

CHARTIERS CREEK

WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

Vol. 10, #1

Winter, 2012

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ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS IN THE YEAR AHEAD

Want to enjoy a walk through the North Franklin Wetlands? Join an interesting tour? Help with Earth Day activities? Bring your kids to a Spring Festival?

Planning for these and other activities in 2012 began in 2011, and details will be worked out in the next month or two.

Among the year's projects will be the continuation of the watershed monitoring program (see pg. 3) and additional efforts to restore Canonsburg Lake. (As reported late last year, work on the upgrading of the dam is underway.) Association members will also staff displays at the Washington County Fair, Ag Days, and other community events.

The Chartiers Creek Watershed Association is also now seeking funds for

restoration projects on Little Chartiers Creek in the 84 area and Chartiers Creek in Washington.

The Association will continue its capacity-building project with the assistance of the Bayer Center and funding from the Foundation for PA Watersheds through the Washington County Watershed Alliance. The Alliance will be pursuing funding and hiring a director and applying technology to manage a membership/donor/volunteer data base and communications through the website and social media.

To do all this requires people power, as well as money. New members are needed—and welcome at any time. If you are not already a member, please use the form on pg. 4 to join us now.



Adam Crowe and Josh Dunkle collect macroinvertebrates

CALENDAR

JANUARY

11 —

14 — ChCWA monthly meeting, 7 pm

22 —

FEBRUARY

8 — ChCWA monthly meeting, 7 pm

21 — Stormwater Training Workshop, Ramada Inn, Washington, 9 am-4pm.

MARCH

14 — ChCWA monthly meeting, 7 pm

Tba — Ag Days

ChCWA regular monthly meetings: 2nd Wed., 7 p.m., (7:30 pm April-Sept.) Cooper-Hinds Building, Meadowlands.

STORMWATER PERMIT TRAINING FOR MUNICIPALITIES

PA DEP and EPA have announced the availability of **free day-long training during January through March 2012** to assist municipalities in meeting their requirements under the Stormwater Permit (MS4) Program. The training is designed for both those applying or renewing a permit. Note: the MS-4 Permits are a federal requirement.

On the schedule for this area: Monroeville on January 19 at the Doubletree Inn, and Washington on Feb.21 at the Ramada Inn.

Course Title: "The Right Way to Apply for or Renew Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permits"

"Instructors will review each section of the permit package in details and discuss different examples of MS4 Total Maximum Daily Load Plans." (from the flyer on the workshop - download at <http://www.palocalgovtraining.org/index.cfm?getcourse=2225>)

Sixteen classes have been scheduled around PA during the quarter. While there is no registration fee, registration will be first-come first served, and due to space limitations, pre-registration is strongly advised through PA State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS). Register online at www.palocalgovtraining.org

2012 Board of Directors

Elected at the ChCWA Board of Directors meeting on December 14, 2011 were:

President, Susan Morgan
Vice-president, Joshua Dunkle
Secretary, Joan Jessen
Treasurer, Carrilee Hemington

Directors for 2012 include: Sheila Burcin, Virginia McAnulty, and Laurie Popeck.



Volunteers Adam Crowe, Josh Dunkle, & Rose Trunzo sorting macroinvertebrates into trays (below)



Adam Crowe and Josh Dunkle collecting macroinvertebrates



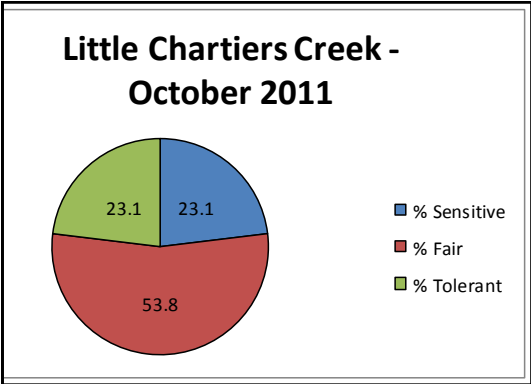
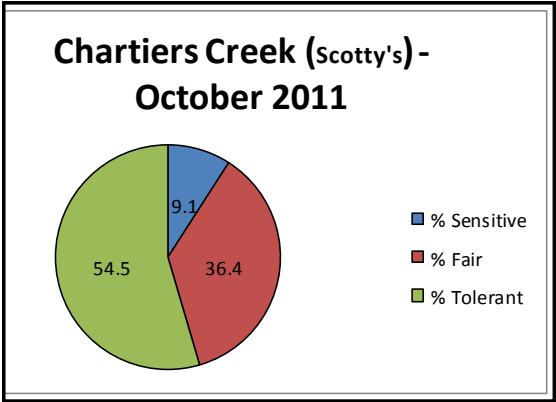
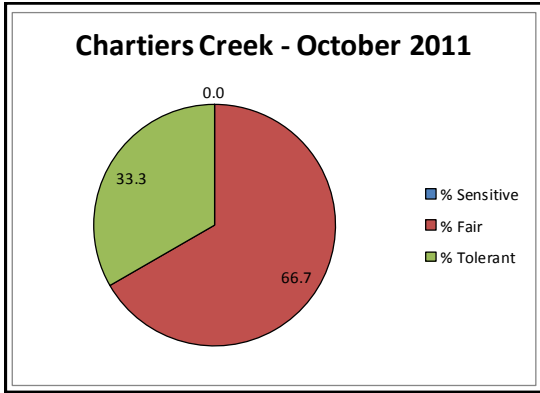
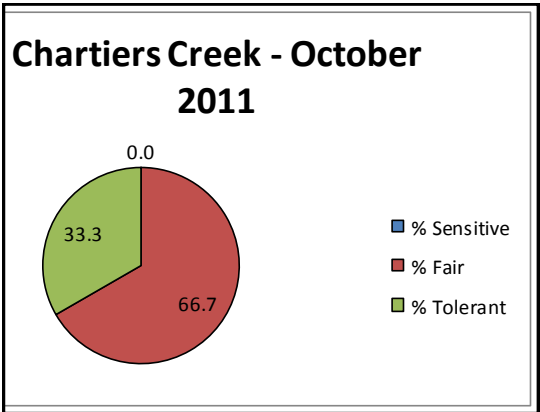
FALL WATER QUALITY MONITORING in the CHARTIERS CREEK WATERSHED

The Association’s fall water quality monitoring was carried out at the four established locations in the Chartiers Creek Watershed. The results of the macroinvertebrate and chemical monitoring were reported at the December 14 meeting of the Association.

The data from the macroinvertebrate monitoring indicate generally fair-to-good water quality at all four locations. As is typical, the results indicated poorer water quality in the main creek at Houston than in the upper creek (Scotty’s) and the tributaries, Chartiers Run and Little Chartiers Creek. Little Chartiers still has the highest percentage of sensitive species of macroinvertebrates, while the Houston location recorded none.

The results of the monitoring were presented in a new chart format that has been developed by Jennifer Dann. The charts indicate the percentage of types of macros found at each sampling location that are sensitive to or intolerant of pollutants, fairly tolerant of pollutants and tolerant of pollutants.

Volunteers are needed to verify and enter back data into our spreadsheet and to analyze data changes over time. We have about 10 years of back data. Some of this work can be done at home. Call or e-mail Jennifer to volunteer.

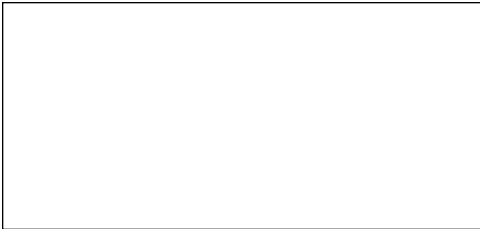




100 West Beau Street, Suite 105
Washington, PA 15301



**Collecting Macros in
the Chartiers Creek
Watershed**



We're on the Web
www.upperchartierscreek.org

Contents:

- ◆ Plans for 2012; come join us.
- ◆ Stormwater Permit Training for Municipalities
- ◆ 2012 Officers and Directors
- ◆ Fall Water Quality Monitoring in the Chartiers Creek Watershed

ADDRESS CORRECTION?

Send to: Joan Jessen, editor
159 Canterbury Lane, McMurray, PA 15317;
or email: joanjessen159@gmail.com.

Chartiers Creek Watershed Association

Purpose: to enhance, protect and develop the ecosystem of the upper Chartiers Creek Watershed in Washington County, PA

Membership: open to anyone who lives in the watershed, as well as individuals, businesses and organizations that own property or are actively involved within the boundaries of the watershed.

Please join us! Annual Dues: Individual, \$10; Family, \$15; Organization, \$50

MAIL THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK TO:

Chartiers Creek Watershed Association
Carrilee Hemington, treasurer
107 Williams Ave., McMurray, PA 15301

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel.: _____ Email: _____