

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Conservation in Concert



LANCASTER COUNTY
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



*Back Row (Left to Right): Dale Herr Jr., Robert Shearer, Jay Snyder, Daniel Heller, Herb Kreider, Frank Burkhart
Front Row (Left to Right): Robert Wagner, Sonia Wasco, Roger Rohrer, Ray D'Agostino*

Conservation in Concert

CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

Over the years, meeting the needs of the residents of Lancaster County has expanded the role of the Lancaster County Conservation District from agriculture into areas of water quality, erosion and sediment control, education, dirt and gravel road maintenance, and nutrient management. Adding each of these programs has brought a new conservation perspective to the mission of the Conservation District similar to adding a new piece of music to a concert playlist that features new tempos, sounds, and rhythms. The 2021 Annual Report involves a theme of Conservation in Concert. This report blends highlights from all District programs just as a variety of pieces of music achieves different objectives in a common goal of an enjoyable concert.

Daniel C. Heller, *Board Chairperson*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ray D'Agostino, *County Commissioner*

Daniel C. Heller, *Chairman*

Herb Kreider

Ken Meck

Donald M. Robinson, *Dir. Emeritus*

Roger Rohrer

Robert Shearer, *Vice Chairman*

Jay Snyder

Robert E. Wagner, *Dir. Emeritus*

Sonia Wasco

Kent Weaver, *Treasurer*

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

Frank R. Burkhart

Lisa A. Graybeal

Deb Seibert

Gregory Strausser

Garrett Weaver

Justin Welk

Greg Wilson

DISTRICT ADVISORS

John Beiler

Matthew Mack

David D. Miller

Kenneth M. Rutt

Kathleen V. Schreiber

Alfred Wanner Jr.

Matthew Young

Cynthia Zawrotuk

LANCASTER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT 2021 FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME

County Funding Income	\$ 337,500.00
Non-Lapsing Program Funding	1,661,142.93
Grant Administration Income	314,702.34
Fee Income	708,564.04
Interest Income	1,854.19
Sales Income	32,984.38
Activity Income	4,965.34
Release of FY2020.2021 Health Pool	26,317.70
Other Income	6,976.82
Grant Income	3,645,561.54
Total Income	\$ 6,740,569.28

EXPENSE

Employee Salary and Wages	\$ 1,906,986.88
Employee Benefits	599,592.13
Travel Expenses	30,160.26
Meeting Expenses	10,743.38
Supplies	19,049.55
Postage and Meter Rental	5,447.34
Office Rent	104,674.70
IT Support & Communication	27,931.21
Services-HR, Audit, Payroll, 457	48,879.86
Consulting, Insurance, Membership	35,314.37
Equipment & Maintenance	14,941.32
CRM: Grants Management Solution/Tree Sale Database	12,899.04
District Activities	35,345.05
Miscellaneous	1,021.52
BMP/Grant Projects	2,088,213.92
Total Expenses	\$ 4,941,560.53

2021 NET CHANGE IN CASH ASSETS

General Operations & Reserve	\$ 274,864.67
E&S Department	82,283.89
District Activities	5,150.39
Grant Funds	1,436,709.80
Net Change	\$ 1,799,008.75



Back Row (Left to Right): Richard Snyder, Kevin Seibert, Ryan Weck, Adam Seitz, Britton Hartzok, Gerald Heistand, Steven Reiff, Christopher Thompson, James Saltsman, Adam Hartz, Bryce Workman, Kent Bitting, Benjamin Seldomridge, Matt Kofroth
Middle Row (Left to Right): Kevin Lutz, Maddie Klein, Sallie Gregory, Greg Heigel, Holly Shaub, Amanda Goldsmith, Suzanne Kopp, Kaylyn Gordon, Eric Hout, David Bednar, Nate Straw, Adam Stern
Front Row (Left to Right): Alex Flurry, Amanda Grube, Stacy Meyer, Shelly Dehoff

STAFF

ADMINISTRATION

Christopher Thompson, *Administrator*
 Gerald Heistand, *Business Manager*
 Stacey Meyer, *Finance Manager*

EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION

Richard Snyder, *E&S Program Manager*
 Dave Bednar, *Resource Conservationist*
 Alex Flurry, *Resource Conservationist*
 Kaylyn Gordon, *Resource Conservationist*
 Eric Hout, *Asst. E&S Mgr./Resource Conservationist*
 Suzanne Kopp, *E & S Admin. Asst.*
 Adam Stern, *Resource Conservationist*
 Ryan Weck, *Resource Conservationist*

AGRICULTURE

Kevin Lutz, *Ag. Program Manager*
 Kent Bitting, *Asst. Ag. Mgr./Professional Engineer*
 Samantha Adams, *Ag Conservation Tech*
 Dennis Eby, *Plain Sect Outreach*

Amanda Goldsmith, *Ag Conservation Tech*
 Amanda Grube, *Ag Conservation Tech*
 Adam Hartz, *Ag Eng Tech Spec*
 Britton Hartzok, *Ag Conservation Tech*
 Greg Heigel, *Ag Tech/Plain Sect Orch.*
 Maddie Klein, *Ag Conservation Tech*
 Steven Reiff, *Ag Conservation Tech*
 James Saltsman, *Ag Eng Tech Spec*
 Kevin Seibert, *Ag Compliance Coordinator*
 Adam Seitz, *Ag Compliance Specialist*
 Benjamin Seldomridge, *Ag Compliance Specialist*
 Holly Shaub, *Ag. Admin. Asst.*

WATERSHED AND EDUCATION

Shelly Dehoff, *Ag./Public Liaison*
 Sallie Gregory, *Education Coordinator*
 Matthew Kofroth, *Watershed Specialist*
 Nate Straw, *Watershed Assistant*
 Bryce Workman, *Watershed Resource Tech.*

CFLC: CLEAN WATER PARTNERS

Allyson Gibson, *Clean Water Partners Coor.*
 Emily Smedley, *Communications Program Coor.*
 Megan Blackmon, *Grants Coordinator*

USDA NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Heather Grove, *District Conservationist*
 Mark Myers, *Soil Conservation/District Conservationist*
 Mick Albert, *Soil Conservationist*
 Christine Griesemer, *Soil Conservationist*
 Mark Long, *Soil Conservation Tech*
 Brett Ramer, *Soil Conservationist*
 Lari Jo Walker, *Program Assistant*
 Ashley Spotts, *Restoration Specialist-CBF*
 Jeff Sholly, *TAG Engineer*
 Jenna Emore, *Wildlife Biologist, Pheasants Forever*

AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

An orchestra wouldn't be complete without each of its 4 instrument categories; wind, string, brass, and percussion. The same can be said for the Conservation District's Ag Staff. Without our Ag Conservation Technicians, Engineering Specialists, Compliance Inspectors, and Plain Sect Outreach Coordinators, our 'orchestra' would not be in harmony. Under the good leadership of our conductor, all areas of the Ag Staff worked together and accomplished great goals in 2021. From huge funding opportunities in the county, installation of best management practices (BMPs), to farm inspections and outreach programs, 2021 was a year of working to accomplish the mission of the District.

Lancaster had a record year in the number of dollars that the District received for the implementation of BMPs. Between 3 funding sources; the Conservation Excellence Grant (CEG), the Countywide Action Plan (CAP), and Exelon, the District helped fund \$308,000 worth of projects. CEG alone accounted for over \$215,000 of that total number, making it a great opportunity for landowners in Lancaster County. Though not all projects that the

District designs are funded, these funds along with an increase in self-funded technical assistance requests have kept our 3 engineers quite busy designing and implementing 164 BMPs throughout 2021. The District's fourth engineer works solely with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) projects through the Soil and Water Assessment (SWAT) program, designing and implementing over 80 BMPs during 2021.

In addition to technical assistance, the Ag staff works closely with the Act 38 Nutrient Management Program, facilitating yearly farm visits and reviewing Nutrient Management Plans (NMPs). In 2021, 88 NMPs were reviewed and approved by our staff. Agriculture Erosion & Sedimentation (Ag E&S)/Conservation Plans and Manure Management Plans are also written by our Ag Staff when requested by landowners. In 2021, 24 Ag E&S/Conservation Plans were written to cover 1,156 acres of the county and 25 Manure Management Plans were drafted. Both an Ag E&S/Conservation Plan and a Manure Management Plan are required by Chapter 91 & 102 State regulations for applicable operations, these numbers are a great success in getting more operations into compliance with the regulations.

Basin and riser pipe, beginning of a waterway



Manure stacking





Stream crossing



Waterway



Waterway

The Ag Staff also welcomed 2 new Ag Technicians to the team during 2021 who are well on their way to being great members of the Ag team. The Ag Program had a very good year, moving into 2022 with a long to-do list with no signs of slowing down.

AG COMPLIANCE:

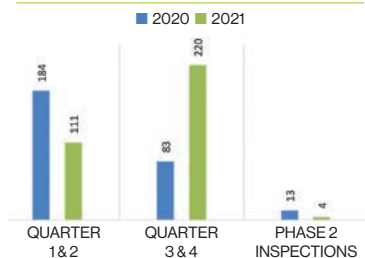
Our Compliance department is in charge of completing on-site farm inspections to ensure operators have their Ag E&S/Conservation Plans and Manure Management Plans to be in compliance with all state regulations regarding tillable acreage and manure production on farms. The Compliance department gained 2 new inspectors in early 2021. They learned quickly and were able to meet their inspection goals by the end of the year. The Ag Department currently has 3 positions funded by the Chesapeake Bay Program, requiring 150 inspections per fiscal year. At the time of this article, the team has completed the requirements for the Bay Programs 21-22 fiscal year.

Phase 2 inspections are also starting to happen for those that have already been through an initial inspection. Phase 2 inspections verify the plans that operations have are being implemented on schedule. Phase 2 funding is also available for these operations that may need a small BMP implemented from their Ag E&S/Conservation Plan. Until the next round of inspections starts in July, the compliance department will be filling their time supporting other ag technicians in writing Ag E&S/Conservation Plans and Manure Management Plans upon operators' requests.



Samantha Adams
Ag Conservation Technician

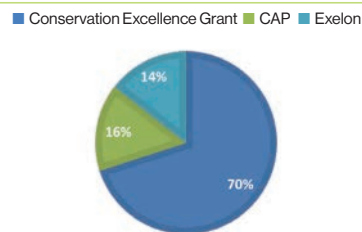
COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS



IMPLEMENTED BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs) 2021

Stream Crossings	13
Waterways	7 acres
Heavy Use Area Protection	12,662 sq. ft.
Waste Storage Facilities	5
Terraces & Diversion	16,350 ft.
Total:	164 practices implemented

FUNDING DOLLARS SPENT 2021



PLAIN SECT OUTREACH

2021 began much like 2020 ended with COVID-19 causing many disruptions. Most winter pesticide recertification and other ag business meetings were canceled. The outreach team including Dennis Eby and Greg Heigel were able to again participate in meetings during the summer and fall. Events: Powl's Feed Dairy Expo, at the Solanco Fairgrounds; PA No-till Alliance Field Day at Roger Rohrer's farm, where LCCD displayed a no-till transplanter and the new horse-drawn manure injector; PennAg Pork/Poultry Expo held at the Lebanon Fairgrounds where LCCD shared exhibitor space with the Lebanon County Conservation District; ELS Amish Manure Expo, Kinzers, which included the demonstration of the LCCD funded horse-drawn manure injector.

The outreach team was involved in promoting the new horse-drawn manure injector machine at the summer/fall events. The building of the machine was funded by an LCCD grant from the Keith Campbell Foundation and built by ELS Manufacturing, Kinzers. There is also a cost-share program that helps with the cost of manure injecting, either using the horse-drawn injector or a custom applicator equipped to do it.

Dennis continued to help farmers with Manure Manage Plans. 27 plans were completed. This continues to be a good outreach opportunity to educate farmers one-on-one on the responsible use of manure generated on their farms as well as a time to promote cost-share programs which can assist them with needed 'Best Management Practices. When Greg is not helping in 'Plain Sect' outreach he is continuing his normal ag-tech work.

Everyone is looking forward to a more normal 2022 meeting season as we move on from COVID-19.



Dennis Eby
*Plain Sect
Outreach*



Greg Heigel
*Ag Conservation
Technician*

Watch the 2021 Agriculture Highlights 



EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION (E&S) PROGRAM

As in the different sections of a concert orchestra, erosion and sedimentation (E&S) control involves the cooperative involvement of multiple agencies. In concert, you'll hear the strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion sections beautifully accompanying each other in harmony. On a successful construction site, you'll see the input of the Conservation District, plan preparers, contractors, and excavators come to life with effective E&S pollution control measures. Each agency plays an essential part in the concerted effort of conservation. When we all work together, our natural resources thank us with a standing ovation.

The last element of an orchestra is the composer/conductor, playing perhaps the most important role in a concert. Such are the engineers and plan-preparers, who determine the design and aesthetics of land development, from which the E&S Department received a total of 321 plan submissions, which brought in the highest total yet for review fees collected in a year. With that much work coming through the door, to accommodate the amount of time necessary to process paperwork and review plans, the frequency of regular site inspections for active projects decreased. It's not likely a coincidence that, in the same year, the department received an all-time high of 230 complaints. Increased awareness of environmental concerns accompanied by a greater presence of residents working from home accounted for many of these complaints, but the reality is that having more boots on the ground regularly prevents pollution from occurring in the first place.

At what felt like the crescendo of incoming plan-review submissions and complaints, it was announced that Emily Broich had submitted her resignation. In response, the E&S Department

determined there was a need for an additional Resource Conservationist. Soon after, the search had commenced for, not one, but two new E&S positions to be filled. With being short a knowledgeable team member, workloads became heavier even with some staff working overtime to catch up. Alex Flurry and Kaylyn Gordon joined the District as new Resource Conservationists for the E&S team in September, and after four months of training have been assigned their municipal coverage areas. After much hard work and dedication from the rest of the E&S staff, by the end of 2021 the E&S Department had largely caught up from a tremendous backlog of paperwork and the program was able to return to a stable rhythm at a more manageable tempo.

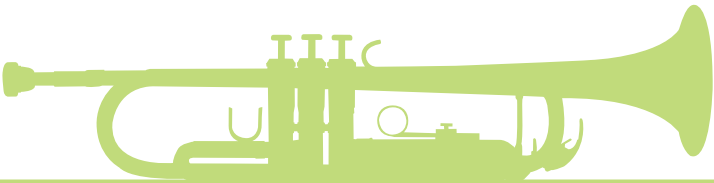


Alex Flurry
*Resource
Conservationist*



Ryan Weck
*Resource
Conservationist*

Watch the 2021 Erosion/Sedimentation Highlights 



CHAPTER 102 / CHAPTER 105 ACTIVITY

Total Plan Submissions	321
Total Plan Acres	5,333
Total Disturbed Acres	1,178
E&S Plan Review Fees	\$569,660
General NPDES Permits Issued	156
Individual NPDES Permits Issued	12
NPDES Permit Fees Collected	\$102,000
Total Complaints Received	230
Total Site Inspections	436
Chapter 105 General Permits Issued	94
Chapter 105 Permit Fees Collected	\$16,725
Enforcement Actions Completed	1





Lititz Run Stream Restoration Project



WATERSHED PROGRAM: PULLING ALL THE PIECES OF THE ENSEMBLE TOGETHER IN 2021

A key aspect of any musical piece is the multiple layers that are needed to make that music work. Watershed work is very similar in that many individual pieces can be carried out by the Watershed Program but doing all of them well is really what improves the watershed and water quality overall in the end. This past year was a prime example of that adage.

Stream restoration work has many aspects tied to it. From streambank stabilization measures that secure an eroding streambank to creating aquatic habitat in the process; or riparian buffers that are planted after the stream work to complement the

work and provide shade that adds organic matter to the aquatic life within the stream. Restoration work involves maintenance too that enables buffers to flourish for years to come and nurtures areas after mother nature decides to unleash her fury on the adjacent lands. All of this needs to work in concert for the project to be successful. The audience of all this great work is not only us the residents of Lancaster County but also the countless monitoring units we have deployed throughout the county to validate all of this good work. When all efforts work in unison beautiful music is the result.

47TH TREE SEEDLING SALE

The 47th Annual Lancaster County Conservation District Tree Seedling Sale took place in April 2021 as a drive-thru event again due to Covid-19. While this new procedure was tested in 2020, the committee working in concert with fellow staff found it to work well and put it into practice for 2021. Staff packaged and organized 434 orders with nearly 20,000 plants and trees picked up and planted throughout the Commonwealth. The committee was thankful for the dedicated customers who participated in the pickup and were so appreciative that the District was able to host the event mindful of CDC guidelines during the pandemic. As the largest fundraiser for District projects the Tree Sale totaled \$8,354.

Both Grassland FFA and Manor FFA participated in helping to raise funds along with 8 local Watershed Associations. Each of the participating organizations received a 20% refund of sales for their groups with a total of \$4,401 for continued education in local communities of Lancaster County. Special thanks to the District staff who were part of the prep, packing, and clean-up to make the event a success.

Sallie Gregory/Matt Kofroth
Co-Chairs



Lititz Run Stream Restoration Project Monitoring Unit

In 2021, the District conducted this beautiful music by completing two stream restoration projects within the county. One on Lititz Run and one on Mill Creek. The Lititz Run project involved 1,200 linear ft. of stream bank reshaping and aquatic habitat installation along the mainstem of Lititz Run. The project also involved the installation of a 2-acre buffer to complete the project along with monitoring efforts by the District and the local watershed group to validate the project's success. Wild rainbow trout are now reproducing in this new haven which confirms its water quality impact. Along the upper Mill Creek, nearly 1,300 linear ft. of the stream was improved from an overrun pasture to a stable flourishing stream section. In the spring of 2022, a 4-acre buffer will be added by local volunteers to complete the project along with a 35 ft. streambank fence setback. Once again to bring all the pieces of the concert together.

The audience will love the music these projects are making because we can already see through the District's monitoring locations managed on Mill Creek the stream is on tempo for improvement. The four continuous instream monitoring units on Mill Creek are showing great strides in turbidity and oxygen levels from all the conservation work happening in the watershed and from newly planted riparian buffers. To learn what other areas of the county are doing from the efforts of partners three additional monitoring units were added to two county watersheds. One unit was placed on the Conewago Creek and two units were placed along the Conowingo Creek to report on improvements to these watersheds as well. Once again all of these District monitoring units are used to gauge past, present, and future water quality throughout the county.

Finally, with so many riparian buffers being planted countywide the District this past year added a riparian buffer maintenance program and trailer to its fleet of conservation instruments. The District's maintenance program is meant to be a tool for partners, landowners, and the District to assist in the advancement of local buffers by creating mechanisms and tools to better maintain them long-term. The buffer trailer has a mower and weed eaters to maintain the buffers. It also has power augers for planting new trees and shovels, mallets, and digging bars for volunteers to use for large-scale tree planting events county-wide. Funding for the trailer was from a grant from EPA and DEP and should allow for the proper maintenance of the countless new buffers going in throughout the county.

With all of these musical pieces in place, the county's watershed should be delivering some fantastic music for years to come.



Matt Kofroth
Watershed Specialist

Watch the 2021 Watershed Highlights 

DIRT & GRAVEL/LOW VOLUME ROAD PROGRAMS: HUMMING ALONG IN

The COVID-19 pandemic slowed work on numerous Dirt & Gravel and Low Volume Road projects in 2021 so numbers were down from years past. 6 grant awarded road projects were completed in 2021, 2 Dirt & Gravel Road projects, and 4 Low Volume Road projects. These projects totaled nearly \$200,000 worth of water quality road improvement projects in the county. In addition, 2 Dirt & Gravel Road projects and 2 Low Volume Road projects were awarded funding in 2021 totaling over \$280,000.

Several projects this year focused on improving road drainage either to or away from roads. The projects on Dorinda Drive in Christiana Borough (Low Volume Rd. project) and Johnson Mill Road in Rapho Township (Dirt & Gravel Rd. project) highlighted the value of proper drainage around these fragile roads systems to protect nearby streams and creeks. The conveyance of runoff around any road is very important for public safety but doubly important when these roads are close to infrastructure and other public services.

The program is also seeing urban municipalities use the program to comply with stormwater requirements they are mandated to follow. An example of this is Quarryville Borough which completed a Low Volume Road project this past year on Geiger Avenue. The project involved the collection and conveyance of stormwater down an alley to a storm drain before heading to a nearby stream. This project also incorporated Full Depth Reclamation of the alley which had a very unstable road base and caused the road to deteriorate to the point where it was washing into the stream.

Finally, the District worked with Drumore Township on a new culvert for a tributary to Fishing Creek on Scalpy Hollow Road. After working with the township on drainage challenges to this road in previous projects they were finally ready to attack the largest culvert on the project that was vastly undersized for storm flows. Working with the program and others they were able to get a much larger culvert in place that solved their flooding issues and allowed for improved water quality because of the open bottom concept of the culvert which in turn allows aquatic organisms to pass through the culvert. This last feature is very important because the stream is loaded with wild reproducing wild brown trout. Overall a great success.

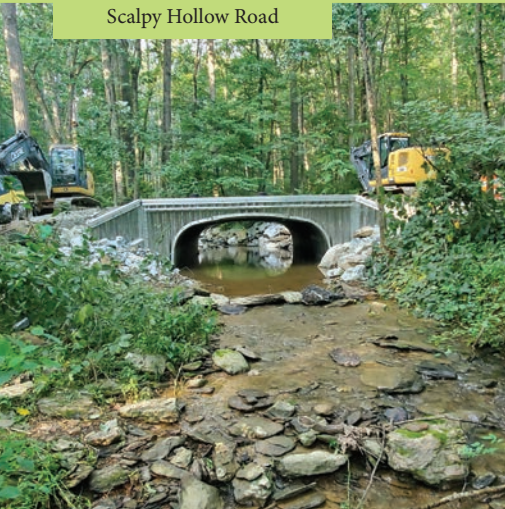
DIRT & GRAVEL ROAD PROJECTS FUNDED IN MARCH 2021

Municipality	Road	Awarded
Elizabeth	Pumping Station Road	\$ 110,000.00
Martic	Horse Hollow Road	66,200.00

LOW VOLUME ROAD PROJECTS FUNDED IN SEPTEMBER 2021

Providence	Snyder Hollow Road	\$ 11,194.00
City of Lancaster	Landis Drive	92,905.00

TOTAL **\$ 280,299.00**





Eastern Pennsylvania Living in Concert with Neighbors 2021

PA OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM

A concert is supposed to sound beautiful, with everyone in tune, on key, and in perfect timing. Complete harmony is the goal of a concert. What happens in a concert hall doesn't always happen in real life though. Living near other people isn't always a beautiful sound. Living near farms can cause people to be out of tune with each other. While the PA Ag Ombudsman in eastern PA isn't a world-renowned conductor, I do strive to bring a little more harmony between the woodwinds and the brass. The PA Ag Ombudsman Program handles public relations, education, and conflict management related to agriculture.

Examples of some PA Agricultural Ombudsman activities that encourage harmony and being in tune:

- Provided middle man communication in multiple stormwater runoff issues; explanations given, questions answered and referrals provided.
- Reviewed some ordinances from a non-legal standpoint to offer input, and to decide if any should be submitted to the Attorney General's office for an ACRE review as a way to encourage the future of agriculture in PA.
- Responded to 21 fly complaints in 9 counties to encourage fly control minimization techniques around farms and residences.
- Worked with western PA Ag Ombudsman and PSU's Ag and Shale Law Center to have proposed legislation revised to reflect official, clear definition of agritourism/agritainment and recognize liability protection for farmers who offer agritourism.

As part of a grant from the Campbell Foundation, the newly fabricated horse drawn, dragline manure injection unit is debuted for Amish farmers in early Summer 2021. The unit is available for rent from ELS Manufacturing in Kinzers, Lancaster County.

A new responsibility in 2021 was to administer and promote the Manure Injection Program, a grant held by the Conservation District to encourage the use of manure injection instead of traditional surface application. I worked to:

- Understand and promote the newly fabricated horse-drawn, dragline injection unit as part of the grant funding.
- Finalize the incentive program for farmers hiring custom applicators.
- Finalize the incentive program for farmers renting the horse-drawn, dragline unit specially created through this grant.
- Process incentive payment applications and invoices from farmers.
- Organize field days.
- Write promotional articles and advertisements for various media.

The PA Agricultural Ombudsman Program is partially funded by the State Conservation Commission and serves all Conservation Districts in PA. It is my top priority and focus, but since it is not fully funded, other sources of funding must be pursued. Those other sources of funding also create additional goals and priorities. Since 2019, I've subcontracted through the South Central Task Force (SCTF), as the Agricultural Planning Specialist. This additional focus includes responsibilities related to emergency and safety preparedness for farmers and agri-businesses and building bridges between law enforcement, first responders, and the agricultural industry. A goal of the PA Ag Ombudsman Program



Manure is injected at least 4 inches into the ground, through a pressurized delivery system, allowing less nitrogen to be volatilized, and creating much less odor which is a direct benefit for neighbor relations.

is to “build bridges”, and I see this as another opportunity to build different bridges. Examples include:

- Procured 3-grain bin rescue kits for the region, and supported the accompanying training for 3 fire departments.
- Revised 2 publications for “who to call in an ag emergency” for emergency dispatchers and responders.
- Sought opportunities to offer “Stop the Bleed” training to the farm/ag community to teach how proper use of tourniquets, packing wounds and direct application of pressure can help a victim survive until the trained professionals can arrive.
- Participated in Active Shooter Response Drill at Millersville University to learn more about how SCTF Planning Specialists execute larger scale exercises.
- Identified topics and speakers for the 2022 regional Homeland Security Conference (agroterrorism, and Customs and Border Protection).

I am also subcontracted with the Lancaster County Agriculture Council to provide administrative assistance and support the Executive Director and Board Chair. I assisted with Lancaster County Agriculture Week and helped plan Denim & Pearl’s fundraising dinner.

In 2021, I took on a new role assisting the Conservation Foundation of Lancaster County (the fundraising, 501.c.3 arm of Lancaster Co Conservation District). This included assisting the President to organize and facilitate the meetings, creating agendas, keeping the communications flowing between Foundation

members; organizing more frequent meetings to be more timely with decision making; encouraging more involvement and engagement to create energy on the Board, and started doing presentations by the program managers for the core programs of Conservation District to be sure Foundation members understand who/what they are supporting.



Shelly Dehoff
PA Ombudsman

Watch the 2021 Ombudsman Highlights 



EDUCATION PROGRAM

Reading music engages your brain with multiple benefits studies show, similar to the benefits of taking time to enjoy the senses outdoors. If there were sheet music to read along with the 2021 Education program year it would be a Suite of musical pieces collected for a great sound.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

As a resource for county students and teachers, the Education Coordinator developed virtual and in-person school presentations following Covid-19 guidelines. 33 Educational programs were held reaching 2,950 participants. Special thanks to the Arconic Foundation for supporting the Conservation District Education program hybrid presentation development. Funding was also provided for the completion of the District's Tree Sale Database. This contemporary database application was used successfully during the 2021 Tree Seedling sale in support of educational programs.

LANCASTER COUNTY ENVIROTHON

Lancaster County Parks and Recreation partnered with the Conservation District to host a virtual Learn about Envirothons event for Lancaster County elementary and middle schools. The event included school resources, recorded site tours, and a virtual lesson.

The Lancaster County Senior High Envirothon was held via Zoom with 4 high schools/ 11 teams participating: Warwick, Pequea Valley, Hempfield, and Elizabethtown Area. The Hellbenders team from Hempfield High School place first at the county level and represented Lancaster County at the State Envirothon. The Hellbenders placed 7th overall at the Pennsylvania Envirothon.



LANCASTER COUNTY YOUTH CONSERVATION SCHOOL

The 42nd Lancaster County Youth Conservation School was held July 26-30, 2021. The school program was a mix of 2 days of virtual learning through zoom sessions in the afternoon and evening along with 3 in-person learning days. The seventeen students who completed the week appreciated the opportunity to learn and grow through the virtual presentations and in-person hands-on experiences. The week-long program included a study focused on access to clean water. The program is a partnership between the Lancaster County Conservation District and the Federated Sportsmen of Lancaster County. Thank you to all of the sportsmen clubs who supported the program as advocates and sponsors.

EXTRAORDINARY GIVE

The Extraordinary Give is one event that was well prepared for working around COVID-19. The largest day of giving online in Lancaster County took place in November 2021. The Conservation Foundation of Lancaster County participated with funds supporting District Education programs: Lancaster County Envirothon and Lancaster County Youth Conservation School. With special thanks to all the donors who contributed, the event raised \$7,502.90.

OUTDOOR LEARNING NETWORK INITIATIVE

After an ever-changing school year, teachers were ready for a professional development experience to inspire and develop a meaningful watershed educational experience for students. More than 30 teachers participated in the training representing Conestoga Valley School District, Columbia Borough School District, and Ephrata Area School District. Millersville University, Stroud Water Research Center, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, and the Conservation District all collaborated to instruct and provide resources for the training.

Together, the Education Program Suite so to speak sounded like no other year. Partnering, collaborating and synthesizing added up the perfect melody for learning.



Sallie Gregory
Education Coordinator

Watch the 2021 Education Highlights 

2021 SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

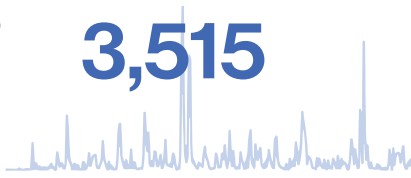
Facebook Followers

178



Facebook Reach

3,515



YouTube Channel Views

52,200



Instagram Followers

190



Instagram Reach

512



Amanda Goldsmith

*Ag Conservation
Technician*

*Reach is defined
as the number
of people who
saw content from
your page.*

CONSERVATION FOUNDATION OF LANCASTER COUNTY 2021

The Conservation Foundation of Lancaster County (the Foundation) is a tax-exempt 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. It is intended to serve as a fundraising arm for the Lancaster County Conservation District (LCCD), and its mission is to promote, support, and sustain the stewardship, education, and conservation activities undertaken by the Lancaster County Conservation District and our local partners.

The Foundation does not have any staff. Administrative support for paying grant invoices (and keeping all the grants straight!) is provided by Stacey Meyer, LCCD Finance Manager. Shelly Dehoff, LCCD's Ag Ombudsman for eastern PA, provides support for Foundation Board communications and meeting organization.

The Lancaster County Clean Water Consortium (LCCWC) has been a committee of the Foundation for many years. In the past few years, the efforts focused on stormwater and MS4 education. In 2021, the decision was made to transition the work of the Consortium to the Stormwater Action Team (SAT) under the County's CAP. Therefore, the Consortium was dissolved upon motion, and Consortium funds were moved to the Lancaster Clean Water Partners (CWP) for CAP implementation efforts.

Because the Foundation provides a place for LCCD and non-LCCD entities to utilize the 501(c)3 status, while applying for grants, a significant portion of the money included in the above table are pass-through funds. The District is working to improve

efforts to retain some administrative funds to help with the direct LCCD staff time invested in support of the Foundation. If you notice in the table above that there are \$51,947.63 more expenses than income for 2021, that is because the 4th quarter reimbursement under a PA in the Balance grant was requested, but not received until 1st quarter 2022.

Grants held in 2021 under the umbrella of the Foundation, and the applying entity included:

- Mariner East Cocalico Creek Floodplain Restoration (LandStudies)
- Manure Injection – Campbell Foundation (LCCD)
- NFWF PA In the Balance – Focus Lancaster (CWP)
- Executive Level Outreach (CWP)
- Growing Greener, Cocalico Creek Floodplain Restoration (LandStudies)
- NFWF Cocalico Creek Floodplain Restoration (Land Studies)
- Enterprise Pipeline (Land Studies)
- Advancing Agriculture Conservation (CWP)
- RCPP Grant (with NRCS) (CWP)
- NFWF Crescendo of Collaboration (CWP)
- Clean Water Implementation – Pequea Creek Headwaters Improvement (LCCD)
- Technical Assistance Lancaster – Campbell Foundation (CWP)
- CBT Regional Capacity Building Initiative (CWP)
- CBT Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience (LCCD)

CONSERVATION FOUNDATION OF LANCASTER COUNTY

2021 FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME

Grants Received	\$ 973,721.70
Gifts & Donations	2,000.00
Extraordinary Give	6,230.30
Fees Generated (Consortium Events)	4,742.16
Administrative Income	6,275.80
Fundraising Income	0.00
Program Income	0.17
Total Income	\$ 992,970.13

EXPENSE

Grant Expenses	\$ 1,028,777.69
Operating Expenses	5,586.91
Extraordinary Give	6,230.30
Sponsorship Expense	6,390.00
Fundraising Expense	0.00
Other Expenses	4,322.86
Total Expenses	\$ 1,044,917.76

LANCASTER CLEAN WATER PARTNERS

2021 was a year of incredible, steady progress and collaboration for the Lancaster Clean Water Partners! With collaboration from our partner organizations and stakeholders, we continued to accelerate the implementation of best management practices, identify and secure sustainable funding sources, mobilize the rapid stream delisting strategy, expand capacity, and educate existing and new partner organizations.

Major accomplishments in 2021:

- 4,523,379 lbs. of sediment, 14,629 lbs. of nitrogen, and 1,884 lbs. of phosphorus reduced from local waterways annually from Clean Water Fund projects since 2019. Partner organization projects countywide resulted in even more reductions, and those total numbers will be available soon. We are truly seeing progress!
- Approximately \$2,133,000 was awarded through the Lancaster Clean Water Fund for implementation and educational projects in Lancaster County. The 2022 round opens on March 3.
- Twelve organizations collectively drove and will continue to lead the rapid stream delisting strategy through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation leadership teams.
- \$11,069,576-plus was secured from private and public funding sources to support capacity and countywide best management practice implementation.

- One project and grants coordinator was hired full-time to manage the Regional Conservation Partnership Program project and collaborative grants to keep the work moving forward.
- Three new Executive Committee members joined the team: Stephen Campbell with the City of Lancaster, Jenna Mitchell with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, and Eric Scott with Oak Tree Development Group. Lisa Riggs with the Economic Development Company of Lancaster County transitioned to a past chair, while Jeff Swinehart with Lancaster Farmland Trust transitioned to chair.
- Seven scholars graduated from the inaugural class of the Lancaster Watershed Leadership Academy to become the next generation of clean water leaders in Lancaster County. Applications for the 2023 class are now open.

We're excited for all the possibilities 2022 will bring as we forge ahead with a bias towards action to achieve clean and clear water by 2040!



Emily Smedley
*Communications
Program Coordinator*

Lancaster County Conservation District