Announcement | DEP link

On August 21, twenty five individuals attended the PAEP P2E2 Roundtable held in Lancaster. The topic of the meeting was on partnering efforts between the Lancaster County Planning Commission, Millersville University and several businesses in the area that have installed green roofs as part of stormwater and energy management.

The meeting began with a tour of the vegetative roof at National Novelty Brush Company (www.nnbc-pa.com), with their President, Rick Seavey, as our guide. Mr. Seavey stated that the roof is projected to last 75 years and that they have no need to put air conditioning in the warehouse due to the 20% energy savings. Stormwater runoff is also reduced up to 90%. Maintenance is minimal but the roof does have to be weeded. Photos of the project construction can be seen at: http://www.tahconstructioninc.com/default.asp?PageID=124589 (scroll down to "Date: April 30, 2008 : Starting The Installation of The Green Roof")

Dr. Richard Clark, Chairman, Dept. of Earth Sciences, Millersville University and Mary Gattis-Schell, Senior Planner, Economic Development Planning Division, Lancaster County Planning Commission discussed the partnership effort that enabled the project and entitled their presentation "Working Together to Green Roofs". Ms. Gattis-Schell also became a member of our Roundtable at the meeting. Randy Didier, Chief, Environmental Management Division, Tobyhanna Army Depot also participated and presented their analytical data on energy savings realized as a result of the green roof system they’re planning on expanding. Bob Zaccano presented information on the OETD grant Programs.

Organizations present at the meeting included Wal Mart, Sanofi-Pasteur, PPI, Fort Indian Town Gap, Lancaster Housing and Redevelopment Authority; Lancaster County Conservation District, Susquehanna Sustainable Business Network, Live Green, and the Sierra Club. Wilkes University already has plans to try to model the way that Lancaster County has brought this project to fruition with the use of the Energy Harvest Grant with the Planning Commission conducting the administration and the university assisting with data collection and monitoring.

After the meeting the Steering Committee met to discuss future meeting topics. Many thanks to Bob Zaccano from our SCRO for doing such a great job assisting us in bringing this partnering effort to the attention of the PAEP Roundtable. Courtesy of Dr. Marleen Troy, Wilkes University, photos of the roundtable event are attached. (Contact: Bob Zaccano 717-705-4797 or Janet Warnick 570-826-2475)

After the meeting, we received a note from Sanofi Pasteur, a pharmaceutical manufacturer in Monroe County included below:

I wanted to thank you for providing a very interesting and useful meeting on Vegetative Roofing and Partnering yesterday. The tour and the insights shared were very helpful as we work towards our own first green roof project. In yesterday’s meeting I got the chance to ask some specific questions of green roof owners and also from a university faculty member about real-life experiences that I found valuable. Also yesterday, as in all of the P2E2 meetings, it provided a great opportunity for interaction and networking with other environmental
professionals. I find the dynamics of interacting with various sized businesses, agency representatives, educational representatives and technology experts, very helpful. For example yesterday I learned about green fuel technology grants from DEP and a DEP representative is going to connect me with a university contact that can help me with my food waste composting and my biofuels projects. In fact I try not to miss any of the P2E2 events since I do find them so valuable. I prefer these types of events more than paid commercial seminars. The P2E2 meetings and teaming is far more practical and useful to me and my organization. Please keep up the great work and you can count on my future participation.

Sincerely,

Ken Zinis