

BLUE MOUNTAIN WILDLIFE INC.

2002 - FALL NEWSLETTER

What's been happening?

On Monday August 19th officers and directors of Blue Mountain Wildlife Inc. along with Walter Axsmith, President of Northern Berks Recreation Commission met with PA state representative David Argall (124th district) and his staff at the Kernsville Dam. Representative Argall was giving his staff from Harrisburg a tour to give them a personal introduction to the various projects, issues, locations and organizations in the area.

On Saturday , September 14th members of BMW, Inc. participated in SKIP's (Schuylkill Keep It Pretty) fall clean up. BMW, Inc. members along with other volunteers from the area worked on Port Clinton Avenue in West Brunswick Township, Schuylkill County. Two huge piles of trash bags, an assortment of junk, and a dozen or so car tires were cleaned up from that area.

About 1,750 people registered to help in cleaning up Schuylkill County. Various other groups participated in the semi-annual clean up. One group calling themselves "The Schuylkill County River Raiders" (believed to be headed by Wayne Bowen also of the Schuylkill River Greenway Association) used canoes to clean up along the banks of the river. This sounds like a great idea that we could start on our stretch of the river. Anyone with a canoe who is willing to volunteer some time to a river clean up just let us know and we'll organize a Berks County Chapter of the "River Raiders".

On September 30th , we met with Scott Johnson and Jack Buckwalter from the PA DEP's Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation (BAMR) to discuss how our proposed plans would relate to the states future use of the Kernsville Dam area as a desilting project

Wayne Bowen from the Schuylkill River Greenway Association also attended this meeting to discuss issues relating to the Bartram Trail in this area and how our two projects will tie together. So far everything looks very promising. Our next steps will be to draw up a very detailed plan and submit it along with an application for a lease for the Kernsville Dam property.

The Berks County Commissioners recently approved \$81,100 in grants for four for trail projects which were recommended by the Berks County's Open Space and Recreation Advisory Council. West Reading received a grant of \$6,100. The Berks County Conservancy, Fleetwood and Maiden creek townships received \$25,000 each. These projects are similar to our plans for the Kernsville Dam Area.

What's coming up?

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
Sunday November 3rd, 2002 at 130PM (meet at the monument) <i>Extremely poor weather will cancel.</i>	Nature Hike at Kernsville Dam Area, guided by Marcus Schneck, a local outdoor writer. The intent is to show you the various wildlife and fauna in the area.	Bring good hiking shoes and a bottle of water. The trails may be rough in spots but the hike will be gently paced and educational for all ages. (Contact Barry at 610- 562-5734 or Don at 610-562-3199)
Sometime over the winter	Trail clearing work detail. (clear fallen trees and overgrown vegetation.)	To sign up for a small work group contact Ron at 610-562-1946 or Barry & Don (see above)

MEMBERSHIP ISSUES

- Please return your questionnaires and surveys that we mailed out with your summer newsletter. We look forward to your input.
- Feel free to attend our monthly meetings at the Hamburg Area Middle School, the second Thursday of each month, at 6:30P, up to and including May 2003. We need your help, interest and participation!
- First Edition Blue Mountain Wildlife Inc. patches can now be obtained through the mail and are available for a donation of \$5.00 or more, (check please,) with a self addressed, stamped envelope to: BMW INC., PO Box 389, Hamburg, PA. 19526.