

SJVSWCD Selected to Receive 319 Funding for McLean Brook

Casey Cote, District Coordinator

The Department of Environmental Protection received 24 proposals for FY2010 requesting financial assistance to conduct Nonpoint Source (NPS) Water Pollution Control Projects with a request amount totaling \$1,133,617.00. The St. John Valley Soil and Water Conservation District submitted a proposal requesting financial assistance to conduct a NPS Water Pollution Control Project in St. Agatha's McLean Brook. The District's proposal scored high enough to be selected to receive a Nonpoint Source Grant. The grant award is dependent on the fulfillment of the following three items (1) the Department of Environmental Protections receipt of Federal 2010 319(h) grant funds (anticipated in December 2009), (2) a revised project work plan, and (3) approval of the revised work plan.

The proposed Mclean Brook Watershed BMP Implementation Project totaling \$65,796.00, will significantly reduce the sediment and hence nutrient load entering McLean Brook and other down stream water bodies such as Long and Mud Lakes. The project will also address all known NPS sites that were located during the 2008 McLean Brook Watershed Survey.

Partnering with NRCS and landowners in McLean Brook Watershed, the District will work to have conservation practices installed on all 6 NPS sites. Once the District receives 319 Grant funds, anticipated in late December 2009, they will contact landowners and NRCS. At the start of the new year, District staff will coordinate communication and early design plans between landowners and NRCS to facilitate final design plans once the snow has melted in May.

Once design plans are complete, the District will develop conservation agreements with the landowners offering a 75:25% grant to match. The District will then work with the landowners, taking into account planting and harvesting schedules, for the installation of the BMPs. The District envisions the installation happening in summer and fall of 2010 and 2011, with a projected project completion by December 2011.

**If you have any questions about this project please contact the District at
834-3311, Ext. 3.**