

Pike Conservation District Helps Launch Source Water Protection Collaborative



Pike County Conservation District Watershed Specialist Lori Colgan (right) demonstrates a groundwater model on September 13 at Wallenpaupack High School for their Environmental Week.

The Pocono Source Water Protection Collaborative has been formed to maintain the excellent drinking water quality of Northeast Pennsylvania. The Pike County Conservation District (PCCD) is working with the Collaborative, a conglomerate of private and community associations, on plans to help keep our drinking water free from pollutants and assure a healthy water source for our entire region. The initial focus will be supporting community water systems in their drinking water protection efforts, such as developing a source water protection plan.

The Conservation District's Watershed Specialist Lori Colgan is a member of the Collaborative's Source Water Environmental Education Team, and will be providing instruction to local schools and organizations on the importance of protecting the quality of the area's water. The Collaborative will also be providing educational workshops and sharing information throughout the year with local water companies, municipalities, and the Pike County Emergency Management agency personnel.

PCCD will help develop a Source Water Protection brochure and a GIS map that will help emergency response crews when called to a spill that threatens Pike County's source water.

This project is being funded by a \$5,000 grant from the Water Resources Education Network, a project of the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Citizen Education Fund through a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection for Drinking Water Source Water Protection administered by the US Environmental Protection Agency. Read more on the Collaborative here: <http://bit.ly/1bUMMtH>

