

# DAUPHIN COUNTY WATER RESOURCE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (WREP)

## WHAT IS WREP?

A regional program to address stormwater, flooding and water quality issues.

## WHO CREATED IT?

The Dauphin County Commissioners with TCRPC, Dauphin County Conservation District, and Dauphin County Community & Economic Development.

## WHO ARE THE PARTICIPATING MUNICIPALITIES?

See the map at right.

## WHAT WILL IT DO?

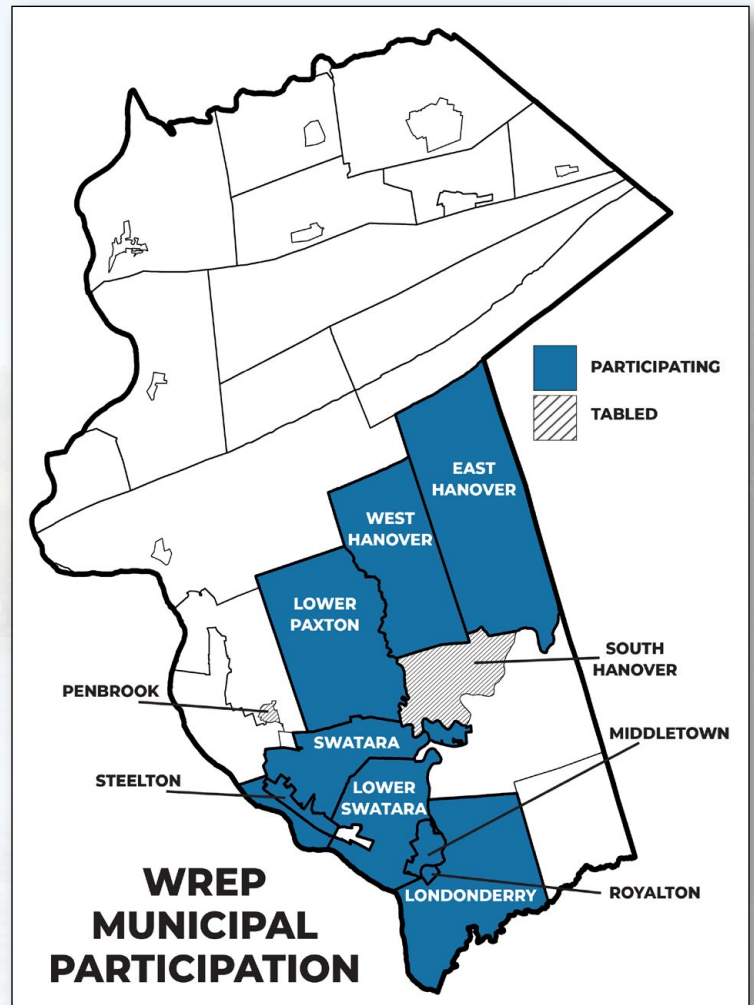
For municipalities who join, it will provide a central framework to coordinate efforts and create strategic partnerships.

## WILL IT SAVE MONEY?

It will cut municipal spending on water-related issues by as much as 60 to 90 percent and save taxpayer dollars. The overall savings will rely on participation: the more municipalities involved, the more they will save. (For example, on the current Conewago Creek Restoration Project, the participating municipalities will save an average of over \$900,000.)

## WHY IS IT NECESSARY?

Dauphin County's municipalities have faced a growing range of water-related issues in recent years. The cost to address them has risen due to the increasing complexity of their impact and the environmental regulations associated with them.



## HOW WILL IT AFFECT EXISTING PROGRAMS?

WREP is voluntary and is meant to enhance -- not replicate or replace -- existing stormwater management programs. Also, it will not create new fees.

## ARE THERE OTHER BENEFITS?

It will save municipalities considerable time and effort by enabling them to participate in regionalized services where it makes the most sense to do so.

## HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

Contact Dauphin County Planning Coordinator Jerry Duke at [gduke@tcrpc-pa.org](mailto:gduke@tcrpc-pa.org) or (717) 234-2639.

**READ MORE...**

# Work Continues on Water Resource Enhancement Program

By **Jerry Duke**, *Dauphin County Planning Coordinator*

TCRPC continues to work with the Dauphin County Conservation District, county economic development staff and project engineer HRG to set the goals and create a work program for the county's [Water Resource Enhancement Program \(WREP\)](#).

WREP's purpose is to assist communities and save them money as they address a wide range of stormwater management, water quality and flooding issues.

The program is building on the success of its initial endeavor, the Conewago Creek Restoration Project. A watershed-based approach to fulfill MS4 requirements, the project's aim is to reduce local flooding and improve water quality in Londonderry Township. It also helped several municipalities in the watershed fulfill their MS4 requirements for sediment reduction. Highspire, Middletown and Steelton boroughs and Lower Swatara and Swatara townships were all able to participate at a cost-effective rate in this joint effort led by Londonderry Township.

Over the past several months, TCRPC has been working with the 15 municipalities now participating in WREP to further develop the program and set a path for the future. In the past year, the project team conducted interviews, created surveys and gathered project inventories to develop a draft project outline. Shared with communities, the outline included potential municipal cost-sharing formulas for 2024 and 2025. Participating municipalities reviewed and discussed the outline in group and individual meetings, and at the September advisory committee meeting, a consensus was reached on a future WREP program offering (see chart).

As planned, the program would offer three levels of services for participating municipalities. One would be for those seeking help to develop regional projects



focusing on flood protection. Another would examine flood protection and MS4 projects. The third level, and most comprehensive, would include the previous two levels and add assistance with public outreach, MS4 administrative support, and public works training and mock audits.

Municipalities will be able to postpone a decision to participate in 2023 until the new MS4 permits are released.

The program will be finalized in the next few months with anticipated approval by the Dauphin County Commissioners and the municipalities' formal decision to participate.

Future outreach will encourage non-participating municipalities to join WREP in the hope of reaching maximum involvement. The greater the number of municipalities enrolled, the higher the savings for everyone.

For more information, email [Jerry Duke](#) or call (717) 234-2639

## WREP PARTICIPATION (2024-2025)

<b>SERVICE LEVEL A</b> - REGIONAL PROJECTS FOR FLOOD REDUCTION	<b>SERVICE LEVEL B</b> - REGIONAL PROJECTS FOR FLOOD REDUCTION & MS4 CREDIT	<b>SERVICE LEVEL C</b> - FULL PROGRAM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Scope items:</li> </ul> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">                     Preliminary Project Scoping/Grant Procurement and Administration                 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">                     Priority Project Study (Flood Mitigation/BMP Retrofit)                 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">                     Database Development/Prospective BMP Mapping                 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">                     Existing BMP Mapping                 </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Service Level A + Scope items:</li> </ul> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">                     Regional Pollution Reduction Planning                 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">                     Engineering/Legal Counsel                 </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Service Levels A + B + Scope items =</li> </ul> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">                     MS4 Coordinator Facilitated Meetups                 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">                     Public Education &amp; Outreach                 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">                     Public Relations/Outreach                 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">                     Public Works Training/ Mock Audits                 </div>
<div style="background-color: #00728f; color: white; padding: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;"><b>TABLE DECISION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ \$500 for 2024</li> <li>▪ Participate in Advisory Committee meetings</li> </ul> </div>		

