

the BRIDGE

Environmental Connections Start Here

March 1, 2021

Volume 21.1



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.

PAEP BOARD

Deb Poppel – President
Vlad Odarchenko – Vice-President
Radhika deSilva – Secretary
Mike Parrent – Treasurer
Danielle Elwell
Barbara Weedon
Vaunte Epps
Fiona Adamsky
Amy Jordan

PAEP is a member of NAEP, the national organization for environmental professionals. Click below to view news from the national perspective.



National Association of Environmental Professionals
Be Connected

A Note from the President – Deborah Poppel

Dear PAEP Members and Friends,

Hello there! It is an honor and privilege to have been re-elected as President of PAEP for a second term. I look forward to continuing to serve on the board of our organization of environmental professionals. I want to say a big "Thank You" to outgoing Treasurer, Steve Shaw, who served admirably in this position for six years! Steve, you will be missed. Thank you also to board member Mike Parrent, who will be taking over the role of Treasurer. Also, I'd like to say "Welcome" to our newest board member Amy Jordan of AKRF.

Our first-ever virtual conference, held last October, was by all accounts a terrific success! Thanks to everyone who participated and who helped make it both informative and fun. We expect that our 2021 annual conference will again be held in October on the video/webinar platform Intermedia AnyMeeting.

In the coming months we have lots of webinars planned. Thank you to ALS for sponsoring and presenting our first webinar of 2021, "SARS-COV2 Testing in Wastewater", on February 4. Our next webinar on "Clean Fill" is on March 11. Be sure to register. As always, PAEP members are free!

We hope to be able to have some in-person, outdoor social activities when the weather is warmer (like mini golf)! Stay tuned for more information.

As always, PAEP welcomes any comments, suggestions, or questions you may have. Please feel free to reach out to me directly at dpoppel@rkk.com, or to PAEP via info@paep.org.

Respectfully,

Deborah K. Poppel

PAEP Board President, 2021

Environmental News Releases

Check out the latest articles on environmental issues:

[DEP Newsroom](#) – Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources News Releases

[U.S. officially rejoins the International Paris Agreement](#) – Environment America, Feb 19, 2021

[House Democratic Policy Committee To Hold Hearings On Delaware River, Clean Energy Jobs, Environment & Infrastructure Budgets](#) – PA Environment Digest Blog, Feb 20, 2021

[DEP Posts 51 Pages Of Permit-Related Notices In Feb. 20 PA Bulletin](#) – PA Environment Digest Blog, Feb 20, 2021

[POWR Announces 2021 Pennsylvania Sojourn Grants Now Available](#) – Pennsylvania Environmental Council, Feb 19, 2021

Links to other newsletters:

[PA Environment Digest Newsletter](#)

[PennEnvironment](#)

[Pennsylvania Environmental Council](#)

[Conservation Voters of PA](#)

"The BRIDGE" is the newsletter of the Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Professionals and strives to provide its members with current, useful and unbiased information that will improve their ability to offer quality consultation and appropriate solutions to their clients. To make sure you receive these publications, be sure to allow email from info@paep.org to be accepted.



Welcome new members!

PAEP is pleased to announce the following individuals and businesses to the PAEP family:

Timothy Didlake – HDR, Inc.

Amy Jordan – AKRF, Inc.

Ann Smith - Eurofins

Benjamin Langey – GHD Services, Inc.

Barbara Boyd – McTish, Kunkel & Associates

Charlotte Hedlund – H2E Consulting

Mark Rychcik

Matthew Myers

Bailey Kozalla

Lori Stover

Welcome these new members and invite them to participate in our activities, events, and ...

Since we last chatted...



Over the past few months, PAEP has been busy planning for this new year. At its annual January Retreat (held virtually this year), the Board reorganized itself, saying goodbye to Stephen Shaw, our treasurer of the past few years, and welcoming new Board member, Amy Jordan. The 2021 PAEP Board and officers are listed on the front page of this newsletter. Some items of key interest from last year and from the Board's retreat:

- Last year's conference was presented virtually over several days in October. It was well-attended and well-received.
- Planning is underway for this year's Conference. We will hold this virtually again this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with an eye to meeting in-person for 2022. More to follow...
- The COVID pandemic has impelled PAEP to look at alternate delivery methods to keep you informed and engaged. We have planned for more virtual interaction this year. If COVID restrictions are eased, in-person events will be considered this year.

Looking ahead



We have much we'll be doing in the coming months, beginning with...

Monthly Webinars:

A number of webinars are planned for the upcoming months. Sign up for the March 11 webinar on "[Clean Fill](#)", noon to 1 p.m., presenter Alex Ulmer, Barry Isett & Associates. Free to members. Additional webinars are listed on page 3.

2021 Conference: Call for Presentations

Members interested in presenting at the 2021 Conference will want to pay close attention to your emails from PAEP. We will be sending a 'Call for Presentations' invitation in the near future and we'd be pleased to consider your topics.

Student Scholarships:

2021 Student Scholarship Applications will soon be available on the website. If you know any budding scholars who could benefit from a \$1000 grant, alert them of this great opportunity.

Our Corporate Sponsors for 2021

(current as of February 28)

We thank the following corporations for their generous support of PAEP and our mission:

ACT Engineers
ASC Group, Inc
OM Group, Inc
Rettew Associates

CEC - Civil and Environmental Consultants, Inc.
Lotus Environmental Consulting, LLC
McTish, Kunkel & Associates
Pittsburgh International Airport

Future installments of The Bridge will accept sponsorships - Just \$25 to feature your company's logo in the next edition, which is distributed to all members! (First come, first serve. Only 6 companies can sponsor each quarter.)

PAEP

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NEW WEBSITE ENHANCEMENT! CAREER OPPORTUNITIES POSTING

PAEP is pleased to announce that career opportunities can now be entered directly into the website on "[Post a Position](#)" page (under the "Resources" menu or on the Home page). The form can be completed by anyone within your organization – no membership required. Submitters will need to register, if not a member. Instructions for registering and completing the form are shown on the page.

Complete the announcement form and press "Save Draft". Your announcement will now be shown on the "[Careers Dashboard](#)" page, a private page for the submitter that allows you to review the announcement and submit for publication. PAEP staff will review and approve your announcement prior to posting under the "[Career Opportunities](#)" page. Submitters can edit the final announcement directly from the "[Careers Dashboard](#)" web page, as well as, mark as filled, duplicate, or delete.

Postings are listed beginning with the newest post first. Positions will remain advertised for thirty days or until the stated deadline for submissions. Active opportunities can be searched by keyword, category or location.

We hope you and your firm will take advantage of this enhancement. Send any comments to the [Business Office](#).

Truly...the PAEP Board of Directors and staff.

Additional Monthly Webinars:

April – Date TBD – "Social Cost Benefit Techniques For Environmental Decision Making" – presenter William Dey

April – Date TBD – "Noise Reports" – presenter Camille Otto, FHWA

May – Date TBD – "Industrial Stormwater" – presenter James Cinelli, Liberty Environmental, Inc

May – 17th – "Information for Planning and Consultation (iPaC) Training" – presenter Jon Crum, FHWA

June – Date TBD – "The Use of Geophysics in Environmental Consulting" – Scott Wendling, ARM Group LLC

July – 23rd – "Intro to Environmental Justice" – presenter Jennifer Crobak & Jon Crum, FHWA

Throughout October – PAEP Virtual Conference



DON'T FORGET

[Earth Day Thursday, April 22, 2021](#)

Check out what's planned for this year!

In 2002 the Brownfields Amendments to the CERCLA established that "**All Appropriate Inquiries**...must be conducted by...an environmental professional...who possesses the specific education, training and relevant experience necessary to exercise professional judgment to develop opinions and conclusions regarding conditions indicative of releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances on, at, in, or to a property, sufficient to meet the objectives and performance factors of" requirements established by the EPA. – EPA brochure: 'All Appropriate Inquiries: Environmental Professional - US EPA'