

# The Water Resources Planning Act: What's Ahead?

**MICHELLE KUNJAPPU**  
Lancaster Farming Staff

**MANHEIM** (Lancaster Co.) — With the soggy spring the region has experienced, water was an appropriate topic to discuss for the 20 poultry producers and industry representatives who gathered for a Penn State-sponsored meeting at Kreider's Restaurant Monday.

Leon Ressler, extension director for Lancaster County, discussed the Water Resources Planning Act and the State Water Plan. The act, Act 220, passed last year by Pennsylvania legislature, is an attempt to create a new State Water Plan within five years. That plan would then be updated every five years.

"It's a very comprehensive act," said Ressler. The legislation is meant to "develop an invento-

ry of conservation measures and look at water supply alternatives," said Ressler. "The goal is to assess what we have and make water availability and water supply part of our long-term plan"

the secretary of DEP for final approval.

The statewide committee will have 24 members representing various government, environmental, industrial, educational,

“The goal is to assess what we have and make water availability and water supply part of our long-term plan.”

Leon Ressler  
Lancaster County Extension Director

for future growth in Pennsylvania.

The act was passed to help "identify where potential shortage areas are in advance" to help make management decisions.

The plan would address how much water the commonwealth has, how much water residents use, and what Pennsylvania will need for the future, according to Ressler.

A Statewide Water Resources Committee and six regional committees will develop the State

Water Plan. The statewide committee will submit the final plan to

and agricultural organizations. The regional committees have 22 members, also from various groups.

The purpose of the plan, according to Ressler, will be to provide information for state and local officials and Pennsylvania citizens to help alleviate future water problems and allow for educated planning of water use.

The legislation is to provide information for planning purposes only, and does not include regulations for metering.

The document will provide information on water availability and provide guidance to reduce risks of flooding, shortages, and conflicts between water users, besides encouraging multiple uses of water resources.

The plan includes a registration process for anyone using more than 10,000 gallons per day. There are no fees for registering. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will handle registrations, which will be updated on a five-year cycle.

One of the parts of the act is to identify the Critical Water Planning Areas, which will be identi-

fied by the Regional Water Resources Committee. In these areas, water demand exceeds, or is projected to exceed, supply.

The regional committees will also guide development of Critical Area Resources Plans for watersheds. These plans, said Ressler, will address "water availability and water quality and quantity," said Ressler.

As far as implementation, in 2003 the committees will be established and the initial registra-

tion process will begin. The committees will begin to conduct meetings — for their own committee and public meetings to gather public input — in 2004.

"It's going to be an extensive process," said Ressler. "The good news is that there's lots of opportunity for public input. Generally, when we have broad opportunity for public input, that's better than someone doing it behind the scenes."

## Luzerne County DHIA Honors Conyngham

**WEST PITTSTON** (Luzerne Co.) — With more than 50 years of service to Luzerne County DHIA, William (Bill) L. Conyngham, Shavertown, was recently recognized at the 73rd annual meeting.

More than 65 current and past DHIA members and guests attended the dinner.

Representing Pennsylvania DHIA was Dean Amick, Jim Garrity, Scot Kriebel, and John Cas-

trogiovanni, with a presentation of a Penn State Nittany Lion to Conyngham. Also in attendance was retired Penn State Cooperative Extension Agents Everell (Cy) Chadwick and Bob Houston.

Recognition also went to Paul

Stoss Jr., Lehighton, for most improved herd by milk; Edsel and Scott Rinehimer, Wapwallopen, for most improved herd by but-



Attending the special recognition of Bill Conyngham (seated) are his daughter Cornelia Romonowski, and son Frank Conyngham.

terfat; and Eric Stevens, Shickshinny, for most improved herd by protein. Edsel and Scott Rinehimer also received recognition for highest cow by milk, butterfat, and protein.



At left Gregory Martin, poultry extension agent, is joined by Leon Ressler, extension director for Lancaster County, who spoke at a poultry meeting Monday.



A helping hand...

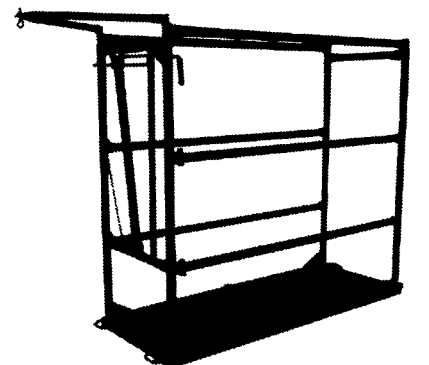


### Grooming Chute

Finished with a zinc rich undercoat & TGIC polyester powder topcoat

#### Advantages:

- 2 coat finish for added durability.
- Keeps animal's head safely & comfortably in desired position.
- Shipped with 4 bars, allowing optional vertical, horizontal or combination configuration.
- Assembles & disassembles quickly & easily for 1 person handling.
- Expanded metal flooring for superior slip resistance.



#### Added Value With Our 2 Coat Process!

1. Five step metal preparation, including iron phosphate conversion coating, to enhance adhesion & prevent undercoat corrosion.
2. Zinc rich epoxy powder undercoat.
3. TGIC polyester powder top coat, baked at 400° to fuse coats, forming a cross link molecular bond.

Call or Write For Additional Information & the Name of Your Nearest Dealer

### Paul B. Zimmerman, Inc.

295 Woodcorner Rd. • Lititz, PA 17543 • 1 mile West of Ephrata

717/738-7365

Hours: Mon. thru Fri.: 7-5; Sat. 7-11