Schuylkill Action Network Fact Sheet – August 2006

Steering Committee

The role of the Steering Committee is to ensure that partners are knowledgeable and supportive of SAN activities and to provide feedback and direction to the workgroups. Members include US. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), PA Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP), City of Phila Water Department (PWD), Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) and the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary (PDE).

Watershed Land Collaborative

This newly formed workgroup is working to develop products and tools for municipalities and nonprofit groups to help identify land preservation areas based on habitat and drinking water protection. Members include EPA, PADEP, PWD, PDE, several nonprofits and local county planning organizations.

Planning Workgroup

Source Water Protection Strategy development and implementation, workshops, web services, communication, and events. Members include EPA, PADEP, PWD, DRBC & PDE.
reporting, technical team

Education/Outreach

Team is working to increase awareness regarding source water, is assisting the technical teams on outreach/education, and is responsible for the SAN source water protection awards program. Members include EPA, PADEP, PWD, League of Woman Voters, & Partnership for the Delaware Estuary.

Agricultural Workgroup

The role of this workgroup includes implementing protection projects for agricultural practices, the management of runoff, and establishment of practices to reduce pathogens, sediment, and nutrient loadings. Members of this workgroup include EPA, PADEP, PWD, local water suppliers, Berks County Conservation District, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Farm Bureau, Pomona Grange, Penn State Extension Service, and the Hay Creek Watershed Assoc.iation.

Abandoned Mine Drainage (AMD) Workgroup

The AMD workgroup is working to characterize and minimize flow from the abandoned Pine Knot drainage tunnel. The discharge is the largest contributor of metals from AMD. Once the sources of inflow are identified, prioritization of the sources will occur followed by implementation of remedial actions. Members of the AMD workgroup include EPA, PADEP, PWD, Schuylkill Headwaters Association, Schuylkill County Conservation District, Army Corp. of Engineers, US Geological Survey, Exelon, & Reading Anthracite.

Storm Water Workgroup

Contaminated storm water runoff is the leading cause of impairment within the watershed. The workgroup is seeking to reduce stream impairment through better storm water management and to protect high quality streams from potential threats. Activities include education, outreach, and the implementation of best management practices (BMPs) demonstration projects. In addition to EPA, PADEP, and PWD, the team includes a subcommittee of land management, preservation, and conservation organizations given the critical role land use plays in storm water management.

Pathogen/Compliance Workgroup

Workgroup focus is on discharges in violation of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements, releases from combined and separate sewer systems as well as from unsewered communities. Discharges upstream of drinking water intakes are a priority. Technical assistance to publicly owned treatment plants, targeted inspections, and compliance assistance regarding the management of on-site waste treatment facilities are activities of this team. Members include EPA, PADEP, PWD with input from county health depts.

Data Team

Data drives the technical teams. This group assists with indicators, monitoring, establishment of base lines, scientific support, data quality, and information management. Members include EPA, PADEP, and PWD.