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**Visit the PAEP website:**  
**[www.paep.org](http://www.paep.org)**

Newsletter prepared and  
edited by ms consultants, inc.



# The Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Professionals

**PAEP Newsletter**

**Winter 2004**

I want to thank all of the members that donated their valuable time towards PAEP in 2003 – we really had a great year! 2003 featured more diverse sectional events, a wonderful Annual Conference in Harrisburg, a redesigned PAEP website, the Bog Turtle Training Program, and a general membership total that broke 400 for the first time in PAEP's history. Another major accomplishment was the submission of the association's formal application for 501 (c) 3 (tax exempt) status as a non-profit organization.

But that was last year, and it's time to look ahead to 2004. Your new Board of Directors met in mid-January to elect new officers and draw-up priorities for 2004. No matter what the new leadership decides to do, I know for a fact that the success of their plans will depend, in large part, on the level of participation from the general membership.

The reality is that "environmental professionals" are involved in a wide range of activities – take a look through your PAEP directory, and you'll see what I mean. That vocational diversity means that it is not truly possible to offer a generic set of services that meet the needs of a majority of our membership. This is where YOU can help. The Board needs your feedback.

- Tell us what services you think we could provide that would help you.
- Tell us about a great presentation you've seen (along with the person who gave it) that you think other members might enjoy seeing.
- Tell us what other training programs (e.g. the Bog Turtle Training Program) PAEP could offer that would help you in your profession.

With that, let me close by saying that it was a distinct pleasure and honor for me to serve as your 2003 President. Given that I derive a great deal of satisfaction from working with sharp, highly motivated people, I found working with all of you particularly gratifying! Thank you for your continued support of PAEP.

## MESSAGE FROM THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT



*Jerrold McCormick -  
2003 Past President*



## NOMINATIONS WANTED FOR THE 2004 KARL MASON AWARD

The general framework established by Karl Mason serves as the foundation for Pennsylvania's environmental protection programs to this day. Karl Mason believed and put into practice the notion that environmental protection is primarily the business of professionals who have the skills by virtue of their scientific training to manage the technical and scientific complexities of maintaining a safe, healthy and clean environment.



PAEP continues to maintain stewardship of the Karl Mason Award. Each year, at the PAEP Annual Conference, the prominent Karl Mason Award is presented to a selected nominee whose project or program has demonstrated prestigious environmental management.

## THIS YEAR MARKS A CHANGE IN THE KARL MASON AWARD PROGRAM.

The Karl Mason Award will be conferred in two individual categories:

- One award will be presented for outstanding environmental work or project by a firm or organization,
- One award will be presented for outstanding environmental work or project by an individual.

Nominations are being accepted until March 19, 2004, at which time the PAEP Board will select the 2004 award recipients candidates. Entries should be forwarded to the PAEP for review, with a detailed one page description of a well managed, successful, environmental project, body of work or specific project. Please forward entries to: Geanine Fair, PAEP Board Member, CDM, 2740 Smallman Street, Suite 100, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, or via email: [fairgm@cdm.com](mailto:fairgm@cdm.com).

Presentation of the awards will take place at the 2004 PAEP Annual State-Wide Conference, June 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>, in Seven Springs, Champion, Somerset County, PA.

To learn more about the legacy of Karl Mason, visit the PAEP web-site: [http://www.paep.org/mason\\_award.htm](http://www.paep.org/mason_award.htm)



## **New General Members:**

**Daniel J. Desmond** – Dan is a new Central Section general member who provided a presentation during the recent Central Section Pfizer Facility tour. Mr. Desmond is Deputy Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Energy and Technology Development in Harrisburg.

**Jeremy S. Madras** – Jeremy is a new Eastern Section general member who has Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Water Resource Engineering from the Pennsylvania State University. He is a Project Engineer at Rummel, Klepper & Kahl, LLP in Norristown.

**Nicolle L. Pawelczyk** – Nicolle is a new Central Section general member who has a Bachelor of Science in Occupational Safety and Health Management from Millersville University. She is a Compliance Specialist at Pfizer, Inc., in Lititz.

**Michael Stoltzfus** – Mike is a new Eastern Section general member who has a Bachelor of Science degree in Wildlife Biology and a Master of Science degree in Wetland Science, both from the University of Massachusetts at Amhurst. He is a wetland scientist at Langen Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc., in Philadelphia.

**Christopher A. Urban** - Chris is a new Central Section general member who was one of the key presenters at the recent PAEP Bog Turtle training program, representing the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and a Master of Science degree in Ecology, both from the Pennsylvania State University. He is Chief of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission's, Division of Environmental Services, Natural Diversity Section in Bellefonte.



## **WE WANT YOU TO MEET YOUR 2004 PAEP BOARD MEMBERS**

*back row left to right: Elaine Farrell- database manager; Amy Gonzales - Secretary; Jerrold McCormick; Craig Stanley; Joe Musil - Treasurer  
front row left to right: Mark Fedosick - Vice President; Eric Buncher - President;*



# SECTION NEWS

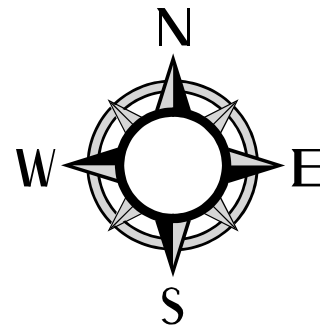
## **EASTERN SECTION**

The Eastern Section will be kicking off its 2004 program series sometime in late March with a morning program on Urban Watershed and Stream Restoration. The program will be centered around Professor Claire Welty's (formerly of Drexel University) work on quantifying the effects of urbanization on the Valley Creek Watershed in Chester County. We are planning to include a talk on URS' (King of Prussia office) urban stream restoration in Valley Forge NHP with a possible site visit to see the results. Finally, we may ask the vendor to show the products that were used at the Valley Forge site. We'll send out an announcement with more information shortly.

We also would like to congratulate East members Amy Gonzales (Secretary) and Joe Musil (Treasurer) for their election to the Board!

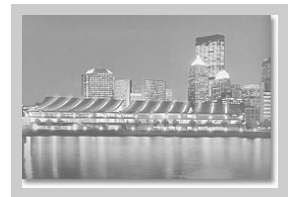
## **CENTRAL SECTION**

No news to report.



## **WESTERN SECTION**

A tour of the David L. Lawrence Convention Center was conducted in February 5, 2004. The Convention Center is the first certified 'green' Convention Center in the US, using features such as natural ventilation, natural daylighting, water conservation and energy efficiency. Stunning, spacious and unique, the Convention Center is a welcoming place where visitors can feel comfortable and embraced in a space that will triple Pittsburgh's capacity for meetings, conventions and exhibitors.



Brian Pancher has taken the reins as the Western Section Program Committee Chair as Eric Buncher focuses on the duties of the Presidents' Chair. Our thanks and congratulations to Eric for his past efforts and outstanding performance as the Western Section Chair.

The Western Section is actively planning for the Annual Conference and will have more events scheduled soon.





PAEP announces the creation of their new web-site at [www.paep.org](http://www.paep.org). The new site contains information on:

- Recent job postings for the environmental professional
- A complete description of the upcoming 2004 PAEP Annual Conference being held at Seven Springs Resort.
- Announcements and postings on special events in each of the three PAEP sections (Eastern, Western and Central)
- Nomination forms and a description of the Karl Mason Award.
- A complete description of PAEP and a listing of the governing body.
- Applications for PAEP membership.
- A list of corporate sponsors and their specialty areas.
- Minutes of recent and past board meetings and links to PAEP newsletters.

## PAEP PROUDLY INTRODUCES THE NEW WEBSITE



Please take a moment to visit the new PAEP web-site and be sure to log on for upcoming events in your area.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Conference on Historic Preserv.](#)

[Karl Mason Award Nominations Wanted](#)

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[CALL FOR PAPERS Transportation Research Board](#)


JOB POSTINGS

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The Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Professionals

A nonpolitical interdisciplinary organization of individuals working in environmental management, planning, impact assessment, environmental protection, compliance, research, engineering, design, and education.



PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION  
OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROFESSIONALS

2004 CONFERENCE  
JUNE 9-11, 2004

SEVEN SPRINGS MOUNTAIN  
RESORT CHAMPION, PA

[click here for info](#)



## Habitat in Unexpected Places

### Dauphin Highlands Golf Course

By Roberta Strickler



Constant scouting and setting acceptable tolerances are the two maxims in the management of weeds, diseases and insect pests on a golf course, according to Bill Wall, course superintendent at Dauphin Highlands, where he is always on guard for the most efficient use of chemicals for controls.

Wall first earned local acclaim for his attention to the details of managing the green spaces known as golf courses at Armitage on the West Shore.

Then, on May 2, 1994, construction began at the new county-owned public golf course at Dauphin Highlands. Bill Wall recruited a crew that is still largely in place in the daily maintenance of 180 acres of turf at the 247-acre site. The six-month construction phase was followed by a greening-in period and the course opened in September of 1995.

The former Bethlehem Steel executive club (family activities, kids fishing pool, swimming pools, picnic grounds, and a game preserve) was turned into an 18-hole golf course that was cited this September as the "Number One rated public golf course among 52 courses within a day's drive of the capital" by golf and travel writer Al Gregson, reporting for the Harrisburg Patriot-News.

While the short and tight municipal course at Armitage is noted for its masses of bright annual flowers, Dauphin Highlands offers a completely opposite and dramatic palette. High above the Susquehanna River, the Highlands is high and dry, constantly bathed by wind, and offering little more than rock and shale for top soil. Wall chose accents of ornamental grasses, row after row of perennial Black-eyed Susans, and swaths of wild flowers - red poppies, yellow coreopsis, and cosmos in yellow, orange, pink, magenta, and white, for the cosmetics of the green landscape.

Wall gets on his tractor early in March to seed the hillsides with a custom mix of wild flower seeds reminiscent of California. Over the years he has developed a sequence that brings color to the river hills from beginning to end of the mid-Atlantic golf season, April through September more or less.



Golfers more often choose to ride rather than walk this long (7,035 yards tip to tip) course. The size and the natural area (rarely can you see a house during play) favors animal habitat as well. In addition to the usual population of deer and groundhogs, foxes are abundant and their cubs can be seen chasing one another around the sand traps early in the morning. An occasional coyote, black bear, and mink have been spotted near the large ravine that meanders

through the course. Bluebirds find nesting spots in their 19 boxes in the high areas of the back nine. Finches seek the poppy seeds and the little birds light on the tall cosmos bending them to the ground to gain a footing



for feeding. Red-wing blackbirds chatter in the rushes of the man-made ponds, put there for wetland mitigation, for holding ponds for the irrigation system, and for water hazards to enhance the playability of the course.

In the nuts and bolts of the daily management of this green space, the modern irrigation system is computerized. Double and triple rows of heads are spaced across the fairways. Electric valves in the heads are driven by variable speed turbines. With a capability for slow or fast starts and variable timing, energy and water can be conserved or deployed to meet the needs of the grass with regard to water supply, drought, and the many variables of weather.

Only one area required wetland mitigation during the planning and construction of the course. Reeds, sedges, and grasses were mandated in the low pond at the southwest corner of the property (Number 5 green). This 6000 square foot mitigation area, (adjacent to a one-acre pond) replaced a much smaller wetland area that had provided a small fishing pond for children. It was filled to level the area below the elevated tee box for today's Number 1 hole.



Constant scouting is the mantra of Wall, who is known for being “out there” in the flow of work every day with the grounds crew. He manages weeds by setting tolerances that are appropriate to the situation. For example, he explains, at a public course like Dauphin Highlands you might tolerate a small amount of crabgrass in the rough. On the other hand, you would expect zero tolerance for crabgrass at a luxury course like Augusta National.

Continual vigilance and judgment based on experience go together to determine when a weed is in deed a weed. Wall has developed many maxims over the years. One of the favorites: “A weed is only a plant that is growing outside of its proper place.” So containment has priority over eradication, when it comes to pests at Dauphin Highlands.

Another favorite saying, “The right plant in the right place,” guides us to plant the flowers where they get benefit from the irrigation system. Watering flowers by hand is a rare sight here, where natural selection and survival is respected and encouraged.

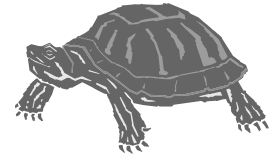
All in all, a golf course is much more than a place to play the game. It is an opportunity to enhance the environment and provide habitat for wildlife. A golf course provides a rare opportunity to preserve green space that is capable of supporting itself.

*Owned and Operated by the Dauphin County General Authority and is located just south of Harrisburg City and a few miles north of the Pennsylvania Turnpike, at 650 South Harrisburg Street, Harrisburg PA 17113. 717-986-1582*

*Tip-to-Tip Slope of 125 and Rating of 73.4 Tee Times available online at [PaTeeTimes.com](http://PaTeeTimes.com)*



## **Bog Turtle Programs Committee Update**



October 20 – 23, 2003, PAEP's first short course was held. It was a pilot program entitled: "Bog Turtles and the Environmental Review Process in Pennsylvania – What Consultants Should Know" (Part 1). This program was formed by PAEP in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PF&BC). Part 2 of the program is tentatively planned for April 6 – 7, 2004 and is intended to complete the training experience that was started in 2003. We hope to keep the registration fee for the Part 2 course under \$100. Please be aware that only those who took the Part 1 session will be eligible to take Part 2.

The goal of this training program is to help educate environmental professionals who are interested in conducting Phase 1 Bog Turtle Habitat Surveys in Pennsylvania. It is our hope that this training course will enhance the ability of environmental professionals to conduct these studies, which are important to identifying and protecting bog turtle habitat. If you are interested in this course, please notify us by sending your contact information to Elaine Farrell (Email: [efarrell@farrell-assoc.com](mailto:efarrell@farrell-assoc.com)), to be put on our list. At this time, we do not have additional courses planned; however, we hope to offer another course, beginning in the fall (2004). Please be aware that this coursework is specifically limited to environmental professionals who routinely conduct wetland studies or other biological assessments. The estimated cost of the program is \$500 and potential registrants may be subject to additional course requirements (e.g., minimum level of professional experience). PAEP's goal is not to exclude individuals from taking this course; rather, we hope to make this course available to science professionals who will use this knowledge and benefit from it the most. Thank you for supporting this effort.







## **Searching for Student Interns**



If you've ever tried hiring a student intern, you've probably noticed that finding the right student for your work just isn't the easiest thing to do. The students are in a similar situation in that they don't know which of you employers are seeking student interns.

### **PAEP can help!**

If you are an employer interested in hiring a student intern for summer 2004, please send Jerrold McCormick, an e-mail (at [jlmcormick@pplweb.com](mailto:jlmcormick@pplweb.com)) with the following information:

- Name of your firm/company and the address or e-mail you want student resumes sent to.
- Description of the internship position and duties.
- Duration of internship.
- Location of the internship.
- Student qualifications, or recommended completed course work.

Jerrold will then pass your internship information along to the undergraduate environmental programs at Pennsylvania colleges and universities, so they can post your internship opportunity onto their websites or just direct e-mail it to their students.

We look forward to hearing from you!

## **PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS 2004 CONFERENCE**

**JUNE 9-11, 2004  
SEVEN SPRINGS MOUNTAIN RESORT  
CHAMPION, PA**



### **“ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND PROJECT DEVELOPMENT”**

This year's conference, set in the beautiful Laurel Highlands of Western Pennsylvania, is being hosted by the Western Section of PAEP. The conference will highlight cutting-edge developments on such topics as Environmental Management Systems (EMS), Homeland Security, Construction Issues of Environmental Projects, Biodiversity, Acid Mine Drainage Treatment, and Green Building Technologies. Also included during the conference are Tours and the PAEP Golf Outing. A Mountain-side Barbeque is planned for opening night.

Additional information is posted on the PAEP Website, [www.paep.org](http://www.paep.org), which will be updated with new developments as the date for the conference approaches. If you would like to help the committee planning the conference, please call Co-Chairs John Burglund at (724)981-0155, or Amy Conley at (330) 382-1821.



## New Moon Nursery is launched...

**Exciting changes are happening in the ever-expanding market for native plants!**



James D. Brown and Octoraro Native Plant Nursery are proud to introduce the formation of **New Moon Nursery**. Together the companies have a combined 26 years of experience in propagating and producing native plants, their cultivars and selections making **New Moon Nursery** one of the most qualified growers of superior plants on the East Coast.

New Moon Nursery offers herbaceous perennials, wildflowers, grasses, rushes, sedges, aquatics and ferns for sale. Octoraro Native Plant Nursery is now an exclusively woody plant nursery continuing its tradition of providing outstanding quality native trees and shrubs in a variety of sizes. Plants from both nurseries are available wholesale only.

New Moon Nursery was formed in response to customer demand for more plant selection and diversity for regionally appropriate landscapes. With a focus on propagating and selling plants **“from the water to the woods...”** both companies are well prepared to fill this market niche for environmental restoration professionals, non-profit organizations, natural landscape designers and horticultural suppliers to the trade and public. For more information, visit our websites at [www.octoraro.com](http://www.octoraro.com) and [newmoonnursery.com](http://newmoonnursery.com)

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Contact: Jim MacKenzie, President

## We Want to Hear from You!!

Please let us now what's going on with your career, projects, organization, or company. Maybe you have been promoted, your company has won a big contract, your project has been completed, or a major milestone reached. Whatever it is let us know. The PAEP website and quarterly newsletter is available to announce your good news. Contact Mark Fedosick at [mfedosick@msconsultants.com](mailto:mfedosick@msconsultants.com) or Brian Pancher at [bpancher@wallacepancher.com](mailto:bpancher@wallacepancher.com).





**Pennsylvania Association  
of Environmental Professionals  
Western Section  
Announces:**

**The 2004 Annual  
State-Wide Conference**

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**June 9 – 11, 2004  
Seven Springs Resort  
Champion, PA**

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*Mark your calendars  
now, and watch the  
newsletter for  
more updates.*

Come join us in the beautiful Laurel Highlands of Western Pennsylvania for a conference packed with informative speakers, a relaxing atmosphere, and great opportunities to network with other environmental professionals from across the state.



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