

**SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION**  
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**SRBC AND PPL CORP. TO PROVIDE  
NEW STREAMSIDE CLEANUP FUNDS**  
**Training and Funding Assistance Available To  
Nonprofits, Municipalities and County Conservation Districts**

HARRISBURG, Pa. – The Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) today announced the availability of funding and training, for local nonprofit organizations to conduct streamside cleanup projects in 2004. The funding and training is part of the *Susquehanna River Basin Streamside Cleanup Training Academy and Assistance Program*, which is administered by SRBC, in partnership with PPL Corporation, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and PA CleanWays.

The funding can be used toward new or existing cleanup projects to encourage and help others to remove man-made litter along waterways in the Susquehanna basin. The program is funded largely by a grant from DEP's Growing Greener Program and a generous donation from PPL Corporation.

SRBC Executive Director Paul Swartz said, "The Streamside Cleanup Program is intended to educate people on the importance of removing litter from their waterways and to empower local groups and officials to find long-term solutions by addressing the problem of illegal dumping in their watershed."

Organizations interested in receiving up to \$2,000 in funding for their streamside cleanup project should submit their requests to SRBC no later than February 13, 2004. Eligible organizations include municipalities, county conservation districts, watershed organizations and other local non-profit groups located in the Pennsylvania portion of the Susquehanna River Basin. Funding request forms are available from SRBC at 717-238-0423 and [www.srbc.net](http://www.srbc.net).

"PPL's Project Earth Program was established with exactly this kind of community involvement in mind," said Bob Barkanic, PPL's manager of environmental management. "Like Project Earth, the Streamside Cleanup program funds and educates

groups of people with the purpose of bringing them together and ultimately realizing what Robert Louis Stevenson said of the Susquehanna River — the beauty of the name seemed to be part and parcel of the beauty of the land.”

In mid-March, SRBC and PPL Corporation will announce the projects selected to receive Streamside Cleanup funds. Then, those organizations will have from late-March through November 2004 to conduct their streamside cleanups.

During the training component of the *Susquehanna River Basin Streamside Cleanup Training and Assistance Program*, participants will learn the key steps to organizing and conducting a cleanup event. Four training sessions will be held in April 2004:

- April 7, Williamston Inn, Towanda
- April 8, Best Western Eden Resort Inn, Lancaster
- April 13, Clearfield-Days Inn, Clearfield
- April 14, Holiday Inn Express, Altoona

Each workshop will be held from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., and focus on several key issues:

- How to raise funds and obtain donated services
- How to recruit volunteers
- How to ensure the safety of your volunteers
- How to dispose of and recycle collected materials
- How to highlight the educational and community outreach benefits of the cleanup
- How to monitor your cleanup sites and dissuade future dumping

Jerry Zona, PA CleanWays Northwest Regional Coordinator said, “These workshops are great opportunities for anyone who is interested in learning about the simple things they can do to clean up their environment and get involved as active stewards for their communities.”

The Susquehanna River Basin Commission is the governing agency established by the federal government and the states of New York, Pennsylvania and Maryland to protect and wisely manage the water resources of the Susquehanna River Basin. The Susquehanna River starts in Cooperstown, N.Y., and flows 444 miles to Havre de Grace, Md., where the river meets the Chesapeake Bay.

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