

## **Walt Cressler, Ph.D., Secretary**

"I became interested in working with the watersheds because of the revelation that all of life is connected through water," says CRC Board Secretary Walt Cressler, Ph.D. "Not only is water essential for the functioning of life, but in places like southeastern Pennsylvania, water shapes the very landscape on which we live."

It was about 1999 when Walt began asking around if there was a local watershed stewardship organization, and someone directed him to CRC. The all-volunteer organization did not yet have an executive director or staff. "Cleanups had already been happening and tree plantings were beginning in earnest," he says. "There was also a lot of water monitoring by members back then." Among his many contributions, Walt has led hikes for the CRC Education and Outreach Committee and has written and lectured from his epic histories of the Ridley, Crum and Chester creeks.

Walt is Science Librarian at West Chester University. He received his Ph.D. in geology from the University of Pennsylvania, Master's degrees from Widener University and Drexel University and a Bachelor's degree from Dartmouth College. His hobbies include native plant gardening, birding and other nature study, reading, walking, and local landscape history.

