

MAX Helps Trail Group Share the History of the Yough River Basin

The railcar museum at the Great Allegheny Passage (GAP) trailhead office in West Newton now features educational poster displays on the Youghiogheny (Yough) River. The displays trace the course of the river's devastation and recovery as the lifeblood of the local coal and steel industries. They also highlight local abandoned mine drainage (AMD) issues.



A series of settling ponds help to remove iron-laden water draining from the abandoned Marchand Mine in Lowber, PA, approximately 5 miles northwest of Yukon, along Sewickley Creek.

This project, which greatly helped improve water quality in the Yough, is featured in the West Newton GAP railcar displays. The Sewickley Creek Watershed Association hosts educational workshops and an open house event at the site every September.

The Yough displays were prepared under MAX's agreement with the Westmoreland Yough Trail Chapter (WYTC) for providing environmental educational support. WYTC manages the Westmoreland County portion of the GAP Trail, and its volunteers Sandy and Sam Cover manage the railcar museum.

The displays made their debut during the WYTC's 26th annual Labor Day Poker Run on September 2, 2019.

The Covers and other volunteers host railcar openings during all events held at the West Newton Center, which this year included the first ever Sale on the Trail flea market on September 14, 2019.



At the West Newton GAP railcar display unveiling are (from left) WYTC President Karen Craig, MAX Environmental Manager Carl Spadaro, project intern Maria Dellera, railcar curator Sandy Cover and MAX outreach consultant Susan Forney.

Among the displays are notes on George Washington's first visit to the area in 1753 and samples of coal, coke and pyrite, or fool's gold, the natural mineral at the heart of AMD problems.

"The displays have been a huge attraction for our visitors," says Sandy Cover. "We can't thank MAX enough for providing the support to create them."

Veteran Construction Foreman Jim Garber Retires

MAX's senior construction foreman, Jim Garber, retired in September after 37 years of service with MAX and its predecessor companies. Jim worked at both the Bulger and Yukon facilities and also at off-site locations performing earthmoving and construction work. No matter where the work site, he was likely to be found in his favorite spot—cocooned in

the cab of a bulldozer.

"Jim was a valuable member of our core team and our longest standing employee," says MAX President Bob Shawver. "We hate to see him go, but we wish him and his wife the very best in his well-deserved retirement."

Jim says he plans to travel with his wife Crystal and work on a long list of home improvement projects.

"It's been a long, good ride with MAX. I wish all of my former coworkers all the best for their futures."



Construction Foreman Jim Garber poses on his last shift, after 37 years of service with MAX and its predecessor companies.

South Huntingdon Township Appoints Municipal Inspector

In March, Jeff Seglowich became the Host Municipality Inspector for MAX Yukon facility operations. He replaces former Supervisor Mel Cornell, who served in that role until retiring in the fall of 2015. Prior to accepting the position, Seglowich completed inspector certification training sponsored by

the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). He also shadowed DEP Waste Program inspector Matt Shawley on periodic inspections.

The municipal program supplements DEP's inspection program. As such, it allows for more frequent on-site observations, closer communication between

DEP and municipal officials, and a local resource for addressing all complaints.

Anyone wishing to learn more about the South Huntingdon municipal inspection program should contact the Township by calling 724-872-8474 or emailing southhuntingdontwp@comcast.net.

Yukon Spring Cleanups Becoming Tradition

The Slovene National Benefit Society Lodge 729 "Silverstars" Great American Cleanups and MAX's Earth Day annual tire and electronics recycling events offer residents opportunities for sprucing up both the neighborhood and their garages.

The events have become a local tradition, and while separate, have benefited from similar timing. The Great American Cleanup event this spring was the fifth such event hosted by the Slovenian Lodge, which again provided lunch for volunteers.

MAX was among a number of local businesses and organizations represented at this year's cleanup, including the Yukon Fire Department, Yukon Lions Club, Yukon Market, and Highway Pizza and BBQ.

Abandoned tires collected by cleanup volunteers were accepted by MAX for recycling as part of the annual Earth Day community tire and electronic recycling event. The annual MAX community recycling event was held on April 20. Electronics collected during the event are transported to Westmoreland Cleanways and Recycling for proper management. Tires collected at the event are recycled through Liberty Tire.

"We are pleased to see the clean-up events coming together for the benefit of the community," said MAX President Bob Shawver. "We've always received positive feedback from our neighbors for the annual recycling event, and we plan on carrying this tradition forward."



Lion member Albert Casalter and his wife Carrie tackle litter along Whyel Road (left), while MAX associates Bob Shawver and Lori Blashaw search for litter along Homer Street.



MAX employees help unload electronics during the MAX recycling event.

Update on MAX Environmental Permits

Part I of Landfill Application Work Nears Completion.

Public availability session to be announced.

Work on the first phase of a permit application to build Hazardous Waste Landfill No. 7 is expected to wrap up in December. Before submitting the application to the DEP, MAX will host another informal public availability session.

The session will be similar in format to the one held by MAX in August of 2018 at the Yukon VFD. At the session, MAX will share final site study results, listen to public comments, and answer questions about the proposed project.

MAX's planned availability session is a voluntary action aimed at including as much early feedback as possible. DEP will host its own public meeting and/or official hearing after the Phase I Application is received. Subsequent public meetings and comment

periods will continue into the Phase II Application period. Prior to hosting the next availability session, MAX will mail invitations to everyone on the expanded mailing list. In the meantime, anyone wishing to view the project information repository may contact South Huntingdon Township. Individuals are also encouraged to contact MAX directly at the emails and phone numbers listed below.

New Air Quality Permit in Place

A new air quality permit for the Yukon facility became effective October 1. The permit, referred to as a State Only Operating Permit (SOOP), replaces various separate air quality approvals historically issued for site equipment and activities. "The air permit provides an updated, consistent set of monitoring, maintenance, recordkeeping and reporting requirements for facility operations," says Environmental Manager Carl Spadaro.

For more information on MAX Environmental permits, contact:

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