

QUARTERLY/ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT NARRATIVE

Cooperative Agreement #: CA_P13AC01266
Award Recipient: White Clay Watershed Association
Project/Program Title: Wild & Scenic River Funding
Date: April 12, 2016
Period Covered by Report: January 1, 2016- March 31, 2016
Funds expended during this reporting period: \$27,743.34
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:

- Published, printed (350), and distributed the 2016 White Clay Creek Wild and Scenic Program Update
- Published, printed (40), and began distributing the 2016 State of the Watershed Report
- Met with Jinjun Kan (Stroud) and finalized microbial source tracking proposal, approved by Restoration Subcommittee, and developed and obtained signed contract with Stroud to begin year 1 work. Obtained necessary approvals from landowners and collected potential source samples to create a local DNA library with Stroud's lab technician, Laura Borecki.
- Met with water purveyors, USGS, DNREC, at UD WRA to revisit the early warning system for the Christina-Basin. UD Intern, Matt Luddington, set up a google phone chain/texting alert system to be tested in the basin. Discussions continued about adding some more parameters to an existing USGS gage in the White Clay Creek (Strickersville) to include temperature, standard conductivity, pH, DO and precipitation. The current gage already measures discharge, turbidity and gage height. USGS is also looking into adding a nitrate optics gage as well.
- Continued work on the New Garden Park Riparian Buffer Growing Greener Project with Landstudies and New Garden Township; Live stakes installed along stream banks in late March. Met with Township officials to discuss management of no mow areas.
- Continued outreach via article submission to two municipal newsletters (New Garden and London Grove), the White Clay Wild & Scenic Program blog and mailchimp newsletter, social media, direct mailings, and attendance at watershed wide meetings throughout the quarter.
- Continued work with the Christina Basin TMDL Implementation Plan Partnership
- Developed Green Stormwater Infrastructure Pilot Program proposal for the White Clay Creek in partnership with Brandywine Conservancy, reviewed and approved by Restoration Subcommittee; grant paperwork filled out by Brandywine Conservancy and submitted to E.K. Dockstaeder
- Continued White Clay Creek Fest planning and communications with exhibitors and vendors.
- Visited two potential reforestation sites with Brandywine Conservancy Reforestation Manger, Rob Daniels.
- Met with Steve Brown to discuss management of the Hills of Sullivan tree planting in London Grove Township.
- Continued to provide assistance to municipalities and local watershed groups on managing their existing green stormwater infrastructure including the New Garden Township riparian buffer, Landenberg Junction Trail habitat garden, Hunt basin retrofits in Newark, and Goddard Park rain gardens in London Grove Township.
- Completed planning of the second installment of the Curtis Mill Park pollinator planting with Newark High School and City of Newark, scheduled for Saturday, May 14 installment
- Met with Marion Waggoner and Dave Yake (Save our Water) to discuss and support their Broad Run Stream Flow study. They are taking and reporting Nitrate (NO3-N) measurements as well as DO, TSS, Conductivity, Temperature and Flow.
- Continue to work with the Bella Vista Community; met with Delaware Nature Society to determine interest in partnering on the education component involving the homeowners and the Sanford School upstream of the community. It was determined that work in the Private Open Space areas will

be managed as is until we can get further clarification on the status of the land. Work will continue with members of the community and potentially this could be part of the GSI pilot program for the Delaware portion of the watershed.

- Completed and submitted Delaware SECC application renewal.
- Provided new replacement watershed road signage to Franklin, New Garden, London Grove, City of Newark. Met with Angel Burns to discuss using New Castle County signs on WCCSP lands.
- Provided wildlife habitat sign to Friends of New Garden Trails for the Landenberg Junction Project, and a rain garden sign for Franklin Townships building rain garden. Currently working with New Garden Township Parks on placement of several signs in the buffer project area.
- Watershed Master Stewards update – first class of 15 volunteers is in session, touring White Clay on May 14. Projects are needed that involve volunteers so they can meet their 40-hour requirement for their Master Water Steward certification.
- Christina Basin Education Group – met in March, working on putting together a Brandywine-Christina Basin wide Education Initiatives Inventory to track what partners are doing and materials available, but also to look for gaps in watershed education. Meeting again in June.
- Mailchimp Newsletter stats: 319 recipients, 36.7% average open rate (industry average 20.2%), click rate 7.8% (industry average 2.2%)
- Website stats: 383 average visits (unique user with several page views)/month, 955 unique page views/month, 331 unique visitors/month.