



Symposium – A History of Protecting the Future:
The Story of Honey Hollow Watershed

Date: **Saturday, May 04, 2013**
Time: 9:30 am to 3:30 PM
Location: Bucks County Audubon Visitor Center at Honey Hollow
Environmental Education Center
2877 Creamery Road, New Hope, PA 18938

MORNING

ARRIVAL & CHECK IN: 9:00 – 9:30 am
Heritage Conservancy and BCAS Staff

GENERAL SESSION – 9:30 am to 10:45 am - History and Conservation Legacy of Honey Hollow

Opening Plenary

9:30 to 10:00:

Welcome: Jeff Marshall and Ann McCauley

Special Guest Speaker - Jean Cutler, Director of the Bureau of Historic Preservation for the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission

History of Honey Hollow 18th – 21st Century – Perspectives on Collaboration over Time

10:00 to 10:45 am

Moderator: Jeff Marshall

Speakers: Jeff Marshall, Malcolm Crooks, Priscilla Waring

Description

With settlement beginning in the early 18th Century, the area developed as original William Penn grants were subdivided into working farms that passed through several generations of local Quaker families. Today, several 18th century stone farmhouses still reflect this cultural landscape. This area is unique in that it was transformed into a 20th century Colonial Revival vision as highlighted by the dramatic Honey Hollow Education Center. A generation later, the site was elevated to national significance with the work of pioneer conservationists. This critical chapter of history will be described by members of the Crooks and Waring Families.

Short break 10:45 – 11:00 am



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Concurrent Workshops (2) 11:00 – 12:45

Workshop #1 - Honey Hollow Watershed Tour - All Weather Event

Tour Guides: Phil Getty and Malcolm Crooks

Description:

A walking tour of the heart of the Honey Hollow Watershed will be led by lifetime resident of the land, Malcolm Crooks. Tour will begin at the Bucks County Audubon Visitor Center and cross into the Crooks Christmas Tree Farm. Original soil conservation features, installed in the early 1940's, will be visited along with other interesting historic features such as the bend in the power line corridor as it skirts around the Honey Hollow area. Soil profiles excavated along the way will exhibit the benefits of soil conservation to retain topsoil and provide an understanding of how soils form. The walk will also visit places of natural and cultural interest, such as the archeological dig of the original early 1700's cabin at the Crooks' Residence. Walking shoes are a must and tour will become all the more informative if it is pouring rain, so bring rain gear if weather is questionable.

Workshop #2 – Soil Conservation, Land Stewardship and Watershed Health for the Twenty-First Century

Moderator: Aidan Wiggin, Delaware Valley College Student

Speakers:

Mark Goodson, - State Agronomist - USDA, Natural Resource Conservation Service

Graham Phillips – Agricultural Land Owner and Local Entrepreneur

Kent Himelright - Agricultural Technician – Bucks County Conservation District

Meghan Rogalus - Watershed Specialist – Bucks County Conservation District

Mary Ellen Noonan, Environmental Educator – Bucks County Conservation District

Description:

Join five distinguished speakers for a series of presentations on the many aspects of soil and watershed conservation from the newest soil science to the ways in which individual homeowners can help protect water resources. This workshop includes a mixture of presentation and demonstration to understand changes at the regional, county, watershed and property levels and is appropriate for all participants from scientists to students.

Mark Goodson, The Road to Soil Health – Conservation Science and Technology for the Twenty-first Century

In 1939 the landowners in Honey Hollow saw the need to change the way they farmed. By adopting state-of-the-art conservation practices, the land in their watershed began to heal and overtime became more productive, sustaining the generations that followed. Today's producers face similar challenges. Cropland must produce more and pollute less to sustain future generations' needs for healthy food and clean water. Just as the Honey Hollow farmers risked their livelihoods to change, innovative producers today are embracing new conservation concepts by implementing practices that improve the



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productivity of their soils and provide ecosystem benefits such as improved water quality, reduced flooding, efficient cycling of organic wastes and detoxification of noxious chemicals. This presentation will demonstrate the qualities and explain the benefits of Soil Health crop production systems and the role NRCS plays in assisting adoption of supporting conservation practices.

Graham Phillips – Enhancing Soil Biology

Graham will discuss the importance of preserving and enhancing soil biology for plant health and sustainable practices which are applicable to both commercial growers and home gardeners. Many growers are now used to a routine of feeding plants with synthetic fertilizers rather than building and encouraging biology to produce healthy plants and soils. Participants will learn about beneficial bacteria, mycorrhizae, and the soil food web and how understanding and promoting biology can lead to more sustainable practices, healthier plants and better food.

Kent Himelright - Bucks County Agriculture

Kent will take a closer look at issues like urban sprawl, wet or low yielding soils, and recent climatic/weather patterns that impact local and regional agriculture. In addition, he will also explore some of the solutions or adaptations of local agriculture when dealing with these current issues. Agricultural stormwater control and crop rotation diversity will be the highlights of his presentation.

Meghan Rogalus – Streamside Land Management for Property Owners

Meghan will briefly discuss water resource concerns attributed to streambank erosion and highlight techniques streamside landowners can utilize to prevent or remediate streambank erosion on their properties. Participants will learn about various methods and their benefits, including establishing a low-mow filter strip adjacent to the streambank, how to plan and plant a riparian buffer with native tree and shrub species, and bioengineering methods that can be used to repair and stabilize eroded streambanks

Mary Ellen Noonan – Homeowner Best Management Practices for Reducing Water Pollution – How to Make a Difference in Your Community.

Mary Ellen will discuss practices that homeowners can utilize in their own backyards to reduce pollution. She will also elaborate on the importance of community involvement and education and include examples of current successful programs and partnerships and additional future opportunities.



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AFTERNOON

12:45 – 1:15 – Lunch and Networking – Opportunity to view BCAS educational displays, EnviroScape® model, soils mapping software, and soil monoliths.

1:15 to 3:00: Repeat the Concurrent Workshops

3:00 – 3:10: Break - Reconvene to main hall.

3:10 – 3:30 WRAP-UP AND SUMMARY

Moderators: Ann McCauley/Susan Myerov

Description:

A wrap-up of the day's events with members of the Honey Hollow Symposium Advisory Board and speakers. We will include a brief summary of the day and provide opportunity for attendees to ask any outstanding questions.

3:30 - ? – RECEPTION