**Conewago Creek Initiative
Non-Ag Team Meeting**

**May 30, 2012**

**303 Church Hall, Penn State Harrisburg**

 **Minutes**

**Attending**

Matt Royer, Penn State

Jessica Moldofsky, Penn State

Kristen Kyler, Penn State

Carl Rohr, DEP

Mike Hubler, DCCD

Steph Harmon, LCCD

Kara Kalupson, LCCD

Jennifer Fetter, Penn State Extension

Matt Kofroth, LCCD

Rugh Henderson, South Londonderry Township

**Stormwater Incentives Program**

***-Update***

The Stormwater Incentives Program is getting underway. An agreement between the Dauphin County Conservation District and LandStudies Inc. has been written up and is waiting for approval from both parties. Three landowners are ready for an assessment to be completed by LandStudies, two in South Londonderry Township and one in Londonderry Township. Properties that were assessed by the Penn State students are ready to move onto the design stage as long as landowners and LandStudies are comfortable with the results produced by those students.

***-TSP List***

The list of Pre-Qualified Technical Service Providers was approved by the team as long as the relationship between Meliora Design, LLC and Viridian Landscape Studio is better defined and the Design column is specified as Engineered Design. This list will be further updated as contracts are made between landowners and companies not listed, including contractors for the building stage. Any additional contractors or firms will need to respond to the RFQ in order to be approved. This list will be distributed to interested landowners. An engineering firm is required for the design and construction oversight although it might be possible for landowners to contribute to all or part of the building process. The level of involvement will be determined on a case by case basis. An agreement will be made between the landowner, the Initiative, and the engineering firms so everyone involved is comfortable with their level of involvement. Landowner involvement would be most appropriate for planting, less so for construction.

***-Application***

Landowners interested in this incentives program will contact Matt Royer. A site assessment will then be completed by LandStudies and a Green Masterplan will be created for that site. The assessment will be entirely funded by the NFWF grant money. The landowner will then be required to submit an application to be approved for the design stage. They will be asked to check off which BMPs they are interested in implementing with at least all priority BMPs, as ranked by LandStudies, being checked. LandStudies will provide a scope and cost estimate on the Green Masterplan so that landowners can also provide that information on the application. The landowner will also be asked if they will agree to maintain the BMP installed on their property and whether they will be willing to implement these projects entirely before April 30, 2013, when the grant runs out. The landowner will also be asked to sign and date the application stating that they have read both the Green Masterplan provided to them as well as the Program Guidance. All other aspects of the application were agreed on by the team. The program guidance will be updated to reflect these changes to the application process.

***-Outreach***

Outreach to the 74 landowners who responded to a previous postcard will begin as soon as possible, preferably by the end of the week. They will have until the end of June to reply with interest. Extra postcards will be given to the conservation districts to handout to landowners they feel might be interested. A second outreach effort might be needed if little interest is shown by the end of June. If a large interest is shown then an effort will be made to postpone interest until other funds can be established for more projects.

**Urban BMP Tracking Tool Update**

Matt Royer discussed the tracking tool that is being created as part of the Chesapeake Commons. This tool will be used to track the implementation of BMPs as they are installed which will be helpful in calculating TMDL reductions to the Bay. This tool will also be helpful in reporting to NFWF progress that is being made on this aspect of the grant.

**Partner Updates**

**South Londonderry Township:** Four school districts in Palmyra have each been given $500 to fund wildflower meadows by a private citizen, Dick Brown. The South Londonderry Township’s Natural Area Program encourages private landowner initiatives and this is an example of the success this program is having.