

Bucktail Watershed Association

Volume 2011, Issue 2

July 2011

Bucktail Watershed Association

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Important Dates:

July 5, 2011
Summer Membership Meeting
7:00 pm

Monthly meeting
1st Tuesday of each month
Cameron County Courthouse
7:00 pm

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BWA Volunteers Replant Habitat Reclaimed from Japanese Knotweed

On May 16, seven Bucktail Watershed Association volunteers planted over 150 native tree and shrub seedlings. Silky dogwood, gray dogwood, flowering dogwood, American hazelnut, and buttonbush seedlings were planted to restore the habitat at 5 sites where Japanese knotweed had been eradicated in West Creek.



BWA volunteers replant habitat where Japanese Knotweed was removed.

The Bucktail Watershed Association is entering its third year of an innovative habitat restoration project. The group has been working with landowners to eradicate invasive Japanese knotweed populations and restore the habitat at the affected sites. The BWA is working from the headwaters of the Driftwood Branch of the Sinnemahoning Creek and its tributaries in a downstream manner to eradicate Japanese knotweed from the watershed.

The Watershed Association will be working with landowners to restore habitat at dozens of other sites this fall and next spring after the knotweed has been completely eradicated.

Are you interested in helping the BWA restore habitat in the Sinnemahoning watershed?

**For more information contact :
bucktailwatershed@yahoo.com**

Summer Membership Meeting July 5th

The Bucktail Watershed Association will be holding its Summer Membership Meeting on Tuesday, July 5 at 7 pm in the upstairs in the courtroom of the Cameron County Courthouse in Emporium.

Cameron County Watershed Specialist Todd Delucia will be the guest speaker for the night and will be sharing with attendees the restoration plans for Sterling Run. The Conservation District plans to build passive treatment systems to clean up acid mine drainage in Portable, May Hollow, and Finley Runs.

We will also be holding our annual election for board of directors openings at the Summer Membership Meeting. We encourage all our members to attend and also invite the general public. Refreshments will be served afterward.

BWA Volunteers Clean Up the Driftwood Branch

On Sunday, March 27th, 45 Cameron County residents took part in a river and roadside clean-up between the villages of Cameron and Driftwood. The paddlers and hikers collected over 100 bags of trash. Four local organizations took part: Canoe and Kayak Classic Organization, Cameron County Outdoor Youth Activities, Wilderness Search and Rescue, and the Bucktail Watershed Association.



Trash along the Driftwood Branch before stream clean-up.

On Sunday May 1, ten volunteers braved the rainy weather to clean up garbage along local waterways. The event was coordinated by the Bucktail Watershed Association, Cameron County Outdoor Youth Activities, and the organizers of the Cameron County Canoe Classic.

By canoe and on foot, participants cleaned unsightly garbage and debris from the Route 120 bridge over the Sinnemahoning Portage Creek on the east end of Emporium downstream along the Driftwood Branch to Cameron. The results of their efforts are most noticeable on the lower end of the Portage Creek where hundreds of white sacks had washed downstream from bridge repair work last fall.

The group would like to thank both the local Penn DOT district and the Emporium Borough for their help in disposing of the garbage collected on Sunday. The group would also especially like to thank Penn DOT employees for their help in the



A BWA volunteer pictured with a pile of trash collected from along the stream.

previous stream cleanup conducted in late March prior to the Cameron County Canoe Classic. Employees of the local Cameron District went above and beyond the call of duty to pick up a full double axel load of garbage that had been collected the previous day by volunteers.

Residents and camp owners are reminded not to store valuable items or garbage in the flood plains of our local streams. Following high water, anything stored in the floodplain is washed downstream, polluting our waterways and creating quite an eye sore. Let's all do our part to make the Sinnemahoning Creek Watershed's streams the best in the state!

Volunteers combed the Driftwood Branch of the Sinnemahoning and collected over 100 bags of trash in one day!



A BWA volunteer does his part to clean-up the stream bank.

Update on Japanese Knotweed Eradication

The Bucktail Watershed Association Japanese knotweed project has started up again for the summer of 2011. Unfortunately, knotweed cannot be killed with just one herbicide treatment because the root system is so extensive. We are very pleased with the results of our 2010 work, but, we still had to re-treat some of the larger knotweed patches for re-sprouts. In July, we will visit all the sites that we sprayed last summer, and plan to spray any knotweed left alive in August or September. We are working with both Vegetation Managers Inc., who sprayed the majority of our sites last summer, and Randy Schatz of Emporium.

We also have some new knotweed sites to work on. There are a few in Potter County near Costello, and we are continuing to work our way down the Driftwood Branch. Last year we finished the Portage Branch from Four Mile to Emporium, and the Driftwood from the top to the Fairgrounds. This summer, we will continue working from the Fairgrounds down the the confluence of the Portage. We have also received a grant from the PA Growing Greener Program to work from the confluence downstream for a mile or two. Don't worry, down-county residents, we are slowly heading your way, as funding allows. The BWA is committed to controlling knotweed in our watershed.

BWA Looking for Volunteers to Monitor Local Streams

The Bucktail Watershed Association is looking for volunteers to monitor local streams within the Driftwood Branch of the Sinnemahoning Creek Watershed. In 2010 grant funds were received from Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council from the Norfolk Southern Spill Settlement for the purchase of monitoring equipment.

Volunteers have been monitoring local streams since last summer, but we are still in need of more volunteers to cover all the streams within the Driftwood Branch. The BWA has been working with One Marcellus to develop an innovative online data base for hosting data collected by our volunteers. In recent years, the importance of monitoring our local waterways has increased with the increase of natural gas well drilling in our watersheds.

BWA Outreach at Art Fest

The BWA will be conducting outreach and educational activities at the Cameron County Art Fest in Emporium on Saturday, July 2. We will be showcasing our newly developed online database developed with One Marcellus for storing water quality data collected by our volunteer monitors in addition to conducting outreach about invasive plant impacts. We will also once again be hosting the ever-popular Driftwood Branch Lobster Race for young of all ages. Stop in and say hello if you are at the Artfest.

The BWA is on Facebook! Search for Bucktail Watershed Association in order to receive the latest updates on your news feed and meet members.



Purchase BWA Wear

The Bucktail Watershed Association has made hats and t-shirts for our members and supporters. Both are attractive natural green colors with the watershed logo printed on them. The new "BWA-wear" will help get our organization's name out among the public in a visible manner to help familiarize watershed constituents with the group. Ultimately through raised awareness in the BWA we hope that we will be more effective through our watershed outreach and education.

Both hats and t-shirts cost \$10. The hats are 'one-size-fits-all,' while the t-shirts come in small, medium, large, XL, XXL, and XXXL sizes. To order a t-shirt or hat, send your check to Bucktail Watershed Association, PO Box 123, Emporium, PA 15834 or call Steve at 486-1740.

**BUCKTAIL WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 123
EMPORIUM, PA 15834**

BUCKTAIL WATERSHED ASSOCIATION SUMMER NEWSLETTER ENCLOSED

**BUCKTAIL WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

If you are interested in becoming a member or renewing your membership, please send this form along with cash or a check for the annual dues to:

Bucktail Watershed Association
P.O. Box 123
Emporium, PA 15834



Name

Address

Phone

Sign up for:

- Individual Membership
- Family Membership

Annual Dues

\$5.00

\$7.00

Amount Enclosed _____

Email Address

Signature