

SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION
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**SRBC PRESENTS STAFF ANNUAL EXCELLENCE
AWARD TO PERRY COUNTY NATIVE**

Harrisburg, Pa. – In late January, the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) presented its 2005 Annual Staff Excellence Award to Jennifer L. R. Hoffman, formerly Jennifer L. Rowles, for her exceptional work as Section Chief of Monitoring and Assessment. Hoffman, an aquatic ecologist, has been with the Commission for seven years. She is a native of Shermans Dale, Perry County, and currently lives in Camp Hill, Cumberland County.

The Annual Staff Excellence Award is presented to the employee who best advances SRBC's mission to enhance public welfare through comprehensive planning, water supply allocation, and management of the Susquehanna River Basin's water resources.

Over the past seven years, Hoffman's high quality of work helped lay the foundation for future SRBC work with the Pa. Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), particularly in the areas of source water assessment and protection, Total Maximum Daily Load development and monitoring for abandoned mine drainage.

“Jen never seems to lose sight of our agency's mission, and she exemplifies the Commission's values of teamwork, professionalism and quality,” said Paul Swartz, SRBC Executive Director. “Over the years, Jen has taken on varying tasks of growing complexity and given them her 100 percent. That is the hallmark of an employee who truly deserves this recognition by her peers.”

During the first quarter of 2004, Hoffman assisted the local Paxton Creek Watershed and Education Association, DEP, and other groups in performing a watershed-wide stream survey in Dauphin County. Her hands-on work in 24 sites in the watershed have contributed significantly to the organizations' Paxton Creek Rivers Conservation Plan that, when implemented, will enhance the watershed and the lives of the people who live and work there.

Hoffman has also been active in the quality assurance area, hosting annual field training sessions for Commission staff, working with the U.S. Geological Survey on field chemistry quality assurance checks, developing quality assurance project plans for individual projects and recently updating the Commission's overall quality management

plan for U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) grant activities. And, in addition to working on SRBC field and laboratory safety procedure documents, she volunteered to assist in developing an overall Commission safety document.

She also recently summarized SRBC's monitoring programs in a document for the EPA, and was instrumental in using EPA's new Assessment Database to report SRBC's monitoring results under Section 305(b) of the Clean Water Act.

SRBC is the governing agency established under a 100-year compact signed on Dec. 24, 1970 by the federal government and states of New York, Pennsylvania and Maryland to protect and manage wisely 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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