

2020 WALTER LYON RECIPIENT
LENNY LICHVAR
(edited from nomination narrative)



Lenny Lichvar is deeply involved in conservation matters, both professionally and in numerous volunteer organizations. He is currently district manager for the Somerset Conservation District. He previously served as executive director of the non-profit Southern Alleghenies Conservancy for eight years and currently serves on the conservancy's board of directors. He is chairman of the Stonycreek-Conemaugh River Improvement Project and is on the board of the Somerset County Conservancy. Lenny is a board member, Stream Improvement chairman and Yellow Creek Coalition representative for the Mountain Laurel Chapter of Trout Unlimited. He is a member of the Jenner Rod and Gun Club. He has previously served on the board of directors of the Pennsylvania Organization for Watersheds and Rivers.

Lenny is a freelance outdoor writer and photographer whose works have been published in local, state and national publications. Twice he has won recognition from the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association for the best published article on trout and coldwater conservation. He is presently an outdoors correspondent for the Somerset Daily American and produces a monthly outdoors page for the newspaper. Other community interests include the Boswell Area Jaycees, where he is an alumni member, two-time past president and current newsletter editor and publisher. He is also the founder and current president of the Boswell Area Historical Society and previously served as chairman of the Boswell Centennial Homecoming Celebration Committee.

Water – clean water – has been Lenny's passion with the transformation of the Stony Creek and Conemaugh Rivers among his proudest achievements. Also, as the Somerset Conservation District Manager he was instrumental in the county's Chesapeake Bay Implementation Strategy, Oven Run Rehabilitation, and Lamberts Run stream improvements.

Lenny also has a keen interest in trail recreation and was a central figure in the transfer of 8.5 miles of the Pennsylvania Turnpike in Bedford and Fulton Counties to the Southern Alleghenies Conservancy for a recreational trail.

Working with the Middlecreek Township Supervisors in Somerset County he helped secure transportation enhancements funding for the rehabilitation of the Kings Covered Bridge built in the 1860's.

In summary, Lenny's professional career and volunteer work exemplifies the qualities of Walter Lyon. He has dedicated a vast amount of his energies, time, talents, and resources to making his community and Pennsylvania a great place to live through conservation and stewardship. Lenny has put his boots on the ground and in the water as well as sharing his ideas and passion through his writing and service to a wide range of organizations.