Director’s Notes: FDC Staff Members Receive Award Recognition

May 11, 2018, the DCNR employee recognition and award ceremony was held in the second-floor auditorium of Rachel Carson building. Four members of FDC staff were recognized. They are Al Thomas, Teresa Allen, John Jaskolka and Shawn Beeler. Congratulations to them all.

Al Thomas and Teresa Allen were recognized alongside Craig Schwartz of Conservation and Environment IT Delivery Center. This is for the work they did in developing an online bid document procurement system for FDC. This system enables prospective bidders, on our projects, to easily obtain bid documents online. It makes things easier for bidders since they can now download our bid documents onto their respective devices at any time and at no cost to them. On the part of FDC, it saves time, effort and cost. The system also provides quick email communication to all plan holders regarding a project.

Shawn Beeler, John Jaskolka and Albert Thomas were recognized alongside Gary Fleeger of the Bureau of Topographic and Geologic Survey. This is for the work they collaborated on in finding a better and more productive water source that requires less treatment for one of our projects at the Moraine State Park. Their research culminated in the drilling of a 300-feet-deep well with exceptional water quality and quantity, requiring only disinfection and aesthetic treatment for manganese.

After the award ceremony, I was honored to join Mike and Mike, the DCNR music duo, during the reception, to play a few songs in honor of the award recipients. It was fun for me to dust up my acoustic guitar and put it to use after a lengthy period of dormancy. I’d like to thank Mike Piaskowski and Mike Eschenmann for inviting me along. It was fun guys!

Once again, congratulations to the award recipients from FDC and the wider DCNR.

Continued page -2-
The bureau’s annual 2017 Year In Review meeting was held in the RCSOB in Harrisburg on Wednesday, March 14. Director Alfred Uzokwe provided opening remarks and then was joined by Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn and Deputy Secretary John Norbeck in presenting Longevity Awards to various FDC staff members. Those receiving awards were:

- **25-YEARS** – Steve Smith, Sr. Civil Engineer, Western Engineering Office; Ken Kozak, E.I.T., Sr. Civil Engineer, Southcentral Engineering Office
- **30-YEARS** – Ed Raptosh, PE, Sr. Civil Engineer Manager, Section Chief, Civil Engineering & Design Section; Lynn Szwedko, Administrative Assistant, Administrative Services Section; Al Thomas, PE, Sr. Civil Engineer Manager, Division Chief, Field Engineering & Contract Management Division

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Medix Run Structure Replacement
Complete at Moshannon State Forest

Wayne Nguyen, P.E., James Kalp, LEED AP

The project is located in FD 09, Goshen Township, Clearfield County on a one-lane roadway that serves forest visitors and logging industry vehicles. The existing 83-year-old, single-span steel girder bridge crossing Medix Run was classified as functionally deficient due to a narrow 12.0’ rail to rail width which is barely wide enough to accommodate logging trucks. Traffic on the bridge was detoured to an adjacent roadway during construction. The new structure was completed in April 2018 featuring an 18-ft wide rail-to-rail deck width supported by prestressed concrete adjacent box beams and reinforced concrete abutments. Concrete barriers and approach guiderails were used to ensure public safety.

Low-hanging electrical power lines running parallel along the south side of the bridge had to be relocated before construction, to allow for crane operational clearance during beam placement. A conventional 8-inch thick concrete deck was used as the riding surface. After the deck slab and parapet placements, the entire riding surface was covered with a spray-applied protective coating. As with other DCNR bridges built in forestry lands the new structure was designed to be aesthetically pleasing and blend with the environment. This was achieved by using form liners on the exposed surface of the abutment, wing walls and parapet walls to create a textured concrete surface that resemble cut stones. Staining of the textured surface was then applied to replicate natural stone color.

This is the first DCNR bridge that was designed using BRADD II, a bridge design and drafting software program developed by PennDOT. Since BRADD II automates both the design and drafting of the bridge plans, time efficiency was gained during the design process. BRADD II was developed specifically for single span bridges so it is a useful design tool for use on most of DCNR’s single-span bridges.

Completion of this bridge (often referred to as a “structure”) replacement, provides enhanced safety for all roadway users by providing wider vehicular clearances. The precast structure will provide a long, minimum maintenance service life.

Project Capsule
Project Number: FDC-009-101569
Project Coordinator: Wayne Nguyen PE
Project Designer: Wayne Nguyen PE
Construction Manager: Gair Terrette P.E.
Construction Inspector: Gair Terrette P.E.
General Contractor: LTT Trucking, LLC
Construction Cost: $433,837.25
The 1,302-acre park Mount Pisgah State Park is located in Pennsylvania’s Northern Tier. Midway between Troy and Towanda in Bradford County at the base of Mt. Pisgah.

In March 2018, a new roof mounted solar array system was commissioned at the Park Office to absorb the clean, abundant, renewable energy provided by the sun. This roof mounted array is the first of its kind at a DCNR state park. It utilizes low profile, solar PV shingle technology in lieu of standard, bulky solar PV modules that are typically used for both ground and roof mounted solar arrays. Solar shingles are slim, lightweight, and function as both the roof covering and the solar PV collector providing a greater aesthetic that visually blends with the surrounding roof.

Solar technology at Mt. Pisgah is not new. Back in the early 1980’s, a solar thermal module array system was installed on the south facing roof of the park office. This solar thermal system has had operational failures and maintenance issues throughout the years and was decommissioned around the mid-1990’s.

The project scope of work focused on the south facing roof only and included removal of the solar thermal system and the surrounding roof shingles. During demolition it was found that the fascia boards at the eave of the roof were in poor condition and had to be replaced as an approved “unforeseen condition” change order. The new solar shingle array occupies a slightly less footprint than the old thermal array. New architectural shingles were installed around the perimeter of the array, providing a full reroofing of the southern exposure.

The solar shingles are manufactured by CertainTeed and each shingle is rated 63 watts at a size of approximately 46” wide by 17” deep by 1” thick. A total of ninety (90) solar shingles were installed providing a total DC system array size of 5.67kW. The system includes two (2) DC circuits, or “strings”, consisting of 45 solar shingles wired in series per string. Both strings are connected to an outdoor inverter that converts both DC strings into one (1) AC output circuit. The AC output circuit is rated 240 volts at 24 amps and runs through an outdoor solar production meter, followed by an outdoor fused disconnect switch, and terminates at a 2-pole, 30-amp panelboard branch circuit breaker located in the Park Office electrical room. The array is considered a “grid-tied” or “grid–connected” system which applies to existing retail customers who add generation to their side of the utility electric meter and interconnects to the electric grid in order to reduce the energy delivered by the electric utility (Tri–County Rural Electric Cooperative) and thus reducing or providing “net zero” electric generation, transmission, and distribution charges for the Park Office account. Based on the average annual electric consumption of the Park Office, this 5.67kW grid–connected array will achieve “net zero” electricity usage. In layman’s terms, the system will put just as much energy back into the grid as it uses for building operation. This results in no–cost operation for the park.

Continued page –5–
WWTP Repairs Completed at Moraine State Park

John Jaskolka, P.E., James Kalp, LEED AP

The Parks new wastewater treatment plant increases sewage treatment capacity from 0.225 MGD to 0.400 MGD

Each year, more than one million boaters, hikers, bikers, and swimmers visit the 16,725-acre Moraine State Park, located in Butler County about 40 miles north of Pittsburgh. Most, if any, ever realize that the park was once scarred from prior coal mining and oil and gas drilling practices. Through major investment in environmental and recreational development, today, the park is an outstanding example of environmental engineering achievement.

In 1970, the General State Assembly developed Moraine State Park and constructed a sewage collection, conveyance, and treatment system to serve the normal operating and special events needs of the park (including staff, day use, and overnight facilities). The sewage treatment plant was modular in design and had a permitted capacity of 0.225 MGD and design capacity of 0.450 MGD. With ability to handle more capacity, in 1987, Moraine State Park entered into an Agreement with neighboring Prospect Borough to accept, treat and dispose the boroughs sewage at the parks treatment plant. Since 1970, numerous projects were completed to maintain plant operations including process and tank modifications and tertiary filter replacement. In 2011, this plant was determined to be hydraulically overloaded by PA DEP. Subsequent inspections of the plant by DCNR revealed that after of over 40 years of operation, the plant had substantial areas of advanced steel and concrete.

Solar Upgrade

An attractive feature of the solar array system is a communications gateway that is capable of monitoring and collecting energy and performance data from the inverter via a Cat 5 cable interconnection. This data is captured by a web–based monitoring and analysis software program developed by the inverter manufacturer for statistical reporting that can be viewed from any web browser. Crucial to this project was the interactions with state and electric utility authorities to ensure that the completed solar array was installed in compliance with Uniform Construction Code (UCC) and utility interconnection requirements. Electric utility interfacing included both the solar interconnection application and solar interconnection agreement (legal) processes.

This new roof solar shingle array will not only be environmentally friendly utilizing the sun as the renewable energy source but will showcase as an educational display for park visitors throughout the year an alternate solar technology product raising awareness of energy use and promoting conservation for many years to come.

Project Capsule

Project Number: FDC–132–102281
Project Coordinator: John M. Dubaich, P.E.
Project Designer: John M. Dubaich, P.E.
Construction Manager: John M. Dubaich, P.E.
Construction Inspector: John M. Dubaich, P.E.
General Contractor: Millville Heating Plumbing Solar
Construction Cost: $24,900.00

The outdoor inverter converts the DC solar generated power to AC current
deterioration, that if not addressed, would lead to non-compliance with issued NPDES and WQM permits. This project was advanced to provide the replacement of this treatment plant to current standards and technology and to provide an increased permitted and design capacity of 0.400 MGD to eliminate future hydraulic overload on the plant from aging collection system infrastructure. The new treatment facility includes new control and utility buildings, wastewater screen, raw and effluent pump stations, sequencing batch reactor, post equalization, UV disinfection, and emergency generator.

During design the initial subsurface investigations revealed poor support soils within the northern portions of the facility site. Additional testing was conducted, and it was determined that 50’ steel H piles would be necessary to support the proposed structures. The H piles carry the loads deeper into the subgrade where satisfactory bearing for foundations could be achieved.

The Initial Job Conference for construction was held on July 27, 2016 and the work was completed and accepted on April 26, 2018. Because of the 24/7-day operation supporting both park and borough sewage treatment, the new plant was constructed while maintaining treatment operations during the construction period.

Treatment and disposal of sewage is a vital part of DCNR infrastructure and will always be required where facilities serve the public. As these systems, built in the late 1960’s and early 1970’s reaches the end of their maintainable design expectancy, replacement is required. This project provides efficient sewage treatment facilities operating in compliance with all associated NPDES and WQM permit requirements, assuring public health and safety, as well as environmental responsibility.

**Project Capsule**

**Project Number:** FDC–210–4525  
**Project Coordinator:** John Tovcimak  
**Project Designer:** GHD (CET Engineering Services)  
**Construction Manager:** John Jaskolka P.E. /Stephen Smith  
**Construction Inspector:** Ron Carney /Janet Miller, TW Consultants  
**General Contractor:** Hickes Associates, Inc.  
**Mechanical Contractor:** Reno Brothers, Inc.  
**Plumbing Contractor:** Guy’s Mechanical Systems, Inc.  
**Electrical Contractor:** Right Electric, Inc.  
**Construction Cost:** $7,527,389.00
35-YEARS – Ray Zomok, PE, Sr. Civil Engineer Manager, Division Chief, Dams Bridges & Roadways Engineering Division

Director Alfred Uzokwe gave a presentation on Mitigation, Adaptation, Resilience. The presentation summarized the importance of climate change considerations in all types of projects from bridges and roads to buildings and their systems. It also challenged staff to think outside the box and be open minded and creative in finding new ways to be more efficient and productive in our mission of supporting DCNR’s vast infrastructure and providing quality facilities to our clients and the public.

Secretary Dunn provided a status update on a number of DCNR’s initiatives including legislative budgetary funding efforts, and diversity outreach efforts. Deputy Secretary Norbeck provided updates on and noted the success of DCNR’s youth initiatives including the Pennsylvania Outdoor Corps.

Ray Zomok, P.E. and Al Thomas, P.E. respectively provided a Power Point presentation highlighting significant design and construction project efforts that were completed in 2017. Wayne Nguyen, P.E. provided an informative presentation on Bradd2 Design Software. The PENNDOT program provides efficient, automated design and drafting capabilities for certain type and size bridge structures. Jarod West, RA provided an update on DCNR’s efforts in the Guaranteed Energy Savings Act (GES�) and large scale Solar Array Deployment efforts. Both programs are being implemented in first phase construction efforts and have the potential to provide significant savings in electrical costs. Teresa Allen, Section Chief, Administrative Services Section provided an update on the new online ordering of bid documents. The process has been well received by bidders and has aided in more efficient operations within the section.

Brief comments were also made by various sister bureaus. Gale Blackmer, PHD, BUREAU Director Topographic & Geologic Services provided an update and emphasized opportunities in which they may be able to offer FDC assistance in site, subsurface evaluation on future projects. Debbie Laughman, Bureau Director, Human Resources; Stacie Amsler, Bureau Director, Administrative Services and Amanda Lynch-Rosen, IT Supervisor, Bureau of Information Technology, all provided updates on their specific bureaus and provided key points on the support services they provide and offered to address any staff questions.

Bureau of State Parks, Assistant Director, Ryan Dysinger provided comment and thanked FDC staff for their efforts and support, which is evident across state parks with quality facilities and infrastructure work.

Director Uzokwe closed out the meeting, thanking staff for their efforts and encouraging them to always be open minded and creative, welcoming all ideas on how we can continually make our services more efficient and productive.
Works in Progress
The following photographs represent some of BOFDAC’s active construction efforts throughout DCNR

FDC-211-101905 – Ohiopyle State Park
Structure Rehab – Yough River Trail Over Riverside Drive
Contractor removing smoke plates and lateral bracing

FDC-405-102139 – Fort Washington State Park
25kW Ground Mounted Solar Array Installation
Installation of front and rear racking system posts

DGS 134-3 – Chapman State Park
Dam Renovations Chapman Lake
Contractors isolate a section of the existing spillway for rehab

FDC-450-7356 – Delaware Canal State Park
Structure Replacement – Phillips Mill Road Over Delaware Canal
Contractor prepares a temporary access and pad for a crane

FDC-226-100660 – Pymatuning State Park
Resurface Roadways Phase II
Placing an aggregate shoulder along the new asphalt surface

DGS 191-45 (FDC-202-1056) – Cook Forest State Park
New Park Office
A man lift is used to perform work at the building eave
The following photographs represent some of BOFDAC’s active construction efforts throughout DCNR:

**FDC-317-2720 – Little Buffalo State Park**
Lake Dredging, Toe Drain Installation and Handicapped Fishing Pier
Contractor excavating and hauling silt from the lake bed

**DGS 163-36 – Presque Isle State Park**
Replace Beach/Shower Houses
One of the precast concrete building sections arrives on site

**FDC-133-3970 – Bald Eagle State Park**
Renovate Park Office and Environmental Learning Center
Concrete curbs are placed using a curb forming machine

**FDC-010-101757 – Sproul State Forest**
Structure Replacement – Bridge No. 10-0069
Site is seeded and mulched as construction wraps up

**FDC-019-101739 – Delaware State Forest**
Structure Replacement Over Maple Run (Various)
A worker grouts and seals joints between sections

**FDC-009-101570 – Moshannon State Forest**
Structure Replacement Laurel Run Road Over Little Laurel Run
Backhoe operator prepares stream for placement of a dry box
New Park Office At Poe Valley State Park

Michael Twigg, R.A., LEED A.P.

Originally developed in the mid-1930's by the Civilian Conservation Corps from camp S-63A, Poe Valley State Park is located in the “Seven Mountains” area in the heart of the 198,000-acre Bald Eagle State Forest in Central Pennsylvania. The 620-acre park landscape consists of steep forested hillsides and is centered on the 25-acre man-made Poe Lake fed by Big Poe Creek. The park provides a variety of year-round recreational opportunities to more than 55,000 visitors a year, including camping, fishing, swimming, boating, hunting, pleasure driving, snowmobiling, ice-skating and cross-country skiing. The park campground contains 45 camp sites, 3 camping cottages, and one deluxe camping cottage.

Since late-2012, when a fire destroyed the permanent office, the park has operated out of a converted metal shipping container serving as a temporary office. There was only room for one staff member to help with visitor questions and perform campground check-ins. A portable toilet for both visitors and staff sat next to the container. Park maintenance, management, and rangers worked out of Reeds Gap State Park, more than 30-minutes away.

This year, however, a new park office building will greet guests to this beautiful wilderness oasis. The new 1600sf facility provides reception space for multiple simultaneous park and campground visitors, office space for a park environmental educator, ranger, and manager, and general work area for staff meetings, office storage space, and an employee lunch room and toilet. A public toilet with exterior access is available 24-hours. Outside the office is parking for both cars and RV’s (the previous office did not have RV parking), improved vehicle circulation at this entrance crossroads, new sidewalks for safe pedestrian movement, an information kiosk, and drinking fountain.

The design features natural stone and timber trusses reminiscent of earlier CCC construction and complimenting the beach house and campground shower house both replaced in 2007. The interior of the building showcases paneling, trim, and cabinetry fabricated from red oak salvaged from tree damage after a severe storm passed through the park. Park staff recovered the downed timber, a local mill cut and dried the lumber, and the building contractor milled, fabricated, finished and installed the woodwork resulting in a wonderful display of local materials and craftsmanship. The tight building envelope, energy star certified windows, high efficiency HVAC system, and LED lights contribute to lower energy costs and reduced carbon footprint.

This new facility gives the park staff a needed resource to better serve the park visitors and will welcome guests to Poe Valley State Park and the surrounding areas for years to come.

 BOFDAC news

New Park Office At Poe Valley State Park

Project Capsule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Number:</th>
<th>FDC–118–1752</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Coordinator:</td>
<td>Michael Twigg, R.A., LEED A.P.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design:</td>
<td>SMP Architects</td>
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<td>Construction Manager:</td>
<td>Gene Strick, P.E.</td>
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<td>Construction Inspector:</td>
<td>TW Consultants</td>
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<td>General Contractor:</td>
<td>Martins Construction LLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mechanical Contractor:</td>
<td>W.C. Eshenaur &amp; Son, Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plumbing Contractor:</td>
<td>Silvertip, Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electrical Contractor:</td>
<td>The Howard Company LLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction Cost:</td>
<td>$862,000.00</td>
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### Bidding Summary - February 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>FDC-450-7356.1 Delaware Canal State Park Structure Replacement Phillips Mill Road Over Delaware Canal</td>
<td>$986,431.00</td>
<td>Bi-State Construction</td>
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<tr>
<td>FDC-607-101187.1 Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center Boulton Comfort Station Replacement</td>
<td>$110,080.00</td>
<td>Solid Ground Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>FDC-213-101028.1 Racoon Creek State Park Structure replacement Racoon Park Road Over Traverse Creek</td>
<td>$754,409.00</td>
<td>Pugliano Construction</td>
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<td>FDC-226-100660.1 Pymatuning State Park Resurface Roadways Phase II</td>
<td>$474,022.57</td>
<td>Protech Asphalt Maintenance, Inc.</td>
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### Bidding Summary - March 2018

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<tr>
<td>FDC-133-101888.1 Bald Eagle State Park Rustic Campground Road Reclamation</td>
<td>$480,208.85</td>
<td>G &amp; R Charles Excavating</td>
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<tr>
<td>FDC-011-102283.1 Pinchot State Forest Reclaim Asphalt Roads Phase 1 Moon Lake Tract</td>
<td>$82,915.00</td>
<td>Belles Property Management LLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>FDC-304-1557.4 Colonel Denning State Park Electrical Construction – Replace Comfort Station &amp; Bath House</td>
<td>$92,843.00</td>
<td>Robert P Lepley Electrical Contractor</td>
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### Bidding Summary - April 2018

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<th>Project Details</th>
<th>Bid Price</th>
<th>Apparent Low Bidder</th>
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<tr>
<td>FDC-311-102011.1 Prince Gallitzin State Park ADA/Pet Cabin No. 1 Renovations</td>
<td>$99,644.00</td>
<td>Southern Contractors</td>
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<tr>
<td>FDC-210-102161.4 Moraine State Park Ground Mount Solar Array Installation</td>
<td>$604,900.00</td>
<td>Spotts Brothers Inc.</td>
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<td>FDC-404-102167.1R Big Pocono State Park Rehab Park/Forestry Access Road</td>
<td>$204,879.86</td>
<td>Wayco Inc.</td>
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### Bid Summary Values:

- **February Total Bids/Value:** 5/$2,552,550.57
- **March Total Bids/Value:** 7/$2,369,526.70
- **April Total Bids/Value:** 5/$1,072,608.86
End of Year Meeting Snapshots
March 14, 2018 Rachel Carson State Office Building
Tick Awareness and Tips to Limit Risk of Contracting Lyme Disease

Jim Kalp, LEED AP

Here are some tips to minimize your risk:

- If possible – avoid tick infested areas
- Wear light colored clothing, long sleeve shirts, pants; tuck pants in socks – this aids in identifying ticks on your person
- Where hip boots or waders when working in tall grass and brush
- Use Repellent sprays with DEET
- Shower soon after being outdoors
- Throw clothing into dryer, set on high heat
- Check for ticks frequently
- Use Permethrin on boots, clothing, camping gear; (do not use Permethrin on skin)
- DCNR provides tick repellent to employees to help prevent tick bites
- Have a co-worker inspect your back and other difficult to see areas
- Use a tacky lint roller over clothing to aid in removing ticks

With self-awareness and due diligence, tick borne illness and Lyme disease is 100% preventable. Develop good habits for going into and returning from the field.

Bureau Activities & News

- With summer upon us, FDC welcomes the following interns:
  - Jordan Martsolf, Geneva College, Civil Engineering. Jordan is from Butler and interning at FDC’s Region 2 Western Engineering Office.
  - Joshua Rosenau, Penn State University, Electrical Engineering. Josh is from York and interning at FDC’s Harrisburg office.
  - Jeremy Jones, Paul Smith’s College, Forestry. Jeremy is from Mountaintop and interning in FDC’s Land Management Section, Harrisburg office.
  - Benjamin Taylor, SUNY–ESF, Forestry. Ben is from Harrisburg and interning in FDC’s Land Management Section, Harrisburg office.
  - Jordan Beyer, University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, Civil Engineering. Jordan is from Bedford and interning at FDC’s Region 3 Southcentral Engineering Office.

- Congratulations to FDC’s Kathleen Chadwick. Kathleen has been promoted to Administrative Assistant, working in the Administrative Services Section, Division of Field Engineering and Contract Management.

- FDC welcomes Jason Li, E.I.T. to the Sanitary and Water Management Section. Jason is a 2008 Penn State graduate with a BS degree in Environmental Systems Engineering. Jason previously worked for Capital Region Water in Harrisburg and resides in Carlisle, PA. An avid hunter and outdoor enthusiast, he would like to go helicopter hog hunting in Texas one day. Yes, that is an actual sport hunting activity.

INTERESTED IN DOING WORK FOR DCNR?

For a list of current projects out for bid, visit the Bureau’s current bid proposal page at:

http://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Business/ConstructionBids/Pages/default.aspx

Be sure to check back frequently for updates

We’re on the Web!
Visit us at:
http://www.dcnr.pa.gov/about/Pages/Facility-Design-and-Construction.aspx

Questions – Comments?
We value our reader’s feedback. Send your questions or comments to:
Chief Editor: Jim Kalp, jakalp@pa.gov
Contributing Editor: Denise Kelly, dekelly@pa.gov
Administrative Support: Sharia Turner, sharturner@pa.gov

Bureau Mission:
To provide multi-disciplined technical support to the other bureaus in DCNR in the areas of project design, project inspections, construction management, contract administration, surveying and other technical advice and consultation.