



Yellow Breeches Watershed Association
c/o Lower Allen Township Authority
120 Limekiln Road
New Cumberland, PA 17070-2428

www.ybwa.org

March 2006

NEWSLETTER

Volume No. 6 No. 1

SPRING Cleanup

The Yellow Breeches Watershed Association (YBWA) has scheduled a stream cleanup project for **Saturday, April 8, 2006**, from 8:00 a.m. until noon. **Volunteers are needed!** Several locations in Lower Allen Township along the Yellow Breeches Creek and a tributary, Cedar Run, will be improved by your efforts.

This event is being organized by YBWA, with assistance provided by Lower Allen Township. The project sponsors are PPL Corporation and the Susquehanna River Basin Commission. The purpose of the event is to improve the streamside appearance and environment by removing trash, litter and other debris from the water, stream banks and floodplain area.

Volunteers, please report to: Lower Allen Township Public Works Building, 1400 S. St. Johns Road at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 8, 2006. You can access S. St. Johns Road from Slate Hill Road via Appleton Street (at former Appleton Paper Plant) or from Lisburn Road (just east of Country Walk Apartments). You will sign in and receive instructions, assignments and materials. Volunteers will then drive to the various stream locations to be cleaned up. The cleanups are expected to be completed by noon.

While volunteers of all ages are welcome, children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult. All minors must have a parent or guardian complete a participation form.

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Trout Day 2006

Welcome Fisherman and Outdoor Lovers! The 5th Annual "Trout Day" along the Yellow Breeches Creek, at Slate Hill Rd & Limekiln Rd, takes place **Saturday, April 15, 2006**.



The event is held by United Water Pennsylvania and the Yellow Breeches Watershed Association (YBWA). Food will be served to all that attend. Coffee & Doughnuts from 6:00 AM until 9:00 AM, followed by Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, and Soda until 1:00 PM. Register for the Biggest Trout Contest for adults & youths. Prizes will be awarded for catching the biggest trout registered at our tent by 1:00 PM. The food is FREE! Instead, we will be accepting donations for the Yellow Breeches Watershed Association. The YBWA will display watershed maps and discuss activities benefiting the Yellow Breeches Creek and its surroundings.

Did you know that June is Rivers Month in Pennsylvania and that in 1992 the Yellow Breeches Creek was designated as the River of the Year for the 20th anniversary of the PA rivers program?

YBWA 2006 Calendar of Events

March

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April 5

Canoe Club Meeting - Harrisburg

April 8

Stream Clean-up Day

April 15

Annual Trout Day at United Water

April 29

Garden Gathering Exhibit at Lower Allen Park Barn

May 3

Water Trail Project Public Meeting at Lower Allen Park Barn 7 PM

June 14

YBWA Board Meeting

September 13

YBWA Board Meeting

September

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September 23

Forever Wild Concert Event at Mechanicsburg Middle School

September 30

New Cumberland Apple Festival at Borough Park

October

Annual YBWA Membership Meeting

December 13

YBWA Board Meeting

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This year marks the 5th Anniversary of the Yellow Breeches Watershed Association – supporting environmental resource management and stewardship in the watershed. The organization began in early 2001 thanks to the initiative and vision of several of the founding board members, the support of Lower Allen Township, and a Growing Greener planning grant from PADEP. An initial stakeholders meeting was held in January of 2001 and a planning committee was formed. The first public meeting was held in February 2001 followed by the filing of articles of incorporation with an effective date of April 18, 2001 - the official anniversary date.

Much progress has been made in 5 years and a lot of credit goes to the members, volunteers, and other partners that have actively participated in various initiatives. A significant accomplishment was the completion of a Watershed Assessment and Rivers Conservation Plan project last year thanks to grants received from DEP and DCNR. This project was a major focus of the organization for several years and as a result has created much interest and provides the basis for many of the current initiatives within the watershed.

At the annual membership meeting in October 2005, the mission and goals of the organization were reviewed and the proposed goals/priorities for 2006 were presented that also included a proposed restructuring of committees. The Board of Directors approved the organization goals and revised committee structure/priorities for 2006 at the January meeting. Information on the revised committee structure, chairpersons and activities is included with this newsletter.

A few of the priority goals for 2006 include: the designation and establishment of a water trail in partnership with Cumberland County (see public meeting announcement); membership recruitment and growth; increase publicity and outreach activities; and continue monitoring activities and partnering with other organizations including initiatives on Cedar Run, Trout Run, Dogwood Run, and Mountain Creek.

This year is shaping up to be very exciting and challenging. In celebration of the 5th year anniversary, many activities are being planned. Please refer to the calendar of events for 2006. If you are an active member of the organization, I thank you. If not, I ask that you seriously consider becoming actively involved with one of the committees or volunteer to help with one or more of the planned activities or events this year. Also, please consider inviting someone you know to become a new member of YBWA. With your help, I am confident that the organization will continue to grow and accomplish great things to benefit the Yellow Breeches Watershed.

I am pleased to continue to serve as President for a second year and look forward to a very successful and rewarding year.

Rich Pugh
President YBWA

Are you interested in boating, recreation and stewardship of the Yellow Breeches Creek?

The Cumberland County Planning Commission and the Yellow Breeches Watershed Association are hosting a public meeting to introduce the Yellow Breeches Water Trail Project.

The purpose of the meeting is to:

- Explain “What are water trails?”
- Provide an overview of the proposed Yellow Breeches Water Trail Guide
- Provide the general public and municipal officials an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback on the project



Meeting Date/Time:
Wednesday, May 3, 2006 - 7 PM

Meeting Location:
The Barn at Lower Allen Township
Community Park
4075 Lisburn Road, Mechanicsburg, PA
Directions available at www.lower-allen.pa.us

Contact Information:
Stephanie Williams, (717) 240-5383
sjwilliams@ccpa.net
Cumberland County Planning Commission

Land Partnerships: Cumberland County's Smart Growth and Open Space Preservation Plan

YBWA has completed a four-year assignment on the Cumberland County Open Space Steering Committee that assisted in drafting the open space preservation plan. The *Land Partnerships* plan is intended to provide a blueprint to help the County achieve a healthy balance between preservation and development. It identifies important features and suggests strategies and policies to protect those resources for current and future generations.

The planning process consisted of six steps:

1. Inventory and mapping of agricultural, natural, recreational and cultural resources.
2. Assessment of public opinion and level of support for open space preservation.
3. Creation of a vision.
4. Formation of goals and objectives to achieve the vision.
5. Development of conclusions and strategies regarding open space preservation and smart growth.
6. Establishment of an action plan and schedule to implement the recommendations.

The draft plan is open for public comment until April 3, 2006. It can be viewed at the Cumberland County Planning Commission office located at 18 North Hanover Street, Carlisle or on the County website, www.ccpa.net/planning (see Greenway & Open Space Preservation Initiatives).

The County Open Space effort is currently supporting and funding the proposed Yellow Breeches Creek Water Trail.

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Spring Cleanup

YBWA will supply gloves, vests, trash bags, snacks and drinks for the volunteers. Dress appropriately for a stream cleanup. Expect your footwear to get wet and muddy. Water entry will be limited, depending upon stream conditions and safety considerations; however, volunteers with hip or

knee length boots would be very helpful to remove items that are in the water. Feel free to bring any cleanup tools you would find helpful.

Pre-registration is preferred, so we can plan how many sites can be cleaned, and how many people will need supplies, snacks and drinks. **Contact:** John Eby at 717-975-7575 ext. 1102, or john_eby@lower-allen.pa.us.

YBWA Committees

Goals/Objectives for 2006

Membership & Finance Committee (Dennis Auker Chair, Bill Apgar, Vince McCollum)

- Re-evaluate Membership Categories and Fees/Dues
- Increase membership by 100 % by initiating mail-a-friend campaign
- Increase corporate membership to 10 and prepare certificates for corporate members
- Increase corporate sponsorship by 100% by initiating a mail campaign and follow-up personal contacts.
- Maintain 100% of the existing membership rolls by tracking membership renewal dates, contacting existing members by mail and with follow-up phone calls.
- Prepare a list of membership benefits
- Establish and maintain membership list
- Review and update membership brochure
- Produce and issue membership cards
- Provide recognition plaques to the corporate sponsors.
- Contribute to the newsletter
- Investigate and establish a student chapter
- Distribute YBWA business cards and membership applications at appropriate locations and events.
- Coordinate with other Watershed Associations to share the costs of tracking and renewing memberships on a yearly basis.
- Coordinate preparation and submission of DCNR grant Application for Water Trail Project by April 30, 2006 in coordination with Projects/Monitoring Committee

Currently, the three members of the committee divide up the membership renewal responsibilities. We are looking for a fourth member to assist with the fourth quarter renewals. Anyone who is interested should contact Dennis Auker at 717-697-9344 or by e-mail at dwauker@deltaone.com.

The committee has recommended to the Board of Directors that the membership fee structure remain the same throughout 2006 as follows:

Individual = \$15

Family = \$25

Student or Senior (65 and over) = \$5

Corporate = \$100

Public Education/Outreach Committee (John Eby Chair, Bob Edwards, Vince McCollum, Suzanne White, John Brossman, Pat Devlin)

- Marketing Plan – identify events to attend/participate annually
- Implement PACD grant
- Maintain/Update Web Site and investigate alternatives for hosting the site at a reduced cost
- Prepare Newsletter – a minimum of 2 per year (Spring and Fall)
- Coordinate with Membership and Projects Committees
- Evaluate re-doing and/or re-printing a watershed map
- Sell ads for newsletter and produce a more professional looking newsletter
- Facilitate Municipal outreach and involvement
- Co-sponsor and participate in AAS Forever Wild Event on 9/23/06
- Plan and organize Annual Membership Meeting in October 2006

Projects/Monitoring Committee (Bill Apgar & Jake Romig Co-Chairs, Jen Hoffman, Ami Gulden, Yvonne Werzinsky, Matt O'Donnell, Donna Morelli)

- Monitor Cedar Run and Trout Run Initiatives
- Participate in Water Trail project workgroup
- Coordinate Volunteer monitoring efforts with CAPSEC regarding Site Study Design Plan
- Coordinate stream clean-ups
- Coordinate and participate in Annual Trout Day sponsored by United Water
- Review RCP/Watershed Assessment action items – identify/confirm priorities and formulate implementation strategy for highest priorities for future implementation
- Monitor and coordinate with Dickinson College regarding WQ monitoring on Mt. Creek
- Monitor Dam Removal and Riparian Buffer Restoration Projects
- Dogwood Run Project

Yellow Breeches Watershed Association

www.ybwa.org

President: Richard Pugh, rpugh@gfnet.com

Vice President: John Eby, john_eby@lower-allen.pa.us

Treasurer: John Brossman, john_brossman@lower-allen.pa.us

Secretary: Bob Edwards, redwa218@comcast.net

Assistant Secretary: Vince McCollum, vmcollum@ccpa.net

Membership Application

Name: _____ Renewal ___ New ___ YBWA 2006

Signature: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Area of Special Interest/Ability: _____

I am willing to serve on a Committee or help with: _____

___ \$15 Individual ___ \$25 Family _____ \$5 Student/Senior _____ \$100 Corporation

Make check payable to: Yellow Breeches Watershed Association

Return to: YBWA, c/o Lower Allen Authority, 120 Limekiln Rd, New Cumberland, PA 17070

YBWA is a nonprofit, federal tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization.