

Healthy
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Communities

eConnections

August



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Susquehanna River Towns Workshop - Sept 30, 2013 Creating Greener, More Flood Resilient Communities

Looking to make your Susquehanna River town more resistant to future flooding? Interested in learning how rain gardens, pervious pavements, other green infrastructure can help your community to meet its stormwater goals? Want to hear from successful land acquisition programs, learn about stormwater utilities and how to fund these different projects? Join us at the **Susquehanna River Town Workshop: *Creating Greener, More Flood Resilient Communities*** at Bloomsburg University on Monday, September 30, 2013 from 10:00a.m. - 4:00p.m.

A great workshop for municipal officials, planners, public works, local government officials, students, and community members, registration is just \$15 and includes morning refreshments and lunch. For a full speaker schedule, directions, and registration [visit our website](#).

Contact: Zach Pyle, River Towns Program Coordinator
zpyle@susquehannagreenway.org.

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On August 20, 2013 U.S. Secretary of the Interior, Sally Jewell, named Susquehanna Greenway Partnership Executive Director, Trish Carothers, to the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail Advisory Council for a 2-year term.



Carothers joins the council along with 25 other prominent conservationists, Native American leaders, and other representatives from Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia. The Advisory Council consults with the Secretary and advises the National Park Service on matters related to the trail, including trail management, public access, recreational opportunities and indigenous cultural landscapes. Read more [here](#).

Susquehanna Greenway Partnership

Susquehanna
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Your gift will help us protect the natural and cultural resources of the Susquehanna, revitalize river communities and build connected parks, trails, and public river access points.



Our Mission

The Susquehanna Greenway Partnership is a leading champion for the Susquehanna River Watershed, Pennsylvania's most important natural resource and the largest tributary to the Chesapeake Bay. We work to advance for public and private

Investing In River Towns Greenway Award for Susquehanna Health



The dream of leaving an older home and finding something "built to suit" in a new development is a thought that often occurs to homeowners looking for more space and less upkeep. The thought also occurred to Susquehanna Health.

Susquehanna Health decided that a multi-million dollar, "green" renovation was the right call for their Williamsport Regional Medical Center. Six years later the work is complete and their commitment to environmental sustainability has resulted in LEED certification at the gold level from the U.S. Green Building Council and in significant reinvestment into this Susquehanna river town.

To honor Susquehanna Health for their efforts to redevelop within the city, incorporate green infrastructure, and focus on walkable/bikeable communities, the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership presented Susquehanna Health with the first Susquehanna Greenway Investing In Healthy River Towns Business Award on July 23, 2013. See photos and [learn more here](#).

Photo (L to R): President and CEO of Susquehanna Health Steve Johnson; Central PA Chapter US Green Building Council's Robert Price; Williamsport Regional Medical Center President and Susquehanna Health COO Jan Fisher and Project Coordinator of LEED Gold Certification Rita Spangler hold the award for Susquehanna Health during a ceremony at Williamsport Regional Medical Center.

Meet Our Staff: Zach Pyle

efforts to connect people with our natural and cultural resources, and promote a sustainable and healthy environment.

Volunteers Needed

If you are interested in helping with a local Greenway project, or would like to assist us with an event, photography, office work, etc. visit our website and [click on volunteer](#).



Zachary Pyle has recently joined [SGP's staff](#) as the River Towns Program Coordinator. Zach grew up in a Western Pennsylvania oil boom town where he developed an interest in local history and historic preservation. Beginning in 2005, he started his studies at Penn State in Landscape Architecture and completed a master's degree in Landscape Architecture focused on historic preservation and regional planning in Pennsylvania. Zach has interned at SEDA-COG in the Community Resource Center and worked with PSU's Hammer Center in community revitalization studios focused on the central Susquehanna Region. He spends his spare time with his wife, Marissa, restoring their historic Penn's Valley home and tending to his garden and chickens. Zach can be reached at zpyle@susquehannagreenway.org.

Upcoming Events

To see more events, or to have an event listed, please visit our [Calendar of Events](#).

[Haunted River Tour](#)

Sunbury
Sept. 3

[Grants Workshop](#)

Wyalusing
Sept. 5

[Paddling Clinic](#)

Montoursville
Sept. 5

[Susq. Super Hike](#)

York/Lancaster counties
Sept. 7

[Conservation Celebration](#)

Curwensville
Sept. 7

[Bear Presentation](#)

Tunkhannock
Sept. 7

[Kayak Trip](#)

Port Trevorton/Liverpool
Sept. 7

[Butterfly Day](#)

Danville
Sept. 8

[PEC Meeting](#)

Greenway Mini-Grant: New Signage in Northumberland

Each month learn about a local project being funded through the Susquehanna Greenway Mini-Grant Program that is helping to build the Greenway and connect people to the Susquehanna River. The program is funded in part by the PA Dept of Conservation and Natural Resources.



Pineknottter Park is a lovely community asset that sits along the West Branch of the Susquehanna River in Northumberland, PA.

Unfortunately, the original park sign didn't reflect the beauty of the park. The one and only sign was in deplorable condition; the result of age, weather, and flooding. Thanks to a thoughtful Eagle Scout, supportive community, and assistance from a SGP Mini-Grant, Pineknottter Park has a new, greener, and more welcoming entrance! Read more and see photos at our [website](#).

Photo Contest: Open!



Grab your cameras! - Our 4th annual *Treasured Towns & Landscapes of the Susquehanna Greenway* Photo Contest is open! See past winning images and [submit your photos](#).

Harrisburg
Sept. 11

[Fishing Tournament](#)

Shickshinny
Sept. 14

[Trail Run](#)

Millersburg
Sept. 14

[Greenways/Trails Summit](#)

Franklin
Sept. 15 - 17

[Harvest Paddle](#)

Milton
Sept. 15

[Kids Run](#)

Millersburg
Sept. 15

[Paddling Clinic](#)

Montoursville
Sept. 15

[Haunted River Tour](#)

Sunbury
Sept. 17

[Stormwater/Sewer Webcast](#)

Online
Sept. 18

[Kayak Trip](#)

Montoursville
Sept. 22

[Union/Snyder History](#)

Middleburg
Sept. 24

[Bike Facilities Seminar](#)

Harrisburg
Sept. 26

[River Towns Workshop](#)

Bloomsburg
Sept. 30



Categories include: Susq. River Towns; Landscapes; People & the River; and a Youth Category for kids under 18 years old. Winning images receive cash prizes and are printed and framed for the [Traveling Photo Contest Gallery](#).

The contest closes February 1, 2013 so take your camera on your next outing along the Susquehanna River!



Thank you [Hershey's Track and Field Games](#) for sponsoring the Youth Category and teaming up with us to get kids active and healthy outside, to explore, and snap photos of the parks, trails, and views they treasure!

Interested in becoming a Contest Sponsor? - [contact Bridget](#) for more info on how to get involved in this fun program.

Photos: Bernie Zang, Lindsey Shoop, Rick Mason.

Hunt Joins Chesapeake Bay Office

SGP would like to welcome Charles E. "Chuck" Hunt to his new position as superintendent of the National Park Service's [Chesapeake Bay Office](#), which includes the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network and the Captain John Smith Chesapeake and Star-Spangled Banner national historic trails. Hunt will begin his new post in mid-September. Welcome Chuck - we look forward to working with you to improve and conserve our Susquehanna River water trails!



To see more events, or to have an event listed, please visit our [Calendar of Events](#).

Featured Sponsor:



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**News from the North:
Grant Writing Workshop**

Our friends at the Endless Mountain Heritage Region are hosting a regional grant writing and project development workshop on **Thursday, September 5th**, at the Wyalusing Community Building on Main Street in historic Wyalusing, PA, from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. Come and learn from the experts in grant funding for projects contributing to heritage tourism, community and economic development, parks and recreation, historic preservation, and arts and culture. Fees are \$15 for EMHR Members, \$20 for non-members. Registration Deadline: August 30, 2013. For more information, [click here](#).



News from the West:

Road to Recovery

For the West Branch Susquehanna, it's a long road to recovery from the effects of abandoned mine drainage and our legacy of unregulated coal mining that occurred before 1977 when federal regulations finally took effect. Local watershed organizations, county conservation districts, government agencies and many other groups have since stepped up to voluntarily clean up the pollution that persists from abandoned coal mines. Amy Wolfe, Director of Trout Unlimited's [Eastern Abandoned Mine Program](#), points to the successes along the way in a great editorial. [Read the Lock Haven Express editorial](#) and learn how this great river is bouncing back.

Photo by Cody Goddard

**Special Thanks to
Our Sponsors**



Middle Susquehanna News:

Millersburg Riverfront Cleanup

This summer the Borough of Millersburg completed a historic clean up of the riverbank at Riverfront Park with the assistance of Dauphin County commissioners. Local contractors and borough workers cleared driftwood and garbage from the riverbank to improve safety, river access, and aesthetics. The effort was funded by a county gaming grant, a borough appropriation and a donation from the Millersburg Boat Club. See photos, and [learn more here](#) about how this town is improving their riverfront for citizens and visitors alike.

Photo courtesy of Borough of Millersburg





Lower Susquehanna News: Public Access Enhancements

After years of planning, the Enhancement Project at the Zimmerman Center for Heritage in Wrightsville, PA is underway! Enhancements will expand public access to this lower section of the Susquehanna

River Water Trail and enhance interpretation of features of this historic site. A riverside pavilion, canoe and kayak boat launch, floating dock, scenic walkways, native gardens, rain garden, river view terrace, and improved parking are in the works! View the project summary [here](#).

SGP Table Draws A Crowd, Winner Named!



Hello new friends! For about 370 of you, this is the first time you are receiving our news since meeting us at one of many fabulous summer events along the Greenway: The Lewisburg Arts Festival, Berwick Family Fun Festival, Tunkhannock River Festival, Millersburg Art & Nature Festival, Shank's Mare Art & Nature Festival, and Sunbury River Festival!

From this pool of new friends, we selected a name at random for a free kayak trip for two donated by the awesome folks at [Canoe Susquehanna](#) of Lewisburg, PA. **Congrats Debbie M. of Lancaster** - Enjoy your paddle trip!

Up Next: Catch us at the [Berwick River Festival](#) on October 11-13, 2013. Volunteers needed for this event! [Contact Erin](#) with your interest.

Job Opportunity: NPCA

The National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA), seeks a program manager based in the Philadelphia area to lead park protection work in Delaware and Pennsylvania. The Program Manager will lead campaigns to protect some of America's most treasured natural and cultural sites, actively participating in NPCA's top national priorities and initiatives. Please visit www.npca.org for a full job description.



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Exploring our Water Trails Interns Assist with Island Stewardship

If you were out on the [Middle Section of the Susquehanna River Water Trail](#)

(Sunbury to Harrisburg) this summer there's a good chance you might have spotted two "River Runners." Britney Bates and Angela Miller spent their summer interning for the organization that manages this section of trail - [Susquehanna River Trail Association](#) (SRTA). "Our duties included attending monthly meetings, helping out with summer events, preparing the islands for public camping, and recruiting Island Stewards to adopt public islands that didn't have a caretaker," says Bates. This section of the water trail is adorned with over 400 islands between Sunbury and Harrisburg; primitive campsites have been established on over 20 of these islands. Way to go River Runners! See photos of their summer on the [SRTA Facebook page](#).



Britney and Angela clean up a campsite. Photo courtesy of SRTA.

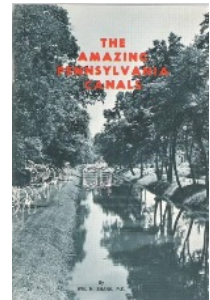
Researchers Along The River: Susquehanna Water Science Forum

The Susquehanna River Basin Commission is hosting the *2013 Susquehanna Water Science Forum: From Science to Sustainable Water Resources Management* **October 7 - 8, 2013** in Camp Hill, PA. The Forum will bring together researchers and water resource managers in the Basin to share current water resource research, prioritize research needs and better coordinate research activities in the Susquehanna River Basin. For more information, [click here](#).



River Reads: *Amazing Pennsylvania Canals* by William H. Shank

If you've ever stopped at Lock 12 Historic Area in York County, or driven on PA Route 15 (built over the old canal in many places), or you know that canals were the lifeblood of commerce in the region for a short time in the 19th century. To learn



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more, pick up this premier resource by William H. Shank. As founder of the [PA Canal Society](#) and past president of the American Canal Society, the author offers this definitive work on Pennsylvania canals with the help of canals buffs throughout the Keystone State.

Learn more about the book [here](#), and consider joining the PA Canal Society on their next canal field trip in Middletown on **October 18-20, 2013**. Learn more about the field trip [here](#).

Meet Our Interns:

Summer is a very busy season along the Greenway, as many river communities are in different stages of planning, designing, or building Greenway projects like riverfront parks and trails! We were fortunate to have assistance from three senior Geography students from Bloomsburg University. Amanda Taylor, Renee Noll, and Thomas Krajewski assisted Greenway coordinators and staff with riverfront visioning projects in Shickshinny and Hemlock Township in Columbia County. The interns completed field work, documentary photography, archival research, and used their cartographic and GIS skills to create maps of each community. Amanda, Renee, and Tom - Thank you for your wonderful work and congratulations on your graduation!



L to R: Amanda Taylor, Tom Krajewski, Renee Noll

Meet Our Volunteer: Ella Fang

Ella dedicated her summer to helping us in and around the office as a Development Volunteer! She assisted Bridget Kane, SGP's Volunteer and Membership Coordinator with updating and improving our membership database - no small task! Ella is currently attending Penn State Harrisburg and pursuing a Masters degree in Public Administration. With her eye on a career in philanthropy, she was thrilled to get some experience in the field and, "help to make the Susquehanna River more beautiful," says Fang. Thanks Ella for being a great part of our team as a Susquehanna Greenway Volunteer!



Get Involved: Become A Member!



Creating over 500 miles of connected parks, trails, conserved areas, and revitalized river towns is no small task and we cannot do it without local partners and contributions from people like you who care about the future of the Susquehanna Greenway!

We hope you will consider [making a tax-deductible donation](#) to show your appreciation for PA's most important natural asset. Your contributions help us to be a stronger champion for the River, create an environment that is attractive to business, advocate for protection of our water, farmlands, and forests. [Click here](#) to become a member of the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership. Thank you!

Banner photos (L to R): Barry Kidd, Cody Arnold, Chuck Haupt, and Josh Klina.

Visit us at www.susquehannagreenway.org