



WEBSITE:
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MISSION STATEMENT:

The purpose of the Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Professionals is to promote environmental education, research, planning, assessment, review, and management through the formation and operation of a nonpolitical multidisciplinary professional society.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Joe Musil, President
Craig Bushey, Vice President
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Mike Parrent
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COMMITTEE/SECTION CHAIRS:

Pollution Prevention/Energy Efficiency (P2E2)
Mike Parrent; Janet Warnick

Eastern Section
Eric Rosina; Joe Musil

Central Section
JT Graupensperger; Scott Sternberger

Western Section
Sarah Lavin; Craig Bushey

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we start the New Year your PAEP Board is actively involved in planning for the May 8-10, 2019 Annual Conference. Participation at the Annual Conference and Section Events is an excellent networking opportunity. You and other Environmental Professionals can discuss issues that pop up on projects or learn how others have addressed a specific regulatory concern.

We are also working with our four sections (Western, Central, Eastern and P2E2) to create a series of career development training sessions. This is in response to a request from a number of state and federal agencies for PAEP's help on improving the quality of Permit Application Packages. Did you know that over 75% of applications submitted for agency reviews are either Administratively Incomplete or have Technical Deficiencies that delay permit approvals? This request points to the need for, and benefits of, continuing education while we are on our career paths.

You have many opportunities to help our resource agencies and to contribute to the profession. We are always looking for new ideas and new hands to share the load and we encourage you to take advantage of PAEP. Become acquainted with your section leader and contact us with ideas, or offers for help, setting up a program or site visit. Seize the opportunity to present a topic at one of our PAEP events or have a short article published in our newsletter. It is great for you, your company and the Association.

Thank you for being a member of the PAEP and making us proud of your service to the Commonwealth.

Have a great New Year.

Joseph F Musil Jr, PE, PP, LEED-AP
2018 PAEP President

Board of Directors Elections

We had a great response from our members during this year's Board of Directors elections. Please join us in welcoming Mike Parrent (Tobyhanna Army Depot, retired), Deb Poppel (AECOM), and Danielle Elwell (Michael Baker International).

SAVE-THE-DATE

The **2019 PAEP Annual Conference: Growth Through Collaboration** planning has begun! Mark your calendars for **May 8-10, 2019** at the **Wyndham Garden Hotel** in State College. **Please consider sponsoring this event.**



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As always, we will be accepting Gift Baskets to be auctioned off – the proceeds go to the Scholarship Fund.

Items of Interest to PAEP Members

- Federal House Bill H.R. 7173 “Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act” was introduced to the Committee on Ways and Means for the 115th Congress on Nov 27, 2018. The Bill proposes the creation of a Carbon Dividend Trust Fund. You can read the Act at <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/7173> .
- A joint Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) webinar is available on **January 10 at 2:00 PM** regarding **updates to 23 CFR 771 (Environmental Impacts and Related Procedures) and 23 CFR 774 (Parks, Recreation Areas, Wildlife and Waterfowl Refuges, and Historic Sites (Section 4(f))**. The final rule updating 23 CFR parts 771 and 774 was published in the Federal Register on October 29, 2018 and became effective on November 28, 2018. Anyone interested in participating **must register**; registration is limited to 200 people.

FYI: Per the FHWA, there is a new registration process:

- A. **Federal DOT staff and DOT-badged contractors** do not need to register for an account. They are automatically provided access to the webinars. You can register as individuals or as a group, as long as there is one phone line used. Use the link provided that is unique for each topic and each airing date.
- B. **Non-DOT personnel** (those without an “@dot.gov” email address) have a two-step process for registration:
 1. Non-DOT users, including State DOTs, must request access to the FHWA External Portal for webinars using the registration link listed above. Step-by-step instructions on how to request an account can be found here: <https://connectdot.connectsolutions.com/espnon-dotstaff>
 2. Non-DOT users, including State DOTs, must log in using the email address used to request access to the site and their requested password.

The account issuance takes approximately one business day. Once you receive your account information, users can access the site by clicking on the registration link and logging in.

NAEP Welcomes PAEP to the Team



National
Association of
Environmental
Professionals
Be Connected

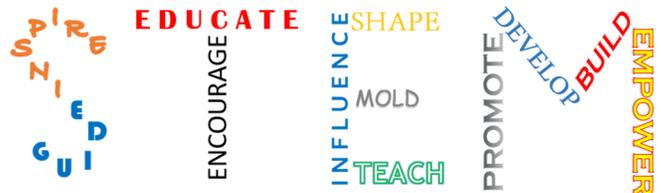
The National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP) has accepted the Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Professionals (PAEP) as a Pennsylvania Chapter. The official affiliation began in August. You have hopefully started to receive emails regarding NAEP publications and webinars. Select activities through NAEP you may be interested in are now discounted through your PAEP membership.

The NAEP is a great added resource to the Environmental Professional because many issues that are discussed throughout our commonwealth may have trickled through the NAEP from other states. Likewise, the inventive problem solving that us Pennsylvanians are capable of may get traction through NAEP and ultimately help address similar issues in other states. This collective knowledge and collaboration is made possible because NAEP has several opportunities for individuals and companies to publish short articles regarding key projects successes and/or lessons learned.

UPDATES from the STEM Program

SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING MATHEMATICS

On September 18th, PAEP and Act Engineers (STEM Grant Manager) hosted a STEM Career Day in Bethlehem to commemorate National Pollution Prevention Week. Sessions were held in the morning and in the afternoon for Lehigh Valley area schools with about 320 total participants. Students were introduced to businesses and organizations that rely on STEM components to provide key services every day. Participating companies included ACT Engineers; Tobyhanna Army Depot; City of Bethlehem Water Forestry Department; APEX; and Moravian College. Each company provided a 15-minute presentation about how STEM is important to their everyday work day in the hopes of inspiring students to pursue STEM careers. The more kids know about available career options, the better they are at making appropriate life decisions toward their goal. The time spent at career events like this also encourages networking skills as it promotes student interaction with each other regarding the real-world topics they are learning.



- ❖ Several demonstrators from STEM Career Day have begun touring individual schools for a more in-depth conversation of STEM possibilities.
- ❖ The STEM Grant is also allowing us to organize a field trip to the City of Bethlehem's Wastewater Treatment Plant.