

## **Robert E. Hughes**

175 Valley View Dr.  
Plymouth, PA 18651

## **Education:**

B. S. in Environmental Resource Management  
Technical Area: Water Pollution Control  
The Pennsylvania State University - May 1995  
Diploma with Honors-E.L. Meyers HS –June 1991

## **Current Employment:**

**Regional Coordinator** (1-01 to present)  
**Luzerne Conservation District** (Office Transfer from Schuylkill County CD)  
**Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation**  
485 Smith Pond Road, Shavertown, PA 18708 (570-674-7993)

## **Previous Employment:**

**Regional Coordinator** (5-97 to 12-00)  
**Schuylkill County Conservation District**  
**Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation**  
1206 Ag Center Drive, Pottsville, PA 17901 (570-622-3742)

**Assistant Director** (8-95 to 5-97)  
**Pennsylvania Environmental Council, NE Regional Office**  
129 S. Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766 (570-408-4997)

## **Business Accomplishments:**

**Brownfields Forum: Re-use of Industrial Sites - Co-organizer- Publicist- Project Manager** (1996)  
**Islands and Issues Teacher Training Project - Guest Speaker- Assistant Project Manager** (1996)  
**Greater Wyoming Valley Greenways Coalition - Assistant Project Manager** (1995)

## **Eastern Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation - Recording Secretary** (1996-1997)

- Promoted the encouragement of the reclamation and development of lands impacted by the mining industry in NE PA
- Served as an advocate for innovative, environmentally sound mine reclamation and AMD remediation techniques
- Educated, informed, and involved the public about mine reclamation and mine drainage issues

## **Abandoned Mine Lands & Acid Mine Drainage Conferences; Co-organizer-Presenter-Conference Coordinator**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Anthracite Regional AMD/AML Conference at Wilkes University-1996
- 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Annual State-wide AMD/AML Watershed Conferences-1997, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004
- Schuylkill River AMD Watershed Congress-Penn-State Schuylkill Haven Campus-1997
- Schuylkill County 2-Day Teacher Training Workshop/Field Tour on AMD/AML-1997
- Council for Research and Reclamation of Disturbed Land in PA Annual Meeting-2001, 2002
- 2001 PA Watershed Conference-Presenter on AMD (OLD) Passive Treatment System on the Oneida #1 Mine Tunnel
- Luzerne County 2-Day Teacher Training Workshop/Field Tour on AMD/AML-2002
- 24<sup>th</sup> Annual National Association of Abandoned Mine Lands Program Presenter-Park City, UT-September 2002

## **International Training Program on Waste Minimization - Honorary Guest Speaker** (1997)

- Informed 21 Ukrainian ambassadors from the Donetsk region of the former Soviet Union of how a grassroot coalition groups gets started, in particular, the Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation
- Provided a resource list, current research material, and synopses of the June 1997 AML-AMD Conference, in order for them to combat their coal mining and related coke, metallurgical, and chemical industries
- Educated the Ukrainian ambassadors on how to find and network with technical experts, funding operators, resource personnel, and government officials, at all levels from the bottom up

### **Related Work Experience:**

#### **Dept. of Environmental Protection, Hawk Run District Mining Office, - Hydrogeological Intern (5-94 to 4-95)**

- Assisted in determining violations of environmental safety laws and rules based on data compiled through site inspections, investigations, lab analyses, and other observations
- Collected and monitored water samples from surface and groundwater sources related to mining activities, identified sampling points from topographic maps, and recorded water quality data in to spreadsheets and other graphic displays
- Prepared and composed hydrogeologic investigations relative to selected complaints of diminution and/or degradation of water quality filed by private citizens or the DEP against current and past mining operations

#### **Pennsylvania Environmental Council, NE Regional Office- Activities & Volunteer Program Assistant- (3-93 to 6-93)**

- Assisted in overseeing all children's events, including electroshocking of fish, field trips through the riverfront parks, folk singers, a fun run, and canoe trips up and down the Susquehanna River
- Coordinated the Annual Susquehanna River Sojourn's Canoe Trip that promoted environmental awareness, education, and protection along the riverfront parks, in partnership with the EDCNP, Procter & Gamble Paper Products Company, Inc., the Luzerne County Conservation District, and other grassroot environmental organizations

#### **Dept. of Environmental Protection, Bur. of Abandoned Mine Reclamation, - Science/Tech Intern (5-93 to 8-93)**

- Collected water samples of acid mine discharges and small water treatment facilities utilizing pH meters, conductivity meters, weirs, and other flow devices for lab analyses
- Prepared project development documents such as eligibility determinations, environmental assessments, and PA Natural Diversity Inventory (PANDI) reports
- Installed, updated, and recorded over 4000 inquiry investigations (Jan. 73 to Aug. 93) into the Bureau's new computer database system created by myself in Microsoft Windows 6.1

### **Community Service/Involvement/Professional Memberships:**

**The Pennsylvania State University College of Agriculture (ERM) Alumni Interest Group-Member (2003); Vice President (2004-2005)**

**The Pennsylvania State University's Commonwealth Council of Student Government's Alumni Interest Group-Member (2004-2005)**

**Pocono NE RC & D-Member (1997-2005); Board of Directors (2003-2005)**

**Boston Creek Stream Cleanup with Wilkes University Freshman Class & Luzerne Conservation District-Volunteer Coordinator (2003)**

**Gr. Nanticoke Youth Soccer League Association-Volunteer Assistant Soccer Coach (U-8)-2003 (U-9)-2004 Valley Santa-Volunteer (2002)**

**Newport Township Bidy Basketball PG-Volunteer Coach (C Team, 1-3 Grade Girls)-2002-2005**

**Plymouth Township Planning Commission-Member- 2002-2003; Vice Chair-2004; Chair-2005**

**American Institute of Professional Bookkeepers-Member (2002-2005)**

**Avondale Hill Abandoned Mine Lands Cleanup with Wilkes University Freshman Class & Luzerne Conservation District-Volunteer Coordinator (2002-2003-2004)**

**Avondale Hill Abandoned Mine Lands Cleanup with LCCC Science Club (2004)**

**Luzerne County Streamside Cleanup-Volunteer Coordinator (2002)**

**PA Farm Bureau-Member (2001-2005)**

**Annual Make A Difference Day Community Project: Avondale Hill Roadside Clean Up in Plymouth Twp. (2001-2002)**

**Wilkes University Streamside Cleanup-Volunteer Coordinator (2001)**

**Luzerne County Streamside Cleanup-Volunteer Coordinator (2001)**

**Eastern Coal Region Roundtable-Member (2001-2005)**

**10,000 Friends of PA-Member (2001-2005)**

**The Pennsylvania State University College of Agriculture (ERM) Alumni Society-Member (2001-2005)**

**Huber Breaker Preservation Society-Member; CleanUp Project Participant (2001-2005)**

**Tioga River Watershed Reclamation Projects, Inc.-Honorary Member (2001-2003)**

**PA Organization of Watersheds and Rivers, American Rivers -Member (1999-2005)**

**National Watershed Coalition, National Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation -Member (1998-2003)**

**River Network-Member (1998-2005)**

**Council for the Research and Reclamation of Disturbed Land in PA- Member (1998-2000); Secretary/Treasurer (2000-2005)**

**PA DEP Citizens Volunteer Monitoring Program Panel- Member (1998-2000)**

**Bowman's Creek Watershed Association, Schuylkill Headwaters Association-Member (1998-2000)**

**Delaware RiverKeeper Network-Member (1998-2003); Schuylkill RiverKeeper-Advisory Board Member (1998-2002)**

**Citizens Coal Council-Member (1998-2004)**

**PA Environmental Council-Member (1995-2003)**

**Annual Make A Difference Day Community Project: Parks Clean Up in St. Clair Borough (1999)**

**PA DEP Non-Point Source Workgroup; Resource Extraction Subcommittee (1997-2005); Chair-(2002-2005)**

**PA DEP Water-based Trading Simulation Workgroup- Member (1999)**

**Wyoming Valley Reach Task Force for the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor- Volunteer (1996)**

**W-B Area School District, E.L. Meyers High School - Jr. High Head Coach (Nov.- Mar. of 95-96)**

**W-B Area School District, E.L. Meyers High School - Volunteer Jr. High Assistant Coach (Nov.- Mar. 91, 92)**

- Coached and taught 58 kids how to play and learn the game of basketball over 4 years of coaching
- Emphasized that the game is played as a team sport
- Coached and advised players on keeping athletics and academics hand in hand

**E.L. Meyers High School, PA- Career Day- Guest Speaker (Nov. of 95-96-97)**

- Presented an overhead series on "How To Get An Environmental Job In The 90's" to the junior and senior class
- Published and handed out a career packet to over 30 students on how to get a job in the environmental field, what approaches to take to get one, where the jobs are, environmental ethics, and the pros and cons to different types of jobs in the field

**Wyoming Valley Drug and Alcohol Association- Volunteer Peer Counselor Assistant (6-91 to 9-91)**

- Counseled and talked to over 30 inner-city, low-income housed kids daily on the adverse effects of drugs and alcohol
- Tutored and helped kids with homework at the John B. McGlynn Learning Center in the Boulevard Townhomes, W-B
- Listened to the kids and talked about their everyday hopes and fears and served as a positive role model for the kids in my surrounding community; Alcohol on College Campuses Program- Guest Speaker at Lake-Lehman High School

### **Achievements, Committees, and Awards**

- Winner of the PA Association for Environmental Professionals' Karl Mason Award-2005
- Jefferson Award Winner-1<sup>st</sup> Place-Sponsored by the Times Leader and the American Institute for Public Service-2005
- Acid Drainage Technology Initiative Resource Committee-Member (2001-2005)
- Advanced Integration of GeoSpatial Technologies in Mining and Reclamation Conference, Atlanta, GA -Office of Surface Mining Travel Scholarship Recipient-December 2004
- PSU Local Governments and GIS Conference 2004, State College, PA League of Women Voters Citizen Education Fund Water Resources Education Fund Scholarship Recipient-2004
- PA Association of Environmental Professionals-2004-2005
- Pocono Northeast Development Fund & PO-NE PA Alliance 2002 PO-NE Environmental Action Award-1<sup>st</sup> Place
- American Water Resources Association 2002 Conference, Philadelphia, PA League of Women Voters Citizen Education Fund Water Resources Education Fund Scholarship Recipient-2002
- Susquehanna River Basin Commission Teamwork Award for the Upper Tioga Watershed AMD Assessment & Remediation Project-July 2002
- 2002 Governor's Award for Watershed Stewardship-April 2002
- Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts, Inc. Conservation Organization of the Year Award-March 2002
- Lackawanna River Corridor Association's River Stewardship Award Winner-Plaque Received-January 2002
- Department of Environmental Protection-Greenworks for PA Watershed Hero Nomination-Winner for December 2001
- Mid-Atlantic Regional Watershed Roundtable, Doylestown, PA Scholarship Recipient-2001
- Pocono Northeast Development Fund, EDCNP & PO-NE PA Alliance 2001 PO-NE Environmental Action Award-1<sup>st</sup> Place
- National Watershed Forum, Crystal City, VA Meridian Institute Scholarship Recipient-2001
- 2001-2002 Luzerne County Stream-side CleanUp Planning Committee-(2000-2002)
- 2001 Luzerne County Stream-side CleanUp Dirtiest Volunteer Award-May 2001
- Susquehanna River Basin Commission Water Quality Advisory Committee-(1999-2005)
- PA DEP Mining and Reclamation Advisory Board Reclamation Committee- Member (1997-2005)
- Schuylkill County Leadership 2000 Program-Member of the Graduating Class of 2000
- Make A Difference Day 1999 Outstanding Appreciation Community Volunteer Service Award- 1999
- Pennsylvania Environmental Council's Northeastern PA Environmental Partnership Award- Recipient- 1999
- National Mine Land Reclamation Center, Roanoke, VA AMD Conference Scholarship Recipient- 1999
- Schuylkill County Drought Emergency Task Force -Appointed by Schuylkill County Board of Commissioners -1999
- PA GIS Consortium Partner-1999-2005
- Northeast PA ARCVIEW Users Group Member-1999-2005

- Schuylkill River Watershed Rivers Conservation Plan Technical Advisory Committee Member-1998-2003
- Shamokin Creek Watershed Rivers Conservation Plan Advisory Committee Member-1999-2000
- Upper-Susq.-Lackawanna Watershed: American Heritage Rivers Initiative Steering Committee Member –1998-2003
- PA Environmental Council's NE Environmental Partnership Awards- Honorary Reception Committee Member- 1998
- National Mine Land Reclamation Center, Knoxville, TN AMD Conference Scholarship Recipient- 1998
- The Upper Delaware Heritage Alliance Certificate of Recognition- Delaware River Sojourn Steering Committee Member- 1996
- The Delaware River Greenway Partnership Award- Delaware River Sojourn Steering Committee Member- 1995
- The Upper Delaware Council's Recreation Achievement Award- Delaware River Sojourn Steering Committee Member- 1995
- The Pennsylvania State University, College of Agricultural Sciences, Alumni Society Internship Award- 1995
- The Pennsylvania State University, Commonwealth Council of Student Governments, Treasurer's Award-1995
- The Commission of Economic Opportunity, F.W. Remington 4-year Scholarship Award- 1991-1995
- The Pennsylvania State University, Eric A. and Josephine Walker Award- Finalist – 1992; Lion's Pride Award- 1992
- Intercollegiate Leadership Wilkes-Barre Award-1992
- The Pennsylvania State University, Wilkes-Barre Campus, Advisory Board Scholarship Award-1991
- Wyoming Valley Drug and Alcohol Association, Outstanding Volunteer Peer Award- 1991
- E.L. Meyers HS National Honor Society, French National Honor Society-1989-1991
- STAND TALL Drug Free Program- Founding President- 1991
- Who's Who In High School Athletics-1991
- Division II P.I.A.A. Scholar-Athlete Award-1991; Division II P.I.A.A. East's All-Star Basketball Team- Member- 1991

### **Training Workshops Completed and Certifications**

- Project WET Certification (6 hrs)
- Trout Stream Habitat Restoration: Principles and Processes
- ArcView GIS 3.2 Training (16 hrs)
- Natural Channel Design and Geo-Fluvial Morphology Training: Principles and Processes (8 hrs)
- Dirt and Gravel Road Maintenance Training Certification
- Citizen Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Training Certification-dealing with Abandoned Mine Drainage (AMD)
- "Local Motion" National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) Leadership Training
- NRCS Hydraulics, Weir Installation and Flow Measurements Training
- Army Corps of Engineers Basic Wetlands Identification and Atypical Soils & Problem Areas Field Training (40 hrs)
- EPA Watershed Academy: Web-based Watershed Management Training Certification
- Alliance for Justice: Lobbying Rules Workshop for 501 (c)(3) Non-Profit Organizations (8 hrs)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service-Cultural Resources Training (12 hrs)
- US Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory IV Inter-Agency Wetland Delineation and Identification Course (40 hrs)
- Introductory Overview of Stream Classification and Natural Stream Design as described by Dave Rosgen (2 days)
- PA DEP-Freshwater Fish Identification in PA Workshop (3 hrs)
- Center for Local Government Services, PA Historical & Museum Commission, PA State Association of Township Supervisors sponsored Preserving Your Community's Historic Resources Training (8 hrs)
- Fishing Skills Instructor Workshop with the PA Fish & Boat Commission (8 hrs)
- Introduction to ArcGIS I (v8.2) Training (16 hours)
- Advance Use of ArcGIS II (v8.3) Training (16 hours)
- Volunteer for the PA Fish & Boat Commission-Certified Fishing Skills Instructor (10 hours); SMART Angler Program
- Certificate of Achievement for Completing a 3-Day Workshop on Non-Profit Management for RC & D Councils (24 hrs)
- Primary and Secondary Education Teacher Training Workshop on AMD, St. Vincent College (16 hrs)
- Out of the Rock Mineral Resources Education Training Workshop, St. Vincent College (8hrs)
- Information MAPPING Seminar on Developing Usable Content & Documentation (24hrs)
- Level 1 Rosgen Stream Classification Field Training Course (5 days-75 hours)- Blackwater Falls, WV

## **Collegiate Activities:**

College of Agricultural Sciences-ERM Program Alumni Society-2002-2005

Penn-State Club of the Wyoming Valley-2004

Environmental Resource Management Club- Member- 1995-1994-1993

The Pennsylvania State University, Commonwealth Council of Student Governments, Exec. Board & Treasurer-1995-1994

The Pennsylvania State University, Wilkes-Barre Campus, Student Government Association  
Exec. Board & Treasurer-1993-1992

- Organized & sponsored a Community Easter Egg Hunt for Low-income housing projects in the Wyoming Valley
- Organizer and Fund Raising Coordinator for Project M.O.M. Campaign

The Pennsylvania State University, Wilkes-Barre Campus:

- Student Activities Committee- Member- 1993-1992-1991
- Minority Ethnic and Cultural Association- 1993-1992-1991
- Student Health Club- Volunteer- 1993-1992-1991
- Campus Ecology Committee- Member- 1993-1992-1991
- Campus Appeals Board- Member- 1993-1992
- Campus Hearing Board- Member- 1993-1992
- Faculty Senate- Member- 1993-1992
- Orientation Leader-1993-1992
- Inter-Collegiate Leadership Wilkes-Barre Partnership- 1993-1992
- Alumni Annual Fund Phon-a-thon- Volunteer- 1993-1992-1991
- Campus Environment Team- 1992-1991

Susquehanna River Watch- Volunteer- 1992-1991; Club T.U.F.F. Program- Volunteer- 1992-1991  
Project R.E.M.A.I.N.- Volunteer-1991-1990; Project S.H.A.R.E.- Volunteer-1991