



## Yellow Breeches Watershed Association

P. O. Box 5  
Grantham, PA 17027  
[www.ybwa.org](http://www.ybwa.org)

January 2, 2017

RE: Yellow Breeches Watershed Association  
Membership Renewal 2017

Dear Fellow YBWA Member:

As we begin 2017 we are happy to report that 2016 was another good year for our organization in fostering public understanding and stewardship of environmental resources in the Yellow Breeches Watershed. As we start a new year, we hope that you will again choose to support the organization through membership renewal for 2017. Your membership support helps the organization continue to work to meet our goals.

As in previous years, 2016 produced some very memorable moments for which our organization can take pride. Some of our most notable initiatives included the following:

- **Trout Day**- On April 2nd, we collaborated with SUEZ Water and Field & Stream retailer in celebrating the opening day of trout season at the Rabold Water Treatment Plant on Limekiln Road. Information about fishing and watershed stewardship was distributed, and volunteers conducted a streamside cleanup of the water company property and nearby roadsides. In addition to fishing, adults and youngsters enjoyed food, drinks and give-aways, courtesy of SUEZ, Field & Stream and YBWA.
- **Project Clean Stream** – Throughout the spring, we partnered with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay and Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful to lead various groups to clean land areas along the main creek and an undeveloped park in Fairview Township.
- **Mechanicsburg Earth Day Festival** – On April 23rd we participated in this festival providing environmental information and information about the YBWA organization. Over 200 children and their parents visited our booth and participated in the painting of personal conservation banners.
- **Community Day**- On May 7<sup>th</sup> we participated in Field & Stream’s inaugural “Community Day” at the store and helped volunteers clean up a portion of Cedar Run.
- **Watershed Festival** – On June 14<sup>th</sup> we participated in a festival held in Hampden Township celebrating the wonders of both the Yellow Breeches Watershed and the Conodoguinet Watershed.
- **Family Clean Up Event** – On July 17<sup>th</sup> we sponsored a family clean up of the Yellow Breeches between Messiah College and Yellow Breeches Park. Fun was had by all with lots of trash removed from the creek.
- **Annual Community Gathering** – On October 13<sup>th</sup> we held our annual meeting and community get-together to celebrate the wonders of the Yellow

Breeches. SuAnn Shupp from the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Bureau of Forestry provided a presentation on ***Retaining Forestland in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed***. Allison Campbell from the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay reviewed the Alliance's Landscape Improvement 80/20 Cost-share Program. And yours truly, Brook Lenker reviewed YBWA plans to again establish a ***Landscape Makeover Contest*** in 2017 in cooperation with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay.

In addition, we continue numerous year round initiatives such as the following:

- Continue to maintain informational kiosks located at various locations on the water trail. The Yellow Breeches Water Trail Map & Guide was updated in 2015 and is available at the Kiosks or for download through links from the YBWA website.
- Continued outreach through e-mails, web-site updates, Facebook and coordination with local townships and partner organizations
- Participation with the Cumberland Conservation Collaborative
- Working with Messiah College, Cumberland County, Lower Allen Township, Monaghan Township and Upper Allen Township to address long-term management issues associated with the Yellow Breeches Creek Water Trail

Please visit our website at [www.ybwa.org](http://www.ybwa.org) to view our calendar of events and get more information about our activities. All of us who live, work, or play in portions of Cumberland, York, and Adams counties should reflect upon the benefits that the resources of the Yellow Breeches Watershed contribute to our quality of life. Please join us in making a difference for clean water in our watershed. Your continued membership will go a long way in those efforts. As a member, you will receive periodic updates, have the opportunity to network with others interested in the resources the watershed provides and be continually informed about activities of the organization.

We also encourage members to consider joining the YBWA's Board of Directors. If any member or prospective member should have an interest in serving, please feel free to call me, talk with another board member, or attend our next board meeting scheduled for March 8, 2017.

Sincerely,

*Brook Lenker*

Brook Lenker, President

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cc. Deborah Goetz, Past President  
Philip Brath, Vice President  
John Eby, Treasurer  
Dennis Auken, Secretary & Chair, Membership & Fund Raising Committee  
Richard Pugh, Board Member  
Laura Basso, Board Member