



# LANCASTER COUNTY Conservation District

## MONTHLY BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, September 3, 2025

Lancaster Farm & Home Center

Zoom Info: <https://zoom.us/j/91731607863>

Business Meeting 7:30 PM

### Timer

7:30	Invocation Call to Order, Sonia Wasco, Chairperson Welcome & Introductions – Sonia Wasco Additions to the Agenda – Christopher Thompson Public Comment: Survey media/guests: Agenda items of interest – Sonia Wasco	
		<u>Page #</u>
7:40	I. <u>Agency Reports</u> 1. USDA, NRCS (attachment)..... 1 2. PA DEP Field Rep Report (attachment)..... 3	
7:45	II. <u>*Consent Agenda</u> 1. Meeting Minutes (attachment)..... 9 2. Technical Assistance Requests/Cancellations (attachment)..... 16 3. Nutrient Management Plan Approval (attachment)..... 16 4. Conservation Plans Acknowledgement (attachment)..... 17	
7:50	III. <u>Additional Business</u> 1. Items Removed from Consent Agenda 2. Treasurer’s Report – Hertz (day of packet) ..... - 3. *ACAP/CEG Project Approval – Bitting (attachment)..... 18 4. *E&S Committee Report – (day of packet) ..... - 5. *Budget & Finance Committee Report – Kofroth (attachment) ..... 18 6. *FPW Grant Application – Goldsmith (attachment)..... 19 7. *DG/LVR QAB Recommendation – Keefer (attachment)..... 19 8. *Capital RC&D Appointments – Thompson (attachment) ..... 20 9. *SCC-MEB-PPP – Thompson (attachment) ..... 20	
8:35	IV. <u>Reports &amp; Information</u> 1. Correspondence, News, and Updates – Thompson 2. E&S/NPDES Monthly Projects Report – Stern (day of packet)..... - 3. Legislative Outreach Report – Gregory (attachment)..... 21 4. Conservation Foundation Report – Kofroth (day of packet) ..... - 5. Invocation Policy Review – Thompson (attachment)..... 24	
9:10	V. <u>Additional Public Comment</u>	
9:15	VI. <u>Adjourn</u>	

**(Directors, please call the District office if you will not be attending.)**

Dates to Remember:

9/1, Labor Day Holiday, Office Closed	9/24 10-12 pm, Budget & Finance Committee Meeting
9/6 5:30 pm, DGR QAB Meeting @ F&H Center	9/25 6 pm, 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala
9/16-18, PACD Management Training	10/15, PACD Regional Director’s Mtg, Cumberland CD

NEXT MEETING DATE: Wednesday, October 1, 2025, 7:30 pm

At the Lancaster County Farm & Home Center

**\*Action Required**

**Item I.1**

**Activity Report to LCCD Board of Directors August 2025**

Lancaster Field Office Personnel:

Heather Grove, Supervisory District Conservationist  
Mark Myers, Soil Conservationist  
Joel Alicea Hernandez, Soil Conservationist  
Christine Griesemer, Soil Conservationist  
Brett Ramer, Soil Conservationist  
Camila Martinez Sanchez, Soil Conservationist  
McKinley Morris, Soil Conservationist

Brittany Moore, Civil Engineering Technician  
Brian Burns, Soil Conservation Technician  
Christine Formica, Program Assistant, Capital R&D  
Jeff Sholly, Engineer, PACD  
Ashley Spotts, Restoration Specialist, CBF  
Elli Liput, Biologist, PF (Dauphin, Lebanon & Lancaster)  
Sophia Gilbert, Biologist, PF (York & Lancaster)

**Conservation Planning Activities\*:**

FY24 Total (#)	FY24 Total (Ac)	FY25 Mo. Total (#)	FY25 Mo. Total (Ac)	FY25 Total (#)	FY25 Total (Ac)
52	2,143.4	14	778.1	52	2,254.9

\*SEE "ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CONSERVATION PLANS" REPORT

**Conservation Practice Installation Activities\*:**

Practice Code & Name	FY24 Total	FY25 Mo. Total	FY25 Total
313 - Waste Storage Facility (no)	16	-	12
362 - Diversion (ft)	2,847	1,480	2,110
367 - Roofs & Covers (no)	5	-	7
382 - Fence (ft)	23,260	-	23,354
412 - Grassed Waterway (ac)	9.01	1.5	4.7
516 - Livestock Pipeline (ft)	1,548	75	4,601
561 - Heavy Use Area Protection (sq ft)	28,364	-	34,177
575 - Trails & Walkways (ft)	2,389	-	2,093
578 - Stream Crossings (no)	6	-	3
600 - Terraces (ft)	4,209	3,866	27,678
614 - Watering Facility	8	-	2
620 - Underground Outlet (ft)	7,538	-	7,251
634 - Waste Transfer System (no)	10	-	8
327 - CREP Conservation Cover (ac)	6.91	-	-
391 - CREP Riparian Forest Buffer (ac)	38.5	-	38.24
390 - CREP Riparian Herbaceous Buffer (ac)	-	-	-

\*REFLECTS COMMON PRACTICES INSTALLED THROUGH NRCS & FSA FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS; DOES NOT REPRESENT ALL PRACTICES INSTALLED.

**Financial Assistance Conservation Program Activities:**

- Financial Assistance Contract Obligation:

Program	FY24 Total (#)	FY24 Total (\$)	FY25 Total (#)	FY25 Total (\$)
EQIP/AMA	9	\$930,145	12	\$1,068,326
EQIP IRA	28	\$1,882,991	12	\$634,373
CSP	2	\$42,023	1	\$35,855
CSP IRA	2	\$83,459	-	-
RCPP	8	\$1,655,281	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	49	\$4,593,929	25	\$1,738,554

- Financial Assistance Payments:

Program	FY24 Total (\$)	FY25 Mo. Total (\$)	FY25 Total (\$)
ALL PROGRAMS	\$2,371,782.02	\$74,986.50	\$2,574,272.43

**Conservation Easement Program Activities (ACEP):**

- ACEP Acquisition Activities:

Program/Activity	FY24 Total (#)	FY24 Total (ac)	FY25 Total (#)	FY25 Total (ac)
ALE Easement Requests	-	-	1	12.21
ALE Easement Closings	-	-	1	39.405
WRE Easement Requests	-	-	1	4.5
WRE Easement Closings	-	-	-	-

- Easement Annual Monitoring Activities

Program/Activity	FY24 Total (#)	FY25 Total (#)
GRP Monitoring - Offsite	1	-
GRP Monitoring - Onsite	0	1
WRP/WRE Monitoring - Offsite	6	7
WRP/WRE Monitoring - Onsite	5	4
FRPP/ALE Monitoring - Onsite	4	-

**Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Activities (CREP):**

- Approved Plans:

	FY24 Total (#)	FY24 Total (Ac)	FY25 Total (#)	FY25 Total (Ac)
New	11	66.27	-	-
Re-enrollments	7	76.66	3	11.98

**Administrative & Staffing Updates:**

- Christine Formica began on 8/25 as the team's new Program Assistant.

**Outreach Activities:**

- 8/12 & 13 - Ag Progress Days, Pennsylvania Furnace (Alicea Hernandez, Martinez Sanchez, & Morris)

**Notable Meetings & Trainings:**

- 8/6-7 - Basic Hydric Soils Training, Raystown (Morris)

Respectfully Submitted,



Heather L. Grove  
District Conservationist

**Item I.2**  
**September 2025**  
**Conservation District Field Rep**  
**Talking Points**

**Coastal Zone Grant Round Now Open** - Applications for Coastal Zone grants are being accepted from August 26 through October 14, 2025, at 11:59PM. Eligible applicants include government entities and incorporated non-profits conducting projects in the two Pennsylvania Coastal Zones: the Lake Erie Coastal Zone and the Delaware Estuary Coastal Zone. Funds can be used for a variety of projects, and Conservation Districts in the Coastal Zones are encouraged to apply. The Coastal Zone includes Berks, Bucks, Delaware, Erie, Montgomery and Schuylkill Counties. For more information, see the Coastal Zone grant webpage ([Apply for a Coastal Zone Grant](#)) or contact Shane Gutsie at [sgutsie@pa.gov](mailto:sgutsie@pa.gov).

**State Water Plan Regional Advisory Committees**

As trusted stewards of our local water resources, your insights are vital to shaping [Pennsylvania's State Water Plan](#). This year's meetings feature timely presentations on drought management, flooding resilience, Chesapeake Bay planning, PFAS/PFOA concerns, and county-level success stories—plus tools designed to support district decision-making. It's a chance to elevate your priorities, share on-the-ground realities, and help guide long-term planning. If your district has openings or upcoming transitions, these meetings also offer a great opportunity to connect with others and explore ways to get more involved. Your voice ensures that local needs are not only heard but integrated into statewide solutions—we hope to see you there.

**Upcoming State Water Plan Meetings (Click to View Meeting Links and Agendas)**

-  [Delaware Region](#): Tuesday, October 7, 2025 – 10:00 AM–12:30 PM
-  [Potomac Region](#): Thursday, October 9, 2025 – 1:00 PM–3:00 PM
-  [Lower Susquehanna Region](#): Monday, October 16, 2025 – 9:00 AM–11:30 AM
-  [Ohio Region](#): Tuesday, October 21, 2025 – 1:00 PM–3:00 PM
-  [Great Lakes Region](#): Wednesday, October 22, 2025 – 9:00 AM–12:00 PM
-  [Upper and Middle Susquehanna Region](#): Thursday, October 23, 2025 – 9:00 AM–11:00 AM
-  [Statewide](#): Tuesday, October 28, 2025 – 1:00 PM–3:30 PM

**Update - SOP for Agriculture Routine Inspections, Complaint Investigation and Follow-up (BWRNSM-INSP-006) and Training**

The new Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Agriculture Routine Inspections, Complaint Investigation, and Follow-up (BWRNSM-INSP-006) has been finalized and is now released for use. The Clean Water Academy course supporting the SOP is now live. The SOP has been integrated into the Nutrient Management Manure Management (NMMM) Administrative Manual to standardize complaint response procedures across county conservation district delegations handling agricultural complaints under Chapter 102 and Nutrient and Manure Management regulations. The updated NMMM Administrative Manual was submitted to the State Conservation Commission (SCC) and formally approved during the SCC meeting on May 20, 2025. The record of change should be available on the Penn State Extension Act 38 Website in the coming weeks.

As of June 2, 2025, the SOP and training is available on the Clean Water Academy (CWA). Notification emails have been sent to all County Conservation District staff. The CWA training includes a feedback survey, which remain open through August 31, 2025. Feedback from this survey will be used to identify training gaps and guide the development of in-person training sessions planned for Fall 2025.

## **Chapter 105 Program**

**2026 PA Aquatic Resource Restoration Conference** - The Restoration Conference Resource Center is now open. You can access the registration from the link or button provided on the web page. A topic overview agenda is provided, and a more detailed agenda will be available later this fall.

The conference's theme is the Past, Present and Future of Restoration. We will have two distinguished Professors of Geoscience as the Keynote Speakers - Ellen Wohl from Colorado State University and Dorothy Merritts from Franklin and Marshall College. The conference will be held at The Penn State Hotel and Conference Center. The cost for the full 2-day event is \$275.00

The purpose of the conference is to facilitate knowledge transfer among scientists, regulators, and practitioners involved in aquatic resource restoration work in a scientifically sound manner using an evidence-based approach in recognition of modern constraints that results in the restoration of resilient aquatic resources.

The goal of the conference is to elevate participants' understanding of the use of an evidence-based approach to restoration on a systems basis. To provide a forum to facilitate the linkage of academic, government, and private restoration efforts and the overall advancement of restoration science.

[Course: 2026 Aquatic Resource Restoration Conference](#)

## **Chapter 102 Program**

**A General Note** – We are aware that the Chapter 102 program has seen a lot of change over the last 1-2 years. We understand it can be difficult and frustrating to keep up with everything, but we must keep moving forward. DEP's Bureau of Clean Water (BCW) is doing what it can to be transparent and get information out there. We cannot stress enough how important it is that Districts pay attention to email notifications, quarterly newsletters, webinars and trainings, etc. These are the best ways for us to get information out to everyone. In case it hasn't been said lately, we value the relationships and partnerships we have with Districts.

**SPEED** – As of August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025, all Chapter 102 permits are available to be reviewed under the SPEED program. All general SPEED-related questions can be answered by checking the [SPEED website](#). A program-specific SPEED SOP is available in Clean Water Academy, as well as a recorded training webinar that was held in July. These resources will be regularly updated as necessary while everyone becomes familiar with the SPEED program. Any Chapter 102 staff who have not reviewed these materials are strongly encouraged to do so to avoid asking questions that have already been answered. Unlike some DEP initiatives, the SPEED program was written into law, so Chapter 102 staff must become familiar with it. DEP will continue to touch base with Districts, so please make sure you're paying attention to email notifications, agency announcements, and meeting invitations.

**KEES (Keystone Environmental ePermitting System)** – Chapter 102 Individual NPDES Permit review in PennDOT's KEES system was launched June 16, 2025. Testing for PAG-02 review has been extended, and the release is now expected mid- to late-September. District staff, including District Managers, should review the KEES video training available in [Clean Water Academy](#) and ensure they are able to log into Greenport and KEES. Training specific to PAG-02 permit processing within the KEES system will be added to CWA. BCW will continue to monitor the first applications closely and will work with the associated District, DEP Region, and PennDOT KEES development team to address any bugs found along the way. KEES will only be used for reviewing PennDOT applications/NOIs at this time. Any questions or concerns can be sent to [RA-EPCHAPTER102@pa.gov](mailto:RA-EPCHAPTER102@pa.gov).

## Chapter 102 Training

- **2025 Chapter 102 New Hire Small Group Training** (Virtual) – Participants must complete the Chapter 102 Level 1 Training Program before registering. It is also recommended to review the specific E&S Manual chapters prior to attending the trainings. Registration is available through [Clean Water Academy](#). Limited to the first 20 people who register.

### Channels

September 9, 2025, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

December 9, 2025, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

- **In-Person Regional E&S Training** – BCW continues to offer six in-person E&S technical training sessions throughout 2025. Participation will be limited to allow adequate training, with newer District staff given priority. Districts are encouraged to bookmark the dates below; invitations and registration information will be sent as the events get closer:
  - Southeast: September 17<sup>th</sup> (Registration closed August 29<sup>th</sup>)
  - Southwest: October 22<sup>nd</sup> (Registration open!)

## State Conservation Commission Updates

**Draft District Board Per Diem Policy** - Conservation District Advisory Committee (CDAC) developed a draft District Board per diem policy. This policy was forwarded to all conservation district managers on Aug. 20 for a 60-day comment period. Managers are encouraged to discuss this policy with their board before submitting comments. Questions and comments on the District Board Per Diem Policy can be directed to Justin Challenger at [jchallenge@pa.gov](mailto:jchallenge@pa.gov) no later than October 19.

**DGLVR Draft Updated Program Administrative Manual** - DGLVR Program is approaching a final draft of the Program administrative manual. This manual saw a new approach from the SCC and District advisory committee. The committee drafted proposed changes as well as the SCC, then the group met at least 6 times over the past 2 months to determine a final version. The new manual aims to streamline processes, provide additional guidance where needed, and allows for more flexibility to utilize the funds where they are needed.

**DGLVR Program Annual Conference** - is planned for September 23 to 25 at the Wyndam Gettysburg Conference Center. Agenda involves a mix of field and classroom sessions. As well as a “fireside chat” with district managers and SCC management (Doug and Justin). District managers are encouraged to come to the session with any big picture goals or ideas for improving programs.

**ACAP Practice Approval System (PAS)** - continues to move forward with trainings and certifications. SCC provided additional funding for PAS acceleration to gain more practice approval packages in PAS. Districts interested in PAS certifications should look for additional trainings in 2025 and 2026.

**Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP)** - The Commission is accepting REAP applications for the 2025-26 REAP program August 1 – September 30. The program provides \$13 million in tax credits each year. The Updated REAP Application and Guidelines are available on the website: [Apply for the Resource Enhancement & Protection \(REAP\) Program](#) . The SCC has created a YouTube video to explain the FY 25-26 guidelines. Interested parties may watch the video here: [2025 REAP Program Update - YouTube](#) . If you have any questions, please reach out to the State Conservation Commission, [RA-AGSCC-REAP@pa.gov](mailto:RA-AGSCC-REAP@pa.gov) .

**Act 38, 2025 Crop Year Plan Updates** - The end of the 2025 crop year is September 30th, 2025. All current Act 38 operations due for Plan Updates or Amendments are required to have an approved NMP by October 1st. If any operations in your county have not submitted an Update or Amendment to their NMP yet, please make sure to inform your SCC NM Regional Coordinator.

**Fiscal Year 2025 - 2026 Nutrient Management/Manure Management Delegation Agreement Budget Worksheet** were emailed out to Conservation Districts on May 30th. Budgets that have been submitted are being processed. Any district that has not submitted their budget worksheet yet, must email it to Brady Seeley at [braseeley@pa.gov](mailto:braseeley@pa.gov) immediately. Any districts that have not yet submitted their NM.MM Budgets may experience delayed quarterly reimbursements.

**Jamie Ulrich Retires** - As many of you know, Jamie Ulrich earned a much deserved retirement in July after working for the Commission for 20 years. The SCC plans to fill that vacancy as soon as possible. Any districts, that Jamie covered with any Act 38 Nutrient Management related items, please reach out to Mike Brubaker ([mibrubaker@pa.gov](mailto:mibrubaker@pa.gov)) for assistance.

**Pa Ag Conservation Stewardship (PACS) certification program** was publicly launched on Aug 12<sup>th</sup> at APD. We now have a list of qualified verifiers, able to review farm plans and submit PACS application materials. The PACS website is up to date, including a program 1-pager with additional details on the program: [PA Agriculture Conservation Stewardship \(PACS\) Farm Certification Program | Commonwealth of Pennsylvania](#)

**MEB Public-Private Partnership RFP** is open until September 30th. PA bulletin notice linked here: [Pennsylvania Bulletin](#). \$7.7 million available for conservation projects. SCC hosted an informational, public webinar on August 29<sup>th</sup> at 11am. Registration is linked here: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/0bf02a85-cf92-4acf-b313-b1ccba40d088@418e2841-0128-4dd5-9b6c-47fc5a9a1bde>. These funds are only available for projects/counties within the [MEB geography](#). Awarded Federal MEB funds will run out by June 30, 2027

**Sustainable Ag Grant** first round of applications reviewed and approved by Sustainable Ag Board. Applications included a great deal of Silvo pasture, tree plantings, cover crops, and pasture management. SCC may try to host a second round, but there is a very tight schedule for running an RFP, contracting, etc.

**PA Agriculture Innovation Fund** – The PA Ag Innovation Fund is intended to support on farm innovations that enhance people, planet, and profit. The first round of PA Ag Innovation Grants was successful in supporting a number of conservation projects like anaerobic digesters, vermicomposters, and advanced manure management equipment. The SCC hopes to have a second round of PA Agriculture Innovation Grants open after the passage of FY 25-26 State budget. Please contact Mike Roth from the SCC for further information ([michroth@pa.gov](mailto:michroth@pa.gov)).

## **Clean Water Academy**

### **Course spotlight:**

#### **Course: MS4 Minimum Control Measures (MCMs)**

Municipalities and other entities with separate storm sewer system (MS4) permit coverage are required by their MS4 permits to implement a Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) to reduce the discharge of pollutants from their MS4, protect water quality, and satisfy the water quality requirements of the Clean Water Act and Pennsylvania Clean Streams Law.

This course will provide an overview of the six Minimum Control Measures (MCMs) that must be included in a permittee's SWMP. Completion of this course is recommended for municipal staff and their consultants, local environmental groups, and any other interested members of the public. To receive a certificate of completion you must complete this course using your login and receive a passing grade on the course quiz.

#### **Course: Webinar Wednesday - Legacy Sediment Removal, Floodplain Restoration, and Permitting**

This webinar provided historical background on legacy sediments within Pennsylvania. It also included a discussion on principles of floodplain restoration as well as permitting considerations for legacy sediment removal and floodplain restoration projects.

## [Course: Constructed and Restored Wetlands in the Agricultural Landscape](#)

In this course you will learn what wetlands are and why they are important and how to leverage constructed and restored wetlands within the agricultural landscape to restore and improve water quality, reduce erosion, improve flood storage and reduce damage, and restore natural habitats while still enabling agricultural production. A Completion Certificate is available only to users with a login, so please create an account first if you desire a Completion Certificate.

## **Chesapeake Bay**

**CAP 2025 Annual and 2-Year Milestone Updates** - Beginning 8/1/25 and continuing through September, all counties will be starting the annual progress and 2-year milestone update process. This year **ALL** counties will be completing both efforts, even the Tier 2 counties who did a milestone update last year. With all counties finally on the same grant timeline, it will benefit the Watershed Accountability and Administration Section (WAAS) team to have everyone on the same progress and update timeline as well. Tier 2 counties can speak with their project advisor about whether they would like to continue using the numbers that they provided last year for the 2-year milestone or whether they would like to update them again during this process. Note that Detailed BMP Entry forms (part of the 2-Year Milestone Update Process) are due to Project Advisors at the latest by 9/15/25.

**CAP Grant Application** - The CAP Grant Application Word document will be replaced and instead an online application will be available. Plans to make this electronic application open as early as 9/1/25 were delayed; however, it should be in place for the typical application schedule running from 10/1/25 through 10/31/25. Counties must also apply through the separate Electronic Single Application (ESA) because new grant agreements will be developed this application round. ESA will open on 10/1/25 and close on 10/31/25.

**Partnership Survey to be Circulated** - The Private-Public Partnership Clean Water Action Group, formed from the January 2025 Clean Water Gathering, is working to create a framework of key elements that are needed to make a successful partnership. They would like to know what successful partnerships already exist. They are planning on distributing a voluntary, short email survey to Watershed Managers, CAP Coordinators, Watershed Specialists, and Conservation District Managers asking about the top three successful partnerships that they are aware of. The distribution of the survey will likely occur in September.

## **Upcoming Webinars**

- **October 1<sup>st</sup> Webinar Wednesday**
  - Participants will learn about CAP-funded agricultural project highlights from Berks, Centre, and Lancaster Counties.
  - Presenters: Jeff Overstreet (Berks County Conservation District), Devyn McPheeters (Centre County Conservation District), and Matt Kofroth (Lancaster County Conservation District)
- **November 5<sup>th</sup> Webinar Wednesday**
  - Participants will learn about lawn conversion and conservation landscaping projects.
  - Presenters: Teddi Stark (DCNR) and Josh Clark (HRG)

If someone would like an invitation to the Webinar Wednesday series, they can email Jim Spatz at [jspatz@pa.gov](mailto:jspatz@pa.gov).

**Dates to Remember**

**SCC Meetings – 9:00 am Briefing Session, 10:00 am Business Meeting**

Hybrid Meeting .....Sept 16  
Hybrid Meeting.....Nov 18

**SCC Conference Calls – 8:30 – 10:00 AM**

Conference Call ..... Oct 21  
Conference Call ..... Dec. 16

**2025 Conservation District Management Summit**

Wyndham Garden, State College Sept 16-18

**2025 DGLVR Annual Workshop**

Wyndam Gettysburg Conference Center Sept 23-25

**2025 Annual CD Watershed Specialist Meeting**

Wyndham Garden, State College Oct 7-8

**Also,** check the Conservation District Training/Special Events Calendar at, [www.PACD.org](http://www.PACD.org). Select the "Events" tab and then the "Training Calendar" tab.

## Item II.1

### LANCASTER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES August 6, 2025

The 878<sup>th</sup> regularly scheduled Board Meeting of the Lancaster County Conservation District (LCCD) was held in person at the Farm and Home Center for Directors and via Zoom Call-In on August 6, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

**The following Directors were present:** Sonia Wasco, Chairperson; Herb Kreider, Gordon Hoover, Kent Weaver, Deryk Shaw, Roger Rohrer, Geoffrey Rohrer, and Commissioner Ray D'Agostino.

**The following Associate Directors were present:** Jennifer Engle and Dan Zimmerman.

**The following District Staff were present:** Chris Thompson, Stacey Hertz, Matt Kofroth, Sallie Gregory, Kent Bitting, Allyson Gibson, Isabella Alvarado, Amanda Goldsmith, and Eric Hout.

**The following Cooperating Agency representatives was present:** Chaz Heberlig; DEP Field Representative, Heather Grove; District Conservationist, NRCS-USDA, John Cox; Clean Water Partners.

**The following visitors were present:** None present.

Sonia Wasco provided a few words about August before the meeting began.

**Introductions:** Sallie Gregory introduced the Summer Intern Isabella Alvarado.

**Additions to the Agenda:** Item 9 under additional business, ACT Agreement.

Amanda Goldsmith reminded everyone that the meeting was being recorded.

**An opportunity was given for public comment:** None.

#### I. Agency Reports

##### **1. USDA, NRCS**

Heather Grove highlighted that they are transitioning their Program Assistant since Lari Jo retired, the new Program Assistant, Christina Formica, will begin at the end of August.

##### **2. PA DEP Field Rep Report**

Chaz Heberlig shared from the written report, firstly acknowledging their new Bureau of Watershed Resoration and Nonpoint Source Management Agriculture Group Manager, Krista Crone. He also highlighted the Watershed Specialist conference, the updated SOP for Agriculture Routine Inspections, Updated letters in Clean Water Academy, as well as trainings available.

#### II. Consent Agenda

**#1 – Minutes of July 2, 2025 Board meeting.**

**#2 – Technical Assistance Requests/Cancellations**

**#3 – Nutrient Management Plan Approvals**

**#4 – Conservation Plan Acknowledgement**

**Item II.2  
Requests for Technical Assistance**

<b>APPLICANT</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>TOWNSHIP</b>	<b>SIZE</b>	<b>ASSISTANCE</b>
None Submitted				

**Item II.3  
Requests for Nutrient Management Plan Approval (Lutz)  
July 2025 Activity  
August 6, 2025 Board Meeting**

To: The Lancaster County Conservation Board of Directors Nutrient Management Plan Review Committee:  
I respectfully submit these Nutrient Management Plans and/or Plan Amendments to the Nutrient Management Plan Review Committee.

I recommend these plans to be approved by the Board. The plans are for the following operations:

<b>OWNER</b>	<b>TOWNSHIP</b>	<b>OPERATION</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>	<b>AEU's /ACRE</b>	<b>REVIEWER</b>	<b>PLAN #</b>
Cory Landis	Eden	Pullet	CAO	124.47	Reuter	172
Doug Hawthorne	W. Donegal	Pullet	CAO	118.14	Bosworth	113
Randall Andrews	W. Lampeter	Broiler/Pullet	CAFO/CAO	4.24	Brodbar	251
Merlin Martin	W. Donegal	Swine	CAO	67.63	Schavnis	670
Jim Hershey	Mount Joy	Swine/Broiler	CAFO/VAO	1.71	Schavnis	370
Randall Yoder	Sadsbury	Broiler	CAO	4.61	Reuter	328
Matthew Slaymaker	Manor	Pullet	CAO	87.72	Reuter	540
Jeffrey Frey	Pequea	Swine/Goat	CAFO/VAO	1.2	Reuter	344
Joel Frey	Manor	Swine	CAFO/VAO	4.65	Reuter	218
Elmer Beiler	Mount Joy	Layer	CAO	4.75	Schavnis	3160
Jay & Beth Hess	Conestoga	Swine/Beef/Poultry	CAFO/CAO	2.47	Adams	286
Edward Hartman	W. Cocalico	Dairy	CAFO/CAO	15.66	Heigel	8
Sweigart Farms	E. Donegal	Dairy/Swine/Pullet	CAFO/CAO	3.55	Schavnis	257
Ivan Lantz	Upper Leacock	Dairy	CAO	3.88	Brodbar	3158
Lester Weiler	East Earl	Broiler	CAO	97.27	Heigel	405
Art Groff	Penn	Broiler	CAFO/CAO	420.16	Riebling	2132
Daniel Martin	Brecknock	Broiler	CAO	40.96	Heigel	326
Jeff Landis	E. Hempfield	Layer/Dairy	CAO	3.09	Riebling	903
Donovan Zimmerman	Rapho	Broiler	CAO	198.41	Riebling	247
Isaac Garman	W. Donegal	Layer	CAO	33.32	Schavnis	86
Dale Frank	W. Donegal	Swine/Steer	CAFO/VAO	1.52	Schavnis	100
Lamar Moyer	E. Donegal	Broiler/Goat	CAO	95.37	Lutz	85

NMP Update Report to Lancaster County CD Board of Directors									
Technician:									
Date Range:									
NMP Name	Municipality	Plan Update Submission Date	Original NMP Approval Date	Planner <sup>1</sup>	Species <sup>2</sup>	AEUs	Regulated Operation Type <sup>3</sup>	Date Plan Acknowledgement Letter Sent	Reason for Update
John F. Stoltzfus	Little Britain	6/12/2025	7/5/2023	Britton Hartzok	Dairy	81.58	CAO	6/25/2025	Simple Update
Spring Valley Dairy, LLC	Rapho	7/7/2025	10/5/2022	William Rogers	Dairy/Pullets	485.74	CAO/CAFO	7/23/2025	Simple Update
Jay Deiter	Conoy	7/22/2025	9/4/2024	Jay Deiter	Swine	552.8	CAO/CAFO	7/25/2025	Yearly Plan Submissions Update

**Item II.4**

**Acknowledgment of Conservation Plans (Lutz)**

The Lancaster NRCS Field Office recommends the following plans for the August 6, 2025 Board Meeting:

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE**

Conservation Plans	Number of Plans	Planner	Township
Samuel L. Esh	1	Camila Martinez-Sanchez	Salisbury

**LCCD AG EROSION & SEDIMENTATION PLANS**

Conservation Plans	Number of Plans	Planner	Township
Mel Martin	1	Lauren Brodbar	West Earl
Randy Andrews	1	Lauren Brodbar	West Lampeter
Harvey Martin	1	Brady Bosworth	East Cocalico

**III. Additional Business**

**1. Items removed from Consent Agenda**

No Additions. Herb Kreider moved to accept the agenda as presented, seconded by Gordon Hoover. The motion passed unanimously.

**2. Treasurer's Report**

Stacey Hertz reported that the Raymond James fund has a current balance of \$852,186.00 as of 8/6/2025. She highlighted some of the other information in her report.

**3. Personnel Committee/Request to Hire**

Dan Zimmerman requested approval to hire Tristan Conrad for the Agriculture Compliance position. Herb Krieder moved to accept Tristian, seconded by Roger Rohrer. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. 75<sup>th</sup> Gala Update and Committee Report**

Matt Kofroth updated the board on the invitations and that 130 people have RSVP'd so far. The caterer for the event offered to provide an alcoholic signature drink. Directors expressed concern about the district paying for the alcohol but would consider the request if a sponsor for the drinks could be found. Roger Rohrer moved to re-evaluate the details and forward the report to the executive committee for action and report back in September, seconded by Gordon Hoover. The motion passed unanimously.

**5. Associate Director Appointment**

Chris Thompson requested approval to appoint Phillip Dunn as a new Public Associate Director Board Member. Amanda Goldsmith and Gordon Hoover provided extra support and information on Phillip. Gordon Hoover moved to accept, seconded by Deryk Shaw. The motion passed unanimously.

**6. District Fall Intern**

Amanda Goldsmith reported on an intern program through Franklin and Marshall College. She requested approval to apply to the program to get a fall intern. The cost to carry the position is covered by the College. Roger Rohrer moved to approve, seconded by Deryk Shaw. The motion passed unanimously.

**7. Countywide Action Plan Grant Proposal**

Amanda Goldsmith requested approval to apply for the grant for a restoration project on Shirks Run. Gordon Hoover moved to approve, seconded by Herb Kreider. The motion passed unanimously.

**8. DEP's Technical Assistance Program**

Matt Kofroth requested approval to sponsor two projects, the Jacob Glick and Sam Fisher farms. Gordon Hoover moved to approve the Technical Assistance Program, seconded by Roger Rohrer. There was some discussion regarding that Lancaster County is a lower priority on the DEP list due to they are already supporting our Engineer position. The motion passed unanimously.

**9. Agricultural Conservation Technical Assistance (ACT) Agreement**

Chris Thompson requested approval to move forward with this program. This is a long term grant that partially funds the Agriculture Compliance position. This item was added to the agenda late because it needed approval due to impending deadline of next week. Roger Rohrer moved to approve, seconded by Deryk Shaw. The motion passed unanimously.

**IV. Reports & Information**

**1. Correspondence, News, and Updates**

- J.A.C. Awards Luncheon Flyer
- PACD Annual Report
- Thank You Note from NACD for paying dues
- Check Fraud example
- Chesapeake Bay Agreement Survey
- Andy Ill Appreciation Letter and Testimony

**2. E&S/NPDES Monthly Projects Report**

Eric Hout reported the comparison of complaints from 2024 to 2025, and highlighted other portions of the report.

**3. Youth Conservation School Update**

Sallie Gregory thanked everyone that assisted with the School, and highlighted some events from the week.

**4. Lancaster OLN Report**

Citing the time this report has been tabled until the September meeting.

**5. PACD Executive Council Meeting Report**

Sonia Wasco highlighted from her report the new slate of PACD officers and that she was re-elected Secretary. She also reported that the proposed dues increase passed.

**6. Clean Water Partners Bi-Annual Update**

Allyson Gibson and John Cox provided an update of what was happening around the county as a result of them collaborating with others. Several resources were distributed.

**7. Summer Intern - Activities Report**

Isabella Alvarado presented her report and expressed great appreciation for her time at the district as the 2025 Summer Intern, which included topics from the watershed and education departments.

**8. Invocation Discussion**

Chris Thompson reviewed the details of previous work done to address the question of starting our public meetings with an invocation. Letters from two staff (Adam Stern and one anonymous) outlining their concerns for continuing the practice, copies of the letters were distributed to directors and associates (see attached). A discussion followed about the possibilities of what can be done at the time of an invocation and what it means. Deryk Shaw moved to continue the invocation as is and asked that a subcommittee be formed to curate a guide/policy to ensure the practice is inclusive and compliant with the law, seconded by Commissioner Ray D'Agostino. The motion passed unanimously.

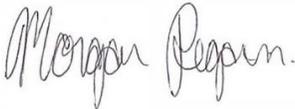
**V. Additional Public Comment:**

None.

**VII. Meeting Adjourned**

Sonia Wasco adjourned the meeting without objection at 10:00 PM.

Respectfully,



Morgan Regan  
E&S Administrative Support Specialist

August 6, 2025 - LCCD BOD Meeting

Good evening. My name is Adam Stern and I believe most of you know me as the E&S Program Manager here at the District. I typically attend each and every board meeting to listen in, attend to the meeting's technical needs, and to provide a monthly report on the activity of the E&S Department. However, I am getting married on Saturday and won't be able to join you this evening. While I can't join in person, I hope that you will accept my feedback as a public comment during the beginning of your meeting.

Tonight I would like to provide my brief thoughts on the discussion regarding an Invocation (Reports & Information #8).

I am not a stranger to the concept of a Christian environmental ethic. For many years, this was the guiding principle in my personal life, academic life, and professional life. I grew up regularly attending a Church of the Brethren congregation here in Lancaster County. I completed my Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science at Messiah College. I worked and lived full time at a Christian Summer Camp and Retreat Center planning and directing Christian outdoor education experiences. My Anabaptist upbringing taught me that Creation is meant to be carefully stewarded and conserved for the benefit of all. I deeply understand and respect a commitment to environmental care and conservation rooted in Christian faith. That being said, I believe that this specific worldview and set of beliefs should not be showcased above a multitude of others by a government organization like the District.

I firmly believe that the District is made stronger when we strive to create an inclusive environment for all employees. The work of conservation requires all parties to feel comfortable coming to the table and representing all aspects of their identity. Starting off each month's Board meeting with a Christian prayer leaves me feeling uncomfortable and not fully welcome at the table. While reviewing the results of this past year's operational assessment survey, it became clear to me that I was not the only District team member who feels this way. My hope is that you as the Board of Directors can show a clear and full-throated support for inclusivity by discontinuing the practice of offering a Christian prayer before District meetings, events, and gatherings.

If the Board wishes to continue the practice of offering a moment of reflection and centering prior to meetings and events, my recommendation is to provide a moment of silence for personal reflection. If the Board feels that guiding that time of reflection is important, my recommendation is to share a centering thought that is generally secular in nature and directly related to the mission of the District. As an example:

As we gather tonight, I'd like to read the text of Article 1 Section 27 of the PA Constitution. "The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people." Let's have a brief moment of silence to reflect on this text and how it calls the District to fulfill its mission "to promote the stewardship of natural resources for Lancaster County and beyond".

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts and I look forward to being back in the room for your September meeting.

Adam J. Stern, CPESC, CESSWI  
E&S Program Manager  
Lancaster County Conservation District

### **Prayer Opinion at LCCD**

I recommend that LCCD remove prayer and opt for a moment of silence at board meetings, banquets, and all District or District-sponsored events. District staff is growing, diversifying, and will continue to have more voices from different backgrounds. Multiple current staff, including myself, do not agree with prayer at work. One, we are a government organization, not a private organization, which makes the inclusion of religion at work highly inappropriate. Also, not everyone at work is Christian or even practices Christianity similarly. Christianity is diverse. I also don't think that means we should offer other religions to pray – the key is removing religion entirely from District events or meetings. It is isolating for existing staff and partners. At the District, our focus should be on conservation and being good stewards to our staff and partners. If we continue this practice after this discussion, I expect fewer staff to come to our board meetings, further disconnecting the board from staff. That is a shame.

On a more personal level, I have worked here for many years, and it was a culture shock for me to hear prayer, and I was and still am extremely uncomfortable. I absolutely love working here and this would be one of the first things I would change.

Anonymously submitted.

**Item II.2  
Requests for Technical Assistance**

<b>APPLICANT</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>TOWNSHIP</b>	<b>SIZE</b>	<b>ASSISTANCE</b>
None				

**Item II.3  
Requests for Nutrient Management Plan Approval (Lutz)  
August 2025 Activity  
September 3, 2025 Board Meeting**

To: The Lancaster County Conservation Board of Directors Nutrient Management Plan Review Committee:  
I respectfully submit these Nutrient Management Plans and/or Plan Amendments to the Nutrient Management Plan Review Committee.

I recommend these plans to be approved by the Board. The plans are for the following operations:

<b>OWNER</b>	<b>TOWNSHIP</b>	<b>OPERATION</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>	<b>AEU's/ ACRE</b>	<b>REVIEWER</b>	<b>PLAN #</b>
Eugene & Ryan Nolt	Earl	Swine/Beef	CAFO/CAO	12.38	Bosworth	269
Josiah Martin	Brecknock	Broiler/Swine/Dairy	CAO	2.65	Heigel	270
Mike Denlinger	West Cocalico	Layer	CAO	55.89	Heigel	304
Tim Hurst	Little Britain	Swine/Dairy	CAFO/CAO	5.86	Adams	36
Andrew Brinton	Fulton	Swine/Layer	CAFO/VAO	1.65	Adams	332
Philip Hoover	Mount Joy	Pullet	CAFO/CAO	19.67	Lutz	276
Stephen/Phillip Hershey	Rapho	Layer/Beef	CAFO/CAO	22.35	Riebling	3
Tom Zartman Jr.	Clay	Swine	CAFO/CAO	1.58	Bosworth	18
Seth Hershey	East Donegal	Pullet/Beef	CAFO/VAO	1.44	Bosworth	153
Mike Rohrer	Manor	Dairy	CAFO/CAO	4.08	Reuter	265
Theodore Esbenshade	Conoy/E. Hempfield	Layer	CAFO/CAO	5.22	Schavnis	44
Carl & John Myer	Penn	Dairy	CAFO/VAO	1.31	Riebling	408
Kenton Reiff	Rapho	Beef/Duck	CAFO/VAO	1.3	Riebling	2296

# NMP Update Report to Lancaster County CD Board of Directors

Technician:

Date Range: Jul-25 Aug-25

NMP Name	Municipality	Plan Update Submission Date	Original NMP Approval Date	Planner <sup>1</sup>	Species <sup>2</sup>	AEUs	Regulated Operation Type <sup>3</sup>	Date Plan Acknowledgment Letter Sent	Reason for Update
Kenton Reiff	Rapho	7/7/2025	3/2/2022	Amber Funk	Ducks/Beef	418.52	VAO/CAFO	8/20/2025	Simple Update
Dean & Angie Stoner	Rapho	7/30/2025	7/2/2025	Jedd Moncavage	Broilers	183.82	CAO	8/20/2025	Simple Update

## Item II.4

### Acknowledgment of Conservation Plans (Lutz)

The Lancaster NRCS Field Office recommends the following plans for the September 3, 2025 Board Meeting:

#### NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Conservation Plans	Number of Plans	Planner	Township
Daniel W. Ebersol	1	Camila Martinez-Sanchez	Salisbury
Kenneth H. High	1	Christine Griesemer	Ephrata
Kenneth H. High	2	Christine Griesemer	Warwick
Martin Grandview Farms LLC	10	McKinley Morris	Mount Joy

#### LCCD AG EROSION & SEDIMENTATION PLANS

Conservation Plans	Number of Plans	Planner	Township
Lew Witmer	1	Greg Heigel	West Hempfield
Stephen Beiler	1	Lauren Brodbar	Leacock
Matthew Wiker	1	Samantha Adams	Martic

**Item III.3  
ACAP/CEG Grant Approval**

The Agriculture Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) and Conservation Excellence Grant (CEG) currently have two applications that have been reviewed by district staff and are ready for board action. The following table outlines the projects and amounts requested.

<b>Landowner</b>	<b>District/Private Consultant</b>	<b>Municipality</b>	<b>BMPs</b>	<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>Total Grant Requested</b>
Dean Stoner	District	Rapho Twp	Roofed Stacking Shed, Roof Runoff Structure, Heavy Use Area	\$83,000.00	\$74,700.00
Bryan Byers	District	Drumore Twp.	Roofed Mortality Composter, Roof Runoff Structure, Heavy Use Area	\$132,222.00	\$119,000.00
<b>Totals</b>				<b>\$215,222.00</b>	<b>\$193,700.00</b>

The Ag Program Manager and Assistant Ag Program Manager recommend positive action for approving \$193,700.00 worth of ACAP/CEG funding for the multiple applications.

**\*Action Required**

**Item III.5  
Budget and Finance Committee Recap**

The District Budget and Finance Committee met on Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> from 10 -11:45 AM. Bob Hoffman from Fulton Financial provided an update on the District’s Raymond James investment account and potential changes for this fund. One recommendation that was made was to move funds within this account from the Invesco High Yield Municipal Fund to the Carillon Reams Unconstrained Bond Fund. This was for lower performance yields from the Invesco fund. The committee moved forward with this recommendation.

Next, the Committee reviewed two proposals from an RFP that were sent out looking for a new auditing firm for the District and Foundation audits. Both proposals were reviewed regarding price, service, reputation, and overall compatibility with the district. After some discussion, the Committee recommended moving forward with a proposal by SEK. Board action is needed for this recommendation to progress.

Finally, the Board reviewed a preliminary draft of the 2026 District budget. Currently, the 2026 budget is showing a deficit of approximately \$300,000. (It was as high as \$800,000 earlier in this process.) The deficit is due to several reasons, from no state budget yet to reduced funding to additional overhead costs. Staff are continuing to work on fine-tuning the budget and will have a revised version for the Budget and Finance Committee to review at their next meeting in September. After the September Committee meeting, a draft budget will be shared with the District Board at the October Board meeting.

**\*Action Required** for the auditor recommendation

**Item III.6**  
**Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds (FPW) Grant Application**

The FPW supports conservation grants up to \$25,000 annually for watershed restoration, monitoring, capacity building, and similar priorities. The Watershed program is applying for \$25,000 to support our in-stream monitoring program or sondes. \$5,000 will cover staff time to create videos and materials explaining our monitoring equipment and data parameters, an important milestone for science communication. \$6,000 will cover an online portal to view monitoring data in real time and 4G data to transmit it live. \$14,000 will cover annual maintenance, including calibration equipment and new sensors. The second ARPA allocation, which paid for telemetry installation and general maintenance, will cover any additional costs.

The FPW historically hasn't funded the eastern half of Pennsylvania, but has started to fund more projects locally. After speaking with program representatives, they have encouraged us to apply for the first time. Under this grant program, we first apply for a letter of intent due August 29<sup>th</sup>, and then we apply for a full proposal by October 10<sup>th</sup> if accepted. Awards would be announced by November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The Watershed program is looking for board action to approve moving forward with an application for our monitoring program.

**\*Action Required**

**Item III.7**  
**Dirt & Gravel / Low Volume Road Program**  
**Quality Assurance Board Recommendations**

The Dirt & Gravel / Low Volume Road program (DGLVR) Quality Assurance Board (QAB) will meet prior to the September 3rd board meeting to review three Low Volume Road project applications, one Dirt and Gravel Road project, a project amendment, and a project cancellation. The DGLVR program currently has \$268,020.53 to commit to projects on dirt and gravel roads, and \$235,341.36 to commit to projects on low volume roads. The district board will receive project recommendations from the QAB during the September 3rd board meeting. Board action will be required to move these projects to the contracted phase of the DGLVR program.

**\*Action Required**

**Item III.8  
Capital RC&D Board Member Appointments**

Each member County of the Capital RC&D is allowed 3 representatives. Currently, we have an open “Alternate Delegate” position, but Samantha Adams and Greg Strausser represent Lancaster County and hold leadership positions on the RC&D board. Sam’s term as Commissioner Representative expires at the end of November.

For the 2026 slate of representatives, Commissioner D’Agostino has offered to replace Sam and represent Lancaster County’s interests. Greg Strausser will continue to serve until the end of November 2026 when his term ends, and Lauren Brodbar, LCCD Agricultural Technician, has agreed to participate in RC&D’s September meeting to see if this is something she feels capable of doing.

		<u>Term</u>
Raymond D’Agostino	Commissioner Rep	November 2028
Greg Strausser	Member-at-Large	November 2026
Lauren Brodbar (pending)	Alternate Delegate	Annually

**\*Action Required**

**Item III.9  
The State Conservation Commission’s New Funding Program  
To support Public Private Partnership in the Most Effective Basin**

The PA Department of Agriculture has received funds from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for financial and technical assistance for the implementation of best management practices (BMPs) on agricultural operations within the Commonwealth Most Effective Basins (MEB). The Commission is seeking requests for proposals for funding of Most Effective Basin-Public Private Partnership (MEB-PPP) applicants. MEB-PPP Applicants include, but are not limited to for-profit conservation entities, non-profit entities, private businesses, corporate businesses, conservation districts, etc. All applicants must work with the local conservation district as the sponsor in order to be eligible for MEB-PPP funds.

Funding must be used to implement best management practices (BMPs) that reduce nutrient and sediment pollution on agricultural operations within the Commonwealth. Funding can also be used for engineering, consulting, and permitting. The commission has determined that the Public Private Partnership has \$7,700,000 in available funds for MEB-PPP for Fiscal Year 2025 -2028.

At least two applicants would like to submit proposals. Additional details will be provided in the Day of Packet. The deadline to submit is Sept 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Item IV.3  
2025 District Legislative Tour Summary**

Friday, August 8, the 2025 Conservation District Legislative Tour was held. The tour began with breakfast and program presentations by District staff at the Bird and Hand Restaurant/Hotel location.

Gordon Hoover, Director, provided an introduction for the day and made local connections to sites visited. The tour bus left after breakfast, traveling to Wanner’s Pride and Joy Farm. John Wanner, owner, Kevin Lutz, Ag Program Manager, and Jim Saltsman, Ag Engineering Technical Specialist, met with the group, explaining biosecurity, manure management strategies, guided them through the manure stacking shed, and the manure injection process.

The tour bus included audio, and Chris Thompson, District Manager, took the opportunity to talk about District projects, state funding needs, and future ideas for Conservation District support. The tour continued to a stop at a stream restoration site on Indian Spring Run. Amanda Goldsmith, Watershed Specialist, and Matt Kofroth, Assistant Manager, explained the restoration project, the water monitoring tools installed in the stream, and data collection. Amanda and Sallie Gregory, Edu. and Operations Coor. talked about surveying aquatic insects to determine water quality.

Thank you to all who participated in the event. The feedback from legislative attendees was positive, and several posted information to their social sites explaining the benefits of the tour.

<b>District Team</b>	
Chris Thompson	
Matt Kofroth	
Sallie Gregory	
Amanda Goldsmith	
Morgan Regan	
Kevin Lutz	
Eric Hout	
Ava Lang	
<b>Director and Associate Director</b>	
Gordon Hoover	
Jenny Engle	
<b>Legislative Attendees</b>	
Crystal Bomgardner	Represented Representative Chris Gebhard
Tina Thompson	Represented Representative Chris Gebhard
Steve Howe	Represented Senator Scott Martin
Senator James Malone	
Marshall Miller	Communication director for Sen. James Malone
Thomas Coblentz	Represented Representative Dave Zimmerman
Representative Nikki Rivera	
Stephen Rank	Represented Representative Lloyd Smucker

# Indian Spring Run Stream Restoration



## BEFORE

Indian Spring Run had 4-5 ft high vertical banks, unrestricted animal access, no forested riparian buffer, and little in-stream aquatic habitat.



## AFTER

A riparian buffer was established along with stream bank fencing, stream bank stabilization with floodplain relief, and in-stream aquatic habitat.



## GRANTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Total Cost - \$260,000

Funding was provided by the Countywide Action Plan (CAP) Grant with a \$65,000 In-Kind Match from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and Chesapeake Bay Foundation

## RESTORATION BY THE NUMBERS

- Brush Mattress - 1048 ft
- Mudsills - 1212 ft
- Rock Toe - 340
- Riffles - 4
- Cross Vanes - 2
- Exclusionary Fencing - 2500 ft
- Riparian Buffer - 4 acres



# Wanner Pride-N-Joy Farm BMPs



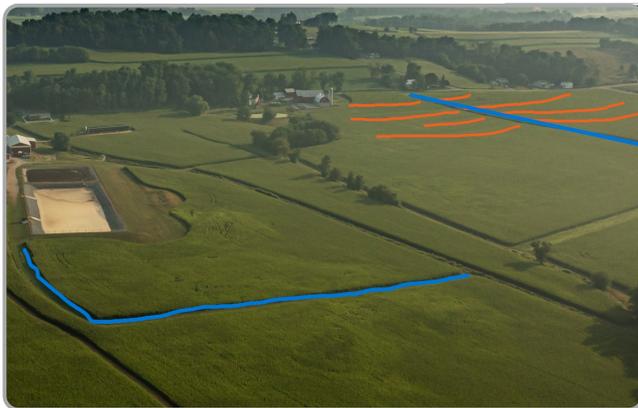
## DIGESTER & LIQUID LAGOON

All of the farm's liquid manure flows into a reception pit where it is then pumped into a methane digester. In the digester manure is separated into solids while liquids flow into the lagoon.



## STACKING SHED

A roofed stacking shed was designed and implemented when the previously stacked pen pack manure site was no longer adequate for manure management.



## TERRACES & GRASSED WATERWAYS

Terraces (orange lines) and grassed waterways (blue lines) limit both the amount and velocity of water moving across the surface, which greatly reduces soil erosion and delivers cleaner water to streams.

## GRANTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) provided funding for the terraces and grassed waterways. In addition, the Countywide Action Plan (CAP) and the Chesapeake Bay Ag Inspection Program Phase II (CBAIP) funded the stacking shed and methane digester, about \$135,000.



**Item IV.5**  
**Offering an Invocation at Public Meetings**

Following extensive discussion at the August meeting, the Directors voted unanimously to continue offering an invocation prior to their public meetings and events. Included in the motion was the charge to create a guide/policy to ensure the practice is inclusive and compliant with the law. The draft policy (see attached/below) will be presented at the meeting to start the official 30 review period. A final version will be presented for BOD action at the October meeting.

**Draft Policy Statement**  
**Offering an Invocation at Public Meetings**

Purpose

At the discretion of the Board of Directors, the Lancaster County Conservation District will open its official meetings with an invocation before engaging in public business of the organization to mark the occasion and center our thoughts on the shared ideals and principles of our Conservation mission and vision.

Participation in the invocation, as a presenter or spectator, is strictly voluntary and any reasonable accommodation will be considered and exercised for those wishing not to participate.

Guidelines for Offering an Invocation

- **Format and Function:** An invocation is a request, entreaty, or petition to help center our thoughts and ideas on the stated purpose of the gathering. As such, it is to be done prior to calling the Business Meeting to order and can take the form of a prayer, recitation of a reflective quote, statement, poem, or even a moment of silence to allow everyone the chance to reorient themselves and focus their thoughts on the purpose of the meeting.
- **Respectful and Inclusive:** Invocations should respect the diverse backgrounds and beliefs of the audience, promoting an atmosphere of inclusivity and shared purpose.
- **Non-Discriminatory:** Invocations should not proselytize or disparage any faith or belief, nor should they promote or disparage non-religious views.
- **Focus on Shared Values:** The content should emphasize common values, principles, and aspirations that resonate with all participants, regardless of their individual beliefs.
- **Conciseness:** Invocations should be brief, generally not exceeding two to three minutes in length.

- Voluntary Participation: No one is required to participate in the invocation, and individuals are free to join the meeting after or leave during the invocation.
- No Participation Directives: The Directors will not instruct the speaker about what to say; they will not review or alter the content of any invocation offered by a volunteer speaker.
- Participation Requests: Requests to deliver an invocation should be directed to the Board Chair who will schedule participation at the earliest convenience.

Administration of the Policy

- This policy is intended to comply with relevant legal precedent and foster an environment that respects the rights of all individuals, whether religious or non-religious.
- Compliance is Expected: Invocation speakers are expected to self-regulate and adhere to this policy statement. The Executive Committee of the Board will be responsible for evaluating the content and conduct of the presenter to determine compliance.
- Non-Compliance May Impact Future Opportunities: Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in a speaker not being allowed to offer future invocations.

# # #

Approved and adopted by the Board on \_\_\_\_\_