Summer 2011

SHA receives Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence!

The Governor’s Award for Environmental Excellence recognizes outstanding environmental initiatives, programs, schools, and organizations that have demonstrated a commitment to finding innovative approaches to solve the challenges facing our Commonwealth. The Governor’s award ceremony will be held on May 19th at the Genetti Inn & Suites in Hazleton. Your presence is requested.

Upcoming Events

June 23rd - Abandoned Mine Reclamation Tour of the Pine Knot Watershed: The tour starts with a visit to the Pine Knot AMD discharge and continues through the Heckscherville Valley, stopping at planned projects (past, present, and future) that are part of a valley wide initiative to reduce the impact of Mountaintop Coal Mining and reducing compaction in the forest. The tour seeks to assist the process of mine land reclamation by promoting the use of living Anthracite. On April 29th, twenty volunteers planted 2000 American chestnut trees at the 3 overhead coal mining sites to native forest. These trees will be the first of many. Partners in the 2011 ARRI tree plantings include Schuylkill Headwaters Association, Muncy Area High School, Penn State University, and USDA’s Forest Service.

Please join us on our partnering organization from the Greater Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation, located at the Genetti Inn & Suites Hazleton, PA, on Thursday evening, June 16th for an evening social. EPCAMR (Erie, Pennsylvania & Erie) Dinner Event & Fundraiser at Best Western Genetti Inn & Suites in Hazleton, PA. Dinner will be at 5:30 p.m., with a cocktail hour from 4-5 p.m. The Best Western Genetti Inn & Suites is located at 400 Main Street, Hazleton, PA 18201. Dinner will be at $45 per person or $80 per couple. A cash bar will be available. Please RSVP to contact mblackmon@schuylkillheadwaters.org or call 570-622-3742 ext. 119 or at www.shawilliams.com for reservations.

A New Grant!

SHA has received a grant from the Water Resources Education Network (OSM) to fund the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Effort in Schuylkill County and the intended use of this project is to purchase a new public relations campaign with the goal of raising awareness and providing educational opportunities on the negative impacts of Mountaintop Coal Mining and to encourage people to help. These efforts will be used to encourage people to create their own rain barrel. SHA has received a grant from the Water Resources Education Network (OSM) to fund the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Effort in Schuylkill County and the intended use of this project is to purchase a new public relations campaign with the goal of raising awareness and providing educational opportunities on the negative impacts of Mountaintop Coal Mining and to encourage people to help. These efforts will be used to encourage people to create their own rain barrel.

2011 ARRI Tree Plantings A Success

120 American Chestnut trees were planted at both sites. These trees will be resistant to chestnut blight. The Shenandoah and the Pine Knot sites were planted at both sites. These trees will be resistant to chestnut blight. The Shenandoah and the Pine Knot sites were planted at both sites. These trees will be resistant to chestnut blight. The Shenandoah and the Pine Knot sites were planted at both sites. These trees will be resistant to chestnut blight. The Shenandoah and the Pine Knot sites were planted at both sites. These trees will be resistant to chestnut blight. The Shenandoah and the Pine Knot sites were planted at both sites. These trees will be resistant to chestnut blight. The Shenandoah and the Pine Knot sites were planted at both sites. These trees will be resistant to chestnut blight. The Shenandoah and the Pine Knot sites were planted at both sites. These trees will be resistant to chestnut blight. The Shenandoah and the Pine Knot sites were planted at both sites.

Participating included stude nts from the Mountain Top High School, Shenandoah Valley High School, Muncy Area High School, Shamokin Area High School, Northumberland Area High School, and an American Civilian Conservation Corps troop from the York County Conservation District.

This spring, SHA worked with Abandoned Mine Land Coalition (OSM) and the Student Conservation Association to plant a new tree Appalachian Action Now (ARAIN) initiative by Office of Surface Mining (OSM) and SCA and several of the projects are focused on reducing compaction in the forest. On April 29th, twenty volunteers planted 2000 American chestnut trees at the Shenandoah and Pine Knot sites to native forest. These trees will be the first of many. Partners in the 2011 ARRI tree plantings include Schuylkill Headwaters Association, Muncy Area High School, Penn State University, and USDA’s Forest Service.

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