

Good morning Sewage Enforcement Officers,

Since the last SEO email on March 9, 2018, the Act 537 Planning Section would like to inform you of the following program updates:

1. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Bureau of Clean Water is in the process of developing and administering a website-based Learning Management System (LMS), called the Pennsylvania Clean Water Academy (PCWA), <https://pacleanwateracademy.remote-learner.net/>. In addition to other Bureau programs, the PCWA will serve the SEO Certification and Training Program. All SEO records and training opportunities will be housed in the PCWA and will be accessible to you through your own account, whenever you need the information.

We believe this represents an opportunity for the SEO community and envision the following benefits:

- Allow for all DEP-approved and available courses being offered to SEOs will be in one location.
- Allow for variety of online courses.
- Provide self-service for SEOs to find and enroll in training programs and track their certification and credit status.
- Allow SEOs to express an interest in or pre-book courses.
- Allow for a wider range of course media, in class, video, webinar and eLearning.

Note, the SEO portion is still a work in progress, currently there are only two (2) SEO on-line courses available, although you can view all DEP-approved SEO courses, sponsors and sponsor contact information in the PCWA. You should have received, or will be receiving, an email to set up your account in Pa Clean Water Academy (PCWA). Once you have registered for PCWA, to assist you with navigating the PCWA, we have developed an on-line course entitled *How to Use the Clean Water Academy for SEOs*. As an incentive, the DEP will award you one (1) credit upon successful completion of the course, at no charge.

2. In the past, the SEO continuing education program offered an advanced soils class (#109 Advanced Soils). The completion of the class had been a requirement to maintain certification as an SEO. The soils class has not been offered since 2010. **If you are receiving this email, you already have successfully passed the #109 Advanced Soils class in the past, but you are invited to refresh your skills in the newly approved advanced soils course below.**

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) believes that a comprehensive soils course is fundamental for all SEOs. A thorough understanding of soils and how soils relate to on-lot sewage systems is essential for all SEOs to adequately perform their duties.

Currently, there is only one (1) DEP-approved soils course meeting the same qualifications as the #109 Advanced Soils, the *Precertification Soils Course*. The training sponsor for this course is Soil Hub. The course is a blended learning event offering on-line material and two (2) field days; the course is worth 15 credits and the price is \$550. To successfully complete the soils course and earn the 15 credits, you must take and pass the online exams and a field exam.

The on-line portion of the course will take approximately four (4) hours to complete and must be done prior to attending the field portion of the course. The schedule for the 2019 field days is as follows:

April 25 & 26 – Shippensburg University
May 16 & 17 – Bucks County
May 23 & 24 – Bucks County
June 6 & 7 – Bloomsburg University
June 20 & 21 – Bloomsburg University

For additional information and registration, visit <https://pacleanwateracademy.remote-learner.net/> or <https://www.soilhub.com/seo/>. **Note, please make sure to set up your PCWA account before trying to register for the precertification soils course. If you have not received the email on how to set up your account, or are having trouble setting up your account, please contact Jay Braund at jbraund@pa.gov, 717.772.5636, or Janice Vollero at jvollero@pa.gov, 717.772.5157.**

3. We would like to remind you to contact us if any of your personal or business contact information changes. You can contact us by email at RA-seotrng@pa.gov.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Janice Vollero at 717.772.5157 or by email at jvollero@pa.gov.



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