

**STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND SITE RESTORATION, AN INTEGRAL COMPONENT OF
OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION IN PENNSYLVANIA**

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Stormwater management and site restoration during oil and gas exploration and production are crucial to preserving the integrity of Pennsylvania's pristine streams and scenic byways. Pennsylvania, with its mountainous oil and gas region and 42 inches of average annual rainfall, boasts 45,000 miles of streams including 900 trout streams, many of them containing wild trout which attract avid sportsman from around the country. Pennsylvania's streams support diverse aquatic life, supply potable water to the public and livestock, and offer opportunities for water recreation. Streams provide Pennsylvania's largest industry, agriculture, with a steady supply of water for crop irrigation. In 2004 Pennsylvania contributed 163 Bcf of natural gas and 3.6 million barrels of oil to the nation's energy supply. Oil and gas production, often occurring within state or federal forest lands or on agricultural lands, occurs in concert with the environment through the utilization of various stormwater management techniques. Stormwater management, site restoration, and installation and maintenance of erosion control measures have allowed the oil and gas production industry to prosper, while protecting of the environment. Activities in close proximity to streams occur successfully when the proper measures are taken. Best management practices to prevent sedimentation and promote erosion control are important to the oil and gas exploration and production industry in its quest to meet U. S. energy needs while maintaining the integrity of sensitive areas.