



Schuylkill Action Network Stormwater Workgroup Virtual Meeting Minutes

**Monday, February 12th
10:00 am - 11:30 am**

1. Welcome and Introductions (10:00 - 10:10)

- Virginia Smith, Villanova University
- Zach Nemec, PA Sea Grant
- Alex Cupo, Sustainable Business Network of Greater Philadelphia (SBN)
- Kaitie Evers, Partnership for the Delaware Estuary (PDE)
- Meghan Rogalus, PDE
- Peter Winslow, SMART Collaboration (EJ collab in Lower Schuylkill)
- Carrie Konnovitch
- Cindy Murdough, Tulpehocken Watershed Association and Penn State Watershed Steward
- Gary Kulp, Montgomery County Conservation District Engineer
- Gregory Klucharich, Assistant Engineer Whitpain Twp
- Beth Garcia, EPA Region 3
- Beth Yount, Penn State Extension Master Watershed Steward Coordinator
- Erin Lewis, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- Joe Hebelka, PA DEP
- Kate Hutelmyer, Chester County Water Resource Authority
- Kurtis Wagner, PA Rural Water
- Paul Racette, Pennsylvania Environmental Council
- Nicole Lemanski
- Diana Maher, PEC
- Sara Aldarondo, Barry Isett & Associates
- Taylor Lawrence, Berks Co Planning Commission
- Ian Quinlan, PA DEP MS4 Program
- Chuck Marshall, Trout Unlimited, Valley Creek Chapter
- Jennifer Leister, Upper Montgomery Joint Authority
- Julie Schneider, CWP
- Clete Rickert, retired Villanova University
- Jennifer Pavao, Penn State Master Watershed Steward

Erin Lewis, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation shared a few highlights on the Delaware Watershed Conservation Fund Request for Proposals currently open. Applications are due Thurs. March 21st. Projects ranging from \$75K to 1.5 million in 4 different strategic areas. For stormwater workgroup most relevant are likey strategic area #2 focusing on water quality improvement or strategic area #3 enhanced water

management. Funding is available for both implementation and capacity building too. Proposal labs are available and recommended to connect with the NFWF team about your idea. Erin stayed on the call for a bit to address any questions from the group

RFP:

<https://www.nfwf.org/programs/delaware-river-program/delaware-watershed-conservation-fund-2024-request-proposals>

Proposal Lab Sign Up:

<https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/DWCF2024ProposalLabs@nfwf.org/bookings/s/0ozmTvggvkKDhiOVXqmkiq2>

Please reach out to Erin at Erin.Lewis@nfwf.org if you have any questions

2. “Needs, Challenges, and Solutions for Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) Implementation” by Dr. Virginia Smith, Associate Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Villanova University (10:15 - 11:00)

The impacts of water watershed development is reflected in the health of our streams, particularly headwater streams. Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) are becoming an increasingly pervasive solution for stormwater management to mitigate these impacts. While maintenance of these can be challenging, GSI design can be leveraged to create more effective and efficient maintenance plans.

[See Slides here](#)

[See presentation recording here](#)

VCRWS Seminars:

<https://elearningv2.engineering.villanova.edu/Mediasite/Channel/8411575cbf8b4cd2b591f32ac0f868455f/browse/null/most-recent/null/0/null>

Q&A (11:00 - 11:15)

3. Partner Updates & News/Events (11:15 - 11:25)

- a. Paul Racette - [State of Stormwater Symposium: Programs and Fees in a post-West Chester Landscape](#)- a crash course on recent developments for stormwater management programs and fees, hosted and sponsored by **the**

Pennsylvania Environmental Council being held on **Wednesday, February 28th from 9 AM - 11AM.**

Attend the hybrid Symposium, from the comfort of your computer over Zoom OR join us in person for lively presentations and panel discussions at the Lancaster County Convention Center, integrated with the Lancaster Marriot at Penn Square.

[Click here for more details and to register.](#)

- b. [SBN Open House](#) - Feb 29th 5:30 - 7:30pm at Blk Ivy

Alex encourages everyone to join the Sustainable Business Network on Thursday, February 29 for SBN's next Member Open House with Blk Ivy! Owned by Dr. Kimberly McGlenn of Grant Blvd, Blk Ivy is a Philadelphia-based thrift store that combines cultural artifacts and community engagement. Celebrating the aesthetics and the work of the Civil Rights Movement to social justice practices of today, the shop features a curation of vintage and secondhand clothing and artifacts. There will be great food as well

- c. [PA Sea Grant - Philadelphia Choose Native Workshop](#)

Zach highlighted the upcoming workshop for landscape professionals and municipal land managers who could use an overview of integrating more natives and management of invasives

Thurs., March 7th – 8:30am - 3:30pm at John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge (Registration closed Feb 5th)

- d. Due to overwhelming interest in Choose Native workshop from folks outside the landscape profession PA Sea Grant, Penn State Cooperative Extension will be partnering on a **Virtual Mini workshop for community members/volunteers: Apr. 16th 6-8pm**. More info to come from Zach and Beth soon!

- e. [Perkiomen Stormwater Symposium 2024](#)

Fri., March 8th – 9am - 3:30pm at Ursinus College

Join the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy and regional partners to dive deeper into the world of stormwater! Discover the different methods local organizations are using to tackle stormwater issues. Municipalities will walk away with educational materials and volunteer opportunities for their residents. **This training is also designed to be a one-stop-shop for municipal staff, covering all six MCMs!**

Beth Garcia shared that Ruby Stanmeyer of EPA Region 3 will be presenting on PFAS. Lots of great presenters lined up for this event!

f. **[SBN's 2024 Achieving Climate Resilience Through Water Symposium](#)**

Wed., March 20th – 9am - 4pm

Science History Institute

The symposium will include three tracks, including **Green Stormwater Management: New Approaches, Operations & Maintenance; Stormwater & Climate Resilience Regulations & Policies;** and **Funding and Financing Opportunities for Water Infrastructure & Community Greening**. In addition to these core tracks, SBN and its Steering Committee has considered proposals that present cutting edge developments and innovations in water management technologies and practices, as well as those that incorporate an integrated water systems approach to climate resilience. PDH credits will be offered for sessions during the symposium. Tickets include breakfast, lunch, and refreshments in addition to access to 12 sessions over these three tracks.

<https://sbngreaterphilly.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/sbngreaterphilly/event.jsp?event=1780>

4. Upcoming Grant Application Deadlines (11:25 - 11:30)

- i. Schuylkill River Restoration Fund - LOI due February 15
- ii. CFA [Watershed Restoration & Protection Program](#) and [Flood Mitigation Program](#) grants - open Feb 1 through May 31

5. Wrap-Up & Next Meeting

- a. Monday June 10th 10am - 11:30am