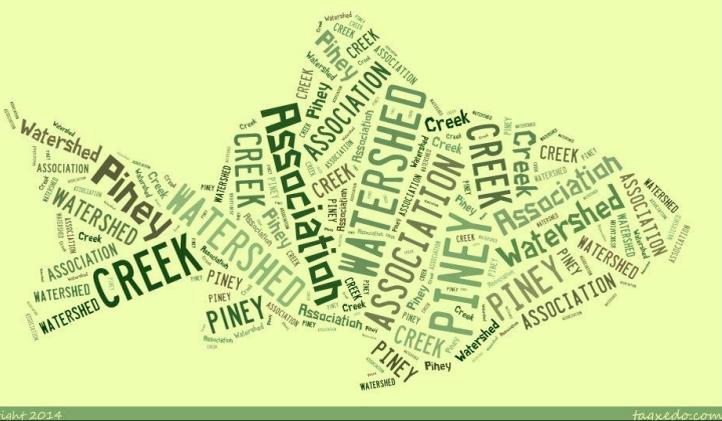


THE SHED



From The Director

It has been a busy four months for me; my first four months on the job! I had no idea of all the projects the association was a part of nor the partner organizations we work with to improve not just the Piney Creek Watershed but the community as a whole. I have met so many incredible people that care about our watershed and I look forward to working with everyone on our shared goals.

My focus has been on learning the job and getting our projects moving forward but now it is time to expand. I need your thoughts and ideas on projects to improve the watershed or opportunities to educate our community on the watershed and environmental awareness. If you have any ideas, please feel free to call or email and together we can look at your ideas for the association.

pineycreekwatershedassociation@gmail.com

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On April 5, 2016, the Piney Creek Watershed Association Executive Director, David Stewart, presented a LaMotte Water Quality Educator and Monitoring Kit to Susan Vandall, a 5th Grade Science Teacher at Shady Spring Elementary. The kit, valued at over \$400, included tests for 7 critical water quality factors (acidity, nitrogen, oxygen, phosphates, alkalinity, turbidity, and temperature) and included a manual and CD with sample lesson plans and service project ideas. The kit will help the students of Shady Spring Elementary better understand water quality and the environment.

Piney Creek Watershed Association held its Quarterly General Meeting at Fitzpatrick Park on April 16, 2016. The members in attendance voted to approve the updated association bylaws. After the meeting, the attendees cleaned up trash and debris from areas around Piney Creek and Fitzpatrick Park as part of the West Virginia Make-It-Shine Program. Overall we removed 8 bags worth of trash from the area.



PCWA Board member Gary Morefield with almost 50 tires he and Tom Sopher collected from the project site

PCWA is addressing soil erosion at the the YMCA Soccer Fields in Beckley. The project will install new drainage features and revegetate the barren area above the soccer fields to stabilize the soil and prevent the runoff of metals into Piney Creek. The project is in the design phase but we hope to begin construction this Summer.

Follow us on Facebook for the most up to date information on the Association:

www.facebook.com/pineycreekwatershed/

**Piney Creek Watershed
Association**
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Project Update

We have a lot of things going on in the association and numerous projects ongoing in the watershed.

- We hope to break ground on our major project at the YMCA Soccer Field in July or August. The \$50,000 plus project will address sediment runoff from the barren hillside above the fields and restore it to a more natural condition
- We are installing 25 Pet Waste Stations throughout Beckley in conjunction with the Beckley Sanitary Board, the City of Beckley Parks and Recreation, the Raleigh County Humane Society, and the YMCA. This will bring the number of stations in the area up to 36. We also requested funding for an additional 10 stations for the surrounding communities of Mabscott, Sophia, Beaver, and Fitzpatrick Park.
- We requested grants from the WVDEP for projects to address storm water runoff at the Beckley-Raleigh County Convention Center and to restore barren land off New River Drive. We hope to receive a funding decision on the convention center in July.
- We submitted several additional grants to other organizations for educational materials for all Raleigh County Elementary Schools. If funded we hope to purchase water testing kits and water cycle models for all 19 elementary schools in the county.

Membership

If you live, travel, or work in the blue area of the map, you are in the Piney Creek Watershed. We hope you will consider joining, renewing, or volunteering with our association as we seek to protect and improve the Piney Creek Watershed.

Membership is as low as \$20 for an individual and \$30 for a family. Other membership levels are available.

As a member you will receive our 2016 membership kit which includes a reusable shopping bag, pen, notebook, window cling, and car trash bag.

More importantly, members receive a vote on the future of the association. Paid members can vote for the Board of Directors and officers of the Board as well as provide input on the bylaws and overall efforts of the association.

About the Director

- Grew up in Beckley playing in the watershed
- Graduated from WWHS in 1989
- B.A in Geography from Concord College 1994
- MBA from Webster University 2010
- Served in the U.S. Army for 23 years as an Engineer officer; retired in July 2015
- Enjoys hiking, biking, fishing, and spending time with family



Upcoming Events

July 11	Board of Directors Meeting
July 14	Quarterly General Meeting
Aug 1	Board of Directors Meeting
Aug 11	Raleigh County Schools Begin
Sep 12	Board of Directors Meeting

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION ON UPCOMING EVENTS!

Acknowledgements

I want to take a moment to thank those people and organizations we work with in the community for their continued support of the Piney Creek Watershed Association:

Beckley-Raleigh County Chamber of Commerce

West Virginia Southern Conservation District

The YMCA of Southern West Virginia Alliance Consulting

The Crab Orchard-MacArthur Public Service District

Three Rivers Avian Center

Beaver Coal Company

The City of Beckley

Raleigh County Historical Society

The Beckley Area Foundation

The United Way of Southern West Virginia

Mountain Resource Conservation and Development

Servpro of Beckley

The Beckley Sanitary Board

Raleigh County Solid Waste Authority

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

And many more

