

the BRIDGE

Environmental Connections Start Here

June 1, 2021 | Volume 21.2



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.

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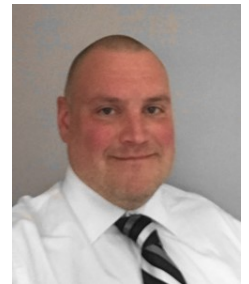
PAEP is a member of NAEP, the national organization for environmental professionals. Click below to view news from the national perspective.



A Note from the President – Deborah Poppel

Hi everyone!

For this quarter's newsletter, I interviewed fellow board member Vlad Odarchenko, who serves as PAEP's 2021 Vice President. We hope to make this a regular feature of our newsletter, to help you get to know the board and other PAEP members...Deb



Where do you currently work and what is your position?

I work at ACT Engineers, Inc. as an Environmental and Sustainability Senior Project Manager

How long have you been involved with PAEP and in what capacity?

I have been a member of PAEP since early in my career. Approximately 4 years ago I had the opportunity to join the board of directors, and have served as secretary prior to my current position as vice-president.

What is your favorite memory or experience in the environmental industry?

It's hard to pick a single favorite memory. A lot of the fond memories I have are related to the people I've worked with on various field teams. Working in this industry has also taken me to many unique places, from Air Force bombing ranges to the depths of 30th St. Station in Philadelphia.

What advice would you offer to people just starting out in the environmental field?

Don't be afraid to ask questions and take advantage of opportunities to learn new skills.

What are some things you like to do when you are not working?

I like to take hikes with my dog, golf, travel, and take on occasional project around the house.

Share a fun picture from somewhere you've been or something you've done over the past year.

Well, with the pandemic I can't say I've been anywhere or have done anything I'd classify as fun over the past year. So with that, I'll share a scenic view from Guinness' Gravity Bar in Dublin Ireland (my last big trip in 2014).



What are you looking forward to in the latter half of 2021?

Less virtual and more in-person interaction! The Phillies winning the World Series! And of course, our PAEP's 2021 Annual Conference!

Corporate Sponsors for Volume 21.2 of the Bridge



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 quarterly issue).

"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 to the PAEP family:

- Shane Cranford, Kleinfelder, Inc.
- Andrea Danucalov, Exelon Generation
- Andrea DeCola, Eurofins Lancaster Laboratories, Inc.
- Catherine Dress, Lotus Environmental Consulting, LLC
- Joseph Jasinski, McCormick Taylor, Inc.
- Amanda Lofink, Terracon
- Patricia Newdeck, PennDOT District 8-0
- Meghan Blair, student
- Mary Bogert, student
- Brandon Brewster, student
- Jaylin Calistro, student
- Alex Cartwright, student
- Kayla Cayemitte, student
- Bethany Fisher, student
- Bridgette Gorg, student
- Zoe Heckathorn, student
- Sylvie Josel, student
- Tess Kuracina, student
- Yansong Li, student
- Autumn Moore, student
- Alexi Neiffer, student
- Dawilton Nelson, student
- Penelope Northing, student
- Paeton Peluso, student
- Amber Pentycofe, student

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

Since we last chatted...



Our monthly webinar program has been gaining steam...these free webinars are available to all our members on the PAEP website. They can be used to satisfy your PDHs.

Past Monthly Webinars – March thru May:

- March 11, 2021 - **2020 Clean Fill Changes**, Alex Ulmer, PG, Barry Isett & Associates. *Presentation summary:* Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection regulations enacted in January 2020 regarding clean fill.
- April 15, 2021 - **Biological and Economic Benefits Estimation under §316(b) of the Clean Water Act**, William P. Dey, ASA Analysis & Communication, Inc. *Presentation summary:* Review of and determining how to estimate the balance between the costs and benefits of environmental restoration and protection efforts.
- April 23, 2021 - **Noise Analyses and Reports**, Cam Otto, FHWA, and Jim Spatz, PennDOT EPDS. *Presentation summary:* The Do's and Don'ts for Noise Analyses and Reports - examples and methodologies for preparing complete reports.
- May 7, 2021 – **Industrial Stormwater**, Jim Cinelli, PE, BCEE of Liberty Environmental. *Presentation summary:* Answers to your questions on Industrial Stormwater requirements – permits, BMP's, preparation of a compliant Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan.
- May 17, 2021 – **Indiana Bat and Northern Long-Eared Bat Range-wide Programmatic**, Jon Crum, FHA PA Division. *Presentation summary:* Overview and Use of IPaC consultation.

Past Months' Events

- May 21, 2021 – Mini-Golf Event. If your section is interested in holding a similar event, contact J.T. Graupensperger at jgraupensperger@pennoni.com or call 717-620-5922.

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. Each webinar will be held on a Friday from noon to 1 p.m. These are free to members.

- June 11, 2021 - **The Use of Geophysics in Environmental Consulting**, presented by Scott Wendling.
- July's topic has not been finalized as of May 15
- August 12, 2021 - **Purpose and Need**, presented by Barbara Shaffer.
- September webinar (date TBD) - **On Thermal Evaluations**, presented by John Dimitry.
- October will be dedicated to our **Annual Conference** virtual sessions.

Events:

- Save the date!!!** The annual PAEP/WTS Scholarship Golf Outing is scheduled for September 17 at the Sunset Golf Course in Middletown, PA.



Awards Applications:

- 2021 **Student Scholarship Applications** are still being accepted until June 7.
- Karl Mason and Walter Lyon Nominee considerations are being accepted until September 1. Look for more information on the website.



Raystown Lake Master Plan released

The release of the revised Master Plan marks the end of a three-year effort to update the existing Plan and will guide the future 15-25 years of management at Raystown Lake. This plan embodies a collaborative approach while using modern analysis tools. It exemplifies the NEPA process and principles at a landscape scale. Members and firms may be interested in incorporating methodologies used into your own planning efforts.

The entirety of the completed Master Plan is hundreds of pages in length. To make it easier to review, the project team created a "highlights" page for easier understanding of and navigation through the Plan.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out through the project mailbox at RaystownMPRevision@usace.army.mil. This update, along with a downloadable .pdf, is located on the project webpage at:

<https://www.nab.usace.army.mil/raystown-master-plan-revision/>.



Arial photo of Raystown Lake from weddingwire.com



BALANCE

Environmental News Releases

Check out the latest articles on environmental issues

[Statement: Biden moves toward allowing states to return to setting stricter vehicle emission standards](#)
– *Environment America*, Apr 26, 2021

[Senate Bill 119: Requiring Legislative Approval for Imposing a Carbon Tax](#) – *PA Environment Digest Blog*, Apr 27, 2021

[NEPA and State Law Condemnation in Pennsylvania](#) (Chester Valley Trail) – *The National Law Review*, Apr 26, 2021

[2021 Climate Impacts Assessment](#) for Pennsylvania – *Pennsylvania Environmental Council*, May 7, 2021

Links to other newsletters:

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

[PA Environment Digest Newsletter](#)

[PennEnvironment](#)

[Pennsylvania Environmental Council](#)

[Conservation Voters of PA](#)

PAEP Associates receive 2020 Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence

Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens (*Project: Living Campus*)

Efforts at Phipps to implement high-performance energy efficient capital expansions have reached a new level of excellence with the construction of three ultra-green buildings on Phipps' campus: the Center for Sustainable Landscapes (CSL) which is also the only building in the world to achieve four of the highest certifications for green construction: Living Building Challenge, LEED Platinum, WELL Platinum and SITES Platinum; the Nature Lab at Phipps, and the Exhibit Staging Center (ESC). Through additional green innovations on its campus, Phipps reduced CO2 emissions by 56% per square foot from 2005 to 2016, doubling the goal set by the Paris Agreement. The Living Campus site infiltrates or captures for re-use all precipitation that falls on it, averaging 4.5 million gallons annually. The site has not sent any stormwater to the overtaxed municipal water system since 2013. Similarly, all of the site sanitary water is cleaned on site through Phipps' chemical-free constructed wetland system and re-used for toilet flushing. The ultra-efficient CSL, Nature Lab and ESC operate combustion free, and the energy needed to light, warm, cool and power the buildings are generated on-site using geothermal energy and solar power. In fact, the 200-kW photovoltaic arrays generate more energy than the buildings need.

Pittsburgh International Airport (*Project: Construction of Honey Bee Habitat*)

While providing land use for the positioning of five apiaries, this project has benefited the airport in several ways. First is the reduction of the number of swarms that have historically impacted daily air operations. Second is that, due to minimal use of pesticides, the airport abounds with pollinator-friendly vegetation which provides a great source of nectar and pollen, resulting in healthier honeybees. Due to its large size (~8,800 acres) PIT also allows for an "isolated" area where the density of honeybee colonies can be managed. This was particularly beneficial for two reasons. One, hive density, along with better forage, means healthier bees. The other is that, as part of the Pa. Queen Bee Improvement Project, Meadow Sweet Apiaries can manage the selection of particular genetics which in turn increase survival and sustainability of honeybees both locally and across the commonwealth.

Congratulations to these two organizations for their exemplary efforts showcasing environmental stewardship in action!

Penn State Environmental Resource Management program news

This year, Penn State is celebrating the 50th anniversary of its [Environmental Resource Management Program](#). Started in 1971, the program is ranked in the top 20 in the nation, having graduated 3000 students since its inception. Check the ERM website for activities planned in celebration of this milestone.

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We all are aware of the unintended impacts humanity's activities have had on numerous species throughout the world. Right here in Pennsylvania we have experienced the alarming reduction of once-plentiful species of Flora and Fauna, both terra and aquatic based. Some of these species are being replaced by invasive organisms introduced by accident or purposely into our environment resulting in serious unplanned consequences. Keep your eyes peeled for these species during your daily endeavors.

Pennsylvania Endangered and Threatened Species Series

Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*)

The once-extirpated little Piping Plover has been making a limited comeback in Pennsylvania, according to the PA Game Commission. Unseen in its traditional breeding habitat along the Lake Erie shoreline since the 1950's, the Commission reported two breeding pairs were found in 2017. This bird is also on the Federal list of endangered species.



Adult Piping Plover

Unfortunately, the Plover competes with man for shoreline space where it can nest and raise its brood in safety as people expand their use of Lake Erie's shore.

Additional information can be found at

<https://www.pgc.pa.gov/Wildlife/EndangeredandThreatened/Pages/PipingPlover.aspx>.

Yellow Wild Indigo (*Baptisia tinctoria*) & Blue Lupine (*Lupinus perennis*)

The Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program wants professionals in the field to help them locate colonies of the Yellow Wild Indigo and Blue Lupine. They are natural food sources for the caterpillars of the rare **Frosted Elfin** (*Callophrys iris*). For the full story [click here](#).

Pennsylvania Invasive Species Series

Hemlock woolly adelgid (*Adelges tsugae*)

This little rascal of an insect is the cause of 90% of all eastern hemlock deaths and has affected standings from Georgia to Maine. Here in Pennsylvania it is rampant in 42 eastern counties. Its infestation in the eastern hemlocks destroys habitats for a wide variety of other species dependent upon the shade and forest floor soil generated by the trees.



Adult Hemlock woolly adelgid

The little bugger can be controlled in various ways. The environmentally friendly tried and true remedy for an individual tree is the yearly use of sprayed-on nontoxic insecticidal soap and horticultural oil. Toxic systemic insecticides may be applied to the foliage and bark of a tree and can persist in killing the adelgid for up to four years after application, although caution must be observed when near bodies of water. Soil injections are effective but cannot be used near bodies of water. Direct trunk injections are effective on large trees near bodies of water.



Egg sacs on branch

For large tree stands, the black lady beetle (*Sasajiscymnus tsugae*) has proven very effective as a biological control. This non-native bug feeds only on three species of adelgid insects. It has a life cycle that parallels that of the hemlock woolly adelgid. Reductions of 88% of adelgid densities have been recorded within 5 months of where this method has been used. (*information from Wikipedia article, Hemlock woolly adelgid*)

Additional information can be found at:

<https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Conservation/ForestsAndTrees/InsectsAndDiseases/HemlockWoollyAdelgid/Pages/default.aspx>.