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

174 Crestview Drive Bellefonte, PA 16823-8516 (814) 355-2467 Fax: (814) 355-2452

info@paep.org www.paep.org

If you have any items for the next Newsletter, or if you would like to help with the Newsletter please contact Mike Kenawell at mkenawell@jmt.com.

Thoughts from the President...

Fall is upon us, and planning for the 2010 PAEP Annual Conference is underway, lead by Conference Committee Co-Chairs Camille Otto and Deborah Henson. The conference will be held from May 12-14, 2010 at the Bear Creek Mountain Resort and Conference Center located in Macungie, Lehigh County (www.skibearcreek.com). The conference committee is very excited to hold the conference at such a beautiful resort with such a strong focus and commitment to environmental sustainability. More information about the 2010 annual conference is to come, so save the date and stay tuned!

Are you attending the PAEP Section Events now being held monthly? Each section has been busy organizing monthly events to provide unique networking and educational opportunities across the state. In the Western Section, Keri Rebuck has organized the monthly "Happy Hour with a Purpose" at the Phipps Conservatory, including this month's guest speaker, Dr. Devra Davis, a 2009 Karl Mason Award recipient. In the Central Section, lead by Kevin Starner, Skelly & Loy is hosting an October presentation by Marci Mowery of the PA Parks and Forestry Association. In the Eastern Section, Mitchell Burack has arranged for "First Wednesdays Wind Up", an opportunity for wine tasting, networking, and an educational program. The October speaker was Charlie Howland of Penn Energy Trust presenting on renewable energy. The Pollution Prevention/Energy Efficiency (P2E2) Roundtable is also planning a November event. Look to PAEP email blasts and the PAEP website for more information on these and upcoming section events!

As you should already be aware, the PAEP Board of Directors is proposing revisions to the existing PAEP By-Laws in our ongoing effort to revitalize and improve an ever-evolving association. The intent of the Board is not to alter what has made PAEP a worthwhile and successful organization, but rather to modernize and expand how PAEP functions. The Board has scheduled a series of three Special Meetings to coincide with upcoming events in each of the regional sections to provide general members the opportunity to vote on the proposed by-law revisions. More information about these Special Meetings is contained within this newsletter.

Hope you all have an enjoyable Fall! Feel free to contact me or other Board members with any comments or suggestions for PAEP.

Vírgínía Bailey PAEP President

Save The Date

PAEP 2010 Annual Conference

May 12-14, 2010 – Bear Creek Mountain Resort and Conference Center, Macungie, PA

Central Section Event October 21, 2009

Speaker – Marci Mowery, Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Association Skelly & Loy, Harrisburg By-Law voting to occur during Networking portion of the event from 5:30-6:00 pm

Eastern Section Event November 4, 2009

Speaker– TBD
Synergy Environmental, Royersford
By-Law voting to occur

Western Section Event November 13, 2009

Speaker – TBD Phipps Conservatory, Pittsburgh By-Law voting to occur

P2E2 Roundtable November 19, 2009

Dickinson College, Carlisle Sustainability



Join the Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Professionals (PAEP) Group on Facebook to keep up with events and network with colleagues!

facebook

MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

NEW for 2009, Aqua-Terra Environmental Ltd. is pleased to announce the addition of key staff members, including **William Zemaitis** (Bill) and **Joshua Brown** (Josh). We are an environmental consulting firm specializing in natural resource and endangered species investigations, reporting and permitting for private and public sector clients.

Bill Zemaitis has been involved with PAEP for many years. He created the first PAEP website, ran numerous section and educational programs, helped organize conferences, and was a Director and President. Bill is a Professional Wetland Scientist and holds Bachelor of Science and Master's Degrees from Penn State University. He has been busy conducting various wetland and biological studies throughout Pennsylvania. Bill is a key staff member working for transportation, private and utility clients out of Aqua-Terra's Reading and Bedford, PA offices.

Josh Brown joined Aqua-Terra in spring of 2009 just in time for the busy turtle survey season. Josh has a herpetological background and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from Penn State University and a Masters Degree from the University of Louisiana. Working out of Aqua-Terra's Reading, PA location, Josh has been very busy assisting with turtle surveys, telemetry and wetlands projects. Our staff can be contacted at 610-374-7500 (Reading) or 814-623-AQUA (Bedford).

LEGAL/REGULATORY INFORMATION

Welcome to the latest addition to our Newsletter. The goal of this column is to provide periodic legal insight on existing and developing regulations and regulatory policy, as well as contract and liability issues affecting PAEP members. New regulations and policies, both final and draft, will often be discussed; but it is not our goal to be a regulatory update checklist source per se. Future columns will also include any questions or comments sent to mburack 1@verizon.net.

PADEP UPDATE

Amendments to Chapter 102 Regulations Proposed

Proposed amendments to E&S control/stormwater management regulations were published in the Bulletin at 39 Pa.Bull. 5131 (Aug. 29, 2009). The comment period runs to November 30, 2009. Public meetings are scheduled for September 29 (Cranberry Twp), October 1 (DEP Southcentral office), and October 5 (Allentown).

Key issues in the proposal include:

- -Incorporation of NPDES Phase II permitting for earth disturbance between 1-5 acres;
- -Post-construction Stormwater Management (PCSM) requirements
- -Permit by rule for low impact projects incorporating riparian forest buffers
- -General riparian forest buffer requirements
- -Several new and clarified definitions including: Intermittent stream, perennial stream, normal pool elevation, and point source.

<u>DEP Proposes Renewal and Modifications to PAG-2 (General Permit for stormwater discharges associated with construction activity)</u>

Renewal and modifications to PAG-2 were proposed at 39 Pa. Bull. 4955 (Aug. 15, 2009). New things to look at in Part C, include expansion of PCSM requirements, and new infiltration BMPs and stabilization requirements.

RENEWABLE FUELS/CELLULOSIC ETHANOL ISSUES

RFS2 Comment Deadline Approaches:

The extended comment deadline for EPA's proposed Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS2) was September 25. Any company intending to produce cellulosic ethanol in a manner which does not clearly match up with the pathways identified in the "look up table," needed to propose and justify alternative language by this deadline. Those having matching feedstock but non-matching process description may utilize temporary RINs pending a final rule, or, if necessary, after the final rule. Anyone not on the list in the final regulation, will need to immediately start working on a petition to EPA to add their process to the list. The key issue for any such petition would be to demonstrate the requisite 60% GHG reduction via Lifecycle Analyses, including land use impact issues

Where will all the required ethanol go?

There is much talk in the industry about the "Blend Wall". This refers to the fact that the highest currently approved ethanol/gasoline blend is 10% ethanol (E-10). In order to absorb all of the new ethanol required to be produced by RFS2, higher blends must be approved. A currently pending petition to EPA seeks approval for E-15 blends; and higher blends may ultimately be necessary. Increasing ethanol content raises a number of challenging infrastructure issues for the retail gasoline industry. At a recent ethanol conference in Milwaukee, industry experts discussed the fact that most service stations cannot obtain UL certification for higher blends without expensive modifications or equipment replacement. Without adequate certification, service stations risk non-compliance with local safety rules and loss of private and public insurance coverage. This issue will need to be successfully addressed in order to accommodate the mandated growth in use of ethanol in gasoline.

GHG Reporting Rule Signed by EPA Administrator on Sept.25

The new GHG reporting rule will apply to facilities within specifically identified source categories, emitting 25,000 tons/yr of GHG. Notable changes from the earlier proposed rule, include the exclusion (for now) of wastewater treatment plants and ethanol production facilities from the regulated source categories.

What's in the News....

"Mapping the Zone: Improving Flood Map Accuracy"

submitted by Wendy Lathrop, PLS, CFM

Those interested in floodplains and floodplain data may be interested in the National Academies/National Research Council's recent new report entitled "Mapping the Zone: Improving Flood Map Accuracy". It is now available for free reading on line or ordering hardcopy through the NRC website at http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record id=12573

The uncertainties associated with every aspect of flood risk identification formed the basis of our studies; some uncertainties affect the efficacy of the National Flood Insurance Program and the safety of our nation more or less than other uncertainties. After identifying geographical, methodological, and economic factors affecting current study and mapping procedures, five overarching findings form the basis for the report's recommendations (the report contains many more findings beyond these summaries):

- "Topographic data is the most important factor in determining water surface elevations, base flood elevation, and the extent of flooding, and thus the accuracy of flood maps in riverine areas."
- "Coastal flood can be improved significantly through use of coupled two-dimensional storm surge and wave models and improved process models, which would yield more accurate base flood elevations."
- "Flood maps with base flood elevations yield greater net benefits than flood maps without."
- "The most appropriate flood study method to be used for a particular map depends on the accuracy of the topographic data and the overall flood risk, including flood probability, defined vulnerabilities, and consequences."
- "FEMA's transition to digital flood mapping during the Map Modernization Program creates opportunities for significant improvements in the communication of flood hazards and flood risks through maps and Web-based products."

The bottom line message regarding flood studies to create floodplain mapping is "elevation matters"; studies yielding a base flood elevation (as opposed to approximate studies that yield no base flood elevation) are worth the extra expense. The benefit/cost assessments show that benefits transcend the technical advantages and provide advantages to public health, safety, and welfare. Often these social benefits are difficult to measure directly, as is the case with all quality of life issues. Additionally, dollars <u>not</u> spent are not easily accommodated by financial balance sheets.

The report is relatively short (less than 200 pages), but packs in case studies and research supporting recommendations regarding partnering to reduce study costs, updating coastal storm surge models, and review of methodology for mapping in flat terrain subject to ponding.

Gannett Fleming Receives 2009 NADO Innovation Award

Gannett Fleming has been selected by the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) to receive the 2009 Innovation Award. The award recognizes the firm for work completed while updating the Land Use, Transportation, and Economic Development (LUTED) - Regional Action Strategy for the North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission (North Central).

Gannett Fleming was responsible for studying and updating North Central's long-range transportation plan. The plan's development included preparing a comprehensive strategy and supporting process to effectively link land use, transportation, and economic development for a six-county region in North Central Pennsylvania.



More in the News....

The Maurice K. Goddard Legacy Project

Wayne W. Kober, Chair, PAEP Conservation Heritage Committee

Maurice K. Goddard Task Force

On September 2, 2009, the first meeting of the Maurice K. Goddard Task Force was held at the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) headquarters in the Rachel Carson State Office Building in Harrisburg. The purpose of the meeting was to form the volunteer task force and to explore ways to continue to celebrate the accomplishments of Maurice K. Goddard through a Maurice K. Goddard Legacy Project initiative.

Brenda Barrett, Director of the DCNR Bureau of Recreation and Conservation, and Caren Glotflety of the Heinz Foundation and former Goddard Chair at Penn State, convened the meeting and led the discussion. Current members of the task force are:

Brenda Barrett, DCNR
Vanyla Tierney, DCNR
Caren Glotfelty, Heinz Foundation
Rick Carlson
Marci Mowery, PA Parks and Forestry Foundation
Cara Williams Fry, WITF-TV
Duane Peters, PAEP Board of Directors
Jim Finley, Penn State
Wayne Kober, PAEP Conservation Heritage Committee

Duane Peters, PAEP Director, and I participated in the meeting to continue PAEP's support of the research and education efforts associated with Pennsylvania's rich conservation heritage.

In preparation for the meeting, a draft implementation plan describing strategies and actions was prepared and distributed.

Some of the strategies and actions under consideration are:

- * Project kickoff on September 12, 2009 with a walk on the Goddard Memorial Trail in Camp Hill where Maurice lived for almost 50 years
- * Interpretive panels at State Parks created under his leadership
- * Rededication of the Maurice K. Goddard Wild Area
- * Documentary on his life
- * Symposium on lessons to learn from his legacy
- * Historical markers
- * Archival research

The task force will continue to work on implementation of strategies and actions as time and resources are available. Periodic meetings in Harrisburg, e-mails, and conference calls are the primary means of task force communications.

Anyone interested in participating in the task force activities is welcome. Please contact Cheryl Hornberger at DCNR at: chhornberg@state.pa.us or 717-783-2658.

About Maurice K. Goddard

Born in Massachusetts, Maurice grew up in Kansas and earned a forestry degree from the University of Maine in 1935. He taught at Penn State's Mount Alto forestry school, obtained a master's degree in forestry at the University of California-Berkeley in 1938, and returned to Penn State. After distinguished service in World War II on General Eisenhower's staff, he returned to Mont Alto and then to Penn State's School of Forest Resources in State College in 1952.

In January 1955 Governor George Leader appointed Maurice as his secretary of Forest and Waters. He brought professionalism to the agency through the civil service system, focused on water and watershed initiatives, and had a vision for new close to home recreational facilities. He set a goal for a state park within 25 miles of every Pennsylvanian. Most importantly, he recognized the need to fund this vision. The Oil and Gas Lease Fund—Act 256 was passed in 1955 dedicating the revenue from oil and gas on state lands for land acquisition and recreation facilities. This was followed by voter approval in 1963 of Project 70, a bond issue proposal to raise \$70 million for public lands and facilities, and in 1968 by Project 500, another bond issue. Project 500 provided \$500 million for land acquisition, recreational facilities, and a variety of environmental projects.

The Department of Environmental Resources (DER) was created in January 1971, merging the Departments of Forest and Waters Mines and Mineral Industries, and other related responsibilities. Maurice served as the Secretary of DER from 1971 to 1979. Maurice died in 1995.

His Legacy

Maurice served 5 Pennsylvania Governors as Secretary of Forest and Waters and as founding Secretary of DER from 1955 to1979. His legacy as a public servant includes:

- * A commitment to professionalism and civil service
- * A state park within 25 miles of every Pennsylvanian
- * A watershed scale approach to water management
- Dedicated funding for natural resource conservation through the Oil and Gas Fund and the Project 70 and 500 bond initiatives
- * A profound influence on national conservation policy

On April 1997, the second Pennsylvania Environmental History Symposium—Maurice K. Goddard, His Life, Legacy, and Lessons was held at the Wildwood Conference Center at the Harrisburg Community College. The conference participants, many who worked with Maurice, shared their stories about how he inspired them to conserve and enjoy our natural resources. As product of the symposium, a video documentary was produced under the leadership of Caren Glotfelty which is currently being edited for television by WITF-TV.

In 2000, the Pennsylvania Forestry Association published the book, "A walk on the Downhill Side of the Log-The Life of Maurice K. Goddard". Author, Ernest Morrison captures the life of Maurice as a "dedicated, passionate servant of the environment." In his forward in the book, Bill Forrey, former Director of the Bureau of State Parks remarked:

"During my years with Dr. Goddard, his never ending sense of excitement for his work permeated throughout his staff. Speaking personally, his love for his profession gave me the same desire to work at my highest level of performance. I consider it my good fortune and enormous pleasure to have had the opportunity to spend 19 years with a great man."

Former Pennsylvania Governor Leader in his forward in the book wrote:

"Maurice had all the motivation and zeal of a Gifford Pinchot. In fact, I always thought of hum as a modern-day Gifford Pinchot. He immediately began seeking ways to professionalize the Department of Forests and Waters. He pushed hard for civil service for skilled positions, but we weren't able to get it through legislative means, so we did it by Executive Board action. Maurice was able to begin recruiting graduates from Penn State and other foresty schools. His department soon gained a reputation for its professionalism."

IMPORTANT... Read all about it

Notice of Special Meetings for General Membership Vote of Proposed By-Laws Revisions

In an effort to revitalize and improve an ever-evolving association, the PAEP Board of Directors proposes revisions to the existing PAEP By-Laws (adopted on April 30, 2003). The Board's intent is not to alter what has made PAEP a worthwhile and successful organization, but rather to modernize and expand how the Association functions.

The Board has scheduled Special Meetings A, B, and C for general membership vote on the proposed by-law changes. These Special Meetings will be held at the following upcoming PAEP Section Events in order to include as many members as possible in the voting process:

RESCHEDULED - Special Meeting A: Western Section Event, NOVEMBER 13, 2009

Speaker – TBD

Phipps Conservatory, Pittsburgh

More information to follow

(Special Meeting A was NOT held during the October 15th event)

Special Meeting B: Central Section Event, October 21, 2009

Speaker – Marci Mowery, Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Association Skelly & Loy, Harrisburg

Voting to occur during networking portion the meeting, beginning at 5:30 pm

Special Meeting C: Eastern Section Event, November 4, 2009

Speaker – TBD

Synergy Environmental, Royersford

More information to follow

All votes cast at Special Meetings A, B, and C will be combined into one total master vote for the approval of the by-law revisions. Each general member will only be allowed to cast one vote for or against the approval of the revisions, regardless if in attendance of multiple Special Meetings.

The proposed by-law revisions as well as a brief summary, by-law by by-law, of the proposed revisions and the Board's reasoning for the changes can be found on the PAEP website (http://paep.org/). Any applicable changes to current corresponding Operating Procedures will be made by the Board following general membership approval of these proposed by-law revisions. The existing by-laws can also be found on the PAEP website.

Hope to see you at one of the Special Meetings/Section Events!

Vírgínía Bailey PAEP President





2009 Corporate Members

To all the Corporate Members for the Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Professionals. Without their support which helps with the overall costs of the meetings and help PAEP deliver a quality program. The Board of Directors gratefully acknowledges the commitment the Corporate Members that have made to strengthening the industry and developing the skills of all PAEP members. To learn how your company can become a corporate member and support education go to the PAEP website www.paep.org or email info@paep.org.

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