

# Cooks' Current

"To protect, preserve and improve the quality of water, land and life in the Cooks Creek Watershed"

Volume 6, Issue 4

Newsletter of the Cooks Creek Watershed

Winter 2009

## 2010 Events

### Regular Board Meetings:

#### **Springtown Fire House- 7:30PM**

Jan. 28, Feb. 25, Mar. 25, Apr. 24-  
Annual Mtg., May 27, June 24, July  
22, Aug. 26, Sept. 23, Oct. 28, Nov. 18,  
Dec. 16, 2010 **All are welcome!**  
**We appreciate your involvement!**

### **Special Events:**

Apr. 3 Spring Clean Up  
Apr. 24 Annual Meeting  
June 19 Mini Monster Mayhem  
Oct. 2 Fall Dinner  
Nov. 13 Fall Clean Up



**Become  
a member!**

See Insert for Details!

**We're on the web!**  
[www.cookscreekpa.org](http://www.cookscreekpa.org)

**Cooks Current is a publication of the Cooks Creek Watershed Association.**

### **Board Members:**

#### **President:**

W. Scott Douglas

#### **Vice President:**

Hans Reimann

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Lois Oleksa

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Jim Orben

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Stephen Smith, MD

Pat Raynock

#### **Layout & Graphic Design:**

Ellie Scheitrum

## From Across the Board...

At our annual October dinner, Larry Menkes taught us about "peak oil". Peak oil is the term used to describe the maximum rate of extraction of oil resources. The period before and after the peak show steadily declining rates of extraction. Mr. Menkes reminded us that this also means increased cost. So, even though our oil reserves are far from exhausted, the cost is most certainly going to escalate; both in terms of cost at the pump and in terms of collateral damage to other resources. This was food for thought as surely as the scrumptious recipes we sampled.

For me, this lecture reminded me that water is also a finite resource. While there is a lot of it on the planet, less than a tenth of a percent is readily drinkable. As our population increases worldwide, we will certainly see an increase in the cost of this, the most essential natural resource. It is unlikely that we would ever truly run out of water, but I find it hard to imagine a world in which



Winter has arrived. Bare sycamore branches.

we are expected to pay for each gallon at a rate similar to the rate which we pay for purified petroleum. I remember when it seemed like oil was an infinite resource, and gas was less than 35 cents a gallon. It was not that long ago....is it possible that water could go from infinite to clearly finite as quickly?

I am not an expert in water supply. However, over the past decade of watching the Cooks Creek, I have seen trends that are disturbing. Increases in stormwater percentages, and the damage they

cause are one such trend; increases in the amount of sediment in the pools is another. But recently I have had conversations with folks who have been watching our creek for a lifetime. They regale me with stories of how they used to jump off this bridge or that into the creek to swim on hot summer days. And they did this not on the mainstem in Durham, but rather on small bridges over the headwater streams in Springfield. There are few places anywhere in the creek where one can comfortably swim today, to say nothing of jumping or diving into the water

(Continued on page 2)

(Across the Board, Cont'd from page 1)

from a bridge. Is this a result of increased water use or is it a result of some other trend? I cannot answer that.

What should we do? We need to stop thinking of water as a “throw away” item and start thinking of it as a valuable commodity. Today. While it is still plentiful and very cheap. Pennsylvania is called a commonwealth for a reason. A commonwealth is an entity where the resources of the whole are for use by the whole. While some have interpreted this as a wholesale license to extract resources for profit, I have a different take. I believe it means that we are responsible to ensure that the resources we have are for all of us to enjoy; today, tomorrow, and for future generations. If we all do a little in our own lives to protect the “common wealth” of our water resource, perhaps we can reverse this trend. For most of you, that means being more aware of your water use. It means taking the time to let our Supervisors know that you care about protecting our water from overuse, misuse and pollution.

By the time this goes to print, there will be ongoing discussions about a revision to the ordinance in Springfield for protecting our water resources. Hopefully there will be more voices at the meetings than those of the developers. A similar process is ongoing in Durham. Our elected officials certainly hear from those who stand to profit from resource use. They rarely hear from those who advocate conservation and wise use. As has been said before, think globally but act locally.

Yours in Conservation,

W. Scott Douglas, President



## WIP Notes...

### ***Palms Watershed Integration Program***

*The current PALMS WIP students have been busy this year making, “planting” and retrieving leaf packs along Cooks Creek. The Hunt site was the first spot for leaf pack placement, followed by Klingbeil and then Thigpen. Students collected packs, examined and identified the macro-invertebrates that were found within the packs and then charted them to determine the health of each stream. Students will compile all information gathered and report back to the site owners. Please look forward to an informal analysis of the health of the Cooks Creek stream in the next newsletter.*



*WIP students working on leaf pack.*

## *Winter Garden*

By: Julie Cooper-Fratrik

(a cinquain)- after Neruda

standing  
by her words here  
turning in the garden  
every echo's startled voice is  
singing

winter  
gardens calling  
come and stand above us  
we are cold and darkness hovers  
nearing

waiting  
by her words there  
waiting where the stars are  
startled birds fly out against the  
turning

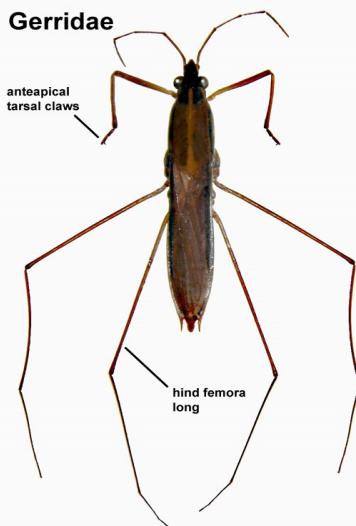
ringing  
through the garden  
heavy with her passing  
silent bells are loosening the  
darkness

*Julie Cooper-Fratrik earned her MFA in Creative Writing from Goddard College in Vermont. She is a former Bucks County Poet Laureate, and a winner of an Achievement Grant in Poetry from the Leeway Foundation in Philadelphia. She is on the Language and Literature faculty at Bucks County Community College, where she teaches creative writing and poetry, runs the tutoring center on the Upper Bucks campus in Perkasie and serves as an advising specialist for the department. Julie also serves as the copy editor for the American Anti-Vivisection Society. She resides on the old Freeh farm on Route 412 in Bursonville and has graciously allowed us to print some of her beautiful poetry in our newsletter.*

## Creature Feature: Water Striders (*Families Gerridae and Veliidae*)

By: W. Scott Douglas

*This is the 13th installment of a series of articles on the fauna of Cooks Creek.*



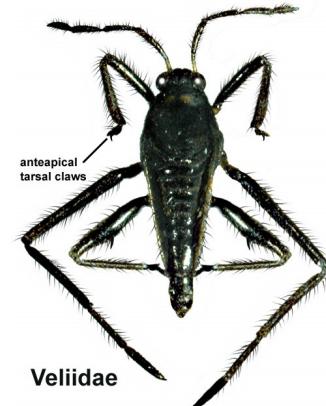
Water striders are a common site on almost any body of water in our Watershed. Their characteristic habit of “rowing” across the surface of the water, at sometimes amazing speeds, makes them perhaps the most readily recognized aquatic insect. Curiously, they aren’t actually aquatic in the strictest sense, because they don’t live under water. They are able to ride on the water surface for two reasons:

one is that they are very light, and the surface tension is strong enough to hold them (this is true of many insects). More importantly, strider’s legs are modified with tiny hairs that are positioned to prevent their feet from getting wet, and slipping beneath the surface. Some species’ have hairs that are quite elaborate, resembling flowers more than hairs. A few, specially positioned hairs will penetrate the surface just enough to get “traction”. Water striders have wings, but not all individuals in a population are able to fly. If conditions become unfavorable, these “chosen few” will fly off to find a new location, and start up a new population. The others just have to tough it out, I guess.

Water striders are members of the order Hemiptera, or true bugs. They have piercing and sucking mouthparts, which they use to suck the body liquids out of their prey. The front legs are typically modified for catching and holding prey. Although some Hemiptera are large enough to bite humans, water striders are not. There are two distinct groups of water striders, belonging to the Families Gerridae and Veliidae. Gerridae are the larger, and more recognized group, with middle and hind legs that are much longer than their bodies. Gerrids can vary in size from a few millimeters to 3 centimeters. Veliidae, otherwise known as riffle bugs, are smaller, often no larger than 5 millimeters or so, and although their legs are long too, they are not nearly as long as those of Gerrids, and they are typically more “hairy”. Both kinds are voracious predators of any insect that falls on, or rises to, the surface. They detect prey by feeling the vibrations of

their victims through the water. Scientists have even shown that striders use the surface of the water to communicate with each other by tapping out messages with their front legs. In many ways, water striders are much like aquatic spiders!

Both kinds of water striders are not particularly sensitive to water quality, since they are not in direct contact with it. However, as top predators they are indirectly affected as insect populations drop, or if their prey has accumulated chemicals. Scientists have shown that water striders can be used as indicators of pollution from chemicals that biomagnify in the food chain, such as mercury or certain pesticides. Fortunately, you should have no trouble finding all sorts of water striders in the Cooks Creek; all you need is a sweep net to run over the water’s surface in quiet pools (for Gerrids) or at the bottom of riffle areas (for Veliids). Bring a magnifying glass to check out the fascinating structures on their legs that have allowed them to become the lions of the water’s surface.



Cooks Creek fall water sampling by James Douglas and Julie Brokaw.

## Green Tip #10: Winterizing Your Pool

Now that the leaves are down, and frost is more frequent than not, it probably is safe to say that there will be no more swimming until next year. Hopefully, you will winterize your pool safely. What, you say, there's a safe way to winterize? Yes! First of all, you need to reduce the level in the pool to protect the skimmer system. When you do this, most folks just let the water run out over the lawn. This is NOT a good idea. First, the chemicals in the pool water are designed to kill. Obviously, they shouldn't be allowed to reach the stream. Second, the flow of water can alter the chemistry of a small headwater stream simply by being different in its hardness and pH, thereby stressing the ecosystem. Third, if the water flow is strong enough, or directed along a paved surface, it will carry silt and chemicals to the stream, just like storm water. Fourth, it's actually illegal.

What you should do is really simple. First, let the chlorine (or other chemicals) fall to zero. Measure this with your test kit. Then, siphon off the excess water but direct the water out over the lawn to infiltrate, rather than proceed to the road or a stream. An easy way to do this is to place an 8 or 10 foot



2x4 perpendicular to the slope of the lawn and direct the siphon outflow to the topside of the board. The water will flow out along the board and gradually dissipate. You can make this work even better if there are holes in the board, or if you place many smaller boards with an inch gap in between. This is known as a "level spreader". The quicker you siphon, the longer the spreader should be. You know it's working if no water is flowing out more than a meter or so beyond the spreader. If you need to, move the spreader and siphon around to prevent over saturation.

Finally, make sure you place a proper cover over the pool. This is not only safer, but it makes spring start up easier (no leaves or twigs to remove). If safety and convenience aren't enough, consider that a non-chlorinated pool is really a pond, and if left uncovered it will attract wildlife that can end up either drowning or starving. Animals that do survive will have to be killed come spring, so better to discourage them in the first place.



*Clip art on this page from Microsoft .*

## The American Sycamore

By: Alan Miller



Durham Sycamore

The most indelible and evocative tree of the winter landscape in the Cooks Creek watershed is the American sycamore, *Platanus occidentalis*. Majestic in form with its irregular muscular limbs and ghostly in color with its pale exfoliating bark, it is an unforgettable feature of our stream sides and bottom lands. Many locations along Cooks Creek host irregular rows or copses of these remarkably individual trees. Each mature sycamore seems entirely its own creature to the point that it is hard to define the general habit—or form—of the species except that it is relatively open and variable. Like so many common names, the name sycamore is misleading and troublesome. To the ancients, sycamore meant the fig, *Ficus sycomorus* and their *Platanus* was the plane tree; to Europeans, sycamore means the maple *Acer pseudoplatanus*, and to us it means this large *Platanus* which we also locally call buttonwood, American plane tree, and buttonball tree. The best way to describe this family of trees around the world is by their Latin name or the general and accurate name, plane tree, from the Greek root meaning wide. All seven or so—there is some dispute as to the number—members of the *Platanus* genus are North and central American with Mexico and the American southwest the center of geographic distribution, except for the Eurasian *Platanus orientalis* and its hybrid offspring crossed with our subject, *Platanus x acerifolia*, the London plane tree.

When North American plants began to be introduced into Europe in the seventeenth century, according to Stephen Spongberg's *A Reunion of Trees*, the British gardeners to Charles I, John Tradescant the father and

John the son established their own garden to increase their pallet. The younger Tradescant (1608-1662) traveled to Virginia several times to collect specimens and returned with our American sycamore to South Lambeth in England, apparently to be planted in the same garden with their collection of Eurasian plane trees. Pollen goes where it will and pollen from one species fertilized the ovules of the other species and this first garden origin interspecies hybrid with *Platanus* parents from either side of the Atlantic was the result. Earlier stories of the origin of the hybrid London plane tree suggest a Spanish or French location for the first hybridization but Spongberg's case is compelling.

The Eurasian plane tree figures prominently in history and myth. According to the classical scholar, Robert Graves, the plane tree was associated with the Goddess and shrines and temples to her characteristically were built near these trees. The Greek historian Herodotus tells that the Persian emperor Xerxes, while leading his armies on a march, came across a wonderful plane tree near the river Meander. The tree so moved the emperor that he had it hung with gold ornaments and directed gardeners to care for it through generations as long as it lived. In his opera *Serse* (Xerxes), Handel depicts this scene in the famous and beautiful aria *Omnia mai fu*, “no shade more sweet than thy shade, oh dear beloved vegetable.” Not many trees can boast of this kind of treatment. In his 1663 book on trees, *Sylva*, John Evelyn rhapsodizes about the plane tree, “*the incomparable and shady Platanus, that so beautiful and precious tree*



Gumballs on young Sycamores.

*which we read the Romans brought out of the Levant and cultivated with so much industry and cost, for its stately and proud head*

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only, that they would irrigate them with wine instead of water; and so prized the very shadow of it..." Plato's academy was said to have taken place under a plane tree.

The American sycamore has not accumulated this much lore unless there exist Native American myths and legends not known to the author, but it is almost certainly the largest and likely the most stately member of the *Platanus* genus. It is potentially the largest tree of our area and of the whole eastern United States and the largest deciduous hardwood tree in North America. The largest tree in this area known to the author is the Friedensville sycamore, with a chest high circumference of over 24 feet, a huge spread, and lateral branches as big as other large trees. David Culross Peattie's A Natural History of Trees of Eastern and Central North America, published in 1948, includes a wonderful chapter on the sycamore and informs us that the largest American sycamore on record grew on an island in the Ohio and was measured by George Washington at a chest high circumference of 44 feet four inches. Many years later in 1802, Francois Michaux measured its circumference at 47 feet, twice that of the Friedensville tree. This staggers the imagination. Huge virgin forest sycamores stood in stream and river valleys as the European settlers moved west. These giants are almost all gone now. They were often hollow and were used as animal shelters and dwellings. Sections of the hollow trunks were used as barrels and slices of solid trunks were used as wagon wheels. Sycamore wood was used in the colonial era for furniture and structural timber. It does not split and must be sawn in order to be harvested as lumber. In New England and Dutch New York this wood was occasionally the primary wood for case furniture and tables; in Philadelphia, it was used in sofa and easy chair frames. Sycamore wood resembles beech, but with even more prominent and regular flecks—or medullary rays. In the industrial age, sycamore was used for boxes, Saratoga trunks, and Pullman railroad car fittings.

The range of the American sycamore extends from Maine and southern Canada across the eastern and central United States and into northern Mexico.

The genus *Platanus* is the sole member of the family *Platanaceae*. *Platanus occidentalis*, the American sycamore is monoecious, meaning that individual

trees bear both male and female flowers. These inconspicuous blooms develop at the same time as the leaves in round bundles. The fruit is a round syncarp—a collection of many fleshy fruits—and these balls, like small Christmas ornaments, hang singly on the American sycamore and persist into winter. Sycamores grow rapidly and are not a good choice for planting in a small area. Anthracnose, the bane of our flowering dogwood, *Cornus florida*, also attacks sycamores, although they usually just develop new leaves if the first leaves fall to this disease. Sycamores always seem to be shedding something—bark, twigs, or fruit—and are considered to be messy in a yard. They do not typically have strong fall color—usually a yellowish brown—and their leaves are late to emerge in spring, but for those who appreciate the beauty of trees, who cares? No native tree in our area rivals their combination of powerful and poetic form and bark color.

## Cooks Creek Watershed Watercolor Workshop

By: Stephen Smith

October 3rd dawned cloudy and rain threatened to dampen the day for a score of artists gathering at the home of Steve and Ruth Smith for a day of intensive watercolor instruction by the world renowned artist, Janet Walsh. Ms. Walsh, a member and past president of the prestigious American Watercolor Soci-



Friedensville Sycamore

ty, author of a favorite book on watercolor painting

## Children's Backyard: Why Does Water Expand When It Freezes?

By: David Oleksa



*Fill a plastic container and a glass bottle with water and place in the freezer. For your protection, put glass bottle in a plastic bag.*

In the last winter edition of the *Cooks Current*, we talked about crystals and how they formed. Crystals that form when water freezes make up ice, and this leads us to this issue's topic. Did you ever put a bottle of water or soda into the freezer to cool it quickly and then forgot about it? You probably found the container split open when you finally remembered your drink. What causes this? Don't things generally shrink together and get denser when they get cold?

It is true that when most substances change from liquid to solid they shrink in volume because their molecules get packed closely together. But when water changes from liquid to solid (ice) it expands and becomes less dense. This is why ice floats and why ponds, rivers, and lakes form ice at the surface rather than at their bottoms. We can go ice skating on a frozen pond while fish continue swimming in the water below us because it is slightly warmer.

At normal atmospheric pressure, molecules usually behave in the following way as the temperature changes. When heated, molecules fly apart into a gas. When they are cooled, they condense into a liquid and they shrink further into a frozen solid when they get really cold. These changes in state correspond with changes in energy. In a gas, the

molecules are very active, in liquid, less so; and in a solid, they are hardly moving.

Water follows the same pattern up to a point. Boiling water turns to steam (a gas). But if you fill an ice cube tray up to the rim with water and put it in the freezer, in the morning it will be overflowing with big ice cubes. Here's why it happens. As water cools, it behaves normally, getting denser and denser with less volume until it reaches about 39 degrees F. (4 degrees C.) Then it suddenly reverses its course and its volume starts to expand until it finally freezes.

Scientists have discovered that water acts this way because of its peculiar molecular shape. Each water molecule is two hydrogen atoms bonded to one oxygen atom. That is why it is referenced as H<sub>2</sub>O. The hydrogen atoms always bond to one side of the oxy-



*After freezing the plastic container bulges and the glass bottle cracked. On the right, is an example of the power of ice! The contents expanded and broke the bottle!*

gen atom making that side have a positive electric charge and the other side has a negative charge. The molecule's charged ends attract the oppositely charged ends of other water molecules.

This occurs in all states of water, liquid, gas and solid but in the liquid and gas forms, the molecules

are active and slip and slide past each other, breaking, forming and breaking again their delicate bonds. But as the temperature drops, the molecules are slowed down to the point that the bonds stabilize and become stronger and more rigid. Sometimes a molecule will join up with up to four other molecules. This forms a six-sided open hexagonal shape. The molecules are held apart by the strong hydrogen bonds and thus there is more empty space between the molecules. That is why frozen water takes up more room than liquid. Since there is more empty space, ice is also lighter than water, allowing it to float.

By how much does ice expand? Scientists have made careful measurements and they say that it expands by about 9%. This means that if you put ten cups of water into a freezer, and let it freeze, you will have about eleven cups of ice.

So now you know why icebergs float, why bottles filled with water break when they freeze, and why water pipes (when they are subjected to extreme cold) burst.

## Palisades High School PEAT team swings into action for 2009-10

After returning to Palisades High School after a year sabbatical, Pat Peterson-Raynock is once again overseeing and mentoring the high school PEAT team. The Palisades Eco Adventure Team consists of all of the students enrolled in the A.P. Biology program, seniors serving as team leaders, and students signed up for environmental independent projects for the year. This is the 20<sup>th</sup> year the team has been in existence, and over the years, about 1100 students have participated in the program. Each year students trek to eco-destinations to participate in programs that heighten global environmental awareness and promote stewardship. Over the years, students have trekked on the Colorado Plateau, explored the Ecuador cloud forest, paddled on the Tuhayo River in the Amazon jungle of Peru, explored the Galapagos, and snorkeled the fringing reef of St. John., USVI. Every student in the program is funded by the efforts of the group based on student need (as communicated through the parents of individual students.)

The PEAT team wishes to thank the Cooks Creek and Gallow's Run Watershed associations for all that they have done, both through individuals who have made donations to the group, and through generous contributions by the associations. This program could not exist without the help of our community. Our students have gone on to do

wonderful college programs in environmental management, field ecology, biological and the natural sciences, education and medicine. Many have also gone on to careers and professions that involve global stewardship and we are proud of them all!



*The PEAT students making breakfast for the children of a Quechan village in the Peruvian Amazon.*

## Cooks Creek Watershed Watercolor Workshop

By: Stephen Smith

October 3rd dawned cloudy and rain threatened to dampen the day for a score of artists gathering at the home of Steve and Ruth Smith for a day of intensive watercolor instruction by the world renowned artist, Janet Walsh. Ms. Walsh, a member and past president of the prestigious American Watercolor Society, author of a favorite book on watercolor painting and many journal articles on technique, has given watercolor painting classes around the world in recent years.

The attendees' skills varied from novice to very accomplished; nevertheless, regardless of experience, we all gained valuable knowledge watching Ms. Walsh demonstrate her remarkable ability to render beautiful paintings from botanical specimens obtained from the nearby gardens. At least four of the attendees were Barnstone Studio students, ready to incorporate skills learned previously at that esteemed atelier.

Because of the weather in the morning, the large enclosed porch was used to accommodate the twenty students, each of whom paid thirty dollars for the privilege of attending the workshop. When the skies brightened and the sun broke through the clouds, some of the students chose to remain on the porch for more intimate instruction.

Old apple crates were used as makeshift tables and canning jars for water reservoirs. Our instructor, with deft strokes, reproduced the geranium leaves picked from pots only a few feet away. Mixing pigment on the watercolor paper, rather than on the palate, minimized the common problem of dull and muddy looking colors. Working quickly, from top down on the easel, with a variety of brushes, the artist made it look all too easy. The old Florentine term "sprezzatura", the ideal of effortless grace, seemed appropriate.

Clever devices, such as an overlay of tracing paper to aid in composition, filling in background with a dilute wash, without being overly concerned of overpainting, working from top down, using a maul stick in the opposite hand to steady the paper, were some of the key elements demonstrated; but, it must be admitted that simply watching a master at work was as inspiring as it was instructive. Lots of discussion about specific papers and



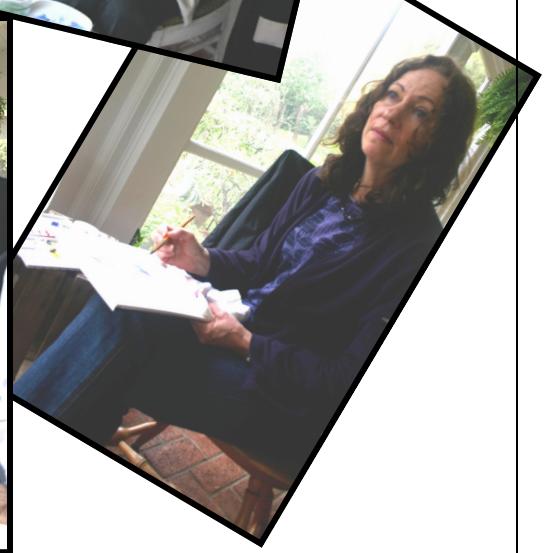
pigments added to the wealth of information gained by the class.

Some of the students, such as Doug Graves, actor, journalist and professional photographer, chose to move outdoors and paint the pot garden. His daughter, Bethanne, master quilter and potter, with a degree in fine arts, moved to the front of the class to get a better view of Janet's technique. Robert Fumo, our next door neighbor chose to venture further out and paint a forest scene, keeping our male Jack Russell terrier company at his side. Highly accomplished and award winning artist Judith Fritchman, although she works primarily in oils, had little difficulty emulating the skills of the teacher. Patricia Wallentine, also an experienced artist, enjoyed being in the company of other painters for an all too-short day.

Dorrit Boyeson came from Sweden, Sandy Kugler from down the road in Springtown, Jeremy Kehler from Cooks Creek valley in Durham, Jimmy Resek from Doylestown. Local artist Paul McGinn has since returned to the property for more painting. Many others as well, enjoyed the expert instruction of Janet Walsh. The traditional CCWA covered dish lunch was a real hit and will no doubt become a regular part of this event.



## Cooks Creek Watercolor



*Picture opposite page: Artist and instructor Janet Walsh AWS.*

*Pictures from top of this page: Part of the class working; artist Rev. Tom Rose from Ivyland, PA; Barnston student, Jim Resek; Class paying close attention; Jeremy Kelher; Instructor and student; artist, Patricia Wallentine.*

# Recycle!

## Local Recycling Information

### Durham Township Recycling Center

Location: Municipal Building, 218 Old Furnace Rd, Durham

1st Saturday of every month ( 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday if 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday is on a holiday weekend)

Hours: 9:00AM – 12:00 noon

Accepting newspapers, magazines, junk mail, phone books, glass, tin, plastic, aluminum and cardboard.

Please note that this facility is available to all, not just Durham Township residents!

Contact Joe Kulick at the township building for more info. 610-346-8911

### Springfield Township

Location: Township Building, 2320 Township Road

Paper Recycling Bin Available at Township Building.

A Recycling bin was recently placed here and is available to anyone. Cut down on trash and help the township earn extra money. You can drop off: Magazines, Shopping Catalogs, Phone Books, Newspapers, Office and School Papers, Mail.

Please do NOT include: Plastic, glass, metal, trash

Hours: Anytime ; See website: [www.springfieldbucks.org](http://www.springfieldbucks.org) or call (610) 346-6700.

### Blinderman & Son

Location: 1320 Whitaker St, Hellertown. 610-838-9221

Hours:  
7:30AM – 4:00 PM, Monday – Friday

7:30 AM – 11:30AM, Saturday

Accepting cardboard and most metals

### City of Bethlehem Theis/Cornfeld Recycling Center

Web site: [www.bethlehem-pa.gov/recycle/services/theis\\_cornfeld.htm](http://www.bethlehem-pa.gov/recycle/services/theis_cornfeld.htm)

Location: 635 Illick's Mill Rd, Bethlehem

Phone: 610-865-7082 Hours: Weekdays: 10 AM to 5 PM, Saturday 9 AM to 5 PM, Sunday 11AM to 4 PM

Accepting glass, cans, plastics, newspapers, all books, magazines, catalogs, cardboard, mixed office paper, metals, textiles (clothing, shoes, etc) large appliances

(certified freon-free). Call or go to the web site for specifics.

**Bonus!!** They provide FREE on site shredding services for businesses and private individuals. If you have 4 or more boxes, call 610-865-7082 to schedule an appointment

Hours of Shredding: Weekdays: 10 AM to 2:30 PM, Saturday: 9 AM to 2 PM

### City of Bethlehem Compost Center

Location: 1480 Schoenersville Rd., Bethlehem

Non-Bethlehem residents are not allowed to drop off materials at the composting center but the mulch and compost is available for free to anyone if loading services are not needed. They actually produce much more than what they can distribute, so they encourage anyone to take as much as they would like! Loading services are provided for a fee of \$10/cubic yard in the spring and fall. Call 610-856-7082 for hours.



# Schedules of Local Government Meetings

**Springfield Township:**  
[www.springfieldbucks.org](http://www.springfieldbucks.org)  
 610-346-6700  
 2320 Township Road

**Supervisors:** 2nd Tuesday @ 7:30 PM  
**Planning Commission:** 1st Wed. @ 7 PM

**Supervisors/Planning Commission**  
 Work Session: 3rd Thurs. @ 7 PM

**Environmental Advisory Council:**  
 2nd Thurs. @ 7:30 PM  
**Historic Commission:**  
 3rd Tuesday @ 7:30 PM

**Durham Township:**  
[www.durhamtownship.org](http://www.durhamtownship.org)  
 610-346-8911  
 215 Old Furnace Road

**Supervisors:** 2nd Tuesday @ 7:30 PM  
**Planning Commission:**

1st Tues. @ 7:30 PM

**EAC:** Quarterly on the 3rd Tuesday of January, April, July, October @ 7:30 PM

**Lower Saucon:**  
[www.lowersaucontownship.org](http://www.lowersaucontownship.org)  
 610-865-3291  
 3700 Old Philadelphia Pike

**Council:** 1st and 3rd Wed. @ 7 PM

**Planning Commission:**

3rd Thur. @ 7 PM

**EAC:** 1st Tues. @ 7 PM

**Williams Township:**  
[www.williamstwp.org](http://www.williamstwp.org)  
 610-258-6060  
 655 Cider Press Road

**Supervisors:** 2nd Wed. @ 7 PM

**Planning Commission:** 3rd Wed. @ 7 PM

**Land Preservation Board:**

3rd Mon @ 7 PM

**Richland Township:**  
[www.richlandtownship.org](http://www.richlandtownship.org)  
 215-536-4066  
 1328 California Road

**Supervisors:** 2nd and 4th Mon. @ 7 PM  
**Planning Commission:** 3rd Tues. @ 7 PM  
**Preservation Board:** 2nd Thur. @ 7 PM



*Fall water sampling of Cooks Creek*

*by James Douglas and Julie Brokaw.*

## Please Join Us... Cooks Creek Watershed Association

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

**Please check your mailing label for your “membership through” date.**

**If you have the 12/31/09 date on it, then it is time for your membership renewal.**

**Please fill out the 2010 Membership Application on the insert.**

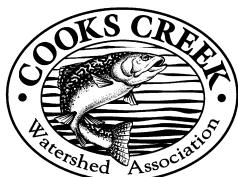
**Current membership insure that you will continue to receive the**

***Cooks Current* newsletter...**

**And supporting us is a good thing, too!**

**Water -- it's life!**

*Membership form is enclosed in Newsletter*



Cooks Creek Watershed Association  
P.O. Box 45  
Springtown, PA 18081  
[www.cookscreekpa.org](http://www.cookscreekpa.org)

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
STANDARD MAIL  
DURHAM, PA 18039  
PERMIT NO. 6

If you hold precious the beauty that surrounds us in the Cooks Creek Watershed area and would like to be actively involved in its preservation, then consider joining our association as a member. Reach out to your community! We would love to hear from you!

Please drop us a line at [info@cookscreekpa.org](mailto:info@cookscreekpa.org)

CCWA is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization.