

News

from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection



Tom Wolf, Governor | Patrick McDonnell, Acting Secretary



DEP Calendar of Events

July 22

Technical Advisory Committee on Diesel-Powered Equipment meeting, 10 a.m., Westmoreland Room, DEP New Stanton Office, 131 Broadview Rd., New Stanton. Contact: Allison D. Gaida, agaida@pa.gov

Aug. 2

Environmental Justice Advisory Board meeting, 8:30 a.m., Waterfront A Conference Room, DEP Southwest Regional Office, 400 Waterfront Dr., Pittsburgh. Contact: Carl Jones, caejone@pa.gov

Aug. 3

Aggregate Advisory Board meeting, 10 a.m., Glenn O. Hawbaker Facility, 118 Bedrock Lane, Pleasant Gap. Contact: Daniel E. Snowden, D.Ed., dsn Snowden@pa.gov

Aug. 4

Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee meeting, 9:15 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Nancy Herb, nherb@pa.gov

Aug. 18

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, csansoni@pa.gov



Speakers Bureau

Governor Wolf Announces \$30 Million for Abandoned Mine Reclamation Projects



One of the 14 projects will reclaim this 45-acre coal refuse pile in Fredericktown, Washington County, that sits within 500 feet of 60 homes.

HARRISBURG -- Governor Wolf on July 15 announced the award of \$30 million for 14 projects to reclaim abandoned mine lands (AML) in 10 Pennsylvania counties. The projects were selected for funding based on their potential to create long-term economic benefits in the coal communities in which they are located.

“When these mines closed, these communities lost jobs and were left with land that was difficult to repurpose,” Governor Wolf said. “This program will help strengthen coal communities and put people back to work, while also improving the environment in these areas.”

[Read more.](#)

DEP Will Require Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority to Implement Measures to Address Lead in Drinking Water

PITTSBURGH -- DEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water staff will oversee and work with Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA) following results showing an action level exceedance from the first round of lead and copper sampling from 100 Tier 1 sites in the Authority's distribution area. An action level exceedance is not a violation but triggers other requirements that include water quality parameter monitoring, corrosion control treatment, source water monitoring, public education and lead service line replacement.

“This is a serious concern, and DEP will be working with PWSA to inform and educate consumers of the risks of lead in drinking water, and find solutions to reduce the lead levels in the water,”



Public Input

July 25

Deadline to comment on Proposed Rulemaking: Water Quality Standards; Sobers Run et al. Stream Redesignations. Contact Rodney Kime, 717-787-7060.

Aug. 2

Deadline to comment on Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Programs; Federal Fiscal Year 2016 Intended Use Plans. Contact Crystal Blair, 717-772-4011.

Aug. 30

Deadline to comment on Proposed Rulemaking: Radiological Health and Radon Certification Fees; Pennsylvania Radon Mitigation System Tag and Fee. Contact Joseph Melnic, 717-783-8075.



Subscribe



DEP's Mission:

to protect Pennsylvania's air, land and water from pollution and to provide for health and safety of its citizens through a cleaner environment.

said Acting DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell. "The top priority is to return the system to below the action level as quickly as possible."

[Read more.](#)

Wolf Administration Distributes Zika Prevention Kits for Pregnant Women



The public service announcement offers simple tips to prevent the spread of the Zika virus.

HARRISBURG -- The Pennsylvania Department of Health has launched the commonwealth's latest initiative to help protect Pennsylvanians from the Zika virus. Prevention Kits for Pregnant Women are being distributed to provide education about the virus and list the steps that can be taken to avoid mosquito bites, as well as prevent the insects from multiplying around homes.

"While Zika is spread primarily by mosquitoes that are infected with the virus, it also can spread through sexual contact with individuals who have the disease," said PA Department of Health Secretary Dr. Karen Murphy. "Because Zika poses serious health risks for babies born to women who contracted the virus during pregnancy, the kits include health education materials and prevention tools to avoid mosquito bites and sexual transmission of the disease to pregnant women. Using the products in the Zika Prevention Kit can help protect you and your loved ones from the virus."

Dr. Murphy and DEP Acting Secretary Patrick McDonnell offer simple tips to help Pennsylvanians prevent the Zika virus in a new public service announcement airing on radio and television stations statewide.

[Click here](#) to view the video.

DEP Invests \$2.2 Million in Stormwater Projects to Improve Local Water Quality



Vegetative curb extensions help cities like Lancaster reduce stormwater runoff.

HARRISBURG -- DEP recently announced the award of more than \$2.2 million in grants to improve urban stormwater management for 19 projects in the Susquehanna River watershed. These grants will fund projects to reduce stormwater runoff through best management practices like stream restoration, rain gardens, and other green infrastructure.

"Reducing stormwater runoff is a key component of improving local water quality," said Acting DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell. "These grants help to improve communities and clean up Pennsylvania's streams and rivers."

[Read more.](#)

Green Infrastructure Projects Help Pennsylvania's Urban Communities Address Environmental Challenges



Lancaster's Brandon Park features a porous basketball court and pavement, bioretention/rain gardens, infiltration trenches and vegetated curb extensions that capture nearly 4 million gallons of runoff each year.

LANCASTER -- Members of the Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) to the DEP, along with legislators, local, state and federal environmental officials, toured eight innovative projects in Lancaster this week to learn how the city has addressed environmental challenges such as stormwater management through the use of green infrastructure.

Green infrastructure uses natural materials such as soil and plants to help increase the amount of water that's absorbed when it rains. It is particularly beneficial in cities or towns that often have more impervious surfaces and fewer natural areas.

Click [here](#) to view the video.

DEP Works with Greenville Reynolds Development Corporation to Help Bring Property Back to Reuse

MEADVILLE -- A recently signed agreement by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Greenville Reynolds Development Corporation (GRDC) and Marcegaglia-USA, Inc. (Marcegaglia) will allow the redevelopment of the 32-acre contaminated property in Pymatuning Township, Mercer County, to move forward.

The Buyer/Seller Agreement addresses the joint cleanup by GRDC and Marcegaglia through Pennsylvania's Land Recycling (Act 2) process. Under the agreement signed June 9, Marcegaglia transferred the property to GRDC at a discounted price as a public benefit. Marcegaglia will also pay \$50,158.87 to the Hazardous Sites Cleanup fund as settlement to cover the DEP's investigation

expenses on the property.

[Read more.](#)

DEP Begins Technical Review of Pennsylvania Pipeline Project Permit Applications

HARRISBURG -- DEP has begun the technical review of all Chapter 102 and 105 permit applications submitted by Sunoco Logistics, Inc. for the Pennsylvania Pipeline Project (PPP), also commonly referred to as Mariner East II.

The PPP is a proposed expansion of the existing Sunoco Mariner East pipeline system. Sunoco recently upgraded its existing Mariner East I pipeline to transport natural gas liquids from Ohio and the Pittsburgh area to its Marcus Hook Facility in Delaware County. Most of the PPP is proposed to follow the same pipeline corridor as Mariner East I and will traverse 17 counties in the southern tier of the state.

[Read more.](#)

DEP and Stonehenge Appalachia LLC agree to \$1.5 Million Civil Penalty for Environmental Violations

MEADVILLE -- DEP and Stonehenge Appalachia LLC, (Stonehenge) have entered a Consent Order and Agreement that includes a \$1.5 million civil penalty assessment for having uncontrolled and unpermitted sediment discharges into wetlands and causing a landslide into a stream in Butler County.

"This type of man-made ecological impact is both egregious and avoidable, and never should have occurred," said Acting DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell. "By this action, Stonehenge accepts both environmental and financial responsibility for their actions."

[Read more.](#)

DEP Revokes Storage Tank Certification of Mott Tank Inspection, Inc.

HARRISBURG -- DEP has revoked the storage tank certification of Mott Tank Inspection, Inc., of Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania.

A statewide DEP investigation found that two employees of Mott Tank Inspection, Inc.—Alden Ayers and Roger Hardy—falsified documents from October 2014 to May 2015, including inspection reports completed by uncertified individuals. As a result of the investigation, both employees agreed to the revocation of their individual DEP-issued tank handling and inspection certifications. Ayers also agreed to revocation of the company certification of D&A Environmental, Inc., as Ayers is president of that firm.

[Read more.](#)

Mining and Reclamation Advisory Board Tour DEP's "Engineered Wetland" Facility at the Flight 93 Memorial Park

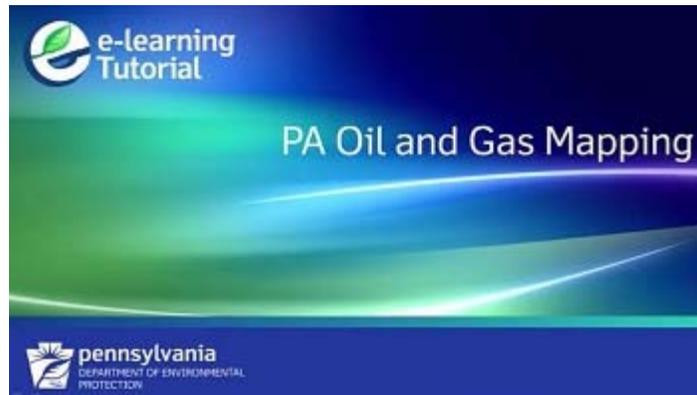
PITTSBURGH -- The Mining and Reclamation Advisory Board (MRAB) toured an innovative mine water treatment facility at the Flight 93 Memorial in Somerset County, on July 20, as part of a tour of mine drainage treatment facilities that have benefited from funds provided by Pennsylvania Surface Mining Conservation and Reclamation Act.

As the Flight 93 Memorial began to take shape, planners faced a problem: seeps of polluted mine water from the abandoned coal

mines that were below the site. Simply pumping the water into a nearby creek would have been unlawful because the water contained a high amount of iron and manganese, so a treatment plan had to be devised.

[Read more.](#)

New GIS Application and Tutorial to Help Users Find Information



DEP's new online tutorial walks users through how to use the new Oil and Gas Well Mapping GIS application.

HARRISBURG -- DEP this week released an updated version of a GIS application that allows users to learn information and download reports about oil and gas wells in Pennsylvania. DEP also released a new video tutorial that explains how to use the PA Oil and Gas Well Mapping application and what information is available to retrieve. The video is available on DEP's YouTube Channel.

"This updated Oil and Gas Well Mapping application puts information about both conventional and unconventional oil and gas wells at your fingertips," DEP Acting Secretary Patrick McDonnell said. "Making such data available and easy to use promotes transparency and allows the public to generate the information they want on demand."

[Read more.](#)

