Wayne Lehman and Bill Reichert at the convergence of the West Branch of the Schuylkill River and the Pine Knot Discharge
This reclaimed strip mine fills with water at its base. Because the water is trapped in this basin, the water must either evaporate or infiltrate. If it infiltrates, it will recharges the subsurface mine pool.
Reclaimed strip mine has become a testing ground for biosolids project. The test plot of poplars (lower left) planted five years ago attest to the usefulness of this waste product for increasing the rate of plant growth in areas of reclamation.
Abatement project at Wheeler Run – 50 to 100 gallons per minute of water fell into the subsurface mine pool prior to the restoration of the channel. This project was completed in 2010 and silts have already begun to accumulate over the concrete.
Crop fall (above) was a location of a DOT drainage. Instead of allowing the water to sit in the crop fall and seep into the mine pool, Bill rerouted the discharge to the stream channel.

The strip mine across the street has been open a total of four times as economic changes made coal extraction feasible.
$130,000 project to keep the stream channel at a high elevation to avoid moving the clay rich coal dirt into the main stream system and contaminating water miles away from the source (bottom right)
Wetland project at the head of the watershed – water seeps into the subsurface instead of staying above ground

View of the valley (below) from the location of the 10-year old wetland project