

# WCWANEWS

The White Clay Watershed Association a non-profit organization since 1965

Autumn 2000

## White Clay Streamwatch

**A**cross the region, volunteer and nonprofit organizations have mobilized to protect and preserve water quality. In Pennsylvania alone, over 6,000 individuals are involved in monitoring activities and citizens' volunteer monitoring groups are spending in excess of \$2 million annually to learn more about the health of our waters. Why are these efforts so important? With approximately 87,000 miles of streams/ivers, PA has more miles of waterways than any other state in the country except for Alaska. Unfortunately, the water quality of many of these streams is still unassessed across the state. Since watersheds do not follow political boundaries, streams originating in one state often effect the water quality of other states, as in the case of the White Clay Creek.

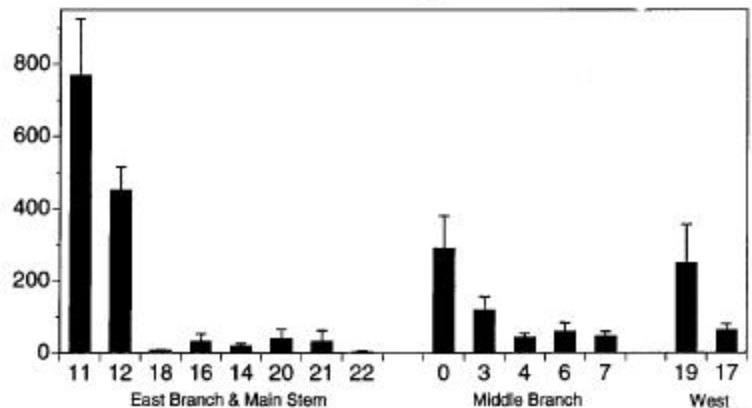
Volunteers have been monitoring the quality of the White Clay Creek for almost 10 years. Trends over this period have documented a decrease in water quality from the headwaters to the downstream sections. The aquatic macroinvertebrates (insects, worms, crustaceans)

tell a disturbing story of increasing degradation. Certain macroinvertebrates are more sensitive to pollution and habitat degradation than others. The most sensitive groups are the Ephemeroptera (mayflies), Plecoptera (stoneflies), and Tricoptera (caddisflies). Collectively these three groups, known as the EPT, are the "canaries of the stream". Good quality streams will have many EPT while poorer quality streams will have fewer. The graph shows the average of 7 years worth of data collected by the White Clay Streamwatch. (cont. on pg. 3)

**ANNUAL MEETING DATE – OCTOBER 18**

**The Annual Meeting of the White Clay Watershed Assn. is set for Wednesday, October 18, 2000. The meeting will be held at the Stroud Water Research Center on Spencer Road and will start at 7:30 PM (see pg 3)**

Total EPT Density



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WCWA CONTACT

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on the phone:  
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Larry & Joan Fenza  
lfenza@bigfoot.com

# 2001-2002 WCWA BOARD MEMBER NOMINEES

This is your official ballot. Please bring it to the Annual Meeting or mail to:

WCWA  
PO Box 10  
Landenberg PA 19350

(no later than October 16th)

INSTRUCTIONS: Place a check mark in the box preceding the name of the candidate.  
You may vote for any and all nominees.

(only paid-up members are eligible to vote. Please use this opportunity to renew your membership if it is expired.)

The following WCWA Board members are seeking another term:

- Dale Hendricks
- Ginger North
- Judith Shuler
- Kristen Travers
- Thomas Zawislak

The following WCWA members will run for election as new WCWA Board Members:

- Charles D McCombs II  
4 Lyells Court  
Wilmington DE 19808-1920
- Saul Palermo  
5 Westfield  
Newark DE 19711
- Russ Losco  
(see WCWA website for detailed resumé)

We are very grateful to the following retiring Board Members who have given of their time and talent to make this organization successful:

William Marsden, Anthony Masulaitis, Yda Schreuder, Linda Stapleford, and William Walsh. Our good wishes and thanks to all of you; and we hope you continue to volunteer for our watershed in other capacities.

# Annual Meeting Highlights

There are several highlights for this year:

The Watershed Association will celebrate their 39th year of being – looking into what our goals are for the big 40!

Featured speaker will be Chuck Barszcz of the National Park Association. Chuck will give a slide presentation and update on the White Clay Task Force Study.

Kristin McDonald of American Rivers will brief us on her organization and update you on how we can help achieve far reaching funding goals.

The Board of the Chester County Water Resources Authority will be present. Jan Bowers, Authority Director, will introduce the members and update you on the County Water Resources Plan.

In addition, there will be election of Board Members, and payment of dues will be accepted.

We encourage everyone to attend. It is seldom we can gather such a group of speakers into one forum. Bring your family and your neighbors. We look forward to seeing you!

For each branch (site numbers progress from upstream to downstream) a steady decline can be seen in the sensitive EPT macroinvertebrates. Sites 20 – 22 are in the Delaware portion of the watershed.

Now that WCWA has meaningful data about the quality of the watershed, it is time to adapt the Streamwatch program to reflect new goals. Increasing development within the watershed continues to pose a threat to water quality. The information collected through Streamwatch can serve as an educational as well as a management tool. For the next several years, Streamwatch will evolve into an outreach and education program for

the WCWA. With the influx of new residents into the watershed, it is imperative to connect and develop a sense of place within the watershed for these individuals. Streamwatch will reflect this need by using the existing data to inform residents about existing water quality issues. Revised Streamwatch protocols will be oriented to getting families into the stream to study firsthand what is occurring within their watershed. Through this, WCWA will fulfill an important role of connecting individuals to their local environment.

Volunteers are needed to aid in this process. Please contact Kristen Travers at 610-268-2153 x239 for additional information.



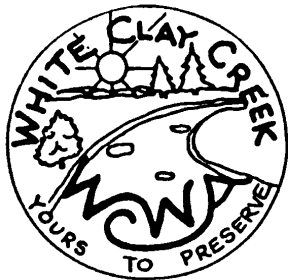
Ephemeroptera (mayfly)



Plecoptera (stonefly)



Trichoptera (caddisfly)



White Clay Watershed Association  
PO Box 10  
Landenberg PA 19350

Non-Profit  
Permit #5  
Landenberg PA  
19350



Yours to Preserve

## W.C.W.A. Membership Application

To join the White Clay Watershed Association, please fill out the form below and mail it to:

WCWA  
PO Box 10  
Landenberg PA 19350

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_ Zip(9dig) \_\_\_\_\_

Municipality/Township  
\_\_\_\_\_

Annual Dues		
Student Membership	\$10.00	\$ _____
Senior Citizen Membership	\$10.00	\$ _____
Individual Membership	\$15.00	\$ _____
Family Membership	\$25.00	\$ _____
Corporate Membership	\$100.00	\$ _____
Additional Contribution		\$ _____
Jack Murray Scholarship		\$ _____
Conservancy Fund		\$ _____
Total:		\$ _____

make checks payable to "W.C.W.A."  
The W.C.W.A. is a non-profit organization. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.

**We Need Volunteers!**

Please indicate areas of interest:

Education  
 Conservation  
 Cultural and Historic  
 Water Quality (Stream Watch)  
 Promotion  
 Membership Development  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_