

APPLICATION FOR  
FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

OMB Approval No. 0348-0043

1. TYPE OF SUBMISSION: <input type="checkbox"/> Application <input type="checkbox"/> Construction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Construction		2. DATE SUBMITTED 15 NOVEMBER, 2001		Applicant Identifier	
<input type="checkbox"/> Preapplication <input type="checkbox"/> Construction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Construction		3. DATE RECEIVED BY STATE		State Application Identifier	
		4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY		Federal Identifier	
5. APPLICANT INFORMATION					
Legal Name: BLACKLICK ENV. EDUCATION CENTER AMD&ART, INC. (NP) - FISCAL ADMIN			Organizational Unit:		
Address (give city, county, State, and zip code): 411 THIRD AVENUE JOHNSTOWN, LANCASTER COUNTY, PA 15706			Name and telephone number of person to be contacted on matters involving this application (give area code) phone 814-749-7552 SHANNON PETERSON fax 814-749-1751		
6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN): 25-1814169			7. TYPE OF APPLICANT: (enter appropriate letter in box) N		
8. TYPE OF APPLICATION: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Revision If Revision, enter appropriate letter(s) in box(es) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> A. Increase Award B. Decrease Award C. Increase Duration D. Decrease Duration Other(specify):			A. State H. Independent School Dist. B. County I. State Controlled Institution of Higher Learning C. Municipal J. Private University D. Township K. Indian Tribe E. Interstate L. Individual F. Intermunicipal M. Profit Organization G. Special District N. Other (Specify) <u>NON-PROFIT</u>		
			9. NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY:		
10. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER: 66-951 TITLE: ENVIRO EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM			11. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT: Opportunities for Educational and Wildlife Enhancement at the Vintondale Wetlands		
12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (Cities, Counties, States, etc.): VINTONDALE, BLACKLICK TWP, LANCASTER COUNTY, INDIANA COUNTY.					
13. PROPOSED PROJECT		14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF:			
Start Date 7/02	Ending Date 7/03	a. Applicant 12 <sup>th</sup>		b. Project 12 <sup>th</sup>	
15. ESTIMATED FUNDING:		16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?			
a. Federal	\$ .00	a. YES. THIS PREAPPLICATION/APPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR REVIEW ON: DATE _____			
b. Applicant	\$ .00	b. No. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E. O. 12372 <input type="checkbox"/> OR PROGRAM HAS NOT BEEN SELECTED BY STATE FOR REVIEW			
c. State	\$ .00	17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If "Yes," attach an explanation. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
d. Local	\$ .00				
e. Other	\$ .00				
f. Program Income	\$ .00				
g. TOTAL	\$ .00				
18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION/PREAPPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT, THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT WILL COMPLY WITH THE ATTACHED ASSURANCES IF THE ASSISTANCE IS AWARDED.					
a. Type Name of Authorized Representative SHANNON PETERSON		b. Title EDUCATION COORDINATOR		c. Telephone Number 814-749-7552	
d. Signature of Authorized Representative <i>Shannon Peterson</i>				e. Date Signed 13 Nov, 2001	

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Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

## United States Environmental Protection Agency Environmental Education Grant Program

BLACKLICK CREEK ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER PO BOX 486, VINTONDALE, PA 15961 PHONE:814-749-7552 FAX:814-749-1751 EMAIL:BLACKLICKREC@FLOODCITY.NET

### 1) Project Summary

**(a) Organization:** The Blacklick Creek Environmental Education Center is located alongside the AMD&ART acid mine drainage treatment system, wetlands, and community park. It serves a variety of residents, school groups, and other visitors, raising awareness of the region's mining heritage, abandoned mine drainage (AMD), and the healing powers of wetlands. The center resides in a building donated by the Vintondale Hungarian Reformed Church and is supported by the Rockefeller Foundation, the GPU Foundation, and the Pa League of Women Voters. The Center organizes educational activities for a wide variety of groups, from residents installing birdhouses to a senior class performing watershed assessment activities. Construction of the treatment system and Wildlife Habitat Council designed wetlands was completed this fall; by spring water will flow freely through the system. At this time we wish to involve area residents, schools, and other groups in assuring that the wetlands reach their maximum educational and habitat potential.

AMD&ART, Inc. is a non-profit organization that creates treatment site models for AMD impacted communities to use. The remediation sites show that community participation and multi-disciplinary cooperation can heal not only the poisoned streams, but also the socioeconomic scars that AMD leaves upon society. A main mission of AMD&ART is raising AMD awareness and empowering the public with the skills necessary to collectively act for change.

Applicable Key Partners • AMD&ART, Inc. • Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC) •

**(b) Summary Statement:** AMD is Appalachia's largest environmental obstacle. The acidic, metals-laden water kills thousands of miles of streams across the eastern coal region. In Vintondale, Cambria County, the community and AMD&ART have been working to clean up an AMD discharge, reclaim 35 acres of abandoned mine land, and improve the overall quality of life in the town. Where the Vinton Coal Colliery processing center once stood, there is now a 6-pond treatment system, 7 acres of wetlands, and a community park. The wetlands were designed in conjunction with the Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC), with the goal of creating the most habitat-rich and educational site possible. We plan to implement recommendations of the WHC report "Opportunities for Wildlife Enhancement at the AMD&ART Vintondale Site", and the "Master Interpretive Plan" prepared by Gerard Hilferty and Associates, Inc. The WHC, through the Five Star Program, has also funded the start-up of "Wildlife at Work" teams – community members who will take charge of different aspects of the wetlands. Funding is needed to continue and expand upon the work of the wildlife teams – including additional plantings, installing habitat boxes, building hibernacula, trails, and informational displays. Area residents and visitors, as well as the 70,000 annual users of the Ghost Town Rail Trail who pass through the site, will be reached. In addition, the site is considered a model for other AMD impacted communities, showing how AMD treatment can improve not only the environment, but also the quality of life.

#### Specific goals and objectives

- Create 7 acres of wetlands that exploit all habitat and educational possibilities.
- Enable community members to maintain the wetlands
- Engage area schools and other groups in wetland and AMD educational activities.
- Receive WHC wetlands certification

**(c) Educational Priority:** This project will address **educational priority three: community issues**. The people of Vintondale, as well as visitors, will be able to better understand coal-mining heritage, AMD, and wetlands. It is a model project, applicable across coal country, which educates the public about the environmental issue of AMD.

**(d) Delivery Method:** Participants will be reached through hands-on activities that will actually establish the wildlife and educational components of the site. The end result will be a site that lends itself to self-guided and staff-guided tours.

**(e) Audience:** Our primary audiences are AMD impacted communities, which generally have low levels of education and high levels of poverty. A typical community is Vintondale, Pennsylvania:

- Population: 528
- per capita income: \$10,957
- People over the age of 25 with a college degree: 7.7%
- poverty rate of families with children: 61.9%

Specifically, schools and other organized groups will be educated through participation in the establishment and maintenance of the site, and the site itself will impact both self-guided passers-by and organized tours.

**(f) Costs:** The EPA portion of the grant monies will be used to fund

- Habitat creation through plantings and construction and placement of habitat boxes and hibernacula
- Monitoring and documentation of wildlife populations and activities
- Interpretation along the trails
- Educational displays and educational programming

## (2) Project Description

**(a) Why:** AMD&ART is nearing completion of the pilot project in Vintondale, which serves as a model of inclusive, interdisciplinary environmental problem solving. Community members, along with a team of scientists, historians, artists and landscape architects, participated in the design of this AMD treatment system and community park. The Vintondale site is situated on thirty-five acres of reclaimed mine land, bordered by the Ghost Town Rail Trail, which is traveled by 70,000 hikers and bicyclists each year. A passive treatment system and wetlands will cleanse the AMD discharge water of metallic pollutants and raise the pH to a healthy, neutral level.

But there is much more at Vintondale. Visitors will come to see a historically important coal-mining site, to view birds and wildlife, to gain a better understanding of the science behind AMD and its treatment, and to learn how community based initiatives can restore the environment to health. AMD&ART is working with the WHC and residents of Vintondale to interpret the natural and historical features of the site, develop recreational amenities and establish a small community educational center. The Vintondale site, once the bustling center of work and life in this company town, will again be a vital part of community life.

The WHC, in addition to their role in the design of the wetlands, is funding the start-up of the wetland programs. Creating a wildlife team is an important part of a successful habitat enhancement program. Community volunteerism increases excitement for the program and strengthens the long-term commitment to projects. A wildlife team is also a good way to create environmental awareness through participation. The WHC funding lasts through June 2002, and we want to assure the wetland activities continuance, at least for the following year, at which time the site and people will be well established and ready to stand on their own.

The Vintondale site is a magnificent educational resource, which can fulfill a very real need in this region. Both formal and informal research demonstrates that there is a lack of education about AMD. Throughout coal country everyone lives with AMD, but very few people are actually aware of its causes, effects, and possible solutions. There is no other site like Vintondale, with an interpretive treatment system and wetlands, in south central Pennsylvania. The physical site, combined with the Blacklick Educational Center recruiting visitors and AMD&ART and the WHC using the project as a model for other communities, has the potential to truly raise awareness of the truth about AMD issues. This will make a huge difference in the future of the fight against the debilitating effects of AMD.

**(b) Who:** The project will be led by the Education Coordinator at the Blacklick Educational Center, with guidance from the WHC and AMD&ART. There are large numbers of people waiting to participate. The Center's previous work with area schools has identified that there is indeed an audience. Primary and secondary classes, girl and boy scouts, as well as community members have all been active in the project so far, and are waiting to take the next step.

Our audience has a number of different levels. First, it is all of those that participate with the Wildlife Teams, performing the actual work to establish the wetlands. Second, it is the guided groups that come through the Blacklick Education Center. Third, it is those that simply pass by the site on their own, most likely community members or users of the Ghost Town Rail Trail. Fourth, it is other communities across coal country that have similar issues to Vintondale – AMD&ART and the WHC are showcasing the Vintondale project as a model for these communities.

We will recruit the first level audience from those that have already been working on the project – most likely the local Vintondale youth group and the senior class from the local high school that has been monitoring the AMD discharge for the past two-and-a-half years. The second level of audience will be reached through the Center's outreach work, including classroom visits, scout meetings, and teacher meetings. All of the activities that the Center conducts address the new Pennsylvania educational standards, which is a strong incentive for teachers who are now attempting to implement those standards. The third level will be enticed to further explore the site by interpretive elements installed along the Ghost Town Rail Trail. The fourth level of audience will be reached through the efforts of AMD&ART and the WHC, who regularly present at a wide variety of conferences, produce outreach materials such as newsletters, pamphlets, and videos, and are often portrayed in such media venues as the New York Times and WJAC, Pittsburgh public television. In fact, AMD&ART founder T Allan Comp is the Keynote Speaker at the WHC Symposium in November 2001.

**(c) How:** To reach our objectives we must have core troupe of participants. The first step, with the support of the WHC, is to establish a set of dedicated people who will participate on a regular basis. There are already groups that have shown interest in fulfilling these duties, namely some Vintondale youth and the senior environmental science class at Blacklick Valley High School. With them we will decide the best plan of action to implement recommendations of the "Opportunities for Wildlife Enhancement" and "Master Interpretive Plan" reports. This will have been completed, and work will have begun by the time EPA funding comes into effect.

The second step is to do the base work to set up a site that is ready to host and raise awareness of the issues. Throughout the summer the site must be prepared for class visits come the fall. In addition to some habitat improvements, the main focus will be the trail and interpretation on that trail. Most of the habitat improvement work will be done throughout the fall, with visiting classes, to be ready for the spring influx of wildlife. Throughout the year we must continue to follow the habitat and educational enhancement and management plans. The recommended activities

include conducting quarterly wildlife inventories with photo documentation, installing a variety of habitat supports such as Purple Martin gourds and bat houses to control insect populations, constructing hibernacula, plantings, building a wildlife trail with interpretive signage, and informational displays in the center itself. These activities will not be performed only by the main group, but instead will be integrated into the activities of the classes that pass through the Blacklick Education Center. Participants will be recruited through Blacklick Educational Center's outreach to the schools and scout groups. In addition, we plan to hold bi-monthly community workshops to involve any interested community member in different aspects of the site. The attached timeline outlines the specific activities and the recommended times for completing them.

With these activities we will have created 7 acres of wetlands, capacitated community members to maintain the wetlands, engaged area schools and other groups in wetland and AMD educational activities, and be eligible to receive WHC wetlands certification

**(d) With What:** We intend to prepare a site that will enable visitors to have pride in their mining heritage, better understand the deeper issues surrounding AMD, and be amazed at the healing powers of wetlands. Professionals created the plans for the site, and we are simply carrying out those plans. The presence of AMD&ART and the Blacklick Education Center in Vintondale for the past few years has established us with strong community support. The Center's outreach to the schools and other groups assures that there is a strong audience. Ghost Town Rail Trail users already pass by. The site is constructed; we just need to implement educational and habitat enhancements. The project is planned out, has start-up support, and is ready to go. Now we want to assure that it keeps going. This effort fills a very real environmental and educational need in the region. Internationally recognized, Vintondale is a regular topic in the local media, and has already begun to serve as a model for other AMD impacted communities. All of the necessary ingredients for this wetlands enhancement project exist.

### **(3) Project Evaluation**

This project is set up in such a way that it will be continually evaluated and strengthened. All of the groups that pass through the Blacklick Education Center fill out evaluation forms, which will reflect the effectiveness of the educational components, as well as how the activities are conducted. We can adjust our installations and programs accordingly.

The habitat enhancements will be evaluated through the quarterly inventory of wildlife populations. We may begin to see some results of our habitat enhancements in spring of 2003, but more complete results will not be evident until spring 2004. It takes some time to establish certain forms of wildlife. However, the wildlife team will have been monitoring wildlife beginning spring 2002, and will be well prepared to continue the quarterly inventories. Throughout the project, the WHC, as a dedicated partner, will be able to provide guidance and advice.

In addition, AMD&ART has been monitoring the effects of their entire project in Vintondale. An original survey was conducted at the very beginning of AMD&ART's involvement in Vintondale. That survey measured levels of environmental awareness, community participation, and socio-economic factors. A second survey was conducted midway through the project, and demonstrated a great increase in levels of environmental awareness and community participation. A third survey, to be conducted after the site is well established, will reflect the effects of this wetland enhancement project.

### **(4) Budget and Timeline**

**(a) Budget:** Funds from the Environmental Protection Agency will be used by the Blacklick Education Center to continue the implementation of WHC and Hilferty recommendations for the educational and habitat enhancement of the Vintondale wetlands. Funding from the Rockefeller Foundation for much of the necessary materials, along with the AmeriCorps volunteer to coordinate the project, will complement the EPA's contribution. There are many other sources of support for the actual construction and planting of the site that are indicated on the budget, yet are not a part of this specific project. Please see the attached budget for details.

**(b) Timeline:** Preliminary work will begin on the project in spring of 2002, prior to the EPA proposed funding. Beginning July 2002, the project will continue for the duration of one year. By August 2003, Vintondale will host 7 acres of habitat rich and educationally ready wetlands, fulfilling an identified need in this region. Please see the attached timeline for details.

(a) Budget

ACTION	MATCH		NON-MATCH - separate but related project funds			
	EPA	ROCKEFELLER	WHC	W.Pa Watershed Protection Program	PENNDOT	USFS
Wildlife at Work team workshops			\$ 300			
Wetland planting				\$ 5,300	\$ 1,500	
Wildlife trail construction			\$ 3,000			
Sign fabrication and installation	\$ 1,500		\$ 1,600			
Conduct quarterly wildlife inventory	\$ 500		\$ 500			
Habitat enhancements	\$ 1,300		\$ 300			\$ 1,500
Indoor informational displays	\$ 150	\$ 300				
Community workshops	\$ 300					
Outreach (class visits, etc..)	\$ 250					
Documentation	\$ 500					
Education Center coordinator AmeriCorps volunteer		\$ 2,000				
Related administrative expenses	\$ 250					
<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b>\$ 4,750</b>	<b>\$ 2,300</b>	<b>\$ 5,700</b>	<b>\$ 5,300</b>	<b>\$ 1,500</b>	<b>\$ 1,500</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 7,050</b>					

<b>ACTION</b>	<i>Pre EPA</i> <b>spring 02</b>	<b>07/02</b>	<b>08/02</b>	<b>09/02</b>	<b>10/02</b>	<b>11/02</b>	<b>12/02</b>	<b>01/03</b>	<b>02/03</b>	<b>03/03</b>	<b>04/03</b>	<b>05/03</b>	<b>06/03</b>
• Workshops to identify, form, and train Wildlife At Work teams	X												
• Plant wetlands according to WHC recommendations	X												
• Construct wildlife trail	X												
• Identify signage points, make and install signs		X	X	X									
• Conduct wildlife inventory		X			X			X			X		
• Install/maintain habitat elements		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
• Install Informational displays in Education Center		X	X				X	X			X	X	
• Conduct community workshops			X		X		X		X		X		X
• Recruit for and lead visiting tours		X	X	X	X	X					X	X	X
• Outreach		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
• Documentation		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
• Evaluate / adapt		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
• Apply for WHC certification													X

**BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs**

OMB Approval No. 0348-0044

SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY						
Grant Program Function or Activity (a)	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number (b)	Estimated Unobligated Funds		New or Revised Budget		
		Federal (c)	Non-Federal (d)	Federal (e)	Non-Federal (f)	Total (g)
1. ENVIRO ED	66.951	\$	\$	\$ 4,750	\$ 2,300	\$ 7,050
2.						
3.						
4.						
5. Totals		\$	\$	\$ 4,750	\$ 2,300	\$ 7,050
SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES						
6. Object Class Categories	GRANT PROGRAM, FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY				Total (5)	
	(1) ENV. ED	(2)	(3)	(4)		
a. Personnel	\$ 2,000	\$	\$	\$	\$ 2,000	
b. Fringe Benefits						
c. Travel	250				250	
d. Equipment	1,300				1,300	
e. Supplies	1,750				1,750	
f. Contractual						
g. Construction	1,500				1,500	
h. Other	250				250	
i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a-6h)	7,050				7,050	
j. Indirect Charges						
k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j)	\$ 7,050	\$	\$	\$	\$ 7,050	
7. Program Income	\$ -0-	\$	\$	\$	\$ -0-	

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SECTION C - NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES					
(a) Grant Program	(b) Applicant	(c) State	(d) Other Sources	(e) TOTALS	
8. THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION	\$	\$	\$ 2,300	\$ 2,300	
9.					
10.					
11.					
12. TOTAL (sum of lines 8-11)	\$	\$	\$ 2,300	\$ 2,300	
SECTION D - FORECASTED CASH NEEDS					
	Total for 1st Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
13. Federal	\$ 4,750	\$ 1,187.50	\$ 1,187.50	\$ 1,187.50	\$ 1,187.50
14. Non-Federal	2,300	575	575	575	575
15. TOTAL (sum of lines 13 and 14)	\$ 7,050	\$ 1,762.50	\$ 1,762.50	\$ 1,762.50	\$ 1,762.50
SECTION E - BUDGET ESTIMATES OF FEDERAL FUNDS NEEDED FOR BALANCE OF THE PROJECT					
(a) Grant Program	FUTURE FUNDING PERIODS (Years)				
	(b) First	(c) Second	(d) Third	(e) Fourth	
16.	\$	\$	\$	\$	
17.					
18.					
19.					
20. TOTAL (sum of lines 16-19)	\$	\$	\$	\$	
SECTION F - OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION					
21. Direct Charges: 7,050	22. Indirect Charges: -0-				
23. Remarks: AMDRAFT, Inc. is the fiscal administrator for the Blacklick Creek Env. Ed. Center					

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## I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AMD&ART is a non-profit organization founded by T. Allen Comp, Ph.D. in order to "artfully transform environmental liabilities into community assets." Through community partnerships, AMD&ART converts brownfield and acid mine drainage sites into environmentally and economically productive community resources while imparting an artistic theme that represents past and present land uses. Vintondale, the first of three project sites, has begun construction after five years of planning, and has chosen to participate in WHC's *Wildlife at Work*<sup>sm</sup> program, which focuses on involving company employees, community members, conservation organizations, and government agencies in the long term, active management of company property to benefit wildlife and increase environmental awareness. By partnering with WHC, AMD&ART demonstrates its commitment to restoring wildlife habitat and its dedication to enhancing the community.

The Three Rivers Habitat Partnership (TRHP), a WHC *Waterways for Wildlife* program based in the Pittsburgh and southwestern Pennsylvania area, was designed to create partnerships that will enhance wildlife habitat and community environmental awareness. With 22 current corporate sites participating, WHC is confident that the Vintondale site will be a unique addition to TRHP. AMD&ART and WHC recognize that closed landfill sites such as Vintondale present an excellent opportunity for creative closures that promote land reuse instead of land loss.

To assist in the development of a wildlife management plan, AMD&ART invited a WHC biologist to visit its site in October 2000. This report, *Opportunities Report for Wildlife Habitat Enhancement at AMD&ART's Vintondale Site*, was created with information gathered from the site visit, discussions with AMD&ART employees, and independent research to encourage community volunteerism. WHC has recommended the following habitat enhancement opportunities:

- enhancing wetlands on site to provide valuable resources to wildlife,
- planting warm-season grasses and woodland wildflowers to increase wildlife diversity and site aesthetics,
- controlling invasive plant species and promoting the growth of native vegetation,
- constructing artificial nest boxes for bats, cavity-nesting songbirds, and raptors, and
- developing environmental awareness about the site's conservation efforts by constructing a wellness/nature trail.

With the implementation of the aforementioned enhancement techniques, and by using the *Wildlife at Work* program, WHC is confident AMD&ART's Vintondale site can

achieve the primary objectives of the program. These objectives include habitat restoration and enhancement, while improving employee, community, and public relations. WHC's Team Kit will lead a Vintondale "wildlife team" through the necessary steps to create an effective wildlife management program.

When the prescribed habitat enhancements are implemented and monitored for at least one year, the site will be eligible to apply for certification with WHC. WHC's *Corporate Wildlife Habitat Certification/International Accreditation* program is designed to recognize credible corporate wildlife habitat programs and supply third-party credibility of environmental stewardship. WHC review procedures are rigorous. Therefore, the wildlife team is encouraged to keep detailed records and pictures of all habitat and environmental programs at the Vintondale site to increase the site's chances of certification.

The induction of the Vintondale site into the *Wildlife at Work* program will enable the site to work for the common effort of improved wildlife habitat on corporate sites. More importantly, however, is the opportunity that AMD&ART has to emerge as a leader in the habitat enhancement effort by constructing and implementing a well-balanced and effective wildlife habitat management program. WHC looks forward to developing a long-standing relationship with everyone involved at the Vintondale site in its quest to improve wildlife habitat through implementation of a community based wildlife management plan. This relationship encourages AMD&ART to consult with Marcia Maslonek, WHC's Pittsburgh Regional Director, and other WHC staff with questions regarding the wildlife management plan, additional habitat enhancement opportunities, and WHC certification.



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

Ms. E. Jeanne Gleason  
AMD & ART INC., N. P.  
411 Third Avenue  
Johnstown, PA 15906

SEP 09 2002

Re: NE-983637-01-0  
Opportunities for Educational and Wildlife Enhancement for the Vintondale Wetlands.

Dear Ms. Peterson:

Congratulations on your selection as an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Environmental Education Grants recipient. It will be my pleasure to work with you during the project year as your Project Officer. I plan to contact you periodically over the course of your project, but feel free to contact me at 215-814-5765 if you have any questions or problems, or if you wish to update me on your project.

EPA Region III received over 60 grant proposals this year and selected 20 for funding. Your project was selected from among some very fine proposals and I look forward to learning more about your project and seeing it through to completion with you. The Environmental Education Grants program funds some important work and we are very interested in your goals, progress and outcome.

In the next month or so, I will telephone you to discuss the status of your project. In the meantime, if you have any issues, specific or general, please call me. I wish you success with the education program at the Vintondale Wetlands and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Valerie Breznicky".

Valerie Breznicky, Project Officer  
Water Protection Division

*Customer Service Hotline: 1-800-438-2474*