

# Springs & Sinks

A Newsletter of the Spring Creek Watershed Community

## Important Vote Set on I-99 Proposal

Members of the Spring Creek Watershed Community will vote at their next meeting Tuesday, April 29, on a proposal urging close cooperation among municipalities in zoning near the 8 interchanges of new Interstate Highway I-99 in the watershed for the protection of Spring Creek and its tributaries.

The proposal was drafted by a special workgroup of the Watershed Community headed by Bob Eberhart of Halfmoon Township and will be forwarded, with the recorded vote, to the new Centre County Spring Creek Watershed Commission, for consideration.

It's very important that as many members as possible attend the 7:30 p.m. meeting at the Vo-Tech School in Pleasant Gap and take part in this vote.

The proposal does not go into the pros and cons of the new superhighway, whose route is already fixed and was approved months ago by every local government affected. It focuses strictly on zoning around the interchanges and reads as follows:

*When I-99 through the Spring Creek watershed is complete, there will be several interchanges around which there will likely be strong pressure for new development. Some of these sites are near Spring Creek, and careless development there will pose a threat to the stream. Additionally, from a planning perspective, it may be desirable to encourage different types of land use at various interchanges, and it is possible that at some, all development should be discouraged. Therefore, to provide for orderly and environmentally responsible development around the I-99 interchanges, it is suggested that the Spring Creek Watershed Commission propose a collaborative project by the affected municipalities to develop an integrated plan for such development. If this*

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PHOTO BY BOB BEESE

## Controlling Stormwater

*Pennsylvania, with 45,000 miles of rivers, streams, and creeks – the most of any state – is the most-flood prone state in the nation. Proper handling of stormwater runoff is vital to controlling such natural disasters, and the new Centre County Spring Creek Watershed Commission has placed the problem at the top of its action agenda for 1997.*

*The Pennsylvania Township News, a publication of the State's local governing bodies, devotes the bulk of its March, 1997, issue to this subject because of the devastating floods that wracked so much of Pennsylvania last year. The following article was adapted from that information with permission of the editors.*

### 'Managing Stormwater the Right Way'

Stormwater management 20 to 30 years ago meant the disposal of runoff as municipalities and developers tried to take stormwater off the streets as quickly as possible and pump it through pipes into stream channels.

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## Consensus Building

At the March 19 Roundtable meeting of the Community, attendees reviewed a process outline for work and consensus building for the Spring Creek Watershed Community. The objective was to better define and refine the ways in which the Community identifies issues, organizes work groups, and subsequently builds consensus.

Attendees agreed to try the process for the coming months and to continue the review of how to make it work better in order to streamline the process while maintaining an inclusive and democratic means for expressing group views.

In a nutshell, the process looks like this:

1. Each Community Roundtable meeting

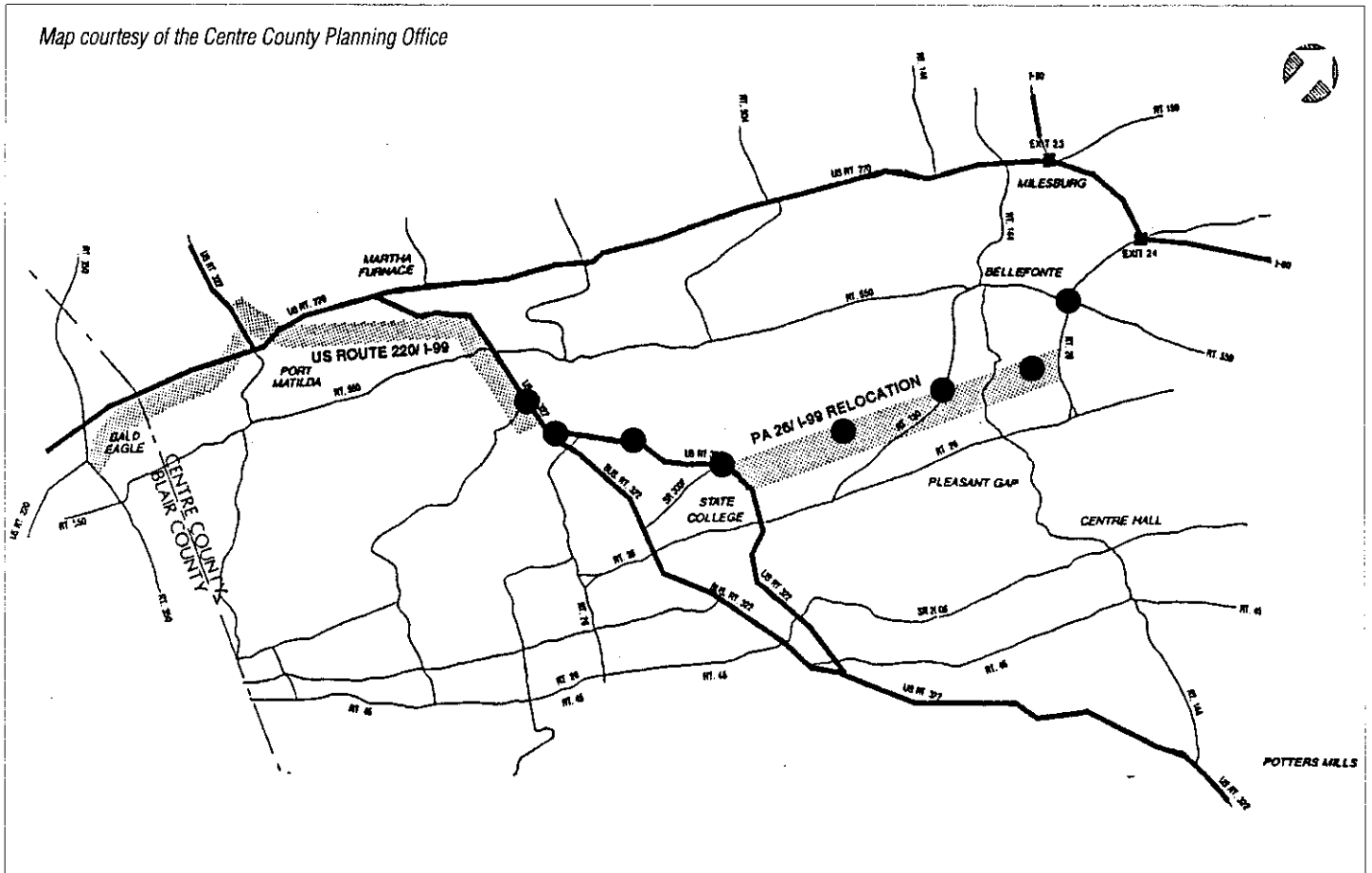
will reserve time on an agenda for issues to be brought to the floor.

2. If the Community collectively considers the issue worth further attention, the person who brings the issue to the floor is charged to serve as chair or to find a chair to organize the workgroup.

3. The workgroup is then required to perform fact-finding activities and prepare alternative options for the Community to consider.

4. The Coordinating Committee will conduct the first review of a workgroup's readiness to be elevated to an upcoming Community Roundtable meeting agenda. If the workgroup demonstrates an accept-

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Proposed routing of I-99 from Bald Eagle to the Bellefonte By-pass. Shaded areas indicate corridors for new construction. Black dots indicate watershed interchanges.

## Important Vote Set on I-99 Proposal

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study is undertaken, it is further suggested that the Spring Creek Commissioners recommend a voluntary moratorium on rezoning of land close to these interchanges until the study is complete. If this project is to be pursued, the Spring Creek Watershed Community will be pleased to assist in obtaining funding.

The Centre County Spring Creek Watershed Commission consists of the three Centre County Commissioners and one official each from the 14 municipalities in the watershed.

The 8 interchanges planned in the watershed will be located at Scotia Road, North Atherton Street/Valley Vista Drive, Waddle Road, Park Avenue, Shiloh Road, Route 150, Harrison Road, and Route 550. I-99 will connect with I-80 at Exit 24 near Bellefonte.

At the March 19 meeting of the Spring Creek Watershed Community, Tom Zilla,

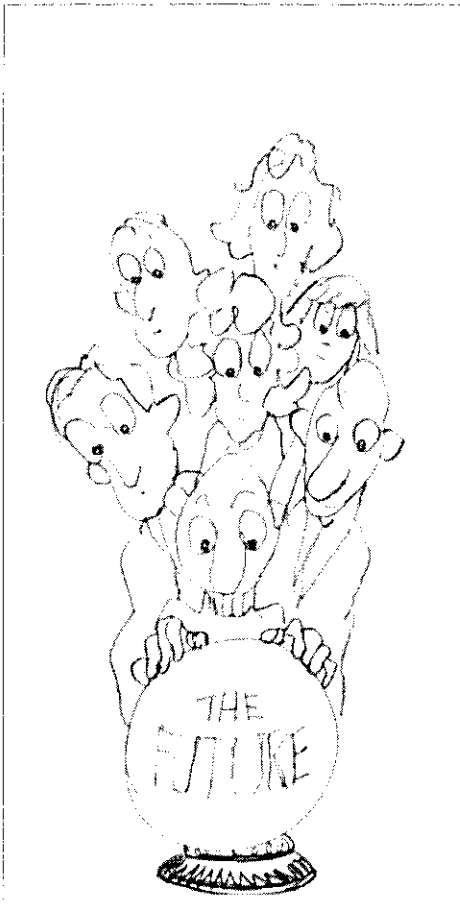
transportation planner for the Centre Region Planning Committee and the Metropolitan Planning Organization outlined plans for I-99 in respect to the interchanges within the watershed. He described the location of each and the timeframe in which construction of the separate sections of I-99 will begin.

The Route 26 relocation is scheduled first and will proceed toward Spring Creek from where the new highway connects with the Route 26 Bypass in Spring Township near Bellefonte, cross Spring Creek Valley, and connect with Routes 322 and a diversion of US220 from Port Matilda at the Park Avenue intersection near Penn State's Research Park.

Zilla explained that the most complicated interchange will be the one at Park Avenue. It will probably be a massive 3-tier structure similar to the one where Routes 322 and 22 join Interstate 81 at Harrisburg. The major volume of traffic there will probably be

commuters to Penn State and other jobs in the State College area. Interestingly, Zilla observed that the major truck traffic now travelling Route 220 from Port Matilda to I-80 will probably continue using the old 220 North rather than the new diversion through State College to a different connection farther East.

Many Community members left the meeting realizing for the first time that I-99 in Centre County means a combination of three separate sections: a rerouting of US 220 and 322 from Port Matilda to State College and a relocation and rebuilding of an improved PA26 through Spring Creek Valley, all combined into a new high-speed, controlled access, 4-lane superhighway connecting the Pennsylvania Turnpike at Bedford with I-80 near Bellefonte. But, we should insist, without excessive damage to Spring Creek and its tributaries as it passes through. ♣



## Visioning Workgroup Report:

The Visioning Workgroup formed to catalyze a visioning process for the Spring Creek Watershed community to plan its long-term future has just completed gathering information about the visioning process in general and how it has worked in other communities.

They plan now to compile the resource information, make it available to reference sections with each of the local libraries and then provide the same resource notebook to each of the townships. The 14-member workgroup plans to get on the agenda for each of the townships and officially present the Vision concept with the notebook. According to Chair Caren Glotfelty, the next step for the workgroup is to go forward in scheduling to get on township meeting agendas.

Also serving on the group are Jackie Melander, Jennifer Watson, Jim Loughran, Karen Trimbath, Cory Miller, Rae Chambers, Walt Ebaugh, Dennis Hameister, David Miller, Jennifer Chesworth, Bob Eberhart, Drew Hyman, Connie Randolph, and Ron Smith. They welcome additional volunteers. \*

## Stakeholders Should Speak for Themselves

The question comes up occasionally...but particularly at times that critical and potentially emotional issues such as I-99 arise. For whom do we speak? Ourselves, of course, and maybe even an organization. But how do we speak out on behalf of a diverse stakeholder movement like the Spring Creek Watershed Community? That takes additional thought.

The Spring Creek Watershed Community is made up of stakeholders! So what's a stakeholder? According to Webster's New Collegiate, a stakeholder is a person entrusted with the stakes of bettors.

So what's at stake? In this quickly changing and growing community we're betting on the whole being greater than the sum of its parts or in the case of the Community, that we can collectively, as organizations, representatives of organizations, and individuals, do a better job of planning for this community's future and resources.

Since the Spring Creek Watershed Community is made up of a wide range of stakeholders, each representing different organizations, interests, and areas of interests, it is imperative that we recognize that none of

us, individually, represents the entire group in our actions or words. While we all may believe that we have similar goals, there may in fact be differences in opinion on how to proceed on any given issue.

We are involved in a democratic, yet somewhat uncharted, process in this stakeholder organization. It's a process that can work, yet we need to be ever vigilant not to assume that we, in our own opinions, represent the opinion of the whole. When we go to speak with others relative to the work of the Watershed Community, we must speak on behalf of ourselves, or on behalf of the organizations we represent. Only when a clearly identified consensus of the entire Community has occurred can any of us speak on behalf of the Watershed Community. Always it is important in our commitment to the use and benefit of a stakeholder group – and a consensus-building process – that we clearly state our support for the Spring Creek Watershed Community for that purpose.

The beauty of a stakeholder group is that we are in fact, trying to work together in ways that haven't yet been tried. The greater beauty is that we are still entitled to hold our own views or organizational opinions and can always speak out on that behalf, making clear they are personal. \*

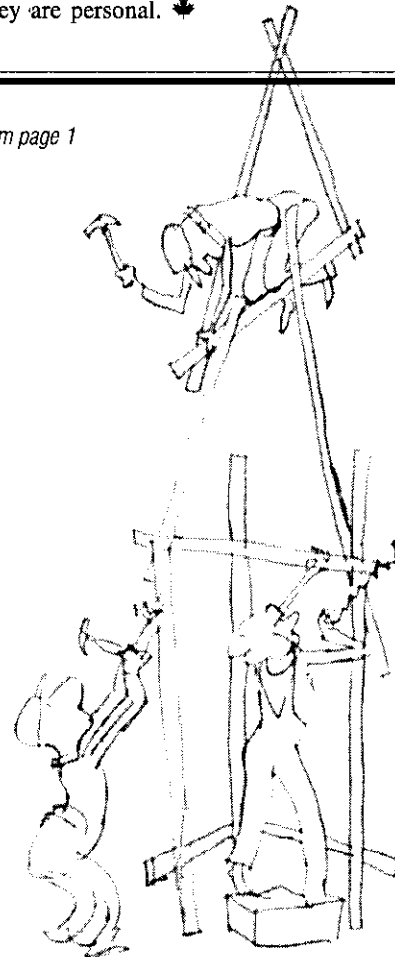
## Consensus Building *Continued from page 1*

able level of readiness to go before the Community, the issue will be placed on the next agenda; if not, the Coordinating Committee will request the workgroup to perform additional work.

5. Once the issue is brought to the Community by the workgroup, the Community will either request the workgroup to perform additional work, or the Community can elect to establish a "record of opinion" in which a vote is taken and the record of the vote made.

6. Following a "record of opinion" by voice vote at a Community Roundtable Meeting, the issue presented by the Workgroup will be published in the next issue of "Springs & Sinks" and written opinions will be received by other stakeholders who were not present at the Roundtable Meeting in order to allow full stakeholder involvement in the record.

7. The record of opinion, both voice vote and written, will then be forwarded to the appropriate entities. \*



# Controlling Stormwater

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In the next step of Pennsylvania's evolution, the treatment of stormwater was the new aim, and detention basins came into vogue. Water was captured in dry basins, held there over time to help reduce pollutants, and slowly released so as to reduce the velocity of large quantities of water into the stream at one time.

While this controlled the peak rate of discharge after a storm, the problems of infiltration reduction, pollution, and volume remained unresolved.

Today, as we enter the most recent stage in the evolutionary march, attention has turned to controlling the quantity and quality of stormwater through the prevention of runoff in the first place.

For municipalities that want to take a more preventive approach to stormwater management, this means reexamining their development patterns and, wherever they can, encouraging the natural infiltration of runoff into the groundwater at the site through the use of techniques called Best Management Practices or BMPs. These techniques are of both a preventive and mitigative nature.

Preventive techniques used during the construction of new development would include:

- reducing impervious surfaces by reducing the width of streets and eliminating unnecessary roads, sidewalks and turnarounds in a development.

- employing growth-management concepts such as open-space designs that cluster homes, thus reducing driveway lengths and sidewalks, and use open space as natural places for the infiltration of stormwater to occur.

Recognizing that development will still create impervious surfaces that result in additional runoff, townships can also undertake more progressive site-specific mitigative techniques that strive to return most of the stormwater back into the water table at the site. Such mitigative techniques include:

- infiltration techniques at the site, such as wet basins, french drains, and dry wells; and

- terraforming, which is the subtle grading of a yard to allow the infiltration of stormwater that moves along these swales.

Here are some Best Management Practices that may be used singly or in

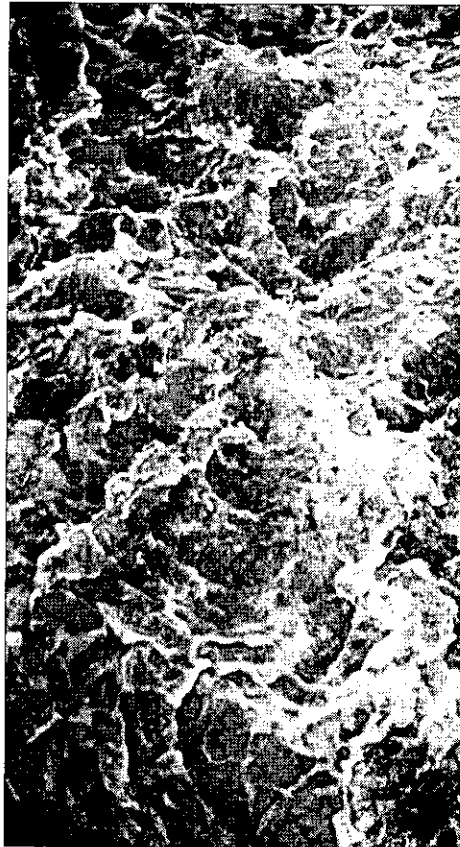


PHOTO BY BOB BEESE

combination with others to mitigate stormwater runoff:

**Grassed swales** – A linear area of grass that retards or impounds stormwater runoff to filter out pollutants, induce infiltration, and decrease velocity of runoff. Often used in single-family residential developments and highway medians.

**Buffer strips** – Vegetated strips of land, whether natural or planted, a small forest. These evenly distribute runoff from upstream development and act to remove pollutants.

**Urban forestry** – Preserving trees during construction or planting them after the site is cleared to remove pollutants, reduce the volume of stormwater runoff, and prevent soil erosion.

**Riparian buffers** – Zones or corridors of natural vegetation and trees located immediately adjacent to water resources. Used to stabilize erodible soils, improve surface and ground water quality, and increase stream shading.

**Infiltration basins** – Storage of stormwater in basins until it gradually soaks into the ground through the basin floor.

**Infiltration trenches** – Shallow, excavated trenches that are backfilled with stone to create an underground reservoir. Runoff diverted into the trench infiltrates

into the subsoil. Often used in conjunction with grass buffers that capture sediment before it enters the trench.

**Porous pavement** – An alternative to conventional pavement whereby runoff is diverted through a porous asphalt layer into an underground stone reservoir, where it gradually infiltrates into the ground. The pavement must be periodically vacuum-swept and jet hosed to keep pores open.

**Detention ponds** – A created pond that temporarily stores excess runoff from a site and slowly releases it to the surface's natural drainage system.

**Wet pond or retention pond** – An earthen embankment or excavated pond that contains a permanent pool and temporarily stores excess runoff that is discharged through an outlet or emergency spillway. In an enhanced wet pond design, an extra storage area called a "forebay" is installed to trap incoming sediments so they can be easily removed, and a fringed wetland is established around the perimeter of the pond.

**Multiple pond systems** – A cluster of pond designs incorporating redundant runoff systems within a single pond or series of ponds. May use a combination of extended detention, permanent pool, shallow wetlands, or infiltration.

**Constructed wetlands** – Artificially created wetlands that treat stormwater runoff by combining the pollutant removal capabilities of structural stormwater controls with the flood storage feature provided by natural wetlands.

**Oil and grit separators** – A system designed to remove sediment and hydrocarbon loadings from parking lot runoff in a 3-stage underground retention system before water is conveyed to a storm drain network or an infiltration system. Must be periodically cleaned out to permanently dispose of trapped pollutants and to ensure proper inlet function.

**Sand filters** – A self-contained bed of sand, often layered with peat, limestone, topsoil, and grass cover, where runoff is diverted and strained through the sand and collected in underground pipes. Used to pretreat runoff before it enters another stormwater structure. Suitable for small sites in highly impervious areas, including treatment of parking lot runoff. ♣

Interested persons can borrow the full text of the above article by calling 237-0400

## Spring Creek Watershed Stormwater Management Planning

The County Planning Office has proceeded in its application to the PA Department of Environmental Protection for funding stormwater management planning per the direction of the Spring Creek Watershed Commission. County-retained engineers, Sweetland Engineering, are working with the Planning Office to get Part I of the project underway in which the scope of work and identification of advisory committees to oversee the project approach will be accomplished. Rich Manning and Bob Bruce, both with Sweetland, will serve as the lead engineers on the project.

Bob Donaldson, Director of

Planning for the County, says plans underway for a Spring Creek watershed stormwater management plan will exceed the State's current requirements by going further with innovative and creative approaches to determining the quantity and quality issues of stormwater in the community. He said the desire to focus on quality issues rests in the understanding that there is a strong connection between stormwater management and protecting groundwater (drinking water) supplies in the area.

"From tours I participated in during the Exchange last fall with Dick Parizek, it became increasingly evident that quality issues must be addressed in this area as they pertain to stormwater management,"

Donaldson said. Advisory committees that will likely emerge as a part of this process include a "watershed public advisory committee" and a "technical advisory committee."

At the March 19 meeting of the Community, Mark Ralston, Community member and hydrogeologist with Converse Consultants, agreed to chair a workgroup to specifically focus on stormwater management and to provide the commission with support form the Community in this important endeavor. The Stormwater management workgroup is tentatively set to investigate alternatives for stormwater management as well as to identify sensitive places within the basin. ♣

## UAJA Compost

What does Memorial Stadium (Baltimore), the Little League World Series Field (Williamsport), the Congressional Country Club (Bethesda) and the Air and Space Museum (Washington, DC) have in common? They all use compost from the Spring Creek watershed-based University Area Joint Authority (UAJA)!

As reported in an earlier issue of "Springs & Sinks", UAJA was the recipient of the 1996 Governor's Outstanding Achievement Award for Environmental Excellence for its innovative technology in the recycling of biosolids into an organic soil conditioner. Under the tradename of UAJA ComposT, this locally generated and produced compost is used in a wide range of applications ranging from the organizations mentioned above to local vegetable gardens.

According to a fact sheet supplied by UAJA, ComposT improves soils structure, improves fertilizer uptake, reduces soil compaction and erosion, while reducing nutrient leaching and remaining weed free. UAJA ComposT, now in its fifth year of production, is a mixture of hardwood sawdust and high quality, clean biosolids (sludge) which are composted in the UAJA's state-of-the-art, in-vessel composting facility. The

composting process generates enough heat to essentially pasteurize the product, making it free of pathogens and weed seeds.

With inexpensive, high-quality organic matter difficult to find in any area, this community is doubly fortunate to reap the benefits from UAJA's decision to compost biosolids as opposed to disposing of sludge through direct land application.

To guarantee public safety, a tremendous amount of research has been performed on a national and local level in regard to heavy metals. Trace elements are inherently found in almost everything and are only deemed a health risk when we are exposed to them in large amounts on a prolonged basis. Only biosolid products with low levels of heavy metals/trace elements, like UAJA compost, are approved for distribution.

UAJA ComposT has been approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and endorsed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The UAJA ComposT facility is open to the general public Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. A pick-up truck load, regardless of size, will cost \$4. If you do not have a pickup, bring your own containers and pay \$2 per car. For further details or to visit UAJA for a free sample, call Maria Rhodes, 238-5361. ♣

## Glotfelty Joins Cross-State Trek

Caren Glotfelty, Spring Creek Watershed Community member and Goddard Professor of Forestry and Environmental Resources, will join seven other women for a cross-Pennsylvania journey entitled the "Women's Expedition for the Environment (WE2)", sponsored by the Audubon Council of Pennsylvania.

The purpose of the expedition is to raise awareness of areas and issues of environmental interest in Pennsylvania and to provide women leaders the opportunity to develop friendships and networks for enhancing future action. The expedition begins in Pittsburgh on April 18 as a part of Earth Day celebrations. The expedition will conclude north of Philadelphia in the Delaware River watershed on May 11. The eight women will traverse the state by foot, bicycle, and canoe. The public, men and women, are invited to join the expedition at any point on their itinerary. ♣

*The website for WE2, which will document the group's progress, is:*  
[www.bikemap.com/we2/we2.html](http://www.bikemap.com/we2/we2.html)

## Where the Rainy Season Never Ends

BY GARY W. CRAMER

For the past decade, ever so quietly and carefully, Penn State's University Park campus has used treated wastewater generated by thousands of students and employees to foster its very own rain forest. That may sound like a hard thing to hide, yet very few people who see the forest recognize it for what it is.

While touring the Deer Pens or State Game Land No. 176 off Fox Hill Road, between the campus and the airport, anyone noticing the sprayers of the Penn State Land Treatment System is seeing parts of the forest, as well as other land included in the project. Twenty-four hours a day, year-round, different portions of the system whoosh treated wastewater onto acres of trees, undergrowth, and cropland. None of this wastewater gets discharged directly into Spring Creek.

The process recycles nearly 1 billion gallons of water each year into the regional groundwater system, which is then reused, in part, to fill the four water towers on campus. Besides recycling the water, the process adds naturally occurring nutrients in the wastewater to the soil for pick-up by the crops and forest growth.

"Continuous use of the system since 1983 has resulted in the local groundwater levels remaining relatively stable even in the worst drought conditions of the recent past," according to Richard Parizek, a professor of geology who was among the earliest participants in the project and is still a member of its oversight group, the Wastewater Distribution Committee.

"By spraying no more than two inches per acre per week, the total area covered by the system receives about 100 inches per year over and above the natural rainfall—or 30 inches more than needed to qualify as a rain forest," he said.

Owing to its uniqueness, the Land Treatment System over time has become a living laboratory for many Penn State wildlife and ecosystem classes. Researchers focus on its effects on the local flora and fauna, and ongoing sampling of water quality is performed at 23 groundwater monitoring wells. All this activity is coordinated by the 14-member Wastewater Distribution Committee, which includes

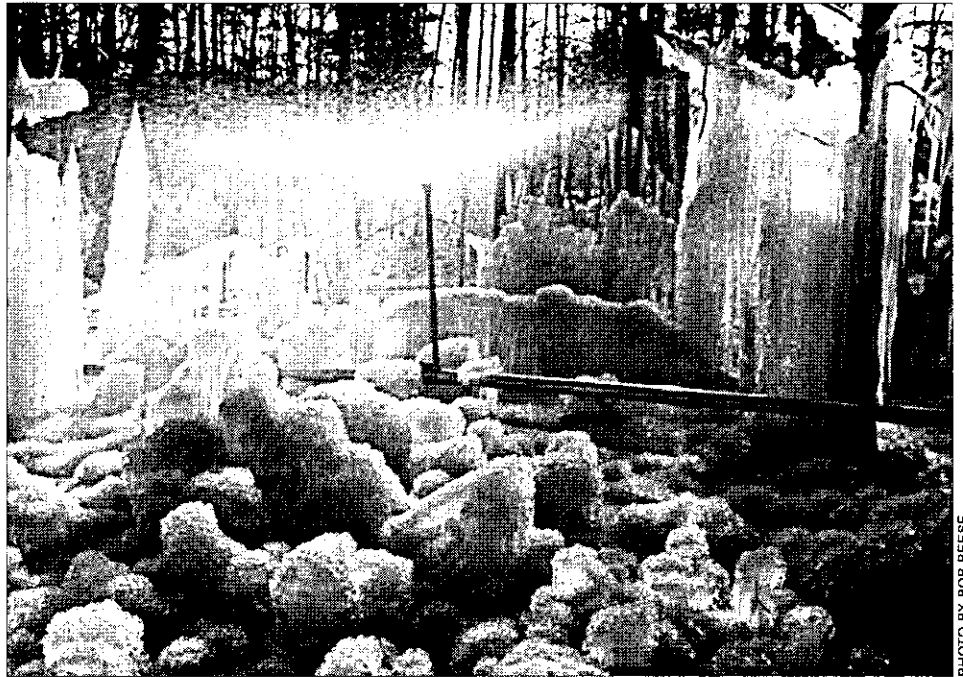


PHOTO BY BOB BEESE

*A winter view of the Penn State Land Treatment System.*

University academicians and administrators and representatives of the State Game Commission, which owns some of the land.

"Besides being a pleasant place to hike, bike and hunt, the lands form a very complex biological system that needs to be managed closely, and that's the message the committee is trying hard to get across as we tour groups through it," said committee chairman John Gaudlip, a utility systems engineer with the University's Office of Physical Plant. "Last year, we gave tours for the state Department of Environmental Protection, Patton Township Supervisors, Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts, Centre Region Planning Commission, and environmental attorneys from across the state."

During the popular tours, participants learn that hard data drives every bit of fine-tuning made to the system and that challenges abound in finding ways to effectively manage the system in an environmentally sound manner. Despite obstacles, the system is highly sensitive to the farm operations, various regulatory bodies, adjacent landowners, and the Game Commission.

"There are some major hurdles to overcome," said Les Lanyon, associate professor of soil fertility and a committee member. "For instance, the normal growing season is out of sync with the periods of increased student activity. (Students) determine the pattern of flow in the system.

One method to deal with the imbalance involves double cropping of corn in the summer and winter rye later to keep acreage in production as much of the year as possible."

Among the best forage species for removing nutrients from the soil is Reed Canarygrass, which can be fed to University livestock, according to Harold Harpster, associate professor of animal science and committee member.

Another important factor in wastewater usage is the influence of age and structure of forest vegetation on nutrient uptake.

"Studies are under way to determine if fast-growing young vegetation in recently cut forests take up nutrients faster compared to older vegetation," said Gerald Storm, assistant professor of wildlife science.

"Preliminary data from water samples taken at one meter below the surface indicated that nitrate-nitrogen concentrations in areas with young vegetation were significantly lower than in natural forests."

Such results suggest that with the availability of young growth forests and/or croplands, the practices undertaken by Penn State could someday play a role in helping others considering or using a land treatment system. ♣

*Gary W. Cramer is a writer/editor in the office of University Relations at Penn State. This article first appeared in the March 27 issue of Penn State Intercom and is reprinted with permission.*

Centre County: A sign of the times. Recently seen – an Amishman, sitting in his buggy alongside the hard-road, using a cordless phone.



Jim McClure

### Coming Events

**Saturday, April 19,** Zero Discharge and Sustainability, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Centre Furnace Mansion, 1001 E. College Ave., State College Jack Matson, environmental engineering professor at Penn State and local environmental writer Elizabeth Goreham will discuss the technology, practicality and importance of zero discharge in this meeting sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Centre County. For more information, call Elizabeth Goreham, 235-1322.

**Saturday, April 19,** An Earth Day related event sponsored by the Sinkhole Watch Committee: Cleanup of a large sinkhole west of Harner's farm in Ferguson Township will take place. Interested persons can call Gert Aron at 466-6067.

**Saturday, April 20,** Earth Day on the HUB Lawn, Noon to 9 p.m. The Watershed Community will have an exhibit documenting the Exchange experience (thanks Jennifer Watson). Volunteers are still needed to help staff the exhibit from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. Call 237-0400. Consumer Advocate Ralph Nader will be the speaker, at 5 p.m. or after.

**Friday, April 25,** Arbor Day—Consider planting a native tree species near a creek where shade is needed for cooling benefits, and streambank stabilization would be provided by the root mass. Riparian forest buffers provide a number of benefits to waterways, including decreasing the sun's warming effects, stabiliz-

ing the bank, and providing valuable wildlife connected corridors.

**Saturday, April 26,** Spring Creek Spring Cleanup: Organized by Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited with assistance of other interested parties, a litter pick-up will occur along Spring Creek. Interested volunteers are invited to meet at Fisherman's Paradise at 10 a.m. at the parking lot at the end of the entrance road that parallels the stream. Wear boots if you have them. Most of the litter, however, is on dry land beside the stream. Plastic litter bags and orange vests will be supplied by PennDOT. The cleanup will conclude by Noon. For further information, contact Vince Norris, 238-1710.

**Saturday, April 26,** 6:30 p.m., join the "Women's Expedition for the Environment (WE2)", at Shaver's Creek Environmental Center, to hear Professor Dick Shafer discuss the importance of eco-tourism to the economy and natural resources of Pennsylvania.

**Sunday, April 27,** through Monday, April 28, Join WE2 on the Mid State Trail through Rothrock State Forest, a wilderness footpath.

**Saturday, May 3,** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Spring Creek Stewardship Day. Our host for this 4-stop educational tour will be the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited. The tour starts from the Military Museum at Boalsburg. Bring your own lunch. Transportation provided. Stops include Galbraith Gap, Military Museum, Spring Creek Park (for lunch), PSU Sheep Farm, Fisherman's

Paradise. Short presentations at each stop from Fish Commission, Trout Unlimited, ClearWater Conservancy regarding significant ecological, stream management, and landscape corridor issues for that particular stretch. Bring your camera, binoculars, Peterson field guides, and enjoy the best that nature can offer!

**May 3 and 4,** Plant Celebration at the Centre Furnace Mansion, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, and Noon to 4 on Sunday with an afternoon tea immediately following. In addition to plant and garden accessory sales, there will be speakers on both days and kids' activities sponsored by the Children's Museum on "Growing up Green", an insect safari, composting, and a treasure hunt led by naturalist Bob Gruver. Volunteers are still needed and welcome. Call 234-4779.

**Sunday, May 11,** 2 p.m., Mother's Day Wildflower Hike at "The Rock" along Spring Creek. For details, call ClearWater Conservancy, 237-0400.

**Sunday, May 18,** The Big Spring Festival, Talleyrand Park, "A Celebration of Water & All the Beauty It Sustains. The Spring Creek Watershed Community will have it's Exchange exhibit at this event. Volunteers are invited to call 237-0400 to help staff the exhibit. Also, there is a presentation of a watershed informational sign provided by the Chesapeake Bay Commission in the works that the Community will have a role in. ♣

**The ClearWater Conservancy**  
**PO Box 163**  
**State College, PA 16804**

**Non-Profit Organization**  
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**Permit Number 239**

## CALENDAR

The Spring Creek Community, Coordinating Committee, and Commission meetings have been set for the next three months and are as follows:

### **WATERSHED COMMUNITY**

Centre County Vo-Tech School

**Tuesday, April 29**, 7:30 p.m.  
Cafeteria, Library and Room 115

**Thursday, May 29**, 7:30 p.m.  
Library, Room 115, Room A101

**Monday, June 30**, 7:30 p.m.  
Cafeteria, Library

### **COORDINATING COMMITTEE:**

Patton Township Building

**Wednesday, April 23**, 7:00 a.m.

**Wednesday, May 28**, 7:00 a.m.

**Wednesday, June 25**, 7:00 a.m.

### **WATERSHED COMMISSION**

Willowbank Building

**Tuesday, April 22**, 5:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, May 27**, 5:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, June 24**, 5:30 p.m.

## **About This Newsletter**

Springs & Sinks is a regular newsletter of the Spring Creek Watershed Community. It will appear monthly or bimonthly, and after that as the flow of information warrants.

Its major purpose is to inform the public and members of this organization – and also sponsors of the 1996 Spring Creek International Countryside Stewardship Exchange – about progress in implementing recommendations from the Exchange, as well as about watershed problems and developments occurring outside the scope of the Exchange.

The editors are Herb Thompson (814-234-2512) and Kristen Saacke Blunk (814-237-0400). Design and artwork is the responsibility of Jim McClure (814-237-5739). They welcome your comments and suggestions for improvements and, above all, your individual contributions to the newsletter and its exchange of information among members. The mailing address is P.O. Box 163, State College, PA 16804.