



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Allegheny Energy donation will improve water quality, help create student awareness in Greene County, Pa.

Hagerstown, Md., December 17, 2001 – Allegheny Energy, through its Environmental Stewardship Fund, has donated \$5,000 to the Greene County Watershed Alliance to help develop a countywide, youth-based water quality monitoring and tracking program. The donation is part of Allegheny Energy's ongoing commitment to environmental education, leadership, and stewardship for the enhancement of the region and its communities.

“Working with schools throughout the county, we plan to develop a countywide inventory of watershed conditions and implement a sustainable program to monitor those conditions over time,” said George R. Carter Jr., President of the Greene County Watershed Alliance. “We are excited that Allegheny Energy has donated substantial funding which will help us accomplish our objectives.”

The project will involve students from the five Greene County school districts and other youth organizations. The students will sample water quality and make stream assessments, both through extracurricular activities such as environment clubs and as part of the schools' science curriculum. Data will be collected, organized, and compiled in a database which will ultimately be made accessible through the internet.

“The immediate objective is to involve the young citizens of Greene County in the process in a way that heightens their awareness of watershed issues and allows them to make a meaningful, hands-on contribution,” Carter said. “By working with schools and established youth groups, we hope to assure the continuity of the program by introducing new participants to the project each year.”

The grant from Allegheny Energy will help the organization purchase equipment, materials, and professional support for the monitoring program and train teachers and volunteers.

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“I commend Mr. Carter and the dedicated volunteers from the local watershed organizations for their continued work in protecting and improving the waterways of Greene County,” said Tom Seighman, Regional Director of Allegheny Energy’s Hatfield’s Ferry Power Station. “Allegheny Energy is pleased to partner with the Greene County Watershed Alliance to support environmental projects such as this one that improve the quality of our watersheds and contribute significantly to the environmental education of our students.”

The Greene County Watershed Alliance is a newly formed volunteer organization dedicated to educating the public about watershed issues; promoting the wise use, restoration, and conservation of natural resources; serving as a central source of information and support; and encouraging the development of grassroots watershed partnerships throughout Greene County.

Ten streams have their origin in, or pass through, Greene County, including the South Fork of Ten Mile Creek, Whiteley Creek, Little Whiteley Creek, Muddy Creek, Pumpkin Run, the Enlow and Dunkard Forks of Wheeling Creek, Dunkard Creek, Fish Creek, and Crooked Run.

For additional information about the Greene County Watershed Alliance or the water quality monitoring project, call 724-966-2218.

Allegheny Energy, Inc. is a diversified energy company headquartered in Hagerstown, Md. It has been named to the *Fortune 500* list, the Standard and Poor's 500 index, and the *Forbes* "Platinum 400" list. The Allegheny Energy family includes *Allegheny Power*, which delivers electric energy and natural gas to about three million people in parts of Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia; *Allegheny Energy Supply Company, LLC*, which develops, owns, and operates electric generating facilities and supplies and trades energy and energy-related commodities in selected domestic retail and wholesale markets; and *Allegheny Ventures*, which invests in and develops telecommunications and energy-related projects. For more information, visit our web site at www.alleghenyenergy.com.