https://www.newsitem.com/news/local/impacts-of-amd-on-shamokin-reviewed-in-new-college-project/article_85228c8c-9e5b-5afe-80d8-34c66b69444f.html

TOP STORY

Impacts of AMD on Shamokin reviewed in new college project

By LARRY DEKLINSKI THE NEWS-ITEM larry_d@newsitem.com
Feb 3, 2022

SHAMOKIN — The Shamokin Creak Restoration Alliance (SCRA) recently participated in a Bucknell University student project that examines the socioeconomic and environmental restoration of Shamokin and how acid mine drainage (AMD) and Shamokin Creek impacts the community.

Students in environmental ethnography created the StoryMap, which is based on a study they conducted with the goal of better understanding the relationship between Shamokin Creek and the City of Shamokin. They were guided by Dr. Johnathan Favini, visiting assistant professor of international relations and environmental studies.

This StoryMap includes comments from local residents and representatives from SABER, SCRA and the EPA. By speaking to various individuals, the students were able to understand opinions on the coal era, how it has impacted Shamokin and its landscape today, and potential ways to remediate problems.

The project provides a glimpse into the early history of the city, rise and fall of the coal industry, impacts of AMD and efforts by SCRA to combat the problem, and the GoShamokin Revitalization Plan. The project is enhanced with images and maps.

The StoryMap says SCRA, formed in 1996 by concerned citizens, has implemented four treatment systems that filter out chemicals and minerals to improve overall creek health, but significant changes are needed in order to fully restore the creek.

It shows the positive effects that AMD treatments have had on the Little Conemaugh River in St. Michael and Cheat River in West Virginia.

The project was completed by Bucknell students Minh Bui, Kaiya Burton, Adrianna D’Onofrio, Will Harrington, Gi Macones, Kayla McElroy, Patrick McMurray, Mark Mitchell, Charlie Moderelli, Molly O’Neil, Brynn Peddy, Brennan Smith, Lia Zavattaro and Dia Zizis.