

# Berks County Water And Sewer Association

Scope: Local

Location: Pennsylvania

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

Chip Bilger  
Chairman  
Berks County Water & Sewer Association  
[CBilger@wbwa.org](mailto:CBilger@wbwa.org)  
(610) 678-4400 ext. 224

Kent Himelright  
County SWP Coordinator  
Berks County Conservation District  
[Kent.himelright@berkscd.com](mailto:Kent.himelright@berkscd.com)  
610-372-4657 ext. 211

Website: [County SWP Program Executive Summary](#)

## SCOPE:

- Berks County, Pennsylvania
- Focus: Protect the drinking water of over 260,000 residents who received their drinking water from public suppliers.
- Coordinated by: Albright College, Center for Excellence in Local Government and Berks County Water & Sewer Association

## COLLABORATIVE FORMATION:

- The Berks County Source Water Collaborative (BCWSA) is one of a handful of new Source Water Teams that have formed recently in Pennsylvania, with initial funding assistance from the Water Resources Education Network (WREN), a project of the League of Women Voters of PA.
- BCWSA is a not-for-profit organization, in existence since 2013. The Association was initiated by a group of concerned municipal officials through the Berks Municipal Partnership, County of Berks Commissioners and Planning Commission, Center for Excellence in Local Government, water and sewer service providers, Greater Reading Economic Partnership and the economic development community.

## STRUCTURE/FUNDING:

- The Berks County SWP Program annual budget is funded by an annual fee paid by member water systems. A fee schedule was developed based on population served, so that the larger systems pay a larger percentage of the budget, while a smaller system like a mobile home community, has a minimal membership annual fee.


## MEMBERS:

- Berks County Planning Commission
- Berks County Conservation District
- Berks County Solid Waste Authority
- Berks County Agriculture Department
- Berks Nature
- Albright College, Center for Excellence in Local Government
- Berks County Conservation District
- Berks County Solid Waste Authority
- Schuylkill Action Network

- Partnership for the Delaware Estuary
- Structure Green Design Group
- SSM Group, Inc.
- Penn State Extension, Master Watershed Stewards
- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
- Environmental Protection Agency, Region 3

## **WATER CONCERNS:**

- Flow (too much and too little)
- Nutrients, pharmaceuticals, pathogens in surface sources



**Information current as of November 2020. Please check with the Collaborative contacts (or website if available) for the most up to date information. To find other source water collaborati2ves across the U.S. or to add yours to the list, visit the Source Water Collaborative's [How To Collaborate Toolkit](#)**