



West Virginia's Chesapeake Bay Update

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Spring 2016, Issue 22

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West Virginia Partners Take Advantage of Networking Opportunity

Carla Hardy, Program Manager, WV Conservation Agency



West Virginia's forestry partners recently participated in the first Chesapeake Bay Riparian Forest Buffer Networking Forum on February 25th and 26th at the Bishop Claggett Conference Center in Buckeystown, MD. The forum included opportunities for practitioners to learn from each other about how to increase voluntary participation in riparian forest buffer (RFB) restoration and protection, showcasing of successes in delivering RFB programs and practices, and development of more specific goals. Click [here](#) for the full article.

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PEOPLE MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Spotlight: Doris Brackenrich

Meet Doris Brackenrich! Doris is the District Conservationist for Grant, Hardy, and Pendleton Counties. She graduated from Stonewall Jackson High School in 1976, attended Virginia Tech for 2 years in Elementary Education, has an Associate's Degree in Ag Business Management from Lord Fairfax Community College and was hired by SCS (the old NRCS) in 1983 as a temporary employee. She returned to college at WVU, graduated in 1985 with BS Degree in Resource Management/Ag Economics and secured her first permanent position with NRCS in 1985 in Hampshire County. She has also held

Wastewater Plant Dedicated on Earth Day

Alana Hartman, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection



On Earth Day, April 22, the city of Romney hosted a dedication event for its wastewater treatment plant, which was upgraded recently to meet the requirements of West Virginia's Watershed Improvement Plan for the Chesapeake Bay. U.S. Sen. Shelley Moore Capito was the guest speaker, and letters of congratulations were read by representatives of U.S. Sen. Joe Manchin and Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin. Daniel Ferrell, the project's manager from the Thrasher Group, also spoke about the success of this project, which was finished ahead of schedule and under budget.

Click [here](#) to read the full article.

Perdue Foods, LLC Participate in Project Clean Stream

Cindy Shreve, WV Department of Agriculture



Perdue employees pause for a photo.

In early April, Perdue Foods, LLC located in Baker, West Virginia participated in Project Clean Stream. This is a program that is organized and coordinated by the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay in which volunteers spend time cleaning up trash or otherwise improving their communities. A group of eight

positions in Mineral and Jefferson County (WAE), Hampshire and Berkeley as a Soil Conservationist. Her first position as a District Conservationist was in Monroe County in 1988 until 1997 when she was detailed to Pendleton County to work with PL-534 Land Treatment Project. She secured her permanent District Conservationist position in September 1997.

Click [here](#) for the full profile.

GET INVOLVED: UPCOMING EVENTS

District Dash

Eastern Panhandle
Conservation District



Celebrate West Virginia Day by running the District Dash 5K and 1 Mile Fun Walk at Cacapon State Park, Berkeley Springs, WV on June 18, 2016. To register online, visit www.active.com and search "District Dash". Registration fees of \$25 (runners) and \$10 (walkers) will benefit residents of the eastern panhandle by furthering and promoting conservation education programs and events. For more information, contact Suzy Campbell WVCA, Conservation Specialist at 304.263.4376 ext. 3, scampbell@wvca.us

gathered in Maysville, WV to plant a buffer between two poultry farms. The buffer included Norway Spruce, Red Maple, and Forsythia. The buffer was designed in cooperation with WV Department of Agriculture and WV Conservation Agency to help capture air emissions and absorb nutrients in the soil and water. Click [here](#) for the article in a new window, with an additional photo.

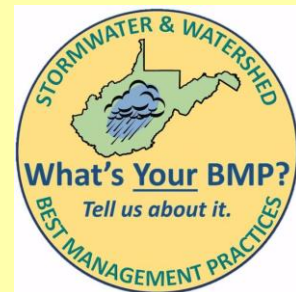
Report your Environmental Practices

Kat Cooper, Cacapon Institute

How are you protecting our lands and waters? People like you, who install stormwater best management practices (BMPs) on your property and in the community, help West Virginians achieve our goal of safe, swimmable, fishable, and drinkable waterways. By reporting your BMPs, you help us understand the beneficial impact you have made. Please share your experience. You will help us help others improve their practices.

Report your BMP online:

Go to cacaponinstitute.org then click the "What's Your BMP" logo.



Report your:

- * Tree plantings
- * Rain barrels/cisterns
- * Rain gardens
- * Permeable pavers
- * Septic pumping
- * Green roofs
- * Downspout disconnections

Together, we are making our lands & rivers cleaner and healthier!

If you have questions or comments on, or suggestions for, our BMP reporting tool contact Katherine "Kat" Cooper, Cacapon Institute's Watershed BMP Specialist, at KCooper@CacaponInstitute.org.

West Virginia Agriculture: Most Progressive, More to Do

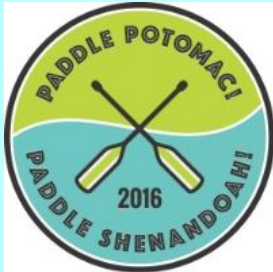
West Virginia Conservation Agency

West Virginia is a key partner in the initiative to assist in the cleanup of the Chesapeake Bay. Recently, the state was recognized for its leadership and progress in meeting Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) reductions for nutrient and sediment.

--or--

Heather Duncan
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Potomac Paddle Event Potomac Riverkeeper Network



Join the Potomac Riverkeeper Network on June 8-19th 2016 for Paddle Potomac! Paddle Shenandoah! Twelve paddle trips in eleven days! Paddle historic and scenic segments of the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the National Park Service on our Nation's River.

Click [here](#) for the paddling, fishing and camping opportunities, outfitter services and exclusive National Park Service tours. Join us and make a SPLASH! for clean water!

"The bottom line is of all seven watershed jurisdictional partners, West Virginia is on the best trajectory to meeting its Bay TMDL related commitments and goals. And the long term trends observed at all the West Virginia stations within the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership's Watershed Water Quality Monitoring Network are providing clear evidence that your commitments to getting

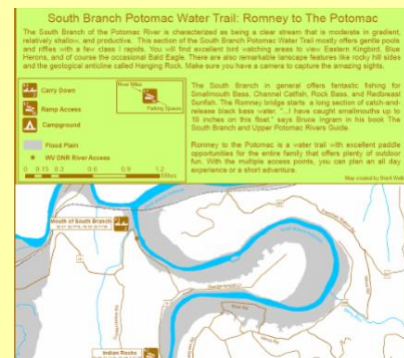


practices on the ground are making a real, positive difference in local stream and river water quality conditions," said Rich Batiuk, associate director for science, analysis and implementation, Chesapeake Bay Program Office. "It should be noted that this has been accomplished by voluntary cooperation with the agricultural community."

West Virginia will continue promoting and implementing nutrient management planning on agricultural lands. For the full article, click [here](#).

South Branch Water Trail Maps Now Available Brent Walls, Upper Potomac Riverkeeper

The South Branch Water Trail map series is a compilation of three maps from Petersburg, WV to the confluence of the Potomac River. The design of the maps has been a coordinated effort between Potomac Riverkeeper Network, WV Division of Natural Resources, Eagles Nest Outfitters and Jerry's General Trough Store and Canoe Rental. The maps are now available, and there will be a presentation in June during the Paddle Potomac event. See item on left column of this newsletter.



About WV's Potomac Tributary Strategy Team

Fourteen percent (14%) of West Virginia drains into the Potomac River and on to the Chesapeake Bay. In June of 2002, Governor Bob Wise signed the Chesapeake Bay Program Water Quality Initiative Memorandum of Understanding. By signing this memo, West Virginia agreed to develop goals and objectives to reduce nutrient and sediment loading to the Chesapeake Bay.

To help WV accomplish these goals, Project Teams began working in targeted watersheds. These groups build partnerships, gather funding, and identify priority projects that are most important to their local communities. Reducing nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment in local creeks and rivers will mean healthier water resources that are better able to sustain tourism, fishing, drinking water supplies, wildlife habitat, and other uses. Each one of us can act locally to help achieve these goals.

WV's Potomac Tributary Strategy Team



WV's Potomac Tributary Strategy Team,
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