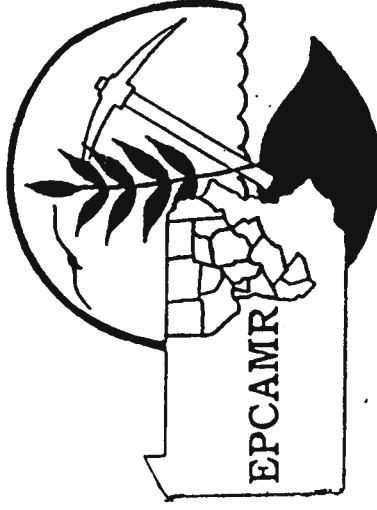

"Working Together for a Brighter Future"

Eastern Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation



Robert E. Hughes
Regional Coordinator

Preamble of EPCAMR

- ◆ The general purpose of the organizational is to encourage the reclamation and redevelopment of land affected by past mining practices;
- ◆ These include reducing hazards to health and safety, eliminating soil erosion, improving water quality, returning lands affected by past mining practices to productive use, thereby improving the economy of the region.
- ◆ EPCAMR will cooperate with the PA Association of Conservation Districts (PACD), federal, state and local government agencies, and any organization or entity, public or private, with similar goals.

EPCAMR's Coverage Area

- ◆ The Coalition is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit corporation serving 16 eastern PA counties;

Bradford, Carbon, Columbia, Dauphin, Lackawanna
Lebanon, Lycoming, Luzerne, Northumberland
Montour, Schuylkill, Sullivan, Susquehanna
Tioga, Wayne, and Wyoming

- ◆ The Coalition is a membership organization governed by a Board of Trustees.
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EPCAMR's Purpose

- ◆ The purpose of the Coalition shall be to encourage the reclamation and redevelopment of abandoned mine lands and remediation of waters affected by past mining industry in eastern PA.

The Specific Purposes of EPCAMR are as follows:

- ◆ To promote the spirit of cooperation among all parties who have an interest in resolving the problems of acid mine drainage and abandoned mine reclamation;
- ◆ To encourage partnerships among the various governmental agencies (Federal, State, County, and Local), the industry, and the various conservation, environmental, and watershed associations throughout the defined areas;

The Specific Purposes of EPCAMR are as follows:

- ◆ To encourage, promote, and provide leadership and serve as a focal point for issues pertaining to abandoned mine related problems and reclamation;
- ◆ To stimulate and encourage reclamation of abandoned mine land, waterways, and resources impacted and affected by mining;
- ◆ To seek and acquire available sources of government, private, or public funding for projects related to abandoned mine problems;

The Specific Purposes of EPCAMR are as follows:

- ◆ To encourage new sources of funding to improve quality of waters degraded by mine drainage, siltation, and associated problems;
- ◆ To educate, inform, and involve the public with mine reclamation and mine drainage issues;
- ◆ To develop incentives, initiatives, and methods to better facilitate the remediation of abandoned mine land and mine drainage problems;

The Specific Purposes of EPCAMR are as follows:

- ◆ To promote stabilization of reclaimed and unreclaimed mine lands and to promote the accelerated removal and or stabilization of culm piles;
- ◆ To encourage the reuse and safe redevelopment of abandoned mine lands;
- ◆ To support the agencies, programs, industries, and associations related to mine reclamation;

The Specific Purposes of EPCAMR are as follows:

- ◆ To serve as an advocate for innovative environmentally sound mine reclamation and acid mine drainage remediation techniques; and
- ◆ To provide assistance in developing local watershed associations and coalitions, and related groups interested in mine reclamation.

Regional Coordinator's Role in EPCAMR

OVERALL MISSION:

To assist local organizations and groups to enhance the reclamation of abandoned mine lands in PA with special emphasis to improve surface and groundwater quality in areas degraded by mineral resource extraction.

Regional Coordinator's Objectives and Responsibilities

- ◆ Intensify efforts in the area of outreach and public education;
- ◆ Coordinate the efforts of member organizations in identifying and responding to mine reclamation needs.

Regional Coordinator's Objectives and Responsibilities

- ◆ Pursue and develop federal, state, and local investment in mine reclamation including the raising and accounting for operational funding for the Coalition and Conservation Districts.

Regional Coordinator's Objectives and Responsibilities

- ◆ Communicate the position of the Coalition and Conservation Districts in the public and private sectors including presenting testimony and through educational programs;
- ◆ Establish an office.

Regional Coordinator's Priorities

- ◆ Establishing cooperative working relationships with government officials, managing programs directly and/or indirectly involving mine reclamation to gain their support and to learn their needs and priorities.

Regional Coordinator's Priorities

- ◆ Pursue the special DEP-BAMIR 10% Set-Aside funding and other programs for abandoned mine drainage abatement; and
- ◆ Lead research efforts in experimental reclamation techniques.

- 1 It Takes All Kinds Of People In A Watershed To Save A Stream
Fostering Partnerships From The Grassroots Up!
Robert E. Hughes
Regional Coordinator
- 2 Partnerships Create A Win-Win Situation For Stream Restoration
The greater level of support from the local community tends to bring in other partnerships with non-
profits, research and educational institutions, conservation districts, federal, state, and local
agencies almost at will
- 3 What Is A Watershed?
A watershed is defined as an area of land where all water running off of it drains to a given point;
Taking a watershed approach involves considering the health of an entire watershed in addition
problems at specific locations within the watershed
- 4 Planning Holistically Opens Up The Lines Of Communication
Watershed planning encourages communication among adjoining municipalities, planners, citizens'
groups, environmental organizations, etc. and allows for the free exchange of information in a
comprehensive manner within a watershed
- 5 What Should Be Included In A Watershed Plan?
■ Problem Identification
■ Solution Alternatives
■ Implementation Projects
■ Evaluation Methods and Reassessment
- 6 Local Input Is Key To The Success of Stream Restoration Projects
All of the partners who come to the table need the expertise and input of the people who are directly
affected by the project to place tangible values on the stream in a particular watershed
- 7 Doing What's Best For The Entire Watershed
You have to look past the stream that's running through your back yard and realize there are many
contributing tributaries and other undefined sources within a particular watershed that may be
causing a problem
- 8 Getting To Know Your Watershed And The Streams That Run Through It
You can never know or learn too much about your watershed; Many people become self-educated just
by attending monthly meetings and finding out what's going on upstream or downstream from their
community
- 9 Prioritization Schemes Within Your Watershed
The worst problem may not be the best place to target all your resources; Look at the overall benefits
surrounding the area;
■ Economic
■ Recreation
■ Aesthetic
■ Environmental
- 10 Act Locally, However Think Watershed
Become aware of what is happening at the local level and take part in the effort while still
remembering that a stream is a part of an integrated water system based on the surrounding
topography, geology, and land-use patterns

- 11 **Tell The Neighbor What You've Heard or Done**
Strong community support is what keeps many of the stream restoration projects going; Spread the word about the project and let others know how they could play a small part in the big picture where watersheds don't follow political boundaries
- 12 **Getting Yourself And Others "Into The Stream" Of Things**
Community leaders are the experts in this area for guided tours or walks along the streambanks; Get all the stakeholders out to the actual stream as early in the process as you can so they know exactly what they are supporting
- 13 **Those Who Don't Ask For Help Usually Don't Get Any Help**
Simply ask somebody about a question you might have and you would be surprised how many people might know the answer; It doesn't cost anything to ask questions for help on a matter
- 14 **Putting Your Money Where Your Mouth Is**
Every little bit helps; You usually can't get away with completing a stream restoration project without having to commit some personal financial contribution; Membership fees generally add to the pot and tend to support most of the workings of an association and related costs
- 15 **Coming Together For The Common Good Of The Watershed And The Streams In It**
It takes all kinds of people to save a stream from watershed associations, school districts, civic and sportsmen womens organizations, and local businesses to the agency involvement from the federal, state, and local levels

