

News

from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection



Tom Wolf, Governor | John Quigley, Secretary



DEP Calendar of Events

Oct. 20

LED Street Lighting Workshop for Municipal Officials, 9 a.m., Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr., Erie. Contact: Geoff Bristow, 814-332-6681

Oct. 21

LED Street Lighting Workshop for Municipal Officials, 9 a.m., Cranberry Highlands Golf Course, 5601 Freshcorn Rd., Cranberry Township. Contact: Geoff Bristow, 814-332-6681

Oct. 22

Mining and Reclamation Advisory Board meeting, 10 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Daniel E. Snowden, 717-783-8846

Oct. 22

Clean Power Plan Listening Session, 6 p.m., Trumbower 130, Muhlenberg College, 2238 Chew St., Allentown. Contact: Jen Swan, 717-783-8727

Oct. 23

Aggregate Advisory Board - Regulatory, Legislative and Technical (RLT) Committee Meeting, 9 a.m., 12th Floor Conference Room, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Daniel Snowden, 717-783-8846

Oct. 26

EPA Brownfields Grant Writing Workshop for FY16 Guidelines, 1-4 p.m., Susquehanna Room A, DEP South-central Regional Office, 909

Secretary Quigley Discusses the Clean Power Plan, Environmental Justice, and More with the York Daily Record Editorial Board



Secretary Quigley speaks to the YDR Editorial Board.

YORK -- DEP Secretary John Quigley joined the York Daily Record's Editorial Board ahead of the Oct. 5 Clean Power Plan listening session. Secretary Quigley highlighted DEP's efforts to listen to people across the state in order to write a Pennsylvania-specific plan to control carbon emissions. He underscored the vital role that citizens in environmental justice areas – areas where 20 percent or more individuals live in poverty, and/or 30 percent or more of the population is minority – will play in shaping the state's Clean Power Plan. DEP has held eight Clean Power Plan listening sessions thus far; the next session is on Oct. 22 in Allentown.

Secretary Quigley emphasized DEP's role in "creating a culture of compliance" across Pennsylvania. DEP plays a critical role in the lives of Pennsylvanians, as the agency that protects the state's air, land, water, and public health. He mentioned that part of the creation of that culture involves updating and increasing DEP's technology in order to streamline permitting processes. The secretary concluded by reiterating his commitment to transparency and integrity.

To watch the Secretary's editorial board meeting, visit DEP's [YouTube Channel](#).

Chinese Delegation Visits DEP's New Stanton Office

Elmerton Ave.,
Harrisburg. Contact: Kim
Hoover, 717-787-8623

Oct. 27

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

Oct. 28

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

Oct. 28

Clean Power Plan
Listening Session, 6 p.m.,
John E. Morgan
Auditorium, Penn State
Schuylkill, 200 University
Dr., Schuylkill Haven.
Contact: Jen Swan, 717-
783-8727

Oct. 29

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

Oct. 29

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

Oct. 29

Clean Power Plan
Listening Session, 6 p.m.,
Hirt Auditorium at Blasco
Library, 160 East Front
St., Erie. Contact: Jen
Swan, 717-783-8727

Oct. 30

Clean Power Plan
Listening Session, 9 a.m.,
Gemmell Student Center
Multi-Purpose Room, 2nd
Floor, Clarion University,
Corner of Payne St. and
Wilson Ave. Clarion.
Contact: Jen Swan, 717-
783-8727

Oct. 30

Clean Power Plan
Listening Session, 2 p.m.,
7 Hiller Building
Auditorium, Penn State
Dubois, 1 College Place,



Members of a delegation from China learn about mine safety techniques.

NEW STANTON -- This week, 25 delegates of the China State Administration of Coal Mine Safety sponsored by the Sino-Canada Technology Exchange Centre/Markham in Ontario Canada visited DEP's New Stanton Office to meet with members of the Bureau of Mine Safety.

The group came to learn about mine safety technologies such as radio-frequency identification and information management systems to enhance mine safety enforcement and mine rescue efforts in their home country.

The group's leader, Chang Jinjun, Deputy Director General, was accompanied by other directors, chief engineers, and managers from various Chinese provinces to view the presentation.

DEP Accepting Applications for 2016 Environmental Education Grants



Students enjoy learning about falcons during DEP's annual banding event in May.

HARRISBURG -- Projects and programs geared toward environmental education are now eligible to apply for DEP's Environmental Education Grants. Schools, colleges and universities, county conservation districts, nonprofit organizations, municipalities, and businesses can apply for the grants.

Eligible projects include, but are not limited to, teacher professional development; curriculum integration; outdoor learning resources, such as trails, shelters, streamside plantings, and educational programming; transportation to field study sites; water chemistry testing equipment; and educational events. Grants are awarded for up to \$3,000.

For more information, or to apply for a grant, click [here](#).

Dubois. Contact: Jen Swan, 717-783-8727

Oct. 30

LED Street Lighting Workshop for Municipal Officials, 9 a.m., Celebration Hall, 2280 Commercial Blvd., State College. Contact: Geoff Bristow, 814-332-6681

Nov. 3

Climate Change Advisory Committee meeting, 10 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Mark Brojakowski, 717-772-3429

Nov. 4

Clean Power Plan Listening Session, 6 p.m., Mountain Laurel Room, Penn College, 1 College Ave., Williamsport. Contact: Jen Swan, 717-783-8727

Nov. 5

Environmental Justice Advisory Board Meeting, 8:30 a.m., Delaware Room, 16th Floor, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Katy Hetherington, 717-705-2693

Nov. 5

Certification Program Advisory Committee meeting, 9 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Cheryl Sansoni, 717-772-5158

Nov. 5

Southeast Regional Roundtable, 10 a.m., Southeast Regional Office, 2 E. Main St., Norristown. Contact: Virginia Cain, 484-250-5808

Nov. 9

LED Street Lighting Workshop, 10 a.m., Cabela's Conference Center, 100 Cabela Dr., Hamburg. Contact: Geoff Bristow, 814-332-6681

Nov. 10

Aggregate Advisory Board Meeting, 10 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Daniel Snowden, 717-783-8846



Public Input

Oct. 26

Deadline to comment on the Nutrient Credit

DEP Staff Participate in First-Ever Columbia County Water Education Day

WILLIAMSPORT -- Six North-central Regional Office staff: John Ryder, Jared Dressler, Dave Rebeck, Steve Means, Derik Dressler, and Cheryl Sinclair, led stations on groundwater, general water quality, and fish ecology at the first Columbia County Water Education Day on Sept. 16 at Briar Creek Park near Berwick, Columbia County.

They helped 507 eighth grade students from six school districts better understand water sources, how it becomes polluted, and the connection between land and water through tools like groundwater models, stream tables, and macro-invertebrate analysis. The theme was "Good Water = Good Life."

The Columbia-Montour Coalition for Source Water Protection and the Columbia County Conservation District coordinated the event through a grant from Pennsylvania American Water. Other participants included the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Natural Resource Conservation Service, PA American Water, Bloomsburg University, Pennsylvania Rural Water Association, United Water, Larson Design Group, and three local watershed groups.

DEP Chemist Speaks to Students During Career Day

MECHANICSBURG -- This week, DEP's June Black visited Good Hope Middle School of Cumberland Valley School District in Mechanicsburg, Cumberland County to talk to 8th grade students about careers in science. Black is the Organic Chemistry Section Chief at DEP's Bureau of Laboratories.

Black spoke to the students about the types of work done by scientists, careers in science, and recommended high school and college courses for students wishing to pursue a career in science. She also discussed graduate degrees and when or if they are needed. The students participated in a question and answer session following Black's presentation.

After career day, Black commented that the students were "bright and inquisitive." She looks forward to speaking again next year.



DEP's June Black speaks to students during career day.

DEP Reaches Civil Penalty Agreement with Microbac's Division Laboratory – Center Valley

HARRISBURG -- DEP announced last week it fined Microbac Laboratories, Inc. for violations found at its Center Valley laboratory for a total of \$125,000.

Trading Program
Certification Request:
Energy Works, Adams
County; CAFO layer
manure from Hillendale
Farms. Contact Jay
Braund, 717-772-5636

Nov. 2

Deadline to comment on
Remining Requirements.
Contact:
ecomment@pa.gov.

Nov. 4

Deadline to comment on
the 2015 Pennsylvania
Climate Impacts
Assessment Update.
Contact: 717-783-8727

Nov. 12

Deadline to comment on
Pennsylvania's Path to
Compliance with EPA's
Final Rule for Carbon
Pollution Emissions
Guidelines for Existing
Sources: EGUs (Clean
Power Plan). Contact:
ecomment@pa.gov.



**Speakers
Bureau**



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DEP's Laboratory Accreditation Program conducted a regularly scheduled on-site assessment of Microbac – Center Valley in October 2014, and found that the laboratory's management was not providing adequate oversight and training of the laboratory's microbiology personnel. In addition, there were numerous violations found during the data review of the microbiological testing areas of the laboratory.

[Read more.](#)

Students Demonstrate Robotics to Bureau of Mine Safety Staff

NEW STANTON -- On October 8, DEP's Bureau of Mine Safety hosted Cornerstone Christian Prep School's Robotic Team at their New Stanton Office in Westmoreland County. The students shared robotic equipment they developed to aid in mining efforts.

The equipment was a remote controlled unit. There are several similar units, like continuous mining machines, that are already used in underground mining. Robots have also been used during mining emergencies when conditions are not favorable for rescue personnel.

The team was comprised of 24 high school students. They will soon show their project at a competition in Grove City, Mercer County. They hope to make it to the national finals in North Dakota.

Gerald C. Smith Water Treatment Plant Receives the "Presidents Award" from the Partnership for Safe Water



PA American Water's Gerald C. Smith Water Treatment Plant in Hershey.

HARRISBURG -- The PA American Water Company's Gerald C. Smith Water Treatment Plant in Hershey, Dauphin County recently received the "Presidents Award" from the Partnership for Safe Water (PFSW) for achieving stringent individual filter performance goals for turbidity.

The Hershey plant is the 10th plant in Pennsylvania to receive this distinction. There are four phases to the PFSW. The President's Award is an intermediate award between Phase III and Phase IV and is a significant stepping stone toward accomplishing the highest possible level of performance that can be achieved in the program, Phase IV. Only two plants in Pennsylvania have achieved Phase IV.

The PFSW is comprised of DEP, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Pennsylvania Section American Water Works Association, and other national drinking water organizations. Its goal is to implement preventative measures to optimize treatment plant performance and protect of public health.

Only 23 water treatment plants in the U.S. have received the President's Award. For more information, contact Kevin Anderson at 717-783-9764 or keanderson@pa.gov. Information is also available [here](#).



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