# Susquehannna Greenway eConnections

# June 2011









# Susquehanna Healthy, Sustainable Susquehanna Communities



The Susquehanna Greenway is a planned corridor of interconnected trails, parks, river access points, and conserved areas, linking people to the natural and cultural treasures of the Susquehanna River and its West Branch. Nearly 500 miles in length, it is one of our state's greatest resources -- balancing the needs of generations today and tomorrow, conserving the environment for all living things, and creating healthy, sustainable

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# West Branch Susquehanna Water Trail

Newest National Recreational Trail in PA On June 2 Deputy Secretary of the Interior David J. Hayes announced the designation of the Susquehanna River Water Trail – West Branch as a National Recreation Trail, one of 41 trails totaling almost 650 miles being added to the National Trails System. These land and water trails provide opportunities for communities to connect with nature and



enjoy the great outdoors as part of a healthier lifestyle, the core principles behind President Obama's America's Great Outdoors and First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move Outside! initiatives. The West Branch water trail was recognized as one of only two National Recreation Trails designated this year in Pennsylvania. The trail joins a statewide network of 67 National Recreation Trails totaling more than 2300 miles.

The Susquehanna Greenway Partnership (SGP) is the Water Trail Manager for the West Branch and worked with public access owners last summer and fall to apply for the National Recreation Trail (NRT) designation. Starting as a narrow stream near Cherry Tree in the Allegheny Mountains, the West Branch of the Susquehanna River falls 228 miles through dense forests, rolling farmland, and historic towns to its confluence with the North Branch in Northumberland.

The National Recreation Trail program is jointly administered by the National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program and the U.S. Forest Service in conjunction with a number of other federal and nonprofit partners, notably American Trails, which hosts the national recreation trails website. To read the full press release click here.

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#### **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 advocate for public and private efforts to connect people with our natural

# Get Out On the River!

Paddles on the Susquehanna



The Susquehanna River Sojourns are educational paddle events that raise awareness for our region's greatest natural resource, the Susquehanna River. Spanning one day or many days, sojourners explore the river and

her banks in kayaks and canoes. There is still time to find a sojourn event near you!

#### **Children's Miracle Network Paddle**

Beat the heat and paddle for a good cause this Saturday, June 11 during a paddle trip from Bloomsburg to Danville. Registration is \$20 and all proceeds go to the Janet Weis Children's Hospital pediatric services. For questions call 570-271-6188, and for registration information click here.

#### North Branch Susquehanna Sojourn

Explore the headwaters of the mighty Susquehanna on this 4-day, 47-mile educational trip. The paddle begins Thursday, June 16 in Bainbridge, NY and ends Sunday, June 19 in Great Bend, PA. A complete schedule and registration information is available <u>online</u> or contact Erin Heard at (607) 346-2727 for more details. Early registration deadline has passed, late registration only.

#### West Branch Susquehanna Sojourn

The West Branch has just been designated as a National Recreation Trail! Whether you're a regular "river rat" or new to paddling, come celebrate the river on Saturday, June 25. Participants will have the chance to **win a NEW Emotion kayak** from Woolrich! All ages and abilities are welcome on our guided one-day, 10-mile paddle trip from Jersey Shore, PA to Linden, PA. What's a celebration without a party? We dock for dinner at Haywood's On The Water restaurant for good food, local music, and special guest speakers. Registration information is available <u>online</u> or contact Erin Pierce at (570) 522-7244. Early registration ends June 10, late registration is available.

#### Middle Section Susquehanna Sojourn

Become an Island Hopper and learn about the middle reaches of the Susquehanna River on this one-day event. This family-oriented paddle takes place on Saturday, June 25 and traverses the river with multiple educational island stops along and cultural resources, and promote a sustainable and healthy environment.

#### **Volunteers Needed**

We are looking for volunteers who want to make a difference. If you are interested in helping with a local Greenway project, or would like to assist SGP with an event, photography, office work, grant research, social networking, then go to our website and click on volunteer.

Susquehanna Greenway Regional Organizations North Branch Endless Mountains Heritage Region

Middle Susquehanna SEDA-COG Community Resource Center

Lower Susquehanna Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area

#### **Upcoming Events**

Sunbury Challenge for Health Sunbury May 31-June 30

River Day Canoe/Kayak Trip Bloomsburg-Danville June 11

Buffalo Creek Watershed Alliance Open House Union Co. June 11

Classic Cars and Critters Festival Tunkhannock June 11

> Hard Coal Danville

the way. A picnic lunch and shuttle service are included. Registration information is available <u>online</u> or contact John Meister at (717) 697-2261. Registration is due June 17.

# Wyoming Valley RiverFest

June 17-19, 2011

The weekend long event will offer guided river sojourns, live music, food, activities and a chance to meet local organizations that are involved in conservation and the environment. Bring the children and borrow a fishing pole from the Fish and Boat Commission during free family fishing on the pier, get to new heights with the Kids Tree Climb or ride a pony. Children can make a fish print T-shirt or get a free children's bike helmet. Help paint a community mural. View local children's art from the Pennsylvania American Water Company's 9<sup>th</sup> Annual "Protect our Watershed" art contest. Watch Dragon Boat Races, live mammals and birds of prey programs and learn about sustainable agriculture.

According to Riverfront Parks Committee President, Vincent Cotrone, "We invite everyone to attend this grand celebration of the river and the environment. RiverFest is made possible by the continued support of our many generous sponsors". For more information about RiverFest call Penn State Extension at 570-825-1701 or visit their website.

# **Practice High Water Safety**

If you've been out on the Susquehanna River, or her tributaries you know that water levels are up! High water quickly changes the characteristics of streams and rivers. Low-head dams are hazardous objects that often become death traps in high water. To an inexperienced boater dams may look navigable in high spring flows, but it is important to stress the danger of these "drowning



machines" and their hydraulics. Unlike rapids, moving water below a dam flows back upstream toward the dam. This backwash re-circulates anything and anyone caught in it. Don't fall victim to a low-head dam, learn more about dam hydraulics from <u>PA Fish and Boat Commission</u>. Be safe and enjoy the river!

Read more on how to be safe on the river...

**River Town Workshop Series** 

June 11

Van Wagner in Concert Danville June 11

Summer Fest at R.B. Winter State Park Mifflinburg June 12

The Strawberry Festival Watsontown June 12

McKees Adventure Guided Recreational Kayak River Trip Port Trevorton to Mahantango Access June 12

Drumming Circles Shikellamy State Park Marina June 16

Saving Your Surplus: Food Preservation Techniques Berwick June 17

<u>North Branch of the</u> <u>Susquehanna Sojourn</u> Bainbridge, NY- Great Bend, PA June 17-19

Wyoming Valley RiverFest Wilkes-Barre June 17-19

Bassmasters Fishing Tournament & CMVB Outdoor Family Fun Festival Berwick June 18-19

18th Annual Fourth of July Butterfly Count Berwick June 18 Last Chance to Register

The River Towns initiative seeks to revitalize small towns, generate tourism, and create business activity, through a focus on the communities' river-based assets. These workshops sponsored by the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership and SEDA-Council of Governments are designed to assist community leaders in setting a unique course for the town and prepare for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

The last River Town Workshop in this series is called *Community Building for River Towns* and will be held on **June 28**, 10am-2pm at Montour Preserve in Danville. The registration deadline is June 22. For more information about this upcoming workshop and to register <u>click here</u> or contact <u>Amy Davis</u>.

On May 23 a workshop on Treasured Towns and Landscapes was held. Kim Wheeler, Local Policy Specialist with the Department of Community and Economic Development, explained the multiple benefits of sustainable green infrastructure (GI): protects and enhances the environment; stimulates the economy; and improves human health. Integration of the natural environment into the built can help create sustainable sites and livable communities. Andrew Miller, Executive Director of Susquehanna River Valley Visitors Bureau (SRVVB), shared a recent branding exercise that helped SRVVB identify who they were as an organization, how visitors perceive visiting the tri-county area, and what residents can do to enhance the unique experiences in their town. Katie Faull, a Professor of German and Humanities at Bucknell University, discussed how Native American narratives and stories of the Susquehanna can enhance the visitor experience and tourism. Carol Hussa from Action Communities for Health, Innovation and Environmental Change and Michele Schasberger, Project Manager of Live Well Luzerne and Luzerne County Keystone Active Zone, revealed the Keystone Active Passport initiative, which is a way to promote getting outside and being active through exploring close-to-home parks, trails, and outdoor events and also how to start one in your area. To view the power point presentations from the workshop please click here

# SGP Featured on WVIA

"State of Pennsylvania"

The Middle Susquehanna Valley area was featured on the WVIA show, "State of Pennsylvania" Thursday, June 9 and focused on the life and times of those living and working in Sunbury, Selinsgrove, Lewisburg and the surrounding area. The episode was hosted by Erica Shames, owner and editor of Susquehanna Life Magazine. Trish Carothers, Program Director for the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership, joined other panelist to talk about how people make a difference in their

communities. Julia Marano, President of Connections and Heritage Explorer Bike Tour & Festival Peckville June 18 Journaling through Nature Danville June 18 **Rivers Conservation and Fly** Fishing Youth Camp **Boiling Springs** June 19-24 Marcellus Shale Rally Day Harrisburg June 21 Public Access Open House Harrisburg June 21 **Bee-ginner Beekeeping** Danville June 21 Growing Greener in NE PA Scranton June 23 Lancaster County Sustainable Landscapes Bus Tour Lancaster Co. June 23 Active Transportation Summit Philadelphia June 23 Growing Up Wild Berwick June 24 Bee Movie Danville June 24 Lehigh River Sojourn Lehigh River

June 24-27

Great Island Adventure Triathlon Lock Haven

June 25

West Branch Susquehanna Sojourn Jersey Shore to Linden June 25

"It's a Mystery" Bee Tea Danville June 26

Community Building for River Towns Workshop Danville June 28

Sunday Brunch at the Park Shikellamy State Park Marina July 3

Lewisburg Appetizer Guided Recreational Kayak River Trip Milton State Park July 3

> The Sunbury Celebration Sunbury July 7-10

Peace of the Susquehanna Guided Recreational Kayak River Trip Montgomery to Watsontown July 9

Overlook Concerts with Wine – Cheese – Chocolate Tasting Shikellamy Overlook July 14

If you would like to have an event included in our newsletter, please send event and contact information to: info@susquehannagreenway.org

> Special Thanks to Our Major Sponsors

founder of Friends of Shikellamy State Park and Meghan Beck, a partner in 1337 Holdings Company and co-owner of Hotel Edison were also featured.

The show will be rebroadcast at 7pm on Friday (6/10) and 1pm Sunday (6/12), as well as on the WVIA <u>website</u>.

# Get Outside and Start Taking Photos

Announcing SGP's Photo Contest



Summer is finally here and what better time to get outdoors and capture those moments around the Greenway that make it such a special place. Amateur and professional photographers are encouraged to focus their cameras on the places that inspire them. Photographers should create photos that help tell the stories of the Susquehanna, photos that celebrate the Susquehanna and her River Towns as places of timeless value, shared memories and

experiences, and places to use and enjoy and to treasure always.

Cash prizes will be awarded for first through third place in four categories – Treasured Towns, Treasured Landscapes, Wildlife and a special Youth category open to anyone under the age of 18. An overall Grand Prize winner will be selected for a special prize.

A traveling gallery of the 2010 winning photos will be staged throughout the Susquehanna Greenway corridor over the next year. The photo gallery is currently at the <u>James V. Brown</u> <u>Regional Library</u> through the month of **June**. The gallery will then be at the State Capitol East Wing in Harrisburg for the month of **July**.

For more information on when the traveling gallery will be at a location near you and on how to enter next year's Photo Contest please <u>click here</u>.

# 2nd Annual Bassmaster Fishing Tournament

#### **CMVB Outdoor Family Fun Festival**

The Columbia-Montour Visitors Bureau, in conjunction with the Borough of Berwick, the Columbia County Commissioners and the Columbia County Bassmasters, is hosting the second annual CMVB-PPL Family Fun Festival at the Berwick Test Track Park (South Eaton Street) the weekend of June 18 – 19. The 2nd



Annual CMVB-PPL Family Fun Festival will be on June 18 from



12-7pm and June 19 from 12-5pm. The festival is being held in conjunction with the second annual Columbia County Bassmasters Fishing Tournament.

The festival will include vendors & crafters, food, games, children's activities and various organization displays. Let the kid's pet animals from Young's Funny Farm and feed butterflies with Folk's Butterfly Farm. New for 2011 is the Fun Fest Express train rides on Saturday, June 18. Also, the rock and roll bands "The Legends" and "the Mudflaps" will be providing free entertainment.

For more information on the CMVB Outdoor Family Fun Festival, please contact the <u>Columbia-Montour Visitors Bureau</u> at 570-284-4455.

# **June Declared Great Outdoors Month**

For generations, America's great outdoors have ignited our imaginations, bolstered our economy, and fueled our national spirit of adventure and independence. During Great Outdoors Month, we rededicate ourselves to experiencing and protecting



these unique landscapes and treasured sites.

Last year, President Obama launched the America's Great Outdoors Initiative, a project that empowers Americans to help build a new approach to conservation and outdoor recreation. The plan will restore and increase recreational access to public lands and waterways; bolster rural landscapes, including working farms and ranches; develop the next generation of urban parks and community green spaces; and create a new Conservation Service Corps so that young people can experience and restore the great outdoors. This month, let each of us resolve to protect our great outdoors; discover their wonders; and share them with our friends, our neighbors, and our children.

To read the report and learn more <u>click here</u>. To get involved with the Susquehanna Greenway, go to www.susquehannagreenway.org.

# **PA Outdoor Recreation Plan**

**Recognized as Nation's Best** 

Pennsylvania has earned top national honors for its work to transform outdoor recreation planning and get residents to spend more time outdoors, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources announced June 3. The state's five-year Statewide Outdoor Recreation Plan was honored as the best in the nation by the National Park Service and the National Association for Recreation Resource Planners at a recent conference.

"We are very proud to receive this award recognizing our work," Department of Conservation and Natural Resources acting Secretary Richard J. Allan said. "Our plan is both unique and useful for DCNR and its partners as we work to encourage citizens to be active outside, develop a love and appreciation for nature, improve physical and mental health, and instill a conservation ethic."

Pennsylvania's five-year plan was released in November 2009 to help policy-makers and communities deal with a changing population that is increasingly more urban, and whose children have been spending less time outdoors. Four surveys supporting the plan showed that families are spending less time outdoors; children are more obese than ever before; and residents are calling for access to close-to-home recreation, walkable and bikable communities, protected lands and waters, and well-maintained park facilities. The plan identified walking for pleasure or fitness as the most popular outdoor recreation activity in Pennsylvania. Other popular activities include sightseeing and driving for pleasure, nature watching, swimming, picnicking and bicycling.

A one-year implementation report outlining a number of success stories related to the plan's four goals can be viewed <u>online</u>.

Read more...

#### American Shad Released in Bald Eagle Creek

When will the American shad be able to migrate from the Atlantic Ocean to the West Branch Susquehanna River? This question was addressed by PA Fish and Boat Commission's Fisheries Biologist Michael Hendricks during the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual

during the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual American shad fry stocking

event in Castanea Township, Clinton County on June 1. Before answering Hendrick's first stated, "Ten years ago the West Branch Susquehanna water quality was so degraded that the fry we stocked had a very high mortality rate. Since that time and due to all of the combined private and government agency water quality initiatives, the West Branch water quality has greatly improved. We gratefully thank all of those individuals and I'm so pleased to report that today the West Branch is supporting one of the highest fry to fingerling success ratios compared to our other stocking sites, and we look forward to continuing our annual springtime stocking program here in the West Branch Susquehanna River Basin."

Historically, the Susquehanna River shad migration declined when mining and lumbering began in the 1800's, and ended after the construction of hydroelectric dams in the early 1900's. Before those developments, American shad (*Alosa sapidissima*) migrated from the Atlantic Ocean, up the Susquehanna River, and beyond the City of Lock Haven to spawn.

For additional information contact Elisabeth L. Lynch McCoy at 570-726-3511.

Read more...

# Linking Land Use to Water Quality



On May 16 and 17 Jersey Shore Borough was host to a technical assistance workshop on *Linkng Land Use and Water Quality* lead by Lynn Richards, Policy Director of the EPA's Office of Sustainable Communities. Susquehanna Greenway Partnership facilitated the workshop, which

was attended by members from the Jersey Shore community, borough employees, council members, county planners, conservation district, and area students. Participants discussed how the borough can use green infrastructure to reduce stormwater runoff, improve water quality and make the community aestetically more attractive. Proven innovative approaches to development including redevelopment, green streets, shared parking among businesses, rain gardens and riparian buffers were discussed. Richards, along with planner Matt Goebel, helped the community prioritize a number of local strategies and identify barriers in local code and policies that might be removed or modified to better protect stormwater management and ensure coordination among local government departments.

# Hidden Heritage: A Walk on the Iron Side

By: Mark N. Platts, Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area President and Regional Coordinator, SGP

Those of us working every day to connect people to the Susquehanna River and its history sometimes need to just get outside and experience the very places we're trying to protect, enhance and celebrate.



I recently took the opportunity to do just that with our good partners at Rivertownes PA USA on their Spring Iron Furnace Walking Tour through Chickies Rock County Park. Hosted by Rivertownes



President Claire Storm and led by former Millersville archaeology professor Dr. June Evans, this twice-yearly tour showcases the story of how our beautiful river valley was once a thriving center of industry.

The tour started at Breezy View Overlook for a birds-eye view of the river landscape once known as "Little Pittsburgh." There I joined about fifteen other Sunday afternoon adventurers for a three-hour trek through the remains of six of the seven iron furnace sites located along the river between Marietta and Columbia. The stars of the tour are the preserved ruins and office building of Vesta Furnace on the eastern edge of Marietta and the remnants of Henry Clay Furnace hidden deep in Chickies Rock Park.

Read more...

# How Do You Want to Access the River?

**Public Access Open House** 

Where do we need boat ramps or fishing piers, places to swim, or scenic spots to bird watch or just look at the water? Come to a Public Access Open House on **June 21** from 5:30-7:30pm at the Fish and Boat Commission Headquarters, 1601 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA to give your input about where new access is most needed to the Chesapeake Bay and tributary rivers.

The National Park Service (NPS) and local and state governments have been studying the places residents can go to enjoy public access to the Chesapeake Bay and tributary rivers. In 2010, the federal Strategy for Protecting and Restoring the Chesapeake Bay Watershed set a goal to provide 300 additional public access sites in the Bay watershed by 2025.

The information you provide will help NPS and their partners create the "Chesapeake Bay Region Public Access Plan" due in 2012 to support this commitment for new access. Your participation will help to identify the gaps in public access available now and where there are opportunities for new access sites. Plenty of maps will be on hand so you can pinpoint the locations that are important to you. Comments can also be submitted on the <u>website</u> from June 21-July 20.

Susquehanna Named Most Endangered River

American Rivers Cites Threats From Fracking American Rivers, which every year names the 10 most endangered rivers in the country, put the Susquehanna at the top of this year's list, citing the rush to develop the enormous natural gas reserves in the region without considering the risk to clean water, rivers and human health. The most endangered river of 2010 was the Upper Delaware, which is similarly threatened by natural gas extraction.

The Susquehanna, one of the longest rivers in the nation, flows over the Marcellus Shale region, a rock formation underlying large swaths of New York, Pennsylvania and Maryland, and containing vast reserves of natural gas. As part of the fracking process used to extract natural gas, large amounts of water are withdrawn from rivers and streams, mixed with sand and toxic chemicals and pumped underground to fracture the shale under extreme pressure. There are currently limited facilities for treating the highly toxic wastewater that results from the extraction process and limited government regulations to prevent it from seeping into rivers like the Susquehanna, which provides drinking water for more than six million people.

"Natural gas drilling poses one of the greatest risks our nation's rivers have faced in decades," says Andrew Fahlund, senior vice president for conservation at American Rivers. "Without strong regulations, public health and drinking water will be threatened by the toxic, cancer causing pollution that results from hydraulic fracturing."

The Susquehanna Greenway Partnership calls for the consistent regulation of waste water treatment and discharge to require the utilization of best available technology that will avoid cumulative long term public health risks, such as future generational endocrine disruption, and degradation of our fisheries, aquatic, flora and fauna resources.

Read more...

# SGP Calls for Stronger Protections from Natural Gas Development

On May 24 the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership Board of Directors met to adopted a policy statement on natural gas development in Pennsylvania, calling for stronger protections.

"As the leading champion for the Susquehanna River we believe the Susquehanna River Watershed is Pennsylvania's most important natural asset," said Jerry Walls, Chair of the SGP Board of Directors. "Our mission is to advocate for public and private efforts to connect people with our natural and cultural resources, and to promote a healthy and sustainable environment. We are seeing increasing impacts from natural gas development on these resources, and feel it is our duty to call for stronger protections. All the work that SGP and our local partners are doing to improve outdoor recreation and encourage healthy lifestyles, could be diminished, if our land and water resources are compromised."

SGP supports the use of our Commonwealth's natural resources in a responsible manner that does not result in significant degradation of other natural resources, such as water or air, and does not impede access to public areas such as state forests, state parks, or waterways. SGP calls for stronger regulation at the federal, state and local level to ensure the protection of natural and cultural resources. Click here to see SGP's complete Policy Statement on Natural Gas Development.

# Webinar Series on Marcellus Shale Issues

Penn State Cooperative Extension

Penn State Cooperative Extension is conducting a webinar series on issues related to Marcellus Shale drilling. Each webinar will be held from 1-2pm. Following are the dates and topics of the remaining webinars:

- June 16 The Pennsylvania Marcellus Shale Short-Term Ambient Air Sampling Project
- July 21 Pipeline Development and Regulation in Pennsylvania
- August 25-A Research Update on the Effects of Marcellus Shale Drilling on Wildlife Habitat
- September 15 Current Legal Issues in Marcellus Shale Development.

For further information and to register, click here.

# **Renew Growing Greener**

Local Communities Benefit From Funding



Growing Greener has done more than preserve Pennsylvania's land, water GROWINGGREENER and air quality. It has contributed millions of dollars

to the Pennsylvania economy in jobs, taxes, tourism, and other revenue. After a decade of success, the funding sources that support Growing Greener are nearly gone. Renewing and expanding funding for Growing Greener is an essential investment in the state's long-term prosperity. This will affect our region's ability to restore and protect our local environment. Here is a list of projects in your region that have and could benefit from Growing Greener funding.

## Projects Made Possible Through Growing Greener Funding

West Branch	Middle	North Branch	Lower
	Susquehanna		Susquehanna
Williamsport	Sunbury	Restoration	Urban Meadow
River Walk	Riverfront	Marie	Gateway
	Project	Antoinette	
		Overlook	
Jersey Shore	Muncy Heritage	Grand Vista	North Extension
Pine Creek	Park	French Azilum	Heritage Rail
Trail			Trail
Connector			
Project			

Projects that would benefit from future Growing Greener funding:

- North Branch Canal Trail
- River Sports Park, Shamokin Dam
- Danville Riverfront Project
- Seneca Trail
- D&H Trail
- Howland Preserve

To ensure that our communities can continue their work, contact your State Representative and State Senator and <u>click here</u> to find out more about how to fund Growing Greener and a template of the resolution.

# Meet Our Board

Marty Walzer



Marty Walzer's great-great grandfather lived in Harrisburg in 1840 and his family has been in the state ever since. He grew up in the Lehigh Valley area and moved to Danville 45 years ago where he lives with his wife. Marty owned and managed The Pine Barn Inn in Danville from 1967 -2007.

In addition to serving on the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership's (SGP) Board of Directors, Marty serves on the boards of Montour County Recreation Authority,WVIA public broadcasting station, and the Danville Community Center where he heads a campaign to raise funds and build the Danville Community Center. For the past 10 years Marty has been actively involved in planning the annual Iron Heritage Festival. He enjoys kayaking, golfing, downhill skiing, and gardening. "I serve on the SGP Board of Directors, because it is an organization that is an important advocate to safeguard the economic and environmental integrity of the river," said Marty. "The legitimacy of the organization lends credibility to other agency and organizational effort within the Greenway corridor. All of us should be doing whatever we can to safeguard our life style in this part of the state."

# **Researcher's on the River**

**Professor Benjamin R. Hayes** Prof. Benjamin R. Hayes is the Director of the Susquehanna River Initiative at Bucknell University in Lewisburg which helps develop new teaching, research, and outreach endeavors that connect faculty and students to the Susquehanna River. Prof. Hayes and a Heartland Coalition-sponsored student intern have begun mapping the channel of the West Branch of the Susquehanna River at selected locations to characterize the physical habitat of the river and relate its shape to the geology and hydrology of



the region. Much of this field work has involved snorkeling to depths up to twenty feet to photograph and measure the size and variability of sediments compromising the river bottom and note places where the river flows directly over bedrock.

During higher water conditions, they have been measuring water depths and velocities across a quarter-mile section of the river to better understand the hydraulics of flow and the extent to which velocities vary with discharge. This effort is the beginning of a multi-year study of the erosion, transportation, and storage of sediment in the Susquehanna River and its major tributaries.

## Like Us on Facebook!

Susquehanna Greenway Partnership has now joined the social network of Facebook. Like us on Facebook to learn about upcoming events, programs and greenway initiatives in your area, volunteer opportunities, and how you can stay connected with Pennsylvania's most important natural asset-the Susquehanna River.

Please visit our website at http://www.susquehannagreenway.org/ Click here to donate to our cause