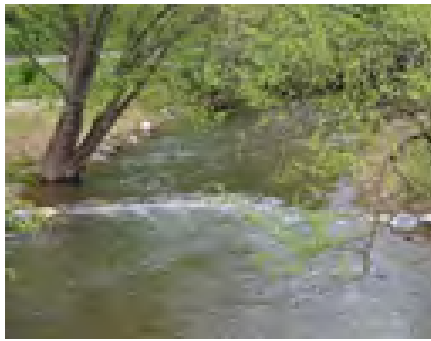


The Re-CAP

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

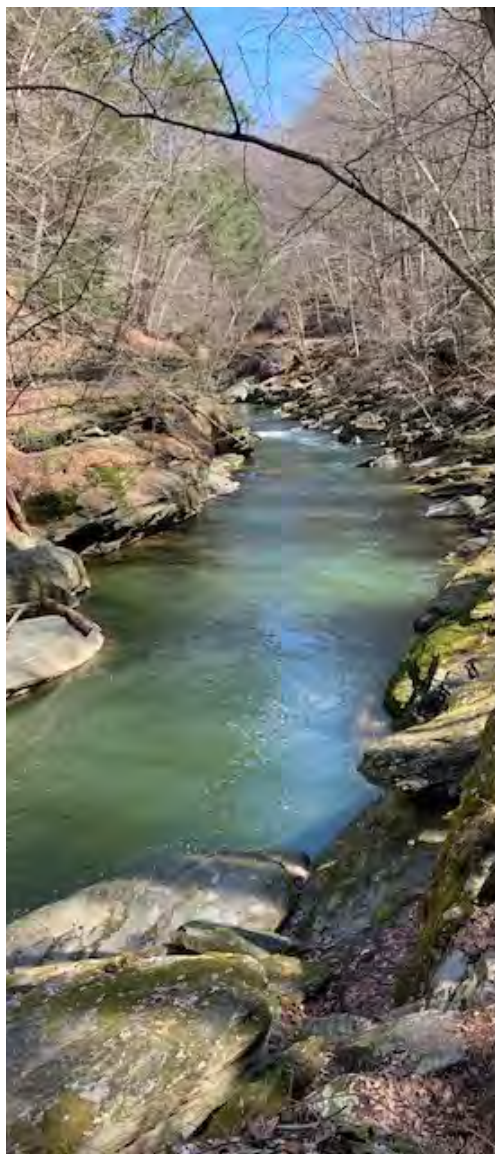
Action is the word of the year and we certainly are acting on a lot of things in 2021! With the help of our partners, the YCC4CW is working on buffer projects, including the Horn Farm, an Agricultural Pilot Program, the Codorus Greenway Project, certifying properties as "Watershed Friendly," continuous monitoring of our streams, and much more!

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
- Burt Curry- Rev Team
- Felicia Dell- Rev/YCPC
- Mark Flaharty- PI/YCCD
- Lindsay Gerner- E&O/YCPC
- Roy Livergood- DM/YCPC
- Emily Neideigh- DM/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



Spring has sprung! We have taken a deep dive into merging York County Coalition for Clean Waters (YCC4CW) with Watershed Alliance of York (WAY) and we are running full steam ahead with LUMI Marketing and Creative on our rebranding and long term messaging strategy. A merger is complicated, but we have started taking some well thought out first steps in the process. To date, decisions have been made on a new draft organizational chart, on the formation of a new Agricultural Committee, and a Buffer Subcommittee within the Project Implementation Action Team. Now we can start to get more excited for our rebranding! Over the next couple of months be on the lookout for announcements about our new mission, logo, and messaging campaigns. Over the next 6 months LUMI and the CAP Team will be working on content creation (think templates, letterhead, flyers, posters, postcards, etc.), web design, and new content for the current WAY site, social media content creation, video production of five 30-second micro clips, and a photography session that will result in 30 original images for our use. So buckle up, the action and change is upon us!

Aside from the exciting work with LUMI and becoming WAY, we have some great volunteer opportunities happening! Check out our Facebook page for the shared events. There is ripe opportunity for getting involved in clean ups and buffer plantings!


~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>



Water Quality Monitoring

In the last few years, there were many local public meetings regarding water quality. One of the takeaways from those meetings was the wish for real pollutant numbers, instead of modeled numbers. The York County Commissioners heard the public and committed to a partnership with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to fund the installation and operation of six state-of-the-art, real time, water quality monitors. The monitors are capturing readings from 80-90% of the water outflow from the County. This water quality monitoring (WQM) program continuously samples 6 different watersheds in a method that will eventually show trends for sediment and nutrients.

York County's WQM Program will allow the USGS to determine pollutant base loads primarily for sediment, phosphorus, and nitrogen. WQM's can identify issues, validate solutions, and provide data. Even though our WQM Program is constantly collecting data, it will still take a couple of years to have definitive water quality pollutant trends. However, immediate benefits do exist such as:

- an opportunity to utilize real data to supplement/ replace modeled predictions,
- the ability to detect and locate the source of unexplained pollutant spikes, and
- a basis for future water resource management decisions/policies.

Real local data that shows a true picture of the condition of local streams and better informs management actions for York County watersheds are obvious goals. But for the County to get the most out of its efforts, we should be thinking of how this information can be used for the betterment of not only our local waters, but also for what is needed to obtain the "returns" on our investment. Flexibility and changes within the regulatory community are considered critical to achieving the investment "returns." Recommended changes include:

- Use of local WQM data to improve the efficiencies of the Chesapeake Bay Model;
- Use of local WQM data for MS4 reporting requirements; and
- Acceptance of local WQM data as proof that BMPs are operational, sound, and improving water quality.

Conversations with appropriate regulatory agencies, related to flexibility and incentives, need to start now. This will ultimately allow our WQM data to replace costly surrogates for evidence of regulatory compliance.



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 developing a BMP Guide and Unreported BMP Tracking Form. The Team formed a subcommittee for WQM nitrate level monitoring. They are also working on a WQM Report Card. Do you have ideas for a Report Card in York? Let us know!

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 is developing a letter to schools regarding buffers and a letter to municipalities regarding newsletters. In addition, the team is working with Pinchot State Park 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 working on buffers around Lake Pahagaco and are excited to create a buffer subcommittee for the team. Are you interested in joining the buffer subcommittee or do you know of a property owner interested in streamside buffers? Contact us!

The **L&P Changes Team** developed a Watershed Permitting concept that will soon be submitted to DEP and has also discussed a stormwater Ordinance MS4 credit idea. The first project went through the DEP permit pre-app meeting process established between DEP, Lancaster, and York Counties. What project is next?

The Codorus Greenway Project

The Codorus Greenway project in downtown York includes plans to restore natural stream functionality in this highly modified urban environment. As the project improves the ecological habitat of the creek itself, neighbors and visitors to the surrounding area will enjoy enhancements like accessible walking and biking trails, improved water access, green spaces, and public art.

The first noticeable change will likely be the removal of the bascule gate downstream of Philadelphia Street that has been stuck in the “up” position for the last five years. In its present condition, the gate functions like a low-head dam and poses a drowning hazard, catches debris, ponds stagnant water in summer months, and impedes the movement of fish and boats along the creek corridor. The plan proposes to remove the six-foot high dam and replace it with a series of low crossvanes throughout the downtown in phases. The crossvanes will more evenly distribute dissolved oxygen concentrations during low-flow periods and provide interest for canoers and kayakers.

In addition to the dam removal, efforts will focus on widening the east bank by 40+ feet to accommodate a low-flow channel and vegetated terraces, the project’s primary best management practice, or BMP. Currently, every rain drop that falls on open water adds to storm flows, and the creek turns chocolate brown with sediment from upstream erosion after any storm event. The soil and vegetation of the proposed terraces will capture sediment and reduce runoff, particularly “first flush.” With a drainage area in excess of 223 square miles, capturing just a fraction of the total load would be a significant step toward meeting nutrient reduction goals. A vegetated terrace/floodplain naturally captures sediments as vegetation grows through successive layers of mud deposited after each storm event.

Once fully implemented, the project will restore 10 acres of ponded, open water to vegetated terraces and wetlands. The first phase currently includes 1.6 acres of vegetated terrace restoration. The York County Economic Alliance is spearheading the project with a design team led by Buchart Horn and including CS Davidson, Kleinfelder (formerly Advantage Engineers), and others.



Bascule Gate. This photo shows a dangerous plunge pool and debris collecting on the gate downstream of Philadelphia Street.



Sediment Capture. Vegetated terrace/floodplain BMPs capture sediment as vegetation grows through successive layers of mud deposited after each storm event.



Future Codorus Greenway. Artist's view of the proposed Codorus Greenway looking south over Philadelphia Street. The project features channel widening, accessible creekside paths, low-flow channel, vegetated terraces, and crossvanes.

Ways to learn, dig in, and get your feet wet!

Celebrate Earth Day by Cleaning up the Codorus Creek on April 24th, 9AM- 2PM!

Meet: Foundry Plaza/ Codorus Boat Basin to pick up supplies

Bring/Wear: Dress for the weather, please wear shoes with good ankle support, no open-toed shoes. We will have all supplies needed and water, but please bring a water bottle

Location: along the banks from College Avenue to the train trestle just north of Philadelphia Street

There will be food for volunteers at the conclusion of the cleanup at the Boat Basin around 2pm.



Last edition of the reCAP we talked about the Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education and the exciting things happening with their DCNR grant as part of the PennVest project. Well they are ready to go and are in need of volunteers! Work days are:



Sunday, April 11th 11:30am-3:30pm

Wednesday, April 14th 12:00pm-4:00pm

Wednesday, April 21st 12:00pm-4:00pm

Wednesday, April 28th 12:00pm-4:00pm

Wednesday, May 5th 12:00pm-4:00pm

To volunteer check out: hornfarmcenter.org/Riparian-volunteer/

Volunteers need sturdy closed-toe shoes and garden gloves.

Activities will include:

- moving, hauling, and spreading leaves and wood mulch
- digging using a broadfork
- planting trees once they are available (digging planting holes, moving supplies and water, coordinating plantings, etc.)

****Multiple hand sanitizer stations are available throughout the farm. Participants are required to bring a mask and wear when proper physical distancing cannot be maintained.****

Planning a Clean Up?

Do you have an area you want to clean up, but not sure what to do with the trash collected? Just pre-register your event with the York County Solid Waste Authority at (717) 845-1066. They will ask you a few questions and get you registered! Then you can collect the litter and dispose of it at the York County Resource Recovery Center (RRC) at no cost to the group! The litter disposal program is a great way for community and civic groups to participate in an event that honors our planet and cleans up our community.

Green Building Council Earth Day Event

After the Codorus clean up on April 24th, register for a Virtual Earth Day Cocktail Party! Sponsored by SAAarchitects, learn about the Green Building Council, network, play some games, and learn how to mix a cocktail by the Revival Social Club in York! [Register](#) via Eventbrite by April 13th in order to receive your cocktail ingredients (minus the alcohol).



Opportunities for our Agricultural Partners

Pilot BMP Data Collection Program

This BMP Data Collection Pilot Program is taking place in York, Windsor, East Manchester, and Dover Townships. Data will be collected on Ag E&S and Manure Management Plans located in those urban planning areas. The YCCD will assist in reviewing and determining plan status and assist those without plans in developing plans and implementing BMP's. The goal is sediment credits for MS4 municipalities and nitrogen credits for the CAP. Work is still being done to determine processes and work load. It is anticipated that this Pilot Program will take about 1-1.5 years to complete. If this Program is successful, expansion into other areas of the County is likely.



Conservation Excellence Grant Program

The Conservation Excellence Grant (CEG) Program still has plenty of money available. CEG is a new state-funded program with the purpose of providing financial and technical assistance for the implementation of best management practices (BMPs) on agricultural operations. Examples include:

- Livestock Exclusion Fencing
- Ag Riparian Buffers
- Livestock Stream Crossings
- Off-Stream Livestock Watering Facilities
- Waste Storage Facilities
- Streambank Protection
- Barnyard / Feedlot Runoff Abatement
- Cover Crops
- Planning BMPs (Nutrient Management Plans, Manure Management Plans, Conservation Plans, Ag E&S Plans)

There is no deadline to apply!

Contact Stephen Miller
smiller@yorkccd.org for assistance or go
 to the YCCD webpage www.yorkccd.org

Coalition COMEBACK

The next YCC4CW
Zoom meeting is
scheduled for
May 21st from
1:00-3:00.

Contact us if:
you know of a local business
that wants to better the
environment
or
you know of a property
owner with a stream
or
you want us to present to
your group

- Dates to Remember:*
- April 11th @ 11:30- Horn Farm
 - April 14th @ 12:00- Horn Farm
 - April 21th @ 12:00- Horn Farm
 - April 24th @ 9:00 am - Codorus Clean Up
 - April 24th @ 6:00 pm- Earth Day Virtual Cocktail Party
 - April 28th @ 12:00 - Horn Farm
 - May 5th @ 12:00- Horn Farm



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