

# Eastern Lancaster County Source Water Collaborative (ELANCO SWC)

Scope: Local

Location: Pennsylvania

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

**Collaborative Leads:** Pennsylvania Rural Water Association, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, and United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 3

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**Website:** <https://www.elancowater.org/>

## SCOPE:

- Eastern Lancaster County, PA
- Alliance of water suppliers, local governments, civic leaders, state and federal agencies, private environmental partners, and nonprofit organizations working together to protect and improve drinking water quality for present and future generations, while maintaining and supporting ELANCO's economy and culture.

## COLLABORATIVE FORMATION:

- Collaborative members first gathered to develop an implementation for the Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan water resources element, "Blueprints: An Integrated Water Resources Plan for Lancaster County," which was adopted in October 2012
- The group was selected as a 2013 National Source Water Collaborative Pilot
- **Mission:** to protect and improve water quality for current and future generations through a cooperative, proactive approach.

## STRUCTURE/FUNDING:

- ELANCO SWC is coordinated collaboratively by Pennsylvania Rural Water Association, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, and United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 3.
- ELANCO SWC is a voluntary partnership with no dedicated funding for collaborative coordination or project implementation. Partners provide match funding through grant funding and in-kind services.

## MEMBERS:

- Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
- Becker Engineering
- Brecknock Township
- Caernarvon Township

- Chesapeake Bay Foundation
- East Earl Township
- Ephrata Borough
- Ephrata Township
- Ground Water Protection Council
- Lancaster Clean Water Partners
- Lancaster Conservancy
- Lancaster County Conservation District
- Lancaster Farmland Trust
- National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
- New Holland Borough
- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
- Pennsylvania Rural Water Association
- Penn State Extension
- Penn State University
- Sustainable Chesapeake
- Team Ag
- Terre Hill Borough
- West Cocalico Township
- United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 3

## WATER CONCERNS:

- Nutrient and sediment pollution from agricultural runoff
- Emerging contaminants

## STRATEGIES:

- **Education & Outreach**
  - Focus on youth, including Plain Sect students, with a goal of reaching entire families
  - Understand best messaging and strategies for communicating with different stakeholders and community members
- **Agricultural Conservation Practices**
  - Identify priority areas for conservation and willing landowners
  - Secure funding for implementation
  - Goal is to delist streams (surface water) and improve drinking water sources, such as groundwater
- **Water Quality Monitoring**
  - Conduct monitoring to assess whether water quality goals are being met
  - Translate results to stakeholders, partners, and funders
- **Partnerships**
  - Increase local involvement in the collaborative
  - Look beyond the ELANCO region to expand collaboratives
  - Expand to MS4 municipalities (focus: urban/suburban stormwater management)

## RESULTS:

- **Farmer Workshops**
- **Agricultural conservation practices implemented on farms**
- **Annual Drinking Water Day for 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade students**
- **Annual Source Water Protection Workshop for water systems**

Information current as of [month] [year]. Please check with the Collaborative contacts (or website if available) for the most up to date information. To find other source water collaboratives across the U.S. or to add yours to the list, visit the Source Water Collaborative's [Collaboratives Near You](#). You may also be interested in the [How To Collaborate Toolkit](#)