

YELLOW BREECHES WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

c/o Lower Allen Township Authority
120 Limekiln Road, New Cumberland, PA 17070-2428
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October, 2001

NEWSLETTER

Volume No. 1

The Yellow Breeches Watershed Association Board of Directors welcomes you to the first edition of the Association Newsletter. The Newsletter is intended to provide information on Association activities in further support of watershed environmental stewardship.

YBWA FORMATION The Yellow Breeches Watershed Association, YBWA, was formed with the assistance of a Growing Greener Grant obtained by Lower Allen Township. An initial stakeholders meeting was held on January 10, 2001 and people interested in serving on the Steering Committee volunteered. The first public meeting was held on February 21, 2001 at the Barn in the Lower Allen Community Park. Videos of other successful watershed groups were viewed and presentations on potential projects on Trout Run and the New Cumberland Park were discussed. In the following months the Steering Committee drafted by laws and initial Board of Directors were appointed. Articles of incorporation were prepared and filed with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Internal Revenue Service. The Association 501, c, 3 nonprofit application has been filed with the IRS and is pending approval. Stream monitoring, Projects, and Education-Communication working committees have been formed and are active. Interim officers include:

President – John Brossman

Treasurer – Tim Wakefield

Vice President – Suzanne White

Secretary – Dennis Auker

Assistant Secretary – Richard Pugh

The position of Assistant Treasurer is currently open if any one is interested. Legal guidance is being provided by David Martineau of Metzger Wickersham and engineering advice by Ami Gulden of HRG Engineering.

MEMBERSHIP Association membership applications are open to anyone interested in the watershed. The membership class types include; \$15 individual, \$25 family, \$5 student / senior, and \$100 corporation. Applications can be obtained by contacting YBWA at the above address or at any meeting.

THANKS YBWA thanks The Warrell Corporation and HRG Engineering for their corporate sponsorship, The Duff Al Bag for printing Association t-shirts, and Bob Rowland for writing the History of the Callapatschink/Yellow Breeches Creek fact sheet.

WEBSITE The website addresses www.ybwa.org and www.yellowbreeches.org have been reserved by YBWA for its future use. The Education-Communication Committee is working on creating the website so look for it in the future.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

MONITORING - The Monitoring Committee has been actively sampling and testing stream water quality at a number of locations. YBWA monitoring is conducted in cooperation with the Environmental Alliance for Senior Involvement (EASI) who has provided the training and sampling kits. Look for the first annual report of monitoring results to be published in the future.

EDUCATION-COMMUNICATION – The Education-Communication Committee can report progress on several tasks. A number of educational fact sheets on the watershed have been drafted and will be made available. These include organization, history, physical features, and recreation. A grant application was submitted to SRBC on behalf of the Boroughs of Mt. Holly Springs and New Cumberland and Townships of Monroe, Lower Allen, and Fairview for signs at creek road crossings. Website addresses have been obtained and development of the site has started, stay tuned for notice of website startup.

PROJECTS – Project grant support letters have been provided to New Cumberland for stream bank restoration and park improvements, Appalachian Trail Conference for land purchase and Upper Allen for park development. New Cumberland has received its grant. A number of stream bank restoration plantings projects have been delayed by the continuing dry conditions. Currently, a DCNR grant application is being prepared for the development of a rivers conservation plan that will include water quality assessment in the watershed.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 30, 2001, 7 PM, Environmental Futures Planning Process public meeting at DEP South Central Regional Office, 909 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110 for North Group Watershed that includes the Yellow Breeches Creek.

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