

Upper Allegheny Ag. BMP Water Quality Initiative

Growing Greener Project # C990000632

C – One Page Summary

Water quality and biological diversity in the Upper Allegheny River and its tributaries is an important component to the health of the environment, the quality of life of the citizens, and the vitality of the local economy. In tributaries such as Lillibridge Creek, Annin Creek, Tubbs Hollow, Two Mile, Newell Creek, and Barden Brook, agricultural non-point source pollution not only impairs the water quality, but affects and threatens the water quality of the Upper Allegheny River. Conversely, restoring the water quality in each tributary watershed will remove streams from the Pennsylvania Integrated List of Impaired Waters, and work to improve overall water quality conditions in the Upper Allegheny River.

This initiative for implementation of restoration practices on the subwatershed of the Upper Allegheny River is a continuation of the Second Phase in a coordinated planning and implementation process being conducted in cooperation with DEP, and PA Fish & Boat Commission which is expected to result in an approach that will help landowners identify their goals and objectives, inventory and assess available resources, select and implement preferred solutions, and monitor results for effectiveness. Participating landowners were selected based on proximity of their location to the stream channel of the subwatersheds, the severity of existing NPS pollution problems and their willingness to address identified problems, especially barnyard NPS sources, erosion and nutrient control practices on cropland, hayland and pastureland, and stream corridor management problems

Two roofed heavy use areas with manure stacking pads were completed, one was entirely completed through this growing greener grant and the other was completed through another growing greener grant. Two landowners had nutrient management plans developed through the grant. There were two stabilized ag. crossings installed along with 4,800 feet of exclusionary fencing and 8,591 feet of perimeter fence for rotational grazing. The grant also funded 1,550 feet of stream restoration projects with two landowners through the installation of 29 fish and habitat structures approved by the PA Fish and Boat Commission for streambank stabilization and habitat improvement.

