

## WEST BRANCH SUSQUEHANNA HEADWATERS

# ABANDONED MINE DRAINAGE EDUCATION WORKSHOP AND TOUR

## Background

The economic significance of historical coal mining in the headwaters of the West Branch Susquehanna is profound. However, despite the regional and national importance, historical coal mining has left this area with polluted streams and barren lands.

Join Trout Unlimited, the Clearfield County Conservation District, and others to learn about historical coal mining in the headwaters of the West Branch Susquehanna and what it means for us today. This free program includes lunch and a bus tour of local areas impacted by historical mining.

**This program will meet standards for teachers to obtain ACT 48 credits.**

**Thursday, July 16**  
**10:00 am to 4:00 pm**

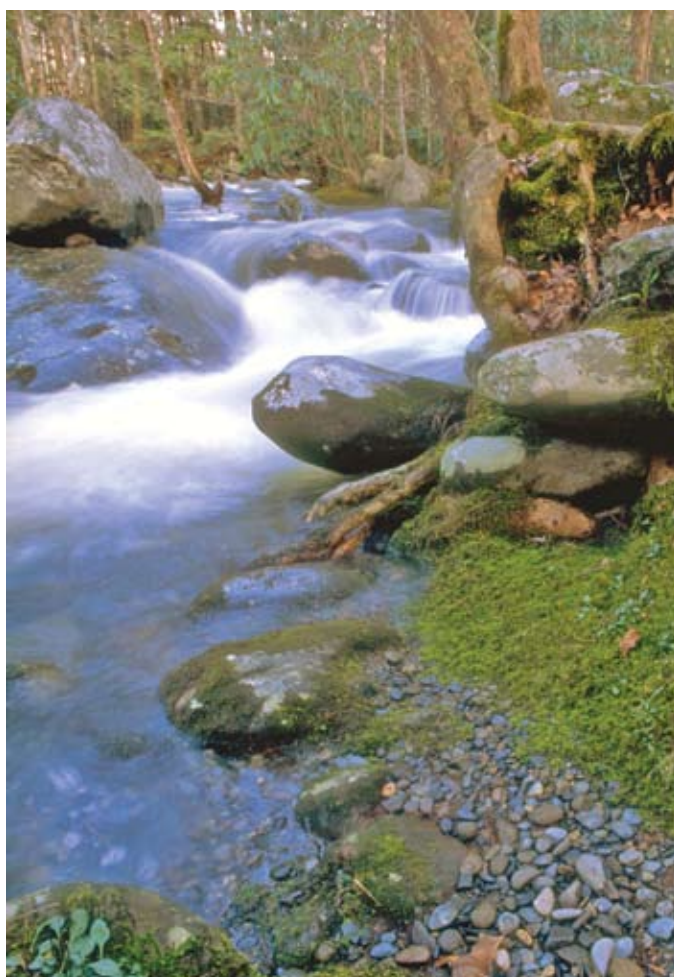
## Where

Duman Lake County Park, pavilion #1. Duman Lake County Park is located along State Route 271 between the towns of Belsano and Nicktown.

## Agenda/Topics

- What is abandoned mine drainage and how is it formed
- Historical coal mining in the headwaters of the West Branch Susquehanna River
- Photo tour of abandoned mine drainage in the West Branch Susquehanna watershed
- What's been done to clean up our streams
- How cleaning up mine drainage pollution will benefit the economy
- An example of how one community, it's residents and elected officials, benefited from cleaner waters





## Directions

**From the East** — Ebensburg, PA (approx. 12 miles)

US-422 east

Right onto 271 / Duman Road

Park entrance will be on the right approximately 4 miles after the town of Belsano

**From the South** — Johnstown, PA (approx. 21 miles)

271 north

Park entrance will be on the right approximately 4 miles after the town of Belsano

**From the West** — Vintondale, PA (approx. 10 miles)

Plank Road east

Left onto PA 271

Park entrance will be on the right approximately 4 miles after the town of Belsano

**From the North** — Bakerton (approx. 9 miles)

PA 553 / Ridge Road toward Nicktown

Left onto PA 271

Park entrance will be on the left approximately 4 miles after turn onto PA 271

## Sponsored by

Trout Unlimited, the Clearfield County Conservation District, the West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Coalition, and Cambria County Conservation & Recreation Authority



## Funding Provided by

R.K. Mellon Foundation, Department of Environmental Protection, and League of Women Voters

## Issues/Benefits

In response to the nation's current economic climate, environmental-related issues have taken a back-seat to domestic policy and unemployment. In fact, a January poll by the nonpartisan Pew Research Center cites that only 41% of voters deemed protecting the environment a top priority — down 15 points from last years' 56%. While this precipitous drop is not surprising, it highlights the fact that environmental issues are not likely associated with job creation or increased local economic productivity.

Contrary to this evidence, Trout Unlimited recently published a study documenting the economic benefits associated with remediating local abandoned mine drainage pollution. The study reports that cleaning up the more than 1,200 miles of polluted waters and 42,000 acres of abandoned mine lands in the West Branch Susquehanna River watershed could potentially create approximately 6,000 jobs and an associated \$800 million in economic benefits. The study also reports that streams free of abandoned mine drainage pollution would potentially generate \$22.3 million in sport fishing revenue on an annual basis.

**Reserve your space for this FREE event by calling Trout Unlimited at 570-748-4901 or by e-mail at [info@wbsrc.org](mailto:info@wbsrc.org)**