

QUARTERLY/ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT NARRATIVE

Cooperative Agreement #: CA_P13AC01266
Award Recipient: White Clay Watershed Association
Project/Program Title: Wild & Scenic River Funding
Date: October 10, 2018
Period Covered by Report: July 1, 2018- September 30, 2018
Funds expended during this reporting period: \$48,297.13
Submitted by: Shane Morgan, Management Plan Coordinator
Submitted to: National Park Service – Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers

Summary of work performed during the period covered by the report:

Administration (\$24,641.95)

Continued participation in watershed wide meetings throughout the quarter: Christina Watershed Municipal Partnership, Christina Basin Task Force, individual meetings with various stakeholders, and occasional Board of Supervisors meetings. Conducted White Clay Steering Committee Quarterly meeting and maintained and updated program fiscal records and worked with committee members to spend down remaining funds in current 5-year contract.. Revised and finalized the new Contract Agreement with Jamie Fosburgh.

Followed up on development projects in the watershed including the Papermill Road/DelDOT culvert project in New Castle County, the Chestnut Valley Stream Restoration proposal in New Castle County, the White Clay Creek State Park Master Planning Open Houses, and the New Garden Township cell tower hearings.

Tracked budgets and maintained communications with other non-NPS funders including DelDOT/RKK, Brandywine Red Clay Alliance, SUEZ, and National Park Foundation.

This quarterly expenditure also included our FY17 payment for technical and student intern assistance provide by the Water Resource Center at University of Delaware in the amount of \$8000, and our annual insurance coverage for the year in the amount of \$2554.

Education (\$1968.55)

Municipal Outreach:

Convened a meeting of municipal engineers and staff to discuss PA DEP deficiency letters to permit applications. Continued conversations with PA-DEP staff to understand how each TMDL plan was reviewed and acted as a liaison between the municipality and PA DEP as questions arose. Arranged a meeting with PADEP and the White Clay Creek Municipalities set for October 3, 2018. Continued exploration of potential opportunities for collaboration (such as BMP maintenance and inspection). Attended several Christina Watershed Municipal Partnership meetings to formalize our structure and setting the groundwork for the next round of permits so we can be proactive in receiving funding to continue this work. Completed proposal for William Penn funding to formalize the CWMP and sustain its capacity to work with Pennsylvania municipalities. Attending meeting with West Grove Borough manager and the Healthy Waterfund Team, and the CWMP planning team and the Waterfund to see how both initiatives can communicate more effectively with watershed municipalities without we confusing them.

Community Outreach:

- Website stats: 1438 unique visitors, 1384-page visits, and 2669-page views during the months of July - Sept. 2018. The most popular content during this period was the Catch the Rain Program page.
- Maintained social media and website updates and E-mail communications.

Restoration (\$12,614.81)

Stream Monitoring Projects:

- Orientation of new (PA) water quality summer intern from Stroud.
- Volunteer coordination and management of four sensor stations.
- Conducted storm and baseflow sampling at four sensor stations for N, P, CL, and TSS.
- Collected fecal samples throughout the watershed for Stroud bacteria research.
- Several working meetings with Rob Tuttle to develop and refine software using the open source R that meets the needs of our monitoring efforts in the Christina Basin.
- Resumed taking bi-monthly samples for bacteria at four sensor sites after the conclusion of the summer recreational sampling.
- Continued to refine the draft water quality monitoring plan and field protocols for volunteers.
- Continued to manage data submitted by volunteers and refine data entry templates.
- Began planning for volunteer monitoring training workshops to take place this winter.

Catch the Rain Program:

- Planned and provided a Catch the Rain Workshop to 16 attendees in London Grove Township on September 20, 2018.
- Met with 6 new applicants and provided site reports.

- Continued refining the application process and forms after meeting with the Ambler Borough EAC and learning about their green infrastructure program. Toured some of their rain garden installations. .
- Continued communications with London Croft HOA and Brandywine Conservancy regarding a riparian buffer planting on HOA lands. This was originally scheduled for fall 2018, but after a second visit this summer we determined it would be better to have the existing phragmites treated before planting.
- Began coordinating and planning for a Spring 2019 Catch the Rain Workshop with Brandywine Conservancy and Natural Lands.

Land Stewardship:

- Maintained communications with Red Tail Restoration on work being done in New Garden Township at existing trails and the New Garden Park Riparian Buffer (supported by funds from New Garden Township with oversight from WCWS Program)
- On-going: land stewardship work conducted at Hoopes farm, Hutchinson farm, and Franklin Preserve.

Land Preservation (\$9,071.82)

Update on current Natural Lands Projects:

- Christie: Funds were put in escrow with the title company for the 4.2 acre conservation and trail easement set to close this fall.

Update on current Brandywine Conservancy Projects:

- The Conservation Easement on the Hutchinson Farm is closing in the coming month.
- The Shaw land preservation project located across three municipalities (Penn, New London, and London Grove) is still moving forward. The Committee agreed to support this project with the remaining funds (\$4500) in our FY17 open space budget, but this project did not close in time for this contract agreement and is short \$8000 total to close. John is looking for additional funds and the \$4500 that was on reserve for Shaw was put towards continued land stewardship of the new riparian buffer on the Hutchinson property through Fall 2019.