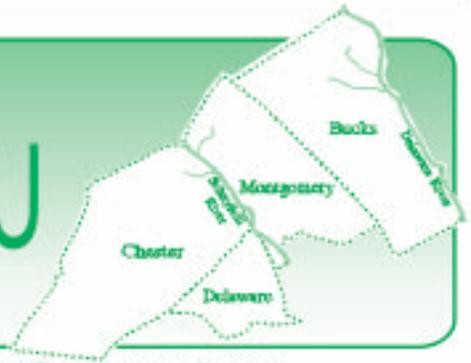


CONSERVATION & YOU



A publication of the Southeast Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts

Vol. 16, No. 4

Autumn 2005

Let's Talk

Having recently returned as Manager at the Bucks County Conservation District, after some seven years in the private sector, I believe that I have a unique perspective to bring to the table.

Communication between municipal engineers and their inspectors is essential, and the breadth of the municipal inspectors work load should not be underestimated. Communication is the key.

Rules and regulations continue to confound designers, builders and earthmoving contractors. I have always been of the opinion that regulations are the result of the regulated community's failure to perform in a professional, environmentally sensitive manner early on in the environmental movement of the late 1960's and early 1970's. As such, the Clean Streams Law, Dam Safety Act, Wetland regulations and so forth, have been passed and continue to be amended.

As these rules and regulations are now a part of everyone's life, it behooves the regulated community to pay attention. Surely you can be frustrated, but ignoring these regulations is not the answer. Once again, communication is the answer.

Meetings with District staff, DEP, Army Corps of Engineers staff, Fish & Boat Commission staff and other regulators will go a long way toward preventing violations and bad situations.

Conservation Districts, as coordinating agencies at the County level, are certainly a good place to start with information gathering. We can make the necessary contacts and are able to set up joint meetings, whether in the office or in the field.

As I see it, we are here to PREVENT degradation to the *waters of the Commonwealth*. It is through better communication that I believe conservation districts, regulators and the regulated community can and will come to a better resolution of the activities which impact our various efforts. So, let's talk; talk is cheap!

John Thomas
Bucks County C.D.

NPDES MS4 permit update

We are now in year three of the new MS4 permits. At this point all municipalities should have developed and put into practice an education program for both residents and municipal workers. Stormwater outfalls should have been mapped and prioritized for illicit discharge testing. By now the first 25% of your outfalls should have been tested, and the second 25% underway. Erosion and sediment control plan review processes need to be in place. Last, but not least, a post-construction stormwater ordinance should have been drafted and approved by the municipality.

This program represents a substantial workload for local municipalities. Conservation districts, some watershed groups, and neighboring municipalities have been partnering and sharing resources to meet the permit requirements.

Several municipalities in eastern Delaware County have begun working together through their Council of Governments (COG) to explore procedures for combining resources to meet the new requirements. COGs present a good opportunity to share expenses on educational material, outfall detection, and good housekeeping efforts.

Watershed associations can be a wonderful resource for coordinating efforts. For example, the Chester Ridley and Crum Watersheds Association has held several workshops and coordinated education material that has been distributed to partnering municipalities. The watershed group's efforts have saved the municipalities valuable time and money by pooling resources and receiving group discounts.

The Southeast PA Conservation Districts have developed standard policies to satisfy most of the erosion and sediment control requirements. Make sure you have the MS4 Erosion and Sediment Agreement and that it is submitted with your yearly report.

The Delaware County Conservation District has also assisted with training municipalities with the illicit discharge detection and non-point source pollution house keeping. Additional trainings can be offered in the future upon request.

I also recommend that you attend the MS4 workshop at Villanova on October 11, (www.villanova.edu/VUSP/). The most up-to-date information will be presented, and DEP staff will be available for questions. Many watershed groups and conservation districts will also be represented. Meet with them and inquire about additional training and partnerships.

The MS4 permits are an obvious burden on municipalities, but assistance is available for those who ask. Contact your conservation district for more information and *Good Luck*.

— William Gothier
Delaware County C.D.

The True Co\$ of Green

A broad expanse of exotic, mown grass surrounding corporate campuses has become the norm in the United States. In fact, corporate lawns make up 60 percent of the 23 million acres of manicured lawn in this country. Far too many acres of meadows and forests are sacrificed for the installation of this costly green carpet.

Business property managers do not need to be told that manicured grass is expensive to maintain. Mowing alone can cost some companies tens of thousands of dollars annually, in addition to the expense of chemical applications and reseeded.

A 1,000 square area of lawn requires 10,000 gallons of fresh water every summer to stay green. In addition, each year approximately 80 million pounds of pesticides and over a 100 million tons of fertilizer are applied to American lawns, killing beneficial creatures, impairing bodies of water, and leaching into human drinking water supplies.

Here is an example of one company that decided that the true cost of "green" was too high! McNeil CSP in Fort Washington, Pa. has a corporate campus of 113 acres, 80 of which were initially maintained as fine lawn and landscaped area. Since 1990, McNeil has returned 24 of these acres to tall grass and meadow. The company focused not only on the feasibility of biodiversity conservation, but also on the economic and educational opportunities that such activity presents.

LOOK WHAT THEY DISCOVERED . . .

From 1989 to 2000, McNeil CSP spent approximately \$59,000 in converting 24 acres of fine lawn into tall grass and a seeded wild flower meadow. These costs were mostly for staff time, supplies, and planting. That's pretty expensive, right? Well over the eleven-year period, the company saved more than twice that. They recognized a savings of \$133,570. This savings came from reduced fertilizer use, less aeration and weed control needs, fewer equipment costs, and less need for mowing labor.

McNeil also reports that their project has increased employee morale. Their employees know that McNeil cares about the environment and provides them with the opportunity to stand up and make a difference.

Sure, maybe the biological significance of these habitat enhancement projects are small, but just think of the multiplier effect. McNeil suspects that their experiment in biodiversity on the corporate campus has spilled over into the backyards of their employees, increasing biodiversity awareness across the region. Thanks for your good work McNeil! (Reprinted from the Estuary News Summer 2005)

For corporations like McNeil CSP who are interested in taking a leadership role in preserving the community's environmental well being in the Delaware Estuary Region, contact Kathy Klein 800-445-4935 ext.102 or kklein@dewawareestuary.org



Conservation Products & Services Directory to be updated

This directory was last printed in the year 2000. The intent of the directory is to provide a concise reference to land planners, engineers, developers, contractors, and others to help facilitate proper planning and installation of BMP's to ensure the conservation of our soil and water resources. In 2000 more than 70 companies were listed. The Sixth Edition will be coordinated by the Southeastern Pennsylvania Resource Conservation and Development Council (R.C.&D), and expanded to the seven-county area.

Selling advertising space in the directory will fund the effort. Details have not been finalized at this time. If you are interested in being included, please send an email to Ed Magargee MagargeeE@co.delaware.pa.us, or call him at (610) 892-9484 to be added to our mailing list.

Conservation districts cannot endorse companies or products, but frequently we are asked for information on conservation products and services. The Directory is an easy method for us to get the necessary information into the hands of the people needing to solve a particular natural resource problem.

— Ed Magargee
Delaware County C.D.



JOBSITE PRODUCTS, INC.
800-298-4900

*Erosion Control &
Geosynthetic Products*

2300 Butler Pike
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462
Tel 610-260-0100, Fax 610-260-0101



5660 WISMER ROAD
PIPERVILLE, PA 18947
215-766-0988
FAX 215-766-2239

KEN CHWAL

TURF ESTABLISHMENT
EROSION CONTROL
STRAW MULCHING
FINE GRADING



OCTORARO
NATIVE PLANT
NURSERY

"plants to expand your
environmental footprint"

Eastern regional native
woody trees and shrubs
for C.R.E.P.

Growing Greener

717-529-3160
www.OCTORARO.com

Coastal Zone Management continues in Delaware County

The Delaware County Conservation District was awarded a Coastal Zone Non-point pollution grant from DEP, with funding from NOAA, to continue its work in the coastal zone. The grant was initially awarded in 2002, and Kevin Boyle was hired under the grant as an erosion and sediment control technician.

In addition to E&S, the District also participates in Coastal Zone Task Force meetings to discuss issues concerning numerous agencies and municipalities in the coastal zone. These meetings are usually held on a quarterly basis.

The District is also active in the Clean Boating program, which works with marinas and boaters to encourage them to use environmentally sound practices. The District gave a presentation to the Delaware River Yachtsmen's League to introduce the program to them and gather feedback. Also, a clean marina survey and brochure has been produced by the Philadelphia Water Department and Sea Grant. This survey will be given to all the marinas in Bucks, Delaware and Philadelphia counties in the months to come.

If you would like more information about any of these initiatives or have questions about the Coastal Zone, please contact Kevin Boyle at 610-892-9484.

*Kevin P. Boyle
Delaware County CD*

Turning Ideas Into Reality



CHARLES J. CATANIA, SR., P.E., P.L.S.
PRESIDENT

CATANIA ENGINEERING ASSOC., INC.
CONSULTING ENGINEERS - LAND SURVEYORS

520 W. MACDADE BOULEVARD (610) 532-2884
MILMONT PARK, PA 19033-3311 (FAX) 532-2923

EROSION CONTROL SYSTEMS
SOIL STABILIZATION, SILT FENCE, MATTING, BAFFLE WALLS,
TEMPORARY SEEDING, STRAW MULCHING,
GABION WALLS, MODULAR BLOCK WALLS

LANDSCAPE & HARDSCAPE
DESIGN, LIGHTING, IRRIGATION, WATER FEATURES
PAVER PATIOS, RETAINING WALLS

SEEDING & SODDING
FINE LAWN, BASINS & STOCKPILES, MEADOWS, WETLANDS,
ROADSIDES, FINE GRADING, HYDROSEEDING



RAM-T
CORPORATION 

PH: 610.269.4495 • FX: 610.269.3607

Bucks District accepting award nominations

The Bucks County Conservation District is now accepting nominations for its 2006 awards competition.

This annual program recognized Bucks Countians for outstanding conservation accomplishments in seven categories. Winners will receive plaques and \$200 honorariums from the conservation district, and letters of commendation from the county commissioners.

The award categories are:

Individual Conservation Accomplishment, Educator of the Year, Farmer (or Farm Family) of the Year, Conservation Organization of the Year, Elected Official Recognition, Forest Resource Management, Urban Conservation, and the George M. Bush Award for Agricultural Preservation.

Nomination forms are available on-line at www.bucksconservation.org or by contacting the conservation district at 215-345-7577. Nominations must be submitted to the Bucks County Conservation District, 1456 Ferry Road - Suite 704, Doylestown, PA 18901, by November 15.

Winning entries will be entered in the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts annual awards competition.

*— Fred Groshens
Bucks County CD*

ACF ACF Environmental
www.acfenvironmental.com

New Philadelphia Warehouse Location: 2939 Felton Road, Norristown, PA (located off Germantown Pike)

The largest Geosynthetic distributor on the east coast
and the manufacturer of the **Siltsack® & Dirtbag®**.

Buy
Siltsacks® & Dirtbags®
directly from
ACF

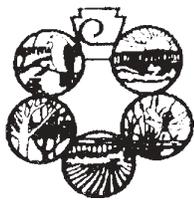


Your Complete Source for Geosynthetics
and Value Engineered Solutions

Geotextiles - Woven, Nonwoven, High Strength
Silt Fence and Super Silt Fence (meets local regulations)
Erosion Control Blankets - Excelsior, Straw, Coconut,
Jute Matting, Coir Fiber, Futura
TRMs (Turf Reinforcement Mats)
ACBs (Articulating Block Systems)

Geogrids · Pond Liners · Porous Grass Parking
BioLogs · MSE Walls & Slopes · PAM

For Information Contact:
Fred Waite, Territory Manager-Malvern, PA
phone: 610-695-9422
fwaite@acfenvironmental.com



Penncrest High School wins international Envirothon

Congratulations to Penncrest High School Gold Team from Delaware County for becoming the 2005 International Canon® Envirothon Champions! The competition was held in July at Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield, Missouri. It was an exciting week for Penncrest as they went on to defeat teams from all 50 states, as well as Canadian Provinces. The teams are tested in various areas including aquatics, forestry, soils, and wildlife, as well as a current topic and an oral component. Penncrest's final score was 578, almost 40 points ahead of Virginia, the second place winner.

Penncrest has represented Pennsylvania well at the International Envirothon in past years also—they were champions in 2000, and placed 6th in the 2004 competition. The school has also dominated the Delaware County Envirothon, placing first twelve out of the thirteen years the Envirothon has taken place.

Members of this year's winning Penncrest Gold Team include: Emily Moberg, Michelle Henry, Aimee Davis, Vic Janmey, and Joe Walker. Leading them to victory were team advisors Mark Samilenko and Chrissa Kuntz.

Anyone interested in participating in the Envirothon should contact their local conservation district.

— Bridget Thompson
Delaware County C.D.

Completing Section E of the Notice of Intent

One of the major deficiencies arriving at our office has to do with Section E of the Notice of Intent (NOI). Properly completing this section of the NOI, as well as including all of the necessary documentation, will help to speed the processing of your applications. Here are a few tips to aid you in adequately completing Section E of the NOI.

First, you may have noticed that throughout the NOI, in at least four places, and in bold text, the NOI tells you to **read the instructions**. This is a good place to start, as the instructions will walk you step-by-step through the NOI.

At the beginning of Section E, you are given three choices. Select the box that best represents the data on which your calculations are based, but at a minimum, they must be consistent with the third choice, to manage any net increase in volume from the 2-year, 24-hour storm.

Section 1 details the necessary parts to be included in the Post Construction Stormwater Management (PCSM) Plan. Make sure that all of the necessary items are included and separate from the erosion and sediment control plans. The information provided in the narrative should reflect the information provided on the NOI.

Section 2 is a place to describe how the additional volume of stormwater runoff will be handled if you cannot infiltrate the entire net increase with your proposed BMP's. This is **NOT** an area to explain why you cannot infiltrate. DEP's current policy is that you **MUST** deal with the increase between the pre- and post-construction volumes. Infiltration is merely one way in which to do this. This section is where you state the manner in which you are planning to deal with the additional volume.

In section 3, all you need to do is answer the question. If there are currently BMP's on the site that you plan to use or expand, check yes, and explain the BMP's and what you plan to do with them.

The Data Table. This is the section where most of the problems occur. If you are increasing your amount of pervious cover, 99% of the time, your post-construction "volume of stormwater runoff (acre-feet) without planned BMP's" will need to be higher than your pre-construction volume. Calculations that support the information provided in this table should be included in the PCSM Narrative. Once again, as is stated on the NOI, you should read the instructions for completing this section. If the data table is properly completed and documented, it should give an overview of the proposed PCSM calculations for the project.

In section 5, the Summary Description of Post Construction Stormwater BMP's, you should check the appropriate boxes and provide supporting documentation for the responses. If during the review process BMP's are added or deleted, this section should be updated to accurately represent the proposed project at the time of permit acknowledgement.

In the next issue, we'll examine completing Section F of the NOI, "Consultant for this Project".

Jeffrey McKenna
Montgomery County C.D.



5990 Potters Lane, Pipersville, PA 18947
CONVENIENTLY LOCATED BETWEEN RTE 611 & RTE 413 OFF STUMP RD.
Ph#215*766*7000 fax# 215*766*8777

WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTOR:
SUPPLYING YOUR NEEDS FOR EROSION CONTROL AND
TURF ESTABLISHMENT PRODUCTS:

**HYDRO-MULCH, VARIETIES OF SEED, SEEDAID PELLETS,
EROSION & WEED CONTROL BLANKETS, SILT FENCE, SUPER SILT
FENCE. STRAW, TURFACE PRODUCTS, GRASSY PAVERS, SPLASH
BLOCKS, ROCKWOOD RETAINING WALL PRODUCTS, FAIRCLOTH
BASIN SKIMMER & MUCH MORE. CALL FOR DETAILS.....**

John Thomas returns to Bucks

John A. Thomas, a veteran conservationist and authority on agricultural issues, has been appointed manager of the Bucks County Conservation District—a position he had held from the early 1980s until 1998.

Thomas was the first full-time manager of the Conservation District, a time when its primary function was working with farmers to conserve soil.

Over the years, as Bucks County became more heavily populated, the District became involved in residential and commercial erosion and sediment control issues. Today it represents the state Department of Environmental Protection in enforcing Pennsylvania's Clean Streams laws in the county.

Thomas, who holds an agronomy degree from Delaware Valley College, is a certified professional in erosion and sediment control. He left the agency in 1998 to work in the private sector as a consulting engineer. "I returned to the district because it is work that I was meant to do," he said.

Thomas also holds associate's degrees in business from Penn State-Wilkes Barre and in civil engineering technology from Scranton's Center for Studies. He served in the Marine Corps from 1968 through 1972 and was discharged with the rank of Sergeant.

Thomas is a native of Mountain Top in Luzerne County. He and his wife Linda, residents of Quakertown, are the parents of five grown children.

The new district manager succeeds Fred Groshens, who resigned after heading the agency since April 2001.

New Website for Bucks County Conservation District

Bucks County Conservation District is pleased to announce that its website is open for business! You can find the site at either www.bucksconservation.org, or our new domain name www.bucksccd.org. You may now use the BCCD site to view contact information, download forms and applications, sign up for activities and find out what the Conservation District is doing in your area. The site will be changing over the next few weeks, but we encourage you to start using it now!

William L. Schelling, Area Manager
Maccaferri, Inc.

MACCAFERRI

10303 Governor Lane Blvd.
Williamsport, Maryland 21795-3116
Tel: 301-223-6910
Fax: 301-223-4590
E-mail: bschelling@maccaferri-usa.com

Environmental
Solutions

Chester/Delaware Home Builders Association sponsors Erosion Control Workshop

On September 7, 2005 fifty members of the Chester/Delaware Home Builders Association attended an erosion control workshop, which was held at the Chester County Chamber of Business and Industry Facility. Dan Greig, Chester County Conservation District, and Ed Magargee, Delaware County Conservation District were invited to give presentations.

The Education Committee of the Home Builders Association chaired by Jeff Nagorny of Vollmer Associates planned the agenda. Conservation District presentations were then developed to address the Associations concerns.

Jane Fava of the Brandywine Valley Association was included at the suggestion of Dan Greig to address a citizen program, which has been developed to monitor construction projects.

We have been cooperating in efforts such as this for many years. Rich Kadwill, Montgomery County Conservation District, also attended the event to determine the benefits this effort might provide Home Builders Associations in Montgomery County.

— Ed Magargee
Delaware Co. C.D.



Chester County Conservation District is on the move

The Chester County Conservation District will be moving on November 4, 2005 to its new home in Willowdale. Our new address will be 688 Unionville Road, Suite 200, Kennett Square, PA 19348.

The District has outgrown its present space at the Government Services Center in West Chester. In keeping with the District's goals — *Use, Re:Build & Re:Store*, our new location is a restored bank barn located in Willowdale at the intersections of routes 82 and 926.

Please keep your eyes and ears open for more information on our new venture.

— Renee Washington
Chester County C.D.

L.A. Mandracchia
Iron Horse Management, Inc.

Laser Leveling ~ Grading
Development Site Preparation
Paving
Land Clearing & Demolition



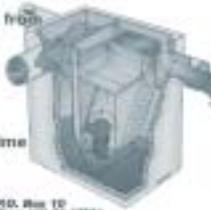
610-754-6919

TERRE-KLEEN™ = NO BETTER SOLUTION

THE PROBLEM: Our waterways are polluted.
Polluted storm water feeds its way into our rivers and bays.

THE SOLUTION: Terre-Kleen™ removes sediment from storm water.

Sediment removal = pollutant removal
Once removed = always removed
Stacked inclined plates = smaller footprint
Precast Concrete Structure = quick installation time



TERRE HILL
CONCRETE PRODUCTS

PO. Box 10
Troy, PA 17142
717-445-3433
800-243-1888
info@terrehill.com

www.terrehill.com

FREE COLOR CATALOG



CARINO NURSERIES

*Evergreen and Hardwood Tree Seedlings,
Native and Wetland Species, Windbreaks,
Wildlife Food-Cover, and More*

www.carinonurseries.com

P.O. Box 538D
Indiana, PA 15701
Ph: 800-223-7075 or 724-463-3350
Fax: 724-463-3050

ADVERTISE TO YOUR TARGET MARKET!

The Conservation Districts in Southeastern PA offer advertising space in this quarterly newsletter, **CONSERVATION & YOU**, distributed to over **2000** developers, engineers, architects, municipalities, and other related businesses in the region. Please contact the conservation district in your county with comments and suggestions.

Two size ads are offered: **Business card size (2" x 3 1/2")** \$75/issue **Quarter Page (3 1/2" x 4 1/2" – vertical)** \$125/issue
A 10% discount is offered for inserting an ad in two or more issues. Ad deadline for the Winter issue is December 15, 2005. Send your check payable to the Delaware County Conservation District and camera-ready copy to Ed Magargee, Delaware County Conservation District, Rose Tree Park - Hunt Club, 1521 N. Providence Road, Media, PA 19063; Phone (610) 892-9484.

CONSERVATION & YOU is published by the Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery County Conservation Districts in cooperation with the PaDEP, Bureau of Land and Water Conservation. For advertising information, call (610)892-9484.

Bucks Co. C.D. 1456 Ferry Rd., Ste 704 Doylestown, PA 18901 (215) 345-7577 www.bucksccd.org	Chester Co. C.D. Government Service Center 601 Westtown Road, Suite 240 P.O.Box 2747 West Chester, PA 19382-0990 (610) 696-5126 www.chesco.org/conservation	Delaware Co. C.D. Rose Tree Park-Hunt Club 1521 N. Providence Road Media, PA 19063 (610) 892-9484 www.Delcocd.org	Montgomery Co. C.D. 143 Level Road Collegeville, PA 19426-3313 (610)489-4506 www.montgomeryconservation.org
---	--	---	---

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
PERMIT NO. 280
Pittston, PA

CONSERVATION & YOU
924 Town Center
New Britain, PA 18901