

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS !

## TOPICS DISCUSSED

- EPCAMR Grant
- Flood Protection Grant
- Acid Mine Drainage
- Watershed Conference
- Stream Walk
- Election of Chet Shimko as Vice President

## Special Points Of Interest For Next Meeting

- Create Hicks Creek Watershed Association's (HCWA) Mission Statement
- Discuss Grow Greener Grant Application for watershed assessment and stream bank restoration project.

## TOPICS DISCUSSED AT WATERSHED ASSOCIATION MEETING & STREAM WALK

Congratulations to all of the HCWA members! Thanks to a large turn out of HCWA members at the Ground Breaking Ceremony for the Flood Control Project in September, DEP Flood Protection will now allow the remainder of the 1.4 million dollars (approximately \$800,000) to be used to do stream improvements from Schooley Ave. to Exeter Av. Originally the project was to end at Schooley Ave. and the extra funds would be returned to the Department of General Services. The support of the Watershed was a primary factor in this change. Keep it up and you will make a difference!

The EPCAMR Start Up Grant for \$5,000 has been submitted and will be used to develop a brochure explaining the mission of the watershed and planned projects and goals. The brochure will be delivered to each household & business within the watershed. Funds will also be used to for a non-profit 501C3

status. This is accomplished through attorneys. Anyone knowing an attorney willing to discount his rates, please call the 654-0933.

A Flood Protection Grant was applied for and denied for \$25,000 to build access ramps to the creek at Byrd & Packer. It was denied because the creek failed inspection due to overgrowth of vegetation. When I was informed about the grant denial, I was also given the good news about extending the Flood Control Project which will do much more than the \$25,000 grant. With this project, the creek will be dredged back to as-built condition. This means sediment & erosion will be removed so that water doesn't pool. Also stream bank restoration projects such as rip rap (large stone to stabilize banks) or stream bank vegetation stabilization (using plants or trees on banks with deep roots to help hold soil and prevent erosion).

Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) is from water that

## HICKS CREEK MEETING & STREAM WALK



## HELP PROTECT HICKS CREEK WATERSHED

ters the abandoned mines and becomes polluted from the mine rock which is high in acid & metals. The characteristic orange water kills the bottom of the food chain, leaving the stream dead. Behind Highland Manner Nursing Home is a mine fracture in the creek bed.

Dave Ruskey & Karen Szwast attended the informative Watershed Conference. Information learned will benefit HCWA.

Stream walk was a success and people had the chance to discover other areas of the creek's strengths problems. I hope more will attend the next stream walk.

**NEXT MEETING THURSDAY , JANUARY 10 AT 7:00PM AT BOY SCOUT HOME , CORNER OF LINCOLN AND WYOMING AVE .**

**Agenda for January's meeting**  
Discuss plans for Grow Greener Grant assessment & stream bank restoration project and develop mission statement to be used in brochure.

There are several decisions to be made and I would like all members input.

**PLEASE CONTACT ME WITH YOUR RESPONSE AT 654-0933 ASAP.**

A picture logo to identify HCWA is needed for the brochure. I developed an idea of a walking staff (in the foreground) touching the ground and becoming a creek

with trees. Please call to support this logo idea or give another idea.

Part of the brochures I have viewed from other watershed organizations included a membership section in which dues are requested. (MEMBERSHIPS: \$5-Junior, \$10-General or

Family, and \$100-Life) Memberships are a way of gaining commitment from members and the funds will be used for future projects and to keep the association going. I need your input on membership dues in the brochure.