



SHA receives Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence!

On April 28th, the Schuylkill Headwaters Association was presented with the Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence! "These businesses, schools and organizations have demonstrated a commitment to finding new approaches to reduce our impact on the environment," said Governor Corbett of the thirteen projects that received the award this year, "I commend them for their efforts, as these projects certainly raise the bar for all citizens, businesses, and organizations to be environmentally conscious."

Upcoming Events

June 23rd - Join us for a **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 Pine Knot AMD discharge. We will meet at the Cass Township Building at 5:30 p.m. and the tour will last approximately three hours. Pizza and refreshments will be served. Please RSVP by contacting Bill Reichert at (570) 622-3742 ext. 118 or at breichert05@verizon.net.



On **July 29th**, SHA will be working with the YMCA summer camp to install **Storm Drain Markings** (see picture on the left) beside storm drains throughout Pottsville. These markings will encourage people to consider how stormwater carries pollutants into nearby waterways and, hopefully, think twice before throwing litter into or around storm drains. If you would like to help please contact Megan Blackmon at (570) 622-3742 ext. 119 or at mblackmon@schuylkillheadwaters.org.

Please join one of our partnering organizations, the Eastern Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation, in celebrating their 15th Anniversary:

EPCAMR: Partnerships, Places & Pride
Inaugural Dinner & Fundraiser
August 4th, 2011
Best Western
Genetti Inn & Suites
Hazleton, PA

Dinner will be at 5:30 p.m., with a cocktail reception at 5:00 p.m.

For more information please [click here!](#)

EPCAMR



A New Grant!

SHA has received a grant from the Water Resources Education Network (WREN) to hold the **"Art of Rain" Rain Barrel Workshop/Art Contest!** Next Spring SHA will be hosting an art contest in which local artists will paint rain barrels. These barrels will be displayed and judged at the 2012 Block of Art in Pottsville. The painted rain barrels will then be installed in public places around the Pottsville area. In conjunction with this event, SHA will be leading a workshop that explains the purpose of rain barrels and how they are installed. Participants will also get to build their own rain barrel.

SHA's New OSM/VISTA



As of May 16th, Adele Holzman is the Schuylkill Headwaters Association's new OSM VISTA. She will serve with SHA until February. The recipient of a BA from the State University of New York at Purchase, an ABA approved Paralegal Certificate from Long Island University, CW Post, and an MS from Milano The New School for Management and Urban Policy; Adele has interned for the New York Public Interest Research Group, the New York Civil Liberties Union, the United States Department of Justice, and the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. She has also helped to conduct policy research for the New York City Economic Development Corporation, the United Way of New York City and the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

2011 ARRI Tree Plantings A Success



This spring, SHA worked with Mountaintop Coal Mining and Reading Anthracite to complete two Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative (ARRI) tree plantings. An initiative by Office of Surface Mining (OSM), the ARRI project seeks to assist the process of mine land reclamation by reducing compaction in the soil and planting trees. This helps to hasten the return of the reclamation sites to native forest.

On April 29th, twenty-five volunteers planted about 2,000 tree seedlings on a two acre site owned by Schuylkill County and leased by Mountaintop Coal Mining. On April 30th, fifty volunteers planted over 4,000 tree seedlings on a four acre site owned by Reading Anthracite.

Participants included students from Blue Mountain High School, Penn State Schuylkill and Pine Grove Area High School. Additionally, 15/16 backcross American Chestnut trees were planted at both sites. These trees will be resistant to the blight.

Partners in the 2011 ARRI tree planting projects included DCNR Bureau of Forestry, DEP, Schuylkill Conservation District, and OSM. Pictures from the 2011 ARRI tree plantings will be posted on the SHA website soon! For more information about the ARRI program please visit www.arri.osmre.gov.

