

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

We recently worked together to update WAY's vision and values after the mission statement was revised last year. Our **VISION** is now "A robust community thriving in healthy watersheds in York County."

We've updated the **VALUES** to be:

Working Together: Strive to be an inclusive organization where collaboration, sustainability, and environmental justice are central to our goal of clean water for all.

Actively Engage: Educate and empower people to advocate for clean and healthy water, through the conservation of our watersheds.

Yielding Healthy Water: Restore, enhance, and protect our natural resources to improve water quality and foster a healthy environment.

Don't you agree that these revised vision and values truly encompass the heart and soul of our organization?

WAY

BOARD OFFICERS

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In case you've missed it, we have been working together with our partners on an EPIC challenge that we are calling **CWA 50K Trash Challenge**. This year is the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and to honor that, we decided that the goal to collect 50,000 pounds of trash from our waterways would be fitting. We started this challenge back in March when we were working at an illegal dump clean up and since then collections have been along the Susquehanna in both York and Lancaster, the Conestoga River, Bantz Park in the City of York, and Willis Run in the City of York and North York Borough. We currently have collected 37,000 pounds of trash from our waterways. WOW!! There are still several cleanups planned each month through October: along Mill Creek, in the Codorus Creek, September's "Peoples Trash Challenge" for Watershed Week, and the 3rd Annual Great Plastic Purge of the Lower Susquehanna. I'm cautiously optimistic that these cleanups will get us to our 50,000 pounds goal. I don't want to celebrate too soon but it's really feeling like we will reach, and potentially exceed, our huge goal. None of which would be possible without the vigor and passion of all of WAY's volunteers and partners. Together we are making great changes and really impacting our community!



Rachel Stahlman
CAP Coordinator
rstahlman@ycpc.org



20TH ANNUAL WATERSHED WEEK

September
15th-25th

Watershed Week is a week (actually longer than a week!) in September of exciting events that highlight all things water related! The purpose of Watershed Week is to increase awareness about the importance of clean water to community health and the practices we can all do to keep our watersheds healthy. Watershed Week is fun for the whole family and attendees will get to know their watershed and the folks and organizations who are working hard to enhance, restore, and protect them. Below are some of the events that will occur around the County. Be sure to follow WAY on Instagram and Facebook, and check our website www.watershedallianceofyork.org for complete details!

ALL
WEEK

**TAKE THE CLEAN
WATER PLEDGE**

**ACCEPT THE
PEOPLES TRASH
CHALLENGE**

15

**STREET 2 CREEK
TOUR**

**TAP TALK: NEW
WEATHER NORMS**

16

**ELECTRO FISHING
DEMO**

**SPORTING CLAYS
FUNDRAISER**

17

**DAM BRIDGE
CHALLENGE**

**HEARTWOOD NURSERY:
CONSERVATION
CONVERSATIONS**

**RED LION WATER
PLANT TOUR**

18

**RAMBO RUN STREAM
STUDY AT WALLACE
CROSS MILL**

SUNSET YOGA

19

FLY FISHING & TYING

GREENER CODORUS INTIATIVE

20TH ANNUAL WATERSHED WEEK

THE MISSION OF THE WATERSHED ALLIANCE OF YORK (WAY) IS TO IMPROVE YORK COUNTY'S WATER, MAKING IT CLEANER AND HEALTHIER FOR ALL.

20

POORHOUSE RUN
HISTORY TALK AND
CREEK PANNING

21

WATER QUALITY
MONITORING
FIELD DAY

RAIN BARREL
WORKSHOP

22

BANTZ PARK &
KIWANIS LAKE
RAIN GARDEN
WORK

24

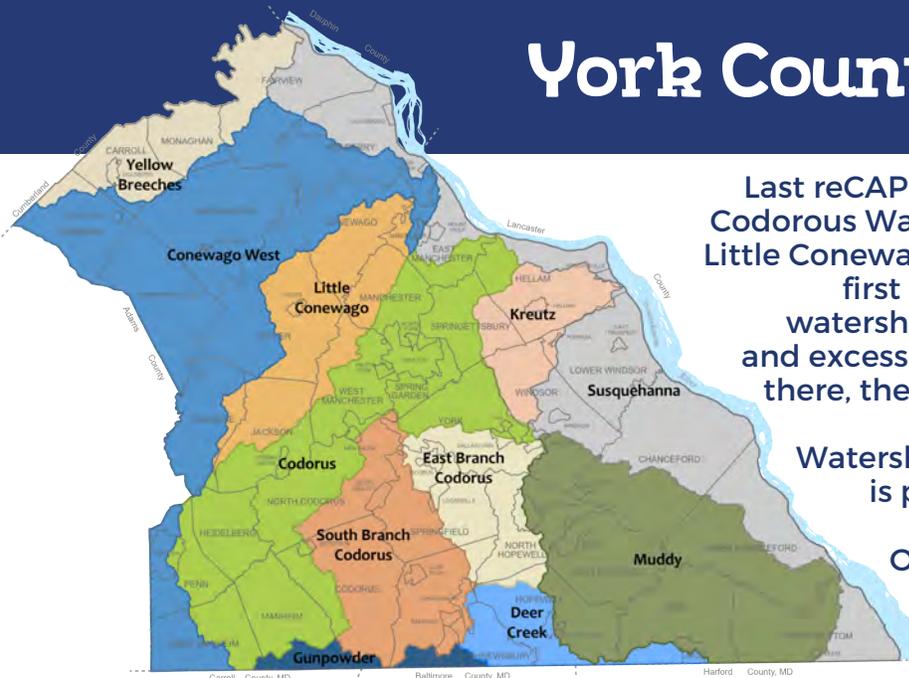
PAW PAW
FESTIVAL

NATIVE PLANT
SALE

25

PAW PAW
FESTIVAL

York County's Watersheds



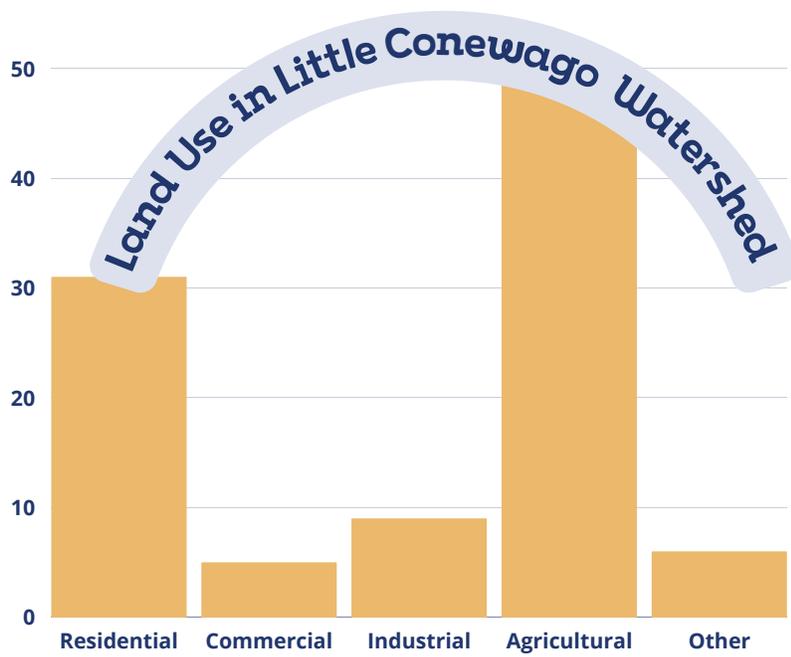
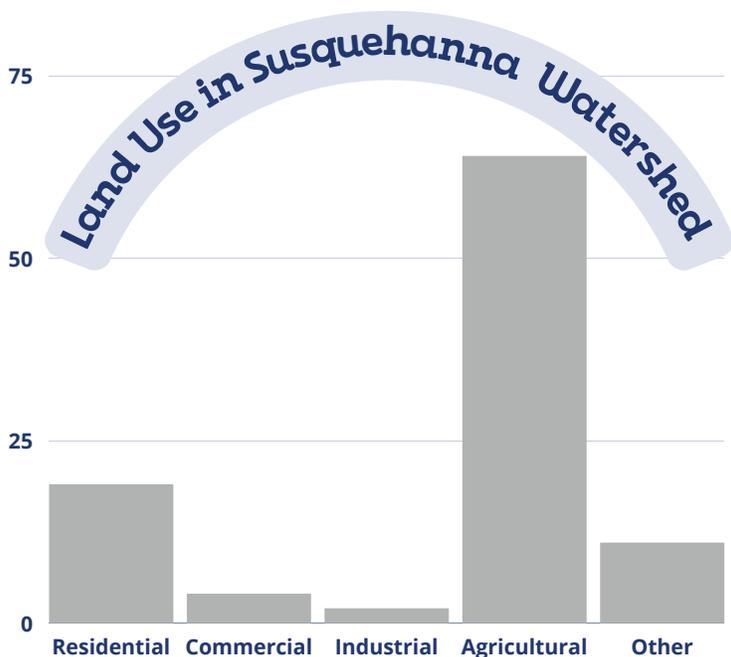
Last reCAP we dove into the Conewago West and the Codorus Watersheds. This edition we will examine the Little Conewago and the Susquehanna Watersheds. But first a quick synopsis of what is a watershed. A watershed is an area of land that channels rainfall and excess water to creeks, streams, and rivers. From there, the water eventually flows to larger bodies of water like reservoirs, bays, and the ocean. Watersheds can be all different sizes. 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.

Susquehanna Watershed

- The 3rd most populated watershed in York County. 50,000+ people live here.
- 3rd largest watershed in York County (138 square miles)
- Miles of streams- 288; 2nd highest

Little Conewago Watershed

- The 4th most populated watershed in York County. ~49,000+ people live here.
- Mid-sized watershed in York County (66 square miles)
- Miles of streams- 140, right in the middle



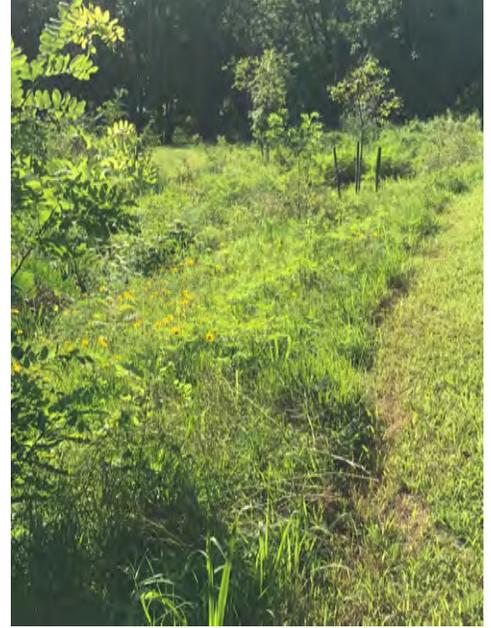
Susquehanna Watershed

The Riverfront Park Green Infrastructure Projects in Wrightsville Borough involved construction of two bioretention basins and a bioswale. These BMPs detain and filter more than 250,000 gallons of stormwater per year. The basins are planted with warm season grass meadow and tall fescue meadow, while the bioswale is planted with a naturalized seed mix and native BMP plants. As a result of these practices, the volume of stormwater runoff to the Susquehanna River has lessened and the water that does runoff is much cleaner. Additionally, less stormwater flooding occurs in the Park.



Estimated pollutant reductions include:

- 17,819 lbs/year of sediment
- 225 lbs/yr of nitrogen
- 15 lbs/yr of phosphorus



Little Conewago Watershed

Two notable projects have been completed in this watershed. The Eagle View Park project in Dover Township included 3,440 LF of stream/floodplain restoration on two unnamed tributaries to Fox Run, removal of 27,000 CY of legacy sediment, creation of 4.5 acres of wetlands, and planting of native vegetation. The project resulted in an anastomosed stream channel system well-connected to the historic floodplain and the removed sediment was repurposed to grade the new park facilities. This project reduces 154,387 lbs/year of sediment, 630 lbs/year of nitrogen, and 73 lbs/year of phosphorus.



The other project is the Danielle/Willipa Drives Stream Restoration project in Dover Township. This restored 800 LF of an UNT to Little Conewago Creek. Primary purpose of the project was to address resident concerns related to erosion of the stream and loss of rear yards, as well as exposed telephone and cable utility lines. Work involved removing accumulated sediment, filling in washed out areas, constructing rock

cross vanes and pools, and planting native vegetation to restore and protect the stream banks. The project reduces 62,894 lbs/year of sediment, 1,173 lbs/year of nitrogen, and 72 lbs/year of phosphorus.



Grant Opportunities

Now
Accepting
Applications!

York County Open Space and Land Preservation Grant Program

York County Open Space and Land Preservation Grant Program is now accepting applications.

The County Commissioners have designated a percentage of preservation funds for the York County Open Space and Land Preservation Grant Program. This grant program provides opportunities for municipalities and nonprofits to provide matching funds for acquisition of parkland and lands for natural resource protection. A portion of the funding is also set aside for municipal planning and ordinance updates that support open space protection.

New for 2022, Marcellus Shale Legacy funding will be distributed through the York County Open Space and Land Preservation Grant Program. This funding can be used for planning, acquisition, development, rehabilitation and repair of greenways, recreational trails, open space, natural areas, community conservation and beautification projects, community and heritage parks and water resource management. Funds may be used to acquire lands for recreational or conservation purposes and land damaged or prone to drainage by storms or flooding.

This grant program provides an excellent source of matching funds for PA DCNR grants.

Grant Program Schedule

September 30 - Application period closes
December - Approval of Grant funding

For more information, or to access Program Guidelines, Request a Grant Application, FAQs, or contact information, please visit www.yorkopenspace.org.

For additional information or questions, you may e-mail yorkopenspace@ycpc.org





Calendar of Events

- 8/18- Tap Talks: The Progress of Ecological Restoration. 6-8pm @ Collusion Tap Works
- 8/24- Riparian Ranger Workday
6-8 pm @ Northeaster Buffer
- 8/24- Greener Codorus: Chop, Chop, Swing, Swing
5:30-7:30 pm meet @ Foundry Park
- 8/27- CWA50K Codorus Creek Cleanup
9-1pm meet @ Northeast Extension Rail Trail Parking Lot
- 8/29- Greener Codorus: Chop, Chop, Swing, Swing
9-11am meet @ Foundry Park

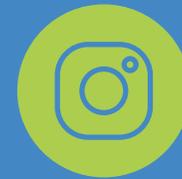
*Greener Codorus: Chop, Chop, Swing, Swing is every other Monday in the AM and every other Wednesday in the PM. Check out the Lower Susquehanna Riverkeepers website and Facebook for updates!

- 9/30 & 10/1 - Stauffer's Biscuit and Elmwood Neighborhood Mill Creek Cleanup more details to come
- 10/15 & 10/16 - 3rd Annual Great Plastic Purge of the Lower Susquehanna more details to come



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 WAY or any of the Committees of WAY
- You have any questions



@WAYORKPA



/WATERSHEDALLIANCEOFYORKPA

The next WAY board meeting is scheduled for **August 25th** 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