

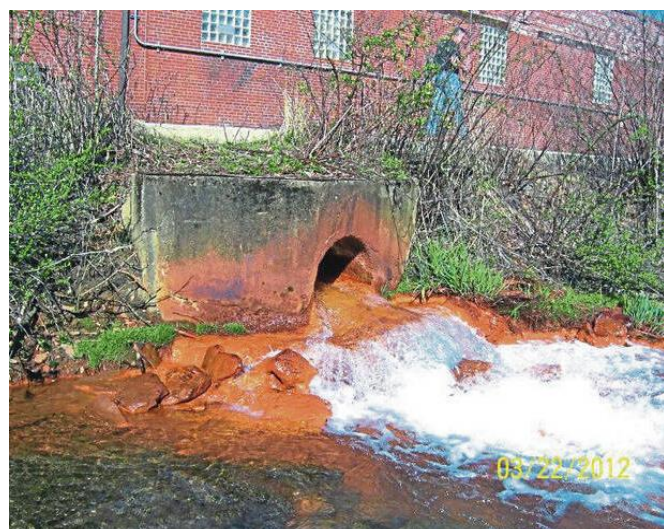
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Years
1970 - 2020

TURTLE CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

June - September 2024

Taking the First Steps to Clean up Brush Creek

The Irwin Discharge into Tinkers Run, shown on the right, is one of the largest untreated mine discharges in western Pennsylvania. This summer, TCWA took the initial step to treat this problem, partnering with Westmoreland County to begin the acquisition of a key parcel located near the Pennsylvania Turnpike and Norfolk Southern's rail line in North Huntingdon Township. The 50-acre parcel will serve as the location of a water treatment system that will eliminate the discharge of mine water that contaminates Brush Creek and turns it orange. This is a long-term project that will require in-depth site studies and several rounds of grant funding to develop and implement. Once completed, the successful treatment and return of clean water to the environment will result in the restoration of approximately 9 miles of Brush Creek from Irwin to Trafford and further downstream via Turtle Creek to the Monongahela River.



Watershed Workshops Available



Do you know of a youth group, school club, or community group that is interested in learning more about watersheds and water quality? TCWA can offer on-site workshops using water sampling equipment purchased with funds from a recent BHE mini-grant. To schedule a workshop, contact us at turtlecreekwa@gmail.com.

CONTACT US

Turtle Creek Watershed Association
2700 Monroeville Blvd
Monroeville, PA 15146
(724) 610-0829
turtlecreekwa@gmail.com
www.turtlecreekwatershed.org

JOIN US

Monthly Meetings
Final Tuesday of the month, Jan to Oct, 5:30 p.m. at Monroeville Municipal Building (address above).

UPCOMING TCWA EVENTS

November 12 – Annual Meeting at the Coxcomb, Murrysville (5:30-7:30 PM)

Check our website and Facebook page for more updates!

Would you like to become a Penn State Master Watershed Steward in 2025?



TCWA is delighted to offer a full scholarship to the Penn State Master Watershed Steward Program for Spring 2025. This certification program is ideal for anyone who is interested in watershed issues and wants to learn more about how to prevent or remediate them. You do not need to be a scientist - Penn State provides online training, resources, and support to steward trainees, who are then required to complete 20 hours of volunteer work per year to maintain their certification. You can learn more about the program here: <https://extension.psu.edu/programs/watershed-stewards>

Applicants for the TCWA scholarship, which covers the full \$125 cost of the Master Watershed Steward program, must reside in either Westmoreland or Allegheny County and be willing to join the Turtle Creek Watershed Association after completing the program. To apply, email a brief paragraph to turtlecreekwa@gmail.com before November 1, 2024, introducing yourself and explaining why you are interested in local watershed issues.

QHUP Report Submitted

Following the completion of contracted work by Skelly & Loy, TCWA has submitted a final QHUP or Qualified Hydrologic Unit Plan to the PA Department of Environmental Protection. Once approved by the PA DEP, the Turtle Creek watershed will be designated as a Qualified Hydrologic Unit. This designation will allow the TCWA to obtain state funding for the operation and maintenance of AMD treatment facilities.

TCWA Board News

TCWA welcomes Chrissy Edwards-McCune of the Westmoreland Conservation District and Smokey Burdin of the Irwin Sportsman's Association as new Associate Members on our board. Jason McCabe, previously an Associate Member, has agreed to fill the board vacancy created by the resignation of Kevin Kaplan, while Paul Whealdon has graciously taken over Kevin's role as Treasurer of the organization. TCWA thanks Kevin for his many hours of volunteer service and wishes him well.

TCWA BOARD

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Karen Rose Cercone – Secretary
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