

Cooks Current

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

Volume 12, Issue 3

Newsletter of the Cooks Creek Watershed

Summer 2015

2015 Events

Regular Board Meetings:

Springtown Fire House- 7:30PM

July 23, Aug.27, Sept. 24, Oct. 22, Nov.19, Dec.17

All are welcome! We appreciate your involvement!

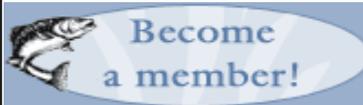
Special Events

Sept. 26. Springfield Community Day

Oct. 3. Fall Dinner

Oct. 10. Durham Community Day

Nov 14. Fall Clean-Up



See back for details!

We're on the web!
www.cooks creekpa.org

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

Board Members:

President: W. Scott Douglas

Vice President: Hans Reimann

Treasurer: Tim Shannon

**Communications Director/
Recording Secretary/Editor:**
Lois Oleksa

Marketing and Public Relations: Rose Strong

Additional Members:
Stephen Smith, MD
Jim Orben

Layout & Graphic Design:
Ellie Scheitrum

From Across the Board...

For the fifteenth year, CCWA hosted a successful Mini-Monster Mayhem. This year we had 18 young people attend, which may be a record...or close to it. We had great weather, and lots of fun in the creek, despite the lower than usual flow. Thanks to everyone who helped out.

Our collaboration with Springfield Township on the Bird Town project has blossomed this year with a new nature trail started at Springfield Elementary and the initiation of a Conservation Plan. Check out Hans' article in this issue for more details.

Springfield Township continues to work on its Comprehensive Plan rewrite, with an emphasis on how to encourage commercial development in the Route 309 corridor. This may not seem particularly green, but the reality is that commercial development helps to keep up revenue, while allowing the Township to maintain a sustainable pace in residential growth that reduces pressure on natural areas and preserves open space.

Before you know it we will need to plan our fall activities. Look for the CCWA booth at Springfield



Fun at Mini Monster Mayhem 2015

Photo by Jim Orben

(September 26) and Durham (October 10) Community Days with lots of good information, fun activities and the latest on issues that matter to you. Our fall dinner will feature guest Howard Eskin who will talk to us about birding and bird photography, as well as our popular silent auction.

The PennEast pipeline issue may not seem very hot right now, but trust me, those people are not resting. CCWA and its partners in the community will be watching for the FERC application and keeping you informed on important developments. We are going to do our best to be sure that our precious water is not

impacted by this project, but we will need your help. Check out page 7 and www.stoppeneast.org for the latest information, and keep those signs up!

Last but not least, by the time this issue goes to print, our new website should be up and running. Many thanks for the tireless efforts and patience of Rose. Please take a few minutes and check it out at www.cooks creekpa.org, we'd love to hear what you think.

Yours in Conservation

W. Scott Douglas

President

Creature Feature: Bumble Bees
(*Bombus*) Number 34 in a series on the fauna of
 the Watershed. By: *W. Scott Douglas*

When I was a kid, we used to challenge each other to “pet” bumblebees. While this seemed like a dangerous sport, it really came with little risk, since bumblebees rarely use their stingers except in defense of their nests. A recent article on bumble decline in *Audubon* magazine directed me to the Xerces Society, an organization dedicated to the preservation of invertebrates, and their excellent handbook: “Conserving Bumble Bees, Guidelines for Creating and Managing Habitat for America’s Declining Pollinators” which you can find at www.xerces.org. I summarize just a little of that information here.



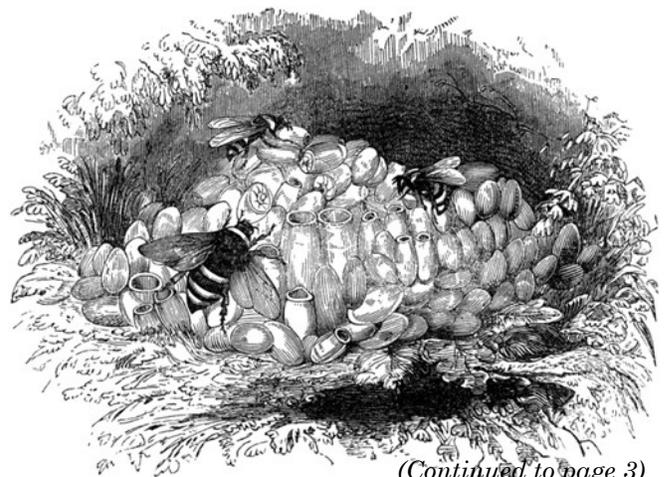
These gentle giants of the bee family are more than curiosities; they are a keystone species of most northern and high elevation ecosystems, often the most important pollinators in these habitats. This is due to the fact that their “fur”, actual-

ly long bristles, allows bumblebees to retain the body heat generated by their large flight muscles. They can fly at temperatures as low as the 50s, making them important pollinators in early spring and late fall as well as the northern, even arctic, climates. But all is not well with our 50 North American species of the genus *Bombus*; habitat loss, invasive species, introduced parasites, loss of native flowers due to overgrazing and development, as well as use of pesticides has actually brought two species to near extinction. Given that the honey bee, an introduced species, is in decline due to colony collapse disorder, we need to learn more about how to help the humble bumble, or risk the loss of many iconic wildflowers and the wildlife they support. It is estimated that 85% of the world’s flowering plants are pollinated by animals, mostly bees. The economic value of bumblebee pollination is estimated at hundreds of billions of dollars a year.

There are 50 species of bumblebees in North America, and 8 in Pennsylvania. Most are black with yellow, white and even rusty stripes. They live in colonies in

or on the ground, with 50-500 animals each. Like the honey bee, they are social, and have a single queen which founds the nest and lays all the eggs. The queens emerge from shallow depressions in soft ground in the spring and search out cavities under rocks, abandoned rodent holes, old bird nests or in buildings for establishing nests. She makes pots out of wax that they secrete from glands on their bodies and use these pots to store honey and pollen for food. It takes 4-5 weeks for the first eggs to hatch and grow to maturity. After this, the queen focuses on laying more eggs and the workers care for her and their sisters. Workers travel anywhere from a thousand feet to a ½ mile from the nest to gather food. Nectar is lapped from flowers using their proboscis, much like butterflies do. Pollen collects on their fur as they visit the flowers and the bees comb it from their fur and place it in pollen baskets on their hind legs. Of course, this action is what pollinates the flowers. In the fall, the queen starts laying eggs for new queens and the males, called drones. The males fly off to find mates, and the queens stay in the home nest until they mate. At the end of the season, the nest is abandoned and the young queens fly off to find overwintering sites. The foundress does not survive the winter. Skunks, badgers, raccoons, robber flies, bee hawks, crab spiders, and shrikes prey on bumblebees.

Modern agriculture has not been friendly to the bumblebee. Tilling, monoculture, and pesticides have all taken a toll by removing natives, destroying nest sites, and reducing fitness. Modern systemic pesticides are particularly bad because they build up in the nectar and pollen, which is then taken to the nest and further concentrated. The new neonicotinoid pesticides (clothianidin, imidacloprid, and thiamethoxam), while considered to be much safer than the old chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides (like DDT), are particularly bad for bumblebees. This is because these chemicals alter the number of queens that the colony produces.



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Scientists are still trying to figure out why this is so. Suffice it to say that home pesticide use is discouraged in all cases; the risks greatly outweigh the benefits. I have yet to use any pesticides at my home, with the exception of spot removal of hornets and only then if they built large nests in high traffic areas. I always found it easier and safer to teach my children to avoid them.

Another major impact to the bumblebee stems from an attempt to domesticate them for agricultural use. Colonies of the western bumblebee were collected and shipped to Europe for a captive breeding program to raise them for use in commercial greenhouses. Unfortunately, these colonies came back infected with a European parasite that has managed to escape to wild colonies and is causing a rapid decline of this and other species. The Franklin's bumblebee and the Rusty-patch bumblebee are likely extinct, or close to extinct in the western US because of this invasive parasite.

There is actually a lot you can do to encourage bumblebees on your property. Queens seek out compost piles, small brush piles, rock walls and gardens, and even upside down flower pots, as well as rodent holes in which

to nest. Keeping some areas of your property unmowed, and parts of your garden untilled until late spring, will encourage native flowers as well as provide nesting and overwintering sites. There are lots of plans for bee boxes out on the internet, and they are a great project to share with your kids. You can even build nest boxes with plexiglass windows that allow you and your young helpers to observe the bees. Planting native flowers, especially ones that bloom in early spring and late fall when the colony needs extra food, is particularly beneficial. Consider seeding one of your gardens, or a strip of lawn, with native grasses and wildflowers. They are beautiful and require very little care. Flowers like New England Aster, Blue Hyssop, Goldenrod, Beebalm, Mountain mint and Dutchman's breeches are great choices, as are clovers, lavender and lupines. Bumblebees show a preference for blue, purple and yellow flowers. Teach your children to cherish, not fear, the humble bumblebee. After all, the wise and gentle headmaster of Hogwarts is actually named after the old English word for bumblebee, so how bad can they be?

Cooks Creek Watershed Association Year End Financial Report

Submitted by Aimee Douglas, CPA

Statement of Financial Position March 31, 2015		Statement of activity for year ending March 31, 2015	
Assets	\$13,019	Unrestricted net assets	
Liabilities	None	Total revenue and support	\$2,139
Unrestricted net assets	\$11,437	Net assets released from re- strictions	\$807
			\$2,946
Temporarily restricted net assets	\$1,582	Total expenses	\$4,314
Total liabilities and net assets	\$13,019	Increase in net assets	(\$1,368)

Statement of Changes in Net Assets For Year Ended March 31, 2015			
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
Balance March 31, 2014	\$12,387	\$2,000	\$14,387
Decrease in net assets	(\$951)	(\$417)	(\$1,368)
Balance March 31, 2015	\$11,436	\$1,583	\$13,019

Not California

By : Debra Orben



It hasn't rained yet
in May
Even April,
the showery month
wasn't
all that damp

It is not California
We have green grass
and a luscious abundance
of flowers
But the pond needs to
be filled
twenty green frogs,
I counted them,
wait at the edges
and linger in hopes
that it will never
dry out

It is not California
we have no water rations
or fines
our wells still gush forth
clean and pure
But the seeds we planted
yesterday

beg for moisture
eager to sprout
watering takes time
and persistence
and will the hose
reach long enough

It is not California
our land is not parched
and arid
drought is not
at our doorstep
But as I wait for rain
I wonder how
much we take
for granted the
gifts of our
liquid existence
how far into
the desert we must
wander before
noticing we have
been living in
paradise all along.

Author's notes- It continued to not rain the whole month of May. The grass turned brown and the thirsty earth to dust. We had .2 inches of rain in May, which was the second lowest amount of precipitation for that month. On June 1 it began to rain again and I was grateful.

This Rainy Day

By : Debra Orben



Rain
gentle but persistent
I listen in gratitude
for your soaking presence

We have missed you
for so long
the sounds of drops
on my windshield
soft patters
and occasional plops

Pounding music of
liquid striking glass and steel
a drumming
mesmerizing rhythm
whose intensity
comes and goes
whose melody
delights
all my senses

We have anticipated
and longed for
this day
during our prolonged
dry-spell

not quite drought
and arid spring
We have imagined
it and held it
in our dreams

We count the inches
as we count our blessings
content as puddles
wash away the dust
and swallow up
our worries and doubt

Growth is still possible
in this world where
liquid wonder
drips downward
and refreshes the earth
Thanks be
for this rainy day.

*Author's notes - It has rained every day in June.
So far we have had almost 3 inches.*

Children's Backyard: Sun Printing on Fabric *By: Lois Oleksa*

In the sunny days this summer, try making a sun print on fabric. You will need a sunny day to have the sun dry the fabric. Don't try this on a windy day as the leaves you'll print will blow away.

To start, gather your supplies:

Natural fabric such as 100% cotton – you will be painting the fabric first and starting with white fabric is recommended; however, experimentation with other colors is fun.

Paint – I used Dye-Na-Flow which is a water based/ nontoxic dye. Use acrylic paints if you have them on hand and dilute what you will use 1:1 with water. Darker colors will show more contrast but have fun painting with all colors.

Paint brush with broad bristles or a sponge brush.

Plastic bag to cover the surface you'll be working on. The driveway, patio, or sidewalks are good surfaces to cover with plastic.

Use a **plastic container or a bucket with water** to place your fabric into. If you're using brand new fabric you'll need to wash the fabric first to get rid of any sizing in the fabric.

Collect materials to sun print such as leaves, flowers, grass, or even non-natural materials such as washers, pennies, safety pins, and buttons. The material must be flat as rounded objects or materials such as pine cones will not give you a clear print.

Activity:

Spread out the plastic to cover the surface you're working on.

Place the white cotton fabric into the bucket containing water.

Remove the wet fabric, squeeze it gently, and place it on the plastic; spread and smooth it out.

Now working with your paints or dye, paint the material; it is important to keep the fabric wet. If it is drying too fast, add water to the fabric with a spray bottle or just a few sprinkles with your hands.



Gather supplies



Painted fabric and leaves pressed down

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Place the collected materials flat on the fabric; press them down to make them stick to the wet fabric. With leaves, press the edges so they make contact with the fabric.

Let the fabric with the collected material set in the sun until the fabric is completely dry. This will take a few hours.

When the fabric is dry, unveil the fabric by pulling up the collected leaves and other objects. Ooh!

Pick up the fabric and let the fabric dry for 24 hours; then, set the sun printed fabric by ironing the backside of the print for 3 minutes or placing it in a dryer on a high temperature for about 45 minutes.

After setting the paint, the fabric can be washed, formed into a pillow, a bag, or anything you'd like.



Peeling off leaves when fabric is dry

Explanation:

Our sun has so much energy. It can dry things out. When we wash and hang our clothes out on a clothes line to dry, we are using the sun's energy. Similarly, we can use the sun's energy to make interesting patterns on cloth. This is called sun printing. What happens when the sun starts drying the cloth is that the areas covered by the leaves are protected from the sun's rays and the sun dries the non-covered fabric first. As the fabric dries, the paint that is protected by the leaves is "wicked" to the dried areas since the sun is always thirsty for the last drop of moisture it can find. When the fabric is totally dry, the areas under the leaves will have no color left and a clear imprint of the leaf will be shown in the original color of the fabric.



Completed sun printed fabric!

We Need Independent Hearings on the PennEast Pipeline.

Tell the Delaware River Basin Commission you want them to hold 7 Independent Hearings to give the public a fair chance to be heard.

Sign Delaware Riverkeeper Network's Petition today and join your voice with thousands of others to defend our friends and neighbors in our watershed.

Petition found at: <http://bit.ly/ComeToMeDRBC-With-7> . Sign today!

The View from Laughing Springs

By: *Hans O. Reimann Jr.*

Rachel Carson said: "Conservation is a cause that has no end. There is no point at which we say, 'Our work is finished.'"

Wendell Berry said: "A useful exercise for an American is to ask which of our holders of office has ever spoken publicly in favor of beauty or the virtue of wilderness."

Christopher Ketcham said: "What is meant by primeval character is not up for debate. Wilderness is intended, among its other purposes, to be a refuge for wild animals and plants, where the processes of evolution, so far as we humans have observed them, are to remain un-molested and unhampered."

Can I share my thoughts on the living messages expressed by the flora and fauna, (native of course), of our watershed area? The best communication I always hope for is for our fellow creatures and plants to simply announce or present their appearance. After the second cold and snowy winter in a row, the native biodiversity here at Laughing Springs shows many signs of resiliency and downright feistiness. We have a family of bats spending the warmer months again in our barn. I'll need confirmation from my esteemed colleague, Scott Douglas, but a tree swallow seems to have found a home here. My lovely wife and fellow steward here was the first to sight them. The most interesting phenomena has been a sort of self-correcting time of appearance that has caused flora and fauna to show themselves later, and more in line with predator, prey, pollinator cycles of my youth (1960's). The animals most influenced by these life cycles are the migrating birds. Most of these particular descendants of dinosaurs evolved to know when to fly away to avoid freezing conditions and while moving to and from our area enjoy a diversity of food when they rest on parts of their journeys. When the birds move back into our area in late winter (robins), to mid-spring (orioles, warblers, etc.) insects and native plant fruit are critical food sources along with fresh water.

Here at Laughing Springs Forest Community, rattle snake weed, perfoliate bellwort, rue anemone, partridge berry, skullcap, winterberry holly, wild sarsaparilla, and all the robust oak, maple and hickory saplings seem to have responded to the second hard winter by declaring with their presence - they will not be denied their right to live! With native species responding this well, we are endorsing a plan to continue and further the progress of our Watershed's flora and fauna by formulating the Audubon Bird Town Program. The following words are the beginning of this initiative:

Springfield Township, Bucks County Strategic Conservation Plan: 2015

Vision: Springfield is a rural place where birds thrive and people prosper. Residents and family love to live, work, and visit Springfield Township because the culture of residents and officials actively support and recognize the value of birds and nature to their own quality of life, health, cost of living and economy.

Mission: To create a sustainable framework and plan for long term habitat conservation and environmental stewardship across the Township by creating awareness of the linkage of birds to the natural environment and engaging people in conservation.

Audubon Bird Town works to protect birds, not only because they are beautiful and awe inspiring, but because they are the bellwether of biological health and the health of the local economy. The vast distances they travel and the diverse ecosystems, on which they depend, make them unique barometers of our planet's health as well as our neighborhoods and backyards. When birds are at risk, so too are the greater ecosystem, the intricate web of life, and ultimately, humans. When we help birds and their habitats, we help ourselves.

By working closely together, with business, non-profits, government, schools, and environmental groups, Springfield Township's Bird Town and Environmental Advisory Council will build success by leveraging individual and joint efforts of its members and partners. Through our activities we will achieve broad demographic, geographic and habitat coverage and help people become better stewards of our Township's natural resources. We will save the Township money as well and enhance economic growth.

Fun at Mini Monster Mayhem 2015 ... Join us next year!

Photos by: Jim Orben



Back to the Past: Orchards of the Cooks Creek Country

A column highlighting the natural history of the Watershed

By: David Oleksa

In previous issues of the Cooks Current, the farming side and industrial side as well as the nature side of our beautiful Cooks Creek Valley have been discussed. In this article we will attempt to address another issue that really hasn't received the attention it deserves. Growing fruit has had an important place in this region's history. Through the 19th and first half of the 20th century, fruit growing allowed the local farmers to supply their families with a delicious and nutritious supplement to their diets and at the same time allowed a new stream of income to be garnered from the nearby city folk. The two major fruit crops that were grown here were apples and peaches.



Apples originated in eastern Turkey and they were brought to America by the colonists. The only native apple to North America is the crab apple and although it had an important place through cross-pollinating with the European imports and developing new varieties, it had little commercial value itself. The first apple orchard was established in Boston by the Reverend William Blaxton in 1625.



Map from pennpilot.psu.edu/ Aerial views taken various years in the past. (See the aerial dots in rows - they are orchards.)

From there, the apples seemed to follow old well-established Native American trails and spread through the countryside. Soon every farm had some type of apple orchard to boast about. The apples that were grown and used during the 17th and 18th century were far different from the apples with which we are familiar. Firstly, they were not used for eating but rather for the making of cider. The fruit tended to be sour rather than sweet and it wasn't until the 19th century that sweeter varieties became prized. Henry David Thoreau claimed that he disliked sweetness in an apple and much preferred one that "was sour enough to set a

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squirrel's teeth on edge and make a jay scream." Cider was important to the colonists as the water was often not fit to drink and cider was the preferred beverage at meal time with adults drinking it "straight" while the children had theirs watered down.

As time went on, tastes changed and a desire for sweeter apples developed for eating rather than for the making of cider. Apple orchards in this area produced varieties of the fruit which was either stored in frost free root cellars for the families' own use or were sold at local markets in Easton or Bethlehem. Through discussions with some of the more senior members of the community, we learned that there were extensive apple orchards in the Durham area along Old Furnace Road and extending up the mountain side along Route 212. Indeed, there are still some of the ancient apple trees that still exist but neglect and age prevent them from having any usable fruit.

Peaches are native to China and had widespread cultivation in Persia. The tree is surprisingly related to the cherry, plum, and almond and was brought to South America by the Spaniards in the 16th century. It didn't reach England and France until the 17th century and not until the 18th century did it find its way to North America. George Minifie is credited with establishing the first peach orchard in the colonies when he brought some peach trees to his estate, The Bucklands, in Virginia. Peaches are far more sensitive to cold winters and late spring frosts than are apples and they never became the commercial success that people hoped for. As a matter of fact, they were not commercially produced until the 19th century and then primarily in Maryland, Delaware, Georgia and Virginia. Another problem that the fruit had was that it was difficult to transport, its season was unfortunately short, and it had poor storage ability.

However, the enterprising farmers of our area came to the conclusion that they were on the north edge of the peach's geographical limits (temperature no lower than -20 degrees F. in winter, and 80 to 85 degrees during ripening season) and that the soil (which has to be well drained) was well suited for peaches. They figured that placing the trees on a southern or western slope would enable them to grow the fruit profitably. The nearby markets would provide an opportunity to sell the sensitive fruit since it wouldn't have to be transported any great distance or over any great time period.

A soil Conservation Map (actually an aerial photograph) from 1938 shows some of these peach orchards just north of Durham along Durham Road and County Line Road. Mr. Bob Crouse, a local retired farmer informed us that the peaches that were grown in these orchards were of high quality and were especially prized by the residents of Bethlehem and Easton as well as by the families that grew them

Today, sadly, these orchards both apple and peach are gone. The only exception is Bechtold's Orchard on Route 412 just north of Springtown. Driving along the road when the trees are in blossom or when the workers are busy picking the ripe fruit for sale, it's tempting to think about what the rest of the area was like when orchards were a much more common sight in our valley.

Update from Durham CCAP (Concerned Citizens Against the Pipeline): PEACE members take a stand in Cooks Creek, Durham, PA

By: Ann Marshall

PEACE Youth, Palisades Environmental Action Committee Educators, is a youth group forming in our area. Two of its young members already moved large audiences at the FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) scoping meetings and DRBC (Delaware River Basin Commission) when they spoke powerfully and eloquently about their concerns over the proposed PennEast pipeline.



PEACE members take a stand in Cooks Creek.

Young people across the nation are speaking up to try to save the planet they will soon inherit, including one young group who recently sued and won a landmark ruling forcing Oregon to do more to reduce carbon emissions to protect its citizens! A young man from Colorado recently addressed the United Nations and captured the media's attention with his confidence and unapologetic candor.

If you are interested in getting involved with PEACE and learning creative ways to address audiences of adults and children, or to simply share and discover information, please email durhamccap@gmail.com with PEACE in the subject line.

Durham CCAP would also like to invite any adults who want to get involved with stopping the PennEast pipeline and discussing ideas to move to cleaner energy sources in Durham Township, please contact us at durhamccap@gmail.com.

For current news and information on CCAP's efforts, please read and follow: www.facebook.com/stopthepenncapipeline. *You do not have to be a Facebook user to read this and it's always very current.*

This blog excerpts the best FERC comments with fascinating analysis: thecostofthepipeline.com/

Please get involved! We can stop this!

Join Us!

March Across the River

Stop PennEast Pipeline

SAVE THE DATE

August 22, 2015
Bridgeton PA - Milford, NJ*

*Pending final permit approvals

11:00 to 3:00 PM Bring your own signs and banners!

Boaters with signs in the water are welcome.

Hoping for a big picture from the air.

Volunteers Needed



Springfield Township Volunteers Needed

The following openings currently exist on Springfield Township committees/Boards:

- UCC Appeals Board (2): 2- 3 year terms
- Planning Commission (1): 1- 4 year term
- Environmental Advisory Council (1):1- 2 year term

If you are interested in filling any of these positions, please send or email a letter of interest and a resume (if available) to Michael Brown, Township Manager, at: volunteering@springfieldbucks.org If you are interested in serving on any township committee, please complete a Volunteer Form or submit a letter indicating your area of interest and any qualifications you have that would equip you to serve on that committee. Although qualifications are not necessary, it helps the supervisors "fit" the right individuals into the right spots. With no experience, you can learn "on the job" in many of the committees. If you are not familiar with the various committees available, they are listed in the Township Directory.

Durham Township Volunteer Needed

There is an opening on the Planning Commission. If you are interested in filling the position you must be a Durham Township resident, send a letter of intent, and call the Township at 610-346-8911.

Save the Dates:

September 19, 2015 from 4 to 7 P.M.

Kirkland Farm, Springtown, PA

The Art of Preservation presents,

Through the Artist's Eyes –Allure of Bucks County

A premier fundraising event for the communities of Upper Bucks County highlighting education, realization and expansion of strategic land preservation and farming.

ALSO:

October 3, 2015 from 5 to 9 P.M

Springtown Rod & Gun Club, Main Street, Springtown, PA

Cooks Creek Watershed Association's Annual Fall Dinner & Silent Auction

Speaker: Bucks County Birder and Photographer – Howard Eskin will present a slide show and speak on photographing birds.

Recycle!

Local Recycling Information

Durham Township Recycling Center

Location: Municipal Building, 215 Old Furnace Rd, Durham

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

Hours: 8:00AM – 12:00 noon, 1:00PM-4:00PM, (call ahead)

Accepting newspapers, magazines, junk mail, phone books, glass, tin, plastic, aluminum and cardboard, and CFL bulbs, rechargeable batteries (during office hours).

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 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

Location: 635 Illick's Mill Rd, Bethlehem

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

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
 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
Open Space Committee:
 1st Tuesday @ 7:30 PM
Historic Commission:
 3rd Tuesday @ 7:30 PM

Durham Township:
www.durhamtownship.org
 610-346-8911
 215 Old Furnace Road

Supervisors: 2nd Tuesday @ 7:30 PM
Planning Commission:
 1st Tues. @ 7:30 PM
EAC: 3rd Tues. @ 7:30 PM

Lower Saucon:
www.lowersaucontownship.org
 610-865-3291
 3700 Old Philadelphia Pike
Council: 1st and 3rd Wed. @ 7 PM
Planning Commission:
 3rd Thurs. @ 7 PM
EAC: 1st Tues. @ 7 PM

Williams Township:
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
 215-536-4066
 1328 California Road

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

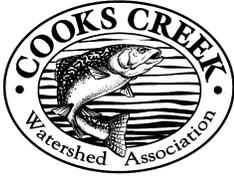
Green Tip #31 *By: Scott Douglas*

Looking for ways to help the planet this summer? Act locally by:

1. Planting some native flowers/grasses/shrubs
2. Removing some invasive plants
3. Washing your car on the lawn, not in the driveway
4. Building and mount a bat box (lots of plans on the internet)
5. Building and mount a bird house (lots of plans on the internet)
6. Creating a safe haven for bumblebees (see Creature Feature in this issue)
7. Planting a strip of native wildflowers in your yard and reduce your mowing
8. Recycling your cardboard and paper (take it to Springfield or Durham Township building)
9. Installing a flow reducing showerhead (any hardware store)
10. Setting up and using a composter or compost pile to fertilize your gardens

Wasp having spider for lunch





Cooks Creek Watershed Association
 P.O. Box 45
 Springtown, PA 18081
 www.cooks creekpa.org

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@cooks creekpa.org

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



Find us on Facebook

Please Join Us... Cooks Creek Watershed Association-Membership Form

All of us who reside in the area enjoy the beauty of Cooks Creek.

Those of us who are fortunate enough to live here are dependent upon this watershed not only for the beauty of the creek but our wells, the wetlands, the wildflowers and all of the beautiful landscapes in our townships.

It's up to all of us to protect this treasure. The Cooks Creek Watershed Association asks that you become a member and help in the task of protecting this special resource.

Name: _____

Other household members: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Interests: (circle)

Newsletter	Website	Roadside Cleanup	Event Planning
Membership	Fundraising	Stream Studies	Wherever I'm Needed

Individual Membership Fee: \$ 15.00 per year _____

Family Membership Fee: \$ 25.00 per year _____

Student Membership Fee: \$ 10.00 per year _____

Donation: to legal defense fund: _____

Total:

Please detach and mail to Cooks Creek Watershed Association , (CCWA)

P.O. Box 45, Springtown, PA 18081. **THANK YOU !**

Checks can be made payable to Cooks Creek Watershed Association.

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