



2022 Accomplishments

Upper Chartiers Creek Watershed Association (UCCWA)

A note from our President

Thank you for putting your trust in my leadership in 2023. I'm excited for this opportunity to follow the many years of dedicated and committed leadership of Josh Dunkle as well as the members and countless volunteers who have donated their time, talent, and knowledge to the betterment of this group and the improvement of the Chartiers Creek Watershed. Your love of Southwestern Pennsylvania, Washington County and Chartiers Creek is obvious and inspiring. Through your efforts in 2022 we were able to organize multiple events, provide community education and strengthen our connections and collaborations within the Chartiers Creek Watershed community, all while making new friends and having fun! As we enter 2023, I'm confident that while we continue to work together, we will create lasting positive change in our watershed, our communities, and ourselves. I look forward to sharing my ideas and enthusiasm with you as we work together towards growing and strengthening our stewardship of the watershed.

Thank you again for this opportunity to share with you what is sure to be a fantastic year in UCCWA.

Virginia McNulty, President

Promoting Interest in Natural Resource Conservation:



Conservation Genetics was presented by Dr. Patrick Danley on zoom.



Macroinvertebrates at Canonsburg Lake: Beyond Fish and Birds & Outreach at Fishing Tournament

Volunteers displayed macro-invertebrate samples and explained their important role in the ecosystem as food for fish and excellent indicators of water quality.

Studying Natural Resources:

Winter Salt Watch - The Washington County Watershed Alliance entered into a Salt Watch Partnership Agreement with the Izaak Walton League of America. UCCWA volunteers participated in Salt Watch last winter and will continue to participate in the winter of 2022-2023. While salts spread on roads, parking lots and sidewalks help keep us safe in winter, too much salt can pollute our streams. By using the free IWL test kits and posting their data to the IWL on-line [story board](#), volunteers can share their data. We hope that both private and public property owners will use this information to improve water quality and save money unnecessarily spent on salt.



Measuring Flow



Collecting Macro-invertebrates



Sorting Macro-invertebrates

UCCWA citizen scientists continued to monitor stream water quality. Roger Shaw and Jean Bear led the effort. Spring and fall chemical testing and macro-invertebrate studies were conducted at four sites: Chartiers Run behind American Legion in Houston, Chartiers Creek main stem at Houston Ballfield and Scotty's Ice Cream, and Little Chartiers at Linden Road and Linden Creek Road. The chemical data are posted at [3 Rivers Quest](#). Here are the macroinvertebrate results for the year.

Stream	Date	Rating	Date	Rating
Chartiers Run	4/9	Poor	10/22	Good
Chartiers Creek- Scotty's	3/15	Poor	10/15	Poor
Little Chartiers	4/28	Poor	10/8	Very Good
Chartiers Creek - Houston	4/2	Poor	10/29	Fair

Because our monitoring equipment is old and needs to be replaced, we are making some changes to make stream monitoring easier in 2023 for volunteers with minimal training. We are also seeking a grant to perform additional tests at the four sites next spring focusing on elements and metals from mine drainage and industrial waste.

Participate with local communities and federal/state programs.

Through the following programs UCCWA Involved local support to correct conditions that cause problems for the watershed, and identified federal, state, and local programs (financial, technical, and scientific) that benefit the watershed.

10 Million Trees – UCCWA helped recruit landowners who received and planted free trees on their properties in spring and fall 2022. Landowners are also being recruited to receive and plant free trees in spring 2023. A 2022 BHE GT&S Mini Grant will supply tree tubes, stakes, etc. for planting.



Houston Ballfield Streambank Restoration

UCCWA Initiated a meeting with a Houston Borough Councilman and WCCD staff regarding the need for streambank restoration of 900 linear feet of Chartiers Creek along Houston Ballfield. WCCD assisted in getting a design and cost estimate. An application for GAPS assistance was submitted. We are searching for project funding.

Action to correct conditions that cause problems for the watershed



Earth Day Cleanup

UCCWA organized an Earth Day Cleanup on Canonsburg Lake and McDowell Lane where 15 volunteers collected 26 bags of garbage.

Chartiers Creek Revival

In September, UCCWA joined the Washington County Watershed Alliance event to clean up three locations on Chartiers Creek: Houston from the American Legion to the Ballfield, Canonsburg vegetation removal for flood control maintenance, and Little Chartiers from Galley Road to the confluence with Chartiers Creek. 30 bags of garbage were collected.

Before



After!



- 1/4 mile of trail was cleared around Central Ave. bridge in Canonsburg



- A massive log jam was removed from iron bridge, addressing an issue noted in the U.S. Army Corp flood control project inspection report.

The event was followed by gatherings at local bars/taverns for a free drink. Thank you to Voodoo Brewery at West Pike Pub, Mondays Brewing Company, Rusty Gold Brewing and Helltown Taproom. Also thank you to PA American Water, Houston Borough, Amity Asphalt, South Canonsburg Church and Central Car Wash for donations and assistance.



2022 Officers and Board Members

Josh Dunkle, President
Carrilee Hemington, Vice President/Treasurer (January – May)
Kristene Shaw, Vice President (June – December)
Virginia McAnulty, Secretary (January - May)
Carrilee, Secretary (June – December)
Summer Voelker, Treasurer (June – December)



Become a dual member of Washington County Watershed Alliance and Upper Chartiers Creek Watershed Association to support our mission!

Go to <https://www.wcwalliance.org/plans-pricing>
or scan QR code

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Website: upperchartierscreek.org

[Facebook.com/UpperChartiersCreek](https://www.facebook.com/UpperChartiersCreek)

[Instagram.com/upperchartierswatershed](https://www.instagram.com/upperchartierswatershed)