

News

from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection



Tom Wolf, Governor | John Quigley, Secretary



DEP Calendar of Events

Aug. 12

State Board for Certification of Water and Wastewater Systems Operators meeting, 10 a.m., 10th Floor Conference Room, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Cheri Sansoni, 717-772-5158.

Aug. 12

Aggregate Advisory Board quarterly meeting, 10 a.m., 2nd Floor Training Room, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Daniel E. Snowden, D.Ed., 717-783-8846.

Aug. 12

Water Resources Advisory Committee meeting, 9:30 a.m. – noon, Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Sean Gimbel, 717-783-4693.

Aug. 18

Climate Change Advisory Committee (CCAC) meeting via webinar. Click [here](#) to register. Contact: Mark Brojakowski, 717-772-3429.

Aug. 19

Agricultural Advisory Board meeting, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Susquehanna Room A, DEP South-central Regional Office, 909 Elmerton Ave., Harrisburg. Contact: Tom Juengst, 717-783-7577.

Aug. 26

Pennsylvania Pipeline Infrastructure Task Force meeting, 1 p.m.,

Clean Power Plan Presents New Opportunities for Pennsylvania Energy



DEP Secretary John Quigley was in attendance at the White House for President Obama's Clean Power Plan announcement.

HARRISBURG -- The Environmental Protection Agency on Aug. 3 released the Clean Power Plan. Pennsylvania will use this as an opportunity to write a plan that could improve public health, address climate change, and improve our economy and power system. Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection will give all stakeholders every opportunity to provide input into drafting a Clean Power Plan that is tailored to fit Pennsylvania's economy.

"My administration is committed to making the Clean Power Plan work for Pennsylvania," said Governor Wolf. "Working with the legislature, industry leaders and citizens we will create a plan to ensure these new rules are applied fairly, allow for adjustments, and that they create economic opportunities for the commonwealth's energy economy. Today's plan sets ambitious but achievable goals for reducing carbon emissions statewide and addressing climate change in fair and smart ways that takes into account legitimate concerns of all parties."

Susquehanna Conference Rooms A & B, DEP South-central Regional Office, 909 Elmerton Ave., Harrisburg. Contact: Karyn Yordy, 717-787-2814.

Aug. 26

Cleanup Standards Scientific Advisory Board meeting, 9 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Mike Maddigan, 717-772-3609.

Aug. 28

Conventional Oil and Gas Advisory Committee (COGAC) meeting, 10 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Kurt Klapkowski, 717-772-2199.

Sept. 1

Storage Tank Advisory Committee meeting, 10 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Charles M. Swokel, 717-772-5806.

Sept. 2

Oil and Gas Technical Advisory Board meeting, 10 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Kurt Klapkowski, 717-772-2199.

Sept. 8

Board of Coal Mine Safety meeting, 10 a.m., DEP Cambria Office, 286 Industrial Park Road, Ebensburg. Contact: Allison D. Gaida, 724-404-3147.

Sept. 15

Environmental Quality Board (EQB) meeting, 9 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St. Harrisburg. Contact: Jen Swan, 717-783-8727.

Sept. 15

Citizens Advisory Council meeting, 10 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, Harrisburg. Contact: Jen Swan, 717-783-8727.

Sept. 19

Lake Erie International Coastal Cleanup. There are 17 different volunteer locations in Erie County. register [here](#).

Sept. 22

Sewage Advisory Committee (SAC)

"Pennsylvania is a leader in energy, and we need to do everything in our power to advance the next generation of energy production while protecting jobs in Pennsylvania," continued Governor Wolf. "Clean coal is a part of our energy portfolio, as is natural gas, solar, wind, and other sources of power, and all of this has to be part of a comprehensive strategy. My administration looks forward to working with industry leaders and legislators as well as citizens to find the right balance and develop an effective and responsible state plan."

[Read more.](#)

DEP Assesses \$528,000 Civil Penalty against Waste Management, Inc. for Solid Waste Violations at Bucks County Landfills

NORRISTOWN -- DEP has assessed a \$528,000 penalty against Waste Management, Inc. for three landfills the company owns and operates in Bucks County.

The fine is being assessed for odor nuisance violations at Tullytown Landfill and leachate storage violations at GROWS, GROWS North and Tullytown Landfills. All three landfills are owned and operated by subsidiaries of Waste Management, Inc.

The \$528,000 Consent Assessment of Civil Penalty is to resolve penalty liability related to the frequent and recurring offsite odor nuisances experienced by Florence, New Jersey residents, related to operations at the Tullytown Landfill, as well as leachate storage violations that occurred at all three of the landfills, located in lower Bucks County. Landfill leachate is a liquid, primarily from precipitation, that has permeated or drained through solid waste and must be treated onsite or transported to a treatment facility.

[Read more.](#)

First Human Case of West Nile Virus in 2015 Reported



Crews conduct ultra-low volume treatment to control mosquitoes capable of transmitting West Nile Virus.

HARRISBURG -- Pennsylvania's first probable human case of West Nile Virus (WNV) infection in 2015 has been detected. A Venango county woman was hospitalized due to WNV. She has since been released from the hospital and is recovering at home.

The departments of Health and Environmental Protection strongly recommend that all residents minimize their exposure to mosquitoes.

meeting, 10:30 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: John Diehl, 717-783-2941.

Sept. 23

Pennsylvania Pipeline Infrastructure Task Force meeting, 1 p.m., Susquehanna Conference Rooms A & B, DEP South-central Regional Office, 909 Elmerton Ave., Harrisburg. Contact: Karyn Yordy, 717-787-2814.

Sept. 24

Radiation Protection Advisory Committee meeting, 10 a.m., 14th Floor Conference Room, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Joseph Melnic, 717-783-9730.

Sept. 24

Annual Meeting of Solid Waste Advisory and Recycling Fund Advisory committees, 10 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Richard Ashley, 717-787-2553.



Upcoming Webinars

Aug. 12

Implementation of Category No. 38 of Exemption Criteria Training, 2 p.m. Register [here](#).



Public Input

Aug. 17

Deadline to comment on the Guidelines for the Evaluation of Underground Storage Tank Cathodic Protection Systems (263-4200-002). Contact Kris Shiffer, 717-772-5809.

Aug. 24

Deadline to comment on the Radiation Protection Compliance & Enforcement Guidance. Contact: Joseph Melnic, 717-783-9730.

Sept. 23

Deadline to comment on the Land Recycling Program Technical Guidance Manual for

“Detecting the first human case serves as a great reminder for Pennsylvanians to take the proper precautions when they are outside or near areas where mosquitoes are prevalent,” Secretary of Health Karen Murphy said. “There are some simple steps you can take to protect yourself and your loved ones from mosquito-related diseases.”

Although mosquitoes can bite at any time of day or night, they are most active at dawn and dusk. When outdoors, people can avoid mosquito bites by properly and consistently using DEET-containing insect repellants and covering exposed skin with lightweight clothing. To keep mosquitoes from entering a home, make sure window and door screens are in place and are in good condition.

[Read more.](#)

DEP Accepting Public Comments on Proposed Settlement for Ash Spill into Delaware River

WILKES-BARRE -- DEP is accepting public comment on a proposed settlement for natural resource damages with Talen Generation, LLC, formerly known as PPL Generation, LLC, and Martins Creek, LLC, formerly known as PPL Martins Creek, LLC. The settlement is associated with the August 2005 ash spill at the Martins Creek Steam Electric Station in Lower Mount Bethel Township, Northampton County.

The spill occurred after a wooden stop log in the Ash Basin No. 4 discharge structure failed, causing an estimated 100 million gallons of ash material to spread across local fields and into the Oughoughton Creek and the Delaware River.

“DEP would like to hear from the public on this important and final piece in the resolution of this matter. A significant amount of time and effort has been spent on assessing impacts from the spill and crafting this settlement. We believe this is a sound and well developed approach to addressing the Department’s claims for damages to the natural resources of the region,” said Mike Bedrin, Director of DEP’s Northeast Regional Office in Wilkes-Barre. “Any comments the Department receives will be considered in the final determination of settlement.”

[Read more.](#)

DEP Accepting Applications for Small Business Advantage Grants



Small Business Advantage Grant

HARRISBURG -- DEP invites manufacturers, retailers, service providers, agricultural businesses, and other small businesses to apply for a Small Business Advantage Grant to finance pollution prevention and energy efficiency projects.

The grants provide funding to projects that include auxiliary power units deployed as anti-idling technology for trucks, HVAC and boiler upgrades, high-efficiency lighting, solvent recovery systems and waste recycling systems.

Applicants must be a for-profit corporation, limited liability corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship or other legal entity with 100 or fewer full-time employees. The grant-supported project must be located in Pennsylvania and be owned by the applicant. Eligible projects must save the business a minimum of \$500 and 25 percent annually in energy consumption or pollution related expenses.

Vapor Intrusion into Buildings from Groundwater and Soil under Act 2 (261-0300-101). Contact: Troy Conrad, 717-783-9480.



Speakers Bureau



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DEP Staff Share Environmental Info at Senior Expo



DEP Oil and Gas Water Quality Inspector Terra Tokarz and Community Relations Coordinator Dan Spadoni shared environmental information with attendees.

WELLSBORO -- Thousands of senior citizens from across Tioga, Bradford and Potter counties attended a Senior Expo on Aug. 4 at the Wellsboro Area High School.

The annual event featured more than 75 vendors from federal, state and county agencies; area businesses; and health organizations providing information and answering questions important to senior citizens.

DEP's booth featured information on environmental issues such as air and water quality, West Nile Virus, radon, recycling and more.



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