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**Southeast Pennsylvania Watershed Group Workshop  
June 28, 2018  
Heritage Conservancy/Aldie Mansion - Doylestown**

**Provider Round Table**

**County Agencies that Support Watershed Groups**

**Meghan Rogalus – Watershed Specialist with Bucks County Conservation District**

- Watershed Specialist funded by Growing Greener
- Technical advisor, educator, grant writer:
  - Technical assistance to private and public entities
  - Guidance on specific restoration/tree planting projects

**Karin Wilwol, Watershed Specialist with Delaware County Conservation District**

- Has trailer with restoration tools

**Karen Holm and Rebecca Demuth: Delaware County Planning Commission**

- Provide education and technical support to municipalities. Addresses stormwater, trails, watersheds, MS4, planning/development
- Provides technical support to Conservation District
- Issue/challenges is working with municipalities; getting them on board and interested
- Helped start Eastern Del County Stormwater Collaborative
- Inventorying Act 167 plans for county; want plans to act as better resource, assess baseline, go above and beyond base Act 167 ordinance.

**Brian Vadino – Watershed Specialist with Montgomery County Conservation District**

- New at Montgomery County; still learning about ways organization can help
- Partially funded by PA DEP and Montgomery County
- Serves as resource for watershed organizations in the county – funding, partnerships to further collective missions
- Tools and equipment available for planting and restoration activities
- Looking for ways to serve as a resource for watershed groups. District can help find funding and partnerships for groups.
- Challenge = feel spread too thin sometimes

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## **State Agencies that Support Watershed Groups**

### **Drew Gilchrist – Department of Conservation and Natural Resources**

- Provide funding and technical assistance to non-profits
- Community Conservation Partnership Program (C2P2)
- Also, very involve with riparian buffers (funding) these days

## **Federal Agencies that Support Watershed Groups**

### **Krista Heinlan – Greater Philadelphia Area/Delaware River Watershed Urban Waters Federal Partnership**

- US Forest Service, Davey Institute, urban field station in Philadelphia
- Urban Waters is a focus of the forest service because everything flows downstream
- Agent for local organizations
- Addresses climate resilience
- iTree program – free data mapping program
- <https://www.epa.gov/urbanwaterspartners/urban-waters-and-greater-philadelphia-areadelaware-river-watershed-pennsylvania>

## **Nonprofit Organizations that Support Watershed Groups**

### **Sandra Meola – Executive Director, Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed**

- Coalition of 130 watershed organizations working throughout the 4-state basin.
- Brings together nongovernmental organizations working throughout the Delaware River Watershed to share information, leverage resources, and coordinate efforts and advocacy.
- Watershed-wide planning, looking for federal funding
- Delaware River Basin Restoration Projects (now have funding in federal budget)
- Social media assistance
- Runs topic-oriented work groups
- <http://www.delriverwatershed.org/>

### **Ellen Kohler – University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center**

- Supports a lot of work on stormwater management in Delaware and Chesapeake; source water protection programs
- Multi-municipal collaboration to address specific pollutants
- Help build local capacity
- Municipal online training center (<https://mostcenter.org/>)
- Sustainable Maryland program

- National tree calculator tool
- Work across watershed organizations, municipalities, user groups
- 1 of 10 environmental finance centers around the country

#### **Rick Tralies – Natural Lands**

- Natural Lands manages 43 nature preserves
- Also hold conservation easements on private land
- Work with municipalities (e.g. with TTF partners) on site planning and ordinance review
- Challenge = getting municipalities interested in and committed to things that protect watersheds. Acceptance of 150 buffer ordinance is tough to get done
- Rick himself is a Landscape architect; works on trail design, planning services, site planning at private properties
- <https://natlands.org/>

#### **Alex Cupo, Alice Baker, and Eliana Winderman – PennFuture**

- Statewide organization working to transition PA to clean energy economy
- Empowering local citizens to make a difference in their communities
- Do a lot of state level regulatory litigation & Can elevate local issues to state agencies
- Learning about local issues facing watershed groups and how they can be resolved
- Eliana is PennFuture summer intern; goes to Villanova Law – Tip - reach out to college organizations!
- <https://www.pennfuture.org/>

#### **Susan Myerov – for Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC)**

- Statewide non-profit group that works on **energy & climate, trails and recreation, and watershed** issues. See <http://pecpa.org/>
- PEC's watershed work addresses stormwater management, green infrastructure, and municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permit support.
- PEC also coordinates reforestation and clean-up programs.
- PEC is partnering with POWR and other organizations to support watershed organizations with capacity building and technical resources.

#### **Susan Myerov – for Pennsylvania Organization of Watersheds and Rivers (POWR)**

- Affiliate organization of PEC
- Coordinates Pennsylvania's River of the Year program
- Implements the PA River Sojourn mini- grant program
- Offers low-cost insurance for watershed organization events
- <http://pariveroftheyear.org/>



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### **Bob Adams - TreeVitalize**

- Growing Greener grants to support tree planting near water bodies; can give grants to smaller groups
- Watershed specialists serve as point of contact
- AmeriCorps volunteers help effort
- Assist with educational outreach programs
- <http://www.plantonemillion.org/>