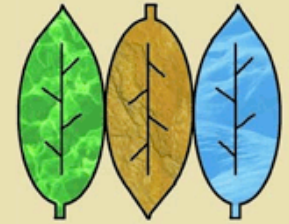


Hicks Creek Watershed Association



NEWSLETTER

April
2005

Topics

- Hicks Creek Watershed Assessment Final Public Meeting set for June 2nd 7pm.
- Information and pictures from flooding events in watershed wanted.
- 1-1 ½ year H&H Study underway to research pumping station.
- Searfoss Road Project funding increased to \$5000.

Contact Us

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Topics for Next Mtg

- May is “Watershed Awareness Month”, get involved with your community and join your local watershed group.

• The Hicks Creek Watershed Assessment is due to be completed on June 30th. This will end the years worth of work that HCWA, Borton & Lawson, Skelley Loy & Benteley Systems Inc. have put into developing an assessment, sighting of potential problems and suggestions for solutions. Before the assessment can be accepted, a final public meeting will be held on June 2nd, 7pm at the Exeter Municipal Building. This meeting will allow the public to comment on the project.

• Many residents of flooded sections of the watershed came to the April meeting to discuss their problems and express interest in finding solutions. We appreciate the information and pictures provided, they will help target areas of the watershed that need special attention and will be noted in the watershed assessment. If any other resident has encountered flooding or has any pertinent information they wish to contribute, please

contact Karen Szwast at 654-0933. The more information we can gather from the watershed residents, the more accurate the assessment data will be.

• HCWA can apply for grants to aid in certain situations such as stabilizing the eroding embankment along upper Schooley Avenue, but the issues surrounding the pumping station need to be addressed by Exeter Borough.

In order for the pumps to be replaced, an Hydraulics and Hydrologic (H&H) Study needs to be performed to determine the necessity and size requirements of a pumping station that will adequately protect the residents with respect to existing and future developments in Exeter Borough. Luzerne County has agreed to pay half of the expense of this study and PA DEP will pay the other half. This study can take from 1 to 1 1/2 years to complete. A petition has been circulating, requesting the

Luzerne County Commissioners to expedite the process as much as possible and to keep the residents of Exeter Borough informed of its progress, including, but not limited to, the bid date and expected completion date. If you are interested in signing this petition or helping to get signatures, please contact Karen Szwast at 654-0933.

The County and DEP have also agreed to split the cost of the replacement pumps after the H&H study is completed.

It should be noted that this project has gotten farther than ever before due to the hard work of Exeter Council, HCWA and its residents.

• Exeter Twp will grade the embankment of Searfoss Road to prevent sediment runoff from clogging storm drains.

HCWA has agreed to increase the amount of money that it will grant to this project from \$2500 to \$5000. This will come from grant money

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY MAY, 2ND AT 7PM
EXETER MUNICIPAL BUILDING, WYOMING AVE., EXETER