series of thought-provoking questions, the members gave input oriented towards the philosophy of stormwater. From the notes taken, the District’s engineer will distill a series of draft guidelines for the program’s direction. The next meeting will focus on applying practical goals to these guidelines—something measurable toward which the program can work.

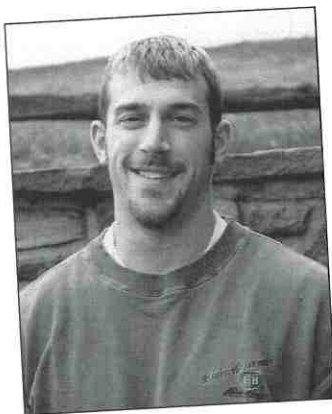
The end product of the SMC’s work will have several parts—like a sandwich with bread, cheese, meat, and mustard. The bread will be a new *WCD Stormwater Management Program Manual*, a handbook that will set down in writing our office’s stormwater practices, procedures, and policies. The meat will be a newly prioritized workload for the District’s engineer, to help him to be more effective. Like Swiss cheese, the new *Stormwater Management Fee Schedule* will cover many plan submittals while offering openings for traditionally exempt District cooperators. And the mustard? The unique flavour of our stormwater program—the only one of its

kind in the State! The committee’s work will continue during the winter months, and the final result will be presented to the WCD Board for adoption.

Members of the WCD Stormwater Management Committee

Linda Arnold	<i>Lingrow Landscaping</i>
Lucien Bove	<i>Bove Engineering</i>
John Campfield	<i>Attorney at Law</i>
Joe Dietrick	<i>Fahringer, McCarty, Grey</i>
Chris Droste	<i>WCD</i>
Kim Gales-Dunn	<i>KAG Engineering</i>
Kathy Fritz	<i>WCD</i>
Wes Gordon	<i>USDA-NRCS</i>
Don Hixson	<i>Tri County Engineering</i>
Chuck Kubasik	<i>PA DEP</i>
Dallas Leonard	<i>Penn Township</i>
Suzy Meyer	<i>Image Earth</i>
Kim Miller	<i>Miller-Penn Development</i>
Les Mlakar	<i>Attorney at Law</i>
Steve Pilipovich	<i>Tri County Engineering</i>
Jim Pillsbury	<i>WCD</i>
Tony Quadro	<i>WCD</i>
Bob Regola	<i>Hempfield Township Supervisor</i>
Ed Ritzer	<i>PA DEP</i>
Darl Rosenquest	<i>PA DEP</i>
John Surmacz	<i>Westmoreland County Planning</i>
Tamira Vayansky	<i>Rostraver Township</i>

District Hires New Technician

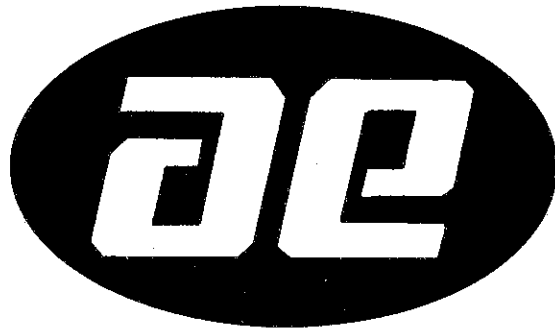


Robert D. Cronauer

Robert D. Cronauer has been named to fill the vacant Erosion Control Technician position at the Westmoreland Conservation District. Rob comes to us from the Franklin Conservation District in Chambersburg, PA where he served as Technician. Some of his previous work experiences include an internship at the Cambria Conservation District, and technical field work at Penn State University. He possesses an Associates Degree in Wildlife Technology and a Bachelor’s Degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Science, both from The Pennsylvania State University.

Rob is a member of PA Cleanways, the Wildlife Society, and formerly the Vice President of the Franklin County Watershed Association. Rob is a PA Tree Farmer and his interests include outdoor hunting, camping, fishing, hiking, boating and woodworking.

Rob’s duties will include inspecting sites for compliance with the PA Clean Streams Law – erosion control, review of erosion control plans, and providing technical assistance to engineers, contractors, municipal officials, and the general public. The District welcomes Rob and hope he enjoys many years with us here in Westmoreland County.



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Conservation Education

UPDATES FROM THE EDUCATOR'S CORNER OF "THE BARN"

By Leanne Griffith, Conservation Education Coordinator

Warm wishes for a joyous and blessed holiday season from the Educator's Corner! Several very successful programs have been started this fall by various staff members.



Nicki Foremsky developed an "On-Lot Septic" program teaching about care and maintenance of septic tanks and drain fields. Improper care of on-lot septic systems greatly impacts the water quality of local streams and ground water. Twenty-five homeowners attended the first event at the Derry Township Municipal Building. Two more workshops will be planned for spring in the Ligonier and New Kensington areas.

Sedimentation is one of the major impacts in the Loyalhanna Watershed which has several High Quality streams. Mike Barrick worked with Theresa Rohall, Conservation Educator at Powdermill, to present a workshop on "French Mattresses (a type of drain) for Dirt and Gravel Roads" for municipal officials. On May 8th, Mike will be offering a "Dirt and Gravel Driveways Workshop and Tour" for homeowners at Powdermill.



Dan Griffith along with Wes Gordon, Jill Mariani, and Leanne Griffith organized a well attended Farm Field Day Workshop and Tour. Speakers included J.B. Harrold, John Lohr, Wes Gordon and Dan Griffith. The bus tour featured various Ag Best Management Practices in the Whitethorn Watershed. Farmers also toured the Adam Battistella farm. Mark Feiling raises several hundred head of cattle in rotational grazing paddocks on Adam's farm.

Nicki organized two very interesting Macroinvertebrate workshops with Vivian Williams from the Stroud Research Center. More than 40 participants walked in the stream by the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg campus using nets to capture macroinvertebrates. Buckets of samples of macroinvertebrates were brought back to the Education Center where the creatures were sorted and counted. The variety of macroinvertebrates can indicate the quality of water in a stream.



Leanne Griffith served as emcee at the first meeting of the Alliance for Conservation Educators held in early November for both teachers and non-formal educators at the Four Points Sheraton. Guest speaker Dr. Jim Hamilton from Penn State University, led a group workshop on the art of public speaking and presentation. ACE is an alliance of both formal teachers and non-formal conservation educators in Westmoreland County whose goal is to work together to support each other's programs and provide networking opportunities. ACE is guided by an active steering committee that includes Leanne Griffith - Westmoreland Conservation District, Theresa Rohall and Susan LaRue-Powdermill, Angela Belli-Saint Vincent College, Ellen Keefe-PA CleanWays, Malcolm Sias-County Parks and Recreation, Bruce Golden and Sara Tumulty-Western Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Drainage, Tom Pearson-teacher at Sloan Elementary School, Paul Heyworth-volunteer extraordinaire, Carole Wright-Loyalhanna Watershed Association and Ben Wright-Western PA's Conservancy's Watershed Assistance Center. Nicki Foremsky represents both the District and Penn State Extension. Upcoming events for the group include a workshop about

"Leadership skills" presented by Carole Wright and a "Media Workshop - Print, Publications, Electronic (Radio and TV), and Other Ways of Getting Your Message Across" organized by Paul Heyworth.

Two Eagle Scouts were recognized for their work in Ann Rudd Saxman Nature Park at the Annual Awards Banquet.



Sam Nicholson built and repaired four bridges. Breon Kunkle finished his project of building a bridge and 1/10th mile of new trail in October.

Ninth grade students and teacher Lindsay Forys from Southmoreland experienced hands-on watershed assessments at several sites in Jacob's Creek watershed with Mike Barrick, Jill Mariani and Leanne Griffith. The students did chemical, biological and physiological observations of the stream.

Nicki Foremsky, Leanne and Dan Griffith were speakers at Greater Latrobe Junior High School for ninth grade teacher, Judi McClellan. Their talks supplemented the "Land Use" unit in Earth Science class.

High school students from the "Crossroads" class, an alternative education program, did chemical tests and biological assessments in Donohoe Creek to learn about non-point source pollution with Nicki, Mike and Leanne.

NACD
CERTIFIED

After a three month certification course taken through the National Association of Conservation District's National Conservation Education Center, Leanne Griffith has been recognized with the credential of Certified Conservation Educator. Congratulations, Leanne!

2004 Calendar Of Events January - August

January 16 Friday

A "Forestry Training" workshop will be held for staff and agency partners to introduce basic forestry stewardship practices.



January 28, Wednesday

The Center for Conservation Education will host the Southwest Regional No-Till Conference for farmers from surrounding counties. This program will be cosponsored by the Westmoreland Conservation District, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Farm Service Agency, Penn's Corner RC & D, Penn State Cooperative Extension, and Tri State Mid Atlantic. Featured speakers include Joel Myers, NRCS State Agronomist; Randy Raper, ARS Auburn University; Sjoerd Duiker, Penn State Dept. of Crops and Soils; and Mike Hubbs, NRCS Soil Quality Institute.

January 29, Thursday

A workshop for Engineers will be held at the Four Points Sheraton starting at 8:30. The goal of the workshop is to teach proper plan design and discuss innovative stormwater ideas such as "green roofs". Along with featured staff members speaking will be Dr. Al Jarrett from Penn State and Darl Rosenquest from the Department of Environmental Protection.

February 28, Saturday

ACE (The Alliance for Conservation Education) will host a "Media Workshop" at the Center for Conservation Education. This workshop will be for Conservation Educators, Watershed groups, and Resource and Conservation Development departments from neighboring counties. The event will run from 9 - 12 noon.

March 20, Saturday

A "Stormwater Management and Rain Barrel Making" workshop will be held. Participants will tour the Stormwater Trail and actually make a rain barrel to take home.

April 16, Friday

A hands-on workshop for engineers and contractors install a vegetative gabion at Lynch Field. (Tentative date)

April 24, Saturday

Earth Day 2004 Celebration at Saint Vincent College. More than 3,000 enjoyed last year's family celebration with more than 75 environmental groups participating.

April 30, Friday

The Conservation Tour 2004 will be geared more towards municipal and township planners with tours of sites chosen by our Erosion and Sedimentation Control staff members.

May 3, Monday

Our 18th Annual Envirothon will be held at Twin Lakes Parks for High School Students.

May 8, Saturday

A workshop will be held for homeowners interested in maintaining or installing "Dirt & Gravel Driveways" for their private lanes or driveways. Properly maintained driveways greatly decrease sediment runoff while still allowing rain water to infiltrate the ground.

May 24 & 27, Monday & Thursday

Wendover sixth graders will participate in a joint field day at both the Center for Conservation and Twin Lakes Park.

June 17 & 18, Thursday & Friday

Nicki and Leanne will once again offer the workshop "Watersheds and Sustainable Communities" for teachers interested in 1 Act 48 Credit (30 hours).

August 17 & 24, Two Tuesdays

Leanne, Joanne Logan, Penn State Cooperative 4-H Educator, and Tammy Gray, 2nd Grade Teacher for Hempfield School District will be offering the new course "Ag Basics" for teachers. The course will include several field trips to farms and the county fair. This course will also provide 1 Act 48 Credit for teachers (30 hours).

Septic System Care and Maintenance

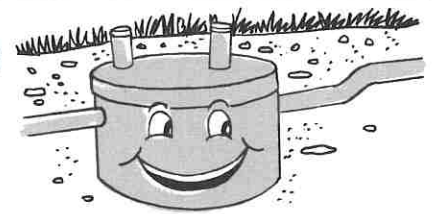
By Nicole Foremsky

Wastewater treatment systems help protect your health and the environment. Household wastewater from sinks, toilets, washing machines, and showers carries dirt, soap, food, grease, and bodily wastes "down the drain" and out of your house. Wastewater also carries disease-causing bacteria, viruses, and other pathogens as well as nutrients like nitrogen, phosphorus, and organic wastes.

On-lot septic systems are designed to remove or breakdown these contaminants before they enter groundwater—the source of drinking water via wells—or nearby lakes, streams, or wetlands.

Wastewater treatment is often out-of-sight and out-of-mind until problems occur. Knowing the basics about your household system and taking simple precautions can prevent problems. It's a wise investment to keep your system working well. Replacing a failed system can cost thousands of dollars.

Last October, the first On-Lot Septic System Workshop was held in Derry Township. The workshop was sponsored by Penn State Cooperative Extension and the Westmoreland Conservation District. It was a great success with 25 people attending. Two more workshops will be held in January to March 2004, the dates will be announced in the new year.



Please join us in Ligonier or the Allegheny Twp/New Kensington area for the free, informative, educational, and fast-paced workshops.

You are invited to learn about septic system basics, the roles and responsibilities of the township and the state, find out how to fix a failing system, and explore the new alternative systems available. A spokesperson from Rural Development will explain the possible funding sources available for replacing or repairing your on-lot system.

If you drink well water or use a septic system, these sessions are important to you!



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KATHY'S KIDS KORNER – Nuts

By Kathy Fritz

Can you find the following words in the puzzle?

T U N L A W H S I L G N E N A
 B U T T E R N U T F E H N F G
 T U N T S E H C E E B Z P F H
 L S A L M O N D G M H I A W N
 W E H S A C U A O I S T C H S
 G I T G D W K L I T C H I V I
 H A Q E Z O K O A R U F F O Z
 Z I W K B H D C R E D N N X I
 I P C V X A H T A B C O G V C
 Z H E K D I U C A L N C Q I B
 V C O C O N U T A I B F O Q Z
 F L I Z A R B A P F U G Y Q M
 Y A A E D N Y G G Z K Q R B Y
 G N P M Q R B U H Y T Z J H L
 D U F X I M U A G Y C F M O P

- Almond
- Beech
- Betel
- Black walnut
- Brazil
- Butternut
- Cashew
- Chestnut
- Coconut
- Cola
- English walnut
- Filbert
- Hazel
- Hickory
- Litchi
- Peanut
- Pecan
- Pinon
- Pistachio
- Tagua
- Tung

NATURALLY Delicious

by Karen Barnhart

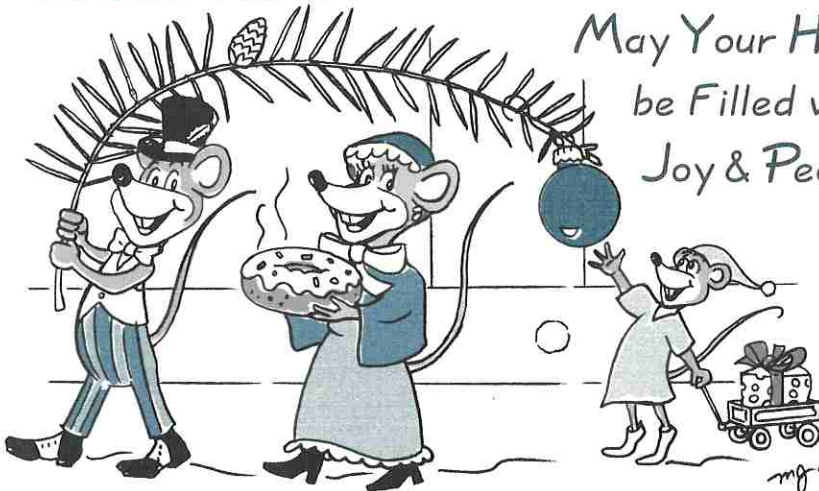
Fantasy Fudge

- 3 - Cups sugar
- 3/4 - Cup margarine
- 2/3 - Cup Evaporated milk
- 1 - 12 oz. Pkg. Chocolate bits
- 1 - 7 oz. Jar marshmallow crème
- 1 - Teaspoon vanilla

Combine sugar, margarine and milk in heavy 2-1/2 quart pan. Bring to a full rolling boil. Stirring constantly to prevent scorching continue boiling 5 minutes over medium heat. Remove from heat and stir in chocolate bits until melted. Add marshmallow crème and vanilla and beat until well blended. Pour into a greased 13 X 9 inch pan. Cool at room temperature.

In The Field

By Mark Jackson and Lorrie Quadro



May Your Holidays
be Filled with
Joy & Peace.

Visit our website at:
www.wcdpa.com

LANDMARKS

*The Official Newsletter of the
Westmoreland Conservation District*

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Graphic Design – Jackson Graphics:

Mark Jackson & Steph LaFrankie

Printing – Laurel Valley Graphics

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Happy Holidays!

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