

News

from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection



Tom Wolf, Governor | John Quigley, Secretary



DEP Calendar of Events

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. 10

DEP Northwest Regional Roundtable meeting, 10-11:30 a.m., DEP Northwest Regional Office, 230 Chestnut St., Meadville. Contact: Melanie Williams, 814-332-6615.

Sept. 12

DEP Northwest Regional Roundtable meeting, 10 a.m., DEP Northwest Regional Office, 230 Chestnut St., Meadville. Contact: Melanie Williams, 814-332-6945.

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. 15

DEP listening session about Pennsylvania's compliance with EPA's Clean Power Plan, 6-9 p.m., DEP South-central Regional Office, 909 Elmerton Ave., Harrisburg. Call 717-783-8727 one week prior to reserve a time to testify.

Sept. 16

DEP to Hold 14 Listening Sessions on the Clean Power Plan

HARRISBURG -- DEP is announcing more than a dozen listening sessions and a two-month comment period on the federal Clean Power Plan to hear from Pennsylvanians about the plan to cut carbon pollution. Fourteen listening sessions in locations across the state will take place between September and November.

"We want to hear from the people of Pennsylvania and all stakeholders as we prepare a Pennsylvania-centric plan to comply with the Clean Power Plan," said DEP Secretary John Quigley. "Governor Wolf is committed to making the Clean Power Plan work for Pennsylvania and these listening sessions will help meet that goal. We strongly believe we can reduce carbon emissions statewide and address climate change in fair and smart ways that take into account legitimate concerns of all parties."

In addition to the listening sessions, DEP will accept comments on Pennsylvania's compliance with EPA's Clean Power Plan (CPP) through Nov. 12, 2015. DEP is soliciting comments on the Clean Energy Incentive Program component of the CPP and on the EPA-proposed federal plan that serves as a model rule for states developing their state plans. DEP is also soliciting comments on specific compliance related questions which are available on DEP's website.

[Read more.](#)

Pa. Climate Impacts Assessment Report Shows Threats to Human Health, Water and Air Quality

HARRISBURG -- Pennsylvanians should prepare for dangerously high summer temperatures and more severe storms, increased threat of certain diseases carried by insects, and drastic changes to agriculture and water quality, according to a new report on the impact of climate change from Penn State University. The report was authored by Dr. James Shortle with assistance from a multidisciplinary team of colleagues at Penn State.

The Pennsylvania Climate Change Act (PCCA) (Act 70), enacted by the General Assembly in 2008, directed Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to conduct a study of the potential impacts of global climate change on Pennsylvania over the next century. This report is the second update to the original report published in 2009.

[Read more.](#)

DEP public hearing on Hilcorp Energy Corp.'s request to waive the 330 foot setback as required by the Oil and Gas Conservation Law (OGCL) 58 P.S. 401-409 regarding the Pulaski-Chrastina 8H wellbore, API No. 073-20526, in Pulaski Township, Lawrence County, 6-9 p.m., First floor conference room, DEP Northwest Regional Office, 230 Chestnut St., Meadville. Contact: Melanie Williams, 814-332-6615.

Sept. 19

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

Sept. 21

DEP listening session about Pennsylvania's compliance with EPA's Clean Power Plan, 6-9 p.m., Singleton Room, Roberts Hall, Carnegie Mellon University, 5000 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh. Call 717-783-8727 one week prior to reserve a time to testify.

Sept. 21

DEP public hearing on the Proposed State Implementation Plan Revision: 2011 Base Year Emissions Inventory for the Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, Lancaster, Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City (Pennsylvania Portion), Pittsburgh-Beaver Valley, and Reading Nonattainment Areas for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards, Delaware River Room, 1 p.m., DEP Southeast Regional Office, 2 East Main St., Norristown. Contact: Alex Haas, 717-787-9495.

Sept. 21

DEP public hearing on the Proposed State Implementation Plan Revision: 2011 Base Year Emissions Inventory for the Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, Lancaster, Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City (Pennsylvania Portion), Pittsburgh-Beaver Valley, and Reading Nonattainment Areas for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards, 1 p.m., Room Waterfront A, DEP Southwest Regional Office, 400 Waterfront Dr., Pittsburgh. Contact: Alex Haas, 717-787-9495.

Secretary Quigley Convenes Second Meeting of Gov. Wolf's Pipeline Infrastructure Taskforce



DEP Secretary John Quigley chairs the taskforce.

HARRISBURG -- The second meeting of Governor Tom Wolf's Pipeline Infrastructure Taskforce, chaired by DEP Secretary John Quigley, was held in Harrisburg on Aug. 26.

The meeting included presentations from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and officials from several Pennsylvania counties.

The group of 48 experts and stakeholders will recommend policies, guidelines and best practices to guide the anticipated and unprecedented build-out of pipeline infrastructure expected to take place across Pennsylvania during the next decade. The group's report is due to Governor Tom Wolf by February 2016.

Video of the meeting is available on [DEP's YouTube Channel](#).

Pa.'s Schuylkill River Trail Named Nation's Best Urban Trail



DCNR Secretary Cindy Dunn, PENNDOT Secretary Leslie Richards and DEP Secretary John Quigley attended the Sept. 2 celebration event.

PHILADELPHIA -- DEP Secretary John Quigley joined other state and local officials on Sept. 2 to celebrate the Schuylkill River Trail being named *USA TODAY*'s Best Urban Trail.

USA TODAY's 10Best Readers' Choice Award for Best Urban Trail featured trails from across the country. A panel of travel and outdoor recreation experts nominated 20 trail systems located near major U.S. cities and turned to *USA TODAY* and 10Best readers to vote for their favorite trail. The Schuylkill River Trail's win is a testament to its popularity for locals and tourists alike, and the

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Sept. 22

DEP listening session about Pennsylvania's compliance with EPA's Clean Power Plan, 9 a.m.–noon, Heritage Hall A, Conference Center at Pitt-Johnstown, 450 Schoolhouse Rd., Johnstown. Call 717-783-8727 one week prior to reserve a time to testify.

Sept. 22

DEP listening session about Pennsylvania's compliance with EPA's Clean Power Plan, 6-9 p.m., Waynesburg Central High School Auditorium, 30 Zimmerman Dr., Waynesburg. Call 717-783-8727 one week prior to reserve a time to testify.

Sept. 22

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

Sept. 22

Aggregate Advisory Board's Regulatory, Legislative and Technical Subcommittee meeting, 8 a.m., 8th Floor Conference Room, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market Street, Harrisburg. Contact: Daniel Snowden, 717-783-8846.

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

region's dedication to improving access to multi-use trails and public space.

The Schuylkill River Trail is the region's most heavily used multi-use, recreation and commuter trail and maintains a strong reputation as not only a local amenity, but a tourist attraction as well. When complete, the Schuylkill River Trail is projected to be nearly 130 miles long, connecting five Pennsylvania counties, and will be a key corridor of the Circuit Trail Network and the East Coast Greenway. Currently 300 miles of completed trails, the Circuit is a planned 750-mile network of bicycle and pedestrian trails connecting people to jobs, communities, parks, and rivers in the Greater Philadelphia Region.

To view a video about the project, visit [DEP's YouTube Channel](#).

EPA Brownfields Grants will Help Revitalize Pittsburgh Properties



DEP Secretary John Quigley, left, joins officials from EPA and the North Side Industrial Development Company at the check presentation event.

PITTSBURGH -- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has awarded \$400,000 in brownfields grants to Pittsburgh's North Side Industrial Development Company (NSIDC). The funding will be used to assess abandoned industrial sites in Pittsburgh that may be potentially contaminated with hazardous substances so that they can be cleaned up and redeveloped.

Brownfields are properties where real or suspected environmental contamination has prevented productive reuse of those properties.

DEP Secretary John Quigley spoke at the Aug. 24 event, along with EPA Regional Administrator Shawn Garvin.

"This funding will help NSIDC and the city of Pittsburgh reclaim properties that have been unused for years and turn those sites into assets for the community, the environment and the economy," Garvin said. "Brownfields initiatives demonstrate how environmental protection and economic development work hand-in-hand."

Click [here](#) for information about environmental assessment grants.

Johnstown Works to Solve Sanitary Sewer Overflow Problem

PITTSBURGH -- DEP on Aug. 31 approved a Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) Abatement Plan for the City of Johnstown, to relieve the overload conditions that are the main cause of sanitary sewer overflows in heavy rains.

"Johnstown is to be commended for devising a storm water control plan that will serve the city and surrounding communities for years to come," said Susan Malone, DEP's Southwest Regional Director. "Eliminating sewer overflow is one of the best ways to ensure clean

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.

Sept. 28

DEP listening session about Pennsylvania's compliance with EPA's Clean Power Plan, 6-9 p.m., Henry Student Center Ballroom, 2nd Floor, Wilkes University, 84 West South St. Wilkes-Barre. Call 717-783-8727 one week prior to reserve a time to testify.

Sept. 30

DEP listening session about Pennsylvania's compliance with EPA's Clean Power Plan, 1 p.m.– 4 p.m., Fisher Fine Arts Building, Room 401, Kleinman Center, University of Pennsylvania, 220 South 34th St., Philadelphia. Contact: 717-783-8727 one week prior to reserve a time to testify.

Sept. 30

DEP listening session about Pennsylvania's compliance with EPA's Clean Power Plan, 6-9 p.m., Marcus Hook Community Center, 7 West Delaware Ave., Marcus Hook. Call 717-783-8727 one week prior to reserve a time to testify.

Oct. 2

Low-Level Waste Advisory Committee (LLWAC) meeting, 10 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Rich Janati, 717-787-2147.

Oct. 5

DEP listening session about Pennsylvania's compliance with EPA's Clean Power Plan, 2-5 p.m., Crystal Ballroom, White Rose Event Center, Wyndham Garden York, 2000 Loucks Rd., York. Call 717-783-8727 one week prior to reserve a time to testify.

water for the people of Johnstown and their neighbors downstream.”

[Read more.](#)

DEP Returns Clean Earth's Application for the Wellsboro-Johnston Airport Project in Tioga County

WILLIAMSPORT -- DEP announced Aug. 28 that it is returning the NPDES permit application for stormwater construction to Clean Earth Inc. related to the company's proposed use of treated drill cuttings for fill at the Wellsboro-Johnston Airport in Tioga County.

“Clean Earth has not fully responded to the deficiencies in the application and has agreed that the application should be withdrawn for the Tioga County project,” said DEP North-central Regional Director Marcus Kohl. “The department is deeming it withdrawn and returning it.”

[Read more.](#)

Work to Extinguish Mine Fire in Carbon County Continues to Progress

WILKES-BARRE -- DEP is continuing drilling work to map the limits of the Jeansville mine fire in Banks Township, Carbon County.

“DEP's Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation is continuing to monitor the progress of efforts to extinguish this mine fire,” said John Stefanko, deputy secretary for Office of Active and Abandoned Mine Operations. “We are working with the contractor to complete the exploratory drilling work as fast as is safely possible.”

[Read more.](#)

Lehigh County Farmer Recognized for Commitment to Water Quality



Joel Loch and his wife Brenda display a proclamation they received commemorating their Clean Water Farm Award.

NEW SMITHVILLE -- State officials this week visited Lehigh County and honored a family farm for its investments to improve water quality.

Joel Loch, a four-generation dairy farmer in Weisenberg Township, received a 2015 Clean Water Farm award from the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts. Pennsylvania State Conservation Commission Executive Director Karl Brown and DEP Deputy Secretary for Water Management Kelly Heffner presented him with the award. They then toured the operation, viewing the

Oct. 8

Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee meeting, 9:15 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Nancy Herb, 717-783-9269.

Oct. 13

Water Systems Technical Assistance Center Board meeting, 9 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market Street, Harrisburg. Contact: Dawn Hissner, 717-772-2189.

Oct. 22

DEP listening session about Pennsylvania's compliance with EPA's Clean Power Plan, 6-9 p.m., Muhlenberg College, Trumbower 130, 2238 Chew Street, Allentown. Call 717-783-8727 one week prior to reserve a time to testify.



Upcoming Webinars

Sept. 9

DEP Webinar on Pennsylvania's compliance with EPA's Clean Power Plan, 10 a.m. Register [here](#).

Sept. 16

DEP and the Pa. Recycling Markets Center webinar on E-Scrap Contracting for Municipal Governments., 10 a.m. Register [here](#).

Oct. 8

DEP and the Pa. Recycling Markets Center webinar on E-Scrap Contracting for Municipal Governments., 11 a.m. Register [here](#).

Oct. 27

DEP and the Pa. Recycling Markets Center webinar on E-Scrap Contracting for Municipal Governments., 1 p.m. Register [here](#).



Public Input

Sept. 8

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

Sept. 11

Deadline to comment on the Nutrient Credit Trading Program Certification Request: Lycoming Conservation District (Lycoming

best management practices firsthand.

"Improvements to Pennsylvania's water quality start at the farm level with forward-thinking producers like Joel," said Brown. "This is the ideal success story – Joel approached his county conservation district to voluntarily implement cost-effective and simple best management practices to the creek on his property that will improve water quality downstream."

Loch operates a 65-cow dairy and 300-bird poultry farm with nearly 138 acres of cropland and nearly 20 acres of pasture. The farm is also in Pennsylvania's farmland preservation program.

Annual Surveillance Program Shows Most Stores Complying with Lead Ban Act

HARRISBURG -- DEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water recently completed its annual Lead Ban Surveillance Program to educate the plumbing supply industry about the requirements of the Lead Ban Act.

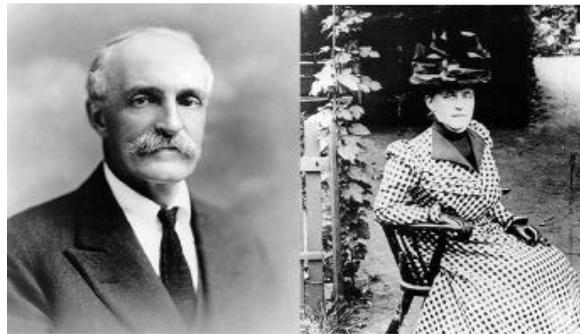
The Pennsylvania Plumbing System Lead Ban and Notification Act was enacted in 1989 and prohibits the sale or use of 50/50 or 85/15 tin-lead acid core or solid wire solders or any leaded solder that does not contain a warning statement on the label. The Lead Ban Act also restricts the sale and use of all other leaded solders to non-plumbing use only.

This summer, DEP interns visited hardware stores, home centers and other retail facilities that sell solder to gather data used to determine whether banned solder is sold and whether restricted solder is properly labeled and is not sold in the plumbing section.

Of the 392 stores visited, 323 sell solder. Most of the 323 stores were selling lead-free solder and 57 percent sell only lead free solder. In 2015, only 7 percent of the stores selling solder were in violation of the Lead Ban Act: 5 percent were selling banned solder and 2 percent were selling restricted solder in the plumbing section with no stores selling both banned and restricted solder in the plumbing section.

The final report for 2015 is available [here](#).

Pennsylvania's Conservation Heritage Subject of Documentaries, Panel Discussion



The documentaries feature conservationists Gifford Pinchot, left, and Mira Lloyd Dock, right.

HARRISBURG -- The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, the Pennsylvania Conservation Heritage Project, and the Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Professionals are hosting a preview of WITF-TV's new short documentaries on Pennsylvania conservation legends Gifford Pinchot and Mira Lloyd Dock.

The viewing will be held at 12:15 p.m., Sept. 15 at the State

County) on behalf of Jim McCoy Farms. Contact: Jay Braund, 717-772-5636.

Sept. 11

Deadline to comment on the Nutrient Credit Trading Program Certification Request: Lycoming Conservation District (Lycoming County) on behalf of Harry Rogers. Contact: Jay Braund, 717-772-5636.

Sept. 11

Deadline to comment on the Nutrient Credit Trading Program Certification Request: Lycoming Conservation District (Columbia County) on behalf of GNH Farms. Contact: Jay Braund, 717-772-5636.

Sept. 11

Deadline to comment on the Nutrient Credit Trading Program Certification Request: Lycoming Conservation District (Sullivan County) on behalf of Lambert Farms. Contact: Jay Braund, 717-772-5636.

Sept. 11

Deadline to comment on the Nutrient Credit Trading Program Certification Request: Lycoming Conservation District (Lycoming and Tioga County) on behalf of Bishcroft Farms. Contact: Jay Braund, 717-772-5636.

Sept. 11

Deadline to comment on the Nutrient Credit Trading Program Certification Request: Lycoming Conservation District (Clinton County) on behalf of Schrack Farms. Contact: Jay Braund, 717-772-5636.

Sept. 14

Deadline to comment on the Draft Reclamation Fee Fiscal Year Report (2014-2015). Contact: William Allen, Jr., 717-787-5103.

Sept. 21

Deadline to comment on the Proposed SIP Revision: 2011 Base Year Inventory for the Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, Lanc, Phila-Wilmington-AC, Pitt-Beaver Valley, and Reading for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS. Contact: Alex Haas, 717-787-9495.

Sept. 23

Museum of Pennsylvania in Harrisburg. The videos will be followed by an informative panel discussion on the challenges of conservation leadership featuring Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Secretary Cindy Dunn and DEP Secretary John Quigley. The event is free.



Follow DEP on Twitter! @PennsylvaniaDEP

Deadline to comment on the Land Recycling Program Technical Guidance Manual for Vapor Intrusion into Buildings from Groundwater and Soil under Act 2 (261-0300-101). Contact: Troy Conrad, 717-783-9480.

Sept. 28

Deadline to comment on Nutrient Credit Trading Program Certification Request: Unlimited Renewables (Lancaster County), CAFO layer manure from Esbenshade and Kreider farms. Contact: Jay Braund, 717-772-5636.

Oct. 13

Deadline to comment on the Proposed Rulemaking: Control of VOC Emissions from Miscellaneous Metal Parts Surface Coating Processes, Miscellaneous Plastic Parts Surface Coating Processes and Pleasure Craft Surface Coatings. Contact: Kirit Dalal, 717-772-3436.

Oct. 13

Deadline to comment on the Proposed Rulemaking: Control of VOC Emissions from Automobile and Light-Duty Truck Assembly Coating Operations and Heavier Vehicle Coating Operations. Contact: Kirit Dalal, 717-772-3436.

Oct. 14

Deadline to comment on the Modification of Residual Waste General Permit WMGR052. Contact: 717-787-7381.

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 compliance with EPA's Clean Power Plan. Use the [eComment](#) tool.



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