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Years
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TURTLE CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

Newsletter December 2023

Consider Gifting TCWA Merchandise!



Searching for the perfect gift for a nature lover in your life? Show your support for our mission by purchasing TCWA merchandise.



Access the site via the link above or by visiting www.turtlecreekwatershed.org. Or go directly to www.zazzle.com and search for "TurtleCreekWA." For more options, browse through over 1,000 items by clicking on any product and scrolling down.



Sending You Warm Holiday and New Year Greetings 🎁

In winding down our work in 2023, TCWA recently hosted our traditional annual dinner meeting. Shown above, vice president Chuck Duritsa highlighted some of TCWA's achievements for members and guests. We love to share what we love to do, so please consider joining us next year! In the meantime, we extend our best wishes to you and your loved ones during this holiday season.



Recycling with a Splash

In June, TCWA member Ben Hedin added a colorful twist to the Irwin Borough Nature Festival with a tie-dye work shop. Reclaimed iron oxide from abandoned mine treatment was used as dye. TCWA co-sponsored the event in conjunction with our annual Rubber Ducky race.

CONTACT US

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JOIN US

Monthly Meetings

Final Tuesday of each month
5:30 p.m. at Monroeville municipal building (address above).
(NOTE: NO DECEMBER 2023 MEETING.)

Events

Follow us on Facebook for the latest updates!

Group Plans Treatment of Chalfant Run



Getting to the source of the problem. In the Churchill Valley Greenway, a single tributary to Chalfant Run (shown left) contributes most of the abandoned mine pollution to the downstream waterway. Ben Hedin (in red at right) talks to members of the Chalfant Run/Thompson Run Watershed Association about plans to fix the problem.

Under a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, the Allegheny Land Trust is working to restore the water quality of a Chalfant Run tributary that meanders through the Churchill Valley Greenway preserve.

Abandoned mine drainage (AMD) from locations upstream of the preserve continue to degrade the otherwise high-quality stream. While not always visible, the pollution often shows up as a bluish white tint.

Treating the water would require constructing a series of limestone beds that would help raise the pH of the water and two small ponds that would help settle out aluminum. The beds and ponds would be small enough to fit into the existing parking lot.



The main stem of Turtle Creek near Saunders Station in Level Green was the first AMD project to be tackled by TCWA. While the favorite fishing spot was stocked with trout this year (above), in some years, stocking is cancelled due to continued AMD impacts.

NEW

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