

News

from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection



Tom Wolf, Governor | John Quigley, Secretary



DEP Calendar of Events

Aug. 20

Public Hearing on Permit Modification for MAX Environmental Technologies Yukon Landfill, 6 p.m., South Huntington Township Volunteer Fire Department, 90 Supervisor Drive, West Newton. Contact: John Poister, 412-442-4000

Aug. 26

Pennsylvania Pipeline Infrastructure Task Force meeting, 1 p.m., Susquehanna Conference Rooms A & B, DEP South-central Regional Office, 909 Elmerton Ave., Harrisburg. Contact: Karyn Yordy, 717-787-2814

Aug. 27

Conventional Oil and Gas Advisory Committee meeting, 10 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Kurt Klappowski, 717-772-2199

Sept. 1

Storage Tank Advisory Committee meeting, 10 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Charlie Swokel, 717-772-5806

Sept. 2

Oil and Gas Technical Advisory Board meeting, 10 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Kurt Klappowski, 717-772-2199

Sept. 2

Public Hearing on Air Quality Plan for Proposed

DEP Releases Latest Revisions of Oil and Gas Rulemaking

HARRISBURG, PA -- DEP recently announced the draft final revisions to the "Environmental Protection Performance Standards at Oil and Gas Well Sites" rulemaking (Chapters 78 and 78a). This revision continues DEP's commitment to modernizing and strengthening the environmental controls employed by both the conventional and unconventional industries to assure the protection of public health, safety, and the environment.

"Responsible energy development in Pennsylvania is key to the commonwealth's future," said DEP Secretary John Quigley. "We are committed to protecting our natural resources, and these rules strengthen safeguards for our water and environment."

"These rules are the culmination of one of the largest public participation efforts the department has ever seen, with nearly 30,000 comments and 12 public hearings during two public comment periods," said Quigley.

[Read more.](#)

DEP Studies Shipwreck in Lake Erie



Brian Eppley prepares to deploy a remote operated vehicle to study a shipwreck in Lake Erie.

ERIE, PA -- On August 12, DEP staff went aboard the Regional Science Consortium boat to study the S. K. Martin shipwreck site.

Each year, DEP staff visit several shipwreck sites in Lake Erie to document ecological habitats and historical artifacts. DEP deploys a remote operated vehicle to depths of up to 60 feet to observe the shipwrecks' present condition and to record the presence of any

Power Plant in Lackawanna County, 6 p.m., Valley View High School, 1 Columbus Drive, Archbald. Contact: Colleen Connolly, 570-826-2511

Sept. 8

Board of Coal Mine Safety meeting, 10 a.m., DEP Cambria Office, 286 Industrial Park Road, Ebensburg. Contact: Allison D. Gaida, 724-404-3147

Sept. 10

Northwest Regional Roundtable meeting, 10 a.m., DEP Northwest Regional Office, 230 Chestnut St., Meadville. contact: Melanie Williams, 814-332-6945

Sept. 15

Environmental Quality Board (EQB) meeting, 9 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St. Harrisburg. Contact: Jen Swan, 717-783-8727

Sept. 15

Citizens Advisory Council meeting, 10 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, Harrisburg. Contact: Jen Swan, 717-783-8727

Sept. 19

Lake Erie International Coastal Cleanup. There are 17 different volunteer locations in Erie County. Register [here](#).

Sept. 22

Sewage Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting, 10:30 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: John Diehl, 717-783-2941

Sept. 23

Pennsylvania Pipeline Infrastructure Task Force meeting, 1 p.m., Susquehanna Conference Rooms A & B, DEP South-central Regional Office, 909 Elmerton Ave., Harrisburg. Contact: Karyn Yordy, 717-787-2814

Sept. 24

Solid Waste Advisory and Recycling Fund Committee meeting, 10 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Richard Ashley, 717-787-2553

species using the sites as habitat, including invasive gobies and mussels.

This annual initiative is managed by DEP's Coastal Resources Management Program and funded by a Section 309 Enhancement Grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The S.K. Martin was first launched in 1883 as a passenger ship. It was converted to a bulk freighter in 1888 and was sunk when it sailed through a northwest gale while fully loaded with coal.

DEP Offers Funding for Projects to Improve Local Water Quality by Reducing Stormwater Runoff

HARRISBURG, PA -- DEP has opened a grant program to control urban stormwater and improve local water quality. Municipalities, including cities, boroughs, or incorporated towns within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed are eligible to apply.

"Urban stormwater runoff has a big role in local water quality, it's so important to manage that stormwater properly to prevent pollution from reaching our waterways," said DEP Secretary John Quigley.

These grants will serve as a valuable tool to enable local governments to improve their urban stormwater management and ultimately, their water quality and that of their neighbors downstream."

[Read more.](#)

Secretary Quigley Discusses Pipelines on PCN's Environmental Focus



Secretary Quigley was recently featured on PCN to discuss pipeline development in Pennsylvania.

HARRISBURG, PA -- DEP Secretary John Quigley recently spoke to Bob Oltmanns on Environmental Focus, a program provided by the Pennsylvania Environmental Council that airs on PCN.

During the interview, Quigley talked about the difficulty drillers have in getting their gas to market in a way that does not impact communities or the environment. As a result, Governor Wolf created the Pipeline Infrastructure Task Force, of which Quigley is chair, to develop a list of best practices for the planning, development, operation, and maintenance of natural gas pipelines.

Quigley emphasized the need for Pennsylvania to develop a world-class pipeline infrastructure system that does not negatively impact public health or the environment.

[Click here to view the interview.](#)

DEP Opens Coastal Zone Grant Program to Restore, Protect Pennsylvania



Public Input

Aug. 31

Deadline to comment on the NPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems, PAG-13. Contact: the Bureau of Point and Non-Point Source Management, 717-787-8184

Sept. 8

Deadline to comment on the Radiation Protection Compliance and Enforcement Guidance. Contact: Joseph Melnic, 717-783-9730

Sept. 23

Deadline to comment on the Land Recycling Program Technical Guidance Manual for Vapor Intrusion into Buildings from Groundwater and Soil under Act 2 (261-0300-101). Contact: Troy Conrad, 717-783-9480

Oct. 13

Deadline to comment on the Proposed Rulemaking for Control of VOC Emissions from Miscellaneous Metal Parts Surface Coating Processes, Miscellaneous Plastic Parts Surface Coating Processes and Pleasure Craft Surface Coatings. Contact: EQB, 717-787-4526



Speakers Bureau



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Pristine Lake Erie shoreline.

HARRISBURG, PA -- Grant applications are now being accepted for the preservation and protection of Pennsylvania's coastal zones along Lake Erie and the Delaware Estuary. This week, DEP opened the annual Coastal Zone Grant Program to fund projects to enhance these important natural resources.

"We are proud to offer these grants to enrich Pennsylvania's coastal zones," said DEP Secretary John Quigley. "I encourage all organizations within the coastal zones to consider what they can do to care for these important environmental assets."

Coastal zone management grants support programs that improve public access, preserve habitats, enhance community planning, and educate the public about the benefits of the state's coastal zones. Grants are open to any incorporated non-profit, academic institution, or government organization that borders Pennsylvania's coastal zones.

[Read more.](#)

DEP's Dan Vilello Receives County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania's Friend of County Government Award



Vilello accepted the award from the Clinton County Commissioners. Pictured from left are Jeff Snyder, Dan Vilello, Joel Long, and Pete Smeltz.

WILLIAMSPORT, PA -- Local Government Liaison for DEP's North-central Regional Office Dan Vilello was recently honored by the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania's (CCAP) Friend of County Government Award during their annual conference in Pittsburgh on August 4.

The Friend of County Government Award is presented to an individual or organization who has demonstrated a continued commitment to the improvement of county government by assisting CCAP and its members while maintaining the highest ethical and

moral standards. The award is the highest honor CCAP bestows on a non-member. CCAP presented the award to Vilello for being an invaluable resource and participant, and for working with counties and CCAP on special environmental issues and projects.

Vilello said, "This award was accepted on behalf of all of the DEP employees across the state who strive to fulfill the mission of the department and support our counties. We work hand in hand with economic development to protect and increase jobs in PA."

Vilello became the Local Government Liaison for DEP's North-central Regional Office in 2003 after two terms as Clinton County Commissioner. In his position, Vilello serves 13 Pennsylvania counties including Clinton, Potter, Tioga, Bradford, Cameron, Lycoming, Sullivan, Clearfield, Centre, Union, Snyder, Northumberland, Montour, and Columbia counties.

The Ephrata Area Joint Authority Water Treatment Plant receives the "President's Award" recognition from the Partnership for Safe Water

HARRISBURG, PA -- The Ephrata Area Joint Authority water treatment plant, located in Lancaster County, recently received the "President's Award" from the Partnership for Safe Water (PSW). The treatment plant provides drinking water service to approximately 17,937 people.

The President's Award recognizes achievement in stringent individual filter performance goals for turbidity. The Ephrata Area Joint Authority is the ninth plant to receive this award from the PSW in Pennsylvania.

The PSW is made up of DEP, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Pennsylvania Section American Water Works Association, and other drinking water organizations. Its goal is to implement preventative measures that are based on optimizing treatment plant performance and maximizing the protection of public health.

As of today, only 22 water treatment plants in the nation have received the President's Award from the PSW. For more information, contact Kevin Anderson at 717-783-9764 or keanderson@pa.gov. Information is also available on DEP's website by clicking [here](#).



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