

The Re-CAP

York County Coalition for Clean Waters bi-monthly newsletter about the implementation of the **C**ountywide **A**ction **P**lan for clean waters



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LEADERSHIP TEAM

We have had an action packed start to 2021! The State Watershed Implementation Plan meeting occurred at the end of January and we were able to showcase a brief snapshot of the great work we accomplished in 2020. It seems as though the sense of accomplishment and success within year 1 is being felt on a large scale. Make sure you check out this great press release from DEP: [State and Local Partners Made Record Progress.](#)

But we still need help! If you are someone who likes clean, healthy water, and wants to be part of an organized solution to clean up York County's waters, continue reading and consider joining us!

Leadership Team Members

Lettice Brown- E&O Team
 Ruth Cassilly- PI Team
 Burt Curry- Rev Team
 Felicia Dell- Rev/YCPC
 Mark Flaharty- PI/YCCD
 Lindsay Gerner- E&O/YCPC
 Roy Livergood- DM/YCPC
 Emily Neideigh- E&O/YCCD
 Cindy Pizziketti- PI Team
 John Seitz- LPC/YCPC
 Pam Shellenberger-PI/YCPC
 Jodi Sulpizio- PI Team
 Rachel Stahlman - CAP Coord.

CAP Coordinator's Corner

ACTION is the focus of 2021 and we certainly are gearing up for some. Per the suggestions received via the end of year survey that the Coalition participated in, 3 of our 5 Action Teams have revamped their mission statements. The work that Action Teams are currently undertaking is meaningful and there is also a lot of funding that is coming to York for several great projects this year!

One of these funded projects currently receiving a lot of action is the work we are doing with LUMI Marketing and Creative. If you were at our January Coalition meeting then you've heard the news that York County Coalition for Clean Waters and Watershed Alliance of York are merging and will be rebranded as Watershed Alliance of York (WAY)! WAY has been part of the York community since 2001 and many of the amazing folks involved in that group also lend their time to our Coalition group. Lots of details are being worked out as there are many questions and aspects to a merger that need to be considered. One part that will remain a constant is the work we are doing on the CAP. We will not lose sight of our goal to reduce 4 million pounds of nitrogen by 2025. After all, the goal and main focus of the Coalition, WAY, and the CAP is improved water quality. WAY will have Action Teams/ Committees that continue on with the CAP effort work while integrating the WAY work such as Watershed Week. This merger is exciting and will be breathing new life into our efforts! With the LUMI contract, WAY (as a whole) will be getting the attention it deserves during the long term messaging strategy process. Campaigns will be launched, a new logo will be developed, the WAY website will revamped with new content, and we will have some funds to get marketing materials. I have hope that WAY will become a group well known, respected, and enjoyed across our community in York County. I'm filled with excitement over the action that is on the horizon. This is the WAY... (as Star Wars The Mandalorian would say!)

***~Rachel Stahlman,
CAP Coordinator, rstahlman@ycpc.org***



As always, keep spreading the word of the efforts we are undertaking! Tell all your friends! Bring someone new to our next meeting!



***York County Coalition
for Clean Waters***



YCC4CW



<https://www.ycpc.org/459/York-Countywide-Action-Plan-for-Clean-Wa>



Street 2 Creek

If you get a chance to stroll through downtown York over the next several months, be sure to look for “splashes” of art painted around storm drains. Over the past three years, the Street 2 Creek Partnership, a collaboration of Master Watershed Stewards, the City of York, the Watershed Alliance of York, and the Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper Association, rallied local artists to paint a total of fourteen storm drains in downtown York. This fall, three storm drains were painted at Continental Square and on East King Street at the York City Fire Station. As you meander along the streets, you may come upon a tangle of octopus legs reaching out of a drain, an elegant egret keeping watch over a drain, or a myriad of sea creatures surrounding another. Each unique drain spreads a message to the community, “Please keep our streets and waterways clean. We all live downstream!”

Storm drains are part of stormwater conveyance systems designed to drain stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces such as roads and sidewalks. As stormwater flows across the land, it picks up pollutants such as oil, road salts, chemicals, grass clippings, soil, trash, pet waste, and more. Stormwater pollution has a significant impact on water quality. It is a common misconception that stormwater runoff from streets, parking lots, and driveways flows to a treatment plant before it is released to the environment. The reality is stormwater, and the pollution it carries, flows directly or indirectly to local creeks, streams, and rivers untreated. It is important that citizens know that everyday activities can be contributing to stormwater pollution. This project brings awareness to this important issue. Small steps such as limiting fertilizer use, using a rain barrel, planting a rain garden, maintaining automobiles to prevent leaks, properly securing trash, picking up pet waste, etc. can help protect local streams and rivers.

To learn more about stormwater management, visit <https://extension.psu.edu/water/stormwater-management>. For more information on the Street 2 Creek Project, check out www.street2creek.org. This project was funded by York Water Company and the Sandy Hollow Arts and Recreation for the Environment.



Action TeamWORK

The York County Coalition for Clean Waters (YCC4CW) is always looking for new partners to help implement the York CAP. There are five (5) Action Teams all working together to help implement different aspects of the CAP. Contact Rachel at rstahlman@ycpc.org to join a team!

Are you interested in spreading the word about why we need to clean up York's streams and how we can accomplish it? Check out the [Education & Outreach Action Team \(E&O\)](#)!

Are you a number cruncher and want to figure out ways to calculate our progress? Check out our [Data Management Action Team \(DM\)](#)!

Do you like to get your hands dirty and want to help put projects on the ground? Or have land to put in a project? Contact our [Project Implementation Action Team \(PI\)](#)!

Are you good with grant writing or collaborating with sponsors to find funds for project implementation? Contact our [Revenue Building Action Team \(RB\)](#)!

Are you interested in policy and legislative issues? Contact our [Legislative and Programmatic Changes Team \(L&P\)](#)!

JOIN US!
Rachel Stahlman
717-771-9870 x 1763
rstahlman@ycpc.org

The **DM Team** is focused on data collection including a template, eligible projects, an outreach piece, and finding focus areas. The Water Quality Monitoring brochure was approved and will be available soon! The Team formed a subcommittee for WQM nitrate level monitoring. The Team anticipates a USGS WQM report for the end of February.

As the implementation of the CAP transitions through different phases, so must the Teams. The **RB Team** is discussing the evolution of the team with their role in the CAP.

The **E&O Team** is continuing their work with LUMI, and discussed ways to outreach to our municipalities and schools regarding BMP collection and tree/buffer plantings. In addition, the team is assisting with the WQM Brochure and participating in many volunteer opportunities. Let us know if you have a group that is interested in learning about what we do!

The **PI Team** members are continuing to secure funding through grants and are implementing BMPs in the County. They are starting work on a spreadsheet for project tracking. Do you know of a property owner who is interested in streamside buffers?

The **L&P Changes Team** continues to work on a draft Watershed permitting concept. The Team is seeking a project to go through the DEP pre-app meeting process established between DEP, Lancaster, and York Counties.

Horn Farm Center

The Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education in Hellam Township is helping to protect our waterways in York County and beyond. And, they are innovating along the way! In 2018, the Horn Farm Center was awarded funding from the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DCNR) through the Stream ReLeaf program for a 6 acre multifunctional riparian buffer project.

Of the nearly 6,000 trees that were planted, most varieties were selected to be “multifunctional” providing food, fodder and agroforestry products while protecting a small tributary of the Kreutz Creek. Fruit and nut producing trees and shrubs were planted in the buffer as well as other species that lend themselves toward coppice such as willow for basketry.

To bolster the biodiversity of the farm’s early succession species the Horn Farm team planted black willow, honey locust, black locust, basswood and poplar. These species were picked for their capability to reseed and grow rhizomatically. Their planting patterns were experimental but successful. 540 trees were planted in 40 cells using a technique called applied nucleation. Each cell will grow and merge creating a mosaic early succession forest and old field ecotone capable of creating a diverse habitat for birds, insects and mammal species.

The entire project was completed in the spring of 2020 just as the pandemic came to a head in York County. In 2019, prior to the completion of the Stream ReLeaf project, the Horn Farm Center was awarded a new DCNR grant as part of the PennVest project, which funds an additional 20 acres of multifunctional riparian buffers at the Horn Farm. Due to COVID-19, the project was delayed. However, thanks to a small group of dedicated volunteers, the Horn Farm Center was able to break ground in the fall of last year (2020).

The Horn Farm Center plans to plant 6 acres of riparian plantings for the PennVest project this spring and will need an army of volunteers to make it happen! What is unique about the Horn Farm’s riparian buffer project is the opportunity to experiment with innovating designs and planting techniques.

~Alexis Campbell, Executive Director
Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education

Plantings with a Purpose

- American hazelnut
- pawpaw
- elderberry
- blueberry
- gooseberry
- currants
- raspberries
- willow (basketry)
- dogwood (woody floral arrangements)



How to get Involved:

Visit our website–
hornfarmcenter.org

follow on social media–
[@hornfarm](https://www.instagram.com/hornfarm)

Want to volunteer? email
info@hornfarmcenter.org.

YCSWC – Making Progress to Improve Water Quality

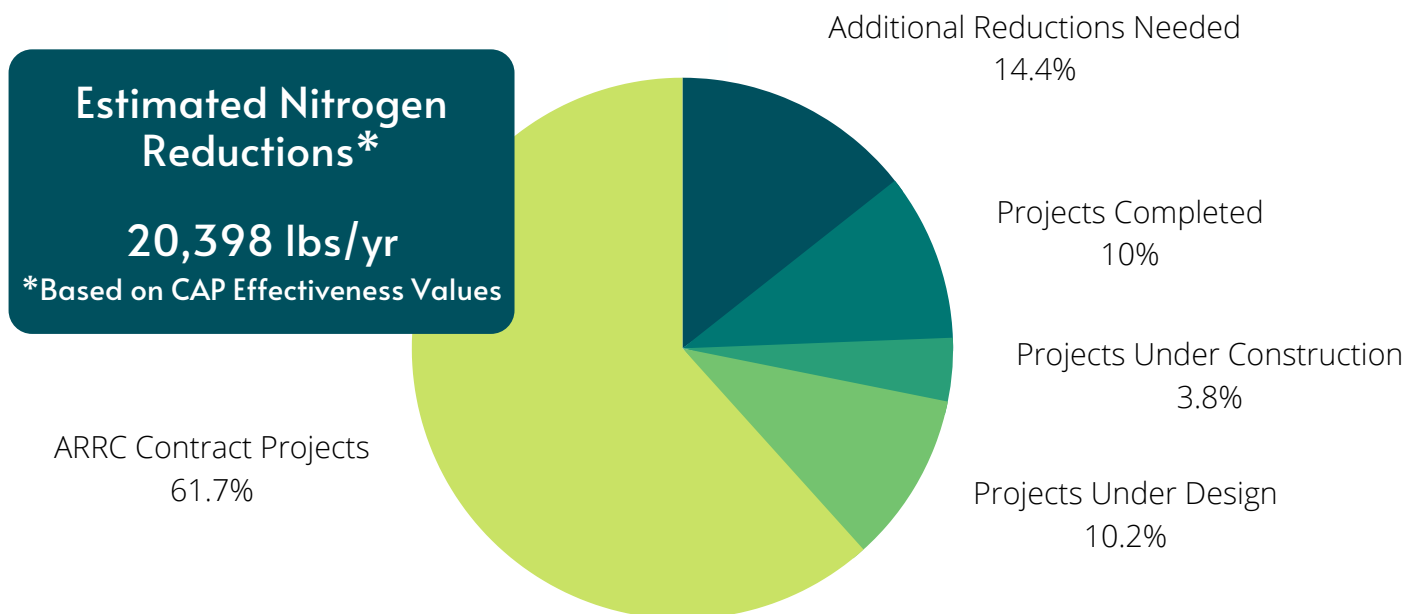
The York County Stormwater Consortium (YCSWC) is a group of 45 municipalities, including the County, working together through an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement to implement a Regional Chesapeake Bay Pollutant Reduction Plan (CBPRP). This Plan is an MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) Permit requirement for 27 of the participating municipalities and requires the reduction of approximately 6.5 million lbs/year of sediment by 2023. The voluntary Countywide Action Plan for Clean Waters (CAP), on the other hand, has a target of reducing 4 million lbs/yr of nitrogen by 2025. While the reduction targets differ, both are working toward the common goal of improving water quality in York County and the Chesapeake Bay. Additionally, any nitrogen reductions resulting from the implemented CBPRP urban BMPs will help meet the CAP target

Through December of 2020, progress for the current Permit cycle included:

- Completion of 14 projects (8 stream restoration/1 Swale Retrofit/2 Bioretention/2 Basin Retrofits/1 Riparian Buffer)
- 6 projects are under construction (2 stream restoration/1 Swale Retrofit/2 Bioretention/1 Riparian Buffer)
- 6 projects are in various stages of design or permitting (4 stream restoration/1 wetlands/1 floodplain restoration)
- ARRC Performance Based Contract underway (stream restoration/basin retrofits)



Regional CBPRP Sediment Reduction Progress (lbs/year)



Agricultural Compliance in York County

Is your agricultural operation in compliance with PA laws and regulations related to soil erosion control and manure management? Compliance is achieved when you have the **appropriate, up to date, accurate, and implemented** Chapter 102 Agricultural Erosion and Sediment Control (Ag E&S) or Chapter 91 Manure Management Plan for your agricultural operation. The regulations that oversee these plans are part of the PA Clean Streams Law. Chapter 102 and 91 are under the compliance oversight of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

An Ag E&S Plan is defined as “A site specific plan consisting of both a map(s) and a narrative that identifies Best Management Practices (BMP's) to minimize accelerated erosion and sedimentation before, during and after earth disturbance activities”. Ag E&S Plans also must show that soil loss is limited to the soil loss tolerance over each planned crop rotation for all plowing and tilling activities, including no-till. All cropland within 100 feet of the stream must have 25 % cover and all Animal Concentration Areas (ACA) must be managed.

A Manure Management plan must be written using the Manure Management Plan Workbook developed by PA and the DEP. The planned BMPs must be implemented and maintained to be in full compliance with the law. Both the landowner and the farm operator are jointly responsible for the developing, updating and implementing these plans unless delegated in writing by the appropriate parties. Ag E&S Plans and Manure Management plans do not need to be submitted to any agency unless requested by the DEP or the YCCD. As a farm operator or landowner you should review the plans yearly to verify accuracy and make sure records are current and maintained.

Do you have the necessary plans and are you implementing the planned BMPs? If you are not sure, or want assistance in developing plans and implementing your planned BMPs, go to the the York County Conservation District webpage at www.yorkccd.org or call the YCCD Ag staff at 717-840-7430 and we will try to assist you.

~Mark Flaharty, YCCD Senior Ag Resource Conservationist

Chapter 102 Ag E&S Plans

For: All cropland/hayland acreage and Animal Concentration Areas over 5,000 sq. ft.

Addresses: Soil erosion concerns before, during and after earth disturbance activities

Includes: Farm & field boundaries, location of buildings, streams, wetlands, roads, structural BMPs and ACAs, soil types and topography. Also narrative detailing the planned practices and schedule of implementation

Chapter 91 Manure Mgmt Plans

For: All farms or landowners that have livestock, that generate or receive manure, have ACAs or pasture acreage

Addresses: Manure Management-where manure is handled, stored, & collected

Includes: Animal numbers, manure quantities, crops receiving manure, spreading records, application setbacks, winter manure application procedures & pasture mgmt standards

Coalition COMEBACK

**WE POSE
QUESTIONS, YOU
GIVE INPUT!**

The next YCC4CW
Zoom meeting is
scheduled for
March 19th from
1:00-3:00.

- **Join an Action Team**
- **Want us to present to your group?
Contact us!**
- **Share this Newsletter**
- **Follow us on Instagram**
- **Like us on Facebook**



The York County Coalition for Clean Waters (YCC4CW) is a group of volunteer stakeholders interested in improving local water ways 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