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Volunteers Doing Flood Cleanup in Four Communities

BY KAY AIKEY, SEDA-COG IN
MARCH 14, 2012

Volunteers from the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) will be in four Pennsylvania communities over the next few weeks, assisting with flood-related cleanup efforts. They will be working on the Susquehanna Warrior Trail, community parks, and other public places in Berwick, Bloomsburg, Shickshinny, and West Falls. Extensive damage occurred last fall due to flooding, which resulted from Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee.

The volunteer assistance was secured through the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership (SGP), which submitted an application to the Appalachian Coal Country Team. Based in Beckley, WV, the Coal Country Team's primary focus is environmental reclamation projects in seven Appalachian states: Kentucky, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.

"We are grateful to the Coal Country Team and NCCC for providing volunteers to help river communities recover from the flood and keep our public areas and waterways clean and accessible for the enjoyment of local residents and tourists," said Erin Pierce, Program Coordinator with the Greenway Partnership. "We hope this work can inspire others to volunteer with the Greenway and their local community to identify and work towards improvements to public parks and river accesses in their area."

The group in Pennsylvania — men and women, ages 18 to 24 — are here until April 5, doing a great deal of river bank cleanup, trimming bushes and hedges, fixing fences, painting benches, and clearing trails.

The Appalachian Coal Country Team began operations in 2001 and is supported by a partnership including the federal Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement, AmeriCorps VISTA, and local community improvement and watershed groups.

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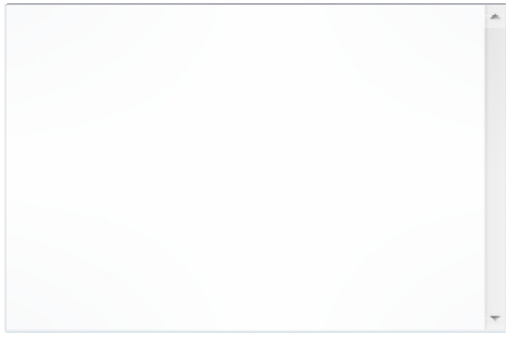Like   One like. Sign Up to see what your friends like.

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