



NEW BUILDING **MCAP** **AL & BILL'S TRIP**

Yerkes is expanding! Renovations are underway at our newly acquired building. The municipal group will be calling this new building home at the beginning of 2009. More updates on the renovations in the next Newsletter.

Bill Wermuth recently joined the Board of Directors of MCAP (Montgomery Child Advocacy Project). MCAP provides legal assistance and representation for children who are abused and neglected. Originally founded by members of the Montgomery County District Attorney's Office, MCAP is now a separate non-profit organization that has over 150 volunteer lawyers that represent hundreds of children each year. Pictured left to right are: Bill Wermuth, Wendy Demchick-Alloy, Esq. (former DA and MCAP Founder), Marilee Wolf, Michael Smerconish, and Mary Pugh, Esq. (MCAP Executive Director)

During a long weekend in August, Tina and Al Giannantonio and Carol and Bill Wermuth, traveled by rail to Pittsburgh. The rail excursion was organized with special equipment as a fundraiser for families-in-need who have loved-ones serving in our armed forces overseas and to promote passenger rail travel and transportation here at home. Over 30 people participated and everyone had a great time seeing the beautiful Pennsylvania countryside.



Yerkes Fleet



Danielle Roberts **Jesse Grimm** **Joanne Caso** **Peter Marberger**

Danielle joined the municipal group this past spring. With a degree in business management, she hopes to open more doors with a building perspective. She recently received her notary license and is pursuing her Building Code Official Certification. Keeping busy is not very hard for her, with a 7-year old son, Ethan, she enjoys helping out with his class, volunteering at his school events, and also with his soccer team. She is also planning her wedding in June 2009.

The municipal group has added Jesse as one of their building inspectors. An avid Pittsburgh Steelers fan, he was raised in Pittsburgh before moving to Ocean City, Maryland. He graduated vo-tech school and has acquired all of the certifications to work in the field. His background consists of HVAC service and installation, along with construction experience.

Rosemont has a new face and voice. Joanne Caso joined Yerkes this summer project. She comes to Yerkes with 2 decades of experience as the owner/operator of a daycare center and a degree in psychology. Joanne lives in Paoli and has 3 children.

Pete joined Yerkes as a residential building inspector this past summer. With a background in the custom home building industry, his knowledge and experience is an asset here at Yerkes. He and his wife, Eve, live on a 10-acre farm in South Coventry Township, with their 3 cats and 3 horses. He is a Vietnam veteran.

LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE The world is going "green"



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Yerkes

WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS FOR THE YERKES MUNICIPAL GROUP

Yerkes Associates continues to shine a spotlight on individual employees by interviewing them for the Bi-Annual Newsletter. J. Russell Yerkes serves as a Vice President for the Company and leads the Municipal Inspection Group. One of Russell's chief responsibilities is maintaining a close professional relationship between Yerkes inspection group and his municipal clients. Russell took time from his busy schedule to sit down with Matthew Convery to answer questions about the current state of Yerkes' municipal group and what the future will hold for the group.

Currently how many municipalities does Yerkes represent?

Yerkes represents over 15 municipalities in Chester, Delaware, Berks and Montgomery Counties. Our responsibilities range from Municipal Engineer to Building Official and Zoning Officer.

What are the main obligations to our municipal clients?

Our obligation to our clients is to keep them happy by keeping their residents happy. We take the day to day operations off of the municipalities' lap by dealing with the public's questions relating to zoning, building, permits and inspections.

What type of services do the municipal group (inspectors) provide to our clients?

Our inspectors do building inspections independently and also in conjunction with the municipally-employed inspectors. They also handle building code and zoning ordinance questions.

How are you incorporating the other municipal services offered by Yerkes Associates into your inspection services? For example, parks and open space planning, sanitary services, comprehensive plan preparation.

I act as the intermediary between our clients and the Yerkes employees that can fulfill the needs of the municipality, whether it is parks and open space design, sanitary design and management or GIS analysis. Yerkes Associates has many talented individuals. I make sure that our clients talk to the right people here.

We recently purchased the building and property adjacent to our present West Chester office to house our expanding Municipal Department. What are your expectations moving to the new building?

In the last 7 years we have grown from 3 full time inspectors to 13 full time inspectors. The inspectors needed this new building to provide more immediate in-house office space to better handle their current administrative duties and also to facilitate future growth of the department.

What does the future hold for the Inspection group?

The growth of municipal services is driving the growth of the entire company. The need for the new building is a sign of the expected growth of our inspection group and municipal services department.

What is your role day to day with the inspectors?

I spend my time visiting our clients on-site and making myself available to them for any questions and concerns they may have. I also act as a fire extinguisher and respond to any potentially volatile on-site situations to support my inspectors. Yerkes is fortunate to have such hard working and knowledgeable inspectors.

"We have always believed that if you surround yourself with good people, good things will happen."

Russell Yerkes



INSIDE

2
Land Planning and Survey

3
Update and New Faces

4
Sanitary Sewer Planning

5
Penns Preserve

6
Looking Towards the Future

Wyndolph Knoll / Park Planning

Many municipalities today realize that the availability of open space for both active and passive recreation within their communities is quickly being threatened by increased development. In higher density zoning districts where ground values are extreme and developable space is at a premium, creation of parks or open space is often sacrificed for additional units. Prudent municipalities today are taking a proactive role in planning for developments in their communities with a primary focus on preserving land for future green or open space, and planned recreational parks.

Yerkes has been assisting several municipalities with this vital step and helping them move forward with the master planning of open space and parks. These plans can evolve as either a Parks and Recreation Master Plan, or an Open Space and Environmental

Resources Protection Plan. They can be altered as necessary to best fit a municipality's wants and needs or can be combined to serve multiple purposes.

Yerkes has been working with West Pikeland Township in recent months to draft a master plan for the Wyndolph Knoll project, a prospective community park and township sanitary effluent disposal location. The combination of these elements has raised numerous design issues and has enabled Yerkes to "think outside the box" for viable solutions.

The Wyndolph Knoll project began with West Pikeland Township's need for additional recreational fields as well as a disposal area to serve residences that have failing septic systems. The site at Wyndolph Knoll was acquired by the Township and the incorporation of an effluent disposal area adjacent to a community park with active recreational fields added a new element to the design. A Parks and Recreation sub-committee was formed to help steer the design of the park while also serving as the voice of interested citizens. Representatives from Yerkes meet monthly with the sub-committee to discuss the park configuration and how to improve the overall



layout to serve both needs. This process will continue until a working plan is completed which can be presented to the public for comment.

The diverse backgrounds of Yerkes professionals have permitted us to serve West Pikeland Township efficiently throughout this planning process. Our experience in municipal representation, sanitary system design, and land planning has provided assistance for the Township in every aspect of the proposed park design by the various "teams" in the Company. The utmost goal of Yerkes Associates is to do everything we can to fulfill the needs and desires of our municipal client in helping it to successfully complete the project.

West Pikeland Township, Chester County

Land Surveying Laying the Foundation for Parks & Recreation and Wetland Projects



The Survey Department at Yerkes Associates, Inc. has recently taken part in a number of projects concerning Municipal Park & Recreation facilities, many of which include wetland areas.

Most municipal recreation projects involve the creation of large sports fields with sometimes substantial amounts of grading. In order to determine whether the desired scope of a municipal park project is even feasible, a "Base Survey Plan" is necessary to depict the existing conditions of a site chosen for a park. The Base Survey Plan is created from information gathered by our Survey Crews using up-to-date electronic equipment to accurately locate

any physical features of a site, including structures, impervious surfaces, landscaped areas, above-ground utilities and wetland areas. Before wetlands can be located, our on-staff wetlands expert must delineate the wetland boundaries and flag their perimeter for easy identification by the Survey Crew.

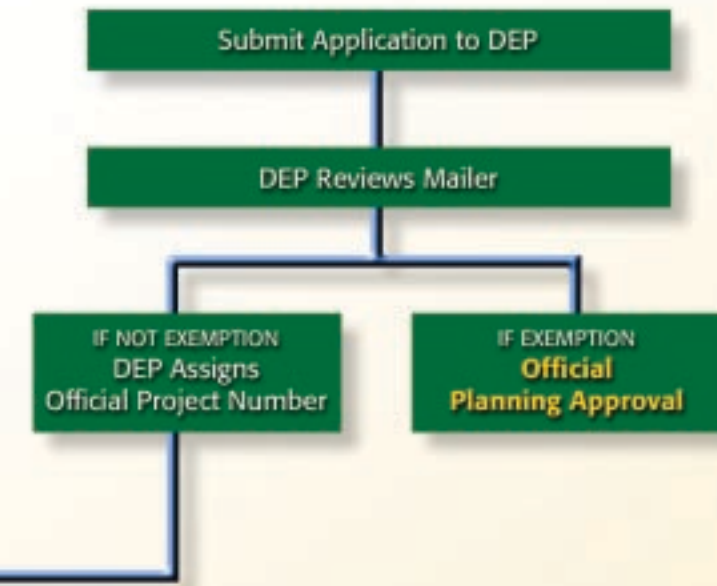
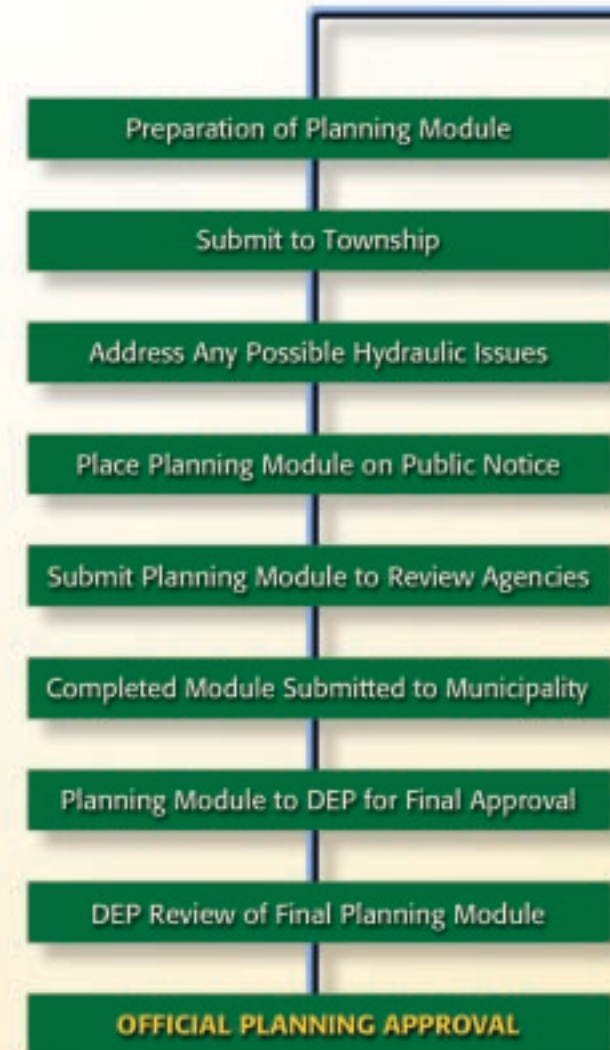
With the assistance of the PA One Call system, utility information from Municipal Authorities, and the use of professional utility locators, underground utilities may also be located and depicted on our Base Survey Plan to help our Planning and Engineering Departments, as well as our clients, make necessary decisions concerning the scope of a project.

An important factor in the success of any project is the communication between the municipal client, our office staff, and the field survey crews. Although our office staff may visit a project site prior to and during the course of a project, we rely totally on our survey crews for the accuracy of the site feature locations initially obtained for the Base Plan. Yerkes Associates, Inc. takes pride in the success of the open communication lines between our office and field crews, which translates into production of accurate and complete Base Plans for our clients. Municipal Boards, Commissions and Task Forces then have reliable documents on which to plan their recreational futures.

Sanitary Sewer Planning It's All About Content & Timing

At Yerkes, we understand that the key to a successful sanitary sewer planning project involves proper content and efficient timing. Through our experience with the review agencies involved, as well as our strong relationships with the municipalities we serve, we have developed a solid grasp of the specific information needed to secure planning approvals. By taking the time to listen to and understand our clients' needs and desires, we are able to submit appropriate and complete data to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in the early stages of any municipal planning project.

The sanitary sewer planning process is fairly straightforward in most cases. The first step is to complete and submit to DEP, an application mailer requesting either an exemption or waiver. If the request for either is granted, the planning requirements under the PA Sewage Facilities Act have been met. If not, preparation of a Sewage Facilities Planning module will be required. Again, proper content and careful planning are required in the module submission to avoid the many pitfalls that an applicant can face if incorrect documents are prepared.



Under the leadership and guidance of Matthew Boggs, P.E., the Yerkes Wastewater team is equipped to tackle these submission challenges in a cost effective and timely manner. By being attentive to every detail, we make sure all pertinent information is provided and nothing is overlooked. The basic submission must have a plot plan of the site, signatures from adjacent municipalities confirming system capacity for any downstream facilities, completed environmental agency forms, all hydraulic issues addressed, and a PA Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) search for the site. After the materials are assembled, the planning module is submitted to the planning agencies, which are allowed 60-days for their review. The module is also advertised for a 30-day public comment period and is reviewed by the municipality, all prior to adoption.



Matthew Boggs, P.E.

As the leader of the sanitary group here at Yerkes, Matt Boggs and support personnel can handle our client's needs. Whether it's Act 537 Planning or Sewage Operations, the team is equipped to get the job done.

In preparation of the modules, we keep foremost in mind that if any required item is not included, the submission is automatically returned as incomplete. The Yerkes team is committed to providing all of the necessary components the first time through to provide the maximum benefit to our clients. Our goal is and will continue to be "professional support for sanitary sewer planning for our clients in a timely fashion with minimal problems for all involved."

Penns Preserve Wastewater Treatment Plant Willistown Township, Chester County



Odds are that you've never seen a wastewater treatment plant so breathtaking! Tucked away in the lush rural landscape of the Okehocking Preserve, at the intersection of Delchester Road and West Chester Pike (U.S. Route 3) in Willistown Township, Chester County, PA, is the Penns Preserve Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Yerkes has been providing operations for this lagoon-style plant since its inception in 1998. The treatment plant serves two subdivisions – Penns Preserve and Willistown Chase, which generate a total average sewage flow of 34,000 gallons per day. Penns Preserve uses a series of simple process operations which include a bar screen, aerators and prolonged settling times in a treated (or polishing) lagoon to clean the wastewater by physical, chemical, and biological means before it is returned to the environment through a spray irrigation system.

Effluent from the two developments is pumped from a sewage pump station located adjacent to West Chester Pike, to an Aerated Lagoon on the Okehocking property. The effluent passes through a bar screen, which removes the larger debris that would hinder the treatment processes throughout the remainder of the plant. This Aerated Lagoon contains four floating aerators and a floating separator baffle which acts as an impervious wall across the center of the lagoon forcing the wastewater to follow a circuitous path to maximize aeration and treatment time. After treatment is completed in the aerated lagoon, the wastewater is conveyed by gravity to a storage lagoon. The wastewater then flows by gravity to the Irrigation Pump House where it is treated with sodium hypochlorite prior to being pumped to the spray fields where it is applied in measured quantities to the land. The spray fields are carefully distributed over 9-acres of the precious preserved open space.

What's unique about Penns Preserve and the lagoon-style plant is that wastewater is treated naturally, without the assistance of numerous pumps, mixers, timers, reactors or controls. For the most part, Penns Preserve relies on Mother Nature to provide the bulk of the treatment of the wastewater. As might be typical in most treatment plants, there are no large concrete tanks, visible pieces of mechanical equipment or any other outward signs that 34,000 gallons of wastewater is being processed every day. The earthen lagoons blend into the natural surroundings and carp have been introduced in the storage lagoon where they are thriving. The carp actually serve as a benefit to the plant, feeding on nutrients that would eventually have to be removed through screening prior to being sprayed. With the fish habitat established, the operators have occasionally spotted blue heron and red tailed hawks that are drawn to the lagoons to help control the fish population.

With no stream discharge, all of the treated wastewater is recharged back into the ground. By spraying the effluent, the grass cover absorbs the nitrogen to produce extremely clean water and a good stand of vegetation.

Penns Preserve is a wastewater treatment plant that fits naturally into its surroundings at the Okehocking Preserve. On a daily basis, the Preserve is enjoyed by numerous nature lovers who trek the paths which cover the preserve, but have little hint that extensive treatment processes are taking place right under their "noses".

By keeping a close eye on the plant and making sure it is functioning smoothly, Yerkes Associates demonstrates that to be well rounded in wastewater treatment design and provide a treatment facility that respects the nature of its surroundings, it is vitally important to be involved in its daily operation and to experience and address issues that may not always be included in design manuals.

