



*An Update on  
Environmental  
Issues in  
Pennsylvania*

Edited By David E. Hess, Holston & Crisci

November 22, 2004

## **Blizzard Hits Harrisburg... of Environmental Bills That Is!**

After four straight days of 2 and 3 a.m. adjournments, the General Assembly ended its two year session in the usual flurry of legislation, frustration and business left undone.

Heading the list was the adoption of Advanced Energy Portfolio Standards, a \$350 million water and sewer funding program, authorizing a one-time \$10 million transfer to the Energy Development Authority, creating a Watershed Education Program, establishing the Senior Environment Corps in law, increasing fishing license fees to better fund the Fish & Boat Commission, funding the Forestland Beautification Program, urging the PA Historical & Museum Commission to create a special Conservation Heritage Initiative and many others.

Here's an overview of the final actions taken on bills, resolutions and more.

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## On the Hill

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### Advanced Energy Portfolio Standards Adopted by General Assembly

Legislation passed the Senate (32-15) and House (161-35) this week which requires electric distributors and generators that sell directly to retail customers to have 18 percent of the energy they sell be from renewable or sources other than coal and nuclear power by 2019. The bill is now on the Governor's desk.

With the Governor's signature, Pennsylvania becomes the 18<sup>th</sup> state to adopt renewable or advanced energy portfolio standards, including the neighboring states of New Jersey, New York and Maryland.

The business community expressed significant concerns about the potential of the portfolio standards to increase electric rates putting Pennsylvania at a competitive disadvantage. They did not oppose the idea of the standards, but asked for a seat at the table in the negotiations.

The initiative was spearheaded by Sen. Erickson (R-Delaware) and Rep. Ross (R-Chester) working with Gov. Rendell who proposed a portfolio standard as part of his budget address in February.

[Senate Bill 1030](#) (Erickson-R-Delaware) requires 8 percent of electric portfolios be from Tier I energy sources: solar photovoltaic energy, wind power, low-impact hydropower, geothermal energy, biologically derived methane gas, fuel cells, biomass energy and coal mine methane.

There is a specific requirement in Tier I that photovoltaic make up 0.5 percent of the portfolio in 15 years.

Ten percent of electric portfolios must be from Tier II energy sources: waste coal, distributed generation systems, demand-side management, large-scale hydropower, municipal solid waste, generation of electricity by utilizing by-products of the pulping process and wood manufacturing process, including bark, wood chips, sawdust and lignin in spent pulping liquors, and integrated combined coal gasification technology.

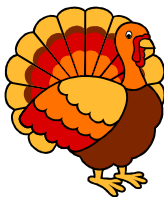
Earlier versions of the legislation required a total of 15 percent from alternative energy sources—12 percent from Tier I and 3 percent from Tier II.

Today, less than one percent of the electricity generation capacity in Pennsylvania is from Tier I sources and most of that is from newly built wind farms.

About 7.8 percent of generation capacity is from Tier II energy sources.

But, generation capacity does not necessarily equal available electric from

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existing sources since they have already been committed to existing distributors. For example, much of the electric generated from wind farms in Pennsylvania goes to New Jersey utilities to meet that state's renewable portfolio standard.

### Existing Electric Generating Capacity in Pennsylvania

Fuel Types	Total MW	%
Coal	21114.8	45.38853296
Gas	9914.92	21.31318664
Nuclear	9304	19.99994841
Oil	1835.6	3.945819572
Other	342.2	0.735595695
Waste Coal	1442	3.099734051
Water	2242.6	4.820709835
Wind	324	0.696472838
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>46520.12</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Pennsylvania Electric Power Generation Association

Pennsylvania already has more customers paying for electricity from green sources than any other state, including California, because electric deregulation adopted here in 1996 allowed generators to develop and sell electricity from wind mills, landfill gas and other sources.

The use of electricity is expected to grow by 25 percent in the next 15 years, according to Rep. Ross. As a result, Ross says, existing generating capacity should not be hurt by the new portfolio standards, but new energy sources that meet the standards would be brought online to meet expected demand.

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

Generators and distribution companies can also opt to comply with the portfolio standard requirement by making compliance payments equal to \$45 for each alternative energy credit needed to bring them into compliance paid into the Sustainable Energy Development Fund.

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

*(Note: See related story below about PUC initiative on connecting distributed generation to the electricity grid.)*

**NewsClip:** [Bill would require more electricity from alternative sources](#)  
[Bill may boost use of wind power](#)

### House/Senate Act on Two Other Alternative Fuels Initiatives

Final action was taken this week on [Senate Bill 255](#) (Tomlinson-R-Bucks) making changes to the Alternative Fuels Incentive Program to include stationary power projects.

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The bill also authorizes a one-time \$10 million transfer to the Energy Development Authority that was included in this year's budget.

The House unanimously passed [House Resolution 925](#) (G.Armstrong-R-Lancaster) designating November 17, 2004 "Alternative Fuels and Renewable Energies Day" recognizing Pennsylvania's socially responsible corporate businesses, entrepreneurs and citizens are setting a trend for new economic development in the alternative fuels and renewable energies industries, including agriculture, stationary energy products, fleet transportation, renewable waste energy products, alternative fuel developments, and forest energy products.

"These industries are integrating environmental, socially responsible values into today's society, and for that, I am proud to recognize and support their efforts," Rep. Armstrong said.

### **General Assembly Finishes Water, Wastewater Funding Program**

The last piece of Gov. Rendell's economic stimulus package proposed in March 2003 was given final action by the General Assembly this week to fund \$350 million in water and wastewater projects and implement the bond issue passed by voters in the Spring.

[Senate Bill 1102](#) (Gordner-R-Northumberland) would allocate \$200 million to the Commonwealth Financing Authority and \$150 to PennVEST (\$50 million from the bond question and \$100 million from existing debt authority).

"Water and sewer infrastructure is an important factor for businesses considering relocating into our communities," Sen. Gordner said. "Aside from the health and safety benefits provided by a clean, safe water supply, this important funding will help us create and retain jobs here in Pennsylvania."

Debate on the legislation in the House was spirited on the issue of whether the legislation encourages sprawl by requiring the \$250 million approved by voters to be used for economic development projects, not limited to projects on land that was previously used or for projects that are exclusively residential development.

The vote in the House was 133 to 63, unanimous in the Senate.

### **Green Ribbon Commission Continues Work on Spending Proposal, Priorities**

Members of the Green Ribbon Commission continued to work on a more comprehensive environmental spending proposal this week, even as this year's session ended.

Tuesday the Commission heard comments from the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors, the state Chamber of Business & Industry, the Electric Power Generation Association and the Waste Industries Association on pending environmental spending initiatives being considered by the Commission.

Commission members also received a summary of the environmental priorities each commissioner identified in response to the request from co-chairs Rep. Bill Adolph (R-Delaware) and Senator Mary Jo White (R-Venango) at the last meeting.

Chairman Adolph expressed the hope the Commission would finish its work in February in time to put a bond issue question on the Spring primary ballot. Gov. Rendell noted in a call-in program on the Pennsylvania Cable Network last Thursday that

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legislators had plenty of time to act to get an environmental spending proposal on the ballot and that it didn't need to be done before adjournment.

The most frequent environmental spending priority identified by members of the Commission included: 1) restoring the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund; 2) preservation of open space; 3) preservation of farmland; 4) treating acid mine drainage; 5) recycling; 6) a tie between Watershed Protection, Crop Reserve Enhancement Program and funding Community Parks; 7) a tie between Energy Harvest, Fish & Boat Commission funding and water-wastewater improvements; and lastly 8) Green Energy Purchases and restoring the Act 339 wastewater operating subsidies.

The members were also polled on what mechanisms they favored for funding their priority programs. Generally, Democrats on the Commission favored the bond supported by waste and other fees and Republicans generally favored using the General Fund or broader funding sources since, they said, the benefits of these programs accrue to all Pennsylvania residents. No surprise there!

The groups providing comments to the Commission said they favored the farmland preservation, watershed restoration, hazardous sites cleanup, recycling and other programs being discussed, but objected to the method of funding the programs that relied on a narrow group of industries, businesses or households footing the bill.

The Chamber noted the residual waste and Toxic Release Inventory fees would hit the struggling manufacturing sector especially hard at a time when they are competing with companies in other states and countries that do not have similar fees.

Electric generators noted the residual waste and Toxic Release Inventory fees for power plants would be imposed mainly on wastes that are the result of air pollution control and other processes designed to reduce their environmental impact. They said they were being punished with fees for doing the right thing—taking pollution out of the air and preventing it from getting into the water.

The Waste Industries Association pointed to examples where the increased fees would result in higher household waste collection bills that would be a particular hardship on senior citizens and others on fixed incomes. They also pointed out that many current longer-term waste disposal contracts do not provide for increases in disposal rates if government fees increase.

Vogel Disposal Service, Inc., a member of the Waste Association, said they have significant problems collecting the existing \$4/ton Growing Greener fee from the state agencies like the departments of Transportation and Conservation and Natural Resources. In the case of PennDOT, Vogel had to go to court to collect the fee.

The Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors expressed an additional concern about collecting fees on municipal waste going to programs that do not benefit local governments. They recommended a broader base of funding to support these environmental initiatives.

Townships said they were also concerned about the potential economic dislocation associated with companies that may reduce or eliminate their operations in Pennsylvania as a result of increased costs due to the new fees.

**NewsClips:** [Op-Ed: Growing Greener – And Smarter, Michael DiBerardinis](#)  
[Op-Ed: We Need Growing Greener Now](#)

**Legislation Given Final Action/Sent to Governor**

**Senior Environment Corps:** [Senate Bill 1041](#) (Pippy-R-Allegheny) establishing the Senior Environment Corps Program in law with the departments of Aging and Environmental Protection.

**Watershed Education Program:** [House Bill 2775](#) (Zug-R-Lebanon) creates a Watershed Education Program within the Department of Education to provide grants to school districts and environmental education centers to support water education efforts.

**Fishing License Increase:** [House Bill 2155](#) (B.Smith-R-York) increases fishing and boating licenses and permits. The bill also includes new forms of licenses and permits including a Lake Erie stamp, a combo Lake Erie/Trout stamp and charter boat/fishing guide permits. *(Note: Companion increases in Game Commission fees were not approved, but should be taken up next year.)*

**NewsClip:** [Fishing Fees May Increase in Pennsylvania](#)

**Forestland Beautification:** [House Bill 2227](#) (Rubley-R-Chester) authorizing the Governor to take \$500,000 from the Recycling, Solid Waste Abatement or the Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund to provide monies for the Forestland Beautification Program in the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

**Dumping Penalty:** [House Bill 2029](#) (Cruz-D-Philadelphia) the law providing penalties for illegal dumping in Philadelphia was amended to include a penalty of six month suspension of driving privileges.

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

**National Energy Policy:** [Senate Resolution 298](#) (Greenleaf-R-Montgomery) urging Congress to adopt a national energy policy with emphasis on natural gas supply and energy conservation.

**GIS Planning:** [House Resolution 882](#) (McIlhinney-R-Chester) urging state geospatial technologies planning.

**Senate Adopts Resolution to Promote Recognition of PA Environmental Heritage**

The Senate this week unanimously passed [Senate Resolution 324](#), sponsored by Sen. Earl (R-Erie), Sen. Ray Musto (D-Luzerne) and others, encouraging the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission to create a special Conservation Heritage Initiative to recognize the citizens, events and historically significant places in Pennsylvania that

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have contributed to the environmental heritage of the Commonwealth and the United States.

The resolution was an initiative of the [Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Professionals](#) which approached Sen. Earll with the proposal. Sen. Earll represents the Senate on the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Board.

The full text of the resolution follows:

### A Resolution

#### **Encouraging the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission to create a Pennsylvania Conservation Heritage Initiative.**

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has been home to people with a deep and abiding respect for the natural bounty and resources of this Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, [William Penn](#), proprietor of the Province of Pennsylvania, wrote our first conservation law; and

WHEREAS, [Gifford Pinchot](#), [Rachel Carson](#), [Jerome Rodale](#), [Mira Lloyd Dock](#), [Otto Emery Jennings](#), [Rosalie Barrow Edge](#), [Dr. Maurice Goddard](#), [Joseph Rothrock](#), [Gertrude Fox](#), [Hilda Fox](#), [Ned Smith](#), [John Bartram](#), [J. Horace McFarland](#), [Ralph Abele](#) and many others contributed through science, academia, government and private organizations to the protection and enhancement of our natural and wild resources; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvanians have been pioneers in developing innovative policies and programs to protect our natural resources, having developed the first botanical gardens, the first scientific study of agriculture, the first water filtration plant, the first trained foresters, the first sanctuary for birds of prey, the first Envirothon environmental education program and the first trail in the National Trail System; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has won more national and international awards for environmental protection and natural resources programs than any other state in the United States for redeveloping brownfields, reducing pollution, mandating compliance reporting, protecting watersheds, instituting environmental education programs, encouraging senior citizens in the protection of the environment and promoting public involvement in environmental initiatives; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is home to historic places relating to conservation history, including: [Mill Grove](#), which inspired [John J. Audubon](#); [Donora](#), site of one of our nation's worst air pollution disasters; [Grey Towers National Historic Landmark](#), home to Gifford Pinchot; the [Rachel Carson Homestead](#); the [Hawk Mountain Preserve](#); [Drake Oil Well](#); [Three Mile Island Nuclear Power Plant](#); [Bartram Gardens](#); [Mont Alto School of Forestry](#); the [Lumber Museum of Pennsylvania](#); the [Knox Mine near Wilkes-Barre](#); and the [Johnstown Flood Museum](#); and

WHEREAS, The people, places and programs in this Commonwealth which have contributed to our conservation history inspire greater natural resources stewardship; and

WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission has already taken significant steps in recognizing the people and places involved in our conservation history; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission to create a Pennsylvania Conservation Heritage Initiative which further

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educates the public about the contributions Pennsylvanians have made to conservation history; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission to build on its existing efforts and conduct research to identify the people, places and organizations which have made a significant contribution to Pennsylvania's conservation heritage and make that information available through educational displays, curriculum materials, online resources and workshops; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission to review its existing museums and historic sites to identify and create conservation education elements at those facilities; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission to work with other public and private organizations to help promote local and regional elements of the conservation heritage of this Commonwealth.

**NewsClips:** [PHMC Sponsors Farmland Preservation Poster Signing](#)

### Left on the Table

These and other items were left on the table without final action when the General Assembly went home at 3:00 a.m. on Sunday.

**Center for Environmental Education:** [Senate Bill 1040](#) (MJ White-R-Venango) establishing the Pennsylvania Center for Environmental Education in law.

**Energy & Pollution Reduction Office:** [Senate Bill 1042](#) (Erickson-R-Delaware) creating an Office of Energy and Pollution Reduction in DEP to help small businesses and citizens reduce pollution and energy use and establishing the Rachel Carson Environmental Excellence Award.

**Energy Standards for Appliances:** [House Bill 2035](#) (McIlhinney-R-Bucks) setting energy efficiency standards for household appliances.

**Tire Recycling:** [House Bill 2289](#) (Yudichak-D-Luzerne) the waste tire recycling law was amended to clarify the lien provisions and requiring permits for certain tire recycling operations.

**Mine Subsidence Assistance:** [House Bill 148](#) (Solobay-D-Washington) adds water supply replacement coverage to the mine subsidence assistance for building owners.

**Farmland Preservation:** [Senate Bill 779](#) (Waugh-R-York) amends the Agricultural Security Area Law to further provide for purchasing agricultural conservation easements allowing the preservation of farms of less than 50 acres.



## Environmental Synopsis Focuses on Recycling, Green Commission, Hardwoods

The most recent issue of [Environmental Synopsis](#) produced by the Joint Legislative Air and Water Pollution Control and Conservation Committee features stories on recycling, the Green Ribbon Commission and a presentation on Pennsylvania's hardwoods industry.

## In Other News

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### PUC Seeks Comments on Connecting Alternative Energy Sources to Grid

The Public Utility Commission (PUC) this week started the process for establishing uniform rules on how small power generators - using technologies like fuel cells and micro-turbines - would connect to the electric distribution grid.

Utility regulators say the technologies, called distributed generation, can improve the reliability and economics of the electric system by reducing demand for power at peak times and by locating power sources closer to customers.

The rules will be even more important now that the General Assembly has passed Advanced Energy Portfolio Standards.

Distributed generation is usually located at or near a customer site, giving them more choices for meeting their specific needs. Reducing peak demand lowers the overall cost of electricity, which ultimately benefits all customers.

The PUC said standard interconnection procedures will streamline the regulatory process and encourage manufacturers and developers to enter the market. Several states, including New Jersey, New York and Texas, have adopted interconnection rules, and the PJM Interconnection is in the process of finalizing interconnection technical requirements.

The Commission encourages parties to comment on which model they think would work best in the Commonwealth and on whether Pennsylvania has unique issues that should be addressed. Interested parties will have 60 days to submit comments after the advanced notice of proposed rulemaking has been published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

Earlier this year, the public utility commissions of Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, along with PJM Interconnection, the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, established the [Mid-Atlantic Distributed Resource Initiative](#).

The working group develops regional policies and market-enabling activities to support distributed generation and demand response in the Mid-Atlantic region. Pennsylvania PUC Commissioner Glen R. Thomas serves on the group's steering committee.

Distributed generation refers to a variety of small power generation technologies such as fuel cells, gas turbines, microturbines, reciprocating engines, photovoltaic cells (solar) and small wind turbines. In addition to producing power, some forms of distributed generation use waste heat for industrial processes, water and space heating, and humidity control to improve indoor air quality and comfort.

More information about the technologies can be found at the [U.S. Department of Energy distributed energies webpage](#).

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

### **Comments Due on TMDLs in Elk, Lycoming, Sullivan, Clearfield, Centre**

The Department of Environmental Protection is asking for comments on Total Maximum Daily Loads plans for four watersheds. Comments are due January 19.

**Elk Creek Watershed, Elk County:** DEP has scheduled a public meeting on December 15 at the Elk County Court House Annex in Ridgway, PA, to discuss and accept comments on a proposed TMDL for five stream segments in the Elk Creek Watershed that have been identified as impaired due to depressed pH and/or high concentrations of metals. Contact: Elias Heferle, Knox District Mining Office, 814-797-1191 or at [ehferle@state.pa.us](mailto:ehferle@state.pa.us) .

**Loyalsock Creek Watershed, Sullivan & Lycoming Counties:** DEP has scheduled a public meeting to discuss and accept comments on a proposed TMDL for the Loyalsock Creek Watershed. The meeting will be held on December 7 at the Worlds End State Park in Forksville, PA. Contact: John Mital, Moshannon District Mining Office, Philipsburg, PA, 814-342-8200 or at [jmital@state.pa.us](mailto:jmital@state.pa.us) .

**North Camp Run Watershed, Clearfield County:** DEP will hold a public meeting to discuss and accept comments on a proposed TMDL for the North Camp Run Watershed on December 28 at the Clearfield County Multiservice Center in Clearfield, PA. Contact: John Mital, Moshannon District Mining Office, at 814-342-8200 or at [jmital@state.pa.us](mailto:jmital@state.pa.us).

**Sterling Run Watershed, Centre County:** DEP will hold a public meeting to discuss and accept comments on a proposed TMDL for the Sterling Run Watershed on December 28 at the Clearfield County Multiservice Center on Daisy Street in Clearfield, PA. Contact: John Mital, Moshannon District Mining Office, at 814-342-8200 or at [jmital@state.pa.us](mailto:jmital@state.pa.us) .

Copies of the TMDLs are available on [DEP's TMDL webpage](#).

### **Pennsylvania Game Commission Releases Statewide Fall Foods Survey**

Pennsylvania's wildlife fall food conditions are average or above-average in most areas of the state, according to a recently-completed survey of the Pennsylvania Game Commission and Department of Conservation and Natural Resources field employees.

In its third year, the fall foods survey polls natural resource agency personnel to rate the abundance and productivity of 28 fruit- and nut-bearing plants.

In the survey, respondents tended to rate white oak group acorn production higher than that of the red oak group, but both species were considered good. Some respondents, however, noted that red oak acorns were spotty in their areas. Beech was the only fall food to have widespread below-average ratings.

The best area of food availability, according to the survey, was the Northcentral, where multiple fall foods were rated as above-average.

For more details from the survey, which includes supporting maps and tables, visit the homepage of [Game Commission's "Fall Foods Survey" webpage](#).

## **Taking Positive Action**

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### **Winners of 2004 Waste Watcher Awards Announced**

The [Professional Recyclers of PA](#), the [Pennsylvania Waste Industries Association](#) and the [Keystone Chapter of the Solid Waste Association of North America](#) this week announced the winners of the [2004 Waste Watcher Awards](#).

The program aims to recognize outstanding recycling, waste reduction, reuse and composting programs from across the state.

A total of 51 winners are being recognized this year for their contributions to Pennsylvania's recycling industry. Awards are being presented to municipalities, counties, private businesses, sports teams and community organizations in thirteen categories: Curbside Recycling; Drop-Off Recycling; Pay-As-You-Throw Programs; Special Collections; Commercial/Institutional Recycling; Recycling Education Programs; Materials Processing Facilities; Recycled Product Manufacturing; Composting Facility; Home Composting; Reuse; Green Procurement; and Multiple Year.

"We congratulate all of the winners for their commitment to recycling and waste reduction efforts," PROP Executive Director John Frederick said.

Award winners will be recognized at local events in early 2005. Here are the list of award winners by county--

- **Adams County:** Adams Rescue Mission (Materials Processing); Barthle Communications (Recycling Education); Penn State Cooperative Extension (Home Composting);
- **Allegheny County:** Southwest PA Household Hazardous Waste Task Force (Special Collections);
- **Berks County:** Boy Scout Troop 505 (Reuse);
- **Blair County:** Altoona Area High School Music Parents Association (Reuse); Altoona Central Catholic School (Commercial/Institutional Recycling); Claysburg Kimmel High School (Commercial/Institutional Recycling); Muddy Paws Garden Club (Home Composting); South Hills School of Business and Technology (Commercial/Institutional Recycling);
- **Bucks County:** Bucks County Courier Times and The Intelligencer, Waste Management and the Neshaminy Mall (Multiple Year); Franklin Delano Roosevelt Middle School (Recycling Education); Lower Makefield Township (Composting Facility);
- **Centre County:** Beaver Stadium Recycling Effort – Penn State University, Centre County Solid Waste Authority, Hemlock Council of the Girl Scouts of America and the Juniata Valley Council of the Boy Scouts of America (Special Collections); Borough of State College (Composting Facility, Multiple Year); Centre Region Council of Governments (Green Procurement); Centre County Solid Waste Authority (Drop Off Recycling, Curbside Recycling, Special Collections, Materials Processing,

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Recycling Education, Multiple Year); Penn State Housing, Penn State Office of Physical Plant and the Centre County United Way (Reuse); Penn State University (Composting Facility); Penns Valley Area School District (Commercial/Institutional Recycling);

- **Chester County:** Willistown Township Environmental Council (Special Collections);
- **Clinton County:** Clinton County Solid Waste Authority (Curbside Recycling, Drop Off Recycling, Materials Processing);
- **Columbia County:** Town of Bloomsburg (Curbside Recycling, Drop Off Recycling, Special Collections, Materials Processing, Recycling Education, Multiple Year);
- **Cumberland County:** Big Spring Area Recycling (Drop Off Recycling); Solid Waste Authority of Cumberland County and Cumberland County (Recycling Education);
- **Dauphin County:** Mack Trucks Inc., Packaging and Design Evaluation Team, Middletown Remanufacturing Center and Packaging and Design Evaluation Team, York Container Company, Mt. Zion Road Facility (Green Procurement);
- **Delaware County:** Delaware County Solid Waste Authority and the County of Delaware (Special Collections); Brad Schoener, Upper Darby School District (Recycling Education);
- **Erie County:** Waste Management Erie and Lake View Landfill (Special Collections);
- **Huntingdon County:** The Huntingdon County Arts Council and Huntingdon Borough (Recycling Education); Huntingdon County Recycling Office (Special Collections); Huntingdon County Chapter of PA CleanWays (Special Collections, Recycling Education); James Garthe, Huntingdon County Chapter of PA CleanWays (Recycling Education); Park's Transfer and Recycling Center (Special Collections);
- **Lancaster County:** Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority (Special Collections);
- **Lebanon County:** City of Lebanon (Drop Off Recycling, Special Collections); Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority (Recycling Education); Jubilee Ministries (Reuse); Kapp Advertising Service Inc. (Commercial/Institutional Recycling); Lebanon Cowboys Football Team (Reuse, Commercial/Institutional Recycling);
- **Lehigh County:** Good Shepherd Work Services (Reuse); Lehigh County Office of Solid Waste and Recycling (Recycling Education, Composting Facility);
- **Luzerne County:** Luzerne County Solid Waste Management Department (Special Collections);
- **Montgomery County:** Abington Township (Composting Facility, Curbside Recycling); Merck and Co. Inc., West Point Site (Commercial/Institutional Recycling); Upper Merion Township (Recycling Education);
- **Northampton County:** City of Bethlehem (Pay As You Throw, Reuse, Composting Facility, Commercial/Institutional Recycling, Curbside Recycling, Drop Off Recycling, Recycling Education, Multiple Year);
- **Philadelphia County:** The Philadelphia Eagles (Commercial/Institutional Recycling);

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- **Westmoreland County:** PA CleanWays Inc. (Recycling Education); PA CleanWays Westmoreland County (Home Composting, Special Collections);

### Watershed NewsClips

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[Society of Women Recognizes Joanne Dahme, Philadelphia Water Dept.](#)

[DRBA seeks to protect vital resource](#)

[Enhanced animal feed will be a boon for the environment](#)

[Watershed signs to raise awareness](#)

[Growing Greener garners support](#)

[Conservancy delays land purchase](#)

[Too much fresh water hurting Chesapeake Bay](#)

[Group drafting plan to protect the Pennypack](#)

[Resident geese seem more prolific than ever in 2004](#)

[Growing Greener II issue in jeopardy](#)

[Organic acres rake in green](#)

[Area conservationists are guests of honor at banquet](#)

[Mill Creek watershed conservation plan being developed](#)

### Regulations

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The Environmental Quality Board published a [proposed regulation this week setting architectural and industrial maintenance coatings](#) and a Sherwin-Williams Company variance. Public hearings scheduled for Dec. 21 and 22. Comments due: Jan. 20.

The Fish & Boat Commission published notice of a change to its [Class A Wild Trout Stream list](#), including Young Woman's Creek, Clinton County.

[Pennsylvania Bulletin – November 20, 2004](#)

[Comment Deadlines Open](#)

[Copies of Proposed Regulations](#)

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

### Technical Guidance & Permits

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The Department of Environmental Protection this week published [notice of a final change to technical guidance](#) dealing with filter backwash—

**DEP ID:** 383-2129-002 **Title:** Guidance for Evaluating Alternate Recycle Return Locations Proposed under the Filter Backwash Recycling Rule.

[For copies of Draft Technical Guidance](#)

[For copies of Final Technical Guidance](#)

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

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- **Nov. 22** – (Postponed) Joint Legislative Air and Water Pollution Control and Conservation Committee hearing on Pennsylvania’s brownfields program.
- **Nov. 25** – Thanksgiving!
- **Nov. 30-Dec. 1**- Mid-Atlantic Stream Restoration Conference. Cacapon Resort State Park near Berkley Springs, WV. Contact Paula Worden at 800-922-3601.
- **Dec. 6** – [Land Trust & Watershed Association Roundtable](#). Pool Wildlife Sanctuary Environmental Education Center, Allentown. Call 717-230-8560 for information.
- **March 5**- [Schuylkill Watershed Congress](#). Montgomery County Community College, Pottstown. Contact: Chari Towne at 610-469-6005.

[DEP Calendar of Events](#)

[Watershed Events](#)

## Helpful Web Links

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[Daily NewsClips](#) [Weekly DEP Update](#) [GreenTreks Network](#) [Watershed Weekly](#)

[DEP Press Releases](#) [DEP Advisory Committee Meetings & Agendas](#)

## Contributions Invited

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Send your stories about environmental issues, programs and positive actions to **PA Environment Digest** - [DHess@HolstonCrisci.com](mailto:DHess@HolstonCrisci.com) .

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