



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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STORMWATER MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS TO BE HELD *Course To Teach Guidelines For Evaluation of Land Development Proposals*

Hollidaysburg, Pa. – The Blair County Conservation District, Juniata Clean Water Partnership and the Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC) today announced that they will hold a two-part workshop series called “Better Stormwater Management Through Site Design.” This free course will teach municipal officials the water quality and quantity criteria they need to consider when they review and critique land development proposals, particularly in light of the new NPDES Phase II stormwater regulatory requirements.

The course is targeted at township supervisors, borough council members, local and county planning commissions and municipal engineers within the Juniata Watershed, and is meant to focus on issues in Blair and its surrounding counties. The workshops will be repeated in the eastern portion of the watershed later this winter.

Part 1 of the course is offered twice, to accommodate attendees’ schedules. The workshop will be offered on November 18, from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Blair County Courthouse, 423 Allegheny St. in Hollidaysburg, Pa., and again on November 19, from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. at the The Dream Party Room, 1407 Blair St. in Hollidaysburg, Pa. Participants are asked to attend one of these sessions.

Part 2 will take place on November 22, 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Blair County Courthouse. All participants are asked to attend Part 2.

To register for the workshops, call or e-mail Leanne Frederick at the Pennsylvania Environmental Council (ph. 717-230-8044, x15 and e-mail: lfrederick@pecpa.org).

The first part of the workshop series will focus on several key issues including hydrology, the latest stormwater requirements and best management practices. The second part will address the key role that municipalities play in determining how stormwater is managed, and include a case

study in which municipal officials will work together to evaluate a real site design. “Municipal governments are on the front line of stormwater management in the Juniata Watershed and across Pennsylvania,” said Tim Schaeffer, Director of the Central Pennsylvania Regional Office of PEC. “The course will give them the tools necessary to ask the right questions of site design proposals and, ultimately, to maintain and improve the health of the Juniata, Susquehanna and Chesapeake Bay Watersheds.”

The workshops will be led by PEC and Cahill Associates, an environmental consulting firm that specializes in water resource management, environmental planning and sustainable development.

“Training and education of our municipal official has become a priority for the Juniata Clean Water Partnership (JCWP) as we implement recommendations from the Juniata Watershed Management Plan,” said Stephanie Odenwald, Watershed Projects Manager at the JCWP. “The plan identifies stormwater management as a high priority of the residents of the Juniata Watershed. This workshop will give local decision-makers knowledge and skills to make better stormwater management decisions.”

The Pennsylvania Environmental Council improves quality of life for all Pennsylvanians by enhancing the Commonwealth's natural and built environments by integrating advocacy, education and implementation of community and regional action projects. The Council values reasoned and long-term approaches that include the interests of all stakeholders to accomplish its goals.

The Juniata Clean Water Partnership is dedicated to building and sustaining local capacity through education, assistance, and advocacy in order to enhance, restore, and protect the natural resources of the Juniata watershed.

The mission of the Blair County Conservation District is the protection, preservation, and enhancement of Blair County's natural resources by providing technical assistance and educational guidance.

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