

Executive Summary

The Chartiers Nature Conservancy (CNC) expects to complete the “Evaluation of Mine Discharges from Abandoned Coal Mines in the Lower Chartiers Creek Watershed” that was funded through the Growing Greener program by June, 2003. For this project, Hedin Environmental (Hedin) has been assessing the discharges from eight locations (Gladden, Presto-Sygen, Coal Run, McLaughlin Run, Woodville, Scrubgrass, Hope Hollow, and Whiskey Run) for the past year. A ninth site (at Wingfield Pines) has recently been added to the evaluation. GAI Consultants, Inc. (GAI) has obtained detailed mine maps, has geo-referenced them into a GIS database, and is currently evaluating the areas in-mine hydrogeology.

As a follow-up to the above effort, the CNC is planning to submit an application for a new growing greener grant to develop a “Lower Chartiers Creek Mine Drainage Restoration Plan”. This grant application is due on February 3, 2003. Hedin and GAI have committed to preparing a draft application for the CNC’s review and submittal.

The Restoration Plan’s scope of work will include the following tasks:

1. Compilation of available data
2. Development of conceptual treatment plans for the nine major mine discharges
3. Develop a matrix to prioritize the importance to the watershed of each discharge mitigation project
4. Investigate opportunities (including industrial, commercial, and public) for the utilization of the watershed’s mine water.
5. Recommend two projects for implementation to begin the restoration of the watershed.
6. Develop Engineering Plans for the two recommended sites.