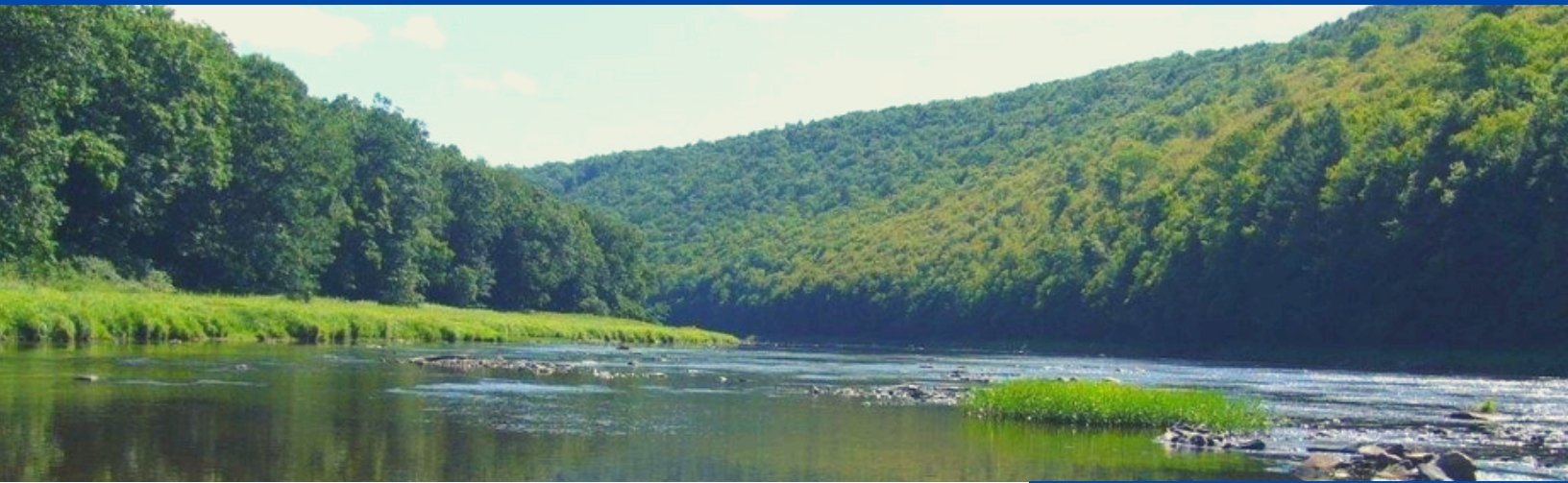


FALL 2025 E-BLAST




CLARION CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Hello Autumn!

by Hannah Bequeath, Education/Outreach Coordinator



Have you been celebrating fall since the first cool breeze came through in August or are you holding tightly onto summer not wanting to let go? Nonetheless, it is *officially* fall! Read on to find out what the Clarion Conservation District (CCD) has been up to this past spring and summer and why we did not send out a Summer e-newsletter as usual (hint: read Summer 2025 Recap page). We have lots to catch up on so grab your favorite hoodie and a warm drink or soup and let's dive in! 

The featured species is a BOO-tiful and mysterious plant called Ghost Pipe that has an interesting survival tactic. Be sure to check out the last page for more information on events we have planned this fall such as a nature journaling workshop, our 4th year of the "Fun on the Farm" program series, a Creepy Campfire, and a Turkey Talk webinar just in time to get you feeling festive for Thanksgiving.

Our main goal at the District is to protect Clarion County's natural resources. Thank you for your interest in our efforts!

CONTENTS

- Recap of Spring / Summer 2025 Events
- Watershed Updates
- Agriculture Updates
- DGLVR Updates
- E&S Updates
- Featured Species: Ghost Pipe / Indian Pipe (*Monotropa uniflora*)
- Upcoming Events



Above: About 175 local high schoolers release classroom-raised trout into Toms Run (top) and learn about Black Bears (bottom) and other environmental topics at the 8th Annual Earth Day at Cook Forest.



Above: North Clarion-1 won 2nd place at the Tri-County Envirothon and represented Clarion County at the state competition. Pictured (L to R) is Myia Hetrick, Paige Hetrick, Emma Kosmiski, Gwen Griebel, and Jack Maxwell. Teacher advisor is Kayla DeLong.



Above: During the "Leap into Herpetology" event, naturalist, April Claus (left), provided an interactive program with live PA native reptiles and amphibians then led the group in an exploration of Beaver Creek Nature Area, in Knox, PA.

RECAP OF SPRING 2025 EVENTS

by Hannah Bequeath, Education/Outreach Coordinator

April- The Clarion Conservation District provided a **Composting 101** activity table at North Clarion High School's Sustainability and Wellness Fair. The Foxburg Free Library hosted CCD for a **Creek Critters** program open to the community. Two **litter clean-ups** were held- on Earth Day, 28 community volunteers cleaned up 24+ bags of trash at State Game Lands 72 in Clarion, PA and a few weeks later, 40 scouts from Cub Scout Pack #51 cleaned up 14+ bags of trash along Old State Route 322 / Ebenezer Spring near the Clarion River in Clarion, PA. Special thanks to PennDOT and the Keep PA Beautiful / Pick Up PA initiative for donating supplies. CCD's **8th Annual Earth Day at Cook Forest** event was held at Cook Forest State Park for 175 local high schoolers - this year featuring new activities such as electrofishing with CCD and JCCD and Dr. Andy Turner (PennWest Clarion University), black bear telemetry with the PA Game Commission, and forestry with the Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group (AHUG). The **Tri-County Envirothon** was held at Clear Creek State Park. Brockway 1 won first place, North Clarion 1 won second place, and West Forest 1 won third place. **North Clarion moved on to compete at the state competition** in Windber, PA and got 38th place overall, but ranked 8th best score in the Oral Component and 7th best score for the Current Issue!

May- CCD provided a **Birding** program for 200+ students at the Redbank Valley Intermediate School's Springfest event - a highlight was seeing a Scarlet Tanager on the school grounds! An **Elementary Eco Day / Trout Release** for the Trout in the Classroom program was coordinated by CCD and held at Cook Forest State Park for about 100 students. Special thanks to partners from Iron Furnace Chapter #288 of Trout Unlimited, ADS Recycling, IU6, and DCNR Bureau of Forestry. A **Stream Smart Workshop** was held (more info on DGLVR page). About 40 participants took a **"Leap into Herpetology"** through a remake learning days event hosted by CCD and local naturalist April Claus (www.aprilclaus.com). CCD provided an info table on native plants and rain barrels at **Clarion-Limestone School District's Flower Power** event. CCD partnered with JCCD, PA Fish and Boat Commission, and Iron Furnace Chapter of Trout Unlimited to host a **"Let's All Go Fishing"** program at Clear Creek State Park (more info on Watershed page).

RECAP OF SUMMER 2025 EVENTS

by Hannah Bequeath, Education/Outreach Coordinator

June- Jefferson and Clarion Conservation Districts hosted a combined **DGLVR Municipal Workshop** (more info on DGLVR page). CCD helped at the **Advanced Instruction Fishing Clinic** held by the Clarion County Sportsmen for Youth Club (more info on Watershed page).

August- A **Family Field Day** was held to provide District staff families a peek into a few biotic survey methods CCD uses to assess water quality such as; electrofishing, testing water chemistry, fish identification, freshwater mussel surveys, etc.

Why so few summer events this year?!

District staff has been very busy with projects (see other pages) and the District's Education/Outreach Coordinator has been taking care of a new project as well...



Above: During the Family Field Day event, District staff showed their family members a few of the biotic survey methods CCD conducts to assess water quality in Clarion County.

"DON'T JUST TELL YOUR CHILDREN [AND FAMILY] ABOUT THE WORLD, SHOW THEM."
- PENNY WHITEHOUSE.



Hannah's daughter, Lainey, was born on May 29th and is a healthy and happy baby. She is already becoming quite the nature girl!

Hannah is now back from maternity leave and many exciting events are being planned! Stay tuned!

Watershed Updates

by: *Shane Hofius, Watershed Specialist*



Above: Clarion Conservation District staff and two of the District's Board of Directors stand behind the newly installed educational signs at the Morrison Treatment System at the Clarion County Park in May 2025. Pictured left to right: Hannah Bequeath, Reagan King, Shane Hofius, Matt Kerr, Dr. Andy Turner, Keith Decker, Trudy Alexander, and Alicia Ramsey.

2019 - Before Rehabilitation



2025 - After Rehabilitation



PHOTO TAKEN BY DR. ANDY TURNER.

Completion of Morrison Project (Clarion County Park, Shippenville, PA)

If you have visited the Clarion County Park in Shippenville, PA over the last several years, you may have noticed the orange water and construction vehicles in the southeast corner of the park just over the hill. The orange ponds are part of an abandoned mine drainage (AMD) passive treatment system known as the Morrison Treatment System.

AMD is water that is polluted from contact with mining activity, normally associated with coal mining. Problems associated with mine drainage include: contaminated drinking water, disrupted growth and reproduction of aquatic plants and animals, and the corroding effects of the acid on parts of infrastructures such as bridges. AMD streams are not able to support most aquatic life. The basic concept of an AMD treatment system is to raise the pH level of impacted waters and remove metals.

Six years ago, the Morrison Treatment System, originally built in 1991, was determined to be failing and undersized and the Clarion Conservation District (CCD), along with partners from Hedin Environmental, Guiste Excavating, and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, began working to rehabilitate the system. As of May 2025 the system has been successfully modernized and expanded to more than double the size of the original system and will now provide properly treated water to the tributary flowing into the Clarion River.

Funding for this project was initially granted in 2019 via a Sole Source Award, but due to COVID-19 and other delays, construction could not begin until 2022. Now, with funding from a Growing Greener Grant, the failing and undersized thirty-four year old AMD treatment system has successfully been overhauled via: the removal of excess iron sludge; rehabilitation of the vertical flow pond; expansion of the first settling pond; additions of another settling pond, manganese pond, and a constructed wetland; reclamation of the temporary staging area; installation of a fence and gate; and an addition of two educational signs outside the fence. Financial support for the AMD Interpretive Signage was provided by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)'s 2022 Environmental Education Grants Program.

Future environmental education opportunities will be provided for the community at the Morrison Treatment System by the Clarion Conservation District - stay tuned! To learn more about the source of AMD and how it is treated, CCD encourages the public to visit the site at the Clarion County Park and read the newly installed educational signs.

If you believe you have abandoned mine features on your property/have interest in mine land reclamation, have a need for stream restoration practices, or have questions on these projects, please reach out to CCD Watershed Specialist, Shane Hofius, at 814-297-8036 or email shofiusccd@gmail.com.

Watershed Updates

by: Shane Hofius, Watershed Specialist

Let's All Go Fishing Program: (Pictured top right)

In May, sixteen participants ages 12 and up attended a one-day program titled "Let's All Go Fishing" at Clear Creek State Park, Sigel, PA hosted by the Clarion Conservation District (CCD) and partners. All walked away with new knowledge and interest in traditional fishing, fly fishing, fish species, fishing gear, water quality, macroinvertebrates, stream restoration, and more! Some even walked away with some new fishing gear and educational resources to get them started or back into fishing our beautiful waterways. Thank you to all of the participants and our partners; Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Jefferson County Conservation District, Iron Furnace Chapter #288 of Trout Unlimited, Trout Unlimited, and DCNR Clear Creek State Park staff. .

This project received funds through the R3 Education Grant Program, administered by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. Through this support, CCD has been able to purchase fishing gear and educational materials that will aid in future environmental education programs at the District.

Advanced Instruction Fishing Clinic: (Pictured bottom right)

The Let's All Go Fishing event inspired great connections and CCD was able to help with an Advanced Instruction Fishing Clinic held by the Clarion County Sportsmen for Youth Club at Clear Creek State Park in June as well.



Stream Smart Road Crossing Workshop:

On May 15th, CCD and Trout Unlimited (TU) held a workshop with about 30 in attendance consisting of contractors, engineers, landowners, and other professionals responsible for road-stream crossings.

The goal of the Stream Smart approach is to construct culverts and bridges that maintain fish and wildlife habitat while protecting roads and public safety. Stream Smart crossings also help municipalities and other road owners prepare for the large and frequent storm events that have been washing out roads around the state. The workshop included presentations on the value of stream smart crossings, regulatory requirements, and how to create/pay for the crossings. There was also a stream table demonstration and a site visit to see the Gowdy Road stream crossing project that crosses McCauley Run in northern Clarion County.

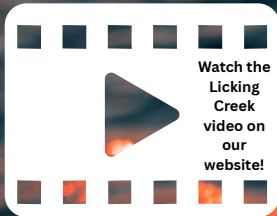
Presenters included: Alicia Ramsey & Shane Hofius from CCD; Becky Gaston, CPESC/Project Leader from JHA; Alex Abbott & Phil Thomas, Stream Restoration Specialists, JJ Zielinski, Stream Restoration Technician, and Scott Koser, Program Manager, all from Trout Unlimited. Thank you to all presenters and those that attended!



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Watershed Updates

by: *Shane Hofius, Watershed Specialist*



Assessments / Evaluations:

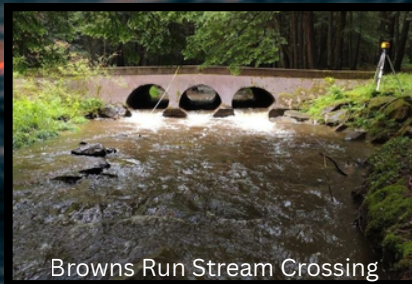
- **Licking Creek :** The Licking Creek Watershed stretches across eight municipalities in Clarion County: Perry, Toby, Piney, Licking, Monroe, Callensburg, Sligo, and Rimersburg. CCD will compose a coldwater conservation plan for the watershed. For more info, please watch the video at www.clarionconservation.com/watersheds. Thank you to our summer intern, Reagan King, for making the video.
- **Canoe Creek (Knox area):** CCD plans to electrofish to confirm the presence of wild trout in the Canoe Creek watershed, a key step in preserving its designation as a High-Quality Coldwater Fishery (HQ-CWF). CCD will then focus on streambank stabilization, riparian buffer restoration, and aquatic habitat enhancement. Thank you to the Coldwater Heritage Partnership, PennWest Clarion University, and the Iron Furnace Chapter #288 of Trout Unlimited for their partnership and contributions in the assessments!
- **Browns Run Stream Crossing (Cook Forest State Park):** CCD is providing technical assistance to DCNR in an evaluation of a road crossing on Browns Run, a designated Exceptional Value (EV) stream. The existing crossing, a concrete bridge with three cross pipes, is an aquatic passage barrier; meaning aquatic organisms such as fish or macroinvertebrates can't safely make it through. CCD conducted a longitudinal profile to create a design recommendation which will allow the stream to pass through freely and also conducted a bioassessment by electrofishing the stream and confirmed presence of wild trout. Thank you to DCNR, Jefferson and Venango County CDs, and PennWest Clarion University for partnering on this evaluation!

Stream Restoration:

- **Canoe Creek Streambank Stabilization:** A private landowner requested CCD technical assistance to assess and design streambank stabilization and fish habitat structures for Canoe Creek (High Quality – Cold Water Fishery), tributary to the Clarion River, in Clarion County. Anthropogenic impacts and poor road crossing design have resulted in severe streambank erosion, degradation of fish habitat, and sediment deposition throughout the streams substrate. The project was completed this summer, including the construction of 10 fish habitat/stabilization structures, realignment of stone from an existing man-made rock stream crossing to diffuse concentrated flows and inhibit erosion, and a riparian planting. The project is expected to stabilize approximately 60 feet of stream and reduce an estimated 17,622 pounds of sediment, 20.09 pounds of Nitrogen, and 9.25 pounds of Phosphorus per year. This project was funded through a Northwest Greenways Block Grant.
- **McCanna Run (Strattanville/Fisher Area):** Post construction biological surveys conducted approximately one year after project completion show incredible improvement in trout populations from finding only one native Brook Trout prior to construction to more than 14 native Brook Trout (pictured left) post-construction; including numerous juvenile trout. This indicates that the species are not only using the new root wad structures for habitat but also reproducing in the restored stream reach!



Canoe Creek



Browns Run Stream Crossing



Canoe Creek Streambank Stabilization

Before

After



If you believe you have abandoned mine features on your property/have interest in mine land reclamation, have a need for stream restoration practices, or have questions on these projects, please reach out to CCD Watershed Specialist, Shane Hofius, at 814-297-8036 or email shofiusccd@gmail.com.

Agriculture Updates

by Hannah Bequeath, Agriculture Conservation Technician (ACT)

Save the Date:

Western PA Grazing
Conference
March 12th, 2026
Clarion, PA



The deadline for submitting 2025-26 REAP applications is September 30, 2025.

The Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) program is a first-come, first-served program that enables farmers, businesses, and landowners to earn PA income tax credits to offset the cost of implementing conservation best management practices (BMPs)- benefiting their farms and protecting water quality at the same time. For more info, go to: www.clarionconservation.com/agriculture

The following Clarion County farms have been awarded ACAP funds:

- Chad Smith's Farm - Beef/Livestock (Knox, PA)
- Neely Greenawalt's Farm- Livestock (Strattanville, PA)
- Ray Weaver's Farm - Beef (Marble, PA)
- Ganoe Farm - Livestock (Sigel, PA)

The Agriculture Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) supports Pennsylvania farmers and agricultural landowners in their efforts to protect and enhance water quality. ACAP provides financial and technical assistance for the implementation of best management practices (BMPs) on agricultural operations within the Commonwealth.

FUN ON THE FARM 2025

Mondays 4:30 - 6:30pm

OCTOBER 6TH
CHRISTMAS TREES - IRISH ACRES TREE FARM, KNOX, PA

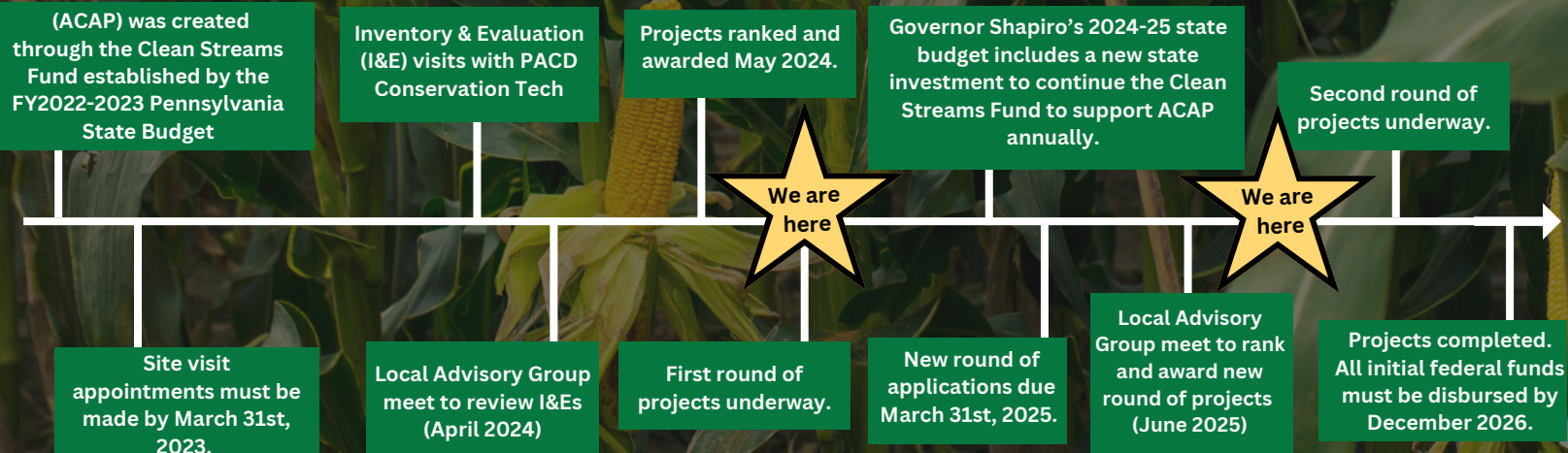
OCTOBER 13TH
ORGANIC FARMING - CLARION RIVER ORGANICS, SLIGO, PA

A weekly educational program series for children ages 6 & up AND adults providing hands-on learning about local agriculture and conservation practices.

FOR MORE INFO OR TO REGISTER, GO TO
WWW.CLARIONCONSERVATION.COM/EVENTS



Agriculture Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) Time-line for Clarion County



DIRT, GRAVEL, & LOW VOLUME ROAD (DGLVR) UPDATES

by Alicia Ramsey, DGLVR Technician

Clarion County DGLVR Program:

- **2026 Grant Application Deadline: Friday, October 31st, 2025**

Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance (ESM) Trainings:

- **October 7-8** (Berks County)
- **October 28-29** (Monroe County)
- 2026 dates will be posted early in the year - watch for an email!

**SAVE
THE DATE**

PA One Call:

- **October 1st - Project Planning** at the Jefferson County Conservation District Office from 12pm-1pm (lunch at 11:30am).
- **December 3rd - Clarion Coordinating Committee Meeting** at the Clarion Conservation District Office at 9am.

LTAP Trainings:

- **September 29th - Winter Maintenance**, 4 PDHs, 8 am- 12 pm, at Morris Township Municipal Building, Clearfield, PA, Clearfield County
- **October 7th - Drainage: The Key to Roads that Last**, 6 PDHs, 7:30am - 3pm, at Vernon Township Building, Meadville, PA, Crawford County
- **October 8th - Introduction to Traffic Studies**, 4 PDHs, 8 am- 12 pm, virtual --> Funds are available as per announcement at the CCATO Convention! Reach out to James Williams with Northwest Commission for more information (jamesw@northwestpa.gov)



Clarion-Jefferson Counties Municipal Workshop (pictured above)

On June 13th, Jefferson and Clarion Conservation Districts hosted a combined municipal workshop. Participants got to see many examples of DGLVR projects within both counties, including underdrains and cross pipes designed to fit the movement of water. This not only reduces maintenance for our municipalities, but also the sedimentation and pollution of our waterways. The workshop covered the minimal maintenance required for the structures, the reason behind the way the structures were built, and practical ways of reaching the project goals. Thank you to our co-hosts at Jefferson CCD and their DGLVR technician; Laryssa Remmick. Thank you to all the municipalities that participated, Redbank Valley Municipal Park for allowing us to use their facilities, and LandPro for the demonstration of maintenance equipment.

For more information on the CCD DGLVR Program, please visit our website www.clarionconservation/dglvr or contact our DGLVR Technician, Alicia Ramsey, at ramseyccd@gmail.com or call 814-221-4094 (cell), 814-393-6139 (office).

DIRT, GRAVEL, & LOW VOLUME ROAD (DGLVR) UPDATES

by Alicia Ramsey, DGLVR Technician

Before



After



Pictured above: 2025 Low Volume Project on Frogtown Road completed this summer by Limestone Township (Outstanding Township of the Year) funded through CCD's DGLVR program.

2025 DGLVR Program Project Update: Of the 11 awarded projects, 8 are completed, 2 are in construction, and 1 is now getting started.

Clarion County Township Convention:

Officials representing townships of the second class in Clarion County met Thursday, September 18th in Clarion for their 104th Annual County Convention. The purpose of the annual convention is to provide township officials with up-to-date information to help them better serve their residents and to give them an opportunity to exchange ideas on local government issues. This event was put on by the Clarion County Association of Township Officials (CCATO).

The convention featured a range of speakers to inform officials about legislation affecting townships of the second class, association programs and services for townships, and grant opportunities for municipalities. CCD was represented as an exhibitor and spoke on grant opportunities through the DGLVR program.



Above: Limestone Township was awarded Outstanding Township of the Year. Left-Right- CCATO President Steve Ketner, Limestone Township Secretary Bonnie Shovestull, and Limestone Township Employee Randy Smith.

For more information on the CCD DGLVR Program, please visit our website www.clarionconservation/dglvr or contact our DGLVR Technician, Alicia Ramsey, at ramseyccd@gmail.com or call 814-221-4094 (cell), 814-393-6139 (office).

EROSION AND SEDIMENT (E&S) UPDATES

by Matt Kerr, E&S Technician

- **National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)**
 - Received 14 general permit submissions.
 - 5 general permits approved.
- **NOI Renewals:**
 - None
- **E&S Control Plans:**
 - Received 2 new plan submissions.
 - 1 plan approved.
- **Inspections:**
 - 16 inspections conducted
 - Large focus on Canoe Creek I-80 Project
- **Chapter 102 Complaints:**
 - 3 received and under investigation
- **Chapter 102 Technical Assistance:**
 - 15 contacts regarding various projects

For more information on erosion & sediment permits and plans, please visit our website www.clarionconservation.com/e-s or contact our E&S Technician, Matt Kerr, at mkerrccd@gmail.com or call 814-393-6018 (office) or 814-221-1941 (cell).



FEATURED SPECIES: GHOST PIPE/ INDIAN PIPE (MONOTROPA UNIFLORA)

by Hannah Bequeath, Education/Outreach Coordinator



General Description: Often mistaken for a mushroom due to its unusual translucent, white appearance, Ghost Pipe is actually a perennial wildflower in the blueberry/rhododendron family! (3) The entire plant is a translucent, “ghostly” white, sometimes pale pinkish-white and commonly has black flecks. The leaves are scale-like and flecked with black on the flower stalk. The scientific name “Monotropa” means “once turned” referring to the sharp recurving of the top of the stem and “uniflora” means “one flower”, thus the stem bears one flower. Upon emerging from the ground, the flower points downward. As the fruit (a capsule) matures, the flower begins to point upward in line with the stem. Once ripened, seed is released through slits that open from the tip to the base of the capsule. The plant remains for a while after seed dispersal. These flowers are commonly found in a cluster, but can also be found as a single plant. They grow to be between 4 -11 inches tall and flower from June to September. (1)(2)

Range and Habitat: Ghost pipe is native to Pennsylvania and has a wide geographic distribution throughout the United States, from Maine to California and from Florida to Alaska. It is absent from the southwest, intermountain west, and the central Rocky mountains. This species is also found in Asia. Ghost Pipe is commonly found in mature, moist, shaded forests with lots of leaf litter. (1)(3) It can grow in dark (and spooky) environments because it is not dependent on light for photosynthesis.

Ecology: Ghost pipe survives without the green pigment, *chlorophyll*, that is typically responsible for harnessing the sun’s energy to produce carbohydrates, a process known as *photosynthesis*. Instead of creating its own food through photosynthesis, this plant is a *heterotroph* and must get it’s food from an outside source. In fact Ghost Pipe is considered *mycotrophic* (fungus feeding), as it saps nutrients and carbohydrates from tree roots through an intermediate source; mycorrhizal fungi. *Mycorrhizal fungi* is located near tree roots and the surrounding area and has a *symbiotic relationship* (both benefit) with trees in which the fungus acquires sugars and carbon from the tree, and the tree receives water and/or nutrients in return. Now add in the Ghost pipe plant that uses the sugars and carbons collected by the fungus. There is a three-way relationship between trees, mycorrhizal fungus, and this parasitic plant! A lot is happening underground that we are just starting to understand. (1) (3)

Human Connections: The common name “Indian pipe” has been growing out of favor due to the fact that the traditional ceremonial pipes of Native Americans do not resemble the nodding flowers of this plant. With the long stem, whitish color, and deeply bent, urn-shaped “bowls,” these flowers look more like vintage European-style clay tobacco pipes. (4) Cherokee legends include the ghost plant in their lore, comparing a cluster of Indian pipe plants to great chiefs trying to resolve a quarrel and gathering to smoke a peace pipe. (7)



Pictured left: Sitting Bull holding a pipe. Pictured right: European-style clay tobacco pipe.

In the late autumn of 1890, American poet, Emily Dickinson’s, poems met the world for the first time in a handsome volume bound in white with a painting of a Ghost Pipe plant on the front cover (pictured right). Dickinson, considered the Ghost Pipe to be “the preferred flower of life”. Scholars of Dickinson’s work believe she found the plant so meaningful precisely because of its fragility, rarity, and dependence on others. (7)



Sources:

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7. Stevenson, Carrie. “Weekly “What is it?”: Ghost plants.” University of Florida IFAS. <https://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/escabiaco/2023/11/01/weekly-what-is-it-ghost-plants/>. Accessed 10 September 2025.

UPCOMING EVENTS

To register for any of the following events,
please go to

www.clarionconservation.com/events

* = there is a fee to attend.

September

- **27th- Allegheny River Clean-Up** (Oil City Marina, Oil City, PA to Franklin Boat Ramp, Franklin, PA) from 10am - 1pm. Hosted by the Venango Conservation District. Kayaks and canoes available to borrow. (Go to www.venangocd.org/upcoming-events to register)

October

- **9th- Nature Journaling** (Riverfront Park, East Brady, PA). See flyer to the right for more info. *Register by Oct. 7th.*
- **6th - Fun on the Farm: Christmas Tree Farm*** (Irish Acres Tree Farm, Knox, PA). 4:30-6:30pm. See Ag Updates page for more info.
- **13th - Fun on the Farm: Organic Farming*** (Clarion River Organics, Sligo, PA) 4:30-6:30pm. See Ag Updates page for more info.
- **30th - Creepy Campfire** (CCD Office-Clarion, PA). Nature can seem creepy sometimes, but learning more about it can help it become less scary. Join CCD from 6-7:30pm for a fireside program. Bring a lawn chair! *Register by Oct. 23rd.*

November

- **25th- Turkey Talk (Virtual)** - Start your Thanksgiving festivities by joining CCD for an interactive webinar from 5-6pm on the Wild Turkey. Participants will leave with many interesting facts to share at the dinner table! *Register by Nov. 18th.*

For more information on our upcoming events please view our Facebook or Instagram page, our website, or contact us at hbequeathccd@gmail.com or 814-393-6147.

Clarion Conservation District

NOTICING NATURE: NATURE JOURNALING

October 9th, 2025
5 - 6:30pm
Riverfront Park Pavillion
East Brady, PA

Rain Date:
Oct. 10th

Nature journaling is a relaxing way of “thinking on paper” - paying closer attention to the complexity and beauty of the world around us. In this **free** program we’ll record observations of nature using drawings, diagrams, words, and numbers. No experience necessary. **Must be 18+ years old. Journaling materials provided.** Bring a lawn chair, curiosity, and a sense of wonder!

Register by Oct. 7th at
www.clarionconservation.com/events

Financial support provided by the Department of Environmental Protection's 2025 Environmental Education Grant Program.

Have you noticed that the leaves are changing color *early* this year and wondered why that is?

The early color isn't typical fall foliage, but rather coloration due to the stress of *heat and drought* we have had in the past few months. When trees have a lack of water, they have to prioritize what that water is going to. Therefore, chlorophyll production/photosynthesis slows down so that the water can go towards keeping the tree alive. This can result in some early change in leaf color and dull fall foliage. Birch, willow, and maple tree species seem to be more susceptible to this change. ***What else have you noticed about nature lately?***

Do you know someone that is interested in receiving the Clarion Conservation District newsletters?

To subscribe or unsubscribe, please contact us at hbequeathccd@gmail.com or call 814-393-6147.



@conserveclarion
www.clarionconservation.com