

THE RE-CAP

Watershed Alliance of York's **(WAY)** bi-monthly newsletter about the implementation of the County wide Action Plan for clean waters



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WAY BOARD

The WAY Board of Directors recently had our 2022 kick off meeting which included annual elections. We are very excited to announce that Jason Swartz has joined the Board as Treasurer. Jason is the Susquehanna Outreach Specialist for PSU Sea Grant and has been attending WAY meetings as a Contributing Member since August 2021. If you haven't had the pleasure of meeting him, you will soon! We also recently said goodbye to Jeff Helwig after many years of service as a WAY Board of Director. We cannot thank Jeff enough for all that he has contributed to WAY!

WAY

BOARD OFFICERS

RACHEL STAHLMAN,
PRESIDENT
DUANE HYSOY,
VICE PRESIDENT
EMILY NEIDEIGH,
SECRETARY
JASON SWARTZ,
TREASURER

BOARD DIRECTORS

LETTICE BROWN
TED EVGENIADIS
MATT ATTIG
DIANE OLESON
JODI SULPIZIO
MATT HARTMAN
MARK LENTZ
ROB HARVEY
ETHAN DAVIAU



I'm happy to announce that WAY is officially a **Keystone 10 Million Trees** program partner. This means that WAY now has access to free trees! Do you know of a planting that needs trees? WAY may be able to provide them! Have you always wanted to plant trees on your property but are unsure of where to start? This is your sign to reach out as we now have the resources to help you plant many trees for free. Our Riparian Rangers may even offer assistance in the planting of trees and the maintenance of the trees for assured survival. If you have been thinking about planting trees or you have a friend or family member who is interested, please point them in my direction. There is limited time to still place an order for the Spring but fear not, we will also have opportunity to order trees in the Fall. The time has never been better for tree planting. We have all the resources that you would find yourself in need of. Please allow us to help you!

Rachel Stahlman

**KEEP UP-TO-DATE
WITH US AND
FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!**



@WAYORKPA



/WATERSHEDALLIANCEOFYORKPA

Rachel Stahlman
CAP Coordinator
rstahlman@ycpc.org



WAY SPOTLIGHT



Rachel Stahlman is the York Countywide Action Plan Coordinator for Clean Water, the President of Watershed Alliance of York (WAY), and a Penn State Master Watershed Steward. She graduated from Millersville University with a Bachelor's Degree in Geography and has always been focused on being a good steward to our natural world. In her spare time, Rachel is a jewelry artist and has a small ice cream business. Her dog, Baker, is the apple of her eye.

Water is a shared resource that impacts us all, as well as a shared responsibility.

Duane Hyson is a Penn State Master Watershed Steward and a proud seventh generation York County resident. Duane grew up playing and fishing in Rambo Run in Southern York County and is passionate about protecting our waterways for present and future generations.



Lettice Brown is the MS4 Coordinator for the City of York. Lettice handles all of the stormwater management for the Public Works Department. She is a graduate from Penn State University and the University of Phoenix. In her spare time, Lettice enjoys being outdoors, traveling, music, and reading.



Fact,
WATER is life.
Take it away
there will be no
one to dispute
that fact.

Jodi Sulpizio is a Natural Resources Educator for Penn State Extension in York. She also coordinates the Master Watershed Steward Program and the Gypsy Moth Program in York County. As the Master Watershed Steward Coordinator, she supervises over 80 volunteers who are actively educating York County citizens about water resources, monitoring streams, implementing best management projects such as riparian forest buffers, rain gardens, bioswales, and more. Jodi is passionate about empowering both citizens and volunteers to protect environmental resources.



Matt Hartman is an outdoor minded individual doing the best he can to help protect our beautiful blue planet from ourselves. Matt is a Master Watershed Steward and has been serving on the WAY Board for several years.



Emily Neideigh is the Watershed Specialist for the York County Conservation District, the Secretary of WAY, and serves on several of the WAY Committees. Emily earned her Bachelor's Degree in Biology from Millersville University. In her spare time she enjoys the outdoors and spending time with her adorable nephew and niece.

COMMITTEE COMMITMENTS

The Watershed Alliance of York (WAY) is always looking for new partners to help implement the York CAP. There are six (6) Committees and one Subcommittee all working together to help implement different aspects of the CAP. Contact Rachel at rstahlman@ycpc.org to join a committee!

<p>Education & Outreach Committee (E&O)</p> <p><i>Spread the word about why we need to clean up York's streams</i></p>	<p>Data Management Committee (DM)</p> <p><i>Develop ways to calculate our progress</i></p>	<p>Project Implementation Committee (PI)</p> <p><i>Put projects on the ground</i></p>
<p>Revenue Building Committee (RB)</p> <p><i>Grant writing and collaborating with sponsors to find funds</i></p>	<p>Legislative & Programmatic Changes Committee (L&P)</p> <p><i>Policy changes</i></p>	<p>Agricultural Committee (Ag)</p> <p><i>Help us form this new committee</i></p>

The **E&O Committee** has been working on articles to provide to municipalities to use in their newsletters and on their websites. The Committee also recently supported a grant application to DEP's Environmental Education Mini Grants program. The workgroup for Watershed Week has also begun meeting!

The **DM Committee** continues to meet for information sharing sessions. The Committee is looking forward to the coming USGS water quality report.

The **RB Committee** is still dormant of volunteer activity but that will soon change now that we have welcomed our new Treasurer. The Committee's focus will continue to be fundraising. Our next opportunity is **Give Local York** on May 6th!

The **Ag Committee** is a work in progress. Ag focused pilot programs in York continue to develop. Keep your eyes peeled for Ag Field Days coming in the Spring and Summer.

The **L & P Committee** recently made several decisions concerning the concept of "Green Landscaping." The Committee will be developing a guidebook explaining why and how to incorporate green landscaping targeting residents and municipalities. We will also be making suggested revisions to the YCPC draft model Landscape Ordinance from 2014.

The **PI Committee** will soon regroup for partner project information sharing and to work on plans for the 2022 Riparian Ranger season.

LIVE STAKING FOR STREAM RESTORATION

Live staking sounds like a process to kill vampires, but it is a cool process to help stabilize stream banks and reduce sediment entering the stream. The process involves harvesting dormant stems (before the buds break) of certain species and inserting them directly into the stream bank. In Pennsylvania, mid to late March is usually an ideal time for live staking. The reason I think this is so amazing is that species like Black Willow and Red Osier Dogwood will recognize that they are no longer on the branch and will create a root system. These live stakes will grow into shrubs and trees that will hold the soil in place, absorb excess nutrients, and provide habitat.

WAY is planning a Zoom live stake training (date TBD but before March 12th) in collaboration with the Chesapeake Conservancy. If you are interested in participating, reach out to Rachel Stahlman at RStahlman@ycpc.org. Also, there will be a live staking workshop on March 12th at the Horn Farm at 9 am to harvest and plant! Did you miss the online training? No worries, there will be experts there to assist! No experience necessary. Register at hornfarmcenter.org.

If you would like to read more about the process of live staking, Penn State Extension has a helpful online resource at: <https://extension.psu.edu/live-staking-for-stream-restoration>.

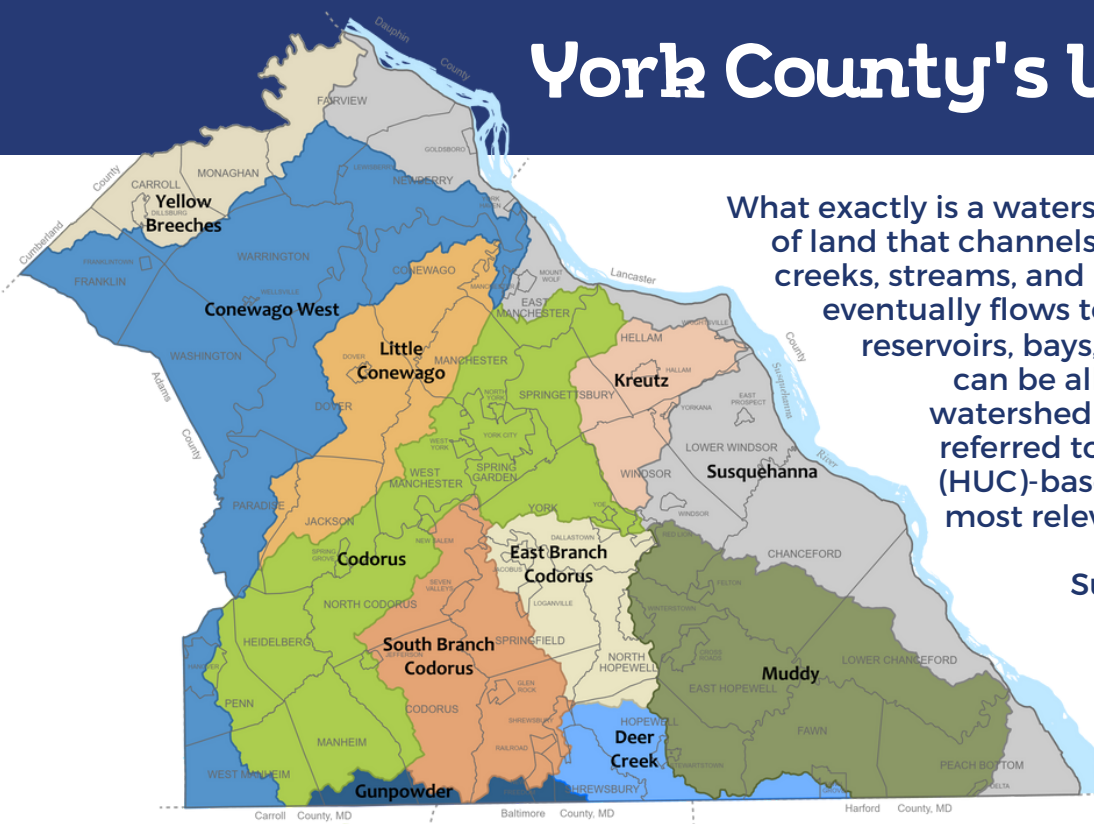
~Cindy Pizziketti



Pictures provided by Chesapeake Conservancy



York County's Watersheds



What exactly is a watershed? A watershed is an area of land that channels rainfall and excess water to creeks, streams, and rivers. From there, the water eventually flows to larger bodies of water like reservoirs, bays, and the ocean. Watersheds can be all different sizes. The size of a watershed is defined on several scales-referred to as its Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC)-based on the geography that is most relevant to its specific area. York County is part of the Lower Susquehanna Watershed and includes many watersheds within it. Over the next year we are going to dive into the 11 main watersheds of York County.

Kreutz Creek Watershed

- 3rd smallest watershed in York County (35 square miles)
- Contains 63 miles of streams
- Approximately 23,000 people call the Kreutz Creek watershed home.

Two notable projects have been completed in this watershed. The Beaver Street Stream/Swale Restoration project in Hallam Borough restored 675 lineal feet of an unnamed tributary and 125 lineal feet of an eroded swale. This project reduces 42,412 lbs/year of sediment, 71 lbs/year of nitrogen, and 61 lbs/year of phosphorus.



Another notable project is the SW facility upgrade on the County Prison property. This project included retrofitting two bioretention basins, an eroded swale, and a shallow inflow channel to incorporate water quality features. This project reduces 10,553 lbs/year of sediment, 1.6 lbs/year of nitrogen, and 2.7 lbs/year of phosphorus.

News & Opportunities

LTAP Classes

The PennDOT Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) is one of 52 LTAP centers across the nation. These centers are dedicated to transferring transportation technology through training, technical assistance, and other customer services to municipal elected officials and their staff.

Upcoming Drop-In Session **Incorporating Stormwater Improvements into PennDOT Roadway Projects.**

This drop-in will discuss examples and ideas for leveraging PennDOT roadway projects to address stormwater issues in your community. Diligent planning and early coordination with PennDOT can result in optimum solutions. Alleviating localized flooding and pollutant reduction for MS4 permits are among the topics that will be covered. Drop-in with fellow communities to discuss ideas for incorporating stormwater improvements into PennDOT projects in your community.

When: **March 3, 2022**
Time: **11 a.m. to noon, virtual**
Sign up: <https://gis.penndot.gov/ltap/>



PA DCNR invests \$70 million

On December 30, Gov. Tom Wolf announced an investment of \$70 million for 317 projects across Pennsylvania that will revitalize communities, create new recreational opportunities, and conserve natural spaces. The grants will support a variety of proposals including: 152 projects to rehabilitate or develop recreation, park, and conservation areas and facilities; protect approximately 4,400 acres of open space; 180 acres of streamside forest buffers; and 48 non-motorized and motorized trail projects.

Here is what will be happening in York!

- \$250,000 for further development of Eagle View Park in Dover Township.
- \$285,000 for rehabilitation of Penn Township Community Park.
- \$1,500,000 toward the acquisition of approximately 67 acres in Hellam Township and Wrightsville Borough, for a regional heritage park and nature preserve.
- \$240,400 for rehabilitation of West Manheim Township Park.
- \$141,100 for rehabilitation of Freysville Park in Windsor Township.
- \$25,000 to prepare a Master Site Development Plan for the 20-acre Farquhar Park in York City.



Contact us if:

- You have a water quality project and you are unsure if it's being counted for credit
- You want to be part of the Watershed Forestry Subcommittee
- You want to be part of the brand new Ag Committee or join an existing one
- You have any questions

Calendar of Events

- 02/24- WAY Board Meeting
TBD- Zoom Live Stake Training (see pg 5)
03/04- LTAP Class (see pg 7)
03/10- Master Watershed Steward 2022
(email Jodi @ jrb143@psu.edu)
03/12- Live Stake Collaborative Harvesting/
Planting @ Horn Farm (see pg 7)
03/18, 25 and 04/01- Live Stake Harvesting
and/or Planting Days (email Rachel
@ RStahlman@ycpc.org)
03/19- Illegal Dump Clean Up
(email Emily @ eneideigh@yorkccd.org)
03/20, 22, 27- Horn Farm Tree Planting Days
(contact Horn Farm @ hornfarmcenter.org)
04/5, 7, 10- Horn Farm Tree Planting Days
(contact Horn Farm @ hornfarmcenter.org)
04/15- Chesapeake Conservancy Live Stake
Collaborative work day/celebration!
04/23- Go Green in the City
05/06- Give Local York
05/07- Master Gardener's Native Plant Sale



The next WAY board meeting is scheduled for **February 24th** from 6:30-8:30 PM in person at 2401 Pleasant Valley Road, York, PA 17402 and on Zoom. WAY meetings will be held the 4th Thursday of the month for 2022. Zoom link can be found at watershedallianceofyork.org

The Watershed Alliance of York (**WAY**) is a group of volunteer stakeholders interested in improving local waterways for the betterment of the County and to meet clean water goals. If you would like to get involved, please contact Rachel Stahlman at rstahlman@ycpc.org