

DELAWARE RIVERKEEPER NETWORK

*Marking 25 Years as
the Voice of
the Delaware River*



1988



39 York Street
Lambertville, NJ 08530



1997

1298 General Washington Memorial Boulevard
PO Box 326
Washington Crossing, PA 18977



2002



2005



2006

300 Pond Street
Bristol, PA 19007

2011

925 Canal Street, Suite 3701
Bristol, PA 19007

River Reflections: *25 Years of Speaking for the River*

Maya van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper

Too often the needs of our rivers go undefended, their enemies unchallenged. Rivers cannot speak for themselves; they cannot take those who harm them to court. In the late 1980s, even though the health of the Delaware River had recovered from the days when pollution caused a 20 mile oxygen dead zone in the Philadelphia/Camden reach, a small group of individuals became convinced that the Delaware River needed an individual who could personify the importance taking personal responsibility for river protection.

At that time, a New York citizen-based environmental organization had appointed its own watchdog, called the Hudson Riverkeeper, for the Hudson River, however no other rivers in the country had riverkeepers. In 1988, advocates for the Delaware River, following the example of the Hudson, named the first Delaware Riverkeeper (Raymond Proffitt). The Delaware River was finally provided with a vocal advocate eager to speak and act on its behalf.

For 20 years I have had the honor of serving as the Delaware Riverkeeper and, in this capacity, I have the responsibility and privilege to speak for the River and all that depend upon it. I am assisted in championing the rights of the River by seasoned professionals and a network of members, volunteers and supporters. Together we are the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, and together we stand as vigilant protectors and defenders of the River, its tributaries and watershed.

So many members, volunteers, supporters, funders and friends have had a role in appreciating, protecting and restoring the Delaware River, its tributaries and watershed since 1988. As we mark our first 25 years and begin our second quarter century, we wanted to take the time to reflect on all that we have achieved together. As the following pages attest, together we have made a difference.

Our advocacy and legal actions have brought about changes in policies and regulations that have benefited all who depend upon the Delaware (the River's watershed drains just four-tenths of one percent of the land area of the continental 48 states, but it provides 17 million people—about five percent of the nation's population—with drinking water. This includes New York and Philadelphia, our country's largest and fifth largest cities, respectively).

Our monitoring data has tracked trends and supported management decisionmaking as well as legal

action. Our restoration work has restored the ecological functions and values of numerous local streams. We have helped many communities organize around local streams and local issues, and given citizens the tools they need to take meaningful and successful action.

I wish I could say that my job was done, the River and its tributaries protected and restored, but as in 1988, the River still needs an individual to speak for it today. The Delaware River is unique and magnificent, but it continues to be threatened by under-regulated stormwater, toxic discharges, massive water withdrawals, dredging and more. New threats, such as shale gas development are emerging, even though the scars of past resource extraction—coal mining that polluted Delaware River tributaries—have yet to be fully healed.

Access to pure, life-sustaining water that supports diverse and healthy aquatic communities is an inalienable right of all beings, and of the Delaware River itself. The Delaware River and the watershed it supports is our opportunity to receive the benefits of this inalienable right. No one entity, person, corporation, industry, town, county or state, has the right to use the Delaware River or any of the streams that feed it in a way that harms others or infringes on this right.

I, as the Delaware Riverkeeper, and the Delaware Riverkeeper Network will go forward into the next quarter century opposing those who harm our river or infringe upon our right to pure, life sustaining water. Using independent advocacy, accurate facts, science and law, we will continue working to ensure the rich and healthy future that can only exist with a river that is clean, healthy, free flowing and abundant with life.



Milestones in Special Protection Waters



1989

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network submits a petition to the Delaware River Basin Commission calling for the designation of the Delaware River as Outstanding National Resource Waters (ONRW) under the Clean Water Act, preventing the degradation of water quality.

1990

The Delaware River Basin Commission approves our petition, and establishes a Delaware River version of ONRW called Special Protection Waters, a designation and body of regulations intended to prevent degradation of the Upper and Middle River's water quality.

1992

The Delaware River Basin Commission grants Special Protection Waters status for the Upper and Middle Delaware River.

2001

We petition the Delaware River Basin Commission for Special Protection Waters status for the Lower Delaware River.

2008

The Delaware River Basin Commission grants Special Protection Waters status for the Lower Delaware.

2010

The Delaware River Basin Commission establishes a drilling moratorium based on the Special Protection Waters program in order to protect water quality.

2011

Our advocacy and outreach results in a record submission of comments to the Delaware River Basin Commission in support of leaving the moratorium in place to prevent degradation of water quality.

Today

The drilling moratorium remains in place as the result of leadership and advocacy by the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, our partners and the public.

1992

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network establishes a relationship with the Widener School of Law Environmental Law Clinic.

1993 to 1996

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network, along with the American Littoral Society and Delaware Sierra Club, represented by the Widener Environmental Law Clinic, pursues legal actions against the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for failing to ensure compliance in the watershed states of Pennsylvania and Delaware with section 303 of the Clean Water Act. After long, protracted settlement negotiations that set high standards later pursued by other organizations across the country, we and our colleagues secure 10 year agreements that resulted in full compliance with the law including the identification and listing as impaired of waterways that fail to meet their water quality standards and the creation of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) designed to ensure their clean up.

1997 to today

The states of Delaware and New Jersey identify the Delaware Estuary as impaired based on their findings of elevated levels of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The Delaware Riverkeeper Network settlement agreements triggers the obligation for a TMDL. The Delaware River Basin Commission leads the effort to reduce PCBs by developing and implementing a TMDL for PCBs which achieves a 46% reduction in point source PCB loads from the 10 dischargers responsible for 90% of that loading.

2002

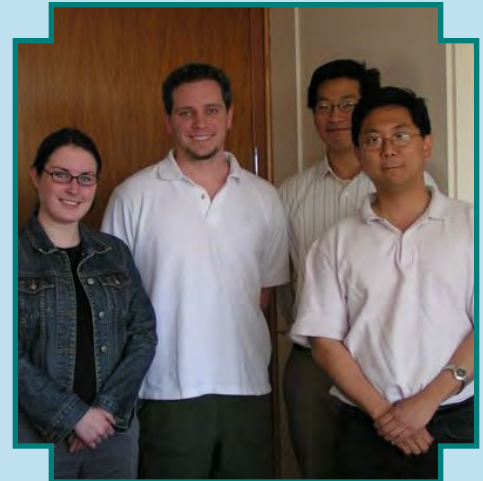
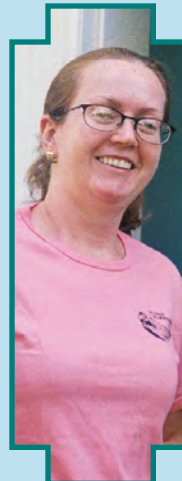
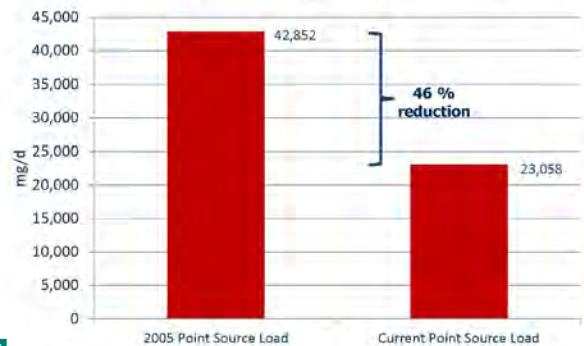
We partner with Temple University's Beasley School of Law to establish the River Resources Law Clinic. The Law Clinic provides guidance, support and legal assistance to the Delaware Riverkeeper Network as it fosters the next generation of environmental lawyers.


2013

To protect our waters and the concerns of the public, we file to intervene in a legal action brought by the West Goshen Sewer Authority seeking to throw out a TMDL regulation. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency had established a TMDL for the amount of phosphorus that can be discharged to the creek. The TMDL should require dischargers to clean up their effluent. In July, we argue before the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania that our organization should be allowed to intervene in the Sewer Authority action challenging the Goose Creek TMDL. In July, Judge Felipe Restrepo, despite vigorous opposition, issues his ruling granting our motion to intervene. A settlement is ultimately reached that will ensure Goose Creek is protected, and bad precedent that would weaken TMDLs nationally is averted.

Milestones in Enforcing the Clean Water Act

10 Dischargers Representing 90% of Point Source PCB Loadings in the Estuary





Milestones in Preventing and Removing Dams

1996 to 2001

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network defeats plans to build a 56-foot high flood control dam across the Neshaminy Creek (*Bucks County, Pennsylvania*). This success resulted from our commitment to non-structural solutions to controlling stormwater that was so forward thinking that even our opposition came to recognize and appreciate the value of our approach.

1996 to 2008

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network advocates for the removal of the Schuylkill River's Felix dam (*Berks County, Pennsylvania*), a remnant of the old navigation system. Years of Delaware Riverkeeper Network advocacy defeat repeated attempts to rebuild this dam and pave the way for other Schuylkill River dam removals.

2001 to 2005

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network pushes back against those ready to rebuild the Angelica Creek dam (*Berks County, Pennsylvania*) after its 2001 breach. Our opposition paves the way for new thinking and, ultimately restoration of the creek, wetlands and meadow flood plains.

Partial List of Other Waters Protected from Dams

- Delaware River
- Flat Brook Creek
- Rock Run
- Chubb Run
- Schuylkill River
- Wyomissing Creek
- Manatawny Creek
- Sprogels Run
- Perkiomen Creek
- Darby Creek

Watershed Congress

1998

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network organizes the first Watershed Congress.

2005

The Watershed Congress finds a permanent home at Montgomery County Community College's West Campus.

1998 to today

The Watershed Congress evolves to advance the best available information and techniques for protecting and restoring watersheds. It becomes a highly anticipated event for those interested in understanding, protecting and restoring local streams, and is considered one of the top environmental conferences in Pennsylvania.



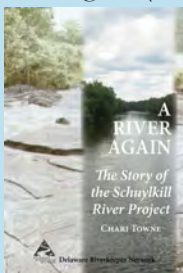
A Partial List of Our Resources and Publications

Shale Truth Interviews: A Video Series (2013)



Protecting Pennsylvania Communities from the Shale Gas Rush (2012)

A River Again (2012)

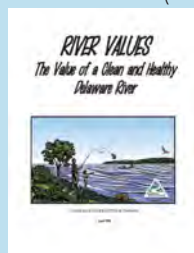


Protecting Pennsylvania's Cleanest Streams (2011)

20 Ways to Protect Streams & Streamside Properties brochure (2011)



River Values: The Value of a Clean and Healthy Delaware River (2010)



New Jersey Stormwater Management Implementation: A Case Study (2010)

In Defense of Watersheds (2003)

Eating Fish from the Delaware River Watershed (2003)

Stream Restoration in Pennsylvania: Ten Case Studies (2001)

Stormwater Runoff: Lost Resource or Community Asset (2001)

River for Renewal (1996)

**Milestones
in Increasing
Awareness
and Action**



Milestones in Water Quality Monitoring

1991

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network establishes its monitoring program. The early focus is on training volunteers to monitor water chemistry.

1996 to 2003, 2009, 2013

We collaborate with the Stroud Water Research Center to offer *Stream School*, a program focusing on biological monitoring techniques. Over 250 volunteers are trained to conduct macroinvertebrate sampling through this collaboration.

1998 to today

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network adds macroinvertebrate sampling to our monitoring protocols. Because of our Clean Water Act 303/TMDL case, macroinvertebrate data becomes of increasing importance for state use. We submit our data for water quality assessments.

2001

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network is among the first technical service providers selected to be part of the Consortium for Technical Assistance to Watersheds (C-SAW), a team of specialists who provide free organizational and scientific technical assistance to Pennsylvania-based watershed and conservation organizations.

2001 to 2002

Through a parallel study conducted with the Academy of Natural Science's Patrick Center, we demonstrate the cost effectiveness of volunteer monitoring.

2002 to 2003

We create the *Adopt-A-Buffer* initiative for volunteers interested in monitoring and maintaining restoration projects. The *Adopt-A-Buffer* protocols are compiled into a popular handbook that remains available on our website.

2004

We begin working with the University of Delaware to carry out its annual horseshoe crab census.

2004 to 2005

In the wake of the *Athos I* oil spill, we organize volunteers and develop oil spill monitoring protocols and reporting forms. A report on the role volunteers played in documenting the oil spill's impacts is published in *The Volunteer Monitor*. After the *Athos I*

oil spill, the Delaware Riverkeeper Network collaborates with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to develop the *Oil Spill Response Toolkit* to assist other groups with emergency response. These protocols are used by watershed groups here in New Jersey and along the Gulf Coast. They are also well-considered by the Delaware River and Bay Oil Spill Advisory Committee in making recommendations to Congress.

2010

We are the first organization in Pennsylvania to hold a volunteer monitor training specifically for gas drilling. The Delaware Riverkeeper Network is also invited to present at the National Clean Water Network's caucus on gas drilling held in Arkansas in September to discuss this citizen monitoring program.

2012

We develop *Pipeline Watch*, a visual assessment effort that looks at erosion and sediment control structures associated with pipeline construction and uses geo-tagged photos to document possible violations. Our staff and trained volunteers monitor pipeline construction activities along the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company's 300 Line project and document unstabilized sediment, damaging wetland crossings, scant mulch, and mediocre vegetation growth at many rights-of-way. As a result of our monitoring, over 17 notices of violation are issued for the 300 Line project in Pike County during Spring 2012 alone. Wayne County, supported by our monitoring, also found violations along the 300 Line during the same time period.

2013

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network works with colleagues to develop a program to monitor and tag horseshoe crabs in order to support protection of horseshoe crabs populations as well as those of dependant shorebirds.



Milestones in Habitat Restoration

1992

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network undertakes its first river restoration projects, even before agencies know how to permit restoration projects implemented with volunteers. Our first efforts focus on the Cooper River where we introduce bioengineering and other nonstructural bank stabilization methods to the South Jersey region. This project paves the way for restoration projects at Strawbridge Lake (Pennsauken Creek), Crystal Lake (Newton Creek) and Woolman Lake (Rancocas Creek).

1996 to 2000

Our efforts expand into the Schuylkill River watershed in a three year pilot, which leads to the establishment of habitat restoration as one of our core program areas.

2002 to 2003

We undertake a natural channel design project along Manatawny Creek in Pottstown to restore stream equilibrium. Over two weeks, 340 tons of diabase rock are used to build two 84 foot long rock vanes. This project is the first of its kind to be implemented in southeastern Pennsylvania.

2003

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network releases its *Little Neshaminy Watershed Assessment and Restoration*. The report is the culmination of two years of studying the 43 square mile watershed. Subsequently, we contribute to numerous assessments and reports to guide others on undertaking restoration including the *Restoration Management Plan for the Lower Darby Creek with Recommendations for the John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum*, the *French and Pickering Creeks Landscape Conservation Plan*, and the *Valley Creek Large Woody Debris Assessment*.

2004 to 2005

We undertake one of our most complex restoration projects to date the John Bartram Memorial Park located in Darby Borough, Pennsylvania. The completed project restores 1.5 acres of riparian buffer, enhances in-stream fish habitat, and corrects a major erosion problem threatening regional infrastructure. Project partners include the Delaware County Conservation District and the Darby Creek Valley Association.

2004 to today

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network assists the Haddon Township Board of Education and Haddon Township with a green infrastructure project to reduce and treat stormwater runoff before it enters Saddlers Run in Camden County, New Jersey. Our efforts begin with the research and planning necessary to prepare the *Saddler's Woods Watershed Restoration and Protection Plan*. As a result of archeological investigations, two sites of historical importance are registered with the New Jersey State Museum in the Delaware Riverkeeper Network's name. Expert planning produces an ambitious, multi-phase project to control and eliminate stormwater runoff. In collaboration with the project design team, we plan and design a biofiltration rain garden totaling 0.6 acres adjacent to the Van Sciver School. In 2012, installation begins on the rain garden, which is engineered to manage the first one inch of runoff from 32,000 square feet of impervious surfaces and to capture 440,000 gallons of stormwater runoff per year.



A Partial List of Our Other Restoration Projects

West Branch Skippack,
Montgomery County, PA

Wissahickon Creek,
Philadelphia County

Paunacussing Creek,
Bucks County, PA

Paper Mill Run,
Philadelphia County

Ridley Creek,
Chester County, PA

Ridley Creek,
Delaware County, PA

Little Neshaminy Creek,
Bucks County, PA

Sprogels Run,
Montgomery County, PA

Cedar Creek,
Lehigh County, PA

Rancocas Creek,
Burlington County, NJ

Mispillion River,
Milford, DE

Valley Creek,
Chester County, PA

Thornton Creek,
Burlington County, NJ

Crum Creek,
Chester County, PA

Little Darby Creek,
Delaware County, PA

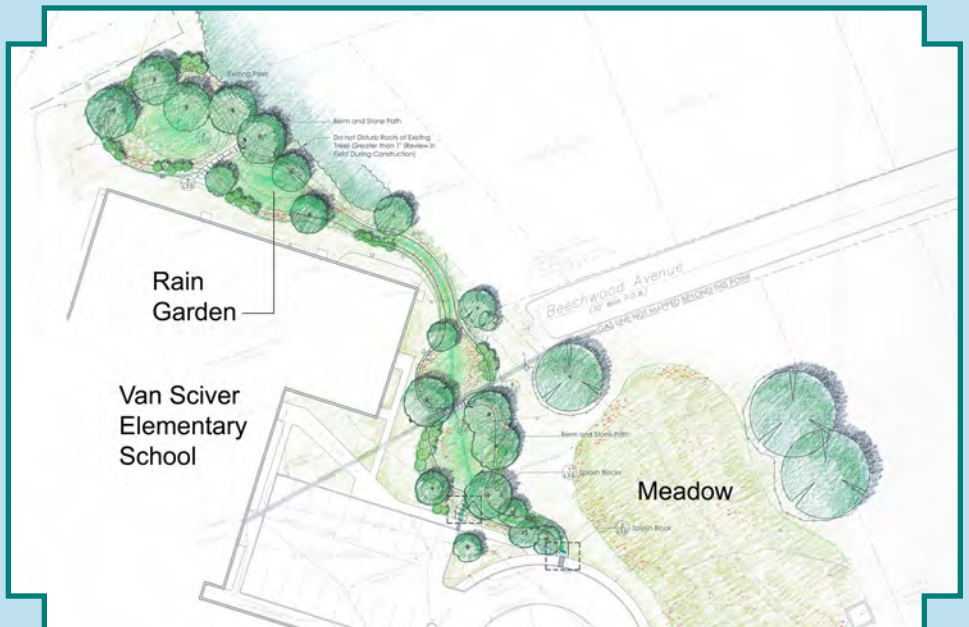
Pine Run,
Montgomery County, PA

Delaware River,
Bucks County, PA

Swamp Creek
Bucks County, PA

Tinicum Creek,
Bucks County, PA

Bristol Marsh,
Bucks County, PA



2004

Over Thanksgiving weekend, as the *Athos I* maneuvers to its terminal near Paulsboro, it hits an 18,000 pound anchor resting on the bottom of the Delaware River. The anchor punctures the single hulled *Athos I*; at least 265,000 gallons of Venezuelan crude spills into the River. With the spill site on the tidal portion of the river, there is imminent threat of incoming tides moving oil up into tributaries, even those upstream of the spill. The spill will ultimately impact 115 miles of River and 280 miles of shoreline with oil, as well as over 16,500 birds and other wildlife. The Delaware Riverkeeper is notified within hours of the spill and becomes a recognized and vocal advocate for transparency, information sharing, and volunteer involvement.

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network responds by developing, revising and refining oil spill monitoring protocols. We recruit, train and organize volunteers. The official response concentrates on the main stem; our volunteers focus on tributaries and go to count oiled birds that have moved away from the River.

Our team of 90 volunteers alerts cleanup crews to 30 incidents requiring immediate action (e.g., malfunctioning booms, or tarballs or oiled debris coming onto shore). Our volunteers also note tributaries without boom protection being oiled by incoming tides. All told, we receive monitoring reports for 27 tributaries, four beaches, three wildlife preserves, and 16 inland waters.

Through the *Athos I* response, the U.S. Coast Guard first accepts and later embraces volunteers and includes their assistance in the Emergency Response Plan for the Delaware River. Prior to our role in the response to this oil spill, the Coast Guard opposed volunteer involvement in emergency response.

Milestones in Catastrophic Response

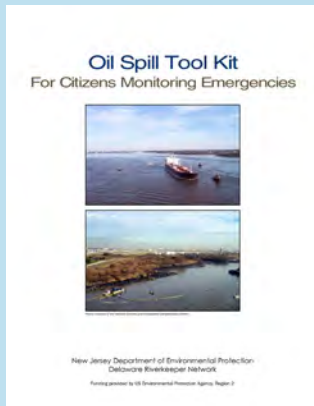


2005 to 2006

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network helps secure new legislation that: increases liability limits, especially for shippers who don't use double-hull oil tankers; establishes a Delaware River and Bay Oil Spill Advisory Committee; and requires a comprehensive study of the full true costs of oil spills.

2005 to 2006

Failure of a settling basin at PP&L's Martins Creek Power Plant in Lower Mount Bethel, Pennsylvania, settling releases 100,000 gallons of coal fly ash into Oughoughton Creek and the Delaware River, coating the stream and river bed with a coal fly ash sludge, smothering benthic life, and exposing fish, wildlife and drinking water supplies to arsenic and other toxins. PP&L cleans up the polluted sludge from the Martins Creek site and the outfall, but the utility moves slowly, allowing the fly ash slurry to move further downstream and disperse over a large area.



Delaware Riverkeeper Network advocacy secures the formation of a Natural Resources Damage Assessment team, but when this team meets behind closed doors and keeps its work secret, we file a petition under the Comprehensive Environmental Recovery, Compensation and Liability Act, or CERCLA, with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency asking the federal agency to assess the spill and cleanup effort. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency accepts our petition, bringing federal oversight to state regulators with close connections to PP&L.

2008

After the *Athos I* oil spill, we collaborate with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to develop the *Oil Spill Response Toolkit* to assist other groups with emergency response. Our protocols are used by watershed groups in New Jersey as well as along the Gulf Coast in 2010.

2008 to 2010

Delaware Riverkeeper Maya van Rossum is appointed to Delaware River and Bay Oil Spill Advisory Committee which is given 18 months to identify recommendations to better protect the Delaware River from oil spill events in terms of prevention, response, recovery and mitigation.

2009

A reservoir release conducted by Bucks County crews as part of maintenance work on a dam flushes built up sediment into Robin Run, a tributary of Mill Creek, coating the streambed with up to 12 inches of mud, and choking native fish, aquatic insects and other organisms. Delaware Riverkeeper Network staff and volunteers responded to help rescue fish stranded in the sediment. More than 25 volunteers turn out to help rescue stranded fish, hauling them in five-gallon bucket by five-gallon bucket to safety. Over 250 five-gallon buckets later, an estimated 10,000 native fish were transferred to the safety of the re-filling reservoir and nearby Mill Creek.

2012

Our staff participate in the U.S. Coast Guard's Preparedness for Response Exercise Program (PREP) to test response in the event of another oil spill.



Milestones in Preserving Vital Habitats

Floodplains



1988 to today

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network actively supports New York City's Watershed Protection Program. We work with the City and local communities to champion the nonstructural watershed approach for preserving the quality of New York City's water supply, without filtration.

2004

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network helps local residents oppose a subdivision proposed for 65 acres on the bluffs overlooking Stockton (*Hunterdon, New Jersey*). Our efforts pave the way for preservation of the site's scenic, recreational, and historic resources.

2004

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network helps defeat efforts to build a hotel and conference center on Depue Island, located in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area.

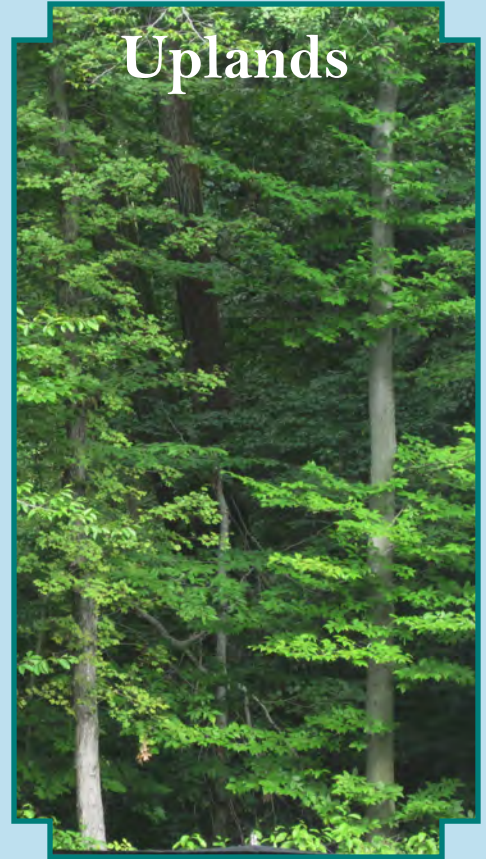
2006 to today

Years of our advocacy help secure permanent preservation of Petty's Island in 2009. A hotel/conference center, golf course and three residential communities had been proposed for this island located in the Delaware River between Philadelphia and Camden. Our Petty's Island efforts continue as we help with litter clean-up, restoration, and increasing awareness of the rich ecology of this island jewel.

2007 to 2009

Delaware Riverkeeper Network advocacy defeats *Riverwalk*, a federal transportation and parking facility proposed for Easton's 100 year floodplain, and paves the way for preservation of the site.

Uplands



Islands





Headwaters

1999

Delaware Riverkeeper Network efforts spur Middletown Township (*Bucks County, Pennsylvania*) to preserve the 25 acres known as the Saba tract, rather than approve development of the environmentally sensitive site.

1999 to today

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network helps preserve Saddler's Woods (*Camden County, New Jersey*) which had been slated for development as athletic fields. We continue working with local partners to manage stormwater on the site with projects such as the rain garden at Van Sciver Elementary School which is improving infiltration, reducing erosion, and protecting this old growth forest.

2002 to 2004

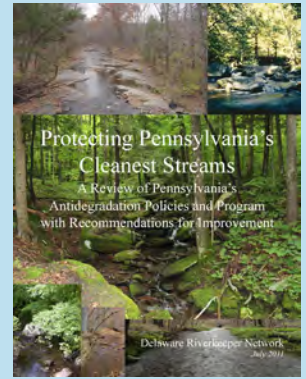
When a water withdrawal threatened wetlands and bog turtle habitat, we combine advocacy and litigation to help achieve the permanent protection of several acres in the headwaters of the East Branch Brandywine (*Chester County, Pennsylvania*).

2002 to today

Our advocacy helps secure preservation of the Levin tract as a park, rather than as a cement-bottom detention basin. Now known as the West Wayne Preserve, we continue to work with Radnor Township (*Delaware County, Pennsylvania*) on habitat restoration of this site. Our efforts in Radnor also include an invasive plant control pilot program to demonstrate what can be done without chemicals.

2008 to 2011

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network studies how well Pennsylvania's antidegradation program is serving to protect the Commonwealth's cleanest streams in practice. We summarize three years of analysis of Pennsylvania's antidegradation program in *Protecting Pennsylvania's Cleanest Streams*, a report that provides background information on Pennsylvania's antidegradation policies and program, looks at the status of implementation, and provides suggestions for improvement.



2010 to 2012

We appeal the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's issuance of a gas drilling permit to Newfield Appalachia for its *Woodland Management Partners 1 1 Well*, an exploratory well which is located in a watershed designated High Quality (Tier II) and which was grandfathered by the Delaware River Basin Commission when it enacted its moratorium on gas drilling. Newfield agrees to apply for an amended permit should it seek to convert to a horizontal well or undertake hydraulic fracturing. In 2013, Newfield Appalachia terminates its gas leases in Pennsylvania and decides not to move forward with production.

2011 to today

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network is the lead petitioner asking Pennsylvania to upgrade the designation of the Delaware River and all the Pennsylvania tributaries that feed the upper and middle reaches to Exceptional Value (Tier III) status. Most streams in the proposed upgrade area already have High Quality (Tier II) designation, but an Exceptional Value designation will further strengthen the protections required by law and better align Pennsylvania regulations with the Delaware River Basin Commission's Special Protection Waters program. In 2012, the Environmental Quality Board accepts the Petition for study in study. The antidegradation assessment is ongoing.



2012

We take legal action when the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection orders Union Township (*Berks County*) to allow a new discharge from a proposed small flow sewage treatment facility. The proposed discharge would flow directly into Mill Creek, for which we had submitted a petition seeking Exceptional Value (Tier III) designation. As a result of our challenge, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection evaluates our petition and upgrades the majority of Mill Creek to Exceptional Value existing use status. The agency also rescinds its order to the township; currently no direct sewage discharge is proposed.

2012

We challenge the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's issuance of a stream encroachment permit to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for a bridge replacement project impacting an unnamed tributary to Cooks Creek, an Exceptional Value (Tier III) designated stream. State environmental regulators failed to properly provide the public with notice of this project. As a result of our legal action, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection revokes the permit to: address deficiencies in the public notice; perform the legally mandated antidegradation analysis; and incorporate stormwater best management practices into the project to reduce excess runoff created by the project's footprint.

Milestones in Protecting Tier II & III Streams

2008

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network receives a pollution hotline call about shale gas drilling in the upper Delaware. We investigate and our early work positions us as a leader in the call for regulation of shale gas drilling.

2009

Delaware Riverkeeper Network advocacy provides key support and impetus for the Delaware River Basin Commission to make an Executive Director Determination, issued in May, that places all aspects of natural gas development in the Delaware River watershed's Special Protection Waters region under the compact's jurisdiction.

2010

We are the first organization in Pennsylvania to hold a volunteer monitor training specifically for gas drilling.

This same year, we undertake a campaign to secure a moratorium on gas drilling in the Delaware River watershed until regulations and cumulative impact studies can be completed. We advocate through public action alerts and outreach to the Delaware River Basin Commission. In May, a moratorium is put in place as a result of a unanimous vote by the Commissioners.

2011

When the Delaware River Basin Commission announces that it will issue draft natural gas regulations and hold a special meeting where the voting members may make them final and lift the moratorium, we respond with a campaign to convince the Delaware River Basin Commission not to meet and maintain the moratorium until a comprehensive environmental analysis is done.

We also organize *Don't Drill the Delaware Day*, an event to coincide with the Commissioners' meeting that will provide those opposed to drilling with an opportunity to stand in protest to this pollution threat. The Delaware River Basin Commission meeting is cancelled when the voting members cannot reach agreement on the issue. *Don't Drill the Delaware Day* goes forward with almost 1,000 people attending to oppose gas drilling in the watershed.

2012 to today

Supported by 52 organizations and over 3,300 individuals, we formally petition the Delaware River Basin Commission to exercise its jurisdiction over natural gas pipeline projects that enter any portion of the Delaware River watershed. After initially rejecting our petition, the agency reverses its decision in part and states that it will subject two pipeline projects to review and permitting after-the-fact, a decision that opens the door for the regulation of other pipeline projects.

New pipeline infrastructure expands across the Delaware River watershed to transport gas from other parts of Pennsylvania. As pipeline construction begins in our watershed, we add *Pipeline Watch* to our citizen monitoring program.

2013

Delaware Riverkeeper Maya van Rossum testifies before the House Subcommittee on Energy and Power's hearing on HR 1900, also known as the *Natural Gas Pipeline Permitting Reform Act*, which would expedite natural gas pipeline permitting. van Rossum was the only speaker invited from the environmental community.

Milestones in Opposing Shale Gas Development



Milestones in Securing Strong Regulations

2001 to 2006

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network spearheads the advocacy, support, and crafts some of the technical requirements for New Jersey's progressive stormwater regulations which pass in 2006.

We lead the effort to secure requirements for 300 foot buffers along New Jersey C-1 (Tier III) streams as part of these regulations. We provide strong support and information documenting the need for this buffer requirement. The New Jersey Builders Association challenges the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's authority to require buffers. The Superior Court of New Jersey, Appellate Division, upholds the requirement for 300 buffers on either side of C-1 (Tier III) perennial and intermittent streams.

In Pennsylvania, Delaware Riverkeeper Maya van Rossum is appointed to the oversight committee that crafts a progressive stormwater manual adopted by the state.

2007

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network and waterkeepers from across the country challenge U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulations that fail to protect aquatic organisms from being harmed or killed at cooling water intake structures at large, existing power-producing facilities. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit strikes down in part the federal regulations that sanction antiquated technologies which will require the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to put forward new rules for these cooling water intakes.

2006 to today

We work with Clean Water Action and the Brandywine Conservancy to craft and lead the *Buffers 100* campaign in Pennsylvania, a strategy to achieve a requirement of 100 foot buffers on all streams, 300 foot buffers on special protection waters (Tiers II and III), and 150 foot buffer on impaired streams. As a result of this advocacy, Pennsylvania's Chapter 102 stormwater regulation improvements enacted in 2010 included a 150 foot buffer requirement for Exceptional Value (Tier III) and High Quality (Tier II) streams. Our advocacy to secure the greater protections continues today.

2013

We petition the Delaware River Basin Commission for more protective oxygen standards for the Estuary. The Delaware River Basin Commission's Water Quality Advisory Committee voted to move our petition to the first stage of implementation.



Milestones in Reducing Toxic Exposure



Perfluorinated Compounds

2005 to 2006

Delaware Riverkeeper Network water sampling finds toxic perfluorinated compounds (PFCs) in drinking water in south Jersey.

2007 to 2008

Our advocacy pushes New Jersey's Drinking Water Quality Institute to set the strictest guidance level for PFOA in the nation (0.04 ppb for PFOA).

2009 to 2013

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network calls for the release of a state study on PFCs in drinking water. When released in 2013, the report reveals extraordinarily high levels of PFNA in some water supplies.

2013 to today

Our perseverance yields a proposed interim groundwater standard for PFNA; bottled water for residents in communities with contaminated water; expanded PFC testing; and the reconvening of the Drinking Water Quality Institute, after nearly four years, with a focus on developing a recommendation for a safe drinking water standard for PFNA, PFOA, and other PFCs.



VX Nerve Agent WASTE

2004 to 2007

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network campaigns to stop the U.S. Army's plan to dump 4 million gallons of treated VX nerve agent waste into the Delaware River.

2006

We file a novel legal action to prevent the discharge of VX nerve agent waste.

2007

Citing opposition by the Delaware Riverkeeper Network and others, DuPont withdraws its proposal to use its Chambers Works facility to treat and dump VX nerve agent waste into the Delaware, putting an end to this threat to the River.

Milestones in Protecting Keystone Species



2002 to today

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network advocates for regulations in New Jersey and Delaware to protect our horseshoe crabs and migratory shorebirds.

2005

We petition the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to list the red knot *rufa*, a migratory shorebird, as endangered.

2008

Delaware Riverkeeper Network efforts help secure a moratorium on the bait harvest of horseshoe crabs in New Jersey. The moratorium is to remain in place until red knot *rufa* populations, dependent upon the horseshoe crab eggs for their very survival, have been restored to healthy levels.


2010 to today

We advocate for endangered species status for the Delaware River's unique Atlantic sturgeon population. The National Marine Fisheries Service grants endangered species status in 2012. In 2013, we file legal action to ensure designation of critical habitat requires by law

Today

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposes listing the red knot *rufa*, as endangered. We continue to advocate for endangered status and greater protections.





Milestones in Defending Our Right to Pure Water and Clean Air

2012

In February, the Delaware Riverkeeper Network goes to the streets with constituents opposed to the Pennsylvania Legislature's efforts to pass Act 13, a bill which would preempt municipalities' rights to zone shale gas and oil operations and gut municipal controls over these activities.

In March, the Delaware Riverkeeper Network and seven municipalities challenge the newly passed Act 13 in Pennsylvania's Commonwealth Court. We bring the Constitutional Environmental Rights Amendment forth as a key legal argument.

In April, the Court issues a preliminary injunction against the provision preempting local zoning ordinances.

In July, the Commonwealth Court declares the state-wide zoning provisions in Act 13 unconstitutional, null, void and unenforceable. The Court also strikes down the provision that required the Department of Environmental Protection to grant waivers to zoning setback requirements.

The Commonwealth Court's decision is appealed to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, with argument heard in October, but the injunction preventing the preemption of local zoning remains in place during the appeal.

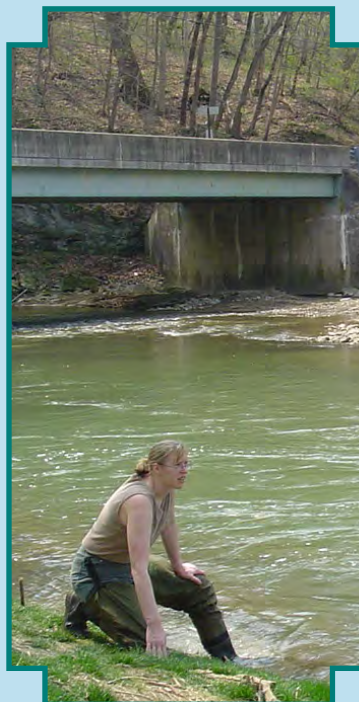
2013 to today

In December, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court releases its decision in our Act 13 case, finding the local zoning preemption provisions of the Act unconstitutional.

As important, the decision breathed new life into Pennsylvania's Environmental Rights Amendment—declaring that it promises all generations of Pennsylvanians that they have an inherent and inalienable right to pure water, clean air and a healthy environment, and giving them the ability to defend that right in the courts.

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network works to further strengthen environmental rights, including working to achieve constitutional protections in the other watershed states and across the nation.







Delaware Riverkeeper Network

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