

West Virginia's Chesapeake Bay Trib Team



Spring 2021 | Issue 39

Highlights and News
Latest updates and stories
related to WV progress.

WV
Highlights

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Discover: Jennings Randolph Lake

Jennings Randolph Lake, located on the North Branch of the Potomac River between Maryland and West Virginia, provides water quality improvements, reduces flood damages downstream, provides a source of water supply for downstream municipalities and industries, and provides the public with recreation opportunities.

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New Employee Spotlight

Shared from:

WV WaterNet: Spring Edition
Be sure to sign up for their e-
newsletter!

WVDEP's Save Our Streams Program
Nets New Coordinator
Seeks Volunteers Ready to Monitor Stream Health
through Benthic Macroinvertebrate Surveys



The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection's (WVDEP) Watershed Improvement Branch welcomed Callie Cronin Sams as the new Save Our Streams (SOS) program coordinator in February.

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Our Partners are Doing Great Work!



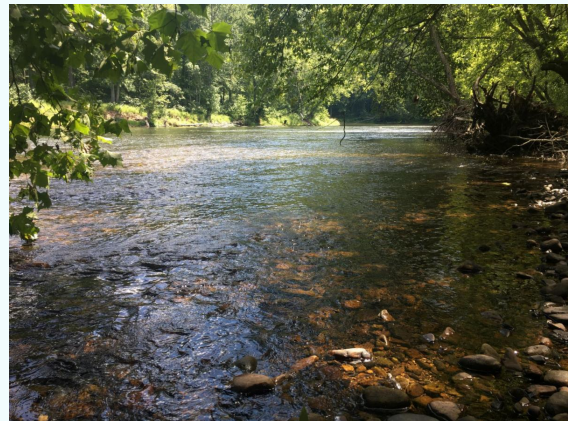
Rain Station

Shepherdstown partnered with the Eastern Panhandle Planning and Development Council (Region 9) to install green infrastructure practices at the former train station campus.

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Cacapon Watershed Project

A dedicated source of funding has been directed to environmental practices in the Cacapon & Lost Rivers watershed, thanks to a successful effort by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and local stakeholders. The project is known as a Focused Conservation Approach, which means that a portion of NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funding, about \$600,000 over 3 years, will be directed to this specific watershed. [Text Link](#)



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WV DEP Gathering Information About Potential Pollutant Sources in Cacapon River Watershed

Scientists from the WV Department of Environmental Protection's Watershed Assessment Branch plan to monitor select streams in the Cacapon River Watershed beginning in June 2021 and extending for approximately one year. Local stakeholders can support this effort by providing information about potential pollutant sources. [Text Link](#)

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WVDOF Forest Legacy Program

The West Virginia Division of Forestry (WVDOF) Forest Legacy Program protects significant working forest land from being converted to non-forest uses.

WVDOF has acquired and is acquiring conservation easements that support the Chesapeake Bay Agreement's goal of conserving an additional 2 million acres of lands by 2025.

In addition, the Forest Legacy Program's efforts help meet the TMDL for the Chesapeake Bay as well as the WV Watershed Implementation Plan's goal of protecting 1200 acres per year.

For more information, please contact John Rowe at 304-545-6063 or at John.P.Rowe@wv.gov.

[Text Link](#)



Upcoming Events

Big Tree Contest Announced

John Overington's Big Tree Contest is open to Jefferson, Berkeley, and Morgan county residents. The tree of choice is the dogwood. Winner receives \$500 and a copy of the poem "Trees" by Joyce Kilmer.



Residents must measure the trunk at 4.5' above the ground and turn in estimated trunk circumference, location, and telephone number to Heather Duncan (hishman@epcd.us or (681) 247-3013)) by August 1st. The participant must either own the property or obtain landowner permission prior to turning in the submission.

The goal of the contest is to promote stewardship, tree identification, and getting outdoors.

[Text Link](#)



Save the Date: Tuesday, June 8

Virtual Eastern Panhandle Watershed Group Gathering

This year's event is going virtual!

Join us to find out what's new in watershed conservation around the panhandle and to learn about wetlands, flood mitigation, and more!

Tuesday, June 8, 2021, 9 am - 1 pm, via Skype

RSVP to Kristen Bisom to ensure you receive a link to the gathering and the final agenda: kbisom@wvca.us

Share your organization's accomplishments!

To participate in the Watershed Highlights presentation, prepare one slide to accompany a three-minute update.

Send your slide to Tanner Haid: thaid@wvivers.org

WV Chesapeake Bay region teams sweep virtual WV Envirothon



WV Envirothon Goes Virtual

NEWS RELEASE: Mineral County FFA team wins 2021 West Virginia Envirothon competition

Roanoke, W.Va. -- The Mineral County Future Farmers of America (FFA) team won the 2021 West Virginia Envirothon, and were named as this year's winners on Friday afternoon during an awards ceremony that was hosted at Stonewall Resort and reached teams throughout the state virtually.

Mineral's team of five high school students competed against nine other teams to win this year's event, which is the state's premiere conservation competition for high school students.

Led by Mineral County FFA Adviser Julie Sions, the team includes students John Bittinger, Lara Bittinger, Rachael Brinkman, Robby Moncrief and Sarah Sions.

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