

News from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection



Tom Wolf, Governor | Patrick McDonnell, Acting Secretary



DEP Calendar of Events

Sept. 20

DEP workshop on 2017 Environmental Education Grant applications, 1 to 3 p.m., Pool Wildlife Sanctuary, 3701 Orchid Place, Emmaus, Lehigh County. Visit www.paee.net.

Sept. 20

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

Sept. 20

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

Sept. 21

Water Resources Advisory Committee meeting, 9:30 a.m. Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Brian Schlauderaff, bschlauder@pa.gov

Sept. 21

State Board for Certification of Sewage Enforcement Officers meeting, 10 a.m., 11th Floor Conference Room B, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Kristen Szwajkowski, kszwajkows@pa.gov

Sept. 22

Mining and Reclamation Advisory Board: Regulatory, Legislation

Majority of Conservation Districts in Bay Watershed Agree to Work with DEP to Reduce Runoff



Ten percent of Pennsylvania farms in the Bay watershed will be inspected annually to ensure they have written plans for manure or nutrient management and erosion control.

HARRISBURG -- Conservation districts in 29 Pennsylvania counties in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed have applied successfully to conduct farm inspections aimed at reducing agricultural runoff into local streams and rivers and ultimately, the Bay. As a result, these districts will receive funding to support bay technician staff from DEP.

Nine conservation districts failed to meet application criteria or have declined to participate. The remaining three counties in the Chesapeake Bay watershed have such a small portion of the watershed they have not received funding for a Bay technician in the past. Farms in the Bay watershed in these counties will be covered by DEP personnel.

"We're pleased that 70 percent of the conservation districts are on board to protect the health of our local waterways and help ensure that Pennsylvania meets its federal mandate to reduce the pollutants it sends into Chesapeake Bay," said DEP Acting Secretary Patrick McDonnell. "Reducing farm runoff is key to restoring water quality both locally in Pennsylvania and in the Bay, and we hope that, in time, all of the districts will be able to participate."

[Read more.](#)

and Technical Committee meeting, 10 a.m., 14th Floor Conference Room, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Daniel E. Snowden, Ddsnowden@pa.gov

Sept. 22

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: Christopher Noble, chnoble@pa.gov

Sept. 27

DEP workshop on 2017 Environmental Education Grant applications, 10 a.m.-noon, Benjamin Olewine III Nature Center, 100 Wildwood Way, Harrisburg, Dauphin County. Visit www.paeen.net.

Sept. 27-28

DEP training on the Final-Form Rulemaking on Environmental Protection Performance Standards at Oil and Gas Well Sites, Ramada Inn, 1170 West Chestnut St., Washington. Pre-registration is required by Sept. 23. Contact: kklapkowski@pa.gov

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. 12

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

Oct. 13

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

Oct. 13

State Board for Certification of Water and

Clarks Summit Man, Engineering Firm Indicted for Violations of Clean Water Act, Tampering with Government Witness

SCRANTON -- The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Pennsylvania announced last week that David D. Klepadlo, 61, of Clarks Summit, and David D. Klepadlo & Associates, Inc., have been charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Scranton on September 6.

The charges stem from an investigation conducted jointly by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, DEP, and the Federal Bureau of Investigations.

According to United States Attorney Peter Smith, Klepadlo, along with the engineering company he owns, David D. Klepadlo & Associates, Inc., are charged with conspiracy to violate the Federal Clean Water Act, multiple counts of specific Clean Water Act violations, and Tampering with a Government Witness.

[Read more.](#)

Gov. Wolf, DEP Announce Completion of New Main Water Line to Serve Stockton Village Residents



The old public water system was not permitted and did not meet Safe Drinking Water Act standards.

WILKES-BARRE -- Governor Tom Wolf and DEP recently announced the completion of a new \$2.179 million water line for residents in the Villages of Stockton #6 and #8 in Hazle Township, Luzerne County. The two-mile line now connects 43 village homes to the main water line of the Hazleton City Authority (HCA) public water system which currently serves the City of Hazleton and surrounding communities.

"DEP's effort to work with the local community to complete this new water line will serve these residents well and I appreciate the work done by all involved to ensure clean water will be available," Governor Wolf said.

[Read more.](#)

Powderly Mine Fire Reclamation Will Eliminate Public Safety Hazards



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



Upcoming Webinars

Sept. 29

DEP webinar on the 2017 Environmental Education Grants application, 10-11 a.m. Visit www.paeen.net.



Speakers Bureau



Public Input

Sept. 19

Deadline to comment on Proposed Rulemaking: Environmental Laboratory Accreditation. Contact: Aaren Alger, 717-346-8212.

Sept. 19

Deadline to comment on Federal Consistency under the Coastal Zone Management Act: Maintenance Dredging at Baxter Water Treatment Plant. Contact: Matthew Walderon, 717-772-2196.

Oct. 3

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

Oct. 3

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

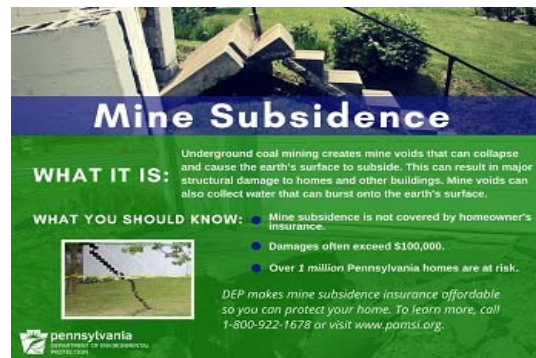
DEP Acting Secretary Patrick McDonnell tours the project site where a 25-acre underground fire and dangerous highwalls will be eliminated.

WILKES BARRE -- DEP Acting Secretary Patrick McDonnell led a special event on Sept. 7 to acknowledge the continuing work to extinguish the underground mine fire at Powderly Creek in Carbondale, Lackawanna County, and to reclaim the abandoned mine land for future development. The work on the 82-acre site is designed to extinguish an underground mine fire believed to have been burning for decades, and eliminate public health and safety hazards, including dangerous highwalls and harmful gases from the fire.

Powderly Creek is the first and only underground mine fire to receive funds from the 2016 Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Economic Revitalization Pilot Program Grant Program. The state is one of three to receive \$30 million in the initial federal grant program. The Powderly Mine Fire will receive \$2.0 million from the pilot program, with \$6.9 million coming from the Pennsylvania AML Program Grant, a fund that coal operators nationwide pay into on every ton of coal mined.

[Read more.](#)

Wolf Administration, State Treasurer Act to Ensure Prompt Payment of Mine Subsidence Insurance Claims



HARRISBURG -- Pennsylvanians with property damage covered by mine subsidence insurance will have their claims paid without delay, thanks to a new directive signed recently by the heads of the departments of Environmental Protection and Insurance, and the Pennsylvania State Treasury.

Previously, because mine subsidence insurance claims are paid through a state fund that must undergo a review process, payment of claims, once approved, was sometimes delayed for up to 30 days. With the action taken recently by the DEP Secretary, Insurance Commissioner, and State Treasurer, these claims will now be paid immediately upon approval.

[Read more.](#)

Alternative Fuel Grants Will Cut Nearly 1 Million Pounds of Air Pollution from Pa. Roads

HARRISBURG -- DEP has awarded more than \$1.6 million to Pennsylvania schools and businesses for projects using alternative fuels and infrastructure. The Alternative Fuels Incentive Grant (AFIG) awards grants for projects to improve air quality through alternative fuel use. The winning projects will eliminate from use an estimated 980,000 gallons of gasoline.

Ten grants have been awarded, mostly for alternative fuel vehicle purchases and retrofits, such as the 41 propane-fueled buses for the Upper Moreland School District in Montgomery County, and converting 20 United Parcel Service (UPS) trucks to run on compressed natural gas.

[Read more.](#)

14th Annual Lake Erie International Coastal Cleanup Volunteers Dive into Action Saturday, September 17th



MEADVILLE -- DEP, along with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), Erie County, Erie Times News - Newspaper in Education, and Pennsylvania Sea Grant invite the public to improve the Lake Erie watershed by participating in the annual Pennsylvania-Lake Erie International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) on Saturday, Sept. 17, 2016, from 9 a.m. - noon.

Over the past 13 years, 15,854 volunteers have removed 122,239 pounds of debris and trash from the Lake Erie shoreline and watershed. This includes 239,781 cigarette butts, which remain the number one item that is littered.

"I am proud to be part of the ICC team," said DEP Northwest Regional Director Jim Miller. "The success of this annual event shows the great pride and commitment from the public and the many partners that participate."

[Read more.](#)



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