

Sunoco pipeline penalties could benefit Lebanon County streams

On April 17, the PA DEP announced the creation of a new grant program funded by the \$12.6 million penalty imposed on Sunoco Logistics related to construction of the Mariner East 2 pipeline. Grants will be awarded for projects that reduce or minimize pollution and protect clean water in the 85 municipalities along the length of the pipeline corridor.

Eligible grant applicants include the 85 municipalities, county conservation districts, incorporated watershed associations, educational institutions, and non-profit organizations along the length of the ME2 pipeline. DEP anticipates announcing the approved projects in summer 2018. Six municipalities in Lebanon County are eligible for funding, five in the Quittapahilla watershed: South Annville Township, South Londonderry Township, West Cornwall Township, Cornwall Borough, and South Lebanon Township.

The Sunoco Penalty Grant opportunity generated *nine* proposals submitted by five non-profit entities to improve the water quality in the Quittapahilla watershed. Three proposals were submitted by the Quittapahilla Watershed Association in partnership with The Lebanon Valley Conservancy (TLVC), with the crucial help of Doc Fritchey Trout Unlimited (DFTU). One proposal was submitted by South Annville Township; one by Cornwall Borough; and five by the Lebanon County Storm Water Consortium. The total projected cost of all Sunoco Penalty Grant proposals submitted to PA-DEP for the Quittapahilla watershed comes to \$2,865,123.

1. Killinger Creek Project 5 - seeks funding for the design, permit, and construction of a 1,400-foot stream stabilization and restoration with an associated riparian buffer and a restored wetland on Killinger Creek in South Annville Township. Projected cost: \$129,535.
2. Beck Creek Project B6 - seeks funding to restore 2,000 linear feet of Beck Creek from the Route 322 bridge to the meander near Spangler Road in West Cornwall Township. Projected Cost: \$874,822.
3. Snitz Creek Project S2 - seeks funding to restore 2,300 linear feet of Snitz Creek from the culvert outfall downstream of the Lebanon Valley Rail Trail to the culvert upstream of Culvert Road in Cornwall Borough. Projected Cost: \$862,666.
4. Bachman Run Project B15 - seeks funding to stabilize approximately 310 linear feet of Bachman Run between Louser Road and Reigerts Lane, plant a riparian buffer of native vegetation, and manage storm water discharge from two regulated outfalls. Projected Cost: \$112,000.
5. Snitz Creek Project Upstream of S1-proposes four storm water management basins, a vegetated swale, and a riparian buffer on several properties along the upper reaches of Snitz Creek owned by Cornwall Bourgh in the Goosetown neighborhood (between Anthracite Road and Rexmont Road, upstream of the project designated as Project S1). Projected Cost: \$166,400.
6. Unnamed Tributary / Clover Drive Project - proposes a retrofit of an existing detention basin located on Clover Drive (next to the intersection of Barberry Lane) in South Lebanon Township. Projected Cost: \$66,900.
7. Upper Quittapahilla Mainstem / Hickory Blvd. Project - proposes a retrofit of an existing storm water detention basis located on Hickory Blvd. in the upper reaches of the Upper Quittapahilla mainstem in South Lebanon Township. Projected Cost: \$81,600.
8. Upper Quittapahilla Mainstem Project UQ2 & UQ3 - proposes a wetlands basin at the Lebanon County Career and Technology Center that will capture & retain storm water and allow for the infiltration of storm water and recharge of the groundwater aquifer. Projected cost: \$430,500.
9. South Hills Park Rain Gardens Project - proposes five rain gardens (bioretention basins) at South Hills Park at the headwaters of an unnamed tributary of Quittapahilla Creek in South Lebanon Township. Projected cost: \$140,700.