

Please note: Events are subject to change. Please call or email the contact person listed if you are interested in attending an event. Also, check our website – www.wcdpa.com – for new event additions and downloadable registration forms.

AUGUST

Westmoreland Fair
Friday, August 15 - Saturday, August 16
Hours vary by day and fair feature
Westmoreland Fairgrounds, Pleasant Unity



The District and its partners in Donohoe Center and GreenForge are planning a joint, informational display about our services in Commercial Exhibit Building 1 at this year's Westmoreland Fair. The display is unmanned, but a variety of free, printed literature will be available.

For more information on fair, building, and amusement hours, as well as admission fees, go to www.westmorelandfair.com/admission.html.

SEPTEMBER

Conservation Bus Tour -
**"Top to Bottom" in the
Sewickley Creek Watershed**
Friday, September 26
8:30 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.
Bus leaves from, and returns to, Westmoreland Conservation District, Greensburg



On this tour, participants will get to know the Sewickley Creek Watershed by following a route that water takes as it flows across the land. The tour begins in the high, healthy forests on Chestnut Ridge, rambles down across farms and urban areas, and ultimately ends near Sewickley Creek's confluence with the Youghiogheny River, Pennsylvania's 2008 River of the Year. Along the way, participants will see how various activities – farming, urban development, and natural resource extraction – affect the quality of this watershed, for better and worse. Stops include: Saint Boniface Woods, Friendship Farms, Mammoth Park, New Stanton Borough, a private farm with a natural-gas well, and the innovative Lowber abandoned-mine-drainage cleanup site.

Space is limited and registration is required. Contact Christie at 724-837-5271 ext. 210, or christie@wcdpa.com by September 17. \$25, includes lunch and transportation from and to the Westmoreland Conservation District.

Financial and other support for this project is provided by the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts through its education grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act, administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Forestry I Workshop

Saturday, September 27

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Westmoreland Conservation District and Ann Rudd Saxman Nature Park, Greensburg

Learn common forestry terms and basic tree identification, how to measure the diameter and height of a tree, and how to use a forester's prism. Part of the class will be spent in the wooded Ann Rudd Saxman Nature Park. Participants will leave with an understanding of forest industry terms, basic measurement methods, and timber-volume estimating. Led by forester Tony Quadro, this workshop is cosponsored by the Westmoreland Woodlands Improvement Association.

Space is limited and registration is required. Contact Christie at 724-837-5271 ext. 210 or christie@wcdpa.com by September 22. \$5; reduced rate of \$4 for members of the Westmoreland Woodlands Improvement Association.

OCTOBER

Sustainable Energy Field Day -

Homeowners' How-To

Thursday, October 16

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. =

Workshops

2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. =

Open House

Westmoreland Conservation District, Donohoe Center, and GreenForge buildings – all located adjacent to each other on Donohoe Road, Greensburg



Workshops

Experts from various fields will be on hand to give homeowners tips and techniques for saving energy. Topics may include: conducting a home-energy audit...the practicality of using energy alternatives such as wind, hydro, and solar...how native plants and careful landscaping can save energy...what's new in insulation, windows, and metering your electric use...and funding programs that could help with the cost of making energy-conservation changes.

Space for the workshops is limited and registration is required. Contact Christie at 724-837-5271 ext. 210 or christie@wcdpa.com by October 3. \$20, includes lunch.

Open House

The morning's experts will be on-hand to talk one-on-one, a variety of vendors and exhibitors will be displaying their energy-saving products and services, and tours of the campus's sustainable buildings will be on-going. Activities for children also are planned.

The Open House is FREE and it is NOT necessary to register. Just come!

The Sustainable Energy Field Day is sponsored by the Westmoreland Conservation District, Penn State Cooperative Extension, US Department of Agriculture Rural Development, GreenForge, Allegheny Power, the Western Pennsylvania Sustainable Energy Fund, and a grant from The Home Depot.

NOVEMBER

Annual Awards Banquet

Friday, November 14
6:00 p.m.

Westmoreland Country Club, Export

The banquet returns this year and promises to be bigger and better than ever! Join us for a fun night at new location – the Westmoreland Country Club...new locally grown foods – including organic produce...and a very special keynote speaker – radio personality Jack Bogut.

Space is limited and tickets will not be available at the door. To purchase tickets in advance, contact Sandy at 724-837-5271 ext. 108 or sandy@wcdpa.com. \$30.



Also watch for these events, offered in conjunction with some of our conservation partners

– 2008 –

Open House: Natural Gas Well Site Saturday, September 6

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Turkeytown Fire Hall, 90 Supervisors Drive, West Newton, and nearby landowner property

Sponsored by Penn State Cooperative Extension, this is an opportunity to get a firsthand look at a local property where drilling of the Marcellus Shale reservoir is under way, and to talk to the landowner about his experience with having a company drill for natural gas on his property. A representative of the drilling company also may be on hand.

We will meet at the Turkeytown Fire Hall and then shuttle to the landowner property nearby.

Space is limited and registration is required. Contact Dana at 724-837-1402, or def18@psu.edu by September 3. \$5.

— 2009 —

JANUARY

Geographic Information Systems Workshop

Tuesday, January 6

Wednesday, January 7

Time TBD

Westmoreland County Community College, Youngwood

This workshop will help participants identify which online mapping systems are most appropriate for their particular needs, as well as help both new and experienced users become more proficient with their use.

Space is limited and registration is required. Contact Christie at 724-837-5271 ext. 210 or christie@wcdpa.com or watch or website, www.wcdpa.com, for more information.

Contractors' Workshop

Friday, January 23

Time TBA

Westmoreland Conservation District, Greensburg

This workshop will feature timely, practical information helpful to contractors. Exact topics are being determined. Participants will receive a copy of the updated Westmoreland Conservation District Best Management Practices manual.

Space is limited and registration is required. Contact Christie at 724-837-5271 ext. 210 or christie@wcdpa.com by January 16. A fee will be charged.

Natural Gas Wells

and Drinking Water Workshop

Wednesday, September 10

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Commissioners Hall 2112, Westmoreland County Community College, Youngwood

This workshop, sponsored by Penn State Cooperative Extension, will introduce participants to: gas-well-drilling basics, how gas wells can impact groundwater and wells, regulations to protect private wells, potential water pollutants, water-testing strategies and available packages, how to collect water samples, and how to interpret water-test results.

Space is limited and registration is required. Contact Dana at 724-837-1402, or def18@psu.edu by September 8. \$10.

– 2009 –

Southwestern PA Tillage Conference

Wednesday, January 21

9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Giannilli's II, Route 30, Greensburg

Topics will include transitioning to no-till, and planter maintenance. The popular farmer panel will again offer practical advice.

Space is limited and registration is required. Contact Bobbi at 724-853-5555 extension 116, or bobbi.bailey@pa.usda.gov by January 14. A fee will be charged.

The Southwestern PA Regional Tillage Conference is sponsored by Penn's Corner Resource Conservation and Development, Penn State Cooperative Extension, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Conservation Districts located in the southwestern region of Pennsylvania.

MARCH

Engineers' Workshop

This same workshop is generally offered twice, on two different days, so you can choose the day that's best for you.

Date, Time, and Place TBD

Watch for more information.

MAY

Envirothon

Date, Time, and Place TBD

This academic competition helps students in grades 9-12 develop a better understanding of the environment and their role in it. Topics include: aquatics, soils, forestry, wildlife and an annual special issue. Free.

Financial Planning for Owners of Wooded Property

Earth Day

April