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## WE'RE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

The SEC always welcomes new members and provides complete "user friendly" training on practices and techniques, which are not hard to master. The time commitment can be as small or as large as you are able to give. Please contact Bob Kutler, the Montgomery County SEC Coordinator, at 215-362-7432 ext. 224 or e-mail at [sec@peakcenter.org](mailto:sec@peakcenter.org). We'd love to have you!

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## STREAMS WE MONITOR

The Montgomery County Senior Environment Corps conducts water quality monitoring on the East Branch of Perkiomen Creek, Neshaminy Creek & West Branch of Neshaminy Creek, Skippack Creek, Unami Creek and Wissahickon Creek.

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## THE PEAK CENTER'S MISSION STATEMENT

The PEAK Center supports independence, wellness and quality of life for adults, primarily those age 50 and above, and promotes their participation in all aspects of community life.



People Experiencing Activity, Arts and Knowledge  
315 West Main Street  
Lansdale, PA 19446  
215.362.7432

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*Sins on the Land,  
show up in the  
Water*

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## SEC MISSION STATEMENT

Provide the community with volunteer services through water quality monitoring of local streams, conducting water related environmental education programs, recycling and participation in other environmental and community endeavors.

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## THE PEAK CENTER'S MONTGOMERY COUNTY SENIOR ENVIRONMENT CORPS

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Volunteers Serving the  
Community through Water  
Quality Monitoring of Local  
Streams, Water Related  
Education Programs,  
Recycling and Participation in  
Community and  
Environmental Events



**designMgmt**

Lansdale, PA 19446

# WHAT IS THE SENIOR ENVIRONMENT CORPS

The Senior Environment Corps (SEC) is a very active and growing volunteer organization. It performs monthly physical assessments of water & land and chemical testing, and semi-annual biological monitoring of local streams. It does this using protocols developed by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). SEC monitoring data is stored in a database for use by DEP and other organizations. The SEC conducts Watershed / Nonpoint Source Pollution and Water Quality Monitoring education programs. MS PowerPoint slides and two simulators are used. The simulators demonstrate groundwater and surface water interactions. The SEC and the North Penn Water Authority conduct a joint presentation on Source Water Protection. All of these programs are delivered to various local organizations. Finally, SEC participates in cell phone and ink cartridge recycling, watershed oriented conferences, community and environmental events, and go on educational field trips throughout the year.

## WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAMS

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Water quality monitoring is an integrated activity for evaluating the physical, chemical and biological characteristics of water in relation to human health, ecological conditions, and designated water use. Physical and chemical tests are conducted monthly and biological surveys are conducted semi-annually. The results of the tests and surveys are recorded to maintain a historical record of information on a stream.

## ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

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The SEC develops, designs and delivers Watershed/Nonpoint Source Pollution and Water Quality Monitoring (WQM) education programs to the public, both adults and youths. The WQM program includes a field trip to a stream to conduct testing and to reinforce the information provided in the classroom. A joint presentation on Source Water Protection is conducted with the North Penn Water Authority.

Volunteers use MS PowerPoint slides and demonstrate groundwater and surface water simulators, lecture about environmental stewardship, present interactive learning activities, and distribute printed materials. The groundwater simulator represents a cross-section of the ground and shows how groundwater and groundwater pollutants

(represented by food coloring) move from groundwater recharge locations to groundwater discharge locations. It demonstrates how agricultural, commercial, industrial, and residential users effect and are effected by injections into and extractions out of the groundwater system. The model features flowing water to represent rain, a septic tank, an underground storage tank, a lake, a few wells, a river, and some earth substances to represent aquifers and aquicludes. The surface water simulator provides an inter-active experience that allows the participants to see the results of pollutants on the land that migrate into the water supply and how to minimize or eliminate the effect of those pollutants. By watching the simulators in action, participants learn about the damage done by nonpoint source pollution and its effects on the ecosystem.

## RECYCLING

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SEC volunteers collect, package and recycle printer ink cartridges and cell phones. Recycling these items keeps them out of the waste stream and landfills.

## COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVENTS

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SEC volunteers sponsor an annual Park & Stream cleanup event as part of the Great PA Cleanup & Earth Day campaigns. They also participate in events like the 50+ Expo, Normandy Farms and Brittany Pointe Health Fairs and the Montgomery County Senior Games.