



Monthly Board Meeting Agenda

Mission Statement: "Dedicated to the encouragement and instruction of the wise stewardship of the soil and waters of Berks County, so that the present and future generations may have healthy land on which to live and work, and clean water for drinking and recreation."

Date Wednesday, February 25, 2026

Time 1:00 p.m.

Location Berks County Agricultural Center, 1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport, PA 19533

Call the Meeting to Order

Pledge the Flag

Public Comment

Approval of Minutes of the Previous Board Meeting on January 28, 2026

Action Item

Financial Statements and E&S Fee Report

Approval of Payment of Bills

Action Item

Correspondence

Presentation – Johnna Strauss, Office Manager & RCT Team Admin

BCCD STAFF MONTHLY TEAM REPORTS

- ❖ Ag Team
- ❖ Resource Conservation Team
- ❖ Education and Outreach
- ❖ Watershed
- ❖ MDC / Invasives Team

COOPERATING AGENCY REPORTS

- ❖ Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- ❖ Berks County Department of Agriculture & Berks County Agricultural Land Preservation
- ❖ Berks County Farm Bureau
- ❖ Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR)
- ❖ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
- ❖ Farm Service Agency (FSA)
- ❖ Penn State Extension – Berks County
- ❖ Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission
- ❖ Pennsylvania Game Commission
- ❖ Township Officials

Committee Reports,

Admin Tech – Joe Rosenbaum

2026 Workplan

Action Item

- The committee reviewed the presented plan and would like a motion to approve.

RMC – Jim McCarthy

E&S Fee Schedule, Expedited Review Language

- The committee reviewed and would like to change the language as needed and add wording that the District Executive can give an extension of time, at his discretion.

102 Pilot Program

Action Item

- The committee discussed and agreed that we should move forward with the program.

Workshop Conference Call – no meeting/nothing to report

Dirt, Gravel Low Volume Road - no meeting/nothing to report

Legislative Committee

ACAP Committee - no meeting/nothing to report

Old Business

Lyons Solar

PACD

80th Anniversary Celebration in 2026

- Date – November 19, 2026
- The event committee met, discussed the event, and update and details will be provided at the Board Meeting

Building Plaque



Monthly Board Meeting Agenda

New Business **Social Media Metrics**

Statement of Financial Interest Forms - due by May 1, 2026

Antietam Creek Watershed Army Corps Study – Dean will provide details
Signature(s) Needed

- 1) Watershed Restoration Program, \$143,703
Electronic Signature required
- 2) Chesapeake Bay CAP Grant
Electronic Signature required

Action Item

Action Item

Upcoming Events

- April 2, 2026
PACD South East Region Meeting – Henning’s Market, Harleysville
- April 18, 2026
Earth Day – City of Reading
- April 23, 2026
Back to Basics Director Training – Berks County Ag Center
- April 30, 2026
High School Envirothon – Ag Center
- May 7 – 8, 2026
Farm City Days – Harrisburg
- May 9, 2026
Conservation Celebration and Mark Wolfskill Annual Seedling Sale in partnership with the Berks County Master Gardeners – Ag Center
- June – date to be determined
Legislative Breakfast
- July 27, 2026
Annual Awards and Scholarship Dinner – Oley Fairgrounds
- November 19, 2026
80th Anniversary Celebration – details will be provided

Nutrient Management Plans - Updated

Name	Municipality	Animal Type & Numbers	Acres	Plan Type	AEU	AEU/ Acre	Reviewer
Delbert Burkholder	Albany	39,200 Duck; 30 Sheep	90	VAO/CAF O	84.08	0.94	Harig

Action Item

The delegated conservation district shall approve, modify or disapprove any NMP within 90 days of receipt of the complete plan.

- *The district’s action on the plan requires a formal action of the board.*
- *If a NMP operation plan is disapproved, the NMP operation submitting the plan for the first time shall have 90 days after receipt of a written notice explaining specific reasons for the disapproval to resubmit a revised plan.*

SC-1 Requests

Name	Operator / Owner	Cooperator	Municipality	Watershed	Acres	Reason
Brandon Weiss	Operator	Yes	Penn		35.7	Conservation Plan
Brad Chandler	Operator	No	Bern		5.5	ACAP

Action Item

“The Berks County Conservation District concurs with these plans, based on NRCS certification that the plans meet the standards and specifications of the Pennsylvania Field Office Technical Guide for NRCS – “OR AS APPROPRIATE.”



Monthly Board Meeting Agenda

Urban Team Update

# of Projects		Item
December	January	
22	22	Chapter 102 Applications Received
3	1	Chapter 105 Applications Received
70	67	Tech Reviews 102 and 105
18	21	Completeness Reviews
0	33	Non-Complaint Inspections
2	3	New Complaints Received
20	19	E&S Plans Approvals Issued
10	96	Chapter 102 Permits Issued
4	3	Chapter 105 Permits Issued
15	7	PCSM Reviews (Total)
102 Projects + PennDOT 102 Projects = Disturbed Acres		
		Project Acres Disturbed Acres
102 Projects – Initial Plan Reviews		141.88 33.89
PennDOT 102 Projects – Initial Plan Reviews		0.00 0.00
Total Disturbances		141.88 33.89

102/105 Enforcement and Potential Enforcement Actions

- Bollinger Road/Sonnen Farm, Marion Twp (CM-06-00600) (Preserved Farm): Marion Township. Floodway Encroachment. As of March 25, 2025, the project will be bid out a second time due to complications with negotiations between the property owner and Jackson Township. The contractor will need to wait until October 1, 2025, to begin the restoration efforts, due to construction restrictions based on a nearby bald eagle nest. On July 29, 2205, the BCCD requested assistance from DEP for attaining voluntary compliance. DEP is scheduling a meeting with all stakeholders. A meeting was held on 2/5/2026 and parties are moving toward compliance by removing the material
- 201 Forge Dam Road Driveway Improvements, Upper Bern Twp (ESP-06-02638) PAC060348: Michael Piepoli, 299 MSS, LLC. NPDES Permit Non-Compliance. The Corrective Action Plan (CAP) has been approved. The Permittee must now implement the CAP. However, an ongoing civil suit with the Township is complicating matters, which may trigger further enforcement by PA DEP. PA DEP has contacted the Township and awaits internal guidance on how to proceed. The Township responds that the request has been sent to the Township Solicitor. The Township appears to indicate that the CAP can proceed and that the Twp's concerns are merely ancillary.
- Lyons Solar (PAD060068): The solar panels and PCSM BMPs have been installed. The amended soils and permanent seeding have occurred. The PCSM BMPs have been converted to their permanent conditions. Infiltration Basin 1 is infiltrating but exceeding the required 72-hour infiltration time and Infiltration Basin 2 appears to be operating as designed. Overall, the entire site has reached permanent stabilization except Infiltration Basin 1, which is still achieving permanent stabilization. The District has requested Heelstone Energy to ensure the grades are correct due to water flowing around infiltration basin 2 from the substation and to regrade the area of the substation if required. Heelstone responded that they will be conducting field surveying the week of 6/17 to ensure the grading is correct. The District has yet to receive the results of the field surveying. water bar is going to be installed to ensure the water from the substation is reaching Infiltration Basin 2. The as-built infiltration testing for Infiltration Basin 1 shows it is infiltration at a rate lower than designed therefore the PCSM calculations have been requested to be resubmitted using the S-built infiltration rates to ensure the required regulations are being met. Due to the continued issues that have occurred, the District has sent an enforcement referral to DEP.
- 170 N. Bingaman Street Exeter Twp/St. Lawrence Borough (CM-06-00399): Mike Coulter. An unpermitted stream obstruction/bridge installation. 6/17/2025: DEP issues a General Permit 11. However, issues remain with the permitting and the site is not back into compliance.
- 1641 Alleghenyville Rd., Brecknock Twp (Com-25-027). Swartz Farm – The landowner has acquired legal representation. No compliance efforts have been made outside of temporary stabilization. A follow-up inspection was conducted, and the inspection report is waiting on the District Executive's approval before formally sending it to Dautrich & O'Brien Law Offices, P.C.
- 1068 Fritztown Road, South Heidelberg & Spring Twps CM-06-00714 (Com-24-120) CTS 385585. Mike Lawson. Unpermitted wetland fill and stream dredge. The landowner has acquired legal representation and PA DEP has agreed to accept an enforcement referral. On July 11, 2025, the District submitted the enforcement referral to DEP. To date, there has been no response from DEP. However, the DEP Compliance Specialist for Berks County had since resigned.
- Glen Ridge Estates, Lower Heidelberg (PAC060063) – the Township has asked our assistance in getting DEP to provide some pressure on the developer to complete the project. All homes are completed however the PCSM SCMs have not been converted to their final configuration. Requests to perform this work have been going on for a couple of years with no response.



BERKS COUNTY
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

1238 County Welfare Road | Leesport, PA 19533 | 610/372-4657 | www.berkscd.com

Monthly Board Meeting Agenda

Reports
Comments
Adjournment

Action Item