



SAN Connections

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SAN UPDATES:

Upcoming Workgroup Meetings

- AMD: Oct. 11th
- Stormwater and E&S: combine for a tour on Oct 24th

[Register here!](#)

- Ag: Nov 2nd
- P&P: Nov 9th

WORKGROUP CHAIR UPDATES:

We are pleased to welcome two new co-chairs to the Stormwater Workgroup: Amanda Obosneko and Zach Nemec join Alex Cupo as a co-chair trio. Many thanks to Krista Seng for her 5 years of service and dedication in building the Workgroup into what it is today.

In Engagement & Stewardship, we say a heartfelt goodbye and thanks to Sarah Crothers Bach. Formerly with Schuylkill River Greenways, Sarah has accepted a new position with River Network. Thank you, Sarah, for bringing your inspiration and drive to the workgroup. Good luck on the next leg of your journey!

Welcome Kristen Cooney, SAN Intern



Hi! My name is Kristen Cooney. I'm a recent graduate from Ursinus College with a B.A. in Art and Art History and honors in Environmental Studies. I also completed my honors thesis at Ursinus where I examined urban forests and food insecurity in New York City using GIS. I spend much of my free time hiking and volunteering as a PA Master Naturalist and wildlife photographer. I'm really excited to be part of the SAN as I grew up in southeastern PA and spent much of my childhood hiking and romping in the creeks along the Schuylkill River.

Schuykill River Restoration Fund

Press Event and Project Tour

Rain gardens, riparian buffers, and runoff management were the highlights of this year's Schuykill River Restoration Fund Bus Tour!

The first stop was Charlestown Playhouse where Development Director, Allegra Churchill, shared an overview of the project and introduced Jessica Wolff and Don Pell of Donald Pell Gardens, who designed and built the series of gardens. In addition to the water quality benefits these gardens provide by filtering water entering Pickering Creek, the engagement with the environment and educational value they will continue to provide for the Charlestown Playhouse students, parents, and faculty were evident as the squeals of delighted children filled the background.



View the PWC project in action



The second stop was with the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy where Executive Director Ryan Beltz led the group on a tour of Jacob Reiff Park stream restoration and stormwater management project. The project helps spread out, slow down, soak up, and clean water entering Skippack Creek. This site is also in the process of becoming PWC's second interpretive home! The native trees and flowers were thriving at the site and the scope of the earth moving to complete this project showed a stellar example of collaboration between the PWC and Lower Salford Township.

Schuylkill River Restoration Fund

Press Event and Project Tour (continued)

After lunch, the group participated in a press event announcing the 2022 SRRF grant awardees, hosted by Tim Fenchel, Deputy Director of Schuylkill River Greenways. Then we boarded the bus one final time to meet Pottstown Public Works Director, Douglass Yerger just up the street from SRG Headquarters. Douglass described the engineering challenges and accomplishments of his team working to modify the infrastructure below ground and including stormwater inlet filters that capture sediment.



Many thanks to SRG for the adept planning and collaboration that made for a successful event. Thank you to our partners who collaborated in hosting tour stops, to all of the tour attendees, and to the SRRF funders whose support makes events like these possible.

**View the photo
album here!**

Upcoming SAN Events!



SANnual Meeting

Nov. 10th
9am - 3pm

Berks Nature
Rookery

Celebrating your 'Watershed Wins'

[Click Here to Register!](#)

SAN Engagement & Stewardship/ Stormwater Workgroup Tour

Join SRDC & Bartram's Garden on a walking tour of the garden and improvements along the Schuylkill River Trail.



Monday, October 24th
9am - 1pm

Raindate: October 28th

[Click Here to Register!](#)

Schuylkill Sojourn

[View Kara's photo album here!](#)

Kara Foran, 2022 SAN Sojourn Steward, joined the Sojourn June 17 - 21 to capture the 'River of Refuge' and highlight recreational opportunities partners host along the river.

Kara commented on her experience, "The Sojourn was an incredibly unique way to experience the Schuylkill River. As I reflect on my experience, I remember a welcoming community of fellow Sojourners and feeling excitement being on the water, though it did become a challenge for me at times. I don't think I paddled a total of 25 miles in my entire life until that week and now I completed 112 miles in just 7 days."

"Throughout the week we heard from organizations that are advocating for a healthier watershed and working to make it a cleaner place for both people and wildlife. It was humbling to know that just by participating in the Sojourn, I was also playing a small part in that effort."

"Many of the Sojourners have been participating for years, and for others, it was their first time. I loved hearing what brought them to this adventure and how they are connected to the Schuylkill River: from childhood memories of tubing or exploring the riverfront to getting married on the river"



"Throughout the journey, I kept the theme 'River of Refuge' in my mind, as I connected with many new faces, watched the river flow around me, and learned just how important this waterway is. This is a river of refuge, for friends to explore, families to enjoy, communities to connect with, and wildlife to depend on."

2023 marks the Schuylkill River Sojourn's 25th Year!
Paddles up June 17th to 23rd, 2023

[Learn more](#)

Schuylkill Acts & Impacts 2022

Schuylkill Acts and Impacts is a week-long expedition for high school students representing all 5 counties of the watershed. Alexa Smith, Natural Resource Conservationist with Schuylkill Conservation District, co-leads this program and shared these highlights from this year's program.

"Throughout the week, students study the impact of legacy coal mining on water quality, agricultural impacts including erosion and manure management, the role of land preservation in watershed health, and the impacts of stormwater and impervious surfaces on water resources."



Students look for macroinvertebrates in a sample taken from the Manatawny Creek.



Cooling off in the Schuylkill River with some games!

"Recreation and fun are also part of the week, as the students kayak sections of the Schuylkill River and camp in state parks and nature preserves throughout the watershed. This program is sponsored by Schuylkill Headwaters Association, Fairmount Water Works, Stroud Water Research Center, and Take It Outdoors, along with generous donations from many different organizations and individuals throughout the watershed who help make this program happen."

If you or a partner is interested in getting involved with or sponsoring the Schuylkill Action Students, click [here](#) to learn more or contact Alexa via email: asmith@co.schuylkill.pa.us

Upcoming Partner Events:



GREEN STORMWATER
INFRASTRUCTURE
PARTNERS™

REIMAGINING STORMWATER



SBN's GSI Partners Fall Quarterly Meeting

Thursday, October 20 | 10 am - 12 pm

Friends Center, 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA, 19102

[Click here to RSVP](#)

2022 Watershed Congress

October 22, 2022

Montgomery County Community College

9:00am-12:00pm

The Clean Water Act at 50

Join us as environmental leaders in our region present an in depth look at the promise of the Clean Water Act, the effectiveness of its implementation to date, what it has meant for our communities, and the future of ongoing efforts and advocacy to secure truly fishable and swimmable waters.



Register by scanning the QR
code or visiting the link below
bit.ly/WatershedCongress22