

**APPENDIX L**  
**PUBLIC COORDINATION INFORMATION**

# Buffalo Creek Watershed Conservation Plan

## PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE:

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- **February 7**  
**7pm**

**Worthington–West  
Franklin VFD**

Cherry Street and Linton  
Alley  
Worthington

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- **February 15**  
**7pm**

**Freeport Area  
High School**

South Pike Road  
Buffalo Township

For details contact:  
412-963-6100  
[www.aswp.org](http://www.aswp.org)



Help us to develop this important plan

Identify priorities for the watershed's ecological,  
cultural, and historical features.

# Buffalo Creek Valley Watershed Programs

## Public Introduction Program

- Thursday August 23  
7pm
- Freeport Area High School

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## Watershed Training Workshop

- Saturday  
September 15,  
10am-4pm
- Todd Nature Reserve

Explore potential projects  
in the Buffalo Creek Area

Boxed Lunch and  
materials provided  
**FREE!**

Registration Required:  
[aswp.org](http://aswp.org)  
412-963-6100



***A WATERSHED is not just streams and rivers, it is the LAND and COMMUNITY that surrounds them. Find out how you can be involved in YOUR Buffalo Creek Valley watershed.***

# Buffalo Creek Watershed Update

A Bulletin Supplement for Residents of the Buffalo Creek Watershed

## Upcoming Events

### Watershed Program

- Tuesday, August 28, 7 pm
- Freeport Area High School
- No Reservations Required

### Watershed Training

- Saturday, September 15,  
10 am–4 pm
- Todd Nature Reserve
- Reservations Required  
412-963-6100  
OR [bshema@aswp.org](mailto:bshema@aswp.org)

### Buffalo Creek Watershed Conservation Plan

#### Public Meeting

- Thursday, December 6,  
7 pm–8 pm
- Freeport Area High School

#### Draft Conservation Plan Review and Comment

## Audubon Society of Western PA Announces Watershed Programs

While there are a number of groups that work throughout the Buffalo Creek Watershed to protect and improve specific natural and recreational assets of the valley, no group is currently concentrating on public awareness and the coordination of projects throughout the entire area. Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania (ASWP) is looking for volunteers who would like to learn more about the natural history of the area, and in particular, assist in the stewardship of the watershed. We are looking to create and support a team of individuals who would work to improve watershed recreation opportunities, promote awareness of watershed issues, and create, enhance, or protect watershed habitats.

Join us for an informational program at 7:00 on Tuesday, August 28th at the Freeport Area High School where we will discuss the various opportunities available to you including:

- Development of watershed clean-up days
- Stream-bank fencing and other waterway protection projects
- Invasive plant-species control
- Water quality and exotic pest monitoring programs
- Endangered Species monitoring and habitat projects
- Development of improved access to Buffalo Creek and youth/handicapped accessibility

We also encourage any of you who are ready to get your hands wet to join us for a workshop focused on water quality and water monitoring techniques. This workshop will prepare participants to become active in projects in the Buffalo Creek Watershed. The workshop is FREE and a boxed lunch is provided. It will be held at Todd Nature Reserve on September 15th from 9:00 to 3:00.

More information on these programs, as well as reservations for the workshop can be made by contacting Brian Shema, at 412-963-6100 or [bshema@aswp.org](mailto:bshema@aswp.org).



# Buffalo Creek Watershed Conservation Plan

It has been described as a uniquely diverse and naturally important area for over a century, but in the near future, the Buffalo Creek Valley will be challenged with a desire to maintain its rural character and natural landscapes while increasingly becoming part of the burgeoning suburbs of Pittsburgh. Arriving at a successful resolution to these and other issues requires that the watershed's stakeholders find common ground and plan for the future with common goals.

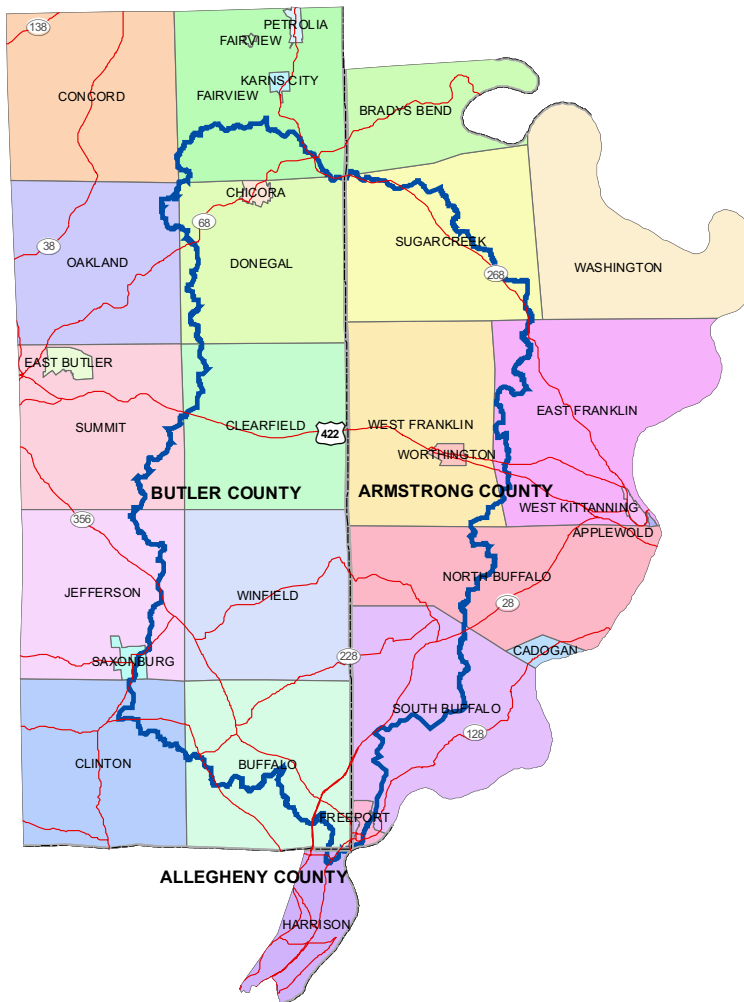
The Pennsylvania Rivers Conservation Program (PA RCP) was established by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) to conserve and enhance river resources through preparation and accomplishment of locally initiated river conservation plans. The program provides technical and financial assistance to municipalities, river support groups, and other organizations to carry out

Buffalo Creek Watershed  
Conservation Plan

## PUBLIC MEETING

**December 6th, 2007  
7:00PM  
Freeport Area High  
School**

This meeting will present the DRAFT Conservation Plan and will initiate the Public Review and Comment portion of the planning process.



Buffalo Creek Watershed encompasses 18 municipalities in Butler and Armstrong counties.

planning, implementation, and development activities in the watershed. It is through this program that the community members in the Buffalo Creek Valley will have a voice in the direction of their quality of life, and the resulting plan will provide direction and will bolster community support of local initiatives.

In 2005, Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania (ASWP) was selected by DCNR to administer a watershed conservation plan for Buffalo Creek and its tributaries under the PA RCP. Because ASWP's membership region covers the entire watershed, and because of its long history in the valley, the organization was viewed as the foremost organization to undertake this endeavor. Soon after accepting the role, ASWP worked to raise the \$120,000 needed

*“One can stand on the crest of a knoll in a little country burial ground within its boundaries and view the land around it. The western sun lights up the timbered dome of Bell’s Knob arched in green on the eastern horizon. The fertile farms around it were a prairie in the midst of a timbered wilderness on which lush grasses grew and lured the buffalo and deer from forest retreats, where, when men first visited it, they found the buffalo feeding upon it and called it the Buffalo Lands. It is bordered by precipitous hills clothed in the dark green of pines and hemlock mingled with the lighter tones of the annuals. Nearer, and deeper within its narrow valley, the Little Buffalo Creek flows southward into the Big Buffalo to the Allegheny River, the Ohio of old, ‘Beautiful River’ of the Indians.”*

*Francis Harbison, 1941*

to complete the project and sought participation from local landowners, businessmen, farmers, sportsmen, and conservation organizations to serve on a steering committee.

After 12 months of coordination and oversight from the steering committee, GAI Consultants Inc. was selected as the consulting firm to work on the planning process. George Reese, a long-time resident of Buffalo Township and Environmental Manager for GAI Consulting Inc. was appointed as the Project Manager on behalf of the firm. Brian Shema, ASWP Director of Conservation was appointed project coordinator on behalf of ASWP.

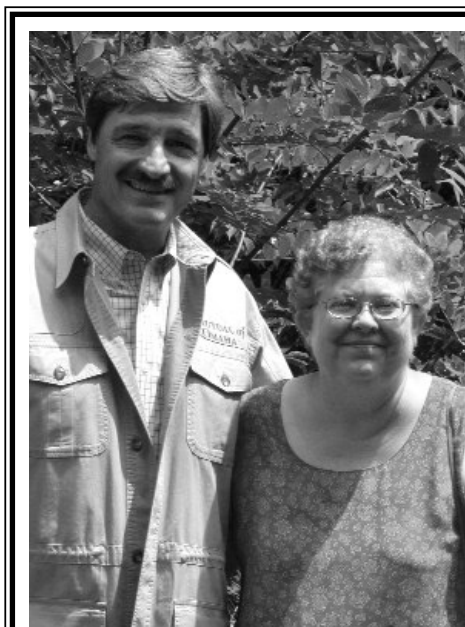
Local public meetings were held in

February, and information regarding what local community members thought were the most important attributes of the watershed and the most important threats to the watershed was collected. Committee members and members of the general public assisted in identifying key people to interview to gain specific information about the watershed. Numerous interviews of public and private stakeholders were conducted based on these recommendations.

George Reese has worked diligently in compiling information gathered during these meetings and interviews. Throughout the fall of 2007, his team will continue to work on completing a draft conservation plan.

Because public participation is critical in preparing this plan for the watershed, we continue to seek participation from community members. A public meeting will be held on December 6th, 7PM at the Freeport Area High School to introduce the draft Watershed Conservation Plan. All community members are encouraged to attend the meetings to review the plan so we may receive your input. The final plan will incorporate ideas, concerns, and issues brought up through this round of public meetings.

Additional information regarding the watershed conservation plan and upcoming public meetings can be found at ASWP’s website, [aswp.org/rcp](http://aswp.org/rcp), or by contacting Brian Shema, [bshema@aswp.org](mailto:bshema@aswp.org) or 412-963-6100.



### **ASWP invites local teacher to meet Mutual of Omaha’s “Wild Kingdom” star**

Jacqueline Pfeiffer, 3rd Grade teacher from South Butler Primary School, was excited to have the opportunity to meet former host of Mutual of Omaha’s “Wild Kingdom” Peter Gros at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve. After learning that Ms. Pfeiffer and her 3rd grade class took part in a program centered on the Wild Kingdom television show, ASWP invited her to meet the host of the show when he visited Pittsburgh in July.

www.aswp.org

614 Dorseyville Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15238



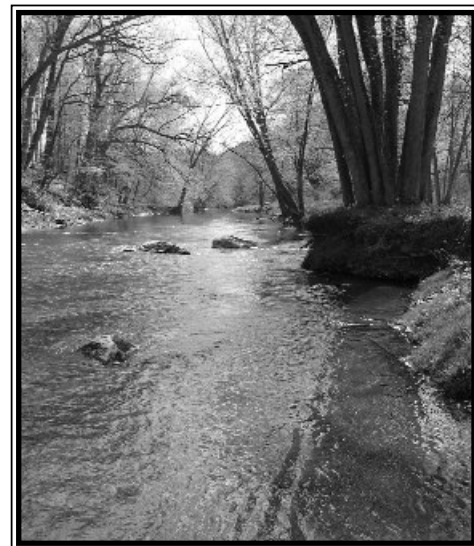
## Bulletin Supplement

# ASWP and the Buffalo Creek Valley

Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania (ASWP) has a long history in the Buffalo Creek Valley dating back to the early 1940s when W.E. Clyde Todd donated the initial 90 acres that became the core of Todd Nature Reserve. Over the years, we have continued to grow the reserve to its current 176 public acres with 5 miles of trails and another 110 acres not yet accessible by the public. Recently, we were able to acquire a conservation easement on a neighboring farm (helping insure that it will stay a farm) and will shortly add another 42 acres to the public portion of the reserve.

Throughout the year, we offer educational programs at both Todd and in local schools. Several years ago, the Buffalo Creek Watershed was declared an Important Bird Area and ASWP has been conducting point count bird censuses to track changes in the local bird populations. Combined with our earlier records from Todd Nature Reserve and recorded observations from W. E. Clyde Todd himself, we have information going back over 100 years.

Now, in conjunction with the Rivers Conservation Plan, we are pleased to announce our new initiative to work throughout the watershed to raise awareness about the unique and special nature of the Buffalo Creek Valley and to provide opportunities to get directly involved with its protection and enhancement. We encourage you to attend the upcoming programs and workshops and to find a way to become involved with the work that ASWP is doing throughout the community.



## *A WATERSHED*

**is not just streams and rivers, it is the LAND and COMMUNITY that surrounds them. Find out how you can be involved in YOUR Buffalo Creek Valley watershed.**

# Buffalo Creek Watershed Conservation Plan

## PUBLIC MEETING:

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### Draft Conservation Plan Review and Comment

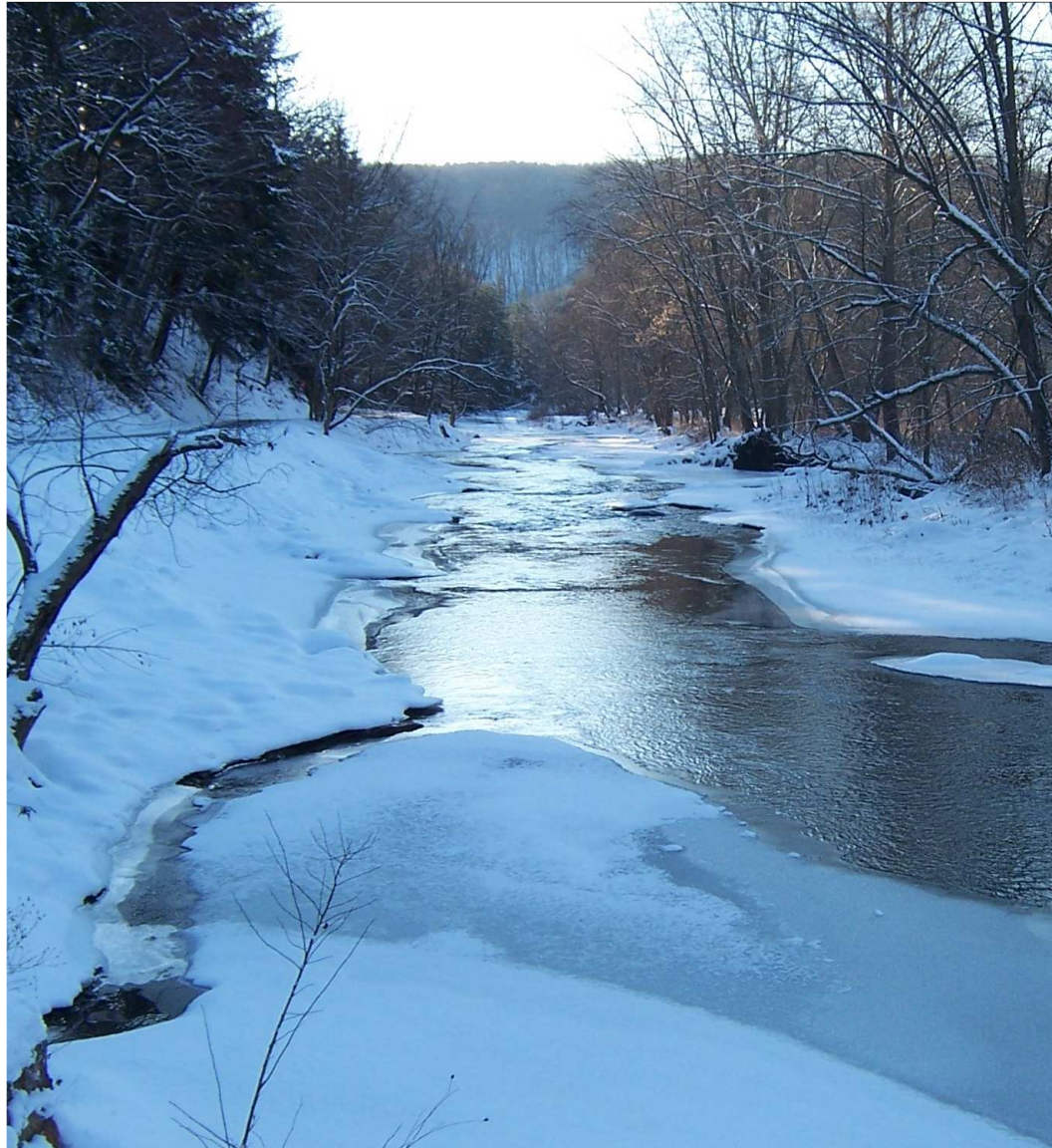
All community members  
are encouraged to attend

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- Thursday December 6  
7pm–8pm
- Freeport Area  
High School  
  
South Pike Road  
Buffalo Township

For details contact:  
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*Help ensure the long-term viability and sustainability of the watershed, its unique landscape and ecological features, and the quality of life for residents and visitors.*