



PACD

PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS, INC.

Pennsylvania's Conservation Districts

Conserving Natural Resources for Our Future

If you like to ...





**Drink clean
water**





Travel





Relax





Eat





Garden





Swim





Fish





Camp





Walk





Watch Birds





Hike





Go Boating



...then you benefit from
the work of
Pennsylvania's county
conservation districts.



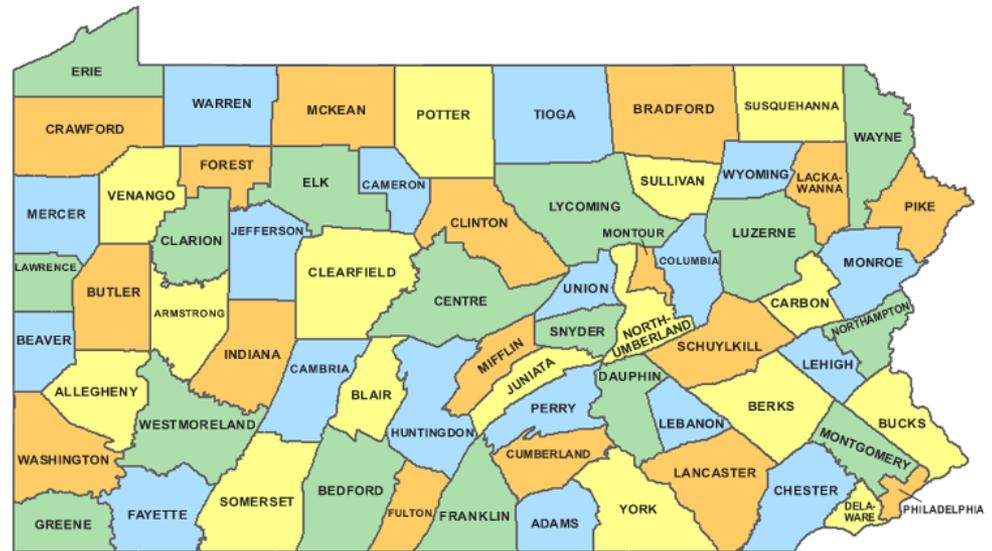
What is a Conservation District?

- Created in Pennsylvania in 1945 in reaction to the dust bowl of the 1930s to improve soil and water conservation



What is a Conservation District?

- PA has 66 county conservation districts (every county but Philadelphia)



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What is a Conservation District?

- Implement effective, locally-led conservation programs



What is a Conservation District?

- Work in partnership with federal and state agencies



Structure

- County governing body appoints a 7 person **Board of Directors** to 4 year terms
 - 2-4 farmers
 - 2-4 non-farmer members of public
 - 1 member of county governing body



Nominating Organizations

- County and local organizations, for example:
 - Farm Bureau
 - Chamber of Commerce
 - Watershed associations
 - Federation of Sportsmen
 - League of Women Voters
 - Association of Township Officials
- Submit the names of at least two candidates for each director vacancy as his/her term expires



Role of Board of Directors & Districts

- Employing personnel
- Cooperating or entering into agreements with those carrying out erosion control and prevention operations
- Assisting and advising land owners in storm water management, soil erosion control and tillage practices



Role of Board of Directors & Districts

- Assisting county and municipal governments in land reviews and storm water management plans
- Conducting educational programs related to soil and water conservation
- Accepting authority delegated by municipal, county, state or federal governments



Role of Board of Directors & Districts

- Establishing fees for services for non-state entities
- Conducting surveys and research in regards to soil erosion and prevention
- Making available material or equipment to help producers conserve soil



Role of Board of Directors & Districts

- Entering public or private property to make inspections to ensure compliance with Clean Streams Law and Dam Safety and Encroachments Act
- Assisting environmental advisory councils



Staff

May include:

- Manager
- Erosion & Sediment Control Technician
- Agricultural Conservation Technician
- Chesapeake Bay Technician
- Nutrient Management Technician
- Resource Conservationist
- Watershed Specialist
- Environmental Educator
- Forester
- Engineer (civil or agricultural)
- Administrative Assistant



Conservation District Activities



Conservation District Activities

- Watershed Protection



Conservation District Activities

- Agricultural Assistance



Conservation District Activities

- Nutrient Management



Conservation District Activities

- Agricultural Land Preservation



Conservation District Activities

- Storm Water Management



Conservation District Activities

- Floodplain Management



Conservation District Activities

- Dirt & Gravel Roads



Conservation District Activities

- Forest Management



Conservation District Activities

- Environmental Education



Conservation District Activities

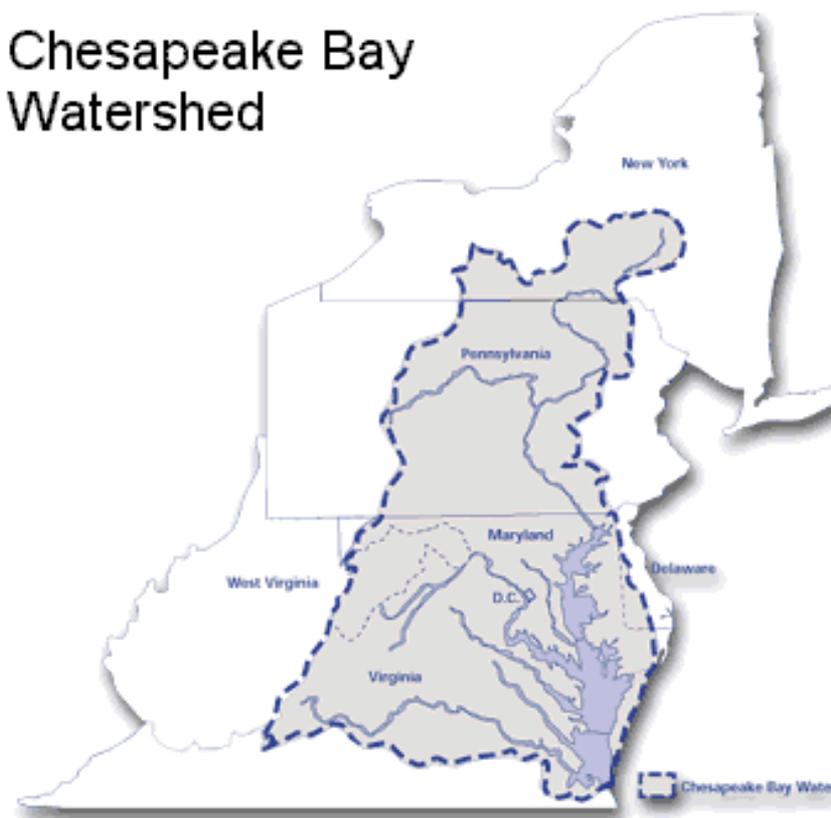
- Wildlife Management



Conservation District Activities

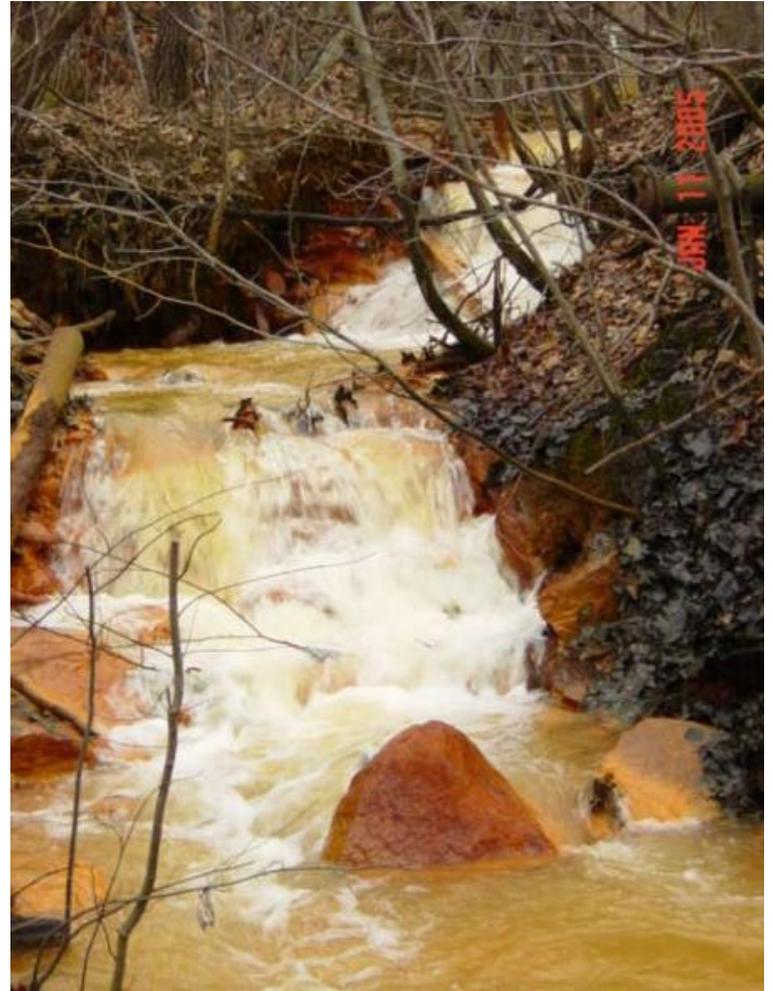
- Chesapeake Bay Program

Chesapeake Bay Watershed



Conservation District Activities

- Abandoned Mine Reclamation and Acid Mine Drainage



Conservation District Activities

- Stream Encroachments and Wetlands



Conservation District Activities

- Erosion and Sedimentation (E&S) Pollution Control



Conservation District Activities

- Biosolids



Conservation District Activities

- West Nile Virus

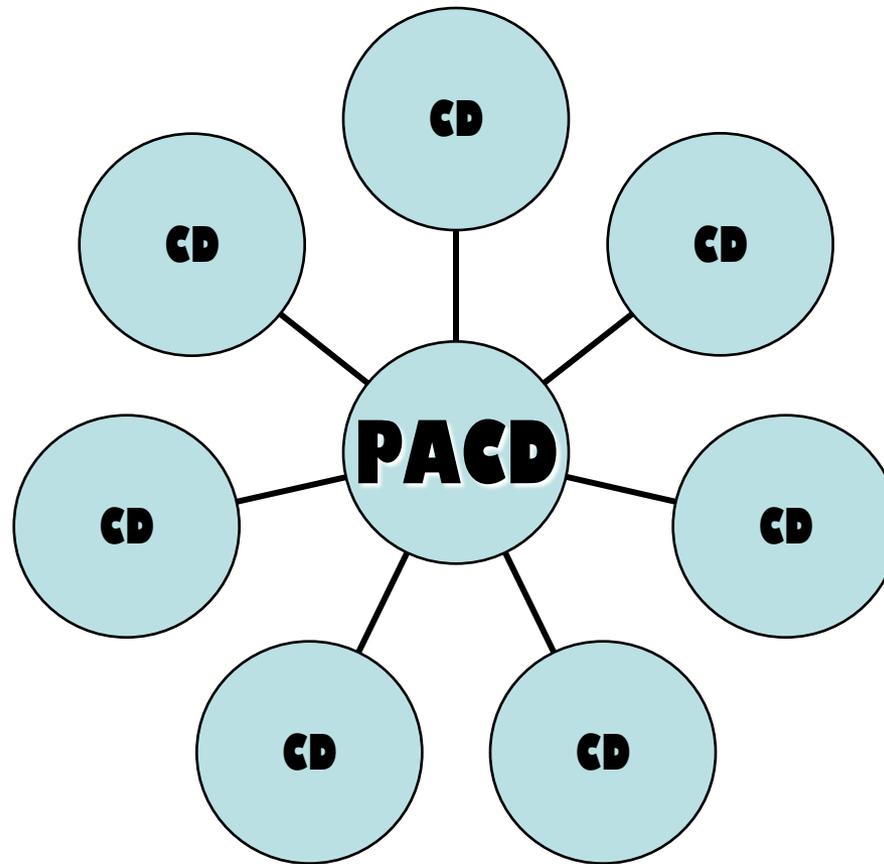


Funding

- Conservation District
 - Fees for services (plan reviews, educational programs)
 - Sales (seedlings, fish, birdseed)
- Local Government (county or municipal)
- Pennsylvania Government
- Federal Government
- Private (foundations, companies)



PACD - Working for Conservation Districts



PACD

- The Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts, Inc. (PACD) is a non-profit organization that

supports,
enhances,
and promotes

Pennsylvania's Conservation Districts
and their programs through . . .



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- outreach,



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CONSERVATION DISTRICTS, INC.

Conserving Natural Resources for Our Future

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Members Develop Action Plan for PACD

August 12th, 2009

PACD members, conservation partners and staff worked together this week during a two-day strategic planning session held in State College, PA. Ray Ledgerwood, a national expert on strategic planning for conservation districts and their associations, led 45 participants through a structured process to achieve three main objectives.

The strategic planning session objectives included:

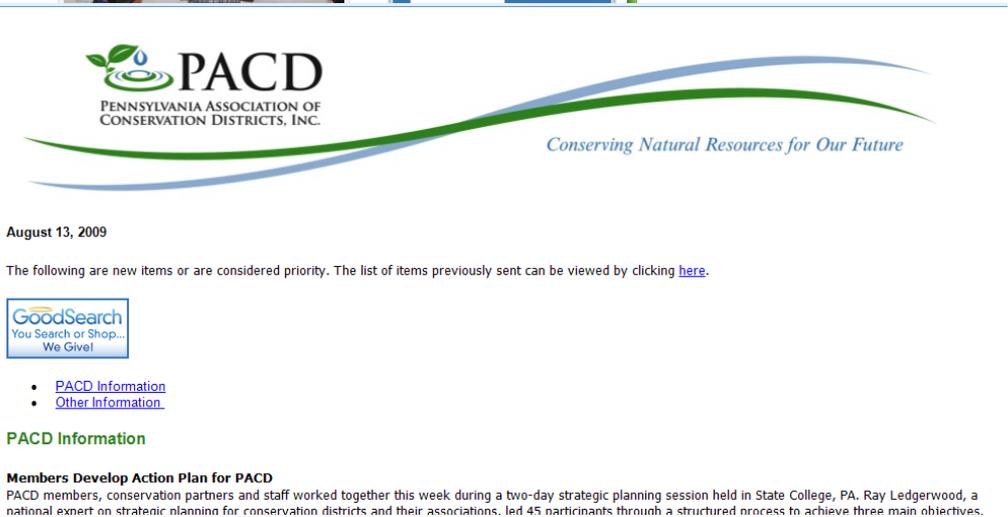
- Envisioning a stronger, more PACD and the actions need

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Conserving Natural Resources for Our Future

August 13, 2009

The following are new items or are considered priority. The list of items previously sent can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

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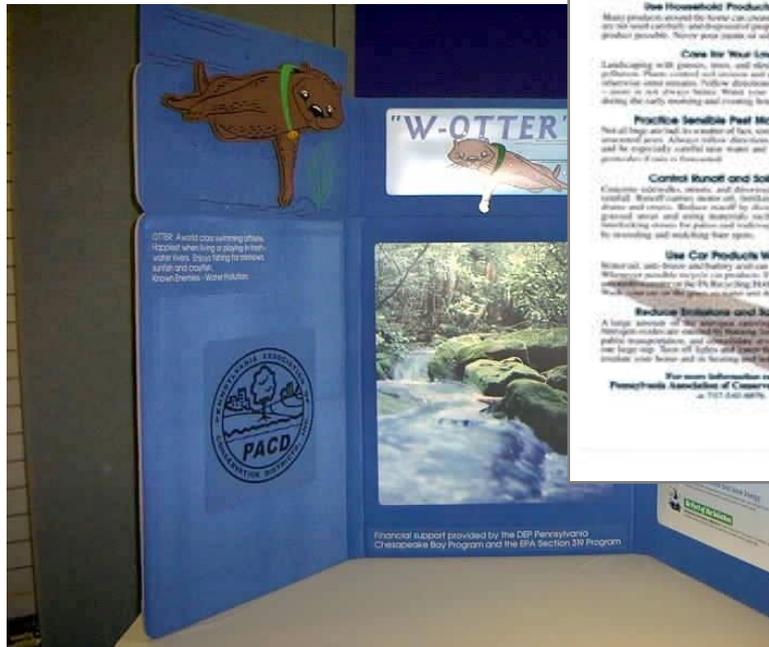
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- education,



Be Part of the Pollution Solution

Individuals can make a difference. Every time you make a smart decision, you can help prevent water pollution. Start by practicing these six:

Use Water Wisely

Don't waste water. Turn off the faucet when you are fully washed. Small leaks can waste a lot of water. Fix them as soon as you can. Use a water-saving shower head. Don't take long showers.

Use Household Products

Many products around the house can cause water pollution. Read labels and use them as directed. Don't mix household products. Don't pour them down the drain. Use them in a way that minimizes runoff.

Care for Your Lawn

Landscaping with grasses, trees, and shrubs can help. Use mulch and compost. Water your lawn only when it is dry. Use a lawn mower that has a grass catcher. Don't use fertilizers or pesticides.

Practice Sensible Pet Care

Don't let your pet roam free. Keep your pet on a leash. Don't let your pet drink from streams or lakes. Don't let your pet defecate in streams or lakes. Pick up your pet's waste. Don't use flea or tick treatments on your pet.

Control Runoff and Soil

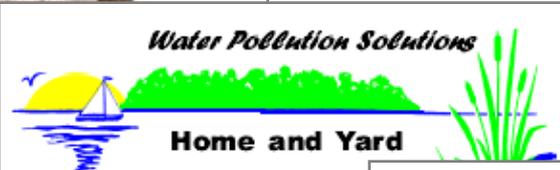
Control runoff, erosion, and sediment. Use mulch and compost. Use a lawn mower that has a grass catcher. Don't use fertilizers or pesticides. Use a lawn mower that has a grass catcher. Don't use fertilizers or pesticides.

Use Car Products Wisely

Use car products wisely. Don't use car products in streams or lakes. Don't use car products in streams or lakes. Don't use car products in streams or lakes. Don't use car products in streams or lakes.

Reduce Emissions and Noise

Reduce emissions and noise. Use a car that gets good mileage. Use a car that gets good mileage. Use a car that gets good mileage. Use a car that gets good mileage.



You may not be surprised to learn that the health of lakes, ponds and streams is linked to various activities occurring throughout your watershed. The water that flows through your watershed can start in your own back yard! Activities such as yard work, car maintenance, mowing the lawn in winter and even walking the dog, can impact ground and surface waters. This publication will give you tips to help minimize impacts your household may have on a lake, pond or stream in your watershed.

When houses are developed, hard surfaces are usually reduced by lawns, driveways, sidewalks and streets. What once was covered with vegetation is replaced with impervious surfaces. Consequently the amount of water that is able to soak into the soil can be reduced, resulting in more water running off the land and into bodies of water. As runoff heads toward a waterway, it picks up pollutants such as excess nutrients from lawn fertilizers, bacteria from pet wastes, litter, sediment particles from exposed soil...and the list goes on and on.

In urbanized areas, runoff is often routed through stormpipes and storm sewers that can empty directly into a lake or a tributary stream. So even households that are not located directly along shorelines can impact the water quality. During periods of heavy rains or floods, in particular, runoff and associated pollutants can enter lakes and streams quickly and in greater amounts having even more impact on waterways.

What you do around your home can help—or harm—water quality. For example, rain can wash improperly applied fertilizers and pesticides into

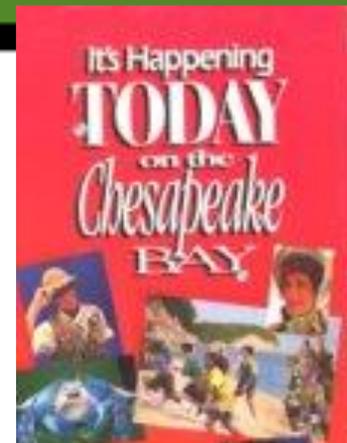
lakes, ponds and streams. Carefully plan practices which can reduce pollution.

Similarly, car oil can wash into a stream or lake. For every two food miles...



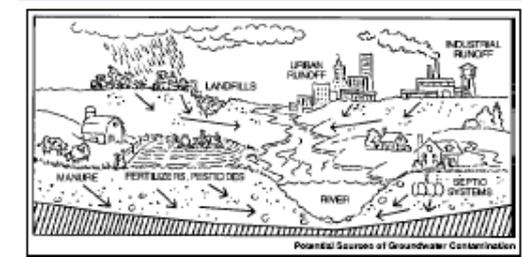
Auto oil can be a problem. It can wash into a stream or lake. For every two food miles...

Whether you live in a city or a rural area, there are many ways you can help protect water quality. By following these tips, you can help protect the local waterways in your watershed.



Protecting Groundwater Is Everyone's Business

We All Live Downstream



What is Groundwater?
Groundwater is water found below the earth's surface. It is stored or transmitted through pores and channels in the soil and underlying bedrock. Groundwater is mostly supplied by precipitation that has infiltrated the soil and bedrock. Wells are drilled into groundwater and springs are fed by groundwater. Surface water, such as streams, lakes, and oceans feed into or draw on groundwater. Most groundwater eventually re-emerges as surface water.

- Groundwater pollution is caused by many sources including:**
- Improper use and over-application of herbicides and pesticides;
 - Malfunctioning septic tanks;
 - Improper disposal of household wastes such as old paint, cleaners, insect and weed controls, hobby chemicals, used motor oil, and automobile antifreeze.

Why is Groundwater Important?
Groundwater is an important water source in many regions including urban and rural areas. Groundwater supplies nearly half of all households and is the primary source of water used for agricultural irrigation in the United States.

Groundwater Contamination
Traditionally, well and spring waters have had the image of being exceptionally pure. Filtered by the soil, and unaffected by contamination. We have learned through painful experience these beliefs can be inaccurate because soil cannot adequately filter many contaminants. Many land surface activities, such as illegal industrial waste disposal, improper application of agricultural chemicals and fertilizers, inadequate urban stormwater management practices, and accidental spills can wash substances into the ground. Once in the ground, the substances move downward towards the groundwater.

Some nutrients in water, such as phosphorus, are filtered and absorbed by soil before reaching the groundwater. Other nutrients, such as nitrogens, are soluble and cannot be absorbed by soil particles. Soluble nutrients are



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- training,



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- and representation and advocacy for conservation district funding at the state level.



What Can You Do to Help Natural Resources in Your Community?





Plenty!



Volunteer



Serve as a Director



Become a Member of the State Association



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**PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS, INC.**



You can help shape the look and feel of your neighborhood.

Do It Today!
For more information, contact:

PACD

25 N. Front St.

Harrisburg, PA 17101

717-238-PACD (7223)

pacd@pacd.org

www.pacd.org

