



PA Environment Digest

*An Update on
Environmental
Issues in
Pennsylvania*

Edited By David E. Hess, Holston & Crisci

November 15, 2004

Green Ribbon Commission Meets

The Green Ribbon Commission will meet for the second time Tuesday to hear from other stakeholders on environmental funding initiatives. Meanwhile the House Environmental Committee set action on Advanced Energy Portfolio legislation for Tuesday, following the Senate action this week.

No progress on sewer and water infrastructure funding, Energy Development Authority funding, creating a new Watershed Education Program or the pollution prevention, environmental education or alternative energy bills pending in the House.

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Watershed NewsClips Calendar Contributions Invited

On the Hill

Bipartisan Green Ribbon Commission to Hear From Other Stakeholders

The Green Ribbon Commission is scheduled to meet Tuesday to hear from other stakeholders with an interest in environmental spending proposals. The Commission heard from Rendell Administration officials at its first meeting October 13.

Those expected to provide comments include the PA Electric Generators Association, Waste Industries Association, the state Chamber of Business and Industry and the PA State Association of Township Supervisors—generally those affected by the waste fees proposed by Gov. Rendell in his Growing Greener II proposal.

Also expected to be discussed are the environmental funding priorities submitted by each Commission members to help set Commission priorities.

- NewsClips:** [Leaders Tout Growing Greener II](#)
[Growing Greener II Highlighted at Planning Conference](#)
[Editorial: PA Environmental Initiative](#)
[Conservation Funding May Die](#)
[Editorial: Follow Lead of Voters-Approve Infrastructure Funding](#)

House Marks America Recycles Day – November 15

The House this week unanimously passed [House Resolution 906](#) (Argall-R-Schuylkill) designating November 15 as America Recycles Day in Pennsylvania. The text of the resolution follows—

A RESOLUTION

Proclaiming November 15, 2004, as "America Recycles Day" in Pennsylvania

WHEREAS, Each year, more than 22.8 million tons of municipal solid waste go into Pennsylvania's landfills; and

WHEREAS, Each day, the average American generates more than 4.7 pounds of waste requiring disposal; and

WHEREAS, While many of Pennsylvania's communities have reached an overall recycling rate of 35 percent, much more can be done; and

WHEREAS, To focus the nation's attention on the importance of recycling,

===== **FYI** =====



Thank You Veterans!



If All Comes Back to You

[America Recycles Day](#)
[November 15](#)



www.PaWatersheds.org

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businesses, industries, State agencies, nonprofit organizations and individuals join together to celebrate "America Recycles Day" and encourage their employers, staff, customers, members and all citizens to pledge to start or enhance recycling programs and buy recycled products on November 15; and

WHEREAS, Participating in "America Recycles Day" is one way citizens can help raise awareness about the need to reduce waste by reusing, recycling and buying recycled products; and

WHEREAS, Recycling saves millions of dollars in disposal costs, creates jobs and is recognized as an easy way for everyone to help protect the environment by avoiding unnecessary use of important resources; and

WHEREAS, State and community leaders need to spread the word about the excellent programs they have established, the growth of markets for recyclables, the importance of buying recycled products, the need to expand the collection of recyclable materials and the benefits of investments in recycling by small and large businesses; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives proclaim November 15, 2004, as "America Recycles Day" in Pennsylvania

To learn more, visit the [America Recycles Day webpage](#).

NewsClip: [DEP Awards Recycling Development Center Grant](#)

Senate Environmental Committee Moves Advanced Energy Standards, Other Bills

The Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee amended and reported out without discussion [Senate Bill 1030](#) (Erickson-R- Delaware) setting an Advanced Energy Portfolio Standard requiring electric suppliers in Pennsylvania to have a percentage of their power generated from renewable sources.

The amended bill requires at least 15.2 percent of electric energy sold by a distribution company or generation supplier to a retail customer to be from alternative energy sources in 15 years.

Ultimately, 12 percent of the alternative energy must come from Tier I sources—solar, wind, low-impact hydro, geothermal, biologically derived methane, coal mine methane or fuel cells in 15 years.

3.20 percent must come from Tier II sources—waste coal, energy efficiency, load management technologies, distributed generation systems or demand side management.

The amendment also creates an alternative energy tradable credits program to allow energy generators to develop alternative energy sources and sell those credits to generators or distribution companies to meet their portfolio standard.

Generators and distribution companies can also opt to comply with the portfolio standard requirement by making compliance payments equal to \$60 for each alternative energy credit needed to bring them into compliance paid into the Sustainable Energy Development Fund.

In addition, rural electric cooperatives are required to establish a voluntary program of energy efficiency and demand side management to satisfy compliance with the portfolio standard.

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The bill was re-referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee for consideration and pressure is being brought to bring the bill to a vote in the full Senate before adjournment. (*See following story on expected House committee action.*)

On Monday, the [Community Foundation of the Alleghenies](#) released a report looking at how a power shift to renewable resources with a two-tiered system would affect the price and supply of electricity. The study found that building renewable energy power plants would create 3,500 more jobs and an economic impact of \$7 billion.

Also on the agenda were these bills which were reported out of Committee, many with changes—

- [House Bill 148](#) (Solobay-D-Washington) Mine Subsidence Assistance for building owners was amended to include water supply replacement coverage;
- [House Bill 2029](#) (Cruz-D-Philadelphia) penalties for illegal dumping in Philadelphia was amended to include a penalty of six month suspension of driving privileges;
- [House Bill 2035](#) (McIlhinney-R-Bucks) Energy Efficiency Standards Act covering appliances was amended to give the Public Utility Commission until June 1, 2005 to adopt standards for certain products;
- [House Bill 2227](#) (Rubley-R-Chester) Forest Lands Beautification funding was amended to include two other sources of funding—Solid Waste Abatement and Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund;
- [House Bill 2289](#) (Yudichak-D-Luzerne) waste tire recycling was amended to clarify the lien provisions;
- [Senate Bill 983](#) (Rafferty-R-Montgomery), amending the Solid Waste Management Act to make sure environmental violations are considered in the permit review process, was amended to authorize penalties to be paid in the form of community projects and was re-referred to Senate Appropriations;
- [Senate Bill 1170](#) (Mowery-R-Cumberland) – providing homeowners financial assistance with repair or replacement of water and sewer laterals was reported as committed and re-referred to Senate Appropriations; and
- [Senate Resolution 298](#) (Greenleaf-R-Montgomery) – Resolution urging Congress to adopt a national energy policy with emphasis on natural gas supply and energy conservation was reported as committed.

NewsClips: [Clean Energy Saves Money](#)
[Study Promotes Renewable Energy](#)
[Clean Energy Can Serve as “Engine for Growth”](#)

House Environmental Committee Sets Meeting on Advanced Portfolio Standards

The House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee is scheduled to meet on Tuesday to consider [House Bill 2250](#) (Ross-R-Chester) that establishes an advanced energy portfolio standard. A significant amendment to the bill is expected.

Also on the Committee agenda is [House Bill 296](#) (George-D-Clearfield) that establishes the PA Energy Office and Advisory Council; and imposing duties on the PA Energy Office; establishing the Emergency Energy Assistance Grant Account and makes an allocation from utilities' gross receipts tax.

In Other Legislative Action...

Coal & Gas Coordination: [House Bill 2804](#) (Hutchinson-R-Venango) which amends the Coal and Gas Resource Coordination Act by removing the requirement that a gas well must be located at least 330 feet from the boundary of the tract on which it is located. Also, removes the section of the Act relating to exceptions to the 330 foot requirement, since exceptions won't be required, was passed by the House and is now in the Senate.

Infrastructure Security Funding: The House passed [House Bill 2861](#) (Rubley-R-Chester) which amends the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority Act to authorize PENNVEST to utilize money it receives to provide loans to cover the costs of security for projects associated with security costs and was sent to the Senate.

Fishing License Increase: The House passed [House Bill 2155](#) (B.Smith-R-York) that would increase fishing and boating licenses and permits. The Senate Game and Fisheries Committee is set to consider this bill and [House Bill 2326](#) (Gillespie-R-York) as vehicles for license increases.

Downtown Relocation Law: [House Bill 970](#) (Reed-R-Indiana) which amends the Downtown Location Law by redefining "downtown area" as a geographically identifiable and contiguous business district within a town, city, village within a township, home rule municipality or borough, with a recognized sense of place and a distinct and identifiable pedestrian orientation based upon a rectilinear street grid pattern of development, with one or more central streets and intersecting cross streets, was reported from House Appropriations this week.

Current Voting Session Schedule (Subject to Change)

House – Nov. 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 30 **Senate** – Nov. 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 22, 23
General Assembly adjourns November 30, ending the session.

In Other News

Watershed Alliance Volunteers Clean up Furnace Run, Segloch Run Area

The [Susquehanna River Basin Commission](#) (SRBC), [PPL Corporation](#) and the [Chesapeake Bay Foundation](#) (CBF) this week joined in partnership with the Furnace Run/Segloch Run Watershed Alliance to clean up the Furnace Run/Segloch Run confluence area.

The various partners highlighted the importance of community involvement in streamside cleanups. Four watershed and non-profit organizations, including the Watershed Alliance, recently received funding from PPL Corporation to conduct streamside cleanups through SRBC's Streamside Cleanup Training Academy and Assistance Program. Watershed Alliance volunteers also planted trees and shrubs donated by CBF for the alliance's stream reclamation efforts.

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Paul Swartz, SBRC executive director said, "The Susquehanna River Basin is comprised of more than 32,000 miles of streams. Illegal dumping sites and poor floodplain management are primary sources and causes of litter in our streams. The Commission is pleased to support the many dedicated volunteers from grassroots organizations like the Furnace Run/Segloch Run Watershed Alliance who are really making a difference as they cleanup their streams."

SRBC and PPL first partnered in 1999 to start the streamside cleanup assistance program, to inform and educate the people who live upstream about how their litter impacts communities downstream, particularly during high-flow events. Since 1999, PPL has contributed \$40,000 to the cleanup program. In the most recent round of funding from PPL, the following groups received mini-grants for their cleanups:

- Furnace Run/Segloch Run Watershed Alliance, Lancaster County
- Codorus Creek Improvement Partnership, York County
- Eastern Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation, Luzerne County
- Mahoning Creek Watershed Association, Montour County

"We encourage a corporate culture of environmental responsibility through our [PPL Project Earth program](#)," said Bob Barkanic, PPL's Manager of Environmental Management. "Our support for these streamside cleanup projects delivers a strong message that we care about the environment."

"Streamside cleanups are environmental, educational and community events," said John Levitski, PPL's Community Relations Director for the Lancaster Region. "These cleanups benefit the environment, educate the public about the dangers of littering and bring people together to work on a worthwhile project."

"When the land adjacent to a stream is restored into a forested buffer and maintained in this natural state, it reduces pollution, helps control floods, reduces stream bank erosion, improves fish habitat, and provides food and cover for wildlife," said CBF's Pennsylvania Executive Director, Matt Ehrhart. "CBF provides trees and shrubs to local watershed groups for buffer plantings in an effort to increase the capacity of local communities to restore and protect their nearby streams and rivers."

"The watershed group takes pride that this work not only removes trash, but discourages future dumping," said David Wise, President of Furnace Run/Segloch Run Watershed Alliance. "The buffer plantings also help keep sediment out of Segloch Run, one of just two 'exceptional value' waterways in Lancaster County."



The Pennsylvania League of Women Voters Water Resources Education Network (WREN) is now accepting applications for the 2005 round of water resources grants.

Applications are due April 1.

Partnerships of local or regional organizations in Pennsylvania such as watershed associations, civic groups, community water systems, governmental entities (including municipal authorities), and other public interest organizations. All partners must play an active role in the project.

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Educational projects that raise awareness about protecting the community's drinking water source waters and/or preventing nonpoint source pollution in the watershed are eligible. Projects should include local government involvement and encourage behavior change. Grant award: up to \$5,000 per project.

Project activities should occur between July 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006.

Grantees must send at least one member of partnership to June 9-10, 2005 Orientation Meeting to network with other projects and get resources.

To receive an application, send email to wren@pa.lwv.org or call 800 692-7281 ext 10. Applications may also be downloaded from the [WREN website](#).

Delaware Estuary Program Mini-Grants are Back, Apply Soon!

The [Partnership for the Delaware Estuary](#) announced the availability of grants of up to \$5,000 for projects within the Delaware Estuary. Projects funded through this mini-grant process should focus on habitat restoration, enhancement and protection, improving water quality and watershed education.

The deadline for submitting grant proposals is December 3.

Preference is given to non-profit organizations and partnering with other organizations is strongly encouraged. For more information, visit the [Partnership for the Delaware Estuary webpage](#).

DEP Seeks Comments on Two TMDLs in Lycoming, Clearfield Counties

The Department of Environmental Protection is seeking comments on two TMDLs (Total Maximum Daily Load) plans:

Otter Run Watershed, Lycoming County: DEP will hold a public meeting to discuss and accept comments on a proposed TMDL on December 15 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Little Pine Creek State Park Office, 4205 Little Pine Creek Road, Waterville, PA. Individuals who plan to make a presentation at the public meeting should contact John Mital, Moshannon District Mining Office, at 814-342-8200 or jmital@state.pa.us no later than 4 p.m. on Monday, December 13.

Deer Creek, Clearfield County: DEP and the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) are holding a public meeting on November 22 at 7 p.m. in the auditorium at the Clearfield County Conservation District Office, 650 Leonard Street, Clearfield, PA. To request a copy of this TMDL contact Lee McDonnell, PADEP, Water Quality Assessment and Standards, 400 Market Street, P. O. Box 8467, Harrisburg, PA 17105, 717-783-2938.

Copies of these proposed TMDLs are posted on DEP's [TMDL webpage](#).

Trading Handbook Helps Water Quality Managers Achieve Cleaner Watersheds

Water quality trading has gained attention as an effective market-based approach for state and local governments to achieve cleaner water. Because the concept of water trading is

new and not commonly practiced, water quality managers may want to know if trading will work in their local watershed.

EPA's new "Water Quality Trading Assessment Handbook" is designed to help determine if trading can be used to make cost-effective pollutant reductions and determine if trading may be the appropriate tool.

Using a hypothetical river basin, the handbook illustrates a framework that may be used as a model in any watershed to evaluate problems and determine if trading could effectively address those local conditions.

The handbook also illustrates how to assess the relative costs of controlling key pollutants and helps the user decide if trading would be financially attractive to watershed participants.

For more information go to the [Water Quality Trading webpage](#).

Air Products' Hydrogen Fueling Technology Now in Operation

[Air Products' hydrogen fueling technology](#) was an integral part of a Shell Hydrogen project this week that officially opened North America's first-ever hydrogen filling station at an existing retail gasoline site in Washington, D.C.

The Benning Road demonstration project makes Shell the first energy company in North America to provide the environmentally friendly fuel at a consumer retail site, alongside conventional fuels. Initially, it will provide fuel for six GM Hydrogen 3 fuel cell vehicles participating in this Shell-General Motors partnership demonstration project.

Shell Hydrogen and General Motors are combining resources to help make hydrogen fuel cell vehicles a commercially viable reality. The Washington, D.C. initiative represents an important step forward in the commercialization of hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.

Air Products' Series 200 fueling technology, a totally integrated vehicle fueling system, will provide the storage and dispensing of hydrogen to the vehicles. This Air Products fueling technology is designed to meet early vehicle fleet fueling requirements by providing the customer flexibility of using hydrogen generated on-site or from a distributed hydrogen supply.

The hydrogen fueling facility in Washington, D.C. has the capacity to dispense 20 kilograms of gaseous hydrogen per day and also provides a dispenser for liquid hydrogen vehicle fueling.

Utility Choice Website Exceeds 25 Million Hits, Look for Green Energy Choices

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today announced that www.utilitychoice.org has reached 25 million hits, as the Utility Choice campaign continues to educate Pennsylvania consumers about how to shop for local telephone, natural gas and electric service.

"The Utility Choice Web site is a convenient way for many consumers to learn about utility competition in Pennsylvania," said PUC Commissioner Kim Pizzigrilli. "Since its inception, the Utility Choice program has worked to reach out to consumers through a number of educational tools and resources. These Web hits and recent survey results indicate that consumers continue to utilize the resources available to help them."

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According to an October survey, nearly 81 percent of Pennsylvanians are aware they can shop for a local telephone supplier. The same survey revealed that 55 percent of Pennsylvanians are aware they can choose a competitive natural gas supplier and 73 percent of consumers are aware they can choose their electric supplier.

Officially launched in June 2002, the Utility Choice website focuses on three utility industries -- electric, natural gas and local telephone -- and features information on how to shop for each service, including detailed questions to ask potential providers and suppliers; an online calculator to determine possible savings; consumer protections; lists of providers by county; and glossaries of commonly used terms.

The site features PA TeleChoice, a first-in-the-nation Web-based shopping information guide that consumers can access by visiting <http://www.utilitychoice.org>. PA TeleChoice allows consumers to type in their area codes and exchanges (the first three digits of their telephone number), to view and compare local telephone service providers' plans and prices in a side-by-side list.

The program also has developed several educational brochures for consumers as another effort to provide Pennsylvanians with the resources necessary to make informed decisions. All materials are available in English and Spanish, and can be easily accessed, downloaded from the site or by calling 1-888-PUC-FACT (1-888-782-3228).

The Council for Utility Choice is a non-profit corporation working in conjunction with the PUC. The Council is comprised of individuals from the following entities: the PUC; the Pennsylvania Rural Development Council; the Governor's Advisory Commission on Latino Affairs; the Governor's Advisory Commission on African-American Affairs; the Office of Consumer Advocate; small-business representatives; state utility associations; public school educators; and community-based organizations.

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ensures safe, reliable and reasonably priced electric, natural gas, water, telephone and transportation service for Pennsylvania consumers, by regulating public utilities and by serving as stewards of competition.

Pennsylvania Begins Energy Assistance for 2004-05 Winter Heating Season

The Department of Public Welfare Secretary this week began accepting applications for Pennsylvania's [Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program](#) for the 2004-05 winter heating season.

The federally funded LIHEAP helps low-income households pay for a variety of home heating fuel sources and furnace repairs in the winter. It is administered by the state Department of Public Welfare. \$120 million is expected to be available for this year's program, which will serve about 350,000 households.

Applications for LIHEAP are available at County Assistance Offices, local utility companies and community service agencies, such as Area Agencies on Aging or Community Action Agencies. Families can also apply for LIHEAP cash grants online at [COMPASS application website](#).

People whose income is at or below 135 percent of the federal income poverty level have until March 24, 2005, to apply for both LIHEAP cash grants and crisis grants. The cash grant program is designed to help families pay their home heating bills. Cash grants are based on income, family size, type of heating fuel and heating regions.

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In addition to proof of income and household size, applicants will have to provide a recent bill or a statement from their fuel dealer stating the type of fuel they use and their acceptance as a customer.

For more information about LIHEAP, individuals can call DPW's toll-free information line at 1-866-857-7095, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m..

Farmers in 17 Counties Eligible for 'CHEMSWEEP' Pesticide Disposal Program

The Department of Agriculture announced this week that farmers in 17 counties were eligible to participate in the 2005 "CHEMSWEEP" Program, which provides agribusinesses and commercial enterprises as well as citizens with a means to dispose properly of canceled, suspended or unwanted pesticide products.

The following counties are included: Allegheny, Beaver, Cambria, Chester, Clearfield, Columbia, Erie, Fulton, Huntingdon, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Luzerne, Montour, Northumberland, Warren, Washington and York.

Growers of any agricultural commodity, including mushroom growers, nurseries, greenhouses, Christmas tree growers and farmers of all types are eligible to participate in the program. Pesticide certification is not required. Licensed pesticide applicators in agribusinesses and commercial enterprises from the designated counties are eligible to participate by completing the CHEMSWEEP Application/Registration/Inventory Form, which will be mailed to them in December. Forms are also available at County Extension Offices and at the PDA regional offices.

Homeowners can also participate by taking their unwanted pesticides to Household Hazardous Waste collection sites sponsored by the state Department of Environmental Protection.

Registration forms and other information for farmers is available on the [CHEMSWEEP webpage maintained by Penn State University](#) or by visiting the [CHEMSWEEP Program webpage](#).

Citizens and small businesses can get more information on DEP-sponsored local household hazardous waste collection programs by visiting the [DEP-HHW collection program webpage](#) or by calling 1-800-346-4242.

2,500 Farms Preserved this Year by Counties, Commonwealth

Gov. Rendell and the Department of Agriculture this week announced it took action to preserve the 2500th farm under Pennsylvania's Farmland Preservation Program.

Pennsylvania leads the nation in farmland preservation. Since purchasing the first development rights in 1989, the PA Agricultural Land Preservation Board has preserved 2,513 farms totaling 290,040 acres. Through the preservation program, the state (and individual counties) can purchase development rights, called "easements," on farmland.

Landowners are compensated for offering their development rights for the land while permanently protecting the farmland for agriculture.

Gov. Rendell encouraged action on his Growing Greener II environmental funding proposal that would provide continued funding for farmland preservation.

For more information, visit the [Farmland Preservation Program webpage](#).

PAEE Cancels Annual Environmental Education Conference

Jay Gregg, President of the Pennsylvania Alliance for Environmental Education, this week announced its 2004 annual Conference set for November 11-14 is cancelled.

PEC Seeks Two Professionals for Senior Management Positions

The Pennsylvania Environmental Council is seeking individuals to fill two senior management positions:

Director of Watershed Programs, Southeast Pennsylvania Region: The responsibilities of the position include: determining project objectives, determine resources necessary for project completion, obtain resources including consultants and staff, develop detailed workplans, be results oriented; assisting President and Regional Vice President with water-related policy development, and represent the organization before public and private decision-makers on local, state, regional, and federal water policy and programs; preparing budgets for PEC annual budget, monitor expenses and income, prepare contracts, prepare reports to funders and contractors, be responsive to contractors and funders and supervising staff.

Regional Director/Vice President Northeastern Pennsylvania: The Regional Director will be responsible for: development and implementation of a strategic plan for the 14 county region; development and fundraising for the region; coordination with regional Board members and project partners; development and management of grants and contracts in consultation with the CEO and the COO; management of the office and staff of the region; management of contracts with outside consultants; development and implementation of a community relations strategy for the furtherance of the goals of the regional office; hold an annual awards banquet; other duties as determined.

To apply please send a résumé, three references, and general salary expectations to: Cynthia Kwitoski, Pennsylvania Environmental Council, 130 Locust St Ste 200, Harrisburg PA 17101-1417 or email: ckwitoski@pecpa.org

Canaan Valley Institute Seeks Watershed Resource Economist

Canaan Valley Institute (CVI) is seeking applicants for a watershed resource economist to be based in its Clearfield, PA office. This position will provide assistance to local watershed and community-based initiatives within CVI's service area including facilitation and problem identification; aiding local groups with solution development, delivering educational programs; and implementation strategies for watershed restoration and conservation that sustain both natural resources and economic growth.

Qualified candidates will possess: A Bachelors degree in economics or the natural sciences; Demonstrated experience working at the local level; Knowledge of and practical experience in watershed financial planning and/or watershed restoration. Significant travel throughout CVI's service area will be required therefore candidates should possess or be eligible to obtain a valid operators license and be insurable.

Candidates should submit a cover letter and resume postmarked by

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November 26th to: Watershed Resource Economist, Canaan Valley Institute, #1 Creative Place, NorthGate Business Park, Charleston, WV 25311 or submit electronically to personnel@canaanvi.org.

DEP Seeking Bidder for Aerial Photo, Mapping Work

DEP's Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation issued a Request for Proposals this week (Bid Number: OSM PA(MAP-05) 101.3 and 102.3) to retain two firms to provide aerial photography, surveying, mapping reproduction and other technical services, as required, for the proper development of plans for the reclamation of abandoned mine lands, abatement of water pollution, prevention of surface subsidence and flood protection projects.

The projects will be primarily located in the bituminous coalfields of western Pennsylvania and the anthracite coalfields of northeastern Pennsylvania.

Letters requesting the Request for Proposals should be sent to Joseph Schueck, Chief, Division of Acid Mine Drainage Abatement, Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation, Department of Environmental Protection, P. O. Box 8476, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8476 and must be received by 2 p.m., December 13, 2004. Faxed requests will be accepted at (717) 783-0470. Persons with questions should call John J. Stefanko at (717) 783-

Taking Positive Action

[Writing and Cycling Couple Wins Environmental Award](#)

[Farm to College Program Taking Off](#)

[Nominations Sought for Bucks County Conservation Awards](#)

Watershed NewsClips

[POWR Requests Local Watershed Data](#)

[Local Groups Benefit from Bass Pro Shops Opening](#)

[Bay group hopes to limit runoff](#)

[Debris to be removed soon from Plum Creek](#)

[Anglers in Pennsylvania likely to see fee increases](#)

[Grant will help restore Delaware Bay watershed](#)

[Fishing Notebook: Growing Greener II seeking support](#)

[Seniors testing the waters for pollution](#)

[Schuylkill getting signs to point out watershed](#)

[Farmers can provide cheapest way to aid bay cleanup, commission ...](#)

Regulations

The Environmental Quality Board published the final-form regulation this week [changing the stream designations](#) of Brushy Meadow Creek and three other streams.

Note: the November 16 Environmental Quality Board meeting is cancelled.

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[Comment Deadlines Open](#)

[Copies of Proposed Regulations](#)

[Status of Regulations, 6-Month Calendar](#)

Technical Guidance & Permits

No new guidance was published by the Department of Environmental Protection this week.

[For copies of Draft Technical Guidance](#)

[For copies of Final Technical Guidance](#)

Calendar of Upcoming Events

- **Nov. 15** – **(New)** Senate Appropriations Committee to consider [Senate Bill 1030](#) (Erickson-R-Delaware) setting Advanced Energy Portfolio Standards.
- **Nov. 15** – **(New)** Senate Game and Fisheries Committee to consider [House Bill 2155](#) (B.Smith-R-York) and [House Bill 2326](#) (Gillespie-R-York) to increase Fish & Boat Commission fees.
- **Nov. 16** – **(New)** Green Ribbon Commission to hear comments from stakeholders
- **Nov. 16** – [DEP Citizens Advisory Council meeting](#). Harrisburg
- **Nov. 17** – **(New)** House Environmental Resources & Energy Committee to consider on [House Bill 2250](#) (Ross-R-Chester) that establishes an advanced energy portfolio standard and [House Bill 296](#) (George-D-Clearfield) that establishes the PA Energy Office and Advisory Council; and imposing duties on the PA Energy Office; establishing the Emergency Energy Assistance Grant Account makes an allocation from utilities' gross receipts tax.
- **Nov. 17** – [Resource Recovery-Connections for the Future](#). Symposium on reuse of AMD byproducts. [Southern Alleghenies Conservancy](#). Johnstown.
- **Nov. 17-18** – [PA Manufactured Soils Conference](#). State College.
- **Nov. 30-Dec. 2** – [National Environmental Performance Summit](#). Washington, D.C.
- **Dec. 16** – **(New)** Public Outreach Subcommittee of [State Water Plan Committee](#) meets to discuss public involvement plan. Harrisburg.

[DEP Calendar of Events](#)

[Watershed Events](#)

Helpful Web Links

[Daily NewsClips](#)

[Weekly DEP Update](#)

[GreenTreks Network](#)

[Watershed Weekly](#)

[DEP Press Releases](#)

[DEP Advisory Committee Meetings & Agendas](#)

Contributions Invited

Send your stories about environmental issues, programs and positive actions to **PA Environment Digest** - DHess@HolstonCrisci.com.

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