



## *"The Dirt"* A Resource for Local Conservation

### Perkiomen Mapping & Flood Mitigation Study

Jessica Buck, District Manager

Flooding in our communities can be devastating. The Perkiomen Mapping & Flood Mitigation Study is the first phase of a long-term effort to help communities make more informed decisions regarding how and where to best implement stormwater management systems and projects. The study is a collaboration among county Planning Commissions, Conservation Districts, local municipalities, the Perkiomen

Watershed Conservancy, Representative Joe Webster's office, and other area organizations who have come together to address flooding throughout the 362 sq mi Perkiomen Creek watershed. This includes parts of Montgomery, Berks, Bucks and Lehigh counties.



[Click here for more info & to get involved](#)

### Attention Farmers & Ag Landowners: Ag Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) Grant Funding Available



Abigail Reiter, Ag Conservation Specialist

The Agriculture Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) was created through the Clean Streams Fund established by the FY2022-2023 Pennsylvania State Budget. ACAP provides financial and technical assistance for the implementation of best management practices (BMPs) on agricultural operations within the Commonwealth. ACAP is administered by the State Conservation Commission and delegated to participating conservation districts for local implementation of the program. MCCD is currently working on several projects contracted through ACAP in Montgomery County. Many practices are eligible for funding, priority put on those which reduce nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment loss, to improve water quality.

### Applications are currently being accepted for ACAP grant-funded projects in Montgomery County!

Eligible BMPs for funding include manure/waste storages, heavy use area protection, grassed waterways, diversions, stream crossing and cover crops, among others. Practices must be installed to meet NRCS design criteria and project costs are subject to the Prevailing Wage Act. Montgomery County Conservation District is able to reimburse costs of installing eligible practices up to 90% of the project cost, with a required 10% of the project cost being covered by the applicant. [Visit the website](#) for a listing of all eligible practices, the program application and other details.

If you have questions about the program or would like assistance putting together an application, please reach out to Abigail Reiter at (610) 489-4506 x24 or [areiter@montgomeryconservation.org](mailto:areiter@montgomeryconservation.org)

## PAG-02 Permit Expiration & Renewal - December 2024

Carl Hollenback, Resource Conservationist

### Are you trying to wrap your head around the new PAG-02 NPDES General Permit and the changes? We are here to help!

#### What is happening:

The NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) General Permit is a five year permit, under the Clean Water Act, to prevent pollution to waters of the United States by regulating point source discharges. Permit coverage authorizes regulated discharges, under this state-wide permit. The current permit expires 12/7/2024. The new permit will be effective 12/8/2024 and will expire 12/7/2025.

#### How do I ensure my permit coverage remains valid?

If you wish to maintain permit coverage, a renewal package including the current Notice of Intent (NOI) is required to be submitted to the District by 12/7/2024. Permit coverage will lapse if a renewal application is not submitted by 12/7/2024, and an expired permit cannot be renewed.

#### Changes to the new permit:

[Click here to read the full article](#)

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## Attention Ch. 102 NPDES Permit Design Engineers:

### ***Spreadsheets, Spreadsheets, Spreadsheets***

Elise Eggert-Crowe, District Engineer

Along with the many other changes to the Chapter 102 NPDES permit process, DEP has modified and developed additional spreadsheet tools. It is going to take time for everyone to learn the new tools and for any bugs to be worked out. Questions on the use of the spreadsheets can be directed to the Bureau of Clean Water at [RA-EPCHAPTER102@pa.gov](mailto:RA-EPCHAPTER102@pa.gov).

A brief summary, with links, of the items MCCD is aware of at this time include:

- **PCSM Spreadsheets** (Post-Construction Stormwater Management) – Version 2.0, last revised November 18, 2024. The revision includes terminology updates to align the new PCSM Module 2 (SCM instead of BMP, POA instead of DP). Additionally, there is a change to MRC Volume Credits which DEP indicates will be required as of March 8, 2025. Please review the [PCSM Spreadsheet Instructions](#) for more information.
- **MRC Spreadsheet** and **MRC Simplified Design Spreadsheet** (Managed Release Credit) – Version 1.0, last revised November 2024. These tools are intended to demonstrate compliance with MRC Design Standards and will replace the existing MRC Design Summary Sheet. DEP has indicated that this will be required starting March 8, 2025. Please review the [MRC Spreadsheet Instructions](#) for more information.
- **PDSC Spreadsheets** (Pre-Development Site Characterization) – Version 1.0, last revised August 2024. This tool assesses soil and infiltration testing to accompany the new PCSM Module 2. DEP has indicated that this will be required starting March 8, 2025. Please review the [PDSC Spreadsheet Instructions](#) for more information.

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**2025 Stormwater Symposium - Save the Date!** *(Registration coming soon)*



# PERKIOMEN STORMWATER SYMPOSIUM

Friday, March 14th, 2025  
9:00 am - 3:30 pm



## ABOUT THE SYMPOSIUM

Join the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy and our regional partners to dive deeper into the world of stormwater!

Discover the different methods local organizations are using to tackle stormwater issues. This training is also designed to be a one-stop-shop for municipal staff, covering all six MCMs!

Have an impressive stormwater project you would like to showcase? Submit a project poster to present during event registration. Don't miss this opportunity to share your work with fellow colleagues!

## Save the Date: 2025 Montgomery County Envirothon

Thursday, May 1st at Norristown  
Farm Park

The Montgomery County Conservation District will partner with Montgomery County Parks, Trails & Historic Sites, PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, PA Game Commission, PA Fish and Boat Commission, and Penn State Extension to deliver its annual Montgomery County Envirothon on **Thursday, May 1, 2025** at the Norristown Farm Park, 2500 Upper Farm Rd., Norristown. This free environmental education event (competition) is open to high school students in Montgomery County.

The Montgomery County Envirothon, which MCCD has hosted since 1989, educates students in natural resources and environmental sciences. The program emphasizes the importance of environmental sensitivity while stressing the need to achieve a social, ecological, and economic balance. The learning objectives emphasize awareness, knowledge and attitudes through “direct” outdoor applications while addressing the complex natural resource concerns facing today’s world, as well as the challenges of tomorrow.

During the competition, student teams will rotate through a series of stations, where agency staff will test them on wildlife, forestry, soils and land use, aquatic ecology, and a current topic (which changes on an annual basis). **The 2025 current topic is “Roots and Resiliency: Fostering Forest Stewardship in a Canopy of Change.”**



Registration is required prior to April 4th. Interested high schools may register up to three teams (of five students per team). To register, please visit: [2025 Envirothon Registration](#). Registered teams may request and borrow wildlife, forestry, and/or aquatic “study kits” from MCCD on a first-come, first-served basis. To request and schedule an appointment to pick up a study kit, please contact Brian Vadino at [bvadino@montgomeryconservation.org](mailto:bvadino@montgomeryconservation.org)

The winning student team will represent Montgomery County at the Pennsylvania Envirothon state competition, scheduled for May 21 in Windber, PA. For more information on that event and to access Station Training materials (for both county and state competitions), please visit: <https://www.envirothonpa.org/>



MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Visit our website



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