

TURTLE CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION



Working within the community to restore and protect one of our most valuable assets – clean water.

Fall 2026

Federal Funds Received for Irwin Discharge!

On August 25, 2026, members of TCWA joined Congresswoman Summer Lee of Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District, Commissioners Doug Chew and Ted Kopas, and local officials to celebrate the delivery of federal funding to Westmoreland County for cleanup of the Irwin Discharge. The \$1,075,000 investment was included in the Fiscal Year 2026 federal funding package as a Community Project Funding request secured by Congresswoman Lee.



The Irwin Discharge represents one of Pennsylvania's largest sources of abandoned mine drainage pollution. Congresswoman Lee toured the site of the future remediation plant and also viewed the confluence of Tinkers Run and Brush Creek, where iron-rich mine discharge from the former Biddle Mine enters the Turtle Creek tributary. "When you can stand next to a creek and quite literally see the water turning orange from mine pollution, you don't need anybody to explain why this investment matters," said Rep. Lee. "For generations, communities across Western Pennsylvania have lived with the environmental consequences left behind by industries that built enormous wealth off our region, impacting their health, quality of living, and cleanup costs."

The project will support efforts to remediate mine drainage associated with the Biddle Mine and reduce pollution entering Tinkers Run, Brush Creek, and the broader Turtle Creek watershed. To read more:

<https://paenvironmentdaily.blogspot.com/2026/08/pa-congresswoman-summer-lee.html>

CONTACT US

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www.turtlecreekwatershed.org

MEET US

TCWA Monthly Board Meetings
Final Tuesday of the month, Jan to Nov, 5:30 PM at Monroeville Municipal Building (address above).

JOIN US

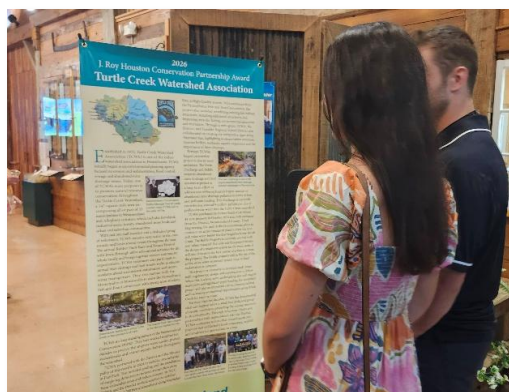
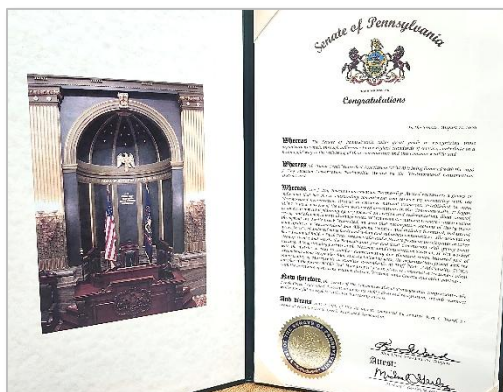
Click [Here](#) for a Membership Form!

TCWA Receives WCD Award for “Conservation Partner of the Year”



Left to right: TCWA Associate Director Ben Hedin and colleague Olivia Weaver of Hedin Environmental; TCWA Director Kylie Schultz; WCD Director Emil Bove, TCWA President Jim Brucker; WCD Board Chair Ron Rohall, TCWA Directors Chuck Duritsa and Karen Rose Cercone, TCWA Associate Director Ed Zinkan and TCWA Director Bill Mihalco.

On September 9, the Westmoreland Conservation District held its annual Awards Ceremony. At that event, WCD Board Chair Ron Rohall presented the Turtle Creek Watershed Association with a plaque and two official proclamations naming our organization the J. Roy Houston Conservation Partner of the Year. This award celebrates TCWA’s decades of work remediating Turtle Creek as well as our significant recent progress toward eliminating the last major source of mine discharge into Brush Creek, the Irwin Discharge from the former Biddle Mine. Along with the plaque and proclamations, the Conservation District created a detailed and illustrated banner highlighting TCWA’s accomplishments which will be displayed in the public area of the Westmoreland Conservation District throughout the coming year.



Join Us at Our Annual Dinner in November

The Turtle Creek Watershed Association holds an Annual Meeting every November to share the progress made that year and discuss our goals for the coming year. The 2026 Annual Meeting will be held **on Tuesday, November 10 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM** in the private event room at **Lucci's Pizza and Pasta Restaurant** on Route 130 in Irwin, halfway between Trafford and Harrison City.

All TCWA members and business sponsors can attend the meeting for free. **Please RSVP to turtlecreekwa@gmail.com by November 1 to reserve your dinner seat.**

If you would like to bring additional guests to the meeting, or just help us underwrite the costs, we are happy to offer a range of meeting sponsor options. Please see the attached form for more details. **We hope to see you there!**



Thanks to Our Sponsors for Your Continuing Support

2026 Business Gold Sponsors



2026 Business Sponsors

- Allegheny Sportsmen's League
- Norwin Rotary
- Penn Township
- Trafford Economic & Community Development Corp.
- Western Westmoreland Municipal Authority

TCWA BOARD

Board of Directors

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Karen Rose Cercone – Secretary
Paul Whealdon – Treasurer
Smokey Burdin
Jason Fronczek
Jason McCabe
Bill Mihalco
Kylie Schultz

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Tom Keller

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Amy Baer
Craig Barras
Rob Cronauer
Chrissy Edwards-McCune
Ben Hedin
Matt Valentine
Ed Zinkan

Directors Emeritus

Ed Fischer John Mores



TCWA ANNUAL MEETING

2026 SPONSORSHIP FORM

If you are a Turtle Creek Watershed Association member or business sponsor, your annual dinner meeting seat is complimentary and does not require any donation. If you would like to bring additional guests, help us cover the costs of the dinner, or show your support for our efforts to end mine drainage pollution in Brush Creek, we welcome your support as an acknowledged meeting sponsor.

	Supporter	Patron	Benefactor
Contribution Level	\$50	\$100	\$200
Number of additional guests	1	2	4
Acknowledgement Letter	Yes	Yes	Yes
Name listed in program	Yes	Yes	Yes
Name on table tent card	No	Yes	Yes
Logo shown with name	No	No	Yes

TCWA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization registered with the PA Bureau of Charitable Organizations. Contributions are tax-deductible under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code to the extent of law.

Sponsorship Level: ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$200

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email or Telephone: _____

(email or telephone will be used only to confirm dinner selections for all guests)

Make checks out to Turtle Creek Watershed Association and mail to Paul Whealdon, Treasurer, 2700 Monroeville Blvd, Monroeville PA 15146. Benefactors should email their logo to turtlecreekwa@gmail.com by Friday, October 30 for program & table display.