

### **Ecology Field Day Held in Selinsgrove**

On Saturday August 8, 2015, two Ecology Field Day events were held at the Selinsgrove Isle of Que River Ramp. One session was held in the morning and one in the afternoon. About fifty (50) people, both adults and children, collected and learned about the water quality, insects, crayfish, clams, and fish that inhabit our streams and rivers; and how the surrounding land use affects the local aquatic ecology. They were successful in collecting many species of animals and fish. (Examples include: mayflies, crayfish, dragonflies, beetles, bass, cutlips minnows, and darters).



*Picture of a mayfly nymph found in Goggle Images search.*

After the aquatic animals and fish were caught, the participants were able to study and identify them under microscopes furnished by Susquehanna University's Biology Department. This proved to be a highlight of the day as the participants were able to observe the various structures of the animals and handle the fish species. At the conclusion of the day, all animals were released back into the creek unharmed.

This Ecology Field Day was sponsored by the Borough of Selinsgrove. Jason Winey, SCCD Watershed Specialist, assisted with the event facilitation. Faculty and students from Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, including Mike Bilger, Dr. Jon Niles and Dr. Jack Holt of Susquehanna University and Janet Bilger of Snyder-Union Community Action Agency (CAA) were also an immense help with this project.

Questions about this event can be forwarded to the Borough of Selinsgrove by contacting Jess Runkle, Recreational Coordinator & Deputy Zoning Officer at 570-374-2311 or at [jrunkle@selinsgrove.org](mailto:jrunkle@selinsgrove.org).

Questions about watershed protection can be forwarded to Jason Winey at 570-837-3000, extension 112 or at [jwiney@ptd.net](mailto:jwiney@ptd.net).

Questions about other Snyder County Conservation District events and programs may be forwarded to [us](mailto:us@ptd.net) at 570-837-3000, extension 110 or at [sccd@ptd.net](mailto:sccd@ptd.net).





*Several youngsters look at aquatic life collected from Penns Creek through microscopes at the Ecology Field Day with the help of Mike Bilger (wearing cap and waders) of Susquehanna University. Picture taken from a event held in New Berlin in 2014.*

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