

## BABB CREEK

# ABANDONED MINE DRAINAGE EDUCATION WORKSHOP AND TOUR

## Background

There is much historical and economic significance surrounding coal mining in Tioga County — but despite its regional and national importance, years of unregulated mining has degraded many local streams. For much of the last 25 years, Babb Creek near Morris has been considered one of these lifeless waters.

Unlike many other Tioga County streams, Babb Creek has reason to celebrate. Thanks to the local restoration efforts of the Babb Creek Watershed Association and its partners, Babb Creek is no longer impacted from historical mining.

Join Trout Unlimited, the Babb Creek Watershed Association, and others to celebrate the newly reclaimed waters and learn about the historical coal mining that polluted them. This free program includes lunch and a bus tour of the projects that saved Babb Creek.

Space is limited for the bus tour so reserve your seat today by calling Trout Unlimited at 570-748-4901 or by e-mailing [info@wbsrc.org](mailto:info@wbsrc.org)

**Saturday, September 12**  
**9:00 am to 4:00 pm**

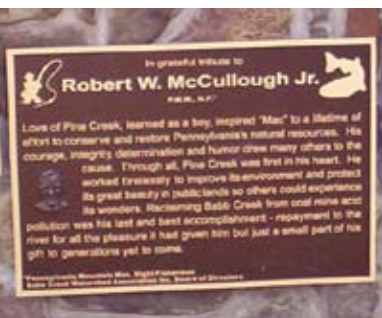
## Where

Mansfield University • Alumni Hall Room 307

## Agenda/Topics

- What is abandoned mine drainage and how is it formed
- Historical coal mining near Antrim and Babb Creek
- Bringing Back Babb Creek: the Babb Creek Story
- Economic benefits of cleaning up mine drainage pollution





## Sponsored by

Trout Unlimited, the Clearfield County Conservation District, Babb Creek Watershed Association, and the West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Coalition



Join us Stream-Side for a ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the newly reclaimed Babb Creek!

## Funding Provided by

R.K. Mellon Foundation, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, and Water Resources Education Network

This program will meet standards for teachers to obtain ACT 48 credits.

## Issues/Benefits

In response to the nation's current economic climate, environmental-related issues have taken a back-seat to domestic policy and unemployment. In fact, a January poll by the nonpartisan Pew Research Center cites that only 41% of voters deemed protecting the environment a top priority — down 15 points from last year's 56%. While this precipitous drop is not surprising, it highlights the fact that environmental issues are not likely associated with job creation or increased local economic productivity.

Contrary to this evidence, Trout Unlimited recently published a study documenting the economic benefits associated with fixing local abandoned mine drainage pollution problems. The study reports that cleaning up the more than 1,200 miles of streams polluted with abandoned mine drainage in the West Branch Susquehanna River watershed could potentially create approximately 6,000 jobs and an associated \$800 million in economic benefits. The study also reports that streams free of abandoned mine drainage pollution would potentially generate \$22.3 million in sport fishing revenue on an annual basis.

To find out more about this program visit the West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Coalition website at [www.wbsrc.com](http://www.wbsrc.com)

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