



**Greater Philadelphia Area / Delaware River Watershed
Urban Waters Federal Partnership**

Accomplishments – The First Two Years (Spring 2013 - Spring 2015)

[Note: Location includes Philadelphia, Camden NJ, Chester PA, and Wilmington DE.]

- Built vibrant ever-expanding partnership, now including over 400 individuals in ~140 cross-sector organizations: governmental (federal, state, regional, municipal), nonprofits, community groups, academic institutions, and private enterprise.
- Maintain active communication across full partnership on a regular basis, especially through popular email Partner Updates (usu. 2-3/month) with information on grants, events, webinars, resources, etc.
- Ongoing outreach to varied audiences through numerous presentations at appearances at events.

- Conducted initial “Listening Sessions” in each of 4 cities with all stakeholders.
- Identified 5 key areas of interest among partners across the region and launched corresponding “communities of practice.” (Defined as “a group of individuals who share an interest in a specific topic, and who expand their knowledge and expertise by collaborating on an ongoing basis.”)
 1. Brownfields Revitalization (quarterly meeting in each city; webinar; site visits)
 2. Water Quality & Quantity (two webinars)
 3. Climate Resilience (one webinar)
 4. Trails, Parks & Open Space
 5. River Restoration & Protection
- Developed Federal Resource Papers on each topic, describing basic issue and presenting relevant resources in each area – including grants, technical assistance, and other programmatic offerings.
- In addition to specific activities noted above for three of those topic areas, various materials have been posted on all five topics on our website, under “Communities of Practice,” and additional activities/offering are planned.

- Organized annual Canoemobile visits (from Wilderness Inquiry):
 - October 2013 – one day in each city; 440 students + 60 adults total
 - October 2014 – three days in each city; more than 2,000 students total

- Convened annual “All Partners” regional meetings:
 - April 2014 – Academy of Natural Sciences (Philadelphia)
 - May 2015 – Villanova University

- Offered technical assistance to numerous partners, including grant proposal development, project oversight, and other ongoing collaboration.
- Array of partner grant proposals accepted due to affiliation with our UWFP location, including:
 - EPA Urban Waters Small Grants
 - NFWF Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grants
 - NFWF Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resiliency Grants
 - EPA Brownfields Grants

(Prepared June 9, 2015, by Michael Leff, Ambassador)