

# Clearfield County Planning Commission 2018 Annual Report



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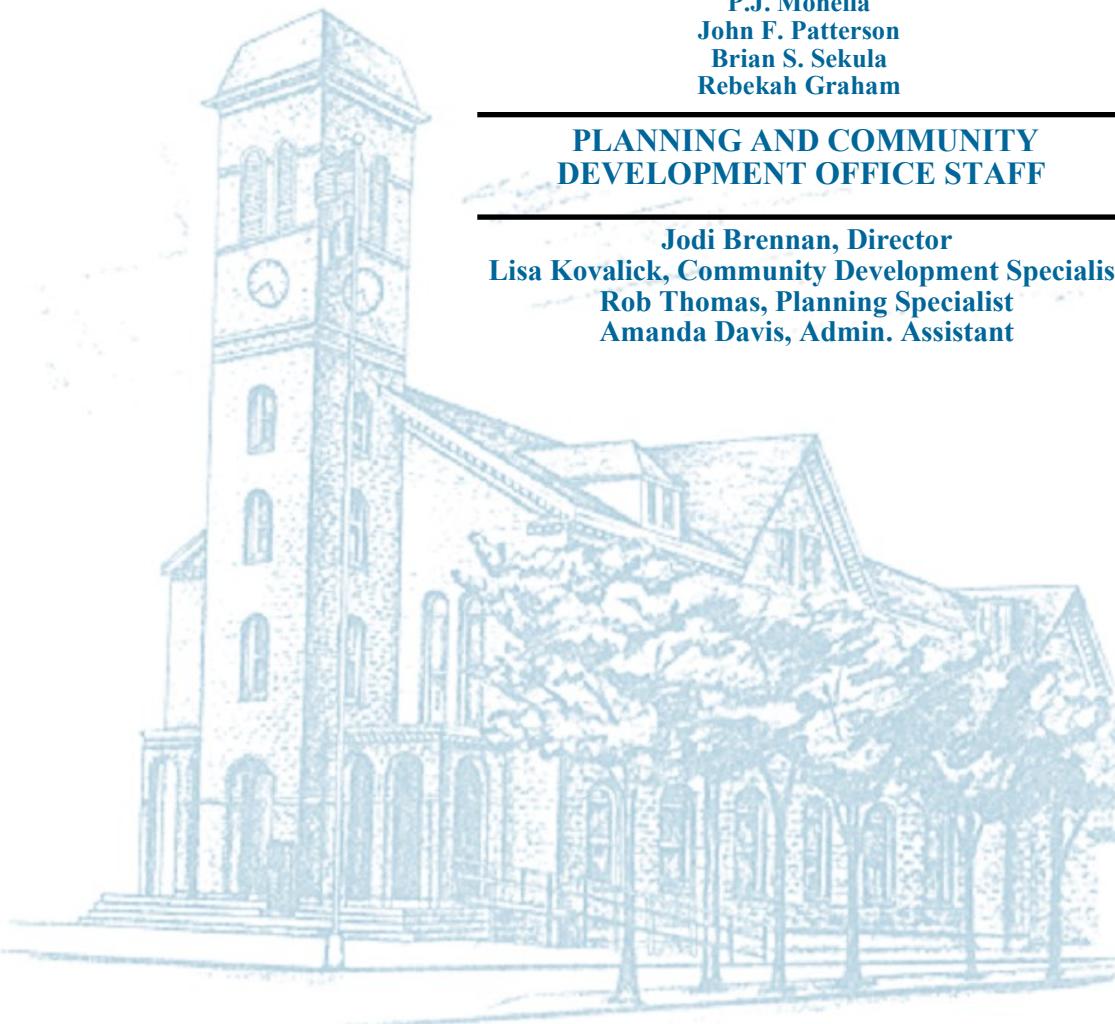
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Rob Thomas, Planning Specialist  
Amanda Davis, Admin. Assistant



### Mission Statement:

*To provide appropriate planning services and to develop leadership so that all Clearfield County municipalities can begin to plan for their future.*

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## TRANSPORTATION PLANNING & HOUSING INITIATIVES

### TRANSPORTATION

**North Central Region Highway & Bridge Improvements**-The State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) and the TIP are the first four years of the Twelve Year Program (TYP), which outline the multimodal transportation improvements spanning a four year period. Federal law requires TIPs to be updated at least every three years.

The FY 2019-2022 TIP for the North Central region was adopted in August of 2018 . A full breakdown of the projects specific to Clearfield County can be found @ <http://www.projects.penndot.gov/projects/TipVisMap.aspx>

**Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF)** Act 89 established a dedicated Multimodal Transportation Fund that stabilizes funding for ports and rail freight, increases aviation investments, establishes dedicated funding for bicycle and pedestrian improvements, and allows targeted funding for priority investments in any mode. There are 2 multimodal pots ones through DCED and one through Penn DOT.

In 2018, our office provided support letters for over 21 projects submitted from local county municipal officials. One being a letter of support for Irvona Borough to replace the Hopkins Street Bridge; a situation that was critical impacting 35 homes, 1 business and a church with no other access available.

In October, Governor Tom Wolf announced that Irvona Borough was awarded \$1,050,000 for replacement of the Hopkins Street bridge.

#### Rail Infrastructure Investments

Governor Tom Wolf announced the approval of 27 rail freight improvement projects that will help sustain more than 400 jobs across Pennsylvania. Projects funded in Clearfield County included the following:



#### Clearfield and Indiana counties

RJ Corman RR Company, rehabilitate about 36 miles of track including rail, ties, ballast, and track surfacing on the Clearfield Cluster's Cherry Tree, Cresson, and Wallacetown subdivisions to improve the efficiency of operations and safety, \$4.2 million.

#### Clearfield and Jefferson counties

Buffalo Pittsburgh Railroad, Inc., rehabilitate about 20 miles of track between Brookville and Falls Creek, facilitating continued freight rail service to Brookville Equipment Corp., \$2.1 million.

#### Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside

**Program** -PennDOT conducted its most current round of solicitation for the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program (formerly TAP). In doing so, Central Office has once again looked for input from MPO's and RPO's on the projects submitted in their areas. For this round, Northcentral received a total of 4 applications for the region. Two streetscape projects in Clearfield County (Clearfield Borough & Houtzdale Borough), and two in McKean County. Unfortunately neither Project in Clearfield County was selected.

#### Air Quality Conformity for North Central RPO 2019-2022 TIP and 2045 Long Range

**Transportation Plan** -This report provides an analysis of the air quality implications of the North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission Rural Planning Organization (RPO) 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) for Clearfield County only.

A conformity determination has been completed to provide a regional forecast of emissions based on planned air quality significant projects and the latest available planning assumptions.

The official 30-day public comment period for the 2019 Air Quality Conformity Analysis Report for Clearfield County began on June 13, 2018, and concluded on July 13, 2018.

#### 2018 Act 13 County At Risk Bridge Dollars

Early in the year Irvona Borough's Hopkins Street bridge was shut down immediately due to recent safety inspection of the bridge. As the only access for 35 homes an immediate solution was needed. Penn Dot worked with the borough crew to place temporary bracing under the bridge. This allowed it to be opened to 5 tons until a more permanent solution was funded.



Penn Dot worked with the borough to submit a multi modal funding application and luckily a few months later they received news that they were awarded \$1,050,000 in Multimodal funds for replacement of the Hopkins Street bridge

While the funding award was great news the 30% match requirement is a financial hardship for the Borough and as such the County Commissioners awarded their latest awarded Act 13 at risk bridge dollars in the amount of \$118,152 to this project to assist.

## RECREATION, TOURISM, WATERSHED, STORMWATER, SOURCE WATER PROTECTION ACTIVITIES

### RECREATION:

#### Community Parks and Recreation Grants-

DCNR's Bureau of Recreation and Conservation builds connections between citizens and the outdoors by providing funding and technical assistance support for local recreation and park improvement projects through its Community Conservation Partnerships Program grants.

In 2018 there were two projects funded by the state, listed below, that would positively impact Clearfield County.

- Graham Township, \$40,000, Rehabilitation of Big Run Park. Work to include installation of play equipment with required safety surfacing; ADA access, landscaping, project sign and other related site improvements.
- Pennsylvania Wilds Center for Entrepreneurship, Inc., \$240,000, Coordinate and fund activities of the PA Wilds Conservation Landscape including increased promotion of public recreation assets in the Wilds; support for PA Wilds Planning and Marketing teams, and expand public-private partnerships at two DCNR state parks.

#### North Central Greenways Implementation Block grant program – Round 7 applications



were solicited during May for DCNR mini-greenways grant funds through North Central. Such funding is designed for smaller

conservation & natural resource based projects.

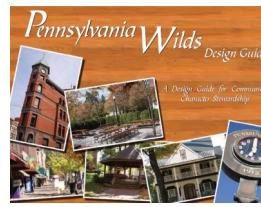
### TOURISM

**Pennsylvania Wilds Planning Team –** In 2018, the Team actively sought out project proposals benefitting the region to be funded with county contributions.

Projects were required to address goals and objectives of the PWPT and its committees, result in visible and measurable impacts, benefit the entire PA Wilds region or the greatest area possible and leverage other activities that provide benefit to and investment in PA Wilds.

Three proposals were recommended by committees and presented at the December Team meeting. The projects that were approved for funding included:

- Community Development Committee proposal of \$1500 for Bike Tourism Workshops
- Land Use Committee proposal of \$4,242.25 for PA Wilds Design Guide printing and thumb drives
- Land Use Committee proposal of \$9,500 for planning consulting services designed to include regulatory and procedural – that could compel the use of the Design Guide in rural municipalities, including those where zoning and zoning enforcement may not exist.



### WATERSHED:

**Headwaters RC&D Council**– Through out the year Headwaters RC& D Council approved to move forward with the following funded projects and to seek a part time operational manager to assist in implementation.

- Headwaters RC&D Regional Agricultural BMPs-This project will install agricultural best management practices on farms within the region in order to restore/ maintain watersheds and protect them from erosion and sediment runoff from the farmland.
- Great Lakes Restoration Initiative- A Demonstration Farm Network in the Great Lakes Basin: Upper Genesee Watershed, Potter County

#### Headwaters RC&D Sinnemahoning Stakeholders Committee -

This committee oversees the Sinnemahoning Stakeholders Watershed Grant Program which disburses approximately \$150K annually towards watershed restoration and environmental improvement projects. These funds come from settlement monies from the June 30th 2006 Norfolk Southern train derailment that caused a serious fish kill in Big Fill Run, Sinnemahoning Portage Creek, and the Driftwood Branch of Sinnemahoning Creek. To date, over \$1.1 million has been awarded back into Sinnemahoning and Portage Creek watersheds through projects.

In 2018, Huston Township were awarded such funds in the amount of \$9,802 for the Bennett Branch Streambank Stabilization Project.

### STORMWATER MANAGEMENT:

**County Hazard Mitigation Plan-** Our office again met with EMA folks in 2018 to discuss areas where the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan could be implemented by offering grant writing services for mitigation funds. Since there had been so many storm water related issues throughout the county mitigation of storm water hazards was a specific topic of discussion.

### SOURCE WATER PROTECTION:

**Central PA Source Water Alliance for Protection** – Once again staff members participated in the 2018 Clean Water Days, held at Black Moshannon State Park in April. This program educates 5th graders from Clearfield and Centre Counties. Students visit 6 stations that covered topics such as ground water, water treatment, sewage treatment, water pollution/watersheds, stream ecology, and in-stream macro-invertebrates.

**Source Water Protection Plans Status** – Water Protection (SWP) is a voluntary effort to take action to prevent contaminants from entering public drinking water sources. The goal of source water protection is to protect both groundwater sources (also called "wellhead



protection") and surface water sources (lakes, streams, rivers) used for drinking water.

In 2018, DEP's consultant developed a Source Water Plan for Westover, which was presented to municipal officials on March 6th, and was officially approved. Upon Westover's plan approval there are now 15 approved source water plans in the county. A proposed mining permit near the water supplier's infrastructure was the impetus for the Borough's interest in developing this plan.

## S.A.L.D.O. ADMINISTRATION

### CLEARFIELD COUNTY'S

### SUBDIVISION & LAND

### DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE

(S.A.L.D.O.)-Clearfield County currently has jurisdiction over 30 of our 50 municipalities. In 2018, the Planning Commission reviewed forty five plans for compliance with the County's Ordinance. Of those, only one was a land development plan while the remaining forty four were subdivision plans.

The following chart outlines the activity that occurred in administering the County's Subdivision & Land Development Ordinance in 2018. The following municipalities did not have any activity for the year: Bloom

Township, Brisbin Borough, Burnside Borough, Glen Hope Borough, Gulich Township, Houtzdale Borough, Iriona Borough, Mahaffey Borough, New Washington Borough, Ramey Borough, Wallaceton Borough and Westover Borough.

*Continued on page 5*



2018 County's S.A.L.D.O. Activity				
Municipality	# of Subdivisions	# of Land Development	# New Lots Created	# Proposed Buildings
Beccaria Township	3	0	2	0
Bell Township	2	0	1	0
Bigler Township	4	0	6	4
Brady Township	7	0	9	4
Burnside Township	5	0	4	2
Chest Township	3	0	2	1
Chester Hill Borough	1	0	1	0
Coalport Borough	1	0	0	0
Ferguson Township	3	0	4	1
Grampian Borough	1	0	1	0
Greenwood Township	1	0	1	1
Huston Township	3	0	2	0
Jordan Township	1	0	1	1
Knox Township	6	0	6	1
Newburg Borough	1	0	0	0
Osceola Mills Borough	2	0	1	1
Pike Township	6	0	10	2
Troutville Borough	0	1	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>19</b>

## S.A.L.D.O. ADMINISTRATION *Continued*

**ACT 247 REVIEWS**-The County Planning and Community Development Department reviewed and provided comments on seventy four plans from those twenty municipalities that administer their own S.A.L.D.O. Of those seventy four plans, ten were land development plans and sixty four were subdivision plans.

The adjacent table reflects the activity. The following municipalities did not have any S.A.L.D.O. activities: Covington Township, Karthaus Township, and Pine Township.

The bottom adjacent table reflects some notable land development activities that occurred within the County during 2018.

**PERMIT AND PROJECT NOTICES** - In addition to S.A.L.D.O. reviews, our office reviewed several other permit and project notices throughout the year. The type and quantity of those reviews are listed below. Our office also provided support letters for community based projects:

**Act 14 Notifications - 48**

**Act 67 & 68 Reviews - 5**

**Act 537 Reviews - 6**

**Air Quality - 9**

**Blasting Notices - 2**

**Bond Releases - 12**

**Correspondence - 34**

**Environmental Assessments/Reviews—2**

**General Projects/Assessment Reviews/Permits - 10**

**Land Use Changes - 8**

**NPDES - 4**

**PennVest Reviews—2**

**Public Utility Commission - 6**

**Sewage Component Reviews/Planning Modules - 49**

**SRBC Permits - 4**

**Support Letters - 44**

**Surface/Underground Mining—2**

**Water Withdrawals - 6**

**Zoning Changes/Reviews - 6**

### Act 247-Municipalities with their own S.A.L.D.O. 2018

Municipality	# Subdivisions	# Land Development	#Lots Created	#Proposed Buildings
<b>Boggs Township</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Bradford Township</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Clearfield Borough</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Cooper Township</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Curwensville Borough</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Decatur Township</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>City of DuBois</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Falls Creek Borough</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Girard Township</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Goshen Township</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Graham Township</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Lawrence Township</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Morris Township</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Penn Township</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Sandy Township</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Union Township</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Woodward Township</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>44</b>

### 2018 Land Developments

<b>Clearfield Borough</b>	<b>Clearly Ahead Rivers Landing</b>
<b>City of DuBois</b>	<b>Penn Highlands West Campus Addition / DuBois Dispensary</b>
<b>Girard Township</b>	<b>Lauder Campground</b>
<b>Lawrence Township</b>	<b>Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Building / Dollar General Store</b>
<b>Morris Township</b>	<b>Angel Walk Winery</b>
<b>Sandy Township</b>	<b>Aqua Pennsylvania TL Office &amp; Garage / Treasure Lake Comfort Center</b>
<b>Troutville Borough</b>	<b>Haag's Feedstore &amp; Milling Building Addition</b>

## NATURE BASED PLACE MAKING / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### NATURE BASED PLACE MAKING:

**Clearfield Revitalization Corp. (Nature Based Place-making)** - Our staff participated in a number of workshops hosted by the Clearfield Revitalization Corp during the year regarding nature based place making.

The Clearfield Revitalization Corp. was selected by the PA Downtown Center to receive technical assistance from

the Center for development of a nature based place-making plan for the greater Clearfield area. Nature based place-making addresses both the economic and the quality of life opportunities that such an effort might provide communities with the ability to develop those opportunities to their fullest potential. This is a multi-year process that begins with inventorying the community's assets.



### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

#### Clearly Ahead Rivers Landing -

Clearly Ahead Development, presented plans for construction of a new, multi-occupancy building to Clearfield Borough Council's planning committee. The project known as the River's Landing Building, will be located at the former Tool Shed site on Market Street neighboring the Riverwalk.

Plans are to construct a two-story facility with



5,000 square feet on each floor and is designed for multiple tenants and to feature on-site parking.

The first floor will house an anchor tenant such as a family restaurant conducive with a welcoming environment to take advantage of outside seating, and catering opportunities to accommodate second-floor event space area that overlooks the Susquehanna River, riverwalk and two local parks. Plans are to host two or possibly three businesses on the first floor. The second floor will have multi-

office spaces with a larger conference room that can be used for training sessions and special events. The conference room area layout pairs well for in-house catering services from first-floor occupants to accommodate special events. The second floor will feature a balcony overlooking the river. Rather than a traditional masonry-style, downtown building, Clearly Ahead opted for an architectural style that reflected the Pennsylvania Wilds design guidelines and natural heritage of Clearfield and the Susquehanna River.

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG):

##### CDBG non-entitlement:

Clearfield County's CDBG allocation for FFY 2018 is \$261,776 of that \$214,657 will be utilized to assist Curwensville Borough with Street Improvements in the Business District, and \$47,119 for program administration.

Curwensville Borough in partnership with the Curwensville Regional Development Corporation (CRDC) will construct a new streetscape on State Street from Walnut to Thompson Street during August 2019-August 2020.

This includes new sidewalks, curbing, and lighting. This CDBG funding will install new storm water systems on Thompson & Walnut Streets running North and South of State Street. The existing storm water system is made of deteriorated pipes and brick inlets, leaving storm water running down the streets and sidewalks of the business district.

Curwensville Borough has a streetscape project on the horizon for their business district. Before they place new sidewalks, curbing, and lighting along State Street they are requesting funding to put storm water in place. Our goal here is to complete the storm water project prior to the streetscape construction to prevent tearing up new concrete. The County CDBG funding will provide the needed assistance to the Borough and CRDC. Major improvements such as storm water and streetscape will entice business growth and new development. Total estimated project cost: \$253,000.

##### CDBG OBO:

**Lawrence Township** - Lawrence Township received FFY 2018 CDBG allocation of \$123,996, of that \$101,586 will be utilized for storm sewer and street improvements in the Kerr Area of the Township and \$22,299 for program administration.

The existing storm drainage system or lack of in

Kerr area, specifically along Bowman Hill Road is insufficient and unable to handle storm water runoff during wet weather and storm events. In some areas, there is no storm drainage system at all. Often during heavy rain, yards and roads fill with storm water along Bowman Hill Road. The street is deteriorating and will continue to deteriorate more each year by uncontrolled storm runoff. The storm water runoff has deteriorated the roadways and berm making it dangerous for vehicles traveling the road. Because there are no sidewalks this has created unsafe conditions for pedestrians walking in the area.

This is the second time Lawrence Township will address street improvement with storm water construction in the Kerr Area. CDBG funding over the past 5 years has provided the Lawrence Township Supervisors the funding needed to place proper storm water drainage along Good Street. This fall they are finishing the Good Street storm water project. Providing health safety measures to their residents by keeping roads, yards, housing and residents of the Kerr Area safe from flooding. Total Estimated Project Costs: \$239,930.

**Clearfield Borough** - Clearfield Borough received FFY 2018 CDBG allocation of \$109,783, of that \$90,023 will be utilized for Flood Protection, Storm Sewer and Street Improvements in Census Tract area 331100 BG 02, and \$19,760 for program administration. Clearfield Borough will address Storm Water and Flood Improvement Issues in the Census BG 3311 Census Track 02 which is determined as 70.67% Low – Moderate Income area.

This CT is primarily residential and locally identified as the "East End" of Clearfield Borough.

After extensive flooding during the nineties, caused deterioration of roads, culverts, sidewalks and yards, the Borough requested assistance from DEP to address the flooding in the area coming from Stinky Run. DEP conducted a flood study, finding most of Stinky Run is enclosed in a culvert system to convey storm flows through backyards and under streets to the river. These existing facilities are inadequate and result in overland flooding. DEP is designing a flood protection project that will be funded by PA DGS costing approximately \$1.3 million dollars. Together the Borough and DEP will begin remediating storm sewers being overburdened from Stinky Run during heavy rain fall. In order for DEP to move forward the Borough is responsible to relocate the water, sewer and gas lines in the sponsorship agreement. The Sponsor agreement also requires the Borough to obtain both permanent and temporary easements for the construction DEP will fund flood protection.

## HOUSING

## **Clearfield County Affordable Housing Fund**

- A total of nine applications were received and reviewed by the County’s Office of Planning & Community Development based on the program guidelines.

Those projects funded include:

## Mature Resources Foundation (Area Agency on Aging) - (Non-Traditional Elderly Housing) -



is placed in the side or rear yard of a family host home for an older family member.

\$15,000.00

Clearfield County Housing Authority (Rental Repair Program) The Housing Authority is seeking assistance to create a program that provides an incentive for private investment in the improvement of rental units. \$ 7,100.00

## Clearfield-Jefferson Drug & Alcohol

Commission (Program to Prevent Re-incarceration) There is a chronic problem of finding housing for the substance abusing population. This program would assist ~ 10 individuals. Those served will also receive basic skills training to become self-sufficient in acquiring and maintaining housing and basic needs. \$ 7,500.00

Cen-Clear Child Services – (Specialized Housing Counseling Initiative) This program is designed to assist 30 low income at risk families and individuals who are homeless or seeking housing assistance. \$7,500.00

Haven House- (Emergency Rental & Utility Assistance Program) Haven House, a homeless shelter located in DuBois, is seeking assistance in helping eligible guests at their shelter secure independent permanent housing. \$ 5,400.00

Developac (Dimeling Senior Housing Improvement) Funds will be used to upgrade safety and security features in the facility including installing two automatic doors and a wireless emergency call system for its residents. \$15,000.00

City of DuBois (Blight Removal/ Property Transfer to Habitat for Humanity) City will use money to remove blighted property in heart of DuBois. House partially collapsed and filled with rubbish & feces. Property will then be transferred to Habitat for Humanity for neighboring Habitat project. \$10,000.00

## **Clearfield County Area Agency on Aging**

## ECHO Cottage

On June 26th, the first ECHO (Elder Cottage Housing Option) house in Pennsylvania was presented by Mature Resources Incorporated, a subsidiary of the Clearfield County Area Agency on Aging, Inc. This first cottage is located in Sabula in Sandy Township. These manufactured units are specifically designed for individuals to age well, with the

environmental support of accessible housing.

The goal is to create an environment that will be optimal for individuals as they age and adapt to the physical changes that most often occur with aging.

## Village of Hope

The Clearfield County Area Agency on Aging, along with its subsidiary, Mature Resources has partnered with Dr. Thomas and his team to begin work to develop the vacant Girard Goshen Elementary School in Lecontes Mills into a village, the Village of Hope, initially for individuals and their families who are living with Alzheimer's Disease or a related disorder. The vision evolved from many years of experience in working with individuals and their families affected by this devastating disease.

The vacant elementary school was purchased in October by the Clearfield County Area Agency on Aging (AAA) for the purpose of being transformed into dementia-friendly pocket neighborhoods for people of all ages and abilities featuring Dr. Bill Thomas' robot-built Minka homes and a schoolhouse repurposed into a mixed-use commercial and arts engagement center.



## **ENVIRONMENTAL, ENERGY, AND UNCONVENTIONAL GAS DEVELOPMENT**

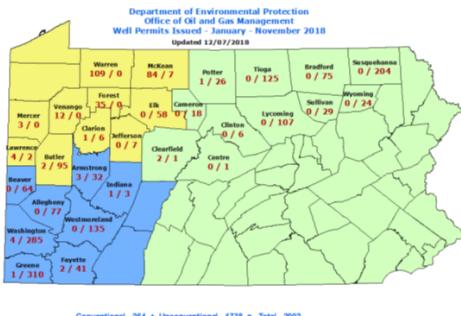
## MARCELLUS SHALE OIL AND GAS

**ACTIVITY**-For 2018, there were 2 conventional gas permits issued and just 1 unconventional gas permit issued. The production of the existing unconventional gas wells totaled 10,887,928 Mcf. (thousand cubic feet) for Jan.-Nov. 2018. The adjacent table shows the companies and the

quantity of unconventional gas produced per company within Clearfield County.

## WATER WITHDRAWALS-

Throughout 2018, our office received six water withdrawal permits. While there was just one new unconventional oil and gas well drilled, companies are still securing water withdrawal permits for natural gas development and drilling activities in the amount of 15 million gallons per day.



2018 MARCELLUS SHALE OIL AND GAS ACTIVITY	
COMPANY	2018 PRODUCED QUANTITY (McF) as of Nov '18
Alliance Petroleum	18,627
Campbell Oil & Gas, Inc.	656,690
Energy Corporation of America	48,465
Greylock Conventional LLC	438
Greylock Production LLC	502,889
EQT Production Co.	1,709,796
LPR Energy LLC.	860,584
Seneca Resources Corp.	6,727,115
XPR Resources	363,324
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,887,928 mcf</b>

## GRANTS, OUTREACH, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

**GRANTS**-Throughout 2018, the Community Development Specialist continued to assist municipalities, county non-profit groups, and county level agencies with grant writing services. Some notable activities included:

### Clearfield County Safe Haven Program –

The Community Development Specialist continued in 2018 to assist the Clearfield County League on Social Services in preparation of a new Safe Haven Grant application that would sustain such services previously provided by the League.

The Safe Haven Program provides a safe environment for child exchange of custody every weekend and provides a safe supervised child visitation program weekly assisting approximately 154 both adult and child victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, child abuse, or stalking.

**Mahaffey Borough Blighted School-** After years of working with borough officials regarding possible solutions to removing a dangerous blighted and vacant structure, the old Mahaffey school.



With the recommendation of the Community Development Specialist the Commissioners agreed to revise the purpose of some it's unused Community Development Block Grant funding to help Mahaffey Borough raze this blighted structure. Borough officials in turn have both committed funding and agreed to own and maintain this property which they plan to acquire from the County's repository.

Approval for modification of CDBG funds is pending DCED approval. Once approved, officials will initiate the process to obtain the building, advertise for its demolition with specifications and then raze the school.

**Graham Township Big Run Park–** On April 18, 2018 the Community Development Specialist prepared and submitted a DCNR C2P2 Grant application obo Graham Township. In November, the Township was notified that they were awarded \$40,000 in funds to assist the township with new playground equipment and other site improvements at Big Run Park.

**Susquehanna River Arts Center**—the Community Development Specialist provided the Center w/ grant writing assistance for a project designed to encourage the public to take part in the Arts through the development of a statue on the river walk.

**Department of Justice Rural Communities** – the Community Development Specialist provided grant writing assistance for funding that would provide civil legal assistance to victims of DV, Sexual abuse, and stalking. This grant would also provide funding for human trafficking initiatives.

**USDA Community Facilities** - Project the Community Development Specialist provided grant writing assistance obo Curwensville Borough for funding of construction inside the Borough Building for the police station.

## OUTREACH

**Update of County Future Land Use Map** As infrastructure is the foundation upon which all community and economic development takes place and thrives a collaboration between the Planning office, GIS office and Clearly Ahead was undertaken to update GIS mapping as it relates to where infrastructure exists, is being planned for expansion, as well as identifying the gaps in such service. Such information is a valuable tool for local and county government officials, developers, and citizens interested in planning to improve, grow, and enhance our communities.

In July, the Planning Office began solicitation process requesting such information from those water and sewer service providers who service county residents and businesses.

Additionally, we took the opportunity to solicit future capital improvement projects that we could include in our countywide capital improvement plan. Providers were asked to provide a brief project description including location and price estimate, if available.

Having a project identified in a planning document is very helpful when applying for state or federal funding. In particular, the county utilizes these identified capital improvements in the County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Plan, which identifies future projects for CDBG funding.

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

### Human Service Planning & Block Grant

**HSBG** – The HS Planning team met March 2, 2018 in DuBois. Drug & Alcohol has been awarded \$500,000 for a second round of the center of excellence funding to assist with the opioid epidemic in Clearfield and Jefferson Counties. This funding helps Drug & Alcohol w/ more case management staff to provide ongoing counseling for recovering addicts. The Department of Human Services has yet to release the Human Services Planning Bulletin. Once they do we will begin the 2018-2019 plan and grants.

**Appalachia Region Commission & Keystone Communities Grant (Coalport Flood Project)** – In 2018, our office continued to participate in discussions with state DCED officials and borough officials regarding possible funding sources to complete the ongoing flood protection project.

In addition, DCED officials met with the Borough to discuss the State's Early Intervention Program (EIP). This program provides matching grant funds to assist municipalities experiencing fiscal difficulties to develop comprehensive multi-year financial plans and establish short- and long-term financial objectives.

