

BRADFORD COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Stoll Natural Resource Center
200 Lake Road, Suite E, Towanda, PA 18848
Telephone (570)265-5539 Ext.

August 5, 2024, MEETING

The August 2024, meeting of the Bradford County Conservation District was called to order by Alvin Herman on August 5, 2024, at 12:31 PM, at the Stoll Natural Resource Center.

District Directors Attending the Meeting in person were: Alvin Herman and Brian Zeidner,

Others attending via Zoom: Tony Ventello – Board Member, Daryl Miller – Vice Chairman, Rachael Fish – DEP CDFR, Cathy Yeakel – District Manager, Adam Chorba – Forest Specialist, Daniel Rhodes – Education Coordinator, Lacy Powers – Natural Resource Specialist, Jenny Marino – Accounts Supervisor, Chad Spencer – NRCS, Jen Johns – Buffer Specialist, Kevin Brown – Ag. Team Leader, Tim Robson – D&G Roads Specialist, Patrick Cullen – District Engineer, Glenn Bell – Ag Resource Specialist, Brad Cummings – Chapter 102/105 Program Manager, and Breanna Ameigh – WNV Coordinator.

REPORTS FROM COOPERATING AGENCIES AND GUESTS:

Commission Report – Field Representative – A handout of the August 2024 DEP Conservation District Field Rep Talking Points was handed out and discussed. Important training and dates were highlighted.

Claverack REC – Brian discussed the pollinator garden project.

NRCS – Chad reported that CREP enrollment for FY 24' is wrapping up. USGS is looking to install a monitoring location along Towanda Creek between LeRoy and Franklindale.

Tony Ventello made a motion to accept the July 1, 2024, minutes as written. Brian Zeidner seconded the motion; motion was unanimously passed.

OLD BUSINESS

District Picnic – The Annual Conservation District Staff and Volunteer Appreciation Picnic will take place at Mt. Pisgah State Park's poolside pavilion on August 9th at 11:00 AM. Due to the rain, the kayak shack will likely not be open but please come and eat!

Chesapeake Lease – A lease document is being prepared and will be presented for approval at the next meeting.

COMMITTEES - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

PROGRAM UPDATES

D&G Contracts – Tim presented two projects for payment as follows:

Sheshequin Township: \$413,300.00

Pike Township: \$20,000

Daryl Miller made a motion to approve the payment of the two projects. Tony Ventello seconded the motion; motion was unanimously passed.

Treasure's Report & Payment of Bills – The Treasurer's Report was presented to the Board. Brian Zeidner made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and pay the bills. Daryl Miller seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed.

Correspondence – A summary of correspondence received was provided at the meeting.

Cathy mentioned that there will be an active shooter training going on next Monday, August 12th from 9AM to 2PM. All staff, building tenants and directors are invited to attend.

Breanna Ameigh reported that two positive specimens of West Nile Virus were captured. The areas they were identified will be sprayed according to DEP protocol. WNV has been identified in almost all counties in the state. Please reach out to Breanna with questions.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:51 pm by Alvin Herman

The next meeting of the Bradford County Conservation District will be held on Monday, September 9, 2024, 12:30 PM, at the Stoll Natural Resource Center and via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Yeakel

District Manager

JULY
CORRESPONDENCE

#1 FARMSHINE

#2 PA DEP, Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields Program

- Copy of Disapproval of Final Report to Avery Dennison Corporation for the Avery Dennison Wilcox St Cleanup – Final Report Former Paxar Facility, Sayre Borough.
- Copy of Notice of Intent to Civil & Environmental Consultants, inc. for the Remediate Background and statewide Health Standards for the Rush Yard, Orwell Township.
- Copy of Receipt of Final Report to Moody and Associates, Inc., for the Young Compressor Station, Springfield Township.
- Copy of Approval of Indian Foot Pad – Remedial Investigation and Final Report, Indian Foot Well Pad Produced Water Cleanup to Chesapeake Appalachia LLC, Monroe Township.

#3 PA DEP, Monshannon District Mining Office

- Copy notification of Major Revision Application for Johnson Quarries, Inc., Stevens Township.
- Copy of New Small Noncoal Permit Issuance to Perkins Stone, LLC, for the Trophy Tech Quarry, Warren Township.
- Copy of New GP-105 Issuance to Stevensville Stone Supply, LLC for the Rolling Rock 105 Quarry, Stevens Township.

*#4 PennDOT

- Letter from PennDOT to the Conservation District, requesting for us to move the border sign between Tioga and Bradford Counties as it is now considered within their right-of-way.

August 2024 DEP Conservation District Field Rep Talking Points

Larson Design Group - Technical Assistance Program Announcement

LDG is accepting project assistance requests from County Conservation Districts to provide technical services for agricultural projects focusing on nutrient and sediment reduction. Please utilize the following information to prepare and complete the Technical Assistance Application.

- Agricultural project examples include but are not limited to stormwater management, agricultural infrastructure, stream restoration and stabilization, and wastewater projects.
- Examples of services that can be provided through the program include permitting, site survey, inventory and evaluation, project engineering and design, construction inspection, and project coordination.
- Technical Assistance funding is eligible for North and South Group County Conservation District projects located within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

County Groups

- North Group: Berks, Cameron, Clearfield, Columbia, Elk, Indiana, Jefferson, Lycoming, McKean, Montour, Northumberland, and Potter Counties.
- South Group: Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Clinton, Fulton, Huntingdon, Mifflin, Snyder, Somerset, and Union Counties.

Application Dates

- Opens on Monday July 29, 2024
- Closes on Friday August 16, 2024

[Technical Assistance Program Application](#)

For more information contact Tammy Piper (tapiper@pa.gov) from DEP or Teah Gray (tgray@larsondesigngroup.com) from Larson Design Group.

2024 REAP Application Round

REAP will begin accepting applications for the FY 2024 program on August 1st. Requests for REAP Tax Credits are expected to exceed the annual funding allocation. It is recommended that farmers submit applications in the first week of August to have the best chance of funding this year. The new application packet is available on the [webpage](#) and has been emailed to all Districts. You may contact Joel Semke (jsemke@pa.gov) or Nicole Bloom (nbloom@pa.gov) if your district did not receive the application packet.

AgriLink Program

Commission staff is planning to hold a webinar training focused on the AgriLink program in August – exact date will be announced in the near future. AgriLink provides low-interest loans to farmers for water-quality BMP projects. The Commission is focused on reinvigorating the program due to the higher borrowing cost of recent years. You may contact Joel Semke at jsemke@pa.gov or click [here](#) for more information.

Chapter 102 Resource Account Correction

The Bureau of Clean Water (BCW) recently sent out the July Chapter 102 Quarterly Newsletter. It has been brought to our attention that there was a discrepancy on the newsletter related to the Chapter 102 Resource Account emails, specifically, the Permit Forms resource account. DEP and Conservation District staff are to copy DEP Central Office with approved permit forms, such as NOIs and NOTs to the RA-102PermitForms@pa.gov. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused. Please direct any additional questions to Luke Graver at lugraver@pa.gov.

PAG-02 Reissuance Notification for Existing Permittees

A date has been established for the reissuance of the PAG-02 General Permit of August 31, 2024. This is when, barring unforeseen circumstances, notice of the final PAG-02 will be published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. That will start the clock on existing permittees preparing and submitting PAG-02 renewal NOIs, which must be received by December 7, 2024.

During the week of August 26, we need for everyone to email or mail out notification letters to all existing PAG-02 permittees in your counties. The template letters have been uploaded to the 102 Resource Center (click on Templates, Fact Sheets and Checklists and then [Existing PAG-02 Permittee Letter Templates](#)). If you email letters, please save the template into PDF format and send it as an attachment. Additionally, if you have electronic systems that receive NOIs, please feel free to modify the part of the template that instructs permittees where to send their renewal NOI.

The available templates are as follows:

- Existing PAG-02 Permittee Letter – Special Protection Waters (Final – CCDs) – CCDs should email or mail this letter to any existing permittee with a project located in a watershed whose existing or designated use has been upgraded to special protection (HQ/EV) (including new EV wetlands) since original permit issuance. These permittees will need to submit an Individual NPDES Permit application by December 7. We do not expect you to evaluate every project at this point. This letter, which should be addressed to specific permittees, is for those situations where you know the existing or designated use has been upgraded and the permittee will need an Individual Permit. DEP's [existing use list](#) and [Chapter 93](#) can be checked if you're unsure (and PAFBC's [Wild Trout Waters \(Natural Reproduction\) list](#) for EV wetlands).
- Existing PAG-02 Permittee Letter (Final – CCDs) – This is the general letter that should be sent by CCDs to all existing permittees that do not receive the letter concerning Special Protection Waters. This letter is generic, i.e., you do not need to identify the permittee (unless you want to).

New Funding In the 2024 – 2025 Budget for State Conservation Commission Program

The Commission has an additional \$35 million to allocate to Districts for ACAP projects for FY 2024 and for the foreseeable future, thanks to dedicated ACAP funding that was approved with the FY 2024 PA budget. The Commission is currently meeting with Districts, the ACAP workgroup, and program stakeholders to determine an allocation method for the new funds.

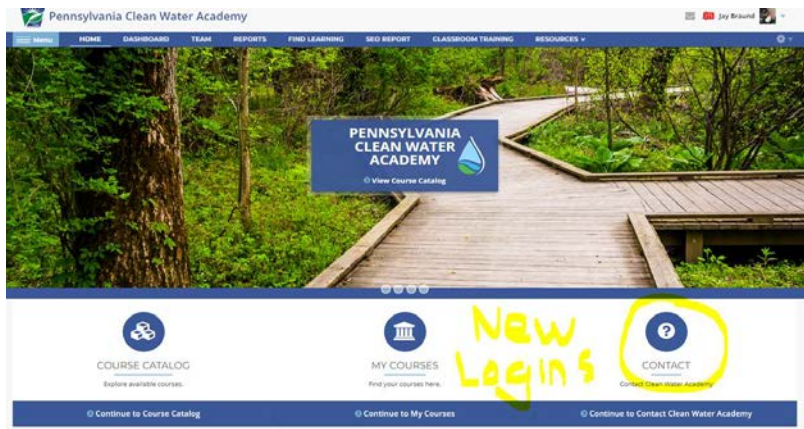
The Commission received \$10 million/yr funding for the Ag Innovation Grant program. These funds are intended to deploy innovative technologies/BMPs at the farm, processor, or service provider level. These investments will target energy, nutrients, and technology.

Clean Water Academy (CWA)

The Qualified Visual Site Inspector Training Program is available to the regulated community. This Training Program is an option to meet the training requirements in the new 2024 PAG-02. A login is required to access the Training Program.

- [Program: Qualified Visual Site Inspector Training Program \(2024\) \(remote-learner.net\)](#)

Requesting a CWA has now become easier! On the CWA home page in the lower right corner, click on the “Contact” button, then press “REQUEST NEW ACCOUNT” (see photo below). There is a team that can process all requests.



102 and 105 Attachment B on the Clean Water Academy

It is essential that Districts update Attachment B on the Clean Water Academy for the Chapter 102 and 105 Programs anytime there are staff changes at the district. **The 102 and 105 Programs use the Attachment B online forms to enable e-permitting permissions for new staff** and to disable them for former staff. The Attachment B can be found under the Data Portal tile in CWA. To update Attachment B, you need to search for your county and then select the ‘Gear’ icon to edit. For employees no longer working in the program, you should change employment status to ‘Former’ and choose an Employment End Date. This helps DEP maintain and enable all the data systems.

Updates can be entered here: [Course: Data Portal \(remote-learner.net\)](https://remote-learner.net/course/view.php?id=1306)

Chesapeake Bay Program

Cap 1:1 County Calls: Matt Williard, DEP Bureau of Clean Water, is planning on joining CAP 1:1 County Calls in August for counties that have a significant number of MS4 Permittees. Matt will discuss the MS4 Annual Reporting Period which ends soon. The goal is to encourage more permittees to enter BMPs into the eReporting system (this gets exported by the MS4 Program and passed along the Chesapeake Bay Program). The following counties are a focus in August: Cumberland, Dauphin, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Lebanon, Blair, Centre, Luzerne, York.

July Webinar Wednesday covered changes to the CAP Grant application process. John Dawes with The Commons described details to enter potential projects into FieldDoc for nutrient reduction estimation on the 2025 application and Todd Deroba presented on 2025 application updates. A focus is on the Project Summary Form:

- a. Emphasis on a unique project name to be used to track the project through its lifecycle.
- b. Clear instructions on how to identify whether a project falls into an MEB DC area.
- c. Emphasis on understanding project readiness.
- d. Inclusion of a reference picture for specific BMPs at a project site as opposed to BMPs that would apply to a large general area.

The link to the July webinar recording is here:

<https://pacleanwateracademy.remote-learner.net/course/view.php?id=1306>

August 7th Webinar Wednesday will review the Annual Progress Reporting and Two-Year Milestone Update Timeline for county partners. Only four Tier 2 counties are due to perform Two-Year Milestone Updates.

Dates to Remember

SCC Meetings – 1:00 PM

In-Person MeetingSept 10
Hybrid Meeting.....Nov 12

SCC Conference Calls – 8:30 – 10:00 AM

Conference Call.....Aug 20
Conference Call.....Oct 8

CDFAP Allocation Worksheet and Greenport Entry Webinars

- August 6, 2024 at 9 AM
- August 13, 2024 at 1:30 PM

-Repeat information will be presented at the second webinar.
-Teams meeting notices will be sent via the EP County Conservation District email list one week prior to each scheduled webinar.

August 1 – FY 2024 REAP applications will be accepted. The deadline to submit FY2024 applications is September 1st.

Management Summit

Wyndham Garden, State College Sept. 18-19

New Manager Training

Wyndham Garden, State College Sept. 17 & 19 & Oct 23

Act 38 Certification Trainings

Nutrient Management Orientation training Aug 6
ACA & Manure Storage workshop Aug 19-21
Managing Manure Nutrients workshop Aug 27

Chapter 102 Trainings (Virtual)

Wetlands for 102 Aug. 13 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM
What to expect with the 2024 PAG-02 and Renewal NOIs Aug. 20 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Channels (small group training) Aug. 27 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
PAG-02 Permit Review SOP and Exceptions SOP Sept. 4 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
VSIR, SCM Form, New Owner Form, EP Analysis Sept. 11 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Sediment Traps and Basins (small group training) Sept. 24 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Channels (small group training) Dec. 10 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Fall Virtual Basic Training

Two days: November 13-14, 2024: 9 AM – 12 PM both days
To register, log into Clean Water Academy and visit:
<https://pacleanwateracademy.remote-learner.net/course/view.php?id=922>

Verbal Judo

In-person – State CollegeTentative Oct 15 & 16

Also, check the Conservation District Training/Special Events Calendar at, www.PACD.org. Select the "Events" tab and then the "Training Calendar" tab.