

News from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection



Tom Wolf, Governor | John Quigley, Secretary



DEP Calendar of Events

Dec. 2

Laboratory Accreditation Advisory Committee meeting, 9 a.m., DEP Bureau of Laboratories Building, 2575 Interstate Dr., Harrisburg. Contact: Aaren Alger, 717-346-8212.

Dec. 8

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

Dec. 8

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

Dec. 10

Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee meeting, 9:15 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Nancy Herb, 717-783-9269.

Dec. 10

State Board for Certification of Water and Wastewater Systems Operator meeting, 10 a.m., 10th Floor Conference Room, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Cheri Sansoni, 717-772-5158.

Dec. 16

Pipeline Infrastructure Task Force meeting, 1 p.m., DEP Southcentral Regional Office, 909 Elmerton Ave.,

Pipeline Infrastructure Task Force Schedules Additional Meeting Dec. 16



DEP Secretary John Quigley leads the discussion on the task force recommendations at the Nov. 18 meeting.

HARRISBURG -- Members of Gov. Tom Wolf's Pipeline Infrastructure Task Force will meet at 1 p.m., Dec. 16 at DEP's Southcentral Regional Office in Harrisburg to continue discussion about the 184 recommendations contained in the group's first draft report that is currently open for public comment until Monday, Dec. 14.

The group of 48 experts and stakeholders, led by DEP Secretary John Quigley will recommend policies, guidelines, and best practices to guide the anticipated and unprecedented build-out of pipeline infrastructure expected to take place across Pennsylvania during the next decade. The group's report is due to Governor Tom Wolf by February 2016.

To view the live webcast of the meeting, visit [here](#). Video of the Nov. 18 meeting is [here](#). The draft report is found [here](#).

DEP Fines Chesapeake Appalachia \$1.4 Million for Stream Impacts Caused by Well Pad Landslide

PITTSBURGH -- DEP this week announced that Chesapeake Appalachia, LLC (CALLC) has agreed to a Consent Order and Agreement (COA) and will pay a fine of \$1.4 million for violations of Pennsylvania's Oil and Gas Act, Clean Streams Law and Dam Safety and Encroachments Act. As a result of the settlement, the company will restore waterways affected by the slide.

The violations stem from a landslide that occurred at the Stinger 8H gas well located in Aleppo Township, Greene County, at the

Harrisburg. Contact
Karyn Yordy, 717-787-
2814.

Dec. 16

State Board for
Certification of Sewage
Enforcement Officers
meeting, 10 a.m.,
Conference Room 11B,
Rachel Carson State
Office Building, 400
Market St., Harrisburg.
Contact: Kristen
Szwajkowski, 717-772-
2186.

Dec. 16

Agricultural Advisory
Board meeting, 9 a.m.,
DEP Bureau of Labs,
2575 Interstate Dr.,
Harrisburg. Contact: Tom
Jungst, 717-772-5646

Dec. 17

Small Water Systems
Technical Assistance
Center Board meeting, 9
a.m., Rachel Carson
State Office Building, 400
Market Street, Harrisburg.
Contact: Dawn Hissner,
717-772-2189.



Public Input

Nov. 30

Deadline to comment on
the draft Pennsylvania
Improving Waters
Program Guidelines:
Documenting and
Reporting Measureable,
Incremental
Improvements in Water
Quality of Streams,
Rivers and Lakes. Visit
eComment@pa.gov

Dec. 1

Deadline to comment on
the Proposed Rulemaking:
Revised Total Coliform
Rule. Visit:
eComment@pa.gov

Dec. 14

Deadline to comment on
the draft Governor's
Pipeline Infrastructure
Task Force Report. Visit:
eComment@pa.gov



Speakers Bureau



Subscribe

well pad on September 15, 2011. The slide impacted seven unnamed tributaries of Harts Run. Sediment from the slide filled more than a quarter-mile of streams below the well pad.

[Read more.](#)

DEP Assesses \$1.7 Million Civil Penalty Against PQ Corporation for Air Quality Violations

NORRISTOWN -- DEP has assessed a civil penalty against PQ Corporation (PQ) in the amount of \$1.7M for air quality violations in the City of Chester, Delaware County.

Quarterly emissions reports submitted to the department by PQ showed that the company exceeded several permitted emission limits for pollutants like carbon monoxide and nitrogen oxides, and failed to satisfy the data availability requirements for their systems. The assessment covers the period between August 2011 and June 2013.

[Read more.](#)

DEP Awards Contract to Extinguish Carbon County Mine Fire



The project will involve the excavation of approximately 2.6 million cubic yards of material to isolate the fire on the south side.

WILKES-BARRE-- DEP has awarded Hazleton Shaft Corporation a \$9.3-million contract to isolate and extinguish the Jeanesville mine fire near the village of Tresckow in Banks Township, Carbon County. Hazleton Shaft has an active permit with DEP to mine on land adjacent to the entire 200-acre site and has been working to extinguish the part of the fire that is burning on the active mining area.

"We are happy to be working with Hazleton Shaft Corporation on this phase of the mine fire project," said Mike Korb, Environmental Program Manager of the Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation in Wilkes-Barre. "The company, lowest of eight bidders, is familiar with the mine fire, and they and DEP's Pottsville District Mine Office have implemented a work plan for the active mine area that will be worked in coordination with this abandoned mine project."

[Read more.](#)

DEP Air Monitoring Shows No Dangerous Levels of Dust near Luzerne County Mining Operation

WILKES-BARRE -- DEP has determined, through a two-year long air monitoring program, that dust from the Blaschak Coal Mine operations in the boroughs of Lattimer and Pardeesville, Luzerne County, is not a danger to residents in the immediate area and the company will not be subjected to additional environmental controls. However, Blaschak has agreed to continue with dust control practices recommended by the department and already in place.

DEP's monitoring began in July 2012 after complaints from residents that dust from the mining and quarry operations was coating their homes and other parts of their properties. Dust jars were set up at four locations in the area near Blaschak to collect samples from October 2012 through December 2014.

[Read more.](#)

DEP Launches Redesigned Website, Social Media Accounts



HARRISBURG -- DEP recently launched its updated website and social media accounts as part of Secretary John Quigley's continued efforts to make the agency more accessible for citizens, businesses, and the regulated community.

The updated website, www.dep.pa.gov, is user-friendly, easy to navigate, mobile-adaptive and serves as a gateway for the public and the regulated community to get information they need from DEP.

"DEP's new website will highlight, in a much more transparent and accessible manner, the important work we do every day to protect Pennsylvanians' air, water, land, and public health," said Secretary Quigley. "I encourage everyone to visit the website to learn more about how we are fulfilling that mission."

[Read more.](#)

RFP Seeks Technical Assistance to Support Implementation of the Chesapeake Bay Agreement Goals

ANNAPOLIS, MD -- The Chesapeake Bay Trust, in partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, recently announced a Request for Proposals (RFP) for technical assistance to support implementation of the Chesapeake Bay Agreement Goals and Management Strategies.

Entities experienced in various aspects of fisheries, watershed science and policy, watershed stewardship, local leadership, wetlands, toxics, and other watershed issues are invited to submit proposals to the Chesapeake Bay Trust. The Trust has been designated to receive federal funds from EPA as part of the Bay Program Goal Implementation Team Project Initiative. Eleven specific technical assistance projects have been identified that will assist with implementation across the outcomes defined in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement. The deadline to submit a proposal is Jan. 7, 2016.

The RFP is available at www.cbtrust.org.

Water Rock Run Treatment Plant Completes Third Phase of Safe Water Partnership



The plant provides drinking water to approximately 35,600 people and is now one of 59 plants to complete this phase of the program.

WEST CALN TWP. -- Pennsylvania American's Water Rock Run Treatment Plant in Chester County recently completed the third phase of the Partnership for Safe Water program, a voluntary effort to provide safe drinking water.

Phase III entails a detailed, peer-reviewed report that summarizes the rigorous self-assessment portion of the program. This phase targets identifying weaknesses in plant operation, design and administration that could lead to a breakthrough of waterborne disease-causing organisms into the finished water that is distributed to consumers. Correcting these weaknesses helps prevent waterborne disease outbreaks from pathogenic organisms like Cryptosporidium and Giardia.

Currently, 119 surface water treatment plants serving more than 6.1 million people are now involved in Pennsylvania's Partnership program.

For more information, visit dep.pa.gov.



Follow DEP on Twitter! [@PennsylvaniaDEP](https://twitter.com/PennsylvaniaDEP)