



*The ARAMARK Tower
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Watershed Conference Showcases Environmental Improvements that are Directly Linked to Regional Social and Economic Revitalization Priorities

(Philadelphia, PA - January 19, 2005) On Friday, January 21 and Saturday, January 22, the Philadelphia Water Department (PWD) and the Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC) will be hosting the 2005 Urban Watershed Revitalization Conference.

To be held at the Franklin Institute on North 20th Street, the Conference begins with registration at 8 a.m. on Friday, and features a variety of presentations throughout the day, with additional seminars on Saturday.

The Philadelphia Water Department recently completed two watershed management plans in the Cobbs and Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Creek Watersheds. The conference is being held to spark further impetus for watershed communities to implement plan recommendations that will ensure continued environmental improvements to our regional watersheds. Conference presenters will illustrate how these improvements can complement social and economical priorities.

Speakers from the Pennsylvania Department of Environment Protection (PADEP), the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), the Philadelphia Water Department, the Center for Watershed Protection, in addition to local and national organizations, will be on hand. They will address current and future environmental issues, and how improving our watershed environment also improves our quality of life. Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Secretary Kathleen McGinty will be the conference's kick-off speaker.

Presenters from the Philadelphia Water Department include Howard Neukrug, office of watersheds director, and Ed Grusheski, public affairs general manager.

Topics to be discussed include watershed restoration, stormwater management, urban influences on watersheds, smart growth strategies, and many other related topics.

To register in advance, visit <http://www.greentreks.org/pec/conference.asp>.

Pre-registration is \$35 for one day or \$50 for both. Registration at the door is \$70.

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