

Rescue Mission's Employee of the Month for January

By Stefanie Appel
(ALLENTOWN, PA) – The Allentown Rescue Mission's Clean Team Workforce would like to congratulate Chris W. for not only being selected Employee of the Month for January but also for being hired full-time by Trinity Glass International, Inc., a local manufacturer of exterior and patio doors. Chris came to the Emergency Shelter after a falling out with his cousin, with whom he was living.

Chris admitted he was "too proud" to take a lower-paying job and couldn't help with the living expenses. The tension with his cousin became unbearable, so Chris moved out. By the time Chris arrived at the Mission, he knew he needed to make a change in his life. He wanted a "fresh start and to start moving in the right direction."

The Transformation Program provided him the opportunity to develop a solid biblical foundation, enhance his life skills, and work with the Clean Team Workforce after graduating from the program. Chris developed a long-term plan, instead of a quick fix. He graduated from the Transformation Program in December 2022 and worked at Trinity Glass as a temporary employee through the Clean Team Workforce. After a month of temporary work, Trinity Glass offered Chris permanent employment. Grateful for this opportunity, Chris declared, "This is big for me because I am now able to make and save double the amount of money."

The Allentown Rescue Mission helps us save our money to prepare us for living on our own. Being able to save money is a great setup for success once I leave the Mission." Eventually, he would like to obtain a forklift certification and a Commercial Driver's License. Not too long ago, Chris's future was uncertain. Today, he is making plans to be restored to the community.



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NINTH LEHIGH VALLEY WATERSHED CONFERENCE
MARCH 14th, 2023 — Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

7:45 - 8:30 Registration and Coffee (STEPS Building Atrium)

8:30 - 9:45 Welcome and Plenary Session

The Rappahannock Cultural Landscape - Using Archeology in Land Conservation Planning:

A partnership initiative of the Rappahannock Tribe and St. Mary's College of Maryland to identify and prioritize lands for conservation, preservation, and acquisition.

Dr. Julia King, Professor of Anthropology, St. Mary's College of Maryland

9:45 - 10:00 Break

TRACK 1 Indigenous Perspectives	TRACK 2 Volunteer Track	TRACK 3 Technical Track	TRACK 4 Stormwater/MS4
10:00 - 11:15 Morning Course 1 (STEPS Building) Contemporary American Indians 101 🌱 Sean Daley, Director, Institute for Indigenous Studies, Lehigh Univ. A panel presentation and discussion introducing issues that Indian peoples and their communities face today.	Do-It-Yourself Real-Time Stream Monitoring David Bressler, Stroud Water Research; Geoff Rogalsky, Tobyhanna Creek/ Tunkhannock Creek Watershed Assn; Alex Jackson, Broadhead Watershed Assn Stroud Water Research Center will present along with case studies from local watershed groups will describe using EnviroDIY for monitoring and stewardship of local streams.	The Dirt on Conventional Stream and Wetland Restoration - Legacy Sediment Jeff Hartman, Chief, Environmental & Geological Services Section, PADEP Applying Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Principles to Legacy Sediment	Plantings for Naturalized Stormwater Systems John Courtney, Owner, Kind Earth Growers; Nathan Pritchard, Watershed Specialist, Northampton County Conservation District Learn about successfully selecting and installing plants for green infrastructure addressing services and funding sources.
11:15 - 12:15 Morning Course 2 (STEPS Building) Constructed Ceremonial Landscapes of the Middle Atlantic 🌱 Dr. Julia King, Professor of Anthropology, St. Mary's College of Maryland Indigenous ceremonial landscapes in the Middle Atlantic region and the challenges of identifying and protecting these landscapes.	Turbid Waters: Clarifying Federal and State Water Quality Regulation Gary Walters, Retired PADEP Water Quality Chief and Master Watershed Steward This presentation will sort through when the federal Clean Water Act applies to state water quality regulations, and which one takes precedence.	Know When to Hold Them... Know When to Fold Them Professor David Casagrande, Director, Environmental Initiative, Lehigh University Opportunities and challenges of managed retreat and community-based relocation in response to climate change in watersheds and coastal areas.	Are We Oversalting Our Streams and Rivers? Dr. John Jackson, Senior Research Scientist, Stroud Water Research Center Road salt use, how it impacts water quality, and approaches to reducing salt while maintaining road safety.
12:15 - 1:30 Lunch Break			
1:30 - 2:30 Afternoon Course 1 (STEPS Building) Transgenerational Wealth and Trauma 🌱 Daniel Strong-Walker Thomas, Delaware Nation Hereditary Chief An interpretive talk on the art installation located at Lehigh Univ. that illustrates the 1737 Walking Purchase which forced the removal of Indigenous people from the Delaware River Watershed.	Hold the Salt: The Salt Watch Community Science Initiative 🌱 Abby Hileman, Salt Watch Coordinator, Izaak Walton League of America Learn about the Salt Watch program, how to become a volunteer, and resources to help reduce road salt pollution in your community!	The High Water Mark Dr. Benjamin Felzer, Associate Professor in Earth and Environmental Sciences, Lehigh University The historic and current relationship between amounts of precipitation and resulting flooding in the Lehigh Valley.	Stormwater Authorities: Solving Problems at the Root & Creating Long-Term Sustainability Doug Bruce, Manager, Bethlehem Township; Bruce Hulshizer, Project Manager, HRG; Tyler Erb, Capital Management Analyst, HRG A look at how this proactive, holistic approach helps Bethlehem Township address aging infrastructure, flooding, and MS4 requirements more cost-effectively and efficiently.
2:45 - 4:00 Afternoon Course 2 (STEPS Building) The Water Gap: Return to the Homeland 🌱 Kyle Kauwika Harris, Writer/ Producer/Director, Safehouse Films & Lauryn French A roundtable conversation on the 2016 film project about the experiences of Delaware Indian youth who spent time immersed in their ancestral homelands to reconnect with their Lenape identity.	Water-ya Gonna Do About All That Water? 🌱 Brad Kunsman, Extension Educator, Water Resources; Kathryn Semmens Science Director, NNC Discover volunteer resources for managing stormwater, preventing pollution, and supporting wildlife habitat; learn about a variety of programs that volunteers can use.	The Hole Story - Karst Geology in the Lehigh Valley John Mauser, Martins-Jacoby Watershed Association and Nathan Pritchard, Watershed Specialist, Northampton County Conservation District A summary of the geology and history of major sinkhole issues in Northampton County and ongoing efforts to address the issue.	Seeing the Forest and The Trees - The Role of Urban Trees In Stormwater Management Vincent Cotrone, Extension Educator, Penn State Extension A presentation on the role of forested landscapes and trees in particular in stormwater management and pollution mitigation.

🌱 A green leaf next to the title indicates that the presentation will be made on a basic level. All other presentations will assume some background in subject matter.

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