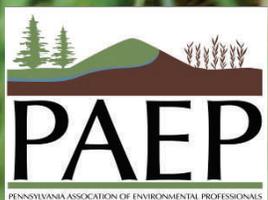


# Environmental Assessment

*The Official Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Professionals*

Spring 2011



# Environmental Assessment

Spring 2011

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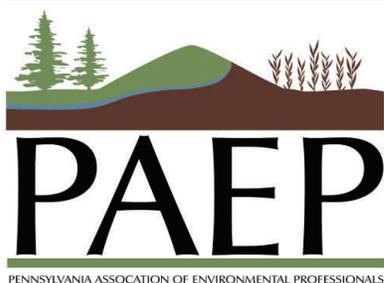
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About the Cover: *Toad Discovered by the Dog* by Western Section Leader Keri Cimarolli

## Message from the President

Duane Peters | *A.D. Marble & Company, PAEP President*

Over the past couple of months, we have been fortunate to provide mentorship to the students of Susquehanna University, Shippensburg University, and Harrisburg Area Community College. Leaders in our field provided tips for developing strong resumes, preparing for interviews, and offering suggestions on class selection. The most valuable discussions, however, related to our individual professional growth. The students were interested in what we did day to day, what challenges we faced, and simply if we enjoyed our careers. Our panel of PAEP members did a wonderful job of sharing their personal industry growth stories and providing insights to career choices that cannot be learned in a classroom setting. We hope that the information that we provided assist the students in making educated career decisions following graduation.

We are currently working to extend the conversation by developing additional informational meetings with these institutions and reaching out to other educational facilities. If you are interested in participating in upcoming meetings, or if you know of a program that would benefit from such a meeting, feel free to contact a member of the Board of Directors.

On March 8<sup>th</sup>, we joined with the Central PA Chapter of WTS to sponsor a presentation on updates to Chapter 102 at the Appalachian Brewery Company in Harrisburg. Jennifer Orr, Chief of the NPDES Construction and Erosion Control Section of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Bureau of Watershed Management, explained the pending changes to the regulations and fielded a number of interesting questions from the audience of 70 PAEP and WTS members. The presentation will be linked to our website in the upcoming weeks.

Finally, this summer marks the start of formal selection to strengthen the leadership in our regional

sections. We will be conducting a general election for Section Leaders for the Eastern, Central, and Western Sections in June. The elections will add two additional members to the Leadership position for a total of three. Each position will be for a period of two years. The existing Section Leaders will be up for election in 2012 giving us an election cycle of 2/1; so there will be an opportunity for members to run for office every year. We are searching for motivated candidates who are willing to assist the other Section Leaders in planning events and assist with the mentoring of environmental students. You should have recently received a formal announcement via email outlining the nomination process.

The Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Professionals is a volunteer organization. We cannot exist without the hard work of our members. The activities that we report in our newsletters, meeting minutes, and Section Events cannot be accomplished without the dedication of key individuals. We are always looking new volunteers to assist with or spearhead ongoing activities and to bring ideas for new events. Not only would you be assisting your fellow practitioners, but it is a wonderful opportunity to interact with your peers, and, in the case of the student events, potential additions to your organization. If you are interested in volunteering, feel free to contact us at any time.



March 8th Event— PAEP Central Section/WTS Central PA Chapter

# 2011 Annual Conference Update

Camille Otto | *Federal Highway Administration, PAEP Treasurer*

PAEP is focused on promoting environmental education, research, planning, assessment, review, and management as a primary goal. One of the key elements in achieving this mission is through our annual conference, where we gather a variety of environmental professionals from around the state in one location to discuss upcoming and current policies, methodologies, procedures and ideas.

**This year, the 2011 Annual Conference will be held at the Ramada in State College, PA from September 21-23, 2011.**

The conference committee is currently hard at work identifying speakers and events to ensure that there will be topics and training for all of our

members. Highlights currently include training on Marcellus Shale permitting, a workshop on completing quality Section 4(f) checklists, information on the new Preservation PA/PennDOT Section 106 consultation and ProjectPATH system, misconceptions of the HAZWOPER standard, and more. Also in the works, is a tour of the Penn State Creamery (from cow to cup).

In addition to the excellent topics and training opportunities, let's not forget the great camaraderie and networking connections that we all develop at the conference.

This year proves to be an exciting year for PAEP, and we hope you'll join us in September!



The Pennsylvania Association for Environmental Professionals (PAEP)  
and  
The Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) - Central PA Chapter

## 2011 Scholarship Golf Outing

**Friday, August 19, 2011**

**Liberty Forge Golf Course**  
Mechanicsburg, PA  
Registration: 7:30 AM  
Shotgun Start: 8:30 AM

Mark your calendar and plan to join us to support the WTS and PAEP Scholarship Funds. The goal of WTS and PAEP is to assist deserving students in the pursuit of careers in transportation and the environment, respectively. By fostering the next generation of transportation and environmental professionals we also serve our industry and ensure the continued improvement and enhancement of the world around us.

Liberty Forge Golf Course offers golfing challenges and thrills in a tranquil park setting. This former site of the Liberty Iron Forge is now one of the finest golf courses in central PA.

# Addressing NEPA for High Speed Rail Projects in Pennsylvania

Chris Spahr | *Michael Baker Jr. Inc.*

As one element in an ambitious plan to address the United States' transportation challenges, the Obama administration proposed a program to implement efficient high-speed passenger rail service in several long-distance corridors (100 to 600 miles) with the goal of providing "greener" transportation alternatives and connecting communities across America (1). Much like construction of the interstate highways and aviation system did in 20<sup>th</sup> century; the program's objective is to transform how Americans travel by rebuilding the nation's existing rail infrastructure into a comprehensive high-speed intercity passenger rail network. The Administration plans to fulfill this vision through an \$8 billion initial investment under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and additional long-term fiscal commitments from both the Federal and State-levels.

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) identified ten (10) potential corridors that meet the Administration's vision of promoting economic expansion (including new manufacturing jobs); creating new choices for travelers; reducing the nation's dependence on oil; and fostering urban and rural community development (1). The Keystone Corridor East Amtrak rail line, operating from Harrisburg to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was identified as one of the ten corridors for potential high-speed rail Projects (1).

Upon the announcement of the Obama Administration's initial investment, PennDOT and a consultant team began preparing an ARRA funding Grant application for Pennsylvania's Keystone Corridor East High Speed Rail Program. As a pre-application requirement, PennDOT agreed to complete and submit an Environmental Assessment (EA) of the *Keystone Corridor East High - Speed Rail Program* before the ARRA grant application deadline of October 2, 2009.

PennDOT's consultant team used innovative strategies to meet the challenges of producing an EA for the entire 105 miles of the Keystone Corridor East in four (4) weeks during the month of September, 2009. During this period, the consultant team coordinated with a broad spectrum of stakeholders including Federal and State resource agencies, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, local municipalities, and the general public. The consultant team also developed informational brochures in both English and Spanish, conducted an agency coordination meeting, advertised the EA in newspapers in Harrisburg, Lancaster, and Philadelphia, and posted project information to the *Plan the Keystone* website ([www.planthekeystone.com](http://www.planthekeystone.com)).

Proposed changes addressed in this EA included:

- improvements to the interlockings (areas where trains change tracks);



Figure 1. Keystone Corridor Station

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

- replacement and/or rehabilitation of the signal systems in areas where trains currently pass or follow each other;
- rehabilitation of the overhead electrical wires and poles (catenary and transmission lines);
- reactivation of an existing Express/3<sup>rd</sup> track between the Atglen interlocking and Paoli;
- relocation of an electrical substation at the Paoli Station;
- construction of high-level platforms at the Exton Station for which a separate Categorical Exclusion (CE) had been completed; and
- upgrades to the Ardmore Station for which a separate EA had been prepared and was under review.

The intent of the enhancements was to improve rail service by increasing the top operating speed from 110 mph to 125 mph, with the goal of reducing travel time between Harrisburg and Philadelphia to approximately 75 minutes on selected trains. The reduced travel time could help to ensure that the Amtrak Keystone Corridor East service remains a competitive transportation alternative.

The consultant team tapped into the expertise of diversely seasoned professionals to assess the various aspects of the EA including but not limited to:

- cultural resources,
- Section 4(f) resources,
- contaminated sites and hazardous waste,
- environmental justice,
- land use zoning and property acquisition,
- public health and safety,
- air quality,
- floodplains,
- noise and vibration,
- threatened and endangered species,
- waterways,
- water bodies, and
- wetlands.

On January 28, 2010 FRA announced which states would be awarded high speed rail funding. Although Pennsylvania was not awarded funding to begin construction, preliminary engineering studies have begun on the Keystone Corridor East high

speed rail improvements. The EA provided a valuable assessment of the environmental situation on the Corridor and has prepared PennDOT to compete for future funding for rail projects.

*Chris Spahr is a Planning Associate in the Harrisburg office of Michael Baker Jr. , Inc. (Baker) and has been working on transit and rail planning projects for the past two years. He has performed numerous categorical exclusion evaluations for transit agencies throughout the State in support of ARRA funded projects such as maintenance facilities and park and rides. He has also worked on various environmental assessments for the Keystone Corridor East high speed rail improvements. Chris, along with Baker coworker Andy Batson, recently presented a session on the Keystone Rail Corridor at the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Planning Association with Deputy Secretary Toby Fauver of PennDOT and Harriet Parcels from the Lancaster County Planning Commission. The session outlined PennDOT's efforts to improve the rider experience and link strong communities with fast, efficient, sustainable transportation through multiple station projects.*

*Chris holds a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Resource Management from Penn State University and a Master's degree in Geoenvironmental Studies from Shippensburg University. Before working for Baker, he spent four years in the Peace Corps in Paraguay working as a Municipal Services Developer and a Volunteer Coordinator.*



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# Pennsylvania Legislative Update

The Department of Revenue's latest revenue reports for state coffers accentuate the challenges that lie ahead for Pennsylvania lawmakers. The Department of Revenue reported on March 1, 2011, Pennsylvania collected \$1.5 billion in General Fund revenue in February, which was \$20.7 million, or 1.3 percent, less than anticipated. Fiscal year-to-date General Fund collections total \$15.2 billion, which is \$243.2 million, or 1.6 percent, above estimate. **Realty transfer tax revenue** was \$15.2 million for February, \$500,000 below estimate, bringing the fiscal-year total to \$187.8 million, which is \$33.4 million less than anticipated. Other General Fund tax revenue, including **cigarette, malt beverage, liquor and table games taxes**, totaled \$104 million for the month, \$8.2 million below estimate and bringing the year-to-date total to \$953.4 million, which is \$16.4 million below estimate.

Additionally, the job market has not rebounded as robustly as people had hoped by this time. Pennsylvania's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 8.2 percent in January, down from 8.5 percent in December 2010. January's decline was the first drop in four months, and the twelfth consecutive month without an increase in the state unemployment rate. Even so, the state will not realize the revenue gains from these improvements for some time, creating yet another year of tough choices for policymakers when it comes to drafting the state budget. The state is facing a \$4.16 billion budget deficit that must, by law, be balanced.

For more information, visit the [PA Department of Revenue's website](#) and the [PA Department of Labor and Industry's website for the latest data](#).

## FY 2011-2012 State Budget

On March 8<sup>th</sup> Governor Corbett gave his budget address for the year, setting the tone and laying the groundwork for his policy initiatives over the next

four years. It is clear that Governor Corbett's approach is in stark contrast to the past Administration's and without Federal Stimulus dollars, it also true that it is a starkly different year. The plan was unveiled, similarly to other states in the union this year, as a plan of shared pain and sacrifice, whereby extensive cuts are seen as unavoidable. The Governor is staying true to his campaign promises to not raise taxes. He also promised to pass the budget on time, which should not be difficult considering the Republican majority that now presides in both chambers of the legislature. However, the devil is in the details, which are highlighted below.

The FY '11-'12 Governor's budget proposal totals \$27.3 billion, 3% less than the FY '09-'10 budget, which was \$28 billion. Total state spending has been rolled back to '08-'09 levels. Administrative cuts are around 2% and 1,500 positions either will not be filled or will have to be eliminated. These are all part of the Governor's efforts to "streamline" government through fiscal discipline and refocus its purpose to core functions.

As anticipated, the Department of Environmental Protection is again being cut significantly, this time by an additional 28%. The cuts impact mainly department operations (-16%), the Safe Drinking Water Account (**zeroed out**), Reimbursement for Water Pollution Control Revolving Loan Fund (**zeroed out**), Municipal Sewage Facilities Compliance (-98.5%), the Clean Water Fund (-100%), Abandoned Well Plugging (-54.3%), Alternative Fuels (-56.7%), Solid Waste Abatement Fund (-75%), and the Safe Water grant program (-100%). The River Basin Commissions were fairly equally cut across the board, around 2% each, including the Chesapeake Bay Commission and Interstate Mining Commission. Additionally, the fairly self-sustaining PENNVEST program, tasked with funding municipal and private water and wastewater projects, was cut 35%,

*(Continued on page 8)*

(Continued from page 7)

PENNVEST Water Pollution Control by 21%, and the PENNVEST Drinking Water Fund by 29%.

The DCNR budget was actually increased by less than 1%. As a result there are no plans to close additional state parks, good news to many. The Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund was increased by 55%, Timber Sales are expected to increase by 7.1%, and the Heritage and Other Parks line-item was zeroed out. Community Conservation Grants, which includes the C2P2 program, was cut by 14% but will not be eliminated. Current C2P2 grant applications were due electronically by April 21, 2011 at 4 p.m. The Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Tax Credit, to encourage the development of riparian forest buffers and the remediation of legacy sediment on commonwealth farmland, is being increased to \$10 million, benefiting approximately 350 taxpayers this fiscal year. Depending on the type of development, a taxpayer may receive a credit of up to 75 percent of cost of a project. A maximum of \$150,000 in tax credits may be awarded per eligible applicant. The tax credit may be used against personal income tax, corporate net income tax, capital stock/foreign franchise tax, bank shares tax, title insurance company premiums tax, insurance premiums tax, and mutual thrift institutions tax. Credits for legacy sediment cannot be issued prior to July 1, 2008. Other DCNR funding changes of note include the Snowmobile and ATV Regulation funds line-item which has been reduced by 59% and forest regeneration which is slated for an approximately 6% decrease.

The Department of Agriculture suffered less with only a 6.4% reduction in funding. Farmland Preservation was given \$28 million from the Agricultural Conservation Easement Purchase Fund to continue Pennsylvania's ongoing commitment to save farmland. The Pennsylvania Fairs line-item was cut 2% to \$981,000 to continue support for fair events across the commonwealth. Youth Shows were cut 2.3% but maintain \$128,000 to continue support

for the Junior Dairy Shows, 4-H Club Shows and Future Farmers for Pennsylvania's young agriculturalists. A 66.7% increase in food establishment inspections is proposed while agricultural research and hardwoods research and promotion are eliminated.

As for the Department of Transportation, with the tolling initiative off the table and the failure of the Federal Government to pass the Transportation Reauthorization bill (SAFETEA - LU), it is estimated that there is a \$3.5 billion gap in transportation funding. The new PennDOT Secretary Barry Schoch and the Administration have created a number of internal task forces to study the challenges and financing options. A promising solution being considered is public-private partnerships, also anticipated to be a part of the overall Department financing strategy.

The Department of Education and the State System of Higher Education (SSHE) are being cut extensively, 10 and 53% respectively. These cuts to basic education could lead to property tax increases at the local level, so school districts can maintain programs and avoid layoffs, and at the higher education level, are expected to lead to tuition hikes at many of the state-related and state system schools.

Specifically, the fiscal year 2011-2012 Budget includes the following agency funding changes over last year 's state budget (<sup>1</sup> Figures in the millions):

Dept/Agency	FY 2010-2011 <sup>1</sup>	FY 2011-2012 <sup>1</sup>	% Change
PennDOT	\$343,801	\$325,129	-5.4%
DEP	\$464,163	\$334,064	-28.1%
DCNR	\$120,467	\$95,610	-20.7%
PHMC	\$22,494	\$21,397	-5.1%
DCED	\$595,297	\$342,369	-42.5%
Education	\$12,856,614	\$11,620,892	-9.6%
Fish and Boat	\$17	\$0	-100%
SSHE	\$503,355	\$232,599	-53.8%
Agriculture	\$133,079	\$124,621	-6.4%

(Continued on page 18)

# Let's Go Fitchin': The Steamboat Trails of John Fitch

Russell Steveson | *A.D. Marble & Company*

During the summer of 2010, A.D. Marble & Company conducted a Phase I Cultural Resource Investigation for the Southampton Creek Stream Restoration Project in Upper Southampton Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Philadelphia District. The purpose of the project was to identify potential historic architectural and archaeological resources as part of the feasibility assessment and design process for the proposed creek restoration. The creek is a Trout Stocked Fishery (TSF), has a total drainage area of 5.8 square miles, and flows through an urban landscape. The proposed project would restore the stream banks and riparian buffer to reduce the influx of pollutants to the stream; filter, retain, and absorb stormwater, improve aquatic habitat; and reestablish the sediment transport cycle in Southampton Creek.

An initial survey was conducted to determine the historical development of above- and belowground resources within the project study area. Several resources were identified adjacent to the proposed project, including a concrete and mortared rock dam ruin; remnant landscape features indicating dams ponds, and head- or tailraces possibly associated with unknown mills; and several dwellings including a farmstead (Figure 1). Preliminary research identified local folklore claims that John Fitch, builder of the first recorded steam-powered boat in the United States, conducted a trial run along Southampton Creek south of the present town of Davisville. Site-specific research was then conducted to answer questions related to the role the dam, ruins, and buildings may or may not have played in the development of steam-

powered water travel.

John Fitch was born in 1743 in rural Connecticut, the fifth in a family of six. He was reputed to have a strong aptitude for learning and was assisting a neighbor with property surveys by the age of eleven and apprenticed to a watch maker by seventeen. During the Revolutionary War, Fitch served as a lieutenant and gunsmith for the New Jersey militia. He first moved to Bucks County, Pennsylvania in 1781. Several sources, including W.W.H Davis's *History of Bucks County*, provide accounts of Fitch's early tests of model steamboats along Southampton Creek. Reportedly, Fitch was inspired

(Continued on page 10)



Figure 1. Aerial Photograph of the Project Area in 1958 . Note remnant of backwater pond located west of the Watts farmstead. A retirement community now surrounds the Watts farm while the adjacent agricultural land has been replaced by residential housing. 1958 aerial obtained from [www.pennpilot.psu.edu](http://www.pennpilot.psu.edu)

(Continued from page 9)

to use steam to power a vehicle when he witnessed a speeding carriage during a walk in the Bucks County countryside.

Site-specific research included a review of the manuscript collection of the Bucks County Historical Society. Original letters by Abraham McDowell, a local contemporary who, as a young man, assisted Fitch with steamboat tests, were identified in the collection. The correspondence indicates that Fitch lived in the John McDowell family home in Warminster Township for a period of two or three years. McDowell states that Fitch used a nearby log shop owned by James “Cobe” Scout to build a four-foot model steamboat with a wheel at the stern. McDowell records the events surrounding the testing of the steamboat in 1785:

*When the boat was done it was taken to a dam on the farm of Arthur Watts, in Southampton Township, near the present village of Davisville, and*

*now owned by General John Davis. John Fitch was accompanied by James Scout, Abraham Sutphin, Anthony Scout, John McDowell, and William Vansant, and Charles Garrison....I was sent up to the head of the dam where the water was shallow and the mud deep, as the men did not like to go where they would get muddy....The boat was launched and in a few minutes it put off under full head-way, puffing and the smoke flying and very soon reached the opposite side of the dam. This run being too short, it was next started lengthwise of the dam, and made several trips back and forth, to and from the point where I stood. When it reached me I turned it round and headed it toward the starting point again...We were there at least two or three hours, and until all were tired, and satisfied with the experiment...*

Arthur Watts, the owner identified in McDowell’s papers, was confirmed as the title-holder of the farmstead located adjacent to the dam in the project area through deed research efforts.

(Continued on page 19)



Figure 2: 1928 and 1938 Aerials of the Project Area. Note dam, rechanneled streambed, and pool in 1938 image. Source: 1928 aerial obtained from [www.philageohistory.com](http://www.philageohistory.com), 1938 aerial obtained from [www.pennpilot.psu.edu](http://www.pennpilot.psu.edu).

# PAEP Member Spotlight

Matt Elsasser | *Susquehanna River Basin Commission*

## *Where did you attend college and what Degree(s) did you earn?*

I attended Millersville University of Pennsylvania where I earned a Bachelors of Science Degree in Environmental Biology.

## *What do you do at the Susquehanna River Basin Commission?*

I am an Environmental Technician with SRBC in the Restoration and Protection Program. My main responsibility is to assist in the maintenance and installation of data collecting devices for SRBC's Remote Water Quality Monitoring Network (RWQMN). The RWQMN continuously measures and reports water quality conditions of smaller rivers and streams located in northern tier Pennsylvania and southern tier New York. The data helps agency officials track existing water quality conditions and any changes in them on an ongoing, real-time basis.

The stations are operating in areas where drilling in the Marcellus shale is most active, as well as other locations where no drilling activities are planned so SRBC can collect control-data. The five parameters being measured are: temperature, pH, conductivity, dissolved oxygen, and turbidity. The monitoring network provides constant data collection with instruments sensitive enough to detect subtle changes in water quality on a frequency that will allow background conditions and any changes to them to be documented throughout the year. Currently, there are approximately 50 RWQMN sites in the Susquehanna River Basin throughout Pennsylvania and New York.

## *What led you to decide to go into the environmental field?*

I've always had a passion for the great outdoors. I grew up hunting, fishing and camping with my father. Some of my best memories were made in the field. When I went to college I knew that I wanted to apply my love for the outdoors to my career path. I decided to go into the Environmental Biology program at Millersville University.



I get great satisfaction knowing that I play a part in preserving and protecting the environment so that our future generations can enjoy the same opportunities that I have been given.

## *What do you like best about your job?*

I like that my job provides me many opportunities for field work. I get to travel to some of the most pristine areas of our state and help protect and monitor the water quality. The work is challenging and rewarding. I've always enjoyed being in and around waterways and this job allows me to do what I love while playing a key role in protecting our precious water resources. Working for SRBC on the RWQMN project really makes me feel like I am on the frontlines of environmental protection.

## *How did you find out about PAEP?*

I first heard about PAEP more than two years ago. At that time, I was working for an environmental consulting firm and my supervisor, who was a member of PAEP, encouraged me to join.

*(Continued on page 12)*

### *What do you like most about PAEP?*

The best thing about PAEP is the great people I have met through PAEP events and conferences. The networking opportunities and the contacts I've made with professionals from many walks of the environmental field since being a member are great resources to any Environmental Professional.

### *What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?*

I've never been one to stay indoors very much. In the spring and summer, my wife and I enjoy camping as well as fishing, boating and hiking. In the fall, I focus much of my free time on hunting white-tails. Once winter hits, I try to get out as much as possible to hike or just take a drive and explore our great state.

## 2011 Corporate Members

PAEP would not be the organization it is without our corporate members.

Thank you for your continued support of PAEP and the enhancement of our professionals and industry!



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# Agency Spotlight

Dave Willis | *Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission*

## *Job Title*

Environmental Manager

## *Years of Experience*

Almost thirty years of experience. I've been with the Turnpike Commission for almost 23 years.

## *Responsibilities with current position*

As the Environmental Manager I'm responsible for obtaining environmental clearance for projects in the Highway Program of the Capital Plan.

## *Enjoyable aspects of job*

There are a couple things I can think of off the top of my head. The diversity of the job makes it very interesting in that we might be working on issues ranging from natural resources, to cultural resources, to noise analysis all in one day. I can honestly say that no two days have been the same. The other thing I enjoy are the people I've worked with over the years, including our own staff, consultant teams and regulatory agency representatives. People can make a difference in making your job enjoyable.

## *Lessons learned*

Be conscientious about your work but try to have fun doing it. Treat people with respect and courtesy.

## *History with PAEP*

It's more like ancient history now. I got involved with PAEP in the late 1980's with Dan Johnson, Wayne Kober, Greg Grabowicz, Chip Elliott, Sandy Basehore and others. I served in several capacities including a couple terms as president.

## *Favorite PAEP memories*

Clearly it has been the people I've met. I remember a weekend retreat many years ago to a member's cabin down near the Maryland line where we talked about the environmental process and transportation issues. It was a nice setting and a chance to interact away from the office setting.



## *General thoughts on PAEP as an organization*

I think one of the strengths of the organization has been the diversity of its members. There are people from a lot of different professional backgrounds that are part of the organization and that helps broaden everyone's perspective. I also think it has great value in establishing a network among a variety of practitioners.

## *Personal Information*

My wife, Kathy, and I have been married for over 25 years. We have three children; Molly, Sam and Kevin. Molly and Sam are in college and Kevin is in high school.

## *Hobbies*

When I have the time I like to fish, particularly on the Susquehanna River. I have enjoyed watching my children's athletic events including soccer and lacrosse. I also enjoy cooking, particularly Italian dishes.

## *Funny story*

It's hard to pick just one. Many years ago, the Agency Coordination Meetings (ACMs) were held in the ground floor of the Commission's office. About this time there was a concern about terrorism and security was heightened at all state and federal buildings, including ours. On one of the days of the ACM, security was notified that someone had entered the building without signing in. The meeting had already started, but guess where the State Police went looking for the intruder? That livened up the meeting!

# Corporate Member Spotlight

## Penn Environmental & Remediation, Incorporated

### *What does Penn E&R do and specialize in?*

Penn Environmental & Remediation, Inc., (Penn E&R) is a full service environmental, engineering & energy consulting company with offices in Eastern (Hatfield), Central (Wellsboro) and Western (Pittsburgh) Pennsylvania. Penn E&R's mission is to provide our clients with reliable, cost-effective solutions to their environmental, engineering and energy problems. We offer responsive, reliable expertise to industry and government to provide cost-effective solutions to our client's problems. Our experience and dedication ensures that our clients' expectations are always met or exceeded. Our professional staff combines expert judgment, state-of-the-art resources and a company-wide dedication to understanding the needs of our clients to provide superior service.

### *Tell us a little about yourself...*

I am Michael Christie, P.G., Vice President at Penn E&R and one of the founding Principals. I have a BS in Geology and an MS in Hydrogeology, and have been working in the environmental consulting industry for the past 25 years.

### *When and how did your company start?*

Founded in 1996, Penn E&R's executive management has more than one-hundred years of combined experience in environmental, engineering & energy consulting. The Company is a subsidiary of Penn Color, Inc., a privately owned innovator in the manufacturing of pigment dispersions and color concentrates. Penn Color supplies colorants globally to major producers of plastics, printing ink, cosmetics and coatings.

### *Outside of your normal business, what kind of community service activities does Penn E&R partake in?*

Penn E&R and its employees contribute to the United Way, and our Parent Company, Penn Color supports many needy causes throughout Bucks County, including the Boys Scouts and the YMCA.



### *What is the most interesting or unique project your company has been a part of?*

Penn E&R has been involved in many complex but very interesting jobs over the past 15 years. Some of our most interesting jobs have included projects involving the coal mining and natural gas industries, and the investigation/remediation and ultimate reuse of former brownfield sites.

### *What makes Penn E&R stand out from the other firms, what makes your company different?*

Penn E&R is unique in that our parent Company, Penn Color, Inc., is a major manufacturer. Through our relationship with Penn Color we have significant resources available to us (i.e., skilled labor, machine shops) that other consultants companies do not have, which allows us to be more cost effective. Also, through our experiences with Penn Color, we understand that cost-effective, client oriented solutions are the key to success.

### *Why did you become a corporate member of PAEP?*

Help support the growth and success of environmental professionals in Pennsylvania.



### A.D. Marble & Company

A.D. Marble & Company is pleased to announce that President and CEO, Roseline Marston has been selected for the Philadelphia SmartCEO 2010 Brava! Women Business Achievement Award. She is amongst the 25 top CEO female leaders honored for their success. The first annual Brava! Awards celebration event was held Wednesday, November 10, 2010 at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia, PA.

Ms. Marston is committed to building a stronger community both economically and philanthropically and most importantly demonstrating leadership throughout the Greater Philadelphia region. Integrity, loyalty, work-life balance, accountability, and forward thinking are Roseline's core values. She strives to instill them throughout the company and promotes them as she sits on a variety of boards, such as Congreso de Latinos Unidos, The Philadelphia Foundation, the transportation luncheon board for the March of Dimes, and the Philadelphia Chapter Board of American Council of Engineering Companies. Roseline is profiled in the November issue of SmartCEO, which is read by more than 15,000 business owners in the Philadelphia metropolitan area.

Roseline is profiled in the November issue of SmartCEO, a regional publication read by more than 15,000 business owners in the Philadelphia metropolitan area. SmartCEO magazine is specifically designed to deliver innovative ideas, guiding advice and forward-thinking insights about the daily challenges of running a "growing company." [»Read the full article.](#)

A.D. Marble & Company is honored to have such a strong leader. Please join us in congratulating our President and CEO, Roseline Marston!

A Senior Architectural Historian from our Conshohocken office was recently deployed to New Orleans, Louisiana, under an existing Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Contract. She will assist with the ongoing response associated with the Hurricane Katrina Recovery Efforts. The

primary role of this assignment is to complete the standing structures component of FEMA's identification, evaluation, and determination of effects responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act in coordination with a Historic Architect and other Historic Preservation Specialists. General activities include: identifying historic preservation issues and needs in program activities as they relate to compliance with Section 106; managing and completing Section 106 compliance documentation for various FEMA-funded projects; coordinating with involved parties, including the State Historic Preservation Office, to assist in making decisions about project alternatives and the resolution of adverse effects to historic resources; working independently or with other Historic Preservation Specialists in drafting necessary documents; and assisting with both internal and external training on historic preservation issues and topics.

The City of Philadelphia Department of Streets selected A.D. Marble & Company as the prime consultant for the *Architectural Historian and Archaeologists Fiscal Year 2010 Capital Budget* contract.

A.D. Marble & Company will perform cultural resource investigations for various transportation projects in the City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In addition, our project team will provide NEPA evaluations and assist the City with public involvement programs for the projects.

### EcoAnalysts, Inc.

EcoAnalysts, Inc. was awarded two five-year contracts in 2010 to support the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA-Washington, DC).

The two contracts will provide aquatic bioassessment services for the National Aquatic Resource surveys (NARS). EcoAnalysts will provide the EPA with technical and scientific expertise in support of a comprehensive assessment of the nation's waters. In the first contract, EcoAnalysts is partnered with Tetra Tech, Inc.; a Los Angeles based environ-

*(Continued on page 16)*

(Continued from page 15)

mental engineering and consulting firm, to provide field sampling services for the NARS. In the second, EcoAnalysts is the prime contractor leading a team of multiple companies to provide all laboratory processing services.

“Having two five-year contracts this size under our belts really helps lay the groundwork for future growth and planning for the company,” said Gary Lester, EcoAnalysts, Inc. CEO.

Along with being the largest contracts the firm has been awarded, these projects will also provide EcoAnalysts with opportunities to hire 8-12 new field crew positions throughout the western states and boost revenues for the next five years.

“These contracts help us break through the perception that we are just a lab and show people that we also have on-board expertise and capacity for the field work components of these large bio-assessment projects,” said Lester.

The National Aquatic Resource Survey is a nationwide series of assessments over several years designed to generate statistically valid estimates of the ecological health of all waterbody types (i.e., streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands, and coastal areas) through sampling a representative assemblage of the aquatic community and associated ecological data.

## McCormick Taylor, Inc.

McCormick Taylor’s Philadelphia office has launched a new bike-sharing program, aptly titled “Philadelphia Green Trips”, to encourage personal health and eco-friendly transportation alternatives. The start-up pilot program was announced on April 18 and offers five new hybrid bicycles for Philadelphia staff to use during the work day as an alternative to auto travel for short trips to and from local meetings, as well as for shopping and recreational activities. The bicycles are conveniently housed in the parking garage at McCormick Taylor’s Commerce Square location.

Inspired by bike-share programs throughout the nation, Vice President Bert Cossaboon initiated Philadelphia Green Trips and donated all five bicycles, as well as helmets and bike locks. Citing

“growing consciousness to advance smart transportation at the employee level” as one of his goals, Bert is hopeful that the program will find success in Philadelphia and prompt other businesses and McCormick Taylor locations to consider bike-sharing.

In addition to the environmental benefits of bike-sharing, it’s a great way for employees to boost their personal fitness and incorporate exercise into their lunch hour. The Commerce Square office is conveniently located near the Schuylkill River Trail and is just one street away from newly added bike lanes on 22nd Street (see link to interactive map that shows bike lanes and trail).

Philadelphia Green Trips is membership-based and currently offered to Philadelphia staff for an annual fee of \$25.00 - less than 7¢ per day. Membership revenues will be used to expand the program, and for every 12 members gained, one bicycle can be added. Employees are invited to take advantage of one free “test” trip before committing to a membership.



McCormick Taylor’s “Green Trips” bikes are numbered 1-5 in the Commerce Square Parking Garage.

Need some help planning your ride? Check out [this great online resource](#) for getting around Philly by bike (via designated bike lanes and bike trails).

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## Michael Baker Corporation

On December 18<sup>th</sup>, several employees from Baker's Harrisburg, PA office participated in the Annual Holiday Party held by the St. Francis Soup Kitchen in Harrisburg, PA. Together, with other volunteers, they served over 300 people and gave gifts to over 100 kids. As part of Baker's Next Generation efforts to give back to the community, three boxes of canned goods were also donated to the soup kitchen.

Casey Waller has joined Baker's Harrisburg office as a Marketing Specialist. Her responsibilities include marketing and business development within Central Pennsylvania for multiple engineering disciplines. Casey has 13 years experience in the engineering industry and remains active in community and professional organizations including leadership roles in the Central PA Chapter of the Society for Marketing Professional Services (SMPS), the ACE (Architecture, Construction, Engineering) Mentor Program of Central PA, the Carlisle Chamber of Commerce, and the Project SHARE food bank.

High Speed Rail in Pennsylvania: Connecting Strong Communities - Baker's Andy Batson and Chris Spahr presented a session on the Keystone Rail Corridor at the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Planning Association with Deputy Secretary Toby Fauver of PennDOT and Harriet Parcels from the Lancaster County Planning Commission. The session outlined PennDOT's efforts to improve the rider experience and link strong communities with fast, efficient, sustainable transportation through multiple station projects. The presenters focused on PennDOT's longstanding commitment to improving the Keystone Service and station renovation projects at Middletown, Mount Joy, Lancaster, and Coatesville.

Baker joins forces with Gannett Fleming and Da-wood to participate in the annual Canstruction of Central Pennsylvania event. Canstruction is a competition that consists of the design and construction of sculptures made entirely of canned food items. The structure is limited to 10'x10'x8' high. All the food used to create the sculptures will be donated to Regional Food Banks and Pantries of Central PA. The creations will be judged and on

display at the PA Farm Show Complex from March 5 - 13, 2011 during the PA Home Show, prior to distribution. Each corporation on the team contributed \$1,000 this year to purchase the canned goods. More information about the event can be found at [www.canstructioncentralpa.org](http://www.canstructioncentralpa.org).

Baker's Horsham, PA office, in association with 4Ward Planning, LLC, will be completing the Willow Grove Train Station Relocation Feasibility Study for the Township of Upper Moreland. The Transportation Community Development Initiative (TCDI) study will lay the groundwork on the feasibility of positioning the SEPTA Regional Rail Station as a catalyst for transformation of the Willow Grove Redevelopment District into a vibrant town center. The Baker Team is honored and excited to be working with the Township of Upper Moreland and the stakeholders for the Willow Grove Train Station to develop a study that will enable the community to attract quality, sustainable economic development in the area.

## Skelly & Loy

The Harrisburg Regional Chamber & Capital Region Economic Development Corporation (CREDC) presented awards to local individuals and businesses for their outstanding achievements during its Awards Ceremony held at the Radisson Penn Harris Hotel and Convention Center. This year, Sandi Loy Bell, CEO of Skelly and Loy, was the recipient of the 2010 Distinguished Volunteer Service Award. The Distinguished Volunteer Service Award recognizes one individual's commitment to the Harrisburg Regional Chamber & CREDC through longevity of volunteerism, event attendance, and committee attendance and participation. As this award is decided upon by Chamber and CREDC staff, it is certainly an honor for Sandi to be the 2010 recipient.



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## Economic Development

The Pennsylvania FY 2011-2012 budget proposal maintains a number of economic development programs, important to encouraging job creation in the Commonwealth. Even though, the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) has been cut by approximately 43%, some key programs remain. Overall one hundred and twenty-seven programs have been whittled down to fifty-six; an impressive effort to establish a more efficient DCED. All of the programs historically known as legislative walking around money have been eliminated, as promised.

Other programs have been consolidated into new programs - the main ones being; The Liberty Loan Fund (comprised of 6 programs including, the Pennsylvania Venture Capital Fund, the Pennsylvania Venture Capital Guarantee Program, various loan programs and the CFA's assets and programs), Pennsylvania First (managed by the Governor's Action Team; formerly the Opportunity Grant Program, Customized Job Training, and Infrastructure Development), Discovered in PA, Developed in PA (small business and entrepreneurial assistance) and Partnerships for Regional Economic Performance (PREP) (consists of Industrial Development Assistance, Local Development Districts, Small Business Development Centers, and Industrial Resource Centers). A new authority and board will be created through legislation for the Liberty Loan Fund as the current Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) does not meet the Administration's needs; a structure composed of fifteen legislative and gubernatorial appointees requiring a simple majority as opposed to a supermajority is planned. The full details of these programs are forthcoming and anticipated prior to final budget passage.

However, many tax credits are being maintained to incentivize business investment and growth, including the expansion of the Research and Development Tax Credit to \$55 million, a \$15 million increase from the current program.

*Other tax credits included in this budget for job creators:*

- Film Production Tax Credit – \$60 million
- Neighborhood Assistance Tax Credit – \$18 million
- Coal Waste Removal and Ultra Clean Fuels Tax Credit – \$18 million
- Job Creation Tax Credit – \$10.1 million
- Resource Enhancement and Protection Tax Credit – \$10 million

Of greater concern to many, is the new power being vested in the Secretary of the DCED to expedite permits or pending action in any agency where the creation of jobs may be impacted. This is an unprecedented role for the DCED and in light of the Marcellus Shale drilling boom, is disconcerting for the environmental community. Additionally, a full review of the regulatory process is under way. The Corbett Administration is promoting friction-free processes for state government interaction with job creators to maintain economic momentum and competitiveness. To address permit approval and backlog issues, PennDOT and the Department of Environmental Protection have begun auditing all of their permit processes to make them more responsive to the needs of job creators.

For a full preview of the Governor's budget proposal, refer to the [Governor Corbett Budget Dashboard](#).

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(Continued from page 10)

Additional contemporary accounts were identified in the manuscript collection that suggested the steamboat tests occurred at other locations in Warminster Township. Letters from Edward and John Longstreth, whose relatives owned the adjacent land south of Arthur Watts, documented several tests that occurred in April of 1785. The first test was conducted just east of “Cobe” Scouts shop on Southampton Creek. A second test was conducted on a small stream in a meadow owned by Joseph Longstreth, and a third test was reported to have been conducted on Southampton Creek, approximately 0.5 miles south of Davisville.

Although the McDowell and Longstreth accounts provide conflicting information on the location of the testing, they are consistent on three points: 1) several tests occurred, of which two were on Southampton Creek; 2) the model boat was constructed at the shop owned by “Cobe” Scout in Warminster; and 3) the tests occurred in a backwater dam pond.

Historic aerial photographs from the twentieth century were reviewed and compared to identify changes to the landscape over time. A comparison of 1928 and 1938 aerial photographs depicting the Watts Farmstead and adjacent Southampton Creek identified a number of changes in the 10-year period including the appearance of a dam and backwater pond and realignment of the Southampton Creek stream channel (Figure 2). The 1958 aerial shows the dam and stream realignment but the backwater pool has been infilled (Figure 1).

The review of the historic mapping indicates that the dam and backwater pond were constructed between 1928 and 1938, approximately 150 years after Fitch’s test on Southampton Creek. A careful field examination of the dam revealed it was constructed using concrete with stone at the edges of the wing walls and supporting buttresses. The upstream banks were lined with stone and the concrete backwater pond walls were visible beneath deposited sediment. Given the absence of the dam structure prior to 1938 and use of concrete as a building material, it is improbable that the steamboat test were conducted at this site. Previous dam inspection reports did not identify the purpose of the dam, however, the surrounding agricultural landscape seems to indicate water



Figure 3: Photograph of the unnamed dam in Southampton Creek .Note the concrete walls, spillway, splash pad and remaining wood flashboard gate with metal strapping. Photograph taken by author, 2010

stored by the dam was used for irrigation (Figure 3).

Other potential sites for the 1785 steamboat tests along Southampton Creek were researched. Historic maps from 1831, 1850, 1876, and 1891 identify a sawmill located in the vicinity of Davisville. The Bucks County Mill Inventory confirms that a sawmill was located in this vicinity during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. A 1763 land draft identifies a 46-acre tract owned by Arthur Watts bounded by Davisville and Street Roads, which included the farmstead adjacent to the project study area and land on which the Davisville Sawmill would be built (Figure 4).

(Continued on page 20)

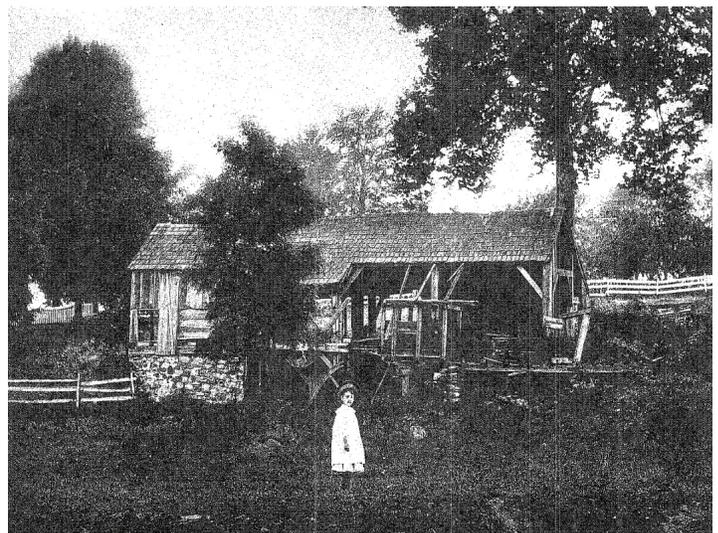


Figure 4: This photograph of a young child standing in front of the Davisville Sawmill was located during the background research effort and shows the appearance of the mill ca. 1880. Source: Bucks County Historical Society.

(Continued from page 19)

A review of a 1763 land draft of the property revealed the sawmill property was owned by Watts, making the McDowell account of the steamboat testing at the Davisville Sawmill property feasible. A 1789 land transaction between Charles Garrison and William Watts states “It began as a stone on Arthur Watts’ Sawmill Dam and ran up to Street Road.”, confirming that the land containing the sawmill, dam, and mill pond at Davisville was under the ownership of Arthur Watts between 1763 and 1789. The exact date on which the sawmill commenced operation could not be determined, but based on McDowell’s account, the 1763 land draft, and the 1789 land transaction, the date of initial operation can be narrowed to between 1770 and 1780. An overlay of historic mapping onto modern base mapping in GIS revealed the Davisville Sawmill was located northeast of project study area.

Archaeological testing near the former sawmill further strengthened the conclusions drawn from the research effort. Staple-like metal objects, known as “log dogs” were recovered during field activities

Through extensive research and field investigations, it was determined that the dam ruin in the project study area was not in existence during the Fitch Tests. Archaeological evidence supported the conclusion that the Davisville Sawmill was present at the time of steamboat tests. In addition, the historic location of the mill matched the description of at least one of the tests mentioned in the historic accounts. In spite of these findings, no documentary information or physical artifacts were uncovered that directly linked the Fitch tests to the Davisville Sawmill site; therefore the research results and archaeological investigations established that no potentially eligible historic or archaeological resources are located within the project study area. The findings of the study enabled the USACE to move forward with the development of the stream restoration project.

*Russell Stevenson is an architectural historian/historian with A. D. Marble & Company. He holds a B.A. in History from Penn State and a M.A. in Historic Preservation from the University of Delaware. He has over four years of experience in cultural resources management, including positions in both the public and private sectors. He was responsible for the historic research and writing efforts for the Southampton Creek Stream Restoration Project.*



Figure 5: Photograph of log dog found in a shovel test pit near the site of the Davisville Sawmill. Photograph taken by A.D. Marble & Company, 2010.

(Figure 5). Log dogs were used to hold two logs together and prevent shifting during lumber processing. The discovery of objects commonly associated with saw mill operations further suggested that the Davisville Sawmill was adjacent to the project study area.

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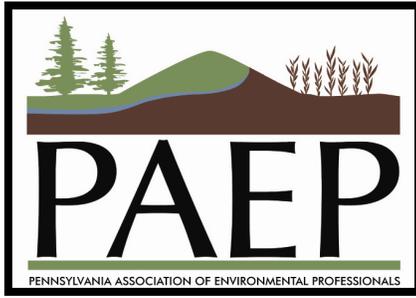
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# Become a Member of PAEP!

Membership in PAEP offers important benefits for Environmental Professionals involved in environmental education, research, planning, assessment, and management.

Some of these benefits include:

## Section Events

PAEP regional sections hold monthly programs featuring current environmental issue presentations and social networking opportunities. Three regional sections, Eastern, Central, and Western and the Pollution Prevention Energy Efficiency Roundtable (P2/E2), provide programs throughout the state.

## Membership Directory

Published as a PDF once a year on the PAEP website, the Membership Directory is a way to connect with and search for other environmental professionals.

## Annual Conference

PAEP conducts an annual conference that brings members from all regions of the state together to participate in educational and technical sessions, enjoy networking opportunities, and join in traveling workshops highlighting business practices and successful project case studies that emphasize environmental stewardship.

## Newsletter

PAEP publishes a quarterly newsletter that is distributed electronically to members. The newsletter provides current information to members regarding upcoming section events and training opportunities, regulatory updates, and member news.

## Resume Postings

An opportunity for members, including student members, to post resumes on the PAEP website in search of jobs and internships.

## Job Postings

Environmental-oriented job announcements are sent to members via email.

## PAEP Forum

The new PAEP Forum allows members to talk about the PAEP, discuss environmental topics, and share ideas and tips easily and effectively through the message board online. The forum includes a variety of technical and non-technical PAEP-related sections to organize postings.

## Book Club

Regular suggested reads on environmental issues along with an outlet for group discussion.

## Special Rates for Students and Government/Non-Profit Employees

A special membership rate is available for students and government/non-profit employees. Students can join for \$15 per year. Government/non-profit employees can join for \$40 per year, a savings of \$10 off the general annual membership fee.

## Interested in Joining PAEP?

Visit the PAEP Website <http://www.paep.org/> to download a membership application.

Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Professionals

[Info@paep.org](mailto:info@paep.org)

174 Crestview Drive  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Phone: 814-355-2467  
Fax: 814-355-2452

# PAEP Membership Application

Membership Category:  **General (\$60/year)**  **Government or Non-Profit Employees (\$40/year)**  
 **Student (\$15/year)**  **Associate (\$60/year)**  **Corporate (\$200/year)**

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College/University: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Year Graduated: \_\_\_\_\_

Curriculum: \_\_\_\_\_

Specialties, Areas of Expertise: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Professional Registrations, Certifications, Licenses: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Other Associations or Professional Affiliations: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PAEP Committee Interests** (check one or more that apply):

- Annual Conference  Newsletter  Membership  
 Conservation/ Heritage  Website  Conservation Museum

**General Member:** Persons whose profession involves the application of science, engineering, law or the design arts in environmental management, planning, research, education or in the implementation of environmental protection regulations. Eligible to hold elective office and vote.

**Student Member:** Persons enrolled full-time in an environmentally-related curriculum at an accredited college or university. No voting rights.

**Associate Member:** Persons interested in supporting and advancing the goals and purposes of the Association but who are not eligible or do not seek general membership. No voting rights.

**Corporate Member:** Corporations, partnerships, agencies of federal, state or local government, and other entities. No voting rights.

**FOR CORPORATE MEMBERS**  
(Complete this Section only)

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_

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E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Specialty Areas: \_\_\_\_\_  
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SEND MAIL TO:  Home Address  Office Address

Do you want to receive future PAEP correspondence via email?  
 YES  NO

**Please select employer type:**

- Consulting  Industry  Government  Education  Other

I subscribe to the PAEP Standards of Ethical Conduct (see PAEP Background Information in this Directory).

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature (Required)*

*Note: Your PAEP annual dues cover membership in the Association for the calendar year. Renewal notices are mailed at the end of each year.*

**SEND COMPLETED APPLICATION AND CHECK TO:**

**Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Professionals**  
174 Crestview Drive  
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Website: [www.paep.org](http://www.paep.org) Email: [info@paep.org](mailto:info@paep.org)