

News

from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection



Tom Wolf, Governor | Patrick McDonnell, Acting Secretary



DEP Calendar of Events

Oct. 5

Renovo Energy Center LLC public information meeting to discuss environmental approvals required for a proposed 950-megawatt natural gas-fired power plant, 6:30-8 p.m., Western Clinton County Recreation Authority building, 222 St. Clair Ave., Renovo. Contact Daniel Spadoni, 570-327-3659.

Oct. 7

Low Level Radioactive Waste Advisory Committee meeting, 10 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Rich Janati, rjanati@pa.gov

Oct. 12

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

Oct. 13

Radiation Protection Advisory Committee meeting, 9 a.m., 14th floor conference room, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Joe Melnic, jmelnic@pa.gov

Oct. 13

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

Gov. Wolf Nominates Patrick McDonnell to Serve Permanently as Secretary of Environmental Protection



DEP Acting Secretary Patrick McDonnell

HARRISBURG -- Governor Tom Wolf has nominated Acting Secretary of Environmental Protection Patrick McDonnell to serve permanently in that role, pending approval by the Pennsylvania Senate.

"In his acting capacity and throughout his career, Patrick has been a dedicated steward of the environment and a leader in advancing Pennsylvania's energy development in a responsible way," Governor Wolf said. "I trust Patrick to lead the Department of Environmental Protection in a way that protects our commonwealth's land, water and air and ensures the department continues to make progress in the areas of innovation, responsible development and working with legislators, industry and advocates in a collaborative and productive way."

[Read more.](#)

DEP Announces Next Phase of Lock Haven Court Remediation in Clinton County

WILLIAMSPORT -- DEP has announced that the next phase of the Lock Haven Court remediation being done with funding from the state's Hazardous Sites Cleanup Act (HSCA) fund will begin in

Oct. 18

Environmental Quality Board meeting 9 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Jennifer Swan, jswan@pa.gov

Oct. 18

Citizens Advisory Council meeting, 10 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Glenda Davidson, gldavidson@pa.gov

Oct. 26

Small Business Compliance Advisory Committee meeting, 10 a.m., 12th Floor Conference Room, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Nancy Herb, nherb@pa.gov

Nov. 2

Conventional Oil and Gas Advisory Committee meeting, 10 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Kurt Klapkowski, kklapkowski@pa.gov

Nov. 3

Oil and Gas Technical Advisory Board meeting, 10 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market Street, Harrisburg. Contact: Kurt Klapkowski, kklapkowski@pa.gov



Speakers Bureau



Public Input

Oct. 3

Deadline to comment on Federal Consistency under the Coastal Zone Management Act; Uniform National Discharge Standards for Vessels of the Armed Forces — Phase II Batch One. Contact: Matthew Walderon, RA-Fed.Consistency@pa.gov

Oct. 3

Deadline to comment on Environmental Assessment Approval for PENNVEST Funding Consideration Fall 2016. Contact: Richard Wright, riwright@pa.gov

October.

“This important remediation of legacy contamination from the defunct Karnish Instruments plant has been ongoing since 2008,” DEP North-central Regional Director Marcus Kohl said. “The department is committed to ensuring that all current and future residents of Lock Haven Court will have a safe, environmentally secure place to live.”

The next remediation phase will involve the construction of a new apartment building, which will be followed by demolition of the existing apartment building so that an isolated area of radium-contaminated soil can be removed.

[Read more.](#)

DEP Reminds Pool Owners to Handle Waste Water Responsibly

Did you know? Chlorine is harmful to aquatic life!

When you drain your swimming pool this year, make sure to #ProtectPennsylvania

TIPS FOR SWIMMING POOL DRAINAGE:

- If the municipal authority grants permission, pool water may be disposed of through the sanitary sewer system.
- If a sanitary sewer is not available, the water can be used for irrigation provided it does not run off the property or into a storm sewer.
- If you're lowering the level of your pool, let it drain on your lawn to prevent it from running off into the storm drain.
- Never dispose of pool water through a storm sewer, which would discharge into a stream.

For more tips and guidelines, search "pool" at www.dep.pa.gov.

#ProtectPennsylvania www.dep.pa.gov

HARRISBURG -- In an effort to help protect stream health and aquatic life, DEP reminds private and public pool owners, as well as pool management companies, how to properly close their swimming pools for the season.

Discharged pool water and waters containing chlorine or other chemicals can be detrimental to aquatic life if not handled responsibly. It is extremely important that these waters are handled correctly. Pool waters must not be discharged to any storm sewer or land in which a storm sewer is accessible. Runoff can cause fish kills and unsafe aquatic conditions.

[Read more.](#)

DEP Hosting Public Information Meeting Oct. 5 on Renovo Power Plant in Clinton County

WILLIAMSPORT -- DEP will hold a public information meeting from 6:30-8 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 5 to discuss all environmental approvals required for a natural gas power plant proposed by Renovo Energy Center LLC in Renovo Borough.

The meeting will be held at the Western Clinton County Recreation Authority building, 222 St. Clair Avenue, Renovo.

[Read more.](#)

DEP Staff Get Up-close Look at Off-Shore Wind Farm

Oct. 3

Deadline to comment on Federal Consistency under the Coastal Zone Management Act; Dredging Permit Extension at Lake Erie. Contact: Matthew Walderon, RA-Fed_Consistency@pa.gov

Oct. 3

Deadline to comment on the Draft Fiscal Year Report for the Reclamation Fee O&M Trust Account. Contact: [eComment](#).

Oct. 8

Deadline to comment on Nutrient Credit Trading Program Certification Requests: Chesapeake Nutrient Management (Esbenshade Farms) Ralpho Township, Lancaster County. Contact: Jay Braun, jbraund@pa.gov



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.



Hayley Book, Deputy Director of DEP's Office of Policy, toured the Block Island Wind farm test project.

PROVIDENCE, R.I. -- Staff from DEP's Policy and Energy offices attended a tour of the nation's first off-shore wind farm on Sept. 14 as part of the annual meeting for the National Association of State Energy Officials in Providence, Rhode Island.

Deepwater Wind has developed the Block Island Wind Farm, the first offshore wind farm in the United States, off the coast of Rhode Island. Construction is completed, and it is expected to begin operation by the end of the year.

The Block Island Wind Farm has five 6-megawatt wind turbines that will supply most of Block Island's power. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, this small test project will generate enough electricity to power 17,000 homes in New England.

There are over 2,000 wind turbines off the coast of Europe, but these are the first so far in the United States.

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement Honors DEP for Greene County Project



Left to right: John Stefanko, DEP; Joe Pizarchik, OSMRE Director; Eric Cavazza, Pat Webb, Tom Malesky, Dean Baker, DEP Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation

BOZEMAN, MONT. -- The U.S. Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) this week recognized DEP for its work to reclaim the Mather refuse pile embankment and surface fire in Morgan Township, Greene County. The project titled, Mather, Reclaiming a Company Town, received the Appalachian Regional Award.

The land that was once the site of a coal mining community that employed more than 600 miners, is now home to a multi-use park facility that provides recreational options such as hiking trails, soccer and baseball fields and picnic areas.

DEP's Eric Cavazza Receives National Award



Sue and Spencer Barnard, wife and son of Stan, present Cavazza with the award along with NAAMLPL President Chuck Williams.

BOZEMAN, MONT. -- DEP's Director of the Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation Eric Cavazza this week received the Stan Barnard Memorial Award, the highest honor of the National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs (NAAMLPL).

The award is presented in memory of Stan Barnard and is bestowed upon individuals who exhibit Barnard's qualities of outstanding dedication, commitment and hard work toward the enhancement of the association.

Cavazza received the award at the 2016 NAAMLPL Annual Conference held this week in Bozeman, Mont.



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