

BRADFORD COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

THE MISSION of the Bradford County Conservation District is to lead, educate, and empower people to manage resources wisely.

June Board Meeting

WHEN: Monday, June 5, 2023, at 12:30 PM

WHERE: Zoom Meeting: Meeting ID: 820 8905 8283; Passcode: 487182

CALL IN: 1-929-205-6099; PASS CODE: 487182

LINK: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82089058283?pwd=a2lJV3VPV2ZRM2tocThOb3ozSU5UT09>

AGENDA:

- 12:30 - 12:35 Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance
- 12:35 - 12:40 Introduction of Guests & Action on Minutes
- 12:40 - 12:50 Reports from Cooperating Agencies and Guests

Old Business

- 12:50 - 12:55 State Envirothon Recap - D
- 12:55 - 1:00 FY 23/24 NM/MM Allocations – D
- 1:00 - 1:05 District Work Bee

Committees, District Committees:

- 1:05 - 1:10 DGLVR QAB – D/A
- 1:10 - 1:15 ACAP Advisory Committee – D/A
- 1:15 - 1:20 Energy Committee, Solar PV for BCCD - D

New Business

- 1:20 - 1:25 Stream Crossing Contracts – D/A
- 1:25 - 1:30 Troy Fair Sponsorship – D/A
- 1:30 - 1:35 DGLVR Contracts – D/A
- 1:35 - 1:40 Watershed Specialist Grant Renewal – D/A
- 1:40 - 1:45 NM Delegation Agreement Proposal/Renewal – D/A

Program Updates

- 1:45 - 1:50 DGLVR Grader Training
- 1:50 - 1:55 ACAP applicant meeting
- 1:55 - 2:00 Nutrient Management Plans (D/A)
- 2:00 - 2:05 Dirt and Gravel Contracts (D/A)
- 2:05 - 2:10 Commission Report - Field Representative
- 2:10 - 2:15 Treasurer's Report & Payment of Bills
- 2:15 - 2:20 Correspondence

Adjournment

Next Meeting: Monday, July 10, 2023, at 12:30 PM at Stoll Natural Resource Center
& Via Zoom

A) Action D) Discussion

AGENDA BRIEFS

Old Business:

- State Envirothon Recap - recap of how Canton made out at the State Event
- FY 23/24 NM/MM Allocations - D - Discussion of allocation amounts
- District Work Bee - Scheduled for June 9th. Lunch will be provided

Committees:

District Committees

- DGLVR QAB - D/A
- ACAP Advisory Committee - D/A

New Business:

- Stream Crossing Contracts - D/A
- Troy Fair Sponsorship – D/A – Discussion and consideration of sponsoring one of the barns at the Troy Fair. Total is \$300.
- DGLVR Contracts - D/A – Discussion and consideration of signing a contract with Columbia Twp
- Watershed Specialist Grant Renewal – D/A
- NM Delegation Agreement Proposal/Renewal – D/A

Program Updates:

- DGLVR Grader Training
- ACAP applicant meeting

MAY
CORRESPONDENCE

- #1 FARMSHINE
- #2 Chemung County Soil & Water Conservation District Annual Report
- #3 DELMARVA FARMER
- #4 PA DEP, Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields Program
 - Copy of Receipt of Statewide health Standard Final Report Approval to Repsol Oil and Gas, LLC for the Repsol Oil and Gas, LLC Haralambous (03-074) G Well Pad, Columbia Township.
 - Copy of Remedial Action Completion Report Approval to Robert Packer Hospital for the Storage Tanks System Release, June 24, 2015, Sayre Borough.
 - Copy of Receipt of Intent to Remediation and Final Report to Creston Environmental, LLC for the SGL-12L South Unit 5H on the SGL-12M North Unit Pad B, Leroy Township.
 - Copy of Statewide Health Final Report Approval to Chesapeake Appalachia, LLC. for the SGL-12P Unit 4 Pad – Elevated Conductivity Fluid Release Cleanup, Franklin Township.
 - Copy of Receipt of Cleanup Plan to Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. for the former PAXAR Facility, Sayre Borough.
 - Copy of Receipt of Final Report to Creston Environmental LLC for the Hopson BRA 1HC on the Hopson BRA Pad 3-18-23 Release, Asylum Township.
- #5 PA DEP, Waterways & Wetlands Program
 - Copy of GP Acknowledgement Notification to PennDOT for the Bradford SR 1051/0050/0277 Pipe replacement 2574, Orwell Township.
 - Copy of E41-9999 Authorization Notification to PennDOT for Structure: 08300801901356, Burlington Township.
- #6 DEP, District Oil and Gas Operations
 - Copy of WOEP to Chesapeake Appalachia, LLC for the North Marcellus Clarke WP – Kenyon WP Temporary Waterline, Overton Township.
- #7 DEP, Monshannon District Mining Office
 - Copy of Notification of New Large Noncoal Surface Mine Permit Application to BCCD for the Bishop Brothers Construction Company Minard Mine, Athens Township.
- #8 USACE
 - Copy of determination letter for the housing rehabilitation and accessibility improvement activities for low-income and moderate-income homeowners residing in Sayre Borough.
- #9 Wysox Township
 - Notification of resignation of the Tax Collector.
- *#10 Heritage Village & Farm Museum
 - Letter thanking Dan for his demonstration of tanning at the Farm Days 1866 event.
- *#11 PA FFA Association
 - Notification to Dan and Kevin that they will be receiving the PA FFA Citation Award on June 14th at 7PM at the Bryce Jordan Center.
- *12 Troy Fair
 - Request for sponsorship



A monthly report highlighting May 2023 activities as they relate to the 2018-2023 PACD Strategic Plan.



PACD STAFF REPORT

PACD will promote and advocate for conservation districts to elected officials, partners, and the general public.

PACD: Legislative Activities

- Attended Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee
- Attended House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee
- Met with PACD Ad Hoc budget committee
- Began scheduling legislative leadership budget meetings
- Met with Governor's Transformation Office on Permitting timeframes
- Met with Rep. Sturla on HB 677, fencing legislation
- Sent opposition email to House State Government Committee on third party reviews
- Sent opposition email to House ERE Committee on fencing legislation

PACD will help districts with the recruitment, training, and development of directors, managers, and staff.

102/105 Technical Training Grant

- Met with DEP staff to introduce them to PACD activities for this grant
- Clean Water Academy (CWA)
 - Created and uploaded 22 new courses to Clean Water Academy
 - Since the last meeting, among district staff there have been about 430 course completions and about 25 newly created CWA accounts for new staff
 - Maintained CWA site access for districts and DEP, managed and updated existing courses, diagnosed and solved account/site/course access problems etc.
 - All-time number of CWA course completions as of 5/19/23 was 31,636
- 102/105 Technical Training (2023 Basic, Topic-based, and Verbal Judo Series)
 - Managed Basic registrations and sent registration reminder
 - Prepared, updated, and reviewed Basic menus and set-ups with facility



- Met with hotel to review Basic space and schedule
- Held planning meeting to revamp agenda based on one field visit
- Sent itinerary and cancelled second bus
- Updated agenda and materials based on new schedule
- Completed all copies (regular and large-scale)
- Finalized all registrations and special dietary needs and sent meal counts to hotel
- Created evaluations and added QR codes to agenda
- Completed all last-minute preparations
- Held Basic Technical Training May 23-36 and began wrap-up

Agricultural Conservation Technical (ACT) Training

- Held second week of Boot Camp Basic
- Sent seven recognitions to field trip farms
- Sent signed LOU to Keystone Conference Center for additional two weeks of 2024 training

Leadership Development Program

- Met with SCC on program and held quarterly LD Committee meeting
- Continued session development and promotion for Spring Leadership Series
- Launched and promoted CliftonStrengths 2023-24 initiative
- Continued session development and event planning for 2023 Management Summit & Pre-Con
- Reviewed one strategic plan submission and approved for reimbursement grant

Job Shadowing Initiative

- Developed job shadowing initiative to recruit college students to work at districts
- Began tracking districts that want to participate

PACD will help districts attain sustainable, diverse funding.

Ag Plan Reimbursement Program

- Approved 20 applications for 35 ag plans
- Processed 16 final reports for reimbursement

CD-Umbrella Agreement with NRCS

- Continued program management and oversight

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Grant

- Began preparing to submit new grant proposal
- CREP Cost-share
 - Processed new cost-share
 - Made cost-share payments
- CREP Outreach Program Office (COPO)



- Approved a budget adjustment for a CREP mini-grant
- Met with a new marketing firm to continue the CREP marketing campaign

DCNR Riparian Forest Buffer Program

- Processed one final report
- Approved one application

DCNR Lawn Conversion Program

- Advertised the virtual and in-person training events

USDA Forest Service PRISM Pilot Program for NW

- Met with PA Hardwoods Council about program
- Met with PISC Legislative Committee about program
- Began collecting responses from districts who wish to participate
- Began drafting mini-grant templates

PA Nonpoint Source Pollution Education Office

- Wrote workplan for 2023-27 grant
- 2022-23 NPS Mini-grant Round
 - Reviewed ten final reports and issued reimbursements
- 2023-24 NPS Mini-grant Round
 - Reviewed one final report and issued reimbursement
 - Reviewed three mid-term reports
 - Reviewed eleven mini-grant materials
- 2023 Watershed Specialist Meeting
 - Updated planning document based on last workgroup meeting
 - Began planning next workgroup meeting
- 2023 319 Grantee Meeting
 - Offered AV checks for presenters
 - Hosted the Section 319 Virtual Meeting May 22-23
 - Converted PowerPoints to PDF and uploaded them to the CWA
 - Sent evaluation link to attendees via email

PACD will strengthen relationships and agreements with state and federal agencies.

Partnership Activities

- Please see PACD: Meetings and Events Attended

NRCS Employee of Record (Funded by NACD)

- Provided on-going human resources and administrative support for position



PACD will strive to be adequately staffed and funded.

Note: All of PACD's grants and special projects contribute to this goal.

Engineering Technical Assistance Program Grant (TAG)

- Provided on-going human resources and administrative support
- Started advertising for TAG employee in Columbia County
- Completed monthly reimbursement report and submitted to DEP

PACD Certified Planner Program

- Updated sample job description
- Completed draft budget narrative for NRCS
- Met with SCC and NRCS to finalize program

PACD will foster communication between conservation districts.

PACD: Communications

- Updated and managed the PACD listserves
- Updated www.pacd.org
- Sent four *Front Page* e-newsletters
- Submitted forty-four posts on social media channels
- Created social media calendar and messages for June for shared district messaging
- Added AMD photos from Clarion to the PACD Photo Library
- Spoke to PGC about updating the Urban Wildlife Kits

Other association activities that support conservation districts and PACD.

PACD: Awards

- Ordered employee recognition pins
- Sent nomination packets to judges

PACD: Executive Board

- Prepared materials for June board meeting
 - Meeting agenda and attachments
 - Monthly staff report
 - Monthly financial reports

PACD: Human Resources and Office Management

- Processed two payrolls
- Completed all accounts payable
- Completed all accounts receivable
- Completed monthly account reconciliations



- Completed new health insurance registration with each employee to begin June 1
- Worked on IRS audit for 2018 401K with Merrill Lynch
- Completed M&T bank application for credit card increase
- Created new billable rates to use in new grants and next fiscal year's payroll

PACD: Meetings and Events Attended

PACD staff attended/participated in the following meetings and events:

- Joint Chiefs explanation meeting on LRP
- Hosted monthly Partnership Meeting
- Hosted monthly Managers Meeting
- Met with NE managers and SCC/DEP
- Met with DEP about PACD grants

PACD: PA Envirothon

- Judged Oral Component

PACD: PACD/SCC Joint Annual Conference

- Met internally about agenda
- Ordered name tag holders
- Updated 2023 budget, agenda, menu, and hotel information
- Created JAC registration and landing page in CC
- Set up six committees in Zoom and posted on PACD.org
- Created Zoom committee schedule on Public
- Updated partner email list and promoted registration via email and Front Page
- Sent information to additional potential sponsors
- Managed registration
- Emailed registration information to individual committees

PACD: Spring Region Meetings

- Began reviewing minutes to post



DATES TO REMEMBER

2023 Spring Leadership Webinar Series (Noon-1 p.m.)

June 7, 2023 - Act 217: Conservation District Law

June 14, 2023 - CliftonStrengths Wrap-up for Managers

June 21, 2023 - SCC & DEP Programs Overview

June 28, 2023 - Applicable Laws for Conservation Districts



Virtual Lawn Conversion Training for Conservation Districts *(via Zoom)*

June 20, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. to Noon

PACD Legislative Committee Videoconference

June 27, 2023 | 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Contact mburns@pacd.org to request a registration link.

PACD Conservation Committee Videoconference

June 29, 2023 | 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Contact mburns@pacd.org to request a registration link.

PACD Education and Outreach Committee Videoconference

July 6, 2023 | 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Contact swehinger@pacd.org to request a registration link.

In-Person Lawn Conversion Training for Conservation Districts *(Space is limited)*

July 11, 2023 | 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Sunset Golf Course, Middletown, PA

PACD District Employees Committee Videoconference

July 12, 2023 | 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Contact hmilller@pacd.org to request a registration link.

PACD Ways and Means Committee Videoconference

July 13, 2023 | 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Contact abrown@pacd.org to request a registration link.

PACD Operations Committee Videoconference

July 14, 2023 | 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Contact mburns@pacd.org to request a registration link.

PACD/SCC Joint Annual Conference

July 19-20, 2023

Holiday Inn Harrisburg (Hershey Area), Grantville, PA

PACD South West Region Meeting

September 20, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. to Noon

Westmoreland Conservation District, Greensburg, PA

PACD North West Region Meeting

September 27, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. to Noon

Tionesta Church of God, Tionesta, PA



Conservation District Watershed Specialist Meeting

October 3-5, 2023

Toftrees Golf Resort, State College, PA

PACD North East Region Meeting

October 4, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. to Noon

Lands at Hillside Farms, Shavertown, PA

PACD North Central Region Meeting

October 12, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. to Noon

Clinton County Conservation District, Mill Hall, PA

PACD South Central Region Meeting

October 17, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. to Noon

Cumberland County Conservation District, Carlisle, PA

PACD South East Region Meeting

October 26, 2023 | 9:30 a.m. to Noon

Henning's Market, Harleysville, PA



STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

HARRISBURG OFFICE			
Brenda Shambaugh	Executive Director	717-794-6103	bshambaugh@pacd.org
Amy Brown	Director of Operations	717-794-6104	abrown@pacd.org
Shannon Wehinger	Director of Communication & Education	717-794-6112	swehinger@pacd.org
Molly Burns	Project & Event Specialist	717-794-6110	mburns@pacd.org
Holly Miller	Program Manager	717-794-6105	hmilller@pacd.org
Matt Miller	Leadership Development Coordinator	717-794-6111	mmiller@pacd.org
Chris Grimsley	Instructional Designer	717-794-6106	cgrimsley@pacd.org
Brian Cooper	Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant	717-794-6109	bcooper@pacd.org
BLOOMSBURG OFFICE			



W. Andrew Wodehouse	Conservation Technician	570-317-9473	awodehouse@pacd.org
<i>Vacant</i>	Conservation Technician		
CLARION OFFICE			
Danielle Kalp, PE	Conservation Engineer	814-297-5261	dkalp@pacd.org
Cassie Daniels	Conservation Technician	814-297-5260	cdaniels@pacd.org
Jake Kennedy	Conservation Technician	814-226-8160	jkennedy@pacd.org
LEBANON OFFICE			
Jeff Sholly, PE	Conservation Engineer	717-376-3484	jsholly@pacd.org
Brittany Moore	Conservation Technician	717-376-3503	bmoore@pacd.org
SOMERSET OFFICE			
Phillip Wilson	Conservation Technician	814-445-8979 x4254	pwilson@pacd.org



June 2023 DEP Conservation District Field Rep Talking Points

Contracts, Delegations, Agreements

Chesapeake Bay Technician and Engineer Agreements – The application for funding the Chesapeake Bay Program for Conservation District Technicians and Engineers for the state fiscal year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 will be open the week of June 5. This is a new five-year agreement that will need to be submitted through ESA (Electric Single Application – eGRANT). The maximum funding available for the **Chesapeake Bay Engineering Specialist** will be \$91,900 and \$85,000 for the **Chesapeake Bay Engineering Assistant**, of which up to \$8,000 may be used for program related expenses (travel, equipment, supplies, and program administration). Of the allowable program related expenses, up to \$1,000 may be used for travel expenses related to BMP implementation (such as surveys and construction site checks). New this year, the base amount for **Chesapeake Bay Technician** will be increased from \$70,000 to \$80,000 under this agreement. In addition to the base amount of \$80,000 per full time technician, a maximum of \$10,000 is also available per conservation district participating in the Chesapeake Bay Technician agreement to be used toward BMP Verification efforts. The project application form (3020-FM-CBO0001a) must provide details in the narrative and also be included in the budget regarding how the funding will be used to expand and support BMP Verification in your county. The \$10,000 maximum available is provided on a per county basis, and may be used to augment verification programs that are funded through the Community Clean Water Coordinator grant; further support data management and reporting efforts; conduct GIS analysis and on-the-ground verification through contracts and/or subawards; etc.

DEP FY2023 Conservation District Watershed Specialist Grants - Conservation District Watershed Specialist grant program applications opened on May 18. The application period will close June 30 at 11:59 pm. Districts should have received an email from the Grants Center and a second email from Shane Kleiner on May 16 with copies of the necessary documents for the Program. This is a new 5 year agreement. The Watershed Specialist grant maximum has been increased \$5,000 for FY 23-24 to \$50,250. All applications must be submitted through the online electronic single application system on or before June 30 at 11:59 pm. No paper, e-mail or fax submissions or additions will be accepted. If you have any questions feel free to contact Shane Kleiner or the Section resource account at EP, Watershed Support RA-EPWATERSHEDSPRT@pa.gov .

Conservation District Fund Allocation Program (CDFAP) Application for Funding - The CDFAP provides funding for your Manager, E&S Technician and ACT Technician, as applicable. It is necessary that we contact you now, so that information on your district's request is available and the State Conservation Commission (SCC) can allocate these cost share funds at their July 2023 meeting. The "Application for Funding" request form is now active on the Greenport. Please complete this form using **current salary and benefit** data (for the July 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 time period), and **anticipated salary, and benefit** data (for the January 1, 2024 to June 30, 2024 time period). Please submit the form through the **DEP Greenport** as soon as possible, but no later than **June 15, 2023**. If you need additional assistance, please contact your DEP regional conservation district field representative or Jaci Kerstetter at jackerstet@pa.gov.

Nutrient Management Fund (NMF) Budget - Commission members approved the budget at the May 9 meeting. The FY 2023/24 General Fund Budget provides an appropriation to the Nutrient Management Fund of \$6.2 million. Federal funding was added to the Nutrient Management Fund during FY 2022/23 in the amount of \$22 million in ARPA funds. Like ACAP funds, these federal funds must be committed by December 31, 2024, and spent by December 31, 2026. Proposed use of these funds includes an increase for counties that carry out Nutrient Management and Manure Management delegations. In addition, funding would support Commission's Conservation Excellence Grant (CEG) and Agri-Link programs; contracts with Penn State University for technical and educational support; Commission personnel and operating support; and information and technology updates.

FY 23-24 Nutrient Management/Manure Management Delegation Agreements: Commission members approved the FY 23-24 Nutrient Management/Manure Management Delegation Amounts at the May 9 meeting. These delegation amounts increased delegated conservation district technician funding by \$10,000 to \$80,000 per full time equivalent with increase in funding provided under Clean Streams Fund in approved NMF budget. Commission and DEP staff, along with Nutrient Management/Manure Management delegation workgroups, created a formula for distributing funding to conservation districts that accept delegation back in 2021, based on workload analysis. FY 23-24 Nutrient Management/Manure Management Delegation Agreements were sent to districts on May 10. Districts should complete the forms provided in that email and return them to Frank Schneider no later than June 30, 2023. If you have any questions or need additional information, feel free to contact Frank Schneider at 717-705-3895 or fschneider@pa.gov.

2023 Growing Greener Plus and FY 2024 Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management Grant Rounds close June 23, 2023

Information on what's new, guidance documents, tutorials and resources, and links to apply are available at:

- **Growing Greener Plus:** [Growing Greener \(pa.gov\)](#)
 - GG+ Grant Application Tutorials and Demos are here: [Course: DEP Growing Greener Plus Grants – 2023 \(remote-learner.net\)](#)
 - Information related to Act 167 Stormwater Management grants can be found at the links above.
- **Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management:** [Nonpoint Source \(pa.gov\)](#)
 - Section 319 Grant Application Tutorials and Demos are here: [Course: DEP Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management Grants - FY2024 \(remote-learner.net\)](#)

Grant applications must be submitted online through the Commonwealth's Electronic Single Application web site, eGrants. Applications are being accepted through 11:59 p.m. on Friday, June 23, 2023.

ACT Application Coming Soon – Watch your inbox for the CDFAP ACT Application. Justin Challenger is putting the finishing touches on the forms and will be sending those out in the next few weeks.

Model My Watershed Virtual Training - DEP's Watershed Support Section and Drexel University's, two-part, webinar training series on Model My Watershed is coming soon! The interactive training, taught by Dr. Barry Evans of Drexel University, will go over all of the functions of Model My Watershed during the two half-day sessions, per region, to help attendees effectively use watershed modeling for future projects. The sessions begin at 9:00 AM run until 12:00 PM.

This training is mandatory for all Conservation District Watershed Specialists, and both days are to be attended.

This training has been broken into three different events in order to allow for a more interactive atmosphere. The training dates for each region are:

- *Northwest and Southwest regions: Morning of June 12 and 20*
- *Northcentral and Southcentral regions: Morning of June 26 and 29*
- *Northeast and Southeast regions: Morning of July 31 and August 3*

Official invites were sent out on May 17 from Lin Perez of Drexel University. If you did not receive this invite, or know of other staff that would be interested in attending, please reach out to Chad Krick at chkrick@pa.gov or 717-772-5706 to be forwarded an invite for your regional training.

DEP asks that you make every attempt to attend your region specific training, however, there will be flexibility to attend a different regional training if calendar conflicts arise. Please do not hesitate to contact Chad Krick regarding any questions or calendar conflicts.

Agriculture Compliance Implementation Poll

The Agriculture Compliance Section is conducting a poll to gain insight on the implementation of Agriculture Compliance across the state. This poll is targeted to 102 Delegated County Conservation District's across the Commonwealth. The main goal is to gain knowledge of County Conservation District's complaint response, inspection procedures, and education and outreach regarding agriculture erosion and sediment control.

The information gathered from the poll will assist DEP as the DEP Agriculture Compliance Section as we strive to provide guidance for consistent execution of Agriculture-related activities across the Commonwealth. **County District Field Rep's (CDFRs) will be reaching out to the County Conservation Districts to schedule a meeting with the district manager, and anyone involved in Ag. 102 related work to conduct the survey.**

PA Agricultural Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP)

As of March 31, 2023, 65 districts have signed and sent in their agreements. Most districts should have their first allocation advancements. If any districts have not yet received their allocation please contact SCC. SCC are in talks with NRCS and Philadelphia Parks and Recreation to utilize Philadelphia County's ACAP funds

SCC has developed a webpage on the PDA website where they plan to keep updated ACAP information and webinar recordings. The webpage currently has the ACAP Guidelines, SCC BMP List and a draft ACAP Application. Also posted is the past recorded webinars. All ACAP information can be found at: https://www.agriculture.pa.gov/Plants_Land_Water/StateConservationCommission/Pages/default.aspx and [The Center for Agricultural Conservation Assistance Training | Penn State Extension \(psu.edu\)](#). All ACAP documents are downloadable from the Penn State Extension website.

SCC staff intend to continue monthly webinars.

Upcoming Mid-Month ACAP Forum Webinar:

June 14th @ 9:00

ACAP Staffing

SCC is pleased to announce that Patrick McCarthy has been added to the SCC staff. Patrick will be working in the Northeast Region for ACAP and will be the point of contact as of May 22, 2023. An email will be sent out to those districts in the near future introducing him. Patrick is well versed in conservation, having worked at the Columbia County Conservation District. Two more ACAP Regional staff should be on board by the end of June, covering the Southeast and Central regions. SCC will announce those hires when appropriate

ACAP Current Issues – the following items are on the radar and currently being looking into by the SCC
Center Development
Technical Assistance
Counties for CD's not signing the delegation agreement

ACAP Quick Points –

- Talks continue with PSU and NRCS about a state Job Approval Authority system
- SCC board approved the Budget and Scope of work for the Penn State Center
- Center is hiring a 3rd party engineer to assist with TA
- SCC approved staff to negotiate with PACD to hire 5 planners regionally
- SCC plans to staff regional engineers at CD similar to the Bay Engineer design. SCC would like to hire 4-6 engineers and initial talks have started with selected CD's.
- Discussions of pre-concurred designs for HUAP and other BMPs are moving forward.

Spring 2023 Nutrient Management Certification Training Dates: Interested parties may register at www.PaPlants.pa.gov

Training	Tentative Date(s)
Plan Review Workshop	June 14 (1 st choice)
Certification Exam	June 22 Two sites (PDA and LEC)

Ag101: Introduction to Agriculture - The State Conservation Commission (SCC) is pleased to announce that it has purchased a number of “seats” for the Ag101: Introduction to Agriculture training program to be used by county conservation district and partner agency staff.

Ag101: Introduction to Agriculture will assist new employees with little or no agricultural experience to learn the basics of farms and farming, including crops, livestock, and natural resources, common to Pennsylvania and other Mid-Atlantic and Northeast states.

Visiting a farm can be a daunting task if one was not raised around an agricultural business. Farms are complex systems that produce food, plants, animal feed, meats, dairy, and much more. This training is geared towards conservation professionals; agriculture service providers, farm-partner professionals, and people interested in working with farmers and will introduce conservation professionals and other professionals who interact with farms to the basics of farming. One will learn about the many types of farms, common farm implements and terminology, natural resources important to the success of a farm, such as water resources and soil, describe the use of natural resources in farming; understand challenges facing farms and farmers today, assist farmers in their decision-making process to support long-term sustainability, and describe best practices in arranging and conducting farm visits. One will also learn about working with and supporting farmers, as well as, best practices in farming such as biosecurity and integrated pest management.

In this self-paced course, one will watch educational videos and complete knowledge check questions to learn the basics of agriculture in Pennsylvania, and throughout the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast. The course includes many resources and introduces one to the wealth of information available to you.

There are nine short section quizzes in the course. One will need to achieve a score of 80% or more on the quizzes in order to pass this course and receive a certificate of completion, which is required with the “seat” that the SCC will provide.

To receive the Free Seat code, please contact Frank Schneider at fschneider@pa.gov. A certificate of completion is required to be submitted to the SCC after completion of the course.

Ag 101: Introduction to Agriculture can be found at <https://extension.psu.edu/ag101-introduction-to-agriculture>

PA Clean Water Academy

[2023 Chapter 102 New Hire Small Group Training Webinars](#)

[Influencing Agriculture: Reaching Beyond the Choir](#)

This engaging presentation dives into the personalities of the agricultural community and how to communicate in a way that will effectively broadcast your message.

[Putting it All Together: connecting the dots between ag success stories, Plain Sect-specific outreach and coordination and working with local government](#)

In this course you will hear from our partners in the field on how multiple entities all come together and have a role in successfully bringing a project to fruition.

[Closing the Deal with Rural Landowners](#)

Learn the tricks of the trade from the most successful conservation field staff. If you want rural landowners to say “yes” to conservation practices and easements, this course is for you.

102 and 105 Attachment B on the Clean Water Academy – It is essential that Districts update the 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. To update Attachment B, you need to search for your county and then select the Gear icon to edit. You can then change employment status to Former and choose an Employment End Date. This helps DEP to maintain all the data systems we need to maintain and enable. [Course: Data Portal \(remote-learner.net\)](#)

Chesapeake Bay Program

DEP’s Bureau of Watershed Restoration and Nonpoint Source Management hosted a Webinar Wednesday on May 3 to discuss the opening of the next round of Growing Greener and Section 319 grant funding and how these funding sources can best be used along with Countywide Action Plan (CAP) Implementation funding. The recording of this webinar is now available to view on the Clean Water Academy <https://pacleanwateracademy.remote-learner.net/course/view.php?id=1109>

DEP’s Bureau of Watershed Restoration and Nonpoint Source Management also hosted two webinars on May 18, to discuss coordination of federal grant funding with the Tier 1-2 and Tier 3-4 counties. The purpose was to discuss ideas for effective and efficient delivery of funding to counties across various grant programs, taking information from the CD and Agency Ag meeting jamboard sessions as a starting point. State Conservation Commission staff also participated, presenting their ideas for the use of the Chesapeake Bay Most Effective Basin Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (CB MEB IJA) funds. Feedback provided by the counties was used to inform DEP’s Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant (CBIG), Chesapeake Bay Regulatory Accountability Program (CBRAP), and CB MEB IJA workplans and budgets, which will be submitted to EPA in mid-June.

DEP’s Bureau of Watershed Restoration and Nonpoint Source Management will host a Webinar Wednesday on June 7 to kick off CAP Annual Progress and Two-Year Milestone reporting for the counties in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. This year the Pilot and Tier 3 and 4 counties will be going through their Two-Year Milestone Reporting which gives them the opportunity to change aspects of their CAP if they wish. The Tier 2 counties will be reporting their Annual Progress.

Dates to Remember

SCC Meetings – 1:00 PM

Hybrid Meeting	July 19
Hybrid Meeting	Sept 12

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

Conference Call	June 13
Conference Call	Aug 15

Leadership Development Spring Webinar Series

Tech Roundtable	May 31
Act 217: Conservation District Law	June 7
Clifton Strengths Wrap-up for Managers	June 14
SCC and DEP Programs Overview	June 21
Applicable Laws for Conservation Districts	June 28

Visit [Building for Tomorrow](#) to register.

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