

Bedford County Conservation District 2010 Annual Report

The Conservation District was organized in 1956, as a legal subdivision of state and local government under the authority of Act 217, to assist landowners in Bedford County with natural resource related issues, providing the technical and financial assistance to implement conservation practices on their land. There are 66 conservation districts in Pennsylvania, representing every county except Philadelphia, dedicated to conserving our soil and water resources.

A board of directors, who reside within the county, know its people, and is concerned with the local conservation issues, guides the district. The district has expanded its services and staff to serve clientele from both farm and urban communities reflecting the complex and ever changing environmental and land-use issues we face today. The District provides assistance to citizens, landowners, organizations, agencies and local governments in critical land use decisions both regulatory and non-regulatory, water quality issues, non-point source pollution abatement, and other resource related areas.

District Directors:

Chair	James Bence	Urban
Vice-Chair	Ron Stanley	Urban
Secretary/ Treasurer	Donald Llewellyn	Farmer
Commissioner	Steven Howsare	Commissioner
	James Eshelman	Farmer
	J. Allen Baker	Farmer
	Richard J. Emerick, II	Farmer
	Kay Kring	Urban
	Marcy Ladson	Farmer

Associate Directors:

John Akers John Eshelman Ron Johnson Marietta Plank Paul Stup

District Staff:

Jennifer Lentz Kovacs	District Manager
Lorelle J. Steach	PA Envirothon Coordinator
Richard Hershberger	Ag Coordinator
Darla L. Guyer	Fiscal Technician
Regina Miller	Program Assistant/Education/Recycling Coordinator
Guy Stottlemeyer	Watershed Specialist
Michael Felix	Resource Technician
Cody Waltemire	Chesapeake Bay Technician
James Saylor	Equipment Handler/ Ag Conservation Technician

The Mission of the Bedford County Conservation District is to encourage stewardship and conservation of natural resources for this and future generations.

Nominating Organizations

Nominating Organizations have a unique role in shaping the future of Bedford County. These organizations, which must be approved by the State Conservation Commission, are permitted by law to nominate individuals to the County Commissioners for appointment to the District Board.

By providing such nominations, these groups help define membership on a Board that makes critical decisions regarding how we manage our community's natural resources—Bedford County's soils, forests, lakes, wetlands, rivers and streams. The District is grateful to our Nominating Organizations for their continued participation and support.

Fort Bedford Trout Unlimited	Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs
Bedford/Blair Crop Management Association	Farm Service Agency
Bedford County Township Officials Association	Bedford County Farm Bureau
Woodland Owners of the Southern Alleghenies	Ponoma Grange #24
Farm Bureau Co-Op Association	

Erosion & Sediment Pollution Control Program (Resource Technician: Mike Felix)

The district, under delegated authority from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the State Conservation Commission, administered the Erosion and Sediment Pollution Control Program at a Level II authority under the Chapter 102 regulations and the Pennsylvania Clean Streams Law. This involved technical review of erosion control plans for earthmoving activities, project inspections, compliance activities, complaint response and public education. The purpose of this program is to protect our land and waters from accelerated erosion and sedimentation during any earth disturbance. The district investigated 60 referred complaints.

The scope of projects reviewed by the district can range from single building construction disturbing a minimal area to highway projects involving several acres of disturbance. Windmill projects are still new to the county. They demand additional attention, as they are generally located in sensitive acres bringing phone calls as well as visits from the general public. The district received and processed 34 Erosion and Sediment Control Plan reviews. The reviews encompassed over 448 project acres with disturbed acres totaling 58. The district conducted 21 active project site inspections and 51 additional inspections.

Construction sites involving more than 1 acre of actual earth disturbance must apply for and receive a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the discharge of storm water prior to commencing any earthmoving activities. The district administered the NPDES program for construction sites, processed technical review of applications and accompanying E&S plans, and inspected of permitted sites to ensure compliance with permit conditions. Individual NPDES permits are issued for those sites located in Special Protection Watersheds. In 2010 the district processed 7 General and 1 Individual NPDES permits.

Dirt & Gravel Road Program (Watershed Specialist: Guy Stottlemeyer)

The Environmentally Sensitive Dirt and Gravel Road Maintenance Program is a county level grant program that provides funds for pollution prevention projects on publicly owned dirt and gravel roads. Eligibility requirements to receive grant funding includes attending the two-day training offered by the Penn State Center for Dirt and Gravel Road Studies. The program goal is to reduce erosion, sediment and dust pollution by providing technical and financial assistance.

The State Conservation Commission provides oversight and statewide administration through support from the Penn State Center for Dirt & Gravel Road Studies. Locally, an appointed Quality Assurance Board, comprised of representatives from the Conservation District, Natural Resource Conservation Service, and the PA Fish & Boat Commission, adopts appropriate operational procedures and standards, reviews eligible applications and makes recommendations to the Conservation District board for funding approved road projects.

Through 2010, the program expended over \$30 million on more than 1900 completed contracts statewide, with in-kind support from project participants averaging over 37% during that period. In

Bedford County to date, over \$450,000 was allocated to 58 projects with over \$214,000 of in-kind contributions from township and PA Game Commission participants.

The CDWS administers technical aspects of the Dirt and Gravel Road Maintenance Program. During 2010, projects were completed on five roads; Lewis Road in Londonderry Township, Henwright Road in Broad Top Township, Crawford Road in West Providence Township, Big Run Road in East Providence Township, and Walters Hollow Road in Lincoln Township. These projects improved 2.7 miles of unpaved road where sediment was impacting county streams with program costs of more than \$62,500 and in-kind contributions from the townships of over \$32,000.

Environmental Stewardship and Watershed Protection Grant Program (Watershed Specialist: Guy Stottlemeyer)

Early in 2010, the Conservation District Watershed Specialist (CDWS) assisted DEP with measurements of stream flow and water quality on the Shawnee Lake tributaries as part of an investigation into the causes of recent algal/cyanobacteria blooms on the lake. The two monitoring sessions in 2010 were the last of a series that began in May of 2009. Another early project, coordinated by the CDWS was the Conservation District tree-seedling sale, with sales of over 3000 seedlings.

The CDWS is assisting the Bobs Creek Stream Guardians with several projects. One that began early in 2010 is the stream monitoring above and below a Marcellus shale gas well in southern Blair County very near Bobs Creek. In-stream data sondes, measuring pH, water temperature, and specific conductivity every 15 minutes, are maintained by the Stream Guardians, who also download the data and send the files to the CDWS for formatting, interpretation, and distribution to a list of agencies as well as Chief Oil and Gas, the well owners.

The Stream Guardians have also been active in working to improve in-stream habitat on Bobs Creek and its tributaries. The CDWS assisted in the planning and construction of a series of habitat devices designed by the PA Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) and funded through grants secured by the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy from the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture program of the National Fish & Wildlife Service.

The Stream Guardians and the CDWS have also met with the PFBC, the PA Department of Transportation (PADOT), and the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) representatives several times in pursuit of a remediation to work done at the SR 869 bridge over Pavia Run that has dewatered the stream over a stretch of more than 50 feet, preventing trout from accessing headwater spawning sites.

The CDWS is also assisting the Stream Guardians with the completion of their Coldwater Conservation Plan for Wallacks Branch.

A proposed TMDL for the Yellow Creek watershed, written by the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) for the PADEP, was released on June 5, 2010 with a public meeting on June 23 and public comment period ending July 5, 2010. The CDWS attended the public meeting and provided corrections and suggestions to the SRBC.

The CDWS submitted a proposal for Growing Greener funding to continue the habitat improvement work on Wallacks Branch and a grant was awarded for \$13,182.00 for construction, which will begin in 2012. A proposal for stream assessment work on several streams in Broad Top Township that have TMDLs for impacts from coal mining, to evaluate the success of installed passive treatment systems in anticipation of removing the stream sections from the impaired stream list, was approved by the PADEP. Work on this proposal is currently delayed by Federal budget uncertainties.

The CDWS was involved in environmental education activities that included: county Envirothons for elementary, junior, and senior high students, a watershed activity day at the Saxton Library, farm field days for high school students, a watershed field day at Bedford Elementary coordinated by Bedford County Outdoor Education, a stream ecology program for campers at Blue Knob State Park, an update on Conservation District activities at the Bedford Township Officials Convention, and Conservation District newsletters. Assistance was again provided to classes from Allegany College of Maryland conducting studies on county streams. The CDWS also manages content and updates to the Conservation District website, www.bedfordcountyconservation.com

The CDWS also coordinates with PA CleanWays, Inc. and PA CleanWays of Bedford County to identify and remove illegal dumps that threaten water quality, recreation, public safety, and wildlife in Bedford County. During 2010, REI volunteers removed an illegal dump along Diehl Road in Napier Township. PA CleanWays adoption cleanups included the Sweet Root Road and Bobs Creek cleanups in April 2010. In September, REI, PA CleanWays of Bedford County, Bobs Creek Stream Guardians, and Fort Bedford Trout Unlimited organized a river cleanup along the Raystown Branch in Bedford Township, Bedford Borough, and Snake Spring Township, as well as along Bobs Creek headwaters. Many local businesses contributed to the success of the project including Thomas Subaru, Walmart, and Sheetz, with additional assistance from American Rivers and PennDOT. Late in 2010, PA CleanWays Inc. and PA CleanWays of Bedford County changed the names of the organizations to Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful and Keep Bedford County Beautiful, after a state level merger and affiliation with Keep America Beautiful.

Environmental Education (Environmental Education Coordinator: Regina Miller)

Environmental education programs are offered to all age levels, including kindergarten through high school students, youth, scout, and various adult groups.

Conservation news, program and resource information are promoted through the district's Conservation Notes newsletter that is shared with over 1200 county educators, residents, farmers, county leaders, and various organizations.

This year Bedford County held its twenty-fifth Envirothon for students in grades nine through 12; its twenty-second event for students in grades seven and eight; and its seventeenth event for students in grades five and six. The events were held at Shawnee State Park and were a huge success with more than 300 students participating. The winners from the Sr. High event participated in the State Envirothon, placing 12th. The Pennsylvania Envirothon hosted 65 five-member teams at PPL Montour Preserve, Danville, PA.

Bi-Annually the Conservation District hosts a tree seedling sale. Thousands of trees are distributed to county residents. The profits benefit conservation education programs at the district, including Bi-annual Arbor Day presentations offered to all school districts within Bedford County. The students watch an Arbor Day video, participate in a group discussion/question period, and receive a white pine tree seedling.

The district offers a \$500 scholarship in honor of the late Glen Beach and his contributions in conservation tillage, funded through the No-Till Rental Equipment Program. The district also administers the William Plank Memorial Scholarship fund that is an annual \$500 scholarship. The scholarships are available to undergraduate college students in the field of agriculture, environmental studies, soils, or natural resources. Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of academic merit, curriculum of study, quality of the written essay and career goals that are consistent with the BCCD mission

Pennsylvania Envirothon (Pennsylvania Envirothon Coordinator: Lorelle Steach)

In 2010, more than 300 high-school students representing 65 counties participated in the twenty-sixth Pennsylvania Envirothon. The event was held at the PPL Montour Preserve on May 26. The Pennsylvania Envirothon is the outcome of 67 county competitions that take place during the months of April and May and involves more than 15,000 teenagers throughout the Commonwealth.

The Envirothon is a competition that challenges students to think critically about the natural world and their role in it. It's a competition that helps students develop the thinking skills they will need for a lifetime of finding balanced solutions to complex issues, such as how to encourage economic development and still preserve open space.

Teams were evaluated by practicing environmental professionals in five areas of study: soil/land use, forestry, aquatic ecology, wildlife, and current environmental issues.

Awards were presented to the 10 teams scoring the greatest number of points. For the past five years, the Envirothon awarded scholarships totaling over \$9,000 for 15 students on the top three teams. The scholarships are sponsored by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and the State Conservation Commission. To date, we have awarded \$53,000 in scholarships to more than 90 students.

The state winning five-member team from Penncrest High School honored Pennsylvania with a fifth place finish at the 2010 Canon Envirothon. Winners were announced during closing ceremonies of the weeklong North American environmental education competition held at California State University Fresno, and sponsored by Canon U.S.A. More than 265 teenagers from 45 U.S. states and seven Canadian provinces studied environmental issues and resource conservation, while competing for a share of more than \$125,000 in Canon scholarships and prizes.

The Pennsylvania Envirothon sponsors and partners include many of Pennsylvania's corporations, conservation districts, and various state and federal agencies/organizations.

Act 38 Nutrient Management (Ag Team Coordinator: Richard Hershberger) Nutrient Management Planning

The Act 38 Nutrient Management Plan program has implemented a standardized plan format that must be utilized by all plan writers. The computerized format takes into account nitrogen, phosphorous, and potassium in the plan. Nutrient applications are now balanced for either nitrogen or phosphorous that is applied through fertilizer and manure applications. Soil tests are required on every field at least once every three years. Manure analysis must be taken for each major manure group annually.

There are three farms in Bedford County that are required to follow these regulations. These farms are CAOs (concentrated animal operations) and/or CAFOs. Farms of this size are likely exporting manure to other farms crop fields. These importing farms are also required to develop a planning process to account for the manure being applied to their fields. There are more than 30 farms in the county that receive manure from these large operations. Nutrient plans or balance sheets must be developed to show where, when, and how much manure is being applied to these fields. District personnel continue to work with farms importing poultry manure from out of county CAOs. These farms are also required to develop balance sheets and maps for the fields receiving this manure. District personnel assisted in the development of many of these plans.

All farmers are encouraged to have nutrient plans developed for their farming operation. Approximately 20 farms in the county have volunteer plans written to help them balance their nutrient needs. By adopting these plans farms are eligible for various programs that help implement best management practices that reduce soil and nutrient runoff.

Farms that are importing manure from any CAO and/or CAFO are required to develop balance sheets that show where this manure is being utilized. The number of landowners that import manure from poultry operations in other counties has been steadily increasing. These balance sheets are reviewed and kept on file at the district office.

One other new element of nutrient planning was including horse operations under these regulations. Landowners that have at least 8 animal equivalent units or 8000 pounds of horses and have more than two animal equivalent units per acre to spread manure are regulated under this program and must develop a nutrient management plan for the operation.

Nutrient Management Plan Reviews

District personnel review nutrient management plans that are written by certified individuals from private industry, certified landowners, and district personnel from other counties. These plans are reviewed to make sure they meet the requirements of The Pennsylvania Nutrient Management Law and then approved by the local conservation district. The plans reviewed during the year included several Concentrated Animal Operations and volunteer landowners interested in applying for funds to install BMPs.

District personnel also reviewed nutrient plans and nutrient balance sheets that were developed for importing farms. This planning process is required for farms importing manure from CAOs in the county as well as those importing manure from farms across the state.

Annual status reviews are conducted on the counties CAO farms and nutrient management grant recipients each year. These status reviews help to keep these farms current with the new regulations and help to head off any problems that may develop.

Nutrient Management Grant Program

This program is available to landowners that have an approved nutrient management plan with recommended best management practices (BMPs) listed in the plan. There are financial guidelines that must be met to qualify for this program. Applications may be obtained from your local conservation district or from the State Conservation Commission. At this time there is no funding for this program.

AgriLink Loan Program

The AgriLink Program provides low interest loans for the construction and implementation of BMPs listed as part of an approved nutrient management plan. District personnel provided information to interested landowners on this program and helped several apply for this funding. At this time there is no funding for this program.

Equipment Rental Program

The Bedford County Conservation District currently implements an equipment rental program. The District feels that no-till planting is essential in reducing erosion and nutrient runoff from farmland. The program started with one no-till drill, but has currently expanded to include eight no-till drills, eight no-till corn planters, three damp lime spreaders, and four pieces of liquid manure equipment. This equipment is owned and maintained by the District and is delivered to landowners to operate.

The drills were delivered 98 times to landowners to plant approximately 1500 acres of cropland this past spring. The primary crops planted are alfalfa and mixed hay, small grains, and soybeans. There were 86 deliveries in the fall to plant an additional 500 acres of alfalfa and grass hay. More than 2,500 acres of cover crops were planted on corn stubble fields in the county. This equipment plays an important role in implementing the required components of many conservation plans.

Sixty-seven landowners utilized the no-till corn planters to plant 2,400 acres of corn and sorghum. The planters are set up to plant 30" and 36" row spacing. Six of the planters are equipped with dry fertilizer hoppers and two with liquid fertilizer tanks. Management decisions made when no-tilling corn need to be made 6 to 12 months ahead of planting. Adequate herbicide, lime, and nutrient applications are critical components to making no-till work.

Two damp lime spreaders were purchased in 2004 and a new spreader was made available in 2008. These spreaders will spread various types of lime as well as poultry litter. Over 4,000 tons of lime were spread by 68 landowners during the year.

An additional 4,300-gallon liquid manure tank was added in 2009. This tank is located in Friends Cove and for use by the farmers in this area. The tank is housed and maintained on a farm in the Cove and farmers pick up and deliver the tank themselves. The twelve landowners using this tank have signed an agreement with the Conservation District and reviewed the use and safety instructions. The other liquid manure equipment consists of two 3,250-gallon tank spreaders and one 32' multi-purpose pump. The tank spreaders are equipped with flotation tires and hydraulic brakes. They require a minimum 120 horsepower tractor to safely operate. The pump can be used in either straight walled pits or earthen lagoons with sloped sides. They have hydraulic controls to operate the mechanical parts of the pump. This equipment is used by 20+ farms in the county.

Landowners are required to use this equipment in an environmentally sound manner. Conservation plans and nutrient plans are critical components of making sound environmental decisions. Soil testing and manure analysis are recommended to those who use the equipment.

Chesapeake Bay Program (Chesapeake Bay Technician: Cody Waltemire/Richard Hershberger)

During the 2010 calendar year, the Bedford County Conservation District's Chesapeake Bay Program further reduced sediment and nutrient run-off into the Chesapeake Bay. In accordance with the district's 2006 County Implementation Plan, the Chesapeake Bay Program, through the installation of Best Management Practices (BMPs), continues to address sediment and nutrient losses, from agricultural operations, as its highest priority.

The Bedford County Conservation District, through the 2010 Special Project Funding Program Allocation, requested \$67,500 for the implementation of BMPs which included: cover crop assistance program and a cropland conversion to a rotational grazing system. Of the \$67,500 requested \$56,500 was for the cover crop assistance program and \$11,000 was for the rotational grazing system. The total amount of funding that was allotted to Bedford County was \$32,270 for the cover crop assistance program. A majority of the allocated dollars were utilized in the agriculturally impaired Yellow Creek watershed of Bedford County. Best Management Practices implemented included no-tilled crops and no-tilled fall cover crops.

In 2010, Chesapeake Bay Special Project Funds focused on the implementation of no-till BMPs throughout the county. Through these funds, the district was able to purchase, repair, and maintain no-till rental equipment for Bedford County producers. Approximately 7000 acres of crops were no-tilled in Bedford County through the use of the district's rental equipment in 2010. Chesapeake Bay Special Project Funds were also used to implement 2500 acres of fall cover crop in Bedford County. Through the district's 2010 Cover Crop Assistance Program, approximately 1600 acres of corn silage stubble received a fall no-tilled cover crop.

The Chesapeake Bay Technician was also involved in the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's "Park The Plow for Profit" program. This was a 3 year program that began in 2008 with 16 farms that agreed to set up a continuous no-till system on their farms in exchange for crop scouting services, some incentive

payments, as well as possible nutrient trading credit money. In 2009 the program was expanded to 25 farms and in 2010 the program expanded to 29 farms, all of which were in the Raystown Branch of the Juniata River watershed. The Chesapeake Bay Technician's responsibilities included: determining baseline compliance with DEP Chapter 102 regulations, delivery of no-till equipment, assistance with set up and use of the equipment, field checks to assure proper implementation of the no-till crops, and soil quality assessments.

Park the Plow for Profit

Interest in continuous no-till planting continues to grow in the county. The Park the Plow for Profit Project funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Federation targeted the agricultural impaired Yellow Creek Watershed and eligible producers committed to continuous no-till and operations fulfilled the baseline compliance. This program was designed to convert farms into continuous no-till systems. No-Till transition plans and crop scouting services were cost shared for participants. The ACRE (Agricultural, Communities and Rural Environmental Initiative) assessment was conducted to verify baseline compliance and targeted in the impaired Yellow Creek watershed. The assessment was conducted on the 29 farms enrolled and an evaluation was used to determine the farms' eligibility to receive nutrient trading credits. This assessment was used to determine which farms need the most assistance to be in compliance with the ACRE initiative. To be compliant each farm must have an approved conservation plan, manure management plan, and they must be implementing any practices that are required through the plans to reduce nutrient and sediment discharged into water sources. The assessment included; headquarters and farmstead, cropland, hay land and pastureland, woodland, wildlife and wetland conditions.

The district provided technical assistance to the agricultural community and administered monetary incentives specifically to those producers that committed to continuous no-till, in baseline compliance and willing to implement additional conservation practices. Approximately \$121,500 of financial assistance was provided to the participating farms.

The 29 participating farms were verified in compliance and enrolled 2300 acres of no-till corn and cover crops for nutrient trading. Total reduction in land erosion and runoff was calculated: Sediments 814,095 pounds, Nitrogen 5,425 pounds and Phosphorous 656 pounds.

Agriculture Conservation (Agricultural Conservation Technician: Jim Saylor)

In 2010, the ACT position attended Nutrient Management and NRCS Boot Camp II trainings. The Nutrient Management certification program is administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in consultation with the State Conservation Commission. The program certifies nutrient management specialists to write and review nutrient management plans that meet the requirements of the Nutrient Management Law, Act 38. The educational component of the nutrient management program is coordinated by the PA Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the State Conservation Commission, Penn State Cooperative Extension, PA Department of Environmental Protection and USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service. The program provides opportunities for nutrient management specialists to attend certification courses as well as a variety of other courses and workshops focused on nutrient management topics.

The NRCS Boot Camp I courses are taught by specialists working in the Crop Management Extension Group of Penn State University and USDA-NRCS. The training introduces inexperienced conservation workers on common forage and field crops in Pennsylvania, the basics of forage and crop production, integrated pest management (including weed, insect and disease management), and soil management. The course emphasizes hands-on activities in the field, in order to articulate to participants the balance producers have to strike between environmental, economic, and agronomic considerations.

The ACT position also assists the District with the Park the Plow, Equipment Rental and Chesapeake Bay programs.

Agricultural Land Preservation (District Manager: Jennifer Kovacs)

The Bedford County Agricultural Land Preservation Board administers a farmland preservation program for purchasing and accepting donations of agricultural conservation easements to preserve the most productive soils in Bedford County. The district assists the Bedford County Agricultural Land Preservation Board with Level I services by providing nutrient planning, conservation planning assistance and evaluate growth and best management practice installation. In addition, the district schedules and conducts annual field reviews of each easement with twelve easement monitoring field inspections completed for more than 2200 preserved acres. The district promotes efforts to support the growth and existing agricultural communities through program promotion and outreach.

The district also assisted the Bedford County Planning Commission to develop and update a centralized Agricultural Security database. This is a GIS program that maps all of the properties in the county, for each township, that have enrolled their property as an Agriculturally Secure Area through their township. Data entry is verified through Registers and Records Office.

Recycling Activities (Recycling Coordinator: Regina Miller)

The Bedford County Conservation District Clearville Recycling Center recycled 140 tons of material during 2010. The collection facility is now open six days a week from 9:00am to 4:00pm. Items collected were newspaper, office paper, junk mail, Magazines, cardboard, plastic bottles, plastic ag bags, plastic bail wrap, aluminum cans, bi-metal cans, clear glass, brown glass, green glass, oil and antifreeze. Electronic materials are also collected.

The Bedford County Conservation District offered special collection days. During the second Saturday of each month county residents can bring plastic, glass, cans, paper, and cardboard to the South Woodbury Township Building from 9:00am to 1:00pm.

In 2010 the Tri-County Solid Waste program offered seven drop-off bins locations within the county recycling 18 different materials. Activities at the recycling drop-off bins are coordinated between the county coordinator, the municipalities and the site sponsors, who include: Bedford Township, Broad Top Township, and Everett Church of the Brethren, United Church of Schellsburg, Londonderry Township, King Township and the Sandy Run Landfill. Residents may recycle their newspapers, office paper, magazines, shredded paper, junk mail, paper bags, cardboard boxes, pizza boxes, food boxes, paper towel rolls, paperboard packaging, aluminum/steel cans, aerosol cans, plastic bottles, and green/clear/brown glass bottles at any of the green drop-off containers. Over 307 tons of recyclables were collected from the drop-off bins in 2010. The Tri-County recycling program also held a Hazardous Waste collection event in the fall, collecting over 8,500 lbs of material.

In addition to the drop-off programs, a variety of other recycling activities included: Grant writing for in-school recycling and special collection events.

Gypsy Moth Suppression Program (Gypsy Moth Surveillance Coordinator: Darla Guyer)

The purpose of the Gypsy Moth Surveillance Program is to protect forested residential and recreational areas and certain other high-use areas from serious gypsy moth damage. It was not designed to prevent or retard the spread of the gypsy moth, or to control it in uninhabited forestlands. Surveys for gypsy moth egg masses indicated low densities statewide. No requests for treatment in 2010 were submitted to the Bureau of Forestry by counties or other cooperators. In addition, recent state budget cuts have eliminated funding for the gypsy moth suppression program. If gypsy moth population increases follow past outbreak cycles, we expect gypsy moth populations to rebound by 2012.