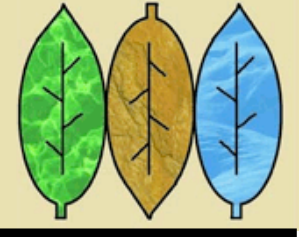


# Hicks Creek Watershed Association



## NEWSLETTER

August  
2005

### Topics

- HCWA requests additional map for assessment
- HCWA Watershed Assessment complete
- Volunteers needed for water quality testing
- SRBC Map Package
- Borough Receives Grant
- HCWA Fundraiser
- HCWA Membership Drive

### Contact HCWA

HCWA  
PO Box 91  
West Pittston, PA  
18643

[www.hickscreek.org](http://www.hickscreek.org)  
[info@hickscreek.org](mailto:info@hickscreek.org)

Karen Szwast  
[kszwast@cs.com](mailto:kszwast@cs.com)  
(570) 654-0933

#### Please Note:

HCWA meetings are held at 7pm on the first Monday of the month at the Exeter Borough Building unless otherwise noted. Please be aware that it is a standing policy of the HCWA that if a monthly meeting falls on a holiday, the meeting will be moved to the following Monday.

- HCWA submitted final comments and requests for the Watershed Assessment to the Borton-Lawson Engineering Firm. HCWA requested that an additional map be generated to display maintenance issues along the creek. This map is to include all past, on-going and future maintenance concerns. This inclusion will help make the final assessment document more specific to the watershed and more useful for future activities.

- The final report on the assessment of Hicks Creek has been received from Borton-Lawson. The report presents the findings of a 1 year study that was funded by the PA Growing Greener program. It summarizes the factors that contribute to flooding, erosion and water quality problems that have been observed along the entire length of the stream. The report contains numerous recommendations for restoring the creek. It may be reviewed at the Exeter Borough building. If you wish to receive an electronic copy, send an email to [info@hickscreek.org](mailto:info@hickscreek.org).

- In conjunction with the

watershed assessment, members of HCWA will be monitoring Hicks Creek by conducting water quality tests twice a year. The testing will take place in October and May. We are seeking volunteers that would like to be involved in gathering and testing water samples from specified locations in the creek. HCWA will be holding a clinic that will explain and teach the specifics regarding the testing procedures. If you are interested in this project, please contact Karen at 654-0933.

- The Susquehanna River Basin Commission sent HCWA an update to its mapping tool. This is a software package (ArcExplorer) that may be used to view and analyze GIS layers of the Hicks Creek Watershed. The software is available to the public for free and the GIS layers may be viewed and manipulated to make maps and perform a spatial analysis of the watershed. If you wish to receive an electronic copy, email [info@hickscreek.org](mailto:info@hickscreek.org).

- Exeter Borough received a \$65,000 grant from PA DEP flood protection for channel maintenance of Hicks

Creek. The money will be used for vegetation cutting as well as the acquisition of new equipment.

- HCWA is planning a fundraising project. We will be developing street maps of Exeter Borough available for residents at the borough building. We will be selling advertising space on the maps to local businesses. We can use your help in soliciting the businesses. If you frequent any of the local businesses and can participate in this project, please come to the next meeting or call Karen Szwast at 654-0933.

- HCWA is asking all recipients of the monthly newsletter to join the association. The cost of membership is small, just \$5 per year for an individual membership, \$10 per year for a family membership, and \$100 to become a life-time member. Your donation will help to offset the costs associated with producing and mailing the monthly newsletters and will allow us to continue to keep you informed about our watershed. Please make checks payable to: HCWA, PO Box 191, West Pittston, Pa. 18643.

**NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup> AT 7PM**  
**EXETER BOROUGH BUILDING, 1101 WYOMING AVENUE**