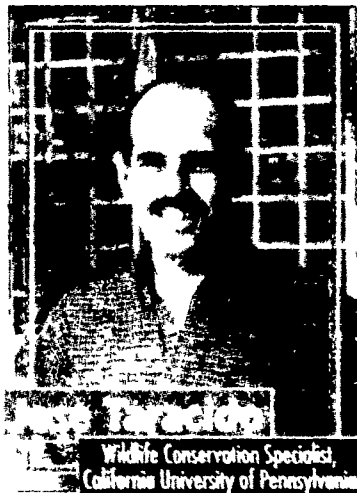


## Real People Help Farmers: Jose Taracido

When pigs fly! That's when Jose Taracido will stop working with Pennsylvania farmers to implement environmental best management practices. A dedicated conservationist, Jose works tirelessly to construct streambank fencing and restore wildlife habitats and wetlands on farms across western Pennsylvania.



Under Jose's direction, the Partners for Fish and Wildlife, part of the Foundation for California University of Pennsylvania, have secured several state and federal grants for partnering with farmers. He has contributed to the cause with four grants totaling more than \$1 million. Reaping the benefits of Jose's dedication, farmers have cleaner drinking water for their animals, drought-tolerant grasses for their feed and increased erosion control.

Jose's efforts also have extended to building partnerships, enabling him to have far-reaching effects on our watersheds. With his partners, Jose has been recognized at national, state and local levels for his work on Pike Run in Washington County.

Jose has built a foundation of trust with Pennsylvania farmers that has proved to be the cornerstone of his success in protecting not only

our natural resources, but also our agricultural heritage. [Learn More](#)

## Real People Respect Our Rivers: Chris Kocher

As director of the Rivers Program at the Wildlands Conservancy, Chris Kocher has made it his mission to protect, preserve and restore the physical and biological health of our rivers and streams.



Tackling the entire Lehigh River watershed, Chris is leading the way through a Rivers Conservation Plan -- his most recent in a chain of plans that are helping identify the physical, biological and cultural features in a watershed.

Chris also spearheaded a mine drainage assessment of the Lehigh River watershed, which has since led to a restoration project on the largest mine drainage discharge in the watershed. This will no doubt have an incredible influence on the health of the watershed.

With Chris' help, Wildlands Conservancy has successfully completed a number of other stream restoration and improvement projects in north-eastern Pennsylvania, securing numerous grants from several state and federal programs, including

Developing successful partnerships to preserve our watersheds. Chris knows what it means to be a watershed steward, and he knows how to make it look easy. "Mission impossible" is not a phrase in Chris Kocher's vocabulary. [Learn More](#)

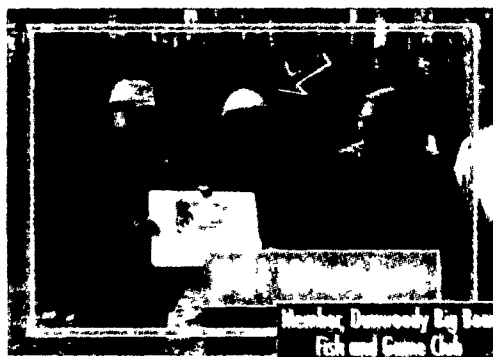
## Real People Build Partnerships:

What do the environment and being a banker have in common? You may be thinking "not much," but for those who know Bill Worobec, the list is endless. In real life, Bill is a banker, and, in his free time, he spearheads an incredible partnership that has resulted in the restoration -- some would say "rebuilding" -- of Big Bear Creek using natural stream design principles.

"This project demonstrates viable solutions to a host of problems representative of those experienced by almost every stream in Pennsylvania," Bill said. Using the stream channel as a road to haul heavy equipment and rocks in and out of the work area, Bill and a host of partners scraped off several feet of streambed to restore the gradient and reconstruct banks and channels. All this in just one week's time!

Being a banker came in handy, as Bill managed to raise more than \$400,000 in matching money and secured a \$376,741

grant from the Lycoming County Conservation District. Bill has proved that partnerships and perseverance are powerful tools in restoring and protecting our watersheds. His innovative approach to watershed restoration has paid off, especially now that Big Bear Creek is seeing new signs of life as mayflies and wild trout return to the area. [Learn More](#)



## Real People Share Love of Nature:

When Carole Williams-Green was a child, her mother shared her contagious love of nature with Carole and her friends, taking neighborhood children on five-mile walks to look at the fields and trees. Today, Carole shares her love of nature with the children, parents and teachers of Southwest Philadelphia.

Over the next 21 months, Carole and her 10-year-old nonprofit organization, the Cobbs Creek Community Environmental Education Center, will be able to reach 1,240 students with the help of a

grant from DEP. A major goal of the Cobbs Creek Community Environmental Education Center is to engage children and adults as community stewards. Together, they will tackle the restoration of the Cobbs Creek watershed, removing debris and invasive vegetation, controlling erosion, planting native trees and wildflowers and repairing trails.

Carole is a successful visionary. Just last October, Carole succeeded in opening the doors to what is believed to be the first African American-founded urban environmental education center with a creek and riparian forest at its doorstep. As with her vision for retrofitting the historic stables at 63rd and Catharine Streets to serve as the new headquarters for the center, Carole sees the Cobbs Creek watershed growing greener through community involvement. [Learn More](#)



## Works

## TIPS FOR WATERSHED PROTECTION

### Real People Are Making a Difference — And You Can Too!

Everyone's heard the saying "think globally, act locally." GreenWorks helps turn that slogan into reality by focusing on the environmental issues in your own backyard. Through television, Internet, radio and printed publications, GreenWorks

brings you the stories of everyday people making a positive impact on the environment.

involved, check out the resources GreenWorks has to offer. [Learn More:](#)

If you have an environmental problem that needs a solution, or if you're just ready to get