



REC UPDATE

Monthly environmental news for DoD facilities in EPA Regions 1, 2 & 3



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GENERAL INTEREST

Navy Nears Power Deal to Help Avoid CA Blackouts

By Michael R. Blood – Associated Press

The US Navy is nearing a first-time agreement to curb electricity use at its sprawling San Diego-area bases if power runs short in Southern California this summer. The deal is intended to diminish the threat of blackouts while the troubled San Onofre nuclear plant remains offline. The Navy is San Diego Gas & Electric's largest customer and the utility has been working on an agreement under which the Navy would temporarily reduce its energy consumption if regional supplies get scarce. In exchange, the Navy would receive a break on electricity rates. SDG&E has similar agreements with other large-demand customers and this agreement can reduce the demand for power at critical times and keep the lights burning. For more information, go to: <http://bit.ly/liCfwL>.

EPA Releases NEPAAssist Mapping Tool to Improve Environmental Reviews and Planning

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has released a web-based mapping tool developed for Federal agencies to facilitate more efficient and effective environmental reviews and project planning. The tool, NEPAAssist, is part of an initiative to modernize and reinvigorate federal agency implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) through innovation, public participation, and transparency. NEPAAssist draws information from publicly available federal, state, and local datasets, allowing NEPA practitioners, stakeholders, and the public to view information about environmental conditions within the area of a proposed project quickly and easily at early stages of project development.

NEPA requires all federal agencies to incorporate environmental considerations in their planning and decision-making through a systematic interdisciplinary process. NEPAAssist is designed to help promote collaboration and early involvement in the NEPA process by raising important environmental issues at the earliest stages of project development. The mapping tool can be used by Federal agencies to identify alternative project locations, to avoid and minimize impacts, as well as identify potential mitigation areas.

For more information about NEPAAssist, please visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/nepassist-mapping.html>.

For more information on NEPA, go to: <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/index.html>.

DoD Announces the Winners of the Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards

The Department of Defense has announced the winners of the 2012 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards. Each year since 1962, the Secretary of Defense has honored individuals, teams, and installations for their outstanding achievements to conserve and sustain the natural and cultural resources entrusted to the Department of Defense. A ceremony honoring the 2012 winners will be held on 6 JUN 12 at the Pentagon.

A panel of judges representing federal and state agencies, academia, and the public has selected the following installations, teams, and individuals as the winners of this year's awards:

- Scranton Army Ammunition Plant, PA.; Sustainability -- Industrial Installation
- Fort Hood, TX; Environmental Quality -- Non-industrial Installation
- U.S. Army Garrison - HI, Oahu Army Natural Resource Team; Natural Resources Conservation -- Individual/Team
- Fort Hood Recycle Team, TX; Environmental Quality -- Individual/Team

- Stryker Brigade Combat Team - Warren, MI.; Environmental Excellence in Weapon System Acquisition – Team
- Marine Corps Base Hawaii, HI; Natural Resources Conservation -- Small Installation
- Former Mare Island Naval Shipyard, CA; Environmental Restoration -- Individual/Team
- 75th CEG, Hill Air Force Base, UT; Environmental Restoration – Installation
- 30th Space Wing, Vandenberg Air Force Base, CA; Cultural Resources Management -- Installation

Congratulations to all of the winners. For more information on 2012 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards, please visit: <http://www.denix.osd.mil/awards/FY11SECDEF.cfm>.

Select NSA Crane Trees to Help Repair USS Constitution

By Bill Couch, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Midwest Public Affairs

Representatives from the Boston Navy Yard assessed specially designated trees at Naval Support Activity (NSA) Crane on 17-18 APR 12 in preparation for the next planned dry-docking repair of USS Constitution, the world's oldest commissioned warship afloat. Trent Osmon, forestry program manager for Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Midwest's Public Works Department (PWD) Crane environmental division, believes the timing will be critical. "We have a limited window each year to harvest timber here because Crane's forest is also a home for the endangered Indiana Bat," said Osmon, who manages the base's 53,000 acres of forest. "In order to have the 70 or so trees cut and ready for repair work, we need to set things in motion now." For more information, go to: <http://1.usa.gov/HXndtf>.

Navy, CA Officials Meet to Advance Energy Partnership Goals

Representatives from California government and industry met with Navy energy leadership on 25 APR 12 to discuss important energy issues, mutual challenges, and ideas on how to ensure sufficient, secure, and affordable energy in the future. Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations, and Environment Jackalyne Pfannenstiel kicked off a two-day "Smart Power Partnership Initiative" (SPPI) stakeholder summit that set forth the Navy's vision to develop regional smart grids capable of sharing power and responding quickly to grid outages and load curtailment events. "We are seeking win-win scenarios with California through proactive efforts in which the Navy can ensure continuity of critical missions and participate in cost-incentives programs while simultaneously helping California meet load demands reliably during peak events and emergencies," said Pfannenstiel. For more information, go to: http://www.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story_id=66971.

The GSA Green Products Compilation: Simplifying the Complexities of Green Purchasing

The General Service Administration's web-based Green Products Compilation (GPC) is now live. The GPC is a publicly available, web-based resource that allows users to identify applicable environmental programs, such as Energy Star and WaterSense, by product type and category. It serves as a centralized resource that supports compliance with federal green purchasing requirements and the achievement of agency sustainable acquisition goals. For more information, go to: <http://www.sftool.gov/greenprocurement?CFID=356046&CFTOKEN=98051549>.

Nitze's Supply Department Supports Green Initiative

Communications Specialist Jeff Atherton – Enterprise Carrier Strike Group Public Affairs
Sailors assigned to guided-missile destroyer USS Nitze's (DDG 94) Supply Department are doing their part to improve energy efficiency while underway during the ship's current deployment. Supply Department is leading the battle for energy efficiency while operating at sea.

Every day, Sailors on board use some form of paper product. From toilet paper to printer paper, the most commonly used products on the ship are also the most environmentally friendly. "All of our consumable paper

products are made from recycled materials," said Lt. Cmdr. Colin Engels, Nitze's supply officer. "We become very conscious of what we are purchasing for work centers, to ensure that we don't have any products going to waste."

Additionally, Nitze is cutting down on waste by changing its galley procedures. "In the past, we received the vast majority of our products pre-made," said Chief Culinary Specialist Doug Grimley. "But we recognized that by preparing most of our food from scratch, we are not only able to provide better tasting meals but also can dramatically cut down on the amount of waste we are producing." Now, instead of getting pre-made food, which requires a large amount of packaging, Nitze is receiving ingredients necessary to prepare food. "Chicken, for instance, used to come in different packages. There was one package for fried chicken, one for baked chicken, and one for rotisserie chicken," said Grimley. "Now, we can order whole chickens and prepare each kind ourselves."

"Preparing food from scratch decreases waste due to the reduction in discarded packaging, which is usually plastic," said Engels. "We are going to a better system of preparing food by hand. We end up with reduced waste and the culinary specialists also develop a much broader set of skills. It is a win-win situation."

In addition to the crew's commitment to decrease waste production, the Supply Department is cognizant of the cleaning products being used on the ship. "The vast majority of our cleaning products are biodegradable and manufactured to be safe for the environment," said Engels. "Our Sailors have to use a little bit more 'elbow grease' but that is a small price to pay for the benefit we are getting out of using these products."

For Nitze, these are small steps in the grand scheme of becoming a more environmentally friendly ship. "It is time to start looking at what we can do in the near future to reduce our carbon footprint," said Grimley. "Next, we need to start looking at more energy efficient appliances and refrigerators. We are doing all of the right things," said Engels. "The crew has the right mindset and we are eager to continue setting the pace on the waterfront."

Nitze is currently deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility conducting maritime security operations, theater security cooperation efforts and supporting missions as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

DoD Says Fuel Costs Driving Shortfall in Budget; New Efficiencies Sought

Higher-than-expected fuel costs are driving a budget shortfall of more than \$3 billion at the Defense Department as the Pentagon seeks billions of dollars in new spending on energy efficiency measures, Secretary Leon Panetta said 2 MAY 12. The measures, which range from energy-efficient aircraft engines to ships with hybrid electric drives, are included in DoD's Fiscal Year 2013 budget request which is pending Congress' approval. "We are working to be a leader and an innovator in environmental stewardship, energy efficiency, and energy security," Panetta said at a reception held by the Environmental Defense Fund, according to a transcript of his remarks. "I have more than a deep interest in more sustainable and efficient energy options." Included in the Defense Department's \$614 billion fiscal 2013 budget proposal is nearly \$1.4 billion for "operational energy enhancements" that will improve energy efficiency, according to the Pentagon. In addition, the department is requesting \$1.1 billion for energy efficiency improvements at existing buildings, of which the department owns 300,000. Proposed improvements include lighting retrofits and boiler plant upgrades, among other measures, the department said. For more information, go to: <http://ebird.osd.mil/ebfiles/e20120504885811.html>.

National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) Public Meeting

The next face-to-face meeting of the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) will be held at the EPA Potomac Yard Conference Center, 2777 Crystal Drive, Crystal City, Virginia, on 24-25 JUL 12. The meeting will include a public comment period.

Meeting Registration: Registration is required for everyone (including U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] and other federal employees). Advance registration closes at noon EST on 6 JUL 12. Meeting materials will be prepared based on the number of participants who have pre-registered by that date.

On-site registration will be available; however, meeting materials will be distributed first to those who registered in advance. Any remaining materials will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.

There are four easy ways to register:

Online: Click here to register <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/environmentaljustice/nejac/register.html>. online.

By E-mail: Send an e-mail to NEJACJuly2012Meeting@AlwaysPursuingExcellence.com with “Register for the NEJAC July 2012 Meeting” in the subject line. Please provide your name, organization, mailing address (including city, state, and zip code), e-mail address, and telephone number for future follow-up as necessary.

By Fax: Print the Web page containing the registration form and fax to 877-773-0779.

By Phone: Leave a message at 877-773-0779. Please provide your name, job title, organization, mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone number for future follow-up as necessary. Non-English speaking attendees wishing to arrange for a foreign language interpreter also may make appropriate arrangements by calling the number above.

Hotel Reservations: A limited number of rooms have been reserved at the prevailing government rate at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City, under the group code “EPA-NEJAC.” If you are planning to stay at the Hyatt Regency for the meeting, you must contact the hotel directly to reserve your room. The Hyatt Regency is located directly across the street from the EPA Potomac Yard Conference Center. You can call the Hyatt Regency at 703-418-1234 or visit the website <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/EPANEJACConference>. To be eligible for the negotiated room block rate, you must contact the hotel before 2 JUL 12.

Public Comment Sign-Up: Members of the public who wish to speak during the Public Comment period should pre-register by noon EST on 6 JUL 12. To accommodate the large number of people who want to address the NEJAC, only one representative of a community, organization, or group will be allowed to speak. (On-site public comment sign-up will also be available; however, those who sign-up in advance will be called to speak first.)

Written comments also can be submitted for the record. The required format for individuals providing written public comments is as follows:

- Name of speaker
- Name of organization/community
- City and state
- E-mail address
- A brief description of the concern, and what you want the NEJAC to advise EPA to do.

Written comments received by noon EST on 6 JUL 12 will be included in the materials distributed to the members of the NEJAC. Written comments received after that time will be provided to the NEJAC as time allows. All written comments should be sent to NEJACJuly2012Meeting@AlwaysPursuingExcellence.com.

DoD Facilities Drive Technology for Secure Power

Cheryl Pellerin – American Forces Press

As the nation’s top energy user, the Defense Department is pushing commercialization of the technology it needs to lower costs and keep its facilities secure, the deputy undersecretary of defense for installations and environment said. Dorothy Robyn addressed an audience of military, federal, and industry experts at the Military Smart Grids and Microgrids Conference in Arlington, VA. Robyn manages and oversees permanent military installations worldwide and manages installation programs that involve energy, the environment, safety and occupational health.

In fiscal 2011, the cost of electricity spent to power 300,000 buildings on Defense Department installations -- barracks, data centers, offices and hospitals -- and to operate 160,000 vehicles was \$4 billion a year. “We also account for a disproportionate share of the department’s greenhouse gases,” Robyn said. And such U.S. military installations depend almost entirely on a commercial electric grid that experts say is vulnerable to disruption.

Today the strategy for bolstering DoD facility energy security and innovation, she added, includes reducing demand for traditional energy, expanding the supply of renewable and other forms of on-base energy, focusing directly on base security, and leveraging advanced technology. In the area of advanced technology, Robyn said DoD is uniquely positioned to overcome barriers to commercialization for some of the most potentially groundbreaking energy innovations. Among these are smart grids and microgrids.

A smart grid is an electrical grid whose capabilities are boosted by computer technology to monitor and regulate the energy that utilities generate and distribute to consumers. When it becomes fully functional over the next decade in the United States, the automated grid will be able to communicate with consumers, remotely sense and fix problems on its own network, and save users money by better managing energy use and integrating power from wind, solar, biomass, and other renewable energy sources.

Microgrids and minigrids are smaller, less-automated versions of smart-grid technology. They interconnect small, modular electricity-generation sources to low-voltage distribution systems. Some can be powered by a combination of petroleum-fueled generators, solar, wind and other sources. "I am something of a cheerleader for microgrids, because they solve a huge problem we have -- namely the energy security of our bases," Robyn said.

Impediments to such emerging technologies, Robyn said, include a highly fragmented building industry, high costs for first users of new technology, and a lack of operational testing that deters potential technology adopters. DoD is uniquely positioned to help overcome these barriers, the deputy undersecretary added. "The key to this is using our installations as a testbed for next-generation energy technology, pre-commercial technology that we think has promise on our installations," Robyn said. "If we try 10 things out and seven of them work and three don't, we can deploy those so broadly as to make it profitable," Robyn said. "So that's what we're doing."

Electrochromic windows are an example of emerging technology for efficient integrated buildings. These windows can be darkened or lightened electronically, controlling the amount of daylight and solar heat gain through the windows of buildings and vehicles. Robyn's team is putting these windows on three sides of a building at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar in Southern California and will systematically collect performance data. "This is a great example of the role we can play in reducing risk," Robyn said.

For more information, go to: <http://www.defense.gov/News/NewsArticle.aspx?ID=116157>.

Pentagon Eyes Goals for Renewable Energy Usage

By Andy Medici – Navy Times

The Defense Department will develop 3 gigawatts of renewable energy by fiscal 2025 — enough to power 750,000 homes — according to an administration announcement. Each service branch will develop 1 gigawatt of renewable energy: the Air Force by 2016, the Navy by 2020, and the Army by 2025.

The Defense Department will reach its goal by using a variety of alternative financing techniques, according to the administration, including:

- Energy savings performance contracts, where a company pays the upfront investment for energy-efficiency renovations and retrofits in exchange for payments from energy savings over time.
- Enhanced-use leases, where a company gets to develop government land with renewable energy or other projects in exchange for payment or in-kind services such as reduced-rate energy.
- Power purchase agreements, in which a power company constructs an energy system in exchange for fixed payments over a certain number of years.

The Army has opened a new 30,000-square-foot lab in Detroit dedicated to developing alternative energy sources for the next generation of combat vehicles. The Ground Systems Power and Energy Lab will focus on developing energy technologies that will not rely on traditional gasoline or fuel, according to the administration. The new laboratory is part of a new goal for the Army to launch a "green warrior convoy" of vehicles powered by

alternative fuels by the end of fiscal 2013. The convoy will tour the country, stopping at schools, colleges, and military facilities, according to the administration.

Drought Covers the Nation

By Doyle Rice – USA Today

The USA hasn't been this dry in almost five years. Still reeling from last year's devastating drought that led to at least \$10 billion in agricultural losses across Texas and the South, the nation is enduring more unusually parched weather. A mostly dry, mild winter has put nearly 61% of the lower 48 states in "abnormally dry" or drought conditions, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor, a weekly federal tracking of drought. That's the highest percentage of dry or drought conditions since September 2007, when 61.5% of the country was listed in those categories. Only two states - Ohio and Alaska - are entirely free of abnormally dry or drought conditions, according to the Drought Monitor.

The drought is expanding into some areas where dryness is rare, such as New England. "Conditions are starting to worry us now," said Keith Eggleston, a climatologist with the Northeast Regional Climate Center in Ithaca, NY.

According to the US Geological Survey, stream flow levels are at record or near-record lows in much of New England. The Drought Monitor lists all of Vermont as "abnormally dry," just six months after the state's wettest August on record that stemmed mainly from disastrous flooding by the remnants of Hurricane Irene.

So far this year, Connecticut has endured its driest January-March period ever, Weather Channel meteorologist Jonathan Erdman reports. This followed the state's wettest year on record. Wildfires and brush fires have been common along the East Coast from New England to Florida in recent weeks because of wind and the dryness and windy conditions. As water levels continue to decline in bone-dry southern Florida, the South Florida Water Management District has issued a water shortage warning from Key West to Orlando.

One of the causes of the winter dryness was a weak La Nina, a climate pattern in the Pacific that affects weather in the USA and around the world. La Nina tends to bring dry conditions to the southern tier of the nation.

For more information, go to: <http://www.usatoday.com/weather/drought/story/2012-04-11/mild-winter-expands-usa-drought/54225018/1>.

White Paper Anticipates US Military's Aggressive Adoption of Solar Energy

By Chris Meehan – Clean Energy Authority

The U.S. Department of Defense, which uses more energy than many nations, is pushing the front lines on solar and renewable energy. At least that's according to a new white paper "Navigating by the Sun: U.S. Department of Defense Takes Aggressive Lead as Early Adopters of Solar Energy" by Principal Solar. The white paper explores what the branches of the military are doing and will do as they move forward on an aggressive timeline to increase the DoD's energy security by sourcing 25 percent of their energy from renewable sources by 2025.

Among other things, the paper, written by retired Brigadier General Rebecca Halstead and Principal Solar CEO Michael Gorton, cited a Pew Charitable Trusts report which showed that DoD spending on renewables has increased from \$400 million in 2006 to \$1.2 billion in 2009. And it's slated to rise far beyond that, to \$10 billion annually by 2030. That's almost as much as the DoD spent on energy in 2009. "In fiscal year 2009, the DoD spent just over \$13.2 billion dollars on the consumption of 932 trillion BTU [i.e. British thermal units] of energy," Gorton said.

The armed forces will pursue renewable energy domestically and internationally. "I suspect our priority will be the continental U.S., especially with the downsizing and reorganization of many overseas commands," said Halstead.

However, there will also be an important place for solar on the military's front lines. "There are also strategic reasons to have portable solar delivered to remote locations so that delivery of fuel for generating is significantly reduced," Gorton said. "This helps to lower cost as well as save lives from potential attacks on fuels delivery."

The move will also be driven by the military's budget reductions. "The budget cuts will drive this because of the cost of the generators. I'm not certain it is categorized as an urgent operational need even though there are long term benefits," Halstead.

Morton added that the falling costs of solar also will drive adoption. "In the next two years, as solar approaches grid parity, we will see significant acceleration in the utilization resulting from the strategic benefits coupled with the cost savings," he said.

Among some of the armed forces' stated goals are the Army having five net-zero energy installations by 2020 and 30 by 2030 and the Navy sourcing 50 percent of their energy from renewable sources by 2020, Morton said. Meanwhile, the Air Force is already recognized by the EPA as a Green Power Partner.

Powerhouse Solar Cell Inspired by Leaf Biomimicry

By Tina Casey – Clean Technica

A team of scientists headed up by Princeton University has achieved a whopping 47 percent increase in electricity generation from flexible plastic solar cells, simply by texturing the surface to mimic the wrinkles of a typical leaf. The biomimicry approach has resulted in a low cost, elegant solution for polymer-based solar cells, which are relatively cheap to manufacture but don't pack the efficiency punch of typical silicon solar cells.

By now it should come as no surprise that the US Navy and the US Air Force have provided funding in support of the Princeton biomimicry research, as the DoD aggressively transitions to solar energy and other low cost, reliable alternatives to fossil fuel. The National Science Foundation also chipped in and the University of Pennsylvania contributed to the research.

Polymer (aka plastic) solar cells are notoriously inefficient compared to silicon solar cells but what they lack in punch they make up for in flexibility, durability, light weight, and low manufacturing costs. Lately, the efficiency of polymer solar cells has been creeping closer to the commercial viability level. In one new development, a team from UCLA achieved 10.6 percent efficiency, putting it just within the desired range of 10-15 percent. One more tweak and the technology could just about make it — and according to the Princeton team, their biomimicry solution could be applied to almost any kind of plastic solar cell.

In a report from Princeton University, the principal investigator on the research team, Yueh-Lin Loo, explains the simple principle behind the biomimicry solution. The surface was manipulated to create channels similar to those found in leaves. "On a flat surface, the light either is absorbed or it bounces back. By adding these curves, we create a kind of wave guide. And that leads to a greater chance of the light's being absorbed."

In practice, the folding technique involved a complicated mathematical exercise. The team used an aerospace engineering lab to develop a technique for introducing different levels of stress to a layer of liquid photographic adhesive. Depending on the rate at which the liquid was allowed to dry, shallow wrinkles and deeper channels (or folds) were formed. The team found that a mix of wrinkles and folds performed better than texturing the surface with only one or the other. In fact, the textured surface performed even better than the researchers predicted for the long (red) end of the light spectrum. Absorption at this end is a particular challenge for conventional solar cells but the textured surface increased it by about 600 percent.

According to Loo, despite the fancy mathematics, the actual fabrication process is fairly practical as applied to commercial development and pertinent to portable solar power applications such as solar powered backpacks and other wearable items that are of increasing interest to the U.S. military.

SAS12: Navy's "Green Fleet" Adds Combat Power

By Michael Hoffman - DoDBuzz

The Navy again fired back at critics questioning if the money invested into "going green" will steal away needed funding from shrinking coffers without increasing sea power capabilities. Tom Hicks, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Energy for the Navy, said it's quite the opposite at the Navy's League 2012 Sea-Air-Space Exposition. Investing in renewable energy and alternative fuels provides the Navy and Marine Corps better combat power. If the Navy reduces the nation's dependence on foreign oil along the way, that's great, but it's not the focus, Hicks said.

The Navy has received pressure from Congress to justify its energy conservation efforts since a RAND report was published in January stating that biofuels will not help the Navy for at least another decade. The Navy continues its work to develop biofuels but Hicks also pointed to the renewable energy work by the Marine Corps to help forward deployed Marines depend less on supply convoys.

Using solar panels, rechargeable batteries and water purifiers, the Marine Corps can keep Marines in the field longer, Hicks said. Saving money on energy costs helps, but it's still about keeping these Marines less dependent on the dangerous convoys driven by troops and contractors in Afghanistan.

For more information, go to: <http://www.dodbuzz.com/2012/04/16/sas12-navys-green-fleet-adds-combat-power/>.

Emerging Trend: Switching to CNG

By C. Beairsto

An emerging transportation trend is a switch to natural gas. Numerous states are leaning towards [Compressed Natural Gas](#) (CNG) use. In March 2012, eleven states signed an MOU to encourage natural-gas vehicle (NGV) production. Through the joint solicitation of a Multi-State Request for Proposal (Joint-RFP) that aggregates annual state fleet vehicle procurements, the signatory states will endeavor to provide a demand base sufficient to support the design, manufacture, and sale of functional and affordable original equipment manufacturer (OEM) NGVs by automotive manufacturers in the United States. On 7 MAR 12, GE and Chesapeake Energy Corporation [announced](#) a collaboration to speed adoption of natural gas as a transportation fuel. CNG is being utilized more than ever and all-time low CNG fuel prices are encouraging leading manufacturers like Cummins Westport, Navistar, and Peterbilt to introduce new engine and truck models. North American natural gas provides an abundant, affordable fuel alternative at a cost that is 20 to 40 percent lower than gasoline or diesel in many regions. Carbon dioxide emissions from natural gas vehicles are up to 30 percent lower. DoD is also incorporating CNG in fleet management. Quantico Marine Corps Base is offering alternative fueling stations with [Compressed Natural Gas](#) (for DoD fleet use only). In addition to CNG, alternative fuel use is on the rise. Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii recently opened the first of three alternative fuels (Ethanol 85 (E85)) fueling stations planned for the Navy's fleet of flex-fuel vehicles at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH). There are about 1,000 Natural Gas Vehicles (NGV) fueling stations in the U.S. – and about half of them are open to the public. There are about 112,000 NGVs on U.S. roads today.

FEDERAL NEWS

Notice: With regard to any regulation or legislation, installation staff is requested to contact their respective component REC with information on mission or installation impacts, questions, or comments.

AIR

EPA Updates Clean Air Act Requirements for Gas Stations to Reflect New Vehicle Technologies

The EPA has determined that the systems used at gas station pumps to capture harmful gasoline vapors while refueling cars can be phased out. Modern vehicles are equipped to capture those emissions. This final rule is part of an initiative to ensure that regulations protect public health and the environment without being unnecessarily burdensome to American businesses.

Beginning later this year, states may begin the process of phasing out vapor recovery systems at the pump since approximately 70 percent of all vehicles are equipped with on-board systems that capture these vapors. This final rule will ensure that air quality and public health are protected while potentially saving the approximately 31,000 affected gas stations located in mostly urban areas more than \$3,000 each year when fully implemented. For more information, go to: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/4DA9A5693E0C5215852579FA00499E35>.

Proposed Amendment to GHG Reporting Rule – Public Comment Period

In the 21 MAY 12 Federal Register (<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-05-21/pdf/2012-12193.pdf>), EPA proposed additional amendments to the GHG Reporting Rule. Public comments are due 20 JUN 12.

The proposal has 3 parts:

1. Provide greater clarity and flexibility to facilities subject to reporting emissions from 4 source categories - Subpart A (to align with requirements for fluorinated heat transfer fluids), Subpart L (Fluorinated Gas Production), Subpart W (petroleum and Natural Gas Systems), and Subpart TT (industrial waste landfills). These source categories will report GHG data for the first time in September of 2012. The proposed changes are not expected to significantly change the overall calculation and monitoring requirements of the GHG Reporting Rule or add additional requirements for reporters but are expected to correct errors and clarify existing requirements in order to facilitate accurate and timely reporting.
2. Make confidentiality determinations for 4 new data elements for Subpart L (Fluorinated Gas Production).
3. Propose an amendment to Table A-7 of the general provisions to add a data element used as an input to an emission equation in Subpart L (Fluorinated Gas Production).

If you have any comments, please e-mail them to dodrecreg3@navy.mil by 6 JUN 12.

WATER

May is American Wetlands Month

This is the 22nd anniversary of American Wetlands Month, a time when federal, state, tribal, local, non-profit, and private sector organizations celebrate the vital importance of wetlands to the Nation's ecological, economic, and social health. In honor of this month, EPA and its partners are offering a variety of events and activities for the public. For more information on offerings in your state, go to:

<http://water.epa.gov/type/wetlands/outreach/index.cfm?CFID=356049&CFTOKEN=61040149>.

EPA to work with Drinking Water Systems to monitor Unregulated Contaminants

The EPA published a list of 28 chemicals and two viruses that approximately 6,000 public water systems will monitor from 2013 to 2015 as part of the agency's unregulated contaminant monitoring program. The program collects data for contaminants suspected to be present in drinking water but that do not have health-based standards set under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

EPA will spend more than \$20 million to support the monitoring, the majority of which will be devoted to assist small drinking water systems with conducting the monitoring. The data collected under the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 3 (UCMR 3) will inform EPA about the frequency and levels at which these contaminants are found in drinking water systems across the United States and help determine whether additional protections are needed to ensure safe drinking water for Americans. State participation in the monitoring is voluntary. EPA will fund small drinking water system costs for laboratory analyses, shipping and quality control.

The list of contaminants to be studied includes total chromium and hexavalent chromium, also known as chromium-6. In January 2011, EPA issued guidance to all water systems on how to assess the prevalence of hexavalent chromium and in the March 2011 proposal for UCMR 3, EPA invited comments on whether the agency should include chromium in the final rule. Public comments received by EPA were strongly supportive of adding total chromium and hexavalent chromium for monitoring.

EPA selected the contaminants by first reviewing the agency's contaminant candidate list, which highlights priority contaminants that need additional research to support future drinking water protections. The contaminants on the list are known or anticipated to occur in public water systems. However, they are not addressed by existing national drinking water standards. Additional contaminants of concern were selected based on current occurrence research and health-risk factors. EPA has standards for 91 contaminants in drinking water and the Safe Drinking Water Act requires that EPA identify up to 30 additional unregulated contaminants for monitoring every five years.

For more information, visit: <http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/ucmr/ucmr3/index.cfm>.

6-12 MAY is Drinking Water Week

The EPA and its partners are celebrating our nation's vital drinking water resources. Safe drinking water relies on all of us. We must do our part to be informed and involved in our communities to protect our drinking water. For more information on what you can do around your home and within your community to protect your drinking water, ways to become involved in matters affecting the quality of your drinking water, and much more, go to: <http://water.epa.gov/drink/drinkingwaterweek/?CFID=367427&CFTOKEN=71676700>.

HAZARDOUS WASTE

Postal Service to Prohibit International Mailing of Lithium Batteries

In advance of formal publication in the Federal Register, the United States Postal Services has indicated that starting 16 MAY 12, they will prohibit international mailing of lithium batteries and electronic devices containing lithium batteries. The new regulations also prohibit shipments to or from Army, Fleet, and Diplomatic Post Offices.

Mailing of packages within the U.S. containing lithium batteries is allowable when mailed using domestic commercial air or ground transportation.

The Postal Service's modification will remain in effect until at least January 2013. At that time, international aviation rules may be changed to allow mailing of limited quantities of lithium batteries when installed in electronic devices they're intended to operate. The Postal Service is working with other organizations to

determine if exceptions to the new rule can be developed before January 2013. For more information, go to: <https://liteblue.usps.gov/news/link/2012/05may/news03s2.htm>.

CHESAPEAKE BAY

Army Corps unveiling Chesapeake Oyster Plan

Alex Dominguez – Associated Press

On 10 APR 12, the Army Corps of Engineers unveiled its restoration plan for Chesapeake oysters, a bay-wide look that officials said moves past piecemeal efforts and selects targets for large-scale efforts. The corps held three public meetings on the plan, which it described as the first comprehensive strategy for large-scale oyster restoration.

Claire O'Neill, project manager for the Army Corps' Baltimore District, said the study takes a scientific look at where limited resources can have the most impact and is a recommendation for future work. "There is no mandate, we don't have that kind of authority," O'Neill said. However, she said that scientists differ on the best way to restore oysters in the Chesapeake, which have dipped to less than 1 percent of their historic levels, and the authors hope to standardize the process. Land use near the tributaries - whether for farming, industry, or homes - was among the items considered for each tributary, along with factors such as water depth, whether the bottom is rocky or muddy, and the salinity of the water. The end goal is to have self-sustaining oyster populations in those tributaries.

Scientists are working to restore oysters as part of a presidential order that spurred a new federally led bay restoration strategy. Oysters are important to bay restoration because they are filter feeders that clean bay waters.

The plan selected 19 areas, 11 in Maryland and eight in Virginia, for restoration. Those waterways include the Eastern Bay, Tangier Sound and the Nanticoke, Choptank, and Chester rivers in Maryland. The Pocomoke, Rappahannock and James rivers are among the areas in Virginia. The plan also calls for sanctuaries where harvesting won't be allowed covering 20 percent to 40 percent of historic habitat.

Another reason for the study is to put a cost estimate on that goal, O'Neill said. The study found costs could run as high as \$7.85 billion, compared to the \$5 million a year the effort is now getting from Congress. Angie Sowers, study manager for the Corps, said no one is asking for that amount. The work will take place over years, focusing on one or two tributaries at first and expected costs could drop as lessons are learned, Sowers said. "Nature is going to play a big, big part in this," Sowers said, adding that the hope is the efforts will eventually push oyster populations past a tipping point where they become self-sustaining.

About a dozen showed up for the first meeting, including Ken Hastings, 71, a retired communications engineer who drove 90 minutes from Mechanicsville. Hastings said he supports the emphasis on sanctuaries and would support a moratorium on oystering. "I'm not against harvesting, just not having harvests until it's sustainable," Hastings said.

Blue Crab Population Reaches Near 20-Year High

Gov. Bob McDonnell and Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley announced today the Chesapeake Bay's blue crab population is booming, fueled by an extraordinary explosion in juvenile crab abundance. The results of the 2012 Blue Crab Winter Dredge Survey determined the total population of blue crabs in the Chesapeake Bay has reached 764 million, due to four years of a bay-wide stock rebuilding program.

The findings represent a 66% increase over the 2011 level and are the highest levels recorded since 1993. In fact, the bay-wide blue crab stock abundance is now more than triple the record low of 249 million, set in 2007, the year before the stock rebuilding program began.

The winter dredge survey results sounded one important cautionary note. The number of spawning age females recorded by the survey dropped by roughly 50% from 2011 levels, only reaching about 97 million. However, that level remains above the healthy-species threshold, and fluctuations are neither unprecedented nor unexpected in the winter dredge survey. For more information, go to:

<http://www.vagazette.com/articles/2012/04/19/news/doc4f9064e9e0faf643481107.txt>.

Storms Bring Down Bay's Grade on Report Card

Rona Kobell – Chesapeake Bay Journal

The Chesapeake Bay brought home its worst report card ever this spring, thanks to a pair of storms that washed huge amounts of nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment into its mainstem.

For 2011, the Bay scored a D+ overall, with two rivers - the Patuxent and the Elizabeth - earning Fs. The Upper Western Shore, Upper Bay and Lower Bay all earned Cs, the highest grades. Only two regions improved their score since the 2010 report card, but even those were not worthy of gold stars. The Patapsco and Back rivers scored a D- instead of last year's F. And the Lower Western Shore of Maryland (Annapolis area rivers) moved up to a D from last year's F, a move that signified the greatest improvement.

Weather patterns created a perfect storm of problems. Spring rains clouded the water, blocking light that underwater grasses and plants need. A hot and dry summer contributed to low dissolved oxygen. Then Hurricane Irene actually increased the oxygen because its winds mixed up the water, said UMCES scientist Caroline Wicks. But Tropical Storm Lee, which closely followed, washed vast amounts of sediment into the Bay, leading to "very poor water clarity," she said. For more information, go to:

http://www.bayjournal.com/article/storms_bring_down_bays_grade_on_report_card.

REGION 1



CONNECTICUT

Note: The Connecticut General Assembly convened on 8 FEB 12 and adjourned on 9 MAY 12.

Proposed Legislation

On 22 FEB 12, the Public Safety and Security Committee introduced [CT HB 5248](#) which is an Act concerning foamed-in-place insulating material which would permit the installation in buildings and structures of a phenolic-based foam insulation. The bill passed the House and the Senate but has not yet been signed by the Governor.

Proposed Rules

[Pesticide Applicators and Arborists Regulations](#) - The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection has proposed amendments that would revise certain sections of the state's pesticide management regulations as well as regulations concerning the licensing of arborists. The purpose of these regulations is to ensure that work performed by pesticide applicators and arborists is conducted in a manner that does not adversely impact human health or the environment.

The proposed revisions a) make technical corrections to the language and format of the regulations for clarity and program consistency; b) create a new class of operator which will be authorized to make independent decisions in the field without written instructions from a supervisor; c) allows the commissioner to issue aquatic chemical permits for a period of up to three years which will reduce the administrative burden on both the department and permit applicants; d) clarifies the content and format of signs that are required to be posted when pesticide applications take place to ensure that pesticide notification language is clear and obvious; and e) amend the arborist licensing regulations to make the regulatory language consistent with statutory language and to reflect fee increases recently imposed by statute.

Lifetime State Park Passes Available for Veterans with Service-Connected Disabilities

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) announced that lifetime state park passes are available free of charge to state residents who are military veterans with a service-connected disability. For more information, go to: <http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?A=4173&Q=504648>.



MAINE

Note: The Maine General Assembly convened on 4 JAN 12 and adjourned on 18 APR 12.

Legislation

On 23 MAR 11, Representative Duchesne introduced [ME LD 1278](#) which would impose fees on the disposal of construction and demolition debris and construction and demolition debris processing residue and impose higher fees on certain wastes that are disposed of at a landfill granted a license to expand after 15 OCT 11. The bill also provides that a disposal fee may not be imposed on construction and demolition debris and construction and demolition debris processing residue that is disposed of at a municipal, regional association, or generator-owned landfill. The bill was signed by the governor on 20 MAR 12.

Regulation

[Control of Noise, Sound Level Limits and Measurements for Wind Turbine Projects](#) - The Department of Environmental Protection has adopted amendments to Ch. 375 Section 10, Control of Noise by including a new subsection entitled "Sound Level Limits and Measurements for Wind Turbine Projects." The rule includes provisions for the following: (1) predictive modeling requirements; (2) maximum sound limits for operations; (3) short-term duration repetitive sounds (SDRS) and tonal sounds; (4) noise easements; (5) post-construction compliance requirements; and (6) noise complaint response. The regulation passed and becomes effective on 10 JUN 12.



MASSACHUSETTS

Note: The Massachusetts General Court meets throughout the year.

Proposed Legislation

On 16 NOV 11, the Ways and Means Committee introduced [MA SB 2074](#) which would permit renewable energy generation on closed landfills.

Proposed Rules

[Amendments of Definitions and Applicability to Incorporate US EPA's Tailoring Rule for Greenhouse Gases](#) - The Department of Environmental Protection has proposed amendments to 310 CMR 7.00: Appendix C Operating Permit and Compliance Program. The Department plans to amend the applicability section of its federally-required title V Operating Permit program (310 CMR 7.00: Appendix C) by adding a new applicability threshold for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of 100 tons mass basis of GHG and 100,000 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e). The amendments will provide consistency between 310 CMR 7.00: Appendix C and the corresponding U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulation, 40 CFR Part 70.

Southern Cape Cod, Martha 's Vineyard, and Nantucket Seek to Protect Coastal Waters from Boat Pollution

The EPA is considering a proposal to designate the coastal waters of Nantucket and Vineyard Sounds and the Islands as a "No Discharge Area". If approved, discharges of treated and untreated boat sewage would be prohibited within the town boundaries of Chilmark, West Tisbury, Tisbury, Oak Bluffs, Edgartown, Gosnold, Falmouth, Mashpee, Barnstable, Yarmouth, Dennis, Harwich, Chatham and Nantucket.

On behalf of the Commonwealth, the Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management (MA CZM) has petitioned EPA to approve the No Discharge designation, with the towns' concurrence. EPA has in turn published the request in the Federal Register and will accept public comments on the proposal for 30 days, ending 29 MAY 12.

The proposed designation includes 143 bathing beaches and 26 miles of coastline and encompasses approximately 733 square mile of state waters. Along with a similar proposal to designate Mt. Hope Bay as a no discharge area, if approved, these two areas will mean that all coastal waters in Massachusetts are protected from discharge of treated and untreated boat sewage.

Before EPA will endorse a No Discharge Area designation for any area, the applicant must demonstrate that there are enough "pumpout" facilities where boaters can get their sewage holding tanks pumped out. This particular area has an estimated 15,283 boats, of which 5,075 may have a head or toilet on board. Massachusetts has certified that there are 29 pumpout facilities within the proposed area available to the boating public.

This designation has been under development for more than 5 years, due to the substantial issues involved. All parties sat down and worked through each issue. Two years ago, the "Island Queen" bought a pumpout boat to make sure they would be in compliance. The Steamship Authority worked out a schedule for retrofitting their vessels and installing the pumpout facilities for their vessels.

Many other areas in New England already have designated their coastal waters as No Discharge Areas, including:

- All state marine waters of Connecticut, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire. If the two currently pending requests are approved, all of Massachusetts coastal waters will be protected as well;
- In Maine, Boothbay Harbor, Casco Bay, Kennebunk/Kennebunkport/Wells, Southern Mount Desert area, and West Penobscot Bay (Camden/Rockport/Rockland).

For more information about No Discharge Areas in New England, go to:

<http://www.epa.gov/ne/eco/nodiscrg/index.html>.



NEW HAMPSHIRE

Note: The NH General Court convened on 4 JAN 12 and will adjourn on 7 JUN 12.

Legislation

On 6 DEC 11, Representative Chandler introduced [NH HB 1504](#) which would reinstate the Maine-New Hampshire Interstate Bridge Authority. This bill is a request of the department of transportation. The bill was signed by the governor on 3 MAY 12.

Proposed Rules

[Fees for Individual Well Drillers, Technical Drillers, Equipment Operators, and Pump Installers](#) - The Water Well Board has proposed rulemaking relating to fees for individual well drillers, technical drillers, equipment operators, and pump installers. The existing rules establish license fees for water well contractors and pump installers. The existing rules implement the requirements of RSA 482-B for licensure of water well contractors and pump installers including: types of licenses, application procedure, qualifications, examination, renewals,

fees, reciprocity, exemptions, and procedures for hearings. The rules also establish standards for the construction of wells, the installation of pumps and pumping systems, and reporting requirements.

Citation We 301.03 is proposed to be adopted to allow individual licensees to pay reduced fees. Currently, water well and pump industry workers employed by a licensed water well contractor or pump installer, and who choose to be individually licensed in accordance with Citation We 302.02 are required to pay the same license fee as their employers. The proposed rule, Citation We 301.03, will create reduced license fees for individuals. The new fees for individuals would be 25% to 66% lower than the business license fees, depending on the license category. The heading of We 301.02 is being changed to refer to business entities.

Regulated Toxic Air Pollutants - The Department of Environmental Services has proposed amendments to rules concerning emissions of toxic air pollutants into the ambient air. The proposed rule contains the following updates: One compound, Citral, is proposed as a new regulated toxic air pollutant (RTAP) and 15 chemical substances are proposed to have their acceptable ambient levels (AALs) changed.

In addition to required annual updates, DES is also proposing the following changes, pursuant to RSA 125-I:

- De-list toxic low Class II RTAPs that are not expected to cause harmful health effects in the ambient air and de-list RTAPs that do not have an AAL due to a lack of scientific data;
- Exempt major stationary sources that are subject to a federal Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) standard and meet the requirements of the standard through the operation of pollution control equipment;
- To be consistent with federal regulations, exempt spray booths using commercially available paints or coatings for facility or equipment maintenance;
- Exempt crematoriums, because numerous compliance determinations have shown that their emissions are well below all applicable AALs;
- Exempt sewage treatment facilities that do not accept industrial wastewater and process less than 200,000 gallons per day, because test data has shown that emissions from these facilities are well below all applicable AALs;
- Exempt devices that burn bio-fuels as defined in Env-A 1401.03(a); because test data has shown that emissions from facilities that burn bio-fuels are well below all applicable AALs; and
- To be consistent with federal regulations, exempt the use of consumer products if those products are used in a manner consistent with how the general public would use them.

Weekly Updated Drought Information is Available Online

The continuing drought is affecting the entire nation. Up-to-date information about the drought and its effects on New Hampshire can be found at: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dam/drought/drought-conditions.htm>.



RHODE ISLAND

Note: The RI General Assembly convened on 3 JAN 12 and will adjourn on 22 JUN 12.

Proposed Legislation

On 2 FEB 12, Representative Handy introduced [RI HB 7370](#) which would create the Ultra-Low Sulfur and Biodiesel Heating Oil Act of 2012 to encourage the production of bio-fuels in the state, create jobs in the emerging bio-fuel industry, improve air quality, and promote energy independence.

Regulations

[Registration and Protection of Historic Cemeteries](#) - The Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission has adopted rule-making to establish standards for registering and regulating historic cemeteries that shall be followed in the absence of a local ordinance; a secondary purpose of the regulation is to provide guidance to cities and towns about what kinds of information are useful to document historic cemeteries and how to evaluate whether proposed construction may impact historic burials. This regulation becomes effective on 31 MAY 12.

[Rhode Island Resource Recovery Annual Municipal Solid Waste Cap Allotments](#) - The Resource Recovery Corporation has adopted a rule to establish more fair and consistent procedures for calculating the amount of solid waste that each municipality is allowed to dispose at the reduced legislatively determined fee, or 'municipal solid waste cap'. The final rule was modified from the proposed rule in response to comments by the Town of New Shoreham regarding the unique nature of their seasonal household population. Specifically, the procedure was revised to accommodate differing assumptions on seasonal occupants per household and also defines a mechanism for municipalities to request an increase to their seasonal occupants per household assumption. In order to accommodate such differing seasonal assumptions across municipalities, the procedure was revised to simply reallocate the prior year's waste and recycling generation on a pro rata basis by the seasonally adjusted population. This regulation passed and becomes effective on 6 JUN 12.



VERMONT

Note: The Vermont General Assembly convened on 3 JAN 12 and will adjourn on 31 MAY 12.

Proposed Legislation

On 5 JAN 12, Representative Klein introduced [VT HB 485](#) which proposes to require the agency of natural resources to assess the current capacity, cost, and efficiency of solid waste collection in Vermont and to report to the general assembly. The bill would also require solid waste certified facilities and transporters that offer to collect municipal solid waste also to offer to collect mandated recyclables and leaf and yard residual separately from other solid waste at no additional charge. The bill also would ban the landfill disposal of mandated recyclables and leaf and yard residual. In addition, the bill requires a person producing more than 104 tons of source-separated organic material to separate the waste from other waste and arrange for its disposal in a compost facility. The bill also amends the requirements for the state solid waste management plan. Additionally, the bill authorizes municipalities to impose charges for the collection of municipal solid waste that increase as the volume or weight of the waste collected increases. The bill has been approved by the house and the Senate and has been sent to the governor for signature.

Legislation

On 3 FEB 12, the Wildlife House Committee on Fish introduced [VT HB 752](#) relating to permitting stormwater discharges in impaired watersheds. This bill proposes to amend the state permit program for discharges of "Regulated stormwater runoff" to recodify the permitting standard for discharges from impervious surfaces to stormwater-Impaired waters. The bill also would recodify the statutory section that provides that failure to obtain a pretransition stormwater discharge permit is not an encumbrance on title. This bill was signed by the governor on 1 MAY 12.

Proposed Rules

[Vermont Endangered and Threatened Species Rule](#) - The Agency of Natural Resources has proposed a rule to list the Appalachian Sandcherry, the White camas, the Common nighthawk, and the Tri-colored bat as Endangered and the Whip-poor-will as Threatened. The rule proposes to de-list the Sandberg's birch. Lastly, the rule proposes to de-list the Western chorus frog and list the Boreal chorus frog, the Western chorus frog having been misidentified when it was first listed. The rule has also been re-drafted to provide clarity, consistency and predictability for the permit process. The emendations include excising provisions already found in statute and more clearly describing an applicant's obligations when applying for a permit. Lastly, the rule includes a mitigation analysis that has been used in practice but it is proper to have in the rule itself.

REGION 2



NEW JERSEY

The New Jersey Legislature meets throughout the year.

Proposed Legislation

On 10 JAN 12, Senator O'Toole introduced [NJ SR 19](#) which opposes the implementation of the Federal Aviation Administration's Integrated Airspace Alternative with the Integrated Control Complex plan, a new airspace structure and air traffic control plan.

Regulations

[Administrative Requirements for the Remediation of Contaminated Sites and Technical Requirements for Site Remediation](#) - The Department (DEP) has adopted amendments, repeals, and new rules (the Final Rules) to implement P.L. 2009, c. 60 (the Act). The Act includes the Site Remediation Reform Act (SRRA), N.J.S.A. 58:10C-1 et seq., and related amendments to the Industrial Site Recovery Act (ISRA), N.J.S.A. 13:1K-6 et seq., the Spill Compensation Control Act (Spill Act), N.J.S.A. 58:23-11 et seq., the Underground Storage of Hazardous Substances Act (UST Act), N.J.S.A. 58:10A-21 et seq., and the Brownfield and Contaminated Site Remediation Act (Brownfield Act), N.J.S.A. 58:10B-1 et seq. The regulation passed and became effective on 7 MAY 12.

DEP Urges Residents to Conserve Water

Due to ongoing concerns about below normal precipitation, the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has encouraged residents across New Jersey to take steps to conserve water, both inside the home and outside. While recent rainfall has helped ease this year's precipitation deficits somewhat, the effects of an unusually dry winter and spring are starting to be felt across the state. "Overall our major water supplies, including reservoirs and deep aquifers, remain in good shape," Commissioner Martin said. "But after too much precipitation last year, we've now swung in the opposite direction, with months of below normal precipitation. Most concerning is that our stream levels and shallow groundwater supplies are severely stressed. Our goal is to begin moderating demand by asking residents to voluntarily conserve water before peak summer use begins."

The DEP's water team has been meeting weekly to assess water supplies, demand, climate data, and weather forecasts. Recent rain and cooler weather have reduced wildfire threats but the New Jersey Forest Fire Service cautions that risks can rise quickly after just a few days of dry and windy weather.

The recent rainfall also cut into statewide precipitation deficits. From a longer term precipitation standpoint, however, New Jersey is considered severely dry. Deficits range from 3.2 inches below normal in Cape May County to 5.8 inches below normal in Morris County. As a result, streams and rivers, critical for replenishing reservoirs, are rated as severely to extremely dry. Shallow unconfined aquifers across the state are also rated as severely to extremely dry. Many private well owners and some municipal water supplies utilize these shallow groundwater supplies. Groundwater is important for replenishing streams, rivers, and lakes.

Commissioner Martin is urging residents to use water wisely and efficiently, particularly since outdoor consumption is expected to increase going into the summer due to lawn and landscape irrigation, agricultural use,

and other outdoor water-related activities. “Conserving water always makes sense for the environment and saves you money,” Commissioner Martin said. “Using water responsibly by voluntarily taking steps such as reducing lawn and landscape watering, limiting car washing at home, and turning off the faucet while brushing teeth and shaving, can save millions of gallons of water daily.”

Here are some suggested water-saving tips:

- Do not over-water lawns and landscaping. Watering two times per week for 20-30 minutes in early morning or early evening ensures that plants receive the most water while developing strong, healthy root systems. Make sure sprinklers and irrigation systems do not water during or immediately after a rain and are set to avoid wasting water on the street, driveway and sidewalk.
- Use a hose with a hand-held nozzle to water flowers and shrubs.
- Turn off the faucet while brushing teeth and shaving.
- To save water in the home, fix leaky faucets and pipes.
- Run washing machines and dishwashers only when full.
- Install high-efficiency, water-saving toilets, faucets, and shower heads.
- Use a broom to sweep the sidewalk, rather than a hose.
- Use mulch and native plants to conserve water in the garden.
- Use a rain barrel to capture water from a downspout to use later for watering gardens and plants.
- Use soaker hoses or drip irrigation to water trees, gardens and flower beds.

More information on water conservation and water supply status in all of New Jersey’s drought regions can be found at www.njdrought.org.



NEW YORK

The New York State Legislature meets throughout the year.

Proposed Legislation

On 10 JAN 12, Assemblyman Maisel introduced [NY AB 8969](#) which would prohibit the disposal in a solid waste facility of lamps containing mercury and would require manufacturers thereof to establish collection and recycling programs.

Regulations

[Ash Trees, Nursery Stock, Logs, Green Lumber, Firewood, Stumps, Roots, Branches and Debris of a Half Inch or More](#) - The Department of Agriculture and Markets has adopted rule making to extend the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) quarantine to Albany and Orange Counties because of the threat that EAB will spread outside the areas it now infests in New York State. This regulation passed and became effective on 23 MAY 12.

Second Annual Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week Starts 20 MAY

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Awareness Week will be held from 20-26 MAY 12 to encourage state residents and visitors to become better educated about the emerald ash borer and the destruction it causes to trees. In observance of EAB Awareness Week, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo issued a proclamation urging all New

Yorkers to exercise environmental stewardship to protect trees from infestation that can be devastating to landscapes, habitats and forest product industries.

As part of EAB Awareness Week, DEC staff and volunteers will post signs and tie ribbons on more than 6,000 ash trees along selected streets and in parks around the state that are populated with ash trees.

The emerald ash borer, first discovered in New York in 2009, is an invasive insect that kills all types of ash trees. Seven counties in Western New York and five in the Hudson Valley currently have infestations and state agencies are working diligently to stop the movement of beetles out of these areas in firewood and other wood products. Tens of millions of ash trees have been killed in the United States by the emerald ash borer and the hundreds of millions of ash trees in New York are at risk.

To help slow the spread of EAB, citizens are asked to avoid moving firewood and to look for and report the signs of the beetle on ash trees. Citizens should be aware of New York State's [firewood regulations](#) on the DEC website which restrict the movement of untreated firewood to 50 miles, and EAB quarantines, preventing the spread of potentially infested materials.

For more information, go to: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/press/82206.html>.

REGION 3



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Note: The Council of the District of Columbia meets twice per month throughout the year.

Proposed Legislation

On 27 MAR 12, Councilmember Brown introduced [DC B 745](#), the Anacostia Waterfront Environmental Standards Amendment Act of 2012. The proposed legislation amends the National Capital Revitalization Corporation and Anacostia Waterfront Corporation Reorganization Act of 2008 (the Act) to permit the application of progressive stormwater standards in the Anacostia Waterfront Development Zone (AWDZ), corrects enrollment errors, and provides certain technical corrections and clarifications.

Proposed Rules

[Amend Water and Sanitary Sewer Service Rates, Impervious Surface Area Charge, Right of Way Occupancy Fee, and Payment in Lieu of Taxes Fee](#) - The DC Water and Sewer Authority has proposed rulemaking to amend sections 4100, "Rates for Water Service," and 4101, "Rates for Sewer Service," of chapter 41, "Retail Water and Sewer Rates," and section 112, "Fees," of chapter 1, "Water Supply," of title 21, "Water and Sanitation," of the DCMR.

[Revisions to Air Quality Opacity Requirements](#) - The Department of the Environment has proposed rules that would amend 20 DCMR § 606 by providing an exception to the opacity standard of up to ten percent (10%) through a permitting process pursuant to 20 DCMR chapter 2 or 3, in situations where the regulated entity can document that it is unable to reasonably attain compliance with the current zero percent (0%) opacity standard. In addition to such documentation, in order to obtain an alternative to the zero percent (0%) standard, the entity would be required to document compliance with all other particulate matter standards and show that the emissions from the subject source would not cause a violation of any National Ambient Air Quality Standard and that operation at the higher visible emissions level is not a sign of improper operation of the equipment.



DELAWARE

Note: The Delaware General Assembly convened on 10 JAN 12 and will adjourn on 30 JUN 12.

Proposed Legislation

On 2 MAY 12, Representative Kenton introduced [DE HB 321](#) which would regulate the sale and use of pesticides and devices. In order to offset the potential reduction in federal funding for the Department of Agriculture's pesticide program, this act provides the secretary of agriculture with the discretion to change the biennial fee for pesticide and device registration, up to a maximum of \$140.00 for a two-year registration. Registration fee changes will be made annually and must approximate and reflect the costs necessary to operate the department's pesticide program.

Proposed Rules

No new environmental regulations of significant importance to the DoD were identified during this reporting period.



MARYLAND

Note: The Maryland General Assembly convened on 11 JAN 12 and adjourned on 9 APR 12.

Legislation

On 1 FEB 12, Delegate Busch introduced [MD HB 446](#) which would alter specified Bay Restoration Fees paid by users of specified wastewater facilities, onsite sewage disposal systems, and sewage holding systems beginning on July 1, 2012; maintaining specified Bay Restoration Fees paid by users of wastewater facilities, onsite sewage disposal systems, and sewage holding tanks that do not discharge into or are not located within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed or the Coastal Bays Watershed; altering Bay Restoration Fees for specified buildings, groups of buildings, or non-residential users; etc. The bill was signed by the governor on 2 MAY 12.

On 8 FEB 12, Delegate Oaks introduced [MD HB 644](#) which would alter the application of the Reduction of Lead Risk in Housing law to apply to specified property constructed before 1978; exempt specified properties built between specified dates from requirements relating to risk reduction standards; authorize the Department of the Environment or a local health department to order lead abatement in specified property under specified circumstances; and authorize the Department to enforce the terms of a specified abatement order in a specified manner; etc. The bill was signed by the governor on 2 MAY 12

Regulations

[Lead Abatement](#) - The Department of the Environment has adopted amendments in order to implement the provisions of HB 1033 Environment - Risk in Housing - Risk Reduction Standards adopted following the 2011 Session of the Maryland General Assembly.

[Three Year Deferment](#) - The Department of the Environment has adopted a regulatory action to implement the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) action to defer, for a period of 3 years, the Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) and Title V permitting requirements related to carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from bioenergy and other biogenic stationary sources (biogenic CO₂). The EPA Rule "Deferral for CO₂ Emissions from Bioenergy and Other Biogenic Sources under the Prevention of Significant Deterioration and Title V Programs" (76 FR 43490) ("Deferral Rule") was published on July 20, 2011, and became effective that

day. The Rule amended the "Prevention of Significant Deterioration and Title V Greenhouse Gas Tailoring Rule" (75 FR 31514) published in the Federal Register on 3 JUN 10. During the 3-year deferral period, EPA will conduct a detailed examination of the science associated with biogenic CO2 emissions from stationary sources. This study will consider technical issues that EPA must resolve in order to account for biogenic CO2 emissions in ways that are scientifically sound and also manageable in practice. The appropriate parts of this action will be submitted to EPA for approval as part of Maryland's State Implementation Plan and Title V Program. The Department will request approval of the regulations in their entirety. This regulation passed and became effective on 3 MAR 12.

Navy Asks MD Shore Counties for Land Study

By Deborah Gates – Somerset Herald

The Navy wants to know future land uses for Somerset, Wicomico and eight other Maryland counties over which the military controls airspace. The Patuxent River Naval Air Station has for years tested aircraft and trained personnel for military operations. But after almost 70 years at the installation across the Chesapeake Bay from Crisfield, the Navy wants the 10 counties within range of air station testing to participate in a land-use study that documents the compatibility of projects planned by both the counties and the military and impacting either. Compatible land-use plans would be compiled into a strategic action report detailing community development and operations at the Naval Air Station. For more information, go to: <http://bit.ly/IsMZFV>.

Potomac River Threatened by Pollution

By Darryl Fears – Washington Post

A new report named the Potomac the nation's most endangered river, saying it is threatened by nutrient and sediment pollution that lowers the quality of drinking water and kills marine life and it will only get worse if regulations in the Clean Water Act get rolled back. For more information, go to:

http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/potomac-river-threatened-by-pollution-congress-new-report-says/2012/05/14/gIQAx189PU_story.html.

Maryland Reduction of Lead Risk in Housing Act

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) has enacted numerous revisions to its Lead Abatement regulations. The following regulations have been revised:

- Regulations .02, .03, and .11 under COMAR 26.16.01 - Accreditation and Training for Lead Paint Abatement Services;
- Regulations .03 and .07 under COMAR 26.16.02 - Reduction of Lead Risk in Housing; and
- Regulation .08 under COMAR 26.16.05 - Procedures for Performing Lead Abatement Services.

The revisions were enacted to ensure that tenants (children) are protected from lead based paint exposure. These regulations became effective 30 APR 12.

The amendments to the Maryland "Reduction of Lead Risk in Housing Act" (the Lead Law) were proposed during the 2011 Session of the General Assembly, under House Bill (HB) 1033. The regulations provide revisions to the following areas for property owners and contractors/inspectors and also establish a Lead Poisoning Prevention Study Group. A brief description of each amendment is provided.

- **Risk Reduction Standards** - requires lead contaminated dust testing (with no chipping, peeling, flaking paint) as the only Risk Reduction Standard prior to first occupancy of an affected property (including pre-1950 residential rental units) and at change in occupancy.
- **Civil Enforcement** - adds civil enforcement authority to allow MDE to seek civil injunctive relief instead of having to first exhaust administrative relief.
- **Reporting of Dust Test Laboratory Results** - requires the development of regulations requiring a laboratory to report failed dust tests directly to the Department.

- **Lead Poisoning Prevention Study Group** - requires a study to look at the sources of childhood lead poisoning and make recommendations to the General Assembly by 31 DEC 11. The group will also discuss sustainable and long-term funding for the Program.
- **Contractor and Inspectors** - requires contractors and inspectors attend an annual meeting conducted by MDE if they issue Risk Reduction Inspection Certificates.

The amendments, contained in HB 1033, can be found at the following link:

http://mlis.state.md.us/2011rs/chapters_noln/Ch_610_hb1033E.pdf

The regulations can be found at the following link:

http://www.dsd.state.md.us/comar/subtitle_chapters/26_Chapters.aspx#Subtitle16



PENNSYLVANIA

Note: The Pennsylvania General Assembly meets throughout the year.

Legislation

On 27 JAN 11, Senator White introduced [PA SB 304](#) which would amend P.L.2119, No.787, known as the Air Pollution Control Act, to provide for a more comprehensive public review of State Implementation Plans. It enables wider accessibility of State Implementation Plans for public review by making it accessible and available through the internet on the website of the department and the state or local air pollution control agency that developed the plan or revision. The bill was approved by the governor on 12 APR 12.

Proposed Rules

[Certification under Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act](#) - The Department of Environmental Protection (Department) certifies under section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C.A. § 1341), subject to the conditions listed in this notice, that the activities authorized by the Army Corps of Engineers published at 77 FR 10184 (21 FEB 12) (Reissuance of Nationwide Permits (NWP)) which may result in a discharge into waters of the United States in this Commonwealth will comply with the applicable provisions of sections 301—303, 306 and 307 of the Federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C.A. §§ 1311—1313, 1316 and 1317). In addition, the Commonwealth certifies, subject to the conditions listed in this notice, that there is a reasonable assurance that the construction and operation of the NWP in the 21 FEB 12 notice will comply with applicable Federal and State water quality standards.

Penn State: Responsible Yard and Garden Care Can Protect Water Quality

The growing season began early this year in Pennsylvania, so that means that many of us have already been hard at work preparing yards and gardens for the impending warmer weather. From a water quality standpoint, it is important to remember that anything that you put on the ground – from pesticides, to fertilizers, to manure – has

the potential to impact local waterways, the creatures that live there, or the people that use them for drinking water or recreation.

Each time it rains, water runs over the ground and carries with it anything that is not being readily used by the plants or soil. Over-application of pesticides and fertilizers won't help to make your garden greener and will ultimately waste money and cause excess chemicals and nutrients to enter waterways. This pollution that impacts local streams and rivers each time it rains is called non-point source pollution, meaning that it cannot be traced to one particular source and comes from water moving over a large area of land.

To be sure that you are only using the amount of fertilizer that is needed in your lawn or garden, Penn State offers soil testing to homeowners – do-it-yourself kits are available at your county Extension office.

Pesticide use also requires some planning ahead. By knowing exactly what pests you want to treat, and a little about their lifecycle and habits, you can find out exactly what kind of pesticide is needed to control them and also explore more environmentally-friendly alternatives. Penn State has a [pesticide education website](#) to help in pest identification and making responsible pesticide choices.

Finally, if you have a private drinking water well, take special care when applying pesticides and fertilizers to your yard or garden. The area within a 100 ft. radius around your well is known as a wellhead protection area. Anything that happens within this radius has the potential to immediately impact your drinking water supply, so don't apply in this area or use non-toxic alternatives.



VIRGINIA

The Virginia Legislature convened on 12 JAN 12 and adjourned on 10 MAR 12.

Legislation

On 11 JAN 12, Delegate May introduced [VA HB 805](#) which would privatize services now provided by the Department of Environmental Quality related to vehicle emissions inspections. The bill also updates authorized testing equipment, and allows use of wireless systems and on-road emissions testing. The bill passed and becomes effective on 1 JUL 12.

On 11 JAN 12, Senator Hanger introduced [VA SB 407](#) which Integrates elements of the Erosion and Sediment Control Act, the Stormwater Management Act, and the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act so that these regulatory programs can be implemented in a consolidated and consistent manner, resulting in greater efficiencies (one-stop shopping) for those being regulated. The bill also eliminates the Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance Board and places its responsibilities with the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board. This bill passed and becomes effective on 1 JUL 12.

On 20 JAN 12, Senator Wagner introduced [VA SB 639](#) which provides for the construction, maintenance, and funding of transportation by (i) increasing transportation's share of year-end surpluses to 67 percent, and (ii) authorizing the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) to name highways, bridges, interchanges, and other transportation facilities for private entities if an annual naming rights fee is paid, with the revenue dedicated to highway maintenance and operation. The bill also charges the CTB with greater responsibilities involving integration of land use and transportation planning and authorizes the CTB to withhold federal and state funds for

certain local or regional capital improvement projects if those projects are inconsistent with the Statewide Transportation Plan or the Six-Year Improvement Program. Provision is made for use of "revenue-sharing" funds for secondary highway system maintenance projects carried out by local governments. The bill provides for special allocations by the CTB for bridge reconstruction, high priority highway projects, and reconstruction of highways with particularly deteriorated pavements. Finally, the bill establishes an annual \$50 license tax for electric motor vehicles registered in the Commonwealth. The bill passed and becomes effective on 1 JUL 12.

On 11 JAN 12, Senator Wagner introduced [VA SB 504](#) which allows operators of facilities that hold air quality, solid waste, or water quality permits to install new technology, equipment, or other apparatus at the permitted facility without having to obtain a new, modified, or amended permit so long as they can demonstrate that the new technology will result in increased energy efficiency and improved environmental conditions. The bill passed and becomes effective on 1 JUL 12.

Proposed Rules

[Virginia Stormwater Management Program \(VSMP\) Permit Regulations](#) - The Department of Conservation and Recreation, Soil and Water Conservation Board, has proposed amendments to the applicable portions of Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP) Permit Regulations in order to reauthorize and amend the General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (small MS4s). Regulations developed under the federal Clean Water Act (33 USC §1251 et seq.) and §10.1-603.1 et seq. of the Code of Virginia require that VSMP permits be effective for a fixed term not to exceed five years [§10.1-603.2:2 (B)]. The existing 5-year General Permit became effective on 9 JUL 08; thus necessitating the regulatory promulgation of a new General Permit before the 8 JUL 13 expiration date.

Proposed Rules

[Facility and Aboveground Storage Tank \(AST\) Regulation](#) - The State Water Control Board intends to consider amending 9VAC25-91, Facility and Aboveground Storage Tank (AST) Regulation. These regulations are necessary to prevent pollution of state waters, lands, and storm drain systems from the discharge of oil from new and existing aboveground storage tanks. The regulations include (i) registration requirements for registration of facilities and individual petroleum aboveground storage tanks located within the Commonwealth; (ii) standards and procedures to prevent pollution from new and existing aboveground storage tanks; and (iii) requirements for the development of facility oil discharge contingency plans for facilities with an aggregate capacity of 25,000 gallons or greater of oil. The goals of this regulatory action are to improve the clarity of the regulation, make the requirements more easily understandable by the individuals and entities affected, and bring applicable portions of the regulation into conformity with related laws, federal regulations, and current industry standards. This regulatory action will include revisions that address performance standards for certain aboveground storage tanks that are required by Chapter 884 of the 2011 Acts of Assembly.

Regulations

[Waterworks Regulations](#) - The Virginia State Board of Health has adopted rule amendments which provide a regulatory definition of a chronically noncompliant waterworks and establish an enforcement procedure that allows the commissioner to take action against recalcitrant waterworks owners to compel compliance and protect the public health and welfare. This regulation becomes effective on 21 Jun 12.

Mercury-Containing Lamp Crushing Regulations

The Virginia Waste Management Board issued a Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) to amend 9VAC20-60 Virginia Hazardous Waste Regulations in the Virginia Register on 9 APR 12. The public comment period ended on 9 MAY 12. This regulation provides requirements for the effective management of hazardous waste in the Commonwealth, including the management of hazardous waste that has been deemed universal waste

such as mercury-containing lamps. The purpose of the proposed action is to revise the current management requirements and add additional criteria for mercury-containing universal waste lamps.

The purpose of the Universal Waste regulations is to streamline and encourage recycling. The Federal Universal Waste regulations do not allow crushing of mercury-containing lamps but States can demonstrate equivalency. Virginia's regulations for universal waste mercury-containing lamps were proposed for EPA approval in 2003 but EPA later withdrew the proposal due to the adverse comments it received. As a result, Virginia's regulations currently do not operate in lieu of the Federal requirements. EPA has recommended that Virginia amend its universal waste regulations for mercury-containing lamps in order for the Commonwealth to receive EPA authorization for the mercury-containing lamp universal waste program.

A stakeholder meeting was held on 18 MAY 11 to discuss the issues raised, to obtain feedback on lamp crushing operations currently used, and to review current regulations. Many stakeholders were concerned that Virginia was not authorized for this program and that EPA's authorization is necessary in order to insure that facilities in Virginia do not find themselves in the difficult situation of being in compliance with state regulations but not federal requirements.

Comments have been submitted to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VADEQ) on behalf of the Army and Navy installations that utilize the lamp-crushing option in Virginia. The DOD encourages VADEQ to seek EPA approval for its lamp crushing regulations.

VADEQ will review submitted comments and draft proposed regulations within the next 180 days. For more information, go to:

Virginia Register Notification

<http://register.dls.virginia.gov/vol28/iss16/v28i16.pdf>.

Virginia Regulatory Town Hall NOIRA

http://townhall.virginia.gov/L/GetFile.cfm?File=E:\townhall\docroot\119\3631\6109\AgencyStatement_DEQ_6109_v1.pdf.



WEST VIRGINIA

The West Virginia Legislature convened on 11 JAN 12 and adjourned on 13 MAR 12.

Legislation

On 26 JAN 12, Delegate Ferro introduced [WV HB 4320](#) which relates to the settlement of violations of the Hazardous Waste Management Act by consent agreements. This bill gives the Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection the authority to enforcement of HW violations. The bill passed and becomes effective on 4 Jun 12.

Regulations

[Ambient Air Quality Standards](#) - The Department of Environmental Protection has adopted amendments to rule 45-8 pertaining to ambient air quality standards. This rulemaking incorporates by reference the revised U.S. EPA primary SO₂ NAAQS. The Department will submit final rule 45-8 as a revision to the State Implementation Plan. This regulation passed and becomes effective on 1 JUN 12.

Spring at Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC) Sugar Grove

By Steve Niethamer – Installation Environmental Programs Director

Spring arrived early at Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC) Sugar Grove this year. Even though West Virginia Arbor Day is 13 APR 12 and National Arbor Day is 25 APR 12, NIOC Sugar Grove celebrated these public holidays on 1 MAR 12. Over 100 American chestnut trees and 100 Chinquapin trees were received from the WV Clements State Tree Nursery and a volunteer group of 15 sailors and civilians went to work planting them in the Command's Riparian Buffer Management Area. This area, which borders the South Fork of the South Branch of the Potomac River, has been set aside as a natural filter. It slows the flow of storm water run-off so that water can infiltrate into the ground, keeping sediments and pollutants from entering the water way and eventually the Chesapeake Bay. The Commanding Officer planted an American chestnut tree to commemorate the event after the Command's Arbor Day proclamation was read to everyone present.

NIOC Sugar Grove sponsored several events in celebration of both Earth Day and spring coming out in full bloom. On 13 APR 12, a small group of team spirited people conducted a river cleanup in coordination with The WV Make It Shine Program, which is managed by the WV Department of Environmental Protection and "Project Clean Stream". Since there has been very little precipitation since our last river cleanup, not much rubbish had washed down river to us and we only managed to collect 25 bags of trash.

The 17th Annual Safety, Health and Environmental Fair was held on 19 APR 12. Every year, all of the county school district's 4th graders and local home school students attend in the morning. In the afternoon, the Fair is open to base personnel, their families, and the general public. Representatives from the West Virginia Department of Forestry, West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, The Nature Conservancy, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the US Forest Service, and others were present his year. The hit of the Fair was the presentation provided by the Luray (VA) Rescue Zoo.

On the following day and in cooperation with the Potomac Highlands Cooperative Weed and Pest Management Area, volunteers once again participated in the annual Garlic Mustard Pull Challenge. The West Virginia goal this year is to pull/remove 35,000 pounds of this invasive species. This challenge is a friendly competition between Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Virginia, and West Virginia to see which state can pull the most Garlic Mustard. The Command's efforts netted 19 bags, equating to over 650 pounds of removed vegetation. This summer project will continue, with volunteers and interested employees providing the manpower. Another six bags of Garlic Mustard was pulled on 27 APR 12 during the Command's WV Make It Shine roadside cleanup. Sailors and civilians cleaned over eight miles of roadway - from the village of Brandywine to the entrance of the Navy's Operations Site access road. Over 32 volunteers donated in excess of one hundred hours collecting 61 bags of trash estimated to weigh 600 pounds. The most unusual and largest item collected was a mattress. Some gleaning was conducted to recover recyclable materials. All in all, spring at NIOC Sugar Grove has been a truly rewarding season for all of our volunteers.

REGION 4



NORTH CAROLINA

Note: The NC General Assembly convened on 4 JAN 12 and will adjourn on 13 JUL 12.

Proposed Legislation

On 17 MAY 12, Senator Rouzer introduced [NC SB 811](#) which would amend or repeal various environmental and natural resources reporting requirements, as recommended by the environmental review commission. This bill is still going through the legislative process.

Proposed Rules

[Mercury TMDL](#) - The Department of Environment and Natural Resources has invited comment and announced a meeting on three documents:

1. DRAFT Statewide Mercury Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)
2. DRAFT Mercury Post-TMDL Permitting Strategy (for wastewater)
3. North Carolina's Mercury Reduction Options for Nonpoint Sources

The Draft NC Mercury TMDL was developed to meet requirements of Section 303(d) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. It is subject to approval by EPA. The other two documents provide supplemental information on how the approved NC Mercury TMDL will be implemented. They are not subject to approval by EPA and will not be included in the TMDL package that will be submitted to EPA.

North Carolina Role-Model in Offshore Wind Power

As the Policymic news site writes, North Carolina's innovative legislative proposal, presented in 2011, can be a useful policy model for how the other states could encourage offshore wind development. Governments from states with strong offshore wind potential should send out competitive requests for proposals on development of utility-scale offshore wind energy.

The Offshore Wind Jobs and Economic Development Act, North Carolina's Senate Bill 747, proposed a state-managed competitive request for proposals process to develop 2,500 MW of offshore wind energy starting in 2017. Investor-owned utilities would be required to sign 20-year contracts to purchase power, in case the state determines that an industry bid has a positive net economic impact. If the state determines that 2,500 MW of offshore wind energy would not result in a net economic benefit, then there would be no obligation to grant a contract.

To boost the industry support, the Senate Bill also gives companies the option to co-invest or purchase an ownership interest of up to 50 percent in the projects. Those states which have significant coastal wind resources could use this policy framework to develop offshore wind energy. For more information, go to:

http://www.offshorewind.biz/2012/05/17/usa-north-carolina-role-model-in-offshore-wind-power/?utm_source=Offshore+Wind.biz&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=bc9fa815bd-RSS_EMAIL_CAMPAIGN.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Conferences

Utility Energy Service Contracts (UESC) Workshop (Classroom) (Multiple Offerings)

This FEMP workshop is provided for Federal procurement teams, providing an overview of the contracting options and services available from serving utility companies to engineer, finance, and install cost-effective energy and water savings projects. Participants will be walked through the typical project process spanning the audit phase to commissioning the equipment. For more information, go to:

http://www.fedcenter.gov/kd/go.cfm?destination=ShowItem&item_id=19437.

Climate Resilience Evaluation and Awareness Tool (CREAT) 101 (Web-based, On Demand)

This training provides an overview of climate change impacts and the methodology and functionality of CREAT. The CREAT software provides drinking water, wastewater, and storm water utilities with practical tools, training, and technical assistance to confront climate change through climate related risk assessment. For more information, go to: <http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/watersecurity/climate/creat.cfm>. For the on-line training classes, go to: <http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/watersecurity/climate/>.

Energy Use Assessment Tool for Water and Wastewater Systems (Web-based)

Learn about how to perform an energy use assessment at small- to medium-sized water and/or wastewater systems. For more information, go to: <http://www.fedcenter.gov/Events/index.cfm?id=21145>.

EPA Rain Garden Training for Federal Facilities and Health Care Institutions, 7-8 JUN 12, Brockton, MA

EPA New England and the VA Boston Healthcare System are sponsoring a two day stormwater/rain garden training for Federal Facilities and health care institutions on 7-8 JUN 12 at the Brockton, MA Veterans Affairs hospital. The training will include information on Federal and state stormwater regulations, the multiple benefits of rain gardens, and the siting, design, and planting of a rain garden. The training is limited to 75 participants. For more information, go to: <http://www.fedcenter.gov/Announcements/index.cfm?id=21069>.

Habitat Conservation Planning for Endangered Species, 11-15 JUN 12, Shepherdstown, WV

This course is presented by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and addresses the basic steps and processes regarding Habitat Conservation Planning under Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act. Case studies and interactive exercises are used to reinforce lecture sessions. For more information, go to:

<http://www.fedcenter.gov/Events/index.cfm?id=20491>.

Contaminants of Emerging Concern in Water Resources II, 25-27 JUN 12, Denver, CO

The first two days will focus on the detection, fate, and effects of Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CECs). The third day will be a "bridge" day with the conference Riparian Ecosystems IV for information exchange among disciplines equally concerned with CECs that threaten human and environmental health and with riparian ecosystems that protect the water resources that sustain human and environmental health. For more information, go to: <http://www.awra.org/meetings/Summer2012/index.html?CFID=7477465&CFTOKEN=70005658>.

6th International Conference on Environmental Science and Technology, 25-29 JUN 12, Houston, TX

The intent of the conference is to provide a multidisciplinary platform for environmental scientists, engineers, management professionals and government regulators to discuss the latest developments in environmental research and applications. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to: Water Pollution and Water Quality Control; Air Pollution and Air Quality Control; Ecoassessment and Restoration, Wetlands, Global Change;

Renewable Energy and Development; and Society and the Environment. For more information, go to: <http://www.aasci.org/conference/env/2012/EST2012.pdf?CFID=6566146&CFTOKEN=70134364>.

FedFleet and More 2012 ... Taking the Lead, 26-28 JUN, Louisville, KY

The conference will be held at the Galt House Hotel and Kentucky International Convention Center. Prior to the start of the conference, there are two days of training sessions. On 24 JUN 12, there will be a daylong basic motor vehicle fleet training session. On 25 JUN, there will be a daylong aircraft safety course session. Many agencies will hold meetings that day. There will also be a personal development and a motor vehicle fleet training session as well as several "field trips." The day will culminate with a welcome reception in the exhibit hall for all attendees. On 26 JUN, the conference will officially start. For more information, go to: <http://www.fedfleet.org/?CFID=7483053&CFTOKEN=40566131>.

Riparian Ecosystems IV, 27-29 JUN 12, Denver, CO

The first day will serve as a "bridge" day with the conference Contaminants of Emerging Concerns in Water Resources II for information exchange among disciplines equally concerned with CECs that threaten human and environmental health and with riparian ecosystems that protect the water resources that sustain human and environmental health. The last two days will focus on issues related to the management and sustainability of riparian ecosystems and how they respond to flooding, urbanization, bio-energy production, climate variability, and greenhouse gas emissions. For more information, go to: on

12th International Symposium for Environmental Geotechnology, Energy, and Global Sustainable Development, 27-29 JUN 12, Los Angeles, CA

The objective of the symposium is to apply technical and social science knowledge from a diversity of disciplines to address critical issues in sustainable development. For more information, go to: <http://www.isegnet.org/2012/>.

Wetland Plant Identification (Classroom), 9-13 JUL 12, Shepherdstown, WV

This course is presented by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and is designed to improve the ability of field staff to identify wetland plants using botanical manuals and floras. The class consists of several one-day sessions on the following groups: woody plants, including winter condition; herbaceous dicots; and grasses, sedges and rushes, and other monocots. Lectures discuss morphology, terminology and identification. Plants representative of that day's topic(s) are collected daily in the field and keyed-out in the classroom, in both directed and individual keying exercises. For more information, go to: <http://www.fedcenter.gov/Events/index.cfm?id=20489>.

Energy Savings Performance Contract Comprehensive Workshop, 17-19 JUL 12 (Web-based)

This FEMP workshop is open only to Federal employees and DOE M&O contractors. It starts at 0800 and ends at 1700. The workshop outlines the latest U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC) Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract and process. DOE laboratory experts and consultants with extensive background experience with ESPCs teach the course. For more information, go to: <http://www.fedcenter.gov/Events/index.cfm?id=21062>.

GovEnergy Workshop and Tradeshow, 19 – 21 AUG 12, St. Louis, MO

This annual training workshop and trade show is designed to address the challenges of federal energy management; helping to foster ideas into action. By bringing together the nation's leading experts in policy, technology, and facility operations, GovEnergy provides responsible, professional-grade education through a variety of learning experiences. For more information, go to: <http://www.govenergy.com/Index.aspx?CFID=333819&CFTOKEN=10729502#&panel1-3>.

StormCon 2012 Conference, 19 – 23 AUG 12, Denver, CO

The StormCon offers the opportunity to learn from case studies presented by municipal professionals, engineering consultants, contractors, researchers, and others on the front lines of implementing stormwater programs, BMPs, sediment and erosion control techniques, low-impact development approaches, research and testing of BMPs, and water-quality monitoring programs. For more information, go to: <http://www.stormcon.com/conference.html>.

GreenGov Symposium 2012, 24-26 SEP 12, Washington, DC

The Symposium aims to bring together leaders from government, the private sector, non-profits and academia to identify opportunities to create jobs, grow clean energy industries, and curb pollution by incorporating sustainable practices into the Federal Government's operations. For more information, go to: <http://www.greengov2012.org/>.

EcoSummit 2012, 30 SEPT-5 OCT, Columbus, OH

The theme of the conference is "Restoring the Planet's Ecosystem Services." Topics include, but are not limited to: climate change, sustainability, coastal problems from upland pollution sources, and biological invasions. For more information, go to: <http://www.ecosummit2012.org/index.htm?CFID=117618&CFTOKEN=41868105>.

TRAINING

Only the CECOS courses offered within Regions 1-3 and North Carolina are listed here (with the exception of Natural Resources and Cultural Resources courses). For further information on the courses below, course offerings in other regions, and/or to register, visit the CECOS training website at:

<https://www.netc.navy.mil/centers/csfe/cecos/Default.aspx>.

CECOS Classroom Courses

| Beginning Date | End Date | Course | Location |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--|------------------|
| 4 JUN 12 | 7 JUN 12 | Environmental Geographic Information Systems/Geostatistics | Norfolk, VA |
| 5 JUN 12 | 6 JUN 12 | Buying Green | Groton, CT |
| 5 JUN 12 | 7 JUN 12 | Basic Environmental Law | Norfolk, VA |
| 5 JUN 12 | 8 JUN 12 | Environmental Protection | Newport, RI |
| 14 JUN 12 | 14 JUN 12 | RCRA Hazardous Waste Review | Norfolk, VA |
| 18 JUN 12 | 20 JUN 12 | Intro to Hazardous Waste Generation & Handling | Camp Lejeune, NC |
| 10 JUL 12 | 12 JUL 12 | Integrated EMS & Compliance Auditing | Washington, DC |
| 16 JUL 12 | 20 JUL 12 | Intro to Public Works Dept. & FEC Operations | MIDLANT Region |
| 17 JUL 12 | 19 JUL 12 | Adv. Historic Law and Section 106 Compliance | San Antonio, TX |
| 17 JUL 12 | 20 JUL 12 | Economic Analysis | MIDLANT Region |
| 23 JUL 12 | 24 JUL 12 | Real Estate Seminar | MIDLANT Region |
| 23 JUL 12 | 27 JUL 12 | Intro to FEAD/ROICC | MIDLANT Region |
| 23 JUL 12 | 27 JUL 12 | Intro to FMD & Production Div. Operations | MIDLANT Region |
| 25 JUL 12 | 27 JUL 12 | Facilities Projects Seminar | MIDLANT Region |
| 30 JUL 12 | 1 AUG 12 | MCON Programming and Budgeting | MIDLANT Region |

CECOS Classroom Courses

| Beginning Date | End Date | Course | Location |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| 30 JUL 12 | 2 AUG 12 | Facilities Planner | MIDLANT Region |
| 31 JUL 12 | 2 AUG 12 | Health & Environmental Risk Communication Workshop | Norfolk, VA |
| 27 AUG 12 | 31 AUG 12 | United States Marine Corps Facilities Management | Washington, DC |
| 27 AUG 12 | 31 AUG 12 | Adv Pub Works Dept & Fac. Eng. Command Operations | Washington, DC |
| 17 SEP 12 | 21 SEP 12 | Environmental Quality Sampling | Norfolk, VA |

CECOS Online Courses/Web Conferences

| Beginning Date | End Date | Course | Location |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| 17 MAY 12 | 17 MAY 12 | National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Application | Web Conference |
| 18 SEP 12 | 19 SEP 12 | Pollution Prevention Awareness Web Conference | Web Conference |
| 20 SEP 12 | 20 SEP 12 | Sustainability in the Navy: LEED | Web Conference |
| 1 OCT 10 | 30 SEP 12 | Adv Pub Works Dept & Fac. Eng. Command Operations | Web Conference |
| Various | | Advancing an Effective EMS | On-Line |
| Various | | EPCRA and Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) Reporting | On-Line |
| Various | | HAZWOPER for Uncontrolled Hazardous Waste Site Workers - Refresher | On-Line |
| Various | | Construction Technology for Non-Engineers | On-Line |

NPDES Permit Writer's Training on the Web

EPA has created a web-based training series based on its popular National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Writer's Course. This will allow students, staff, stakeholders, and the public to access NPDES permit program training content online. The Course is a five-day training session covering the key elements of NPDES permit development and is taught by experienced instructors. These recorded presentations enable one to review the material on demand in a self-paced environment to become familiar and comfortable with the concepts of the NPDES permit program. The NPDES web-based training series can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/npdes/training> under "Self-Paced Web Training."

CECOS

EMS General Awareness: Computer Based Training (CBT) Module Available 24/7 at www.cecosweb.com under Training by Subject>EMS. A certificate is issued to all registered users upon completion. This module is designed to provide an awareness level overview of EMS to satisfy the requirement that ALL personnel have basic EMS knowledge. It is also to be taken as a quick refresher for anyone that takes the Advancing an Effective EMS and/or Integrated EMS/Compliance trainings.

NAVOSH & Environmental Training Center

For further information on the courses and/or to register, visit NAVOSH & Environmental Training Center website at: <http://www.safetycenter.navy.mil/training/default.htm>.

EPA Watershed Assessment Tools Training, Various Times & Locations

More information is available at: <http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/basins/training.htm>.

USDA Forest Service Continuing Education Program, Various Times & Locations

More information is available at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/biology/education/>.

EPA Online EMS Training Course

The course is available at: <http://www.epa.gov/osw/inforesources/ems/ems-101/>.

MEET THE REC

STAFF

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