**Interactive Discussion Questions**

1. What key steps need to be taken to ensure clean, plentiful and affordable water in the Spring Creek Watershed?

* More land conservation to keep open space (preserving recharge areas and riparian zones)
* Complete critical area recharge mapping
* Strengthen the Spring Creek Watershed Commission in terms of funding and staffing
* Retrofit impervious surfaces with green infrastructure (rain gardens, green roofs)
* Design developments to limit impervious surfaces
* Consensus on what is “affordable”
* Collect money for phase III
* Restoration of degraded areas (protection of wetlands, bank stabilization, habitat improvement)
* Compile existing data for where we are (water quality and quantity)
* Guarantee from entities that follow through will happen (multiple partner commitment: list of partner commitments and level of commitment)
* Partner commitment needs to be contractual “Stormwater Impact Fee”
* Adoption of well construction and septic system maintenance standards by all municipalities
* A method for detecting leaks or improper functioning of in-place septic systems (septic construction)
* More cover crops to reduce runoff / pesticides / phosphorus and nitrogen
* Look at climate change factors, since water input heavily dependent on precipitation
* Nutrient management can affect development: know more how nutrient management will shape future development
* Increase emphasis on water conservation
* Establish a water budget for the Spring Creek Watershed (forecast on projected growth)
* Encourage water conservation through volumetric billing and step-up model
* Public benefit fund to support green infrastructure
* Local ordinances and policies to reduce stormwater run off
* Development Impact fee to fund management
* Beneficial reuse - work with DEP /State to allow alternate uses of beneficial reuse water.
* Pace program to fund flood resiliency retrofits.
* Staff for SCWC and stable funding to pay salaries for professional and administration

2. Some steps will require funding to be completed; particularly for phase 3 which is estimated at $500,000. How should key steps be paid for?

* Coordination among entities for funding (government, non-profit, grant, foundation, and commercial sources)
* Further explore potential funding through DEP
* Scope of work created (RFP, technical workgroups)

3. Money for permanent staffing for Spring Creek Watershed Commission: How should this be paid for?

* Increase funding, $30,000 too low for coordination and also include funding for professional technical staff.

4. Information will be needed to manage water differently. Key information needs to be obtained and new ways of coordinating across local and regional entities will be critical in future watershed management. How should this occur?

* Coordination of Centre Region Integrated Water Plan with the Spring Creek Plan and Centre County Planning Office
* Develop and maintain institutional memory of how these regulatory and management processes work (info graphic / flow chart of all entities and their processes of how they interact with each other)
* Spring Creek Watershed Atlas Project (springcreekwatershedatlas.org)
* Put data to work right away: vet it early and decisions made by these entities should be more transparent / publicized more
* Understand consequences of decisions more by conducting more studies / more complete data collection
* Creation of a structure made up of stakeholders so that they continue to play a part in decisions (Spring Creek Watershed Association and 10 topics from PSU Law Report). Naturesteps.org, Instream Flow Council, American Rivers Association, Star communities all as an example. Revival of Springs and Sinks newsletter to inform public.
* Environmental education about Spring Creek Watershed as a whole in schools (present in some schools already)
* Involve CNET in public information / transparency