



2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Cameron County Conservation District

20 East 5th St., Suite 105

Emporium, PA 15834

Table of Contents

From the Chairman.....	Pg. 3
Board Members & District Welcomes.....	Pg. 4
Jan Hampton In Memoriam.....	Pg. 5
Conservation Education.....	Pg. 6-7
The WILD Envirothon.....	Pg. 8
Trout In The Classroom.....	Pg. 9
Wild About Nature Field Day.....	Pg. 10
Recycling In School	Pg. 11
Interpretative Signs	Pg. 12
Dirt & Gravel and Low Volume Roads.....	Pg. 13
Watershed In Review.....	Pg. 14-15
Headwaters RC&D.....	Pg. 15
Agricultural Conservation Review	Pg. 16
Natural Gas Development.....	Pg. 16
Erosion and Sediment and Waterways & Wetlands Management	Pg. 17
Bucktail Watershed Association.....	Pg. 18
Cooperative Agencies	Pg. 19
2017 Project Tour.....	Pg. 20



District staff check the new
interpretative signs located on the
Gary Dublar Memorial Natural Trail.

From the Chairman

Greetings!

A couple of important notes (sometimes overlooked).

Standing on top of an Alleghany ridgetop during the waning hours of an October afternoon with all of the sassafras, oak and tupelo leaves so ablaze in their autumn splendor

WEALTH?

Spending an hour or two, wading up to your chest in the headwaters of the Susquehanna, feeling so hemmed in by the flanking hills that you are forced to become one with the watershed and all of its associated flora and fauna.

SECURITY?

Daybreak, working in the garden on an early June morning. Smelling and breathing the damp air, so cool and clean that its almost intoxicating.

PROSPERITY?

WE ARE BLESSED. (We at the CCCD will treasure, nurture and defend our natural resources.)

Sincerely,

Mark Johnson, Chairman



Photo taken by CCCD Chairman,
Mark Johnson.

DISTRICT BOARD

Mark Johnson - Chairman

Paul Lyon - Vice Chairman

Steve VanEerden - Treasurer

Kirk Bainey - Secretary

Phil Jones - Commissioner

LuAnn Reed - Public Director

Shawn Mason - Public Director

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

Dr. Joseph Blackburn

Steve Zoschg

Scott Lyon

STAFF

Todd Deluccia - District Manager

Kate Morgan - Assistant District Manager

Jennifer Dixon - Administrative Assistant



District Welcomes

The District would like to welcome new Public Director, Shawn Mason to the board. Shawn, a native of Cameron County, spent two years as an Associate Director for the Cameron County Conservation District. Shawn brings to the board his vast knowledge of farming and his dedication to conserving our natural resources. Shawn is an avid farmer, where he takes pride in continuing the family business at Mason Farms located in Driftwood, Pa. Shawn and his wife Kathy, currently reside in Cameron County.



In Memoriam of Jan Hampton

In May of 2017, the District lost a past manager, friend and faithful leader for 18 years, when Jan Hampton passed away. Jan began her journey as the first full time employee of the District in 1998. Her love for the outdoors and teaching would bring the District new opportunities to reach out and connect with the community. As an employee for many years with the local school district, Jan saw the opportunity to reach out and educate our youth on the values of conservation education. Small steps of teaching in classrooms about birds, bats, elk and of course frogs, paved the way for more advanced activities we have today, such as the Wild About Nature Field Day, The Wild Envirothon and Trout in the Classroom.

Whether it be a program being taught barefoot in the tall grass or a book being read about a bug, Jan's memory will live on through the District.



Conservation Education

WORKSHOPS

It was a busy and successful 2017, reaching out to our local community on conservation education. Each year the District is seeing an increase in involvement both with our adults and youth programming.

- ◆ In March, the District, in a cooperative effort with Elk, McKean, Potter, Tioga and Warren County Conservation Districts held a Stream Workshop at the DCNR Elk State Forest building. With a full attendance, guests were educated on the following: State of the Watershed & Instream Habitat Enhancement, with Todd Deluccia of the District; Sterling Run AMD Remediation with Jeff Ream, J. Ream Engineering Consulting; Riparian Buffers with Alysha Trexler, Western PA Conservancy; Recovery of the Train Derailment with Mark Hurtle, PA Fish and Boat Commission; and Aquatic Organism Passage with Phil Thomas, Trout Unlimited. It was an educational and successful workshop, with great response from guests.



2017 Stream Workshop Guest Speakers

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Community involvement, such as guest speaking at other organization events about the welfare of our local environment, current District projects and past events is another way the District can help educate our community.

- ◆ In the early spring, the Emporium Men's Club, reached out to the District to guest speak on the 2006 Train Derailment in Potter and Cameron Counties. District Manager, Todd Deluccia held a presentation on what the effects of the train derailment from 2006 has on the water quality on the Portage Creek. This presentation saw a record number of attendance for the Emporium Men's Club.



Cameron County High School Outdoor Club students prepare pinecones for the Earth Day celebration for the third graders.

- ◆ The Cameron County Outdoor Youth Activities (CCOYA) invited the District to participate in a day of education with the Life Skills students from Cameron County School District. Todd held a presentation about the life cycle of the brook trout. After the presentation, students got the opportunity to test their fishing skills in the pond at Andrews Farm.
- ◆ In April, the District along with the Emporium Garden Club held an Earth Day presentation for third grade students at the Cameron County Woodland School. Todd talked to the students about Earth Day, how it started and what it has done for our environmental regulations since its inception. After the presentation, students got a hands on experience planting a seed of their own, and making a birdfeeder out of a pinecone. The Cameron County High School Outdoor Club was also on hand to take part in the day, by helping the younger students create their crafts.

◆ In late spring, Assistant District Manager, Kate Morgan and Administrative Assistant, Jenn Dixon were guests at the Cameron County Family Center's, Family Carnival, held at the Emporium fire hall. An event held for children ages birth to 12, the District was on hand to help the children create a fish craft. Fun was had by all.

WORKING WITH LOCAL SCHOOLS

Working with the local school district and other school based programs, helps the Conservation District, to reach out to our area youth to continue teaching conservation education.

- ◆ Northern Tier Head Start program reached out to the District to help educate students on the animals that live in and around our waters. Todd set up two separate programs, the first on the life cycle of a brook trout. After a short presentation, the students got to help release a real brook trout, donated by Jim Brown, into a PA certified stream. Once the trout was released, Commissioner Lori Reed read a short story and helped the students build a fish craft using their hands.
- ◆ The second program held with the students in the Head Start, was on April 24th, (World Turtle Day). Here Todd presented to the students about the biology of turtles. The students got a chance to see two different live turtles, a box turtle and a painted turtle. After a short presentation, where the students got to see the turtles eat, they got a chance to make a turtle craft using construction paper and bingo markers.



Commissioner, Lori Reed reads a book to the students in the Head Start Class



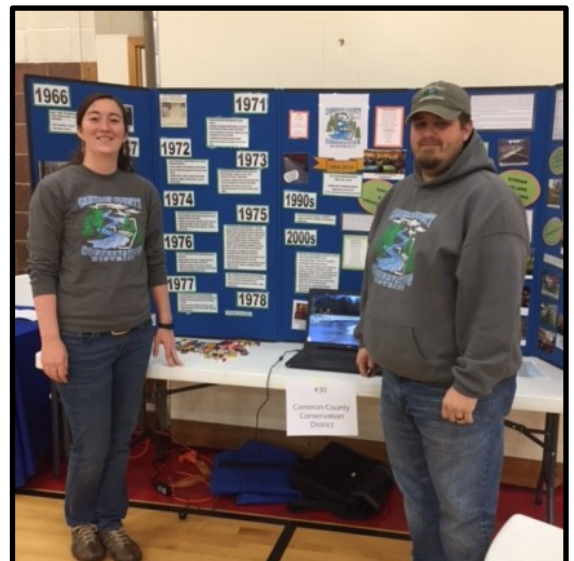
Kate presents the Enviroscope to the second grade students in Cameron County.

- ◆ May brought many field trips to the Andrews Farm, and presentations held by the Conservation District. The fifth and sixth grade students from Cameron County, got the opportunity to learn about reptiles and amphibians from District Manager, Todd Deluccia. Students got to see live specimen and replicas while learning the difference between the two species. Throughout the day students also got to conduct a herp hunt, where everything found was entered into Pennsylvania Amphibian and Reptile Surveying (PARS).

students a hands on presentation with the Enviroscope, while Todd held a brief discussion on the brook trout. The students got to end the day fishing in the pond.

Field trips are not the only way, the District reaches out to our youth in the community. Local job fairs and tours of the County Courthouse are a great way to teach the ways of the Conservation District.

- ◆ In May the District was invited to participate in a job fair held at the Cameron County High School. Todd and Kate were both on hand, with a display showcasing the history of the CCCD. Students also got the opportunity to discuss the role both Todd and Kate have with the District.
- ◆ The end of May, brought students in sixth grade from both Austin and Cameron County School Districts, to the Cameron County Courthouse. The District was invited to once again, talk to the students about the history and roles the District has in the community.



Todd & Kate, at the Cameron County High School Job Fair

The Wild Envirothon

2017 made for another successful year for the Wild Envirothon. This years event was once again held at the Keating Sportsmen's Club in Smethport, PA. Students from both McKean and Cameron Counties were tested on the five subjects of the ecosystem, including; Aquatics, Soils, Wildlife, Forestry and the 2017 Current Event: Agriculture Soil & Water Conservation Stewardship. The winning team from each county got the chance to represent their school at the Wild Envirothon state competition that was held at the University of Pittsburgh, Johnstown Campus. Cameron County was represented by: Dalton Ball, Dino Brown, Kamme Guisto, Eliza Farbaugh and Cassie Fry. Although they did not finish well enough to compete at the national level, the group represented Cameron County with pride.



Students working to confirm soils samples.



1st place Cameron County team: L-R: Dalton Ball, Dino Brown, Kamme Guisto, Cassie Frey and Eliza Farbaugh.



2017 Wild Envirothon - Cameron County Teams

Trout in the Classroom

Trout in the Classroom is an annual program the third grade students at Cameron County Woodland Elementary School get to participate in. Each year the students in both Mr. Porkalob and Mrs. Wilson classes monitor the trout from egg to fingerling stage. Once the trout are ready to be released, students get to spend the day learning about environmental education along with releasing their raised trout into a PA certified stream. This year, students spent the day at Sizerville State Park learning about the history of the brook trout from the PA Fish & Boat Commission, Bill Crisp; Salamanders from Sizerville State Park Naturalist, Emily Embick; Turtles with District Manager, Todd Deluccia; and Bucktail Watershed Associations, Nikki Ryan held a presentation on water quality sampling.

During the school year students are caring for the trout, they are rewarded with presentations and crafts from the District. In December the District held two presentations, the first presentation District Manager, Todd Deluccia showed a video and talked to the students about the life cycle of the brook trout, the second presentation, students got to decorate and take home their own salt dough ornaments of a brook trout to share with their family.



Assistant District Manager, Kate Morgan stands with third grade students at Cameron County Woodland School, with their brook trout salt dough ornament.



Students and teachers release the trout that were raised in their classroom.



Sizerville State Park Naturalist, Emily Embick talks to the students about salamanders.

Wild About Nature Field Day



Students in 4th, 5th and 6th from Cameron County School District, prepare for a day of learning at Sinnemahoning State Park.

At the beginning of the new school year, 4th, 5th and 6th grade students from Cameron County Woodland Elementary School spend the day outdoors learning about our natural resources. 2017 Wild About Nature Field Day was spent at Sinnemahoning State Park, where the students learned about Macroinvertebrates from District Manager, Todd Deluccia; Forestry with Penn State Extension, Lorraine Jacobs; Tracking Animals and People with, Search & Rescue; Sinnemahoning State Park's Jess Deluccia presented the life and trials of the Monarch Butterfly; and District Chairman, Mark Johnson along with Cameron County Outdoor Youth Activities, Don Bickford took the students on a Bird Tour. It was an exciting day where the students had the chance to get hands on with the different activities they learned.



Above: Sinnemahoning State Park Naturalist, Jess Deluccia talks to the students about Monarch Butterflies.

Below: District Manager, Todd Deluccia prepares as the get ready to enter the First Fork and find what lives in the area.



Recycling In The School

In the fall of 2016, Cameron County School District (CCSD) enrichment teacher, Brock Wennin approached the Conservation District seeking help with starting a paper recycling program in school. This program would be an opportunity for Mr. Wennin's enrichment students to calculate numbers on how many trees were cut and replanted with the recycling weights collected throughout the school year. In a corporate effort with the CCCD, the County of Cameron and the Elk County Community Recycling Center (ECCRC), recycling in school was started.

The County of Cameron agreed to fund all transportation costs and use of a county truck, to deliver paper drop offs from the CCSD, to the ECCRC. Once materials were delivered at ECCRC, weights were determined and certificates were issued to show how much weight was collected per drop off. In the first school year, the CCSD collected almost two tons of paper.

As the new school year approached in 2017, the District worked with the County of Cameron, Borough of Emporium, Cameron County Recycling Center (CCRC) and the ECCRC, to expand paper recycling at the CCRC. This small effort between the CCCD, CCSD and County of Cameron, has opened up new opportunities for recycling in Cameron County. All paper products are now collected; newspaper, copy paper, magazines, construction and junk mail. Great things are happening in Cameron County.



Left Photo: CCSD students help load the first paper drop off at the Cameron County Recycling Center.



Above: The District takes a load to the ECCRC.



Left: Enrichment students get to make paper with Sinnemahoning State Park Naturalist Jess Deluccia

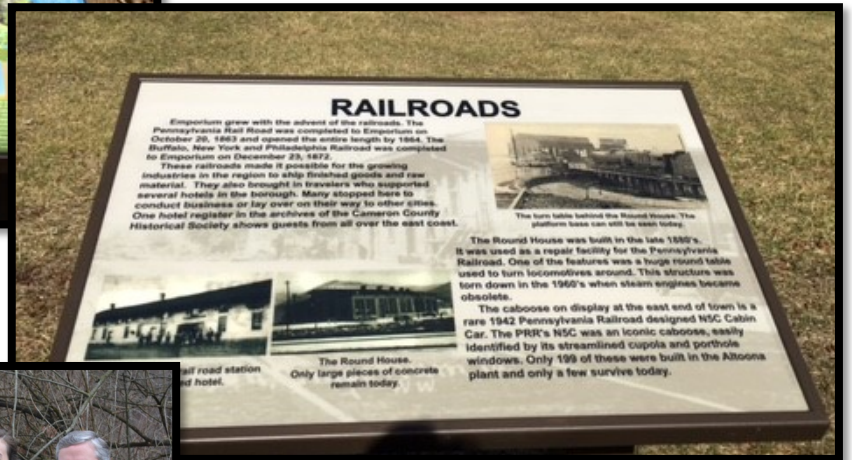
Interpretative Signs

The District, in a partnership with Lumber Heritage, Bucktail Watershed Association, Cameron County Outdoor Youth Activities and the Cameron County School District have extended our outreach to continue to educate our community on conservation with new interpretative signs located along both the West Creek Rails to Trails and the Gary Dublar Memorial Nature Trail. Hikers of all ages now have the opportunity to learn a little about the history, plants and wildlife in Cameron County. Funding for this project was made possible by Lumber Heritage, Bucktail Watershed Association through the George A. And Margaret Mee Charitable Foundation, and the Cameron County Conservation District.

To see these signs in person, the West Creek Rails to Trails is located through Emporium. The Gary Dublar Memorial Nature Trail is located behind the Cameron County Woodland Elementary School.



Kate Morgan stands next to one of the interpretative signs located on the Gary Dublar Memorial Natural Trail.



Above: Interpretative sign located along the West Creek Rails to Trails.



Left: Jennifer Dixon (CCCD), Steve Manginell (Lumber Heritage), Todd Deluccia (CCCD), Steve VanEerden (Bucktail Watershed Association), Don Bickford (Cameron County Outdoor Youth Activities), Kate Morgan (CCCD) and Dr. Keith Wolf (Superintendent Cameron County School District)

Dirt & Gravel and Low Volume Road Program

This program continues to be a great improvement to dirt and paved low volume roads (less than 500 cars a day) of Cameron County. In 2017 the Quality Assurance Board which consist of one member from the Conservation District, one from PA Fish and Boat Commission, and one from Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), met to review potential projects presented by local municipalities. Three dirt and gravel projects were funded in Shippen, Lumber, and Portage Townships along with two low volume projects were funded in Shippen and Lumber Townships.

In Shippen Township a DSA (driving surface aggregate) project will take place. DSA will be placed on 2,400 feet of lower Sizer Run Road. This is located where drainage and fill work was completed in 2017. This project comes in at \$110,441.71. A low volume project will also be completed in Shippen Township. In Plank Road Hollow an extensive project will take place. Currently the stream crossings for Plank Road Hollow are severely undersized and in addition to that the waterway is in two different stream enclosures totaling 900 feet one of which flows under two houses. As part of this project the township will install/replace nine road crosspipes to minimize flow in ditches. Because of the very narrow valley, the stream enclosures will have to remain, but the size of the pipe will go from 24 inch to 60 inch squash equivalent. The lower stream enclosure will be moved so that it follows the shoulder of the road to eliminate stream flow from being under homes. This project was funded for \$120,000 with total project cost coming it at around \$155,000.

May Hollow Road will receive some work this year in Lumber Township. \$75,795 in funding was given to install and/or replace 16 road crosspipes. May Hollow also has a lot of spring water coming into the ditch line so 5,500 feet of 6 inch underdrain will be installed as well. A low volume project will be completed as well on Hunts Run Road. Two cross pipes will be replaced and 300 feet of underdrain will be installed as well. This project will be constructed for \$4,300.

The final project will take place in Portage Township. Britton Hill Road will receive fill, along with additional ditch work such as installing crosspipes to help water drain off of the road. Water drainage at this site can be challenging due to the close proximity of homes and the downslope of the roadway. This project will be constructed for \$26,477.



Left: The Buffalo Turbine, a new piece of equipment purchased with Dirt and Gravel Low Volume Road funds.



Right: Todd Deluccia gives a demonstration with the Buffalo Turbine.

Watershed Restoration

Year in Review

It was a busy year with stream projects as usual in 2017. In all seven streambank stabilization and/or fish habitat enhancement projects were completed in Salt Run, Sizer Run, Sinnemahoning Portage Creek, Brooks Run, Wycoff Run, Sinnemahoning Creek and George B. Stevenson Dam totaling approximately 4,000 feet of streambank stabilization/fish habitat enhancement and 265 structures.

The Salt Run Habitat Restoration took place at the Children's Only fishing area at the Andrews Farm. Old structures installed years ago had become rotten and were not functioning well. The old jack dam structures were removed and four log cross vanes were installed.

The Bucktail Rod and Gun Club project took place on Sizer Run. The existing splash dam that acted as the intake structure for the club pond had suffered from several years of flooding and the structure had become rotten. The District removed the structure and installed a new crossvane in its place to protect the intake pipes and allow adequate water flow at all times of the year.

The Little League Field Fish Habitat Enhancement was the wrap up of the Portage Pool Habitat Initiative. Studies showed that lower Portage Creek was lacking pool habitat. This grant was to create more pools with a construction of six log crossvanes throughout the lower six miles of Portage Creek. The final crossvane was installed near the Little League field and was the last one closing out that program.

Work was completed at Sinnemahoning State Park on two different projects. DCNR lowered the lake and removed thousands of tons of sediment thru dredging. As part of this project Brooks Run was realigned so that it did not enter near the boat launching area causing sedimentation and making it difficult to launch watercrafts. As part of this the Conservation District worked with the contractor to install two log crossvanes as additional habitat in Brooks Run and to assist with grade control of the new stream channel. Also at the Park, the District worked with PA Fish and Boat Commission, Sinnemahoning State Park and many volunteers including several from the Bucktail Watershed Association to install over 250 lake habitat structures. There were 200 short plank vertical structures and 54 porcupine cribs constructed and installed. Short plank vertical structures are geared towards the larger fish like smallmouth and largemouth bass to use. They can sit in wait and ambush prey. The porcupine cribs are geared towards smaller fish for protection. This in turn brings the game fish trying to attack those fish.

The Wycoff Dam Removal and Stream Restoration was partially completed. This project took place at the Children's only fishing area near the Wycoff Cooperative Nursery. Two dams were removed that were impeding fish passage and four log crossvanes were installed to increase habitat. One of these structures now acts as a new intake for the hatchery. In 2018, two more structures will be installed.



Crossvane installed in Brooks Run, that leads into George B. Stevenson Dam.



One of the many new structures at the Children's Only fishing area near the Wycoff Cooperative Nursery.

The District partnered with Bucktail Watershed Association, DCNR, Lumber Heritage, Western PA Conservancy, and the Cameron County Canoe and Kayak Classic to install a boat launch at the confluence of the Driftwood Branch and Bennetts Branch of Sinnemahoning Creek. This will act as the take out for the annual Canoe and Kayak Classic, along with anyone paddling along the Bennetts Branch. This will also be a great put in for anyone wishing to head down the Sinnemahoning.

2018 is already shaping up to be a busy year as well with streambank stabilization and fish habitat enhancement projects slated for Driftwood Branch, Sterling Run, Wycoff Run, and North Creek. In addition to that the District just received funding for three new passive treatment systems in Finley Run and May Hollow for continue efforts to clean up acid mine drainage (AMD) in the Sterling Run Watershed. The FIN63, FIN52 and MAYH10 passive treatment systems will be constructed sometime in 2018 and/or 2019. We are for the first time seeing aquatic life in some areas of Finley Run, Portable Run, and May Hollow that haven't seen life in over 50 years. The completion of these three projects will remediate a VERY large chunk of the remaining pollution going into Sterling Run.



Construction on the boat launch in Driftwood, PA

Headwaters RC&D

Sinnemahoning Stakeholders Committee

Settlement monies in the amount of \$3.175 million from the June 30th 2006 Norfolk Southern train derailment that caused a serious fish kill in Big Fill Run, Sinnemahoning Portage Creek, and the Driftwood Branch of Sinnemahoning Creek are administered by the Headwaters RC&D Sinnemahoning Stakeholders Committee. This is a nine member committee consisting of one representative from each of the following organizations; Cameron County Conservation District, McKean County Conservation District, Cameron County Commissioners, McKean County Commissioners, Department of Environmental Protection, PA Fish and Boat Commission, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and two public seats.

2017 marked the ninth round for the Sinnemahoning Watershed Grant Program. A total of \$166,332 was funded for eight projects along the Sinnemahoning Creek Watershed. Things such as water monitoring, invasive plant control, fish habitat enhancement, streambank stabilization, AMD assessment, aquatic organism passage, flood control, environmental education, agricultural BMP's, and trail work were funded.

Since the inception of the program in 2009 \$1,342,248 was granted in funding over nine years and that money has helped leverage approximately an additional five million dollars. Because of the nature of the program and how the endowment was setup, this money will be available in perpetuity and works solely off of interest earned. This money will for a very long time improve the already great Sinnemahoning Creek watershed.



Agricultural Conservation Review

The District saw growth in 2017 to the Agricultural Conservation Program. In early 2017, the District received funding for the Rain Gutter BMP Improvement Project for the installation of 480 feet of rain gutter and stabilized outlets at two farms located in special protection watersheds. One farm was completed in 2017 and the other farm will be started in 2018. In late 2017, the District received notice that a Growing Greener Grant project on two farms in Cameron County had been funded. This project was received by the Headwater's RC&D Council, who will administer the project. The District will be responsible for the on the ground technical support. These projects include the construction of a manure stacking pad for improvements to an animal heavy use area, both projects are located in special protection watersheds. These projects should start in 2018.



Rain Gutter BMP Project

The District maintained educational efforts in 2017. The 14th Annual Agricultural Producers' Meeting was held in February and continued to grow in attendance with a record number of people attending. The District also sponsored five farmers to attend the 20th Northwest PA Grazing Conference in Clarion, PA. In July, the District held its 2nd Annual Picnic and Pasture Walk. This year the workshop was held at the Zoschg Family



Grazing Plan Development.



2nd Annual Picnic and Pasture Walk

Farm and included speakers from Penn State Extension and NRCS. This has turned into a great summer time workshop for the District.

Natural Gas Development

In 2017, there was a continued decrease in gas well development in Cameron County. The following is a summary of gas well development from DEP's Oil & gas Management's website. In 2017, no conventional (shallow) wells were permitted or drilled in the county. One unconventional (deep) wells were permitted. No wells were drilled in 2017. A total of 316 DEP inspections were completed with, six-teen violations found, with two enforcements on the 74 total wells inspected. DEP lists seven-teen well pads in Cameron County and 64 active unconventional wells.

Erosion and Sediment and Waterways & Wetland Management

In 2017, the District saw a decrease in earth disturbance activities and stream permitting projects. There was a carryover of some large projects from previous years. Two large timber harvests continued that comprised almost 1,900 acres of forestland activity. Two projects on the George B. Stevenson Dam also wrapped up in 2017. These projects were the main focus for the District.

In addition to technical and field work for administering the Chapter 102 and Chapter 105 programs, the District continued its partnership with neighboring Conservation District's to host workshops on a regional scale. In 2017, the Erosion Control in Our Forest Workshop was held in Elk County. Assistant District Manager, Kate Morgan provided a new presentation on Ford Crossings, as they pertain to timber harvesting activities. Kate also worked with Potter County's Glenn Dunn to help with a field presentation on legacy roads and wet areas for timber harvests. In 2018, Cameron County will host the workshop, which will be in its fourth year as the District Partnership.



Left: Temporary Bridge Removal

Below: Kate Morgan, discussing legacy roads at the Erosion Control In Our Forest Field Session.



Above: 2017 District staff at the Erosion Control In Our Forest Workshop.



Right: Bridge removal, restored ford crossing.

Bucktail Watershed Association

The Bucktail Watershed Association (BWA), was formed in the fall of 2002 and incorporated in 2003. The mission of the BWA reads “a concerned group of citizens united to promote wise watershed stewardship for property and stream protection in the Driftwood Branch and First Fork areas of the Sinnemahoning Creek.” A monthly meeting is held at the Cameron County Courthouse on the first Tuesday of every month starting at 6:30 p.m. where all citizens are welcome to attend.

BWA invasive weed program began in 2009, where the primary target of invasive plants are; Japanese Knotweed, Mile-a-Minute, Japanese Barberry, Japanese Stiltgrass, Oriental Bittersweet, Tree-of-Haven, and Buckthorn. With the help of local contractors the BWA focused on controlling these invasive plants on the main streams and tributaries of the Driftwood and First Fork branches of the Sinnemahoning Creek through a spraying program. Each year BWA works to continue spraying efforts moving downstream, with revisits to sprayed areas from the previous year.

The early part of the 2017 spraying season had some challenges due to weather. By the end of summer the BWA was able to spray several new miles of streamside invasive plants from just above the village of Sterling Run down to the village of Huntley. The BWA is hopeful to reach the village of Driftwood within the next few years. Spraying is made possible through funding from generous supporters such as: Sinnemahoning Stakeholders Committee, DEP Growing Greener Grant, Stackpole Hall Foundation and Dominion/Western Pennsylvania Conservancy—Watershed Grant Program.

Spraying for invasive plants is not the only way the BWA helps to keep our waterways clean. Community outreach activities and programs such as the annual river/roadside clean-up held in March, is a great way to extend the efforts to keep waterways clean. Here several organizations along with the BWA work together to clean up along the roadway and streams from Emporium to Driftwood. 2017 proved to be a successful year with several hundred pounds of trash collected.

Citizens of Cameron County are fortunate to live in an area that has an abundance of relatively weed-free forests and streamside's. The invasive weed spraying program helps to keep it that way. Left unchecked, the weeds would move in and displace our native vegetation, leaving no ecological benefits for our native plants to grow. In 2018, the BWA goal is to continue weed work by working with the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and the Cameron County Conservation District by planting native trees and shrubs along the streams in areas that were previously impacted by the invasive plants for degraded streambanks.



Native plants blossom down stream from Emporium. A spot where Japanese Knotweed once infested the area.



For more information on the Bucktail Watershed Association, log on to www.bucktailwatershed.com

Cooperating Agencies

Bucktail Watershed Association

Steve Van Eerden, Chair
P.O. Box 123
Emporium, PA 15834
info@bucktailwatershed.com

PA Fish & Boat Commission

Bill Crisp
450 Robinson Lane
Pleasant Gap, PA 16823
814-359-5127

Cameron County Commissioners

Lori Reed, Phil Jones, Jim Thomas
20 East 5th St.
Emporium, PA 15834
814-486-2315

PA Game Commission

Colleen Shannon - Land Manager
P.O. Box 5038
Jersey Shore, PA 17740
570-398-4744

Cameron County Outdoor Youth Activities

Don Bickford
174 Nickler Road
Emporium, PA 15834
814-486-2315

Penn State Cooperative Extension

P.O. Box 1504
Smethport, PA 16749
814-887-5613

DCNR Bureau of Forestry

Toby Herzing
258 Sizerville Road
Emporium, PA 15834
814-486-3353

SIPMA

Steve VanEerden
P.O. Box 123
Emporium, PA 15834

DEP

Patt Havens
208 West Third St., Suite 101
Williamsport, PA 17701
570-327-3636

USDA, Farm Agency

103 Market St.
Coudersport, PA 16915
814-274-8411

Headwaters RC&D Council

Todd Deluccia, Chairman
109 North Brady St., 2nd Floor
DuBois, PA 15801
814-503-8653

USDA, NRCS

Jared Shippey
478 Jeffers St.
DuBois, PA 15801
814-375-2125

2017 Project Tour

The 2017 Project saw many new projects in Cameron County. Held in November, this tour is free and open to the public. Some of the many stops included Sinnemahoning State Park, Wykoff Run, Driftwood and Emporium.

- ♦ **Sinnemahoning State Park** - The first stop on the tour, where park staff gave a presentation on the dredging and new additions to the park and George B. Stevenson Reservoir.
- ♦ **Wykoff Corporative Trout Hatchery** - Our second stop on the tour showed new fishing habitat. Here tour guests got to see where old dams were removed and new crossvanes were installed.
- ♦ **Driftwood Boat Launch** - Third stop on the project tour takes us to the newly construct boat launch located in Driftwood, PA. This launch sits on the Bennetts Branch connecting into the Sinnemahoning Creek.
- ♦ **Little League Field Crossvane** - Guests got to see a crossvane designed and constructed by District Manager, Todd Deluccia.
- ♦ **Buffalo Turbine** - Guests got to see a demonstration with the Buffalo Turbine, and how effectively this machine can clean ditches without damage being done.

