



## President's Letter to Members

My favorite month of the year is the month that the NAEP annual conference is held, this year that is April. We are excited to be holding our 35th Annual Conference on April 27-30th with its principle theme of tracking the changes of 40 years of implementing NEPA and improving the environment. This year the conference is in the beautiful southeastern city of Atlanta. We know you will find the conference tracks, sessions, and events outstanding as the best environmental professionals in the country are gathering in Atlanta to share their experiences and practical knowledge. With more environmental awareness among Americans than ever before, environmental professionals are in the spotlight at the conference and throughout the year.

In addition to NEPA, the conference will also highlight current issues in air quality and climate change, along with many other environmental areas, such as sustainability, land and watershed management, energy, oceans, transportation, water resources, wetlands restoration and mitigation, GIS analysis, public participation, and environmental education and policy. No other national environmental conference showcases such diverse and multi-disciplinary topics of interest. Whether this is your first NAEP conference or 20th, whether you are a new NAEP member or a long-standing member, whether you are a student, a practicing professional, exhibitor or an environmental excellence award winner we welcome you in sunny Atlanta and we value your presence. So if you have not signed up yet, either as a participant, exhibitor or sponsor, register today on our website [www.naep.org](http://www.naep.org).

Our many expressions of thanks go to Lynn McLeod and Heather Perrin, 2010 NAEP Conference Co-Chairs, and the entire conference planning team for their hard work and commitment to make this year's conference the best yet. Our thanks also go to the Georgia Chapter for being an outstanding partner with NAEP to make this conference truly great. And we cannot talk annual conference without offering many accolades to Donna Carter, our Conference Coordinator, who has worked throughout this past year to keep us all moving forward toward our goal of reaching conference excellence. Donna makes everyone's job easier at the conference.

This year we are providing more opportunities at the conference for members to interact with NAEP leadership. We start with the Job Fair and networking mixer Tuesday afternoon, the President's Dinner Wednesday night, and the Membership luncheon on Friday. Also, the NAEP Board of Directors is spreading its Board meeting over three 2-hour sessions during the conference – Tuesday, Thursday and Friday – to encourage members to listen in and observe the interesting board discussions. There will be informal networking at the end of each board session. When you are in Atlanta, check the final conference program for the times of these important events.

Also at the conference, on Thursday, April 29th, US Media Productions, a producer of "green" TV programming, will be at the conference filming some of our leaders, committee and working group chairs. As part of our partnering agreement with US Media, NAEP is providing technical expertise on current environmental issues and sustainable practices for their shows. This is an excellent opportunity for NAEP and its members to gain more national exposure in the ever growing environmental professions and within cable media. NAEP is always looking for dedicated environmental professionals to volunteer and get involved in NAEP and in our many national committees and working groups. Come up to me, anyone on the Board of Directors, or anyone at the registration table, and let us know if you are interested to get more involved with NAEP. It is through the focused and dedicated efforts of individuals like yourself that this association thrives.

This year also brings positive growth in the leadership of NAEP. I was re-confirmed by the Board as NAEP President for one more year, as was Paul Looney, Vice-President, Harold Draper, Secretary, and Joe Musil, Treasurer. Jim Melton also continues as Immediate Past President on the Executive Committee. I am confident that this next year, the Executive Committee and the Board will lead NAEP to new heights and realizations. Also joining the Board as a newly elected Board of Director from California is Marie Campbell; those of us on the Board wish her great success and look forward to Marie's participation throughout the next three years.

Stewardship is the stalwart of our profession. All of us practice stewardship no matter in what resource area our expertise falls. To act in service rather than self-interest is a trademark of all environmental practice and the professions. At the conference and throughout the next year as your President, I look forward to learning about your stewardship efforts and the projects you man-



## Notes On the Way to the Beach

Thousands of summer vacationers drive to Ocean City, Maryland from the Baltimore/Washington area. They pass fruit and vegetable stands along the way as well as fields of corn and soybeans. Thoughts of the lyrics of "America the Beautiful" come to mind. Whether they take the direct route via US Route 50 through Easton, Cambridge and Salisbury, Maryland or the "alternate" path, Maryland Route 404 through Denton and Caroline County, Maryland to Rehoboth Beach via Georgetown, Delaware, travelers pass agriculture, lots of agriculture. Vast fields of crops. Their thoughts are on their destination: the beach. Little time is spent appreciating the vast industry that agriculture has become.

Maryland's Eastern Shore, the area east of the Chesapeake Bay, is dependent on agriculture. Billions and billions of dollars have been invested in this industry on the Eastern Shore. Between the farms, the poultry producers, the transportation of produce, corn, soybeans, wheat, broilers, roasters and their byproducts, manure, dead animals (euphemistically named "mortalities" by the industry) and chicken litter, the Eastern Shore is truly dependent on this industry. The agricultural community insists that growing crops and chickens is not an industry, but a traditional family activity. They argue that their presence prevents sprawl and the concomitant pollution by keeping out developers, who would generate more pollution through contaminated runoff.

### Hatching the Regulation

The US EPA was created in late 1970, almost a year after President Nixon signed the National Environmental Policy Act into law. The Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 created the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. The NPDES program's optimistic goal was to permit industries and municipalities resulting in eliminating their point source pollution by 1983. EPA developed a list of industries that their research showed discharged the most pollution. In the beginning, the EPA concentrated on "conventional" pollution: biochemical oxygen demand, nitrogen, phosphorus and the like. Consequently, the industries chosen included many of the food industries: meat processing, vegetable processing and seafood processing. One of these industries was the "concentrated animal feeding operation" industry or CAFOs. CAFOs are farms that grow large numbers of animals in one place where the food is brought to them, rather than the animals grazing in a pasture. As most assembly line industrial operations go, this structure is very efficient. CAFOs were included in the definition of point sources. Any farm has discharges, but they were not necessarily

from a point source such as a pipe so were not subject to the NPDES discharge permit requirement. Since CAFOs were included in the point source definition, discharges from the entire farm were subject to regulation as a point source discharge, regardless of whether they discharged through a pipe or not.

Back in 1974, the portion of the CAFO industry EPA concentrated on was that part that used wet manure handling: cows, swine, dairy cows, horses and other such animals where the waste was liquid and could be contained in tanks and pits. This manure was used as fertilizer on farms, a traditional practice. As long as none of the manure or other waste would wind up in surface waters (the purpose of the CWA was to prevent discharges to surface waters and not ground waters) the farm was in compliance with the Act. Ground waters would be regulated locally by States. In Maryland, there were very few animal feeding operations that fell under this definition as there were very few operations that raised these types of animals in the quantities that made them subject to the 1974 regulations.

The EPA modified the CAFO regulations in 2003 to include

*Continued on page 3*

## From the President

*Continued from page 1*

age or are involved in to help protect the environment we live in. A favorite poet I enjoy reading is Leslie Marmon Silko, who as a Native American knows in a deeper more profound way than me the life work of land stewardship. Consider these lines from her poem, *Have You Ever Tried to Enter the Long Black Branches*:

"Who can open the door who does not reach for the latch?

Who can travel the miles who does not put one foot in front of the other, all attentive to what presents itself continually?

Who will behold the inner chamber who has not observed with admiration, even with rapture, the outer stone?..."

The lesson here for those of us striving to reach our full potential as environmental professionals is threefold: we must walk through the door to open doors, we must continually move forward to be fully aware, and we must embrace what I call "moments of lucidity" if we are to increase true creativity in our lives. Join us in Atlanta, see you there.

Ron Deverman, NAEP President



“dry manure handling.” This brought in the poultry industry. After several years of legal challenges, the new CAFO regulations became effective in December 2008.

### CAFOs in Maryland

Maryland's Eastern Shore is dependent on the chicken industry for its economic survival. The farms that tourists drive by on the way to Ocean City, those bucolic, pastoral fields of corn and soybeans, little to their knowledge, are not for human consumption, but supply the poultry industry with feed for the chickens. So large is the industry, that the Eastern Shore cannot supply the industry with enough feed. Feed has to be imported from the Midwest by train.

In Maryland, the change in the CAFO regulations resulted in a radical change in the State's poultry industry and the ways it is regulated. Before the regulation was changed there were less than a handful of laying hen and dairy cattle animal feeding operations regulated in the State. Maryland may now have over 800 poultry farms subject to the regulation. To date over 500 have applied for a permit.

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) developed its General NPDES Discharge Permit for Animal Feeding Operations in late 2008 in anticipation of EPA's regulations. It was immediately challenged by the Waterkeeper Alliance on the grounds that it was not broad enough to cover the portion of the poultry operations that EPA intended. The administrative challenges upheld the MDE permit and while the Waterkeepers are currently challenging the permit in court, the challenge did not stay the permit from becoming effective in December, 2009.

### Poultry Operations in Maryland

To be a poultry CAFO in Maryland, the operation must raise at least 37,500 chickens at any one time and propose to discharge, meaning that the operation is designed, constructed, maintained or operated so that contaminated water has the potential to be discharged to a surface water. This is more stringent than the EPA regulations in that the Federal regulations define a poultry CAFO as one having at least 125,000 birds and proposes to discharge. Maryland is also more stringent in that it includes poultry operations that have over 125,000 birds and do not propose to discharge in its requirement to obtain coverage under the discharge permit. These non-discharging operations are called Maryland animal feeding operations or MAFOs.

Poultry animal feeding operations are farms that have large “chicken houses”, sometimes sixty by six hundred feet. Each farm has one to a dozen or more of these houses. Chicks are brought into the houses every ten or so weeks, grown to broiler or roaster size and removed for “processing”. Wood shavings or similar

material is used as bedding for the chickens. The combination of these wood shavings and chicken manure is called “chicken litter”.

In Maryland, the chicks are supplied to the poultry “growers” by poultry “integrators” such as Perdue Farms, Mountaire Farms, Allen Family Foods and Tyson Farms. The integrators own the nearly 300 million chickens grown in Maryland each year and supply the farmers with feed and technical advice. The growers are responsible for the chicken litter and the animal feeding operation's upkeep, pollution control, energy demands and mortality disposal. Last year chickens generated almost 1.1 billion pounds of litter.

Each group of chicks that are bought in is called a “flock.” A farm may have about 5.5 flocks per year. Between flocks, depending on the integrator that the CAFO has contracted with, the litter can be processed in one of several ways. The most common way is to remove the top couple of inches of the chicken litter (“crusted out”) between flocks and taken to the farm's manure storage shed which is located in the vicinity of the chicken houses. The litter is then used for fertilizer on that farm or exported to other farms not growing animals for fertilizer. At the end of the year, the entire amount of chicken litter is removed in what is called a “whole house clean out”. Another method that is growing in popularity since it generates less manure is “in-house windrowing”. In this method, the chicken litter is piled in rows inside the chicken house, between flocks, and is allowed to compost until the litter breaks down and the bacteria and some of the nutrient content of the manure is reduced. The windrow is then spread out, supplemented with more wood shavings and the new flock is delivered. A whole house cleanout is only done once every five to six years when the windrowing method is used, therefore generating less manure.

### Poultry Pollution

The pollution problems for the Chesapeake Bay center on nutrients and sediment. Chicken litter is a source of the nutrients nitrogen and phosphorus. The CAFO discharge permit does not allow any discharge of contaminated water from the chicken houses or manure storage sheds to surface waters from existing poultry operations unless a rainstorm reaches the intensity of the 25 year, 24 hour storm, about six inches in 24 hours on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Newly constructed sources are not allowed to discharge no matter what the intensity of the storm.

Since chicken litter is essentially dry, its handling is vastly different from the wet manure associated with cows, dairy cattle and swine. If the litter is kept in the chicken house or in the manure storage shed, there is little chance that it will find its way to a surface stream. The composition of Maryland's Eastern Shore,





however, contributes to making elimination of pollution a challenge. The soils are sandy and the water table is near the surface. Years ago, ditches were cut to drain the land to allow farming. These ditches serve as direct conduits to surface waters. If the farmer is sloppy in his housekeeping, manure or other byproducts of the poultry operation can find their way to a stream via the ditches. Many of the poultry farms do not have concrete drive-ways on the ends of their chicken houses, so that when the litter is transferred from the chicken house to the manure storage shed, the litter falls on the ground. Since there is no solid surface (sometimes oyster shells or stones are used at the end of the houses), the areas between the houses and the sheds cannot be adequately cleaned and when it rains, the manure can flow to the stream.

One visible source of pollution is the piles of chicken litter the farmers stage on their land prior to its application as a fertilizer. If these piles are placed too close to a ditch or a surface stream, they can be the source of pollution.

An interesting aspect is the issue of “agricultural stormwater”. If manure is applied to a field in accordance with the farms nutrient management plan, then any runoff from that field is agricultural stormwater and not subject to the Clean Water Act. If, however, the farmer has over-applied the manure, any runoff is subject to the Act and may be a violation.

## **Pollution Prevention**

EPA developed nine minimum standards to protect water quality under the CAFO regulations. These include having adequate storage capacity for manure, proper management of mortalities, diversion of clean water, preventing direct contact of confined animals with waters of the State as well as other practices. The standards are included in Maryland’s General Discharge Permit for Animal Feeding Operations. CAFOs applying for registration under the permit must submit a “comprehensive nutrient management plan” (CNMP). This plan is developed by a planner that is certified by USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). It includes a nutrient management plan that tells the farmer how much nitrogen and phosphorus he can place on his farm to grow a particular crop without a nutrient residual that can be washed to surface waters. Much of the time on Maryland’s Eastern Shore the nutrients are provided by chicken manure since it is less expensive than chemical fertilizers. The CNMP also includes a soil conservation and water quality plan which tells the farmer what best management practices (BMPs) to use to prevent erosion and water quality issues. MDE reviews the CNMP to assure that it addresses these nine minimum standards.

Poultry farmers prevent pollution by applying fertilizer in accordance with their nutrient management plans as well as

installing BMPs on their farms. BMPs include the concrete drive-way at the ends of the chicken houses which allows the farmer to more easily clean the area, thus preventing contaminated runoff that can make its way to surface waters. Other BMPs include vegetated buffers to filter any runoff, swales to divert contaminated water to storage ponds and other natural and constructed practices. The USDA offers funding, called “cost-share”, to farmers where BMPs repair a resource concern. The Maryland Department of Agriculture also offers money for BMPs.

## **Challenges in Implementation of the CAFO Regulations**

Agriculture is complex today. Years ago farmers would plant crops or raise animals the same way as their fathers and their fathers before them. If anybody has read the book “Omnivore’s Dilemma” by Michael Pollan, you know that pre World War II farms were a lot different than today’s agribusinesses. Instead of a healthy mix of rotating crops from year to year, our new technologies, particularly chemical fertilizers, have given farmers the ability to grow the same crops on the same field year after year with a higher yield per acre. That allowed them drop the healthy mix of some crops and some animals that generate manure to fertilize the crops. Now farmers could choose between raising animals only and growing crops only. To make money, they had to either grow more crops or raise more animals. This lead us to today’s mega-farms and concentrated animal feeding operations. To sustain this amount of production, science enters into the picture with genetic engineering and chemical fertilizers. The resultant byproducts of this production must be regulated to reduce the amount of potential pollution. The plans and technologies that farmers have to work with today would challenge NASA’s scientists.

EPA created regulations with national scope so as to create a level playing field among those who are regulated. However, the various EPA regions have not been consistent in how the regulations are implemented. This creates a situation where CAFOs in one region must implement certain expensive BMPs where CAFOs in another region are not regulated at all. Since Maryland is among the first to implement these regulations in the nation based on the prodding of EPA Region 3, Maryland farmers are at a disadvantage.

Another challenge is the complexity of the regulations and, without EPA guidance being available to date, states are forced to implement them as they understand them. This adds to the lack of national consistency since the states must implement them now.

Coordination between governmental agencies is an issue slowing the implementation of the CAFO regulations. Numerous agencies play a part in making the regulations work. The NRCS



provides technical guidance to farmers on CNMPs and their implementation and, in the case of the Maryland office, has adjusted the basic template for the CNMP to include EPA's nine minimum standards.

As stated, CNMPs must be written by a planner certified by NRCS. However, there are only a handful of these certified planners in Maryland. In order to apply for the permit in Maryland CAFOs need a CNMP. With several hundred CAFOs applying for this permit coverage in Maryland, CAFOs must wait for a planner to be available. This causes a problem for MDE, the regulator. A bright note is that NRCS is working on increasing the number of certified planners.

Agencies that are important players in the implementation of the regulations each have separate missions. MDE is the only one whose mission is the protection of the public health and the environment. This tends to slow down the environmental regulatory implementation process and creates misunderstandings among these agencies. These agencies include the Maryland Department of Agriculture, the University of Maryland Agricultural Extension Service and the Soil Conservation Districts. MDE has been communicating with these agencies on almost a daily basis to increase our mutual understanding of the issues. As far as the farmers are concerned, we are all "government" and any written communication from any of us goes into a single manila file. Government is all the same, despite our differing missions. Farmers have been dealing with the agriculture agencies for a longer period of time than MDE, so they tend to trust them better.

Another unique challenge in working with CAFOs is their lack of electronic communication capability. Many farmers do not have internet or e-mail access. This makes communication slow and necessitates the use of regular mail or face-to-face meetings in most communications. Since the farmers are out in the field during the day, communication during regular working hours is sparse. MDE has created a great CAFO website containing all of the documents needed to understand the issues involved, but that is of no use without internet access. MDE has been working with

the trade organizations such as the Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc. to improve our communications with the farmers.

Governmental agencies always face the challenge of the environmental groups accusing them of being under-protective of the environment and trade organizations accusing them of being too harsh. MDE tries to operate in a transparent manner to help each side understand why we are making the decisions that we do. We also afford them input in some of our decisions.

As you can see, the CAFO regulations are a challenge for the regulatory agencies, the farmers, the trade association, environmentalists and the integrators.

## Alternate Uses for Chicken Litter

Currently, manure is used as a fertilizer, whether directly or as pellets from a plant such as Perdue AgriRecycle. Some places have tried burning it as a fuel. Others use it in anaerobic digesters to produce methane to generate power to run farm operations with the rest being sold to the grid. Many state regulations make this alternative difficult.

## "Down the Ocean"

So, if you live in the Mid-Atlantic region of the country and are driving to Ocean City, Maryland and happen to travel through the Delmarva Peninsula, try to look beyond the vast fields of corn and soybeans and think about the issues concerning the poultry industry and how these relate to the health of the Chesapeake Bay. See you "down the ocean, hun".

If you have any questions or want to offer your comments, you can go the MDE website at [www.mde.state.md.us](http://www.mde.state.md.us) or contact Gary Kelman at [gkelman@mde.state.md.us](mailto:gkelman@mde.state.md.us).

*Article by:*

*Gary F. Kelman, MS, CEP*

*CAFO Program Manager, Nutrient Resources Division*

*Solid Waste Program, Land Management Administration*

*Maryland Department of the Environment*



## Last Update/Last Chance for 2010 Conference

**W**e're rapidly approaching the 2010 conference in Atlanta which will highlight the 40th anniversary of NEPA. We have a great line up of keynotes, speakers and social activities, so come join us. Register on our website.

**KEYNOTES:** We'll kick off Wednesday morning with an address from Mr. Horst Greczmiel with the Council on Environmental Quality. He will discuss *NEPA Under a New Administration*.

During lunch we will hear from Mr. Scott Condra with Jacoby Development discussing *Atlantic Station to Aerotropolis Atlanta: A Decade of Brownfield Redevelopment*.

Thursday morning finds us listening to Mr. Garrett Graves from Louisiana's Governor's Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration. Mr. Graves will cover the *Attempt to Establish a Sustainable Coastal Louisiana — Overcoming Mind Numbing Hurdles*.

Thursday's lunch speaker is Mr. Mark McDonald with The Georgia Trust discussing *The Role of Historic Preservation in a Sustainable Environment*.

**TRACKS:** In between the great keynotes there will be ample opportunity to listen, learn and participate in various sessions from 12 different tracks. Hear from experts in their field, learn about new technologies, and innovative projects.

**TRAINING:** Tuesday's AICP and CEU certified training classes have proved to be popular this year. There is room for a few more attendees, but don't wait till the last minute.

**AWARDS:** Scattered throughout the conference will be NAEP's National Environmental Excellence Award plaque presentations. These are the "best of the best" projects from across the country. You will also have the opportunity to hear about these winning projects in detail as each project will be given as an oral presentation during one of the regular sessions. The Final Program will have all the details, dates and times for these presentations.

**NETWORKING:** And last, but certainly not least, the conference is a great opportunity to network with your fellow professionals and make contacts that will enhance your business. There will be plenty of free and social activity time geared toward this purpose. Talk with exhibitors and sponsors, great old friends, and make new ones.





*Please give a gift to the profession that has given so much to you—  
DONATE TO THE JIM ROBERTS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND*



## About Jim Roberts

**T**he Jim Roberts Memorial Scholarship Fund was initially announced at the 2008 NAEP Conference in San Diego. Pledge cards were distributed and NAEP received pledges in the amount of \$3,000. The fund is now a little above \$20,000 but still well below our goal of \$50,000 collected during the first five years.

As many of you know, Jim Roberts, a longtime member of NAEP passed away in the fall of 2007 leaving a legacy of leadership and ethical living. A scholarship committee was formed to flesh out a vehicle that will reflect both Jim Robert's life and his wishes for NAEP and future environmental professionals.

Jim Roberts was a great leader committed to professionalism and ethics in the environmental field. In 2008, the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP) Board of Directors approved the formation of the Jim Roberts Memorial Scholarship Fund to continue Jim's good work and encourage others to follow in his commitment to the industry.

Jim served as President of NAEP from 1996 until 1998 and Vice-President from 2003-2004. He also held other leadership roles including:

- NAEP International Committee Chair (1994-2007)
- NAEP President's Council for Sustainable Success Chair (1997)
- NAEP Ethics Committee Chair (2000 – 2007)
- NAEP Parliamentarian (2006 – 2007)

## About the Jim Roberts Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Scholarship Committee has made decisions on several aspects of the award. It will be awarded annually at the annual NAEP conference to a student currently enrolled in an environmental program at any accredited university or college in the United States, its territories or Canada. Official applications will be provided on the NAEP website.

Students supply basic information, transcripts and prepare an essay including their personal reflection on how education will support ethical work on environmental problems. The applications are evaluated by the Scholarship Committee and one honoree receives an award between \$500-\$1000, depending on the available endowment. These awards can be used for education expenses including tuition and books.

The NAEP California Chapter (Cal AEP) has made a very generous and appreciated contribution in the amount of \$10,000.00 to honor Jim Roberts. This contribution was fulfillment of a pledge to match up to the first \$10,000 in pledges collected by NAEP the first year. This dollar for dollar match doubled in impact of the contributions of our members.

You can make your donation online with a credit card by going to the link below and clicking Donate Now. Please remember that this donation is tax deductible.

<http://www.naep.org/mc/page.do?sitePageId=100453&orgId=naep>

If you would like to send a check please mail them to:

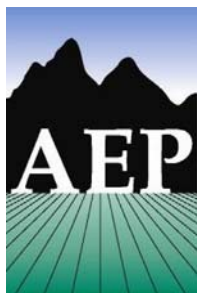
NAEP  
Attn: Jim Roberts Memorial Scholarship Fund  
PO Box 460  
Collingswood, NJ 08108

We have a goal of growing the fund's endowment to \$50,000 in the next four years. Jim Roberts provided a commitment to develop this organization, to advance our profession, to improve our ethics and the environmental industry and most importantly, to assist young people in pursuing an environmental career. It is now time to honor Jim Robert's commitment by providing this scholarship to aspiring environmental professionals.

Please also remember that all contributions are tax deductible. If you provide a donation by credit card through our online system you will receive a receipt a few seconds after the transaction is complete. Check donations can be mailed to the address above.

Thank you for your generosity,

Gary F. Kelman, Chair  
Jim Roberts Memorial Scholarship Fund  
National Association of Environmental Professionals



## California Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

*By Roger Turner NAEP Liaison  
April 2010*

The California Chapter has been quite busy these past three months. We have just concluded our 2010 AEP Conference in Palm Springs, we published an update for the 2010 AEP CEQA Handbook, we have been meeting with the California legislature in Sacramento regarding environmental legislation and policy and with the Governor's staff, and we have been working hard for retaining membership, and recruiting new members and discussing our continued affiliation with NAEP.

The conference in Palm Springs was very successful financially and professionally and it was fun! Attendance exceeded what was budgeted. There were 160 speakers and 20 student volunteers who helped make this an unforgettable conference. There was a great range of quality sessions and speakers. Featured key note speakers included Cal-EPA Secretary Linda S. Adams and ACOE Chief of Planning Josephine Axt. We had the pleasure to hear Ron Deverman, President of NAEP speak to the AEP. His message was quite refreshing. It was about beginning, developing and renewing friendships between ourselves and professionally and with each chapter. He discussed the new NAEP Affiliation Agreement, the hard work, dedication and commitment of many individuals within NAEP and the Chapters who have discussed, dialogued and come together over the past two years to achieve the goal of closer, more trusting professional relationships and enhanced mutual benefits at all levels of Chapter and national membership. A Spirit White Paper has been prepared that describes in further detail the intent of the Affiliation Agreement, its benefits to Chapters and NAEP, and the reasons why we are stronger together and more vital locally, regionally and nationally when we extend our hands in friendship. His message of friendship was complimented by his challenge to professionals to find our reason(s) why we first got into this profession. What is our passion as an environmental professional? His message was well received. Ron also had the opportunity to meet many California professionals at a reception hosted onsite. His final message to all was as we look forward to our journey together we can move

toward a stronger, more rewarding future together. The AEP appreciated Ron's commitment and his presence to the AEP chapter at our annual conference. Thank you Ron.

One final note, the NAEP booth and ABCEP banner were placed in the sponsor's area with great exposure. Membership and marketing materials, about 250 individual pieces were placed into attendee's bags for their use. This provided great marketing exposure for NAEP and ABCEP to the CAEP conference attendees.

The AEP has updated its Conference Manual which will be greatly appreciated by chapters as they develop their conferences in the future. A part of this process includes a handoff by the past Conference Chair to the current chair to understand all that goes into developing a conference. Also, the AEP Permanent Conference Committee supports the current conference chair in many ways including formalizing the conference venue. The next CAEP conference will be in Monterey, California in 2011. You all come, ya hear.

The AEP is redeveloping its web site. The new website is up and running. We have changed vendors and look forward to a more responsive robust website that has multitasking capabilities including membership renewals, conference and workshop registration capabilities. One new added feature is a searchable version of CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines. One more feature is that the work effort will also include a template that the Chapters can use for their own websites.

AEP has published the 2010 AEP CEQA Book (with newly adopted Guidelines). This handbook is provided to all members as a benefit. Additional copies can be ordered for \$10.00.

During the recent past AEP lost one of its most influential professionals, Dwight Steinert. AEP formally recognized Dwight and his achievements to AEP with a Lifetime Award presented to his family at the AEP annual Awards program in Palm Springs. Also, the AEP Board has established the Dwight Steinert Memorial Fund. AEP members are encouraged to donate to the fund. AEP has obligated the commitment to fund up to \$5000 for the contribution in 2010 (total of member contributions plus AEP contribution).

AEP is exploring the possibility of a joint venture with CEQAmaps in taking over the functions of the State Clearing House for CEQA document processing. This is in response to the Governor's proposal to eliminate, or significantly change, the roles of the Office of Planning and Research (OPR). It is very interesting on the road less travelled by state government. This may be an opportunity for AEP. More later as this program develops.

*Continued on page 10*





## News from MAREP

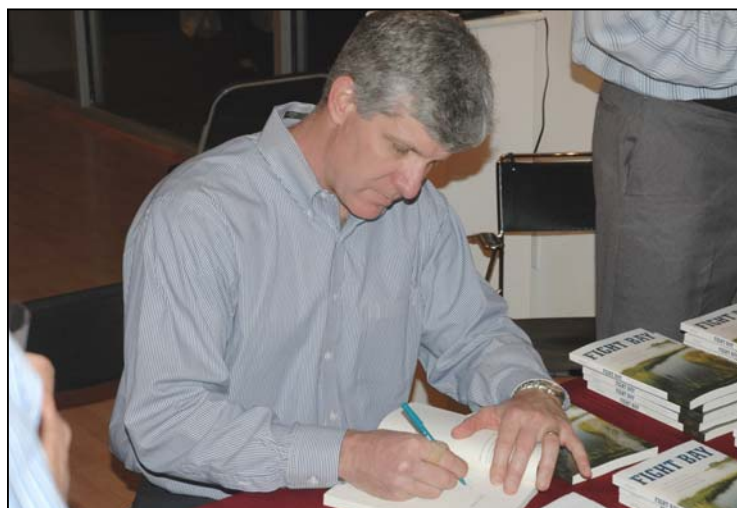


The Mid Atlantic Region Environmental Professionals association (MAREP) hosted its first event on April 8th, featuring Dr. Howard Ernst, recognized authority on the Chesapeake Bay. This event drew a strong turnout of over 60 environmental professionals from consulting, industry, government, and academia. Ron Deverman, NAEP President, was in attendance and offered encouraging words to our

newly-formed association. In addition to Dr. Ernst's presentation, the event included a book signing, membership information, refreshments, networking, and lots of fun!

As a new association, MAREP is in the process of setting up committees to carry out our mission. Leaders for MAREP's Membership, Information Technology and Communication, and Environmental Policy committees have already been identified. New committees will be forming in the coming months.

Our core group has accomplished a lot in a very short time. MAREP is up and running, and our membership is growing! Be on the lookout for more information about MAREP on our website which will be live by May 1st.





NWAEP

## Northwest Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

NWAEP is proud to announce our new Board of Directors:

Jonathon Belmont PhD

Aron Borok, Oregon DEQ

Molly Brown, HDR Inc

C Jeffery Evans, Evans Consulting Services

Stephen Gerritson, enterpriseSeattle

Teresa Nowicki, GRI

Robert Sweeney, Environmental Management Systems, Inc

The board was announced at our annual meeting held March 31st, which had a good turnout of existing NWAEP members and people interested in joining. We hope to keep interest in NWAEP alive and growing over the summer. In May we are looking forward to a presentation by Ron Bass about CEQ's proposed NEPA guidelines.

Check our website [nwaep.org](http://nwaep.org) for details on upcoming monthly programs.

## CAEP *Continued from page 8*

The CAEP will be conducting an audit of our financial books for the 2009 year. This process will be very good for the organization to assess our financial performance and understand our current bookkeeping practices.

The AEP Spring CEQA Advanced workshops are right around the corner in May 2010. Tim Bower will be distributing marketing flyers to NAEP members in California and posting this information on the NAEP Website. This is a good friendship between NAEP and the AEP chapter helping each other. Go to the [califaep.org](http://califaep.org) for more information.

The spring edition of the Environmental Assessor (EA) will be coming out in April. We have decided to publish it on our AEP Website as a PDF version. When the AEP Board approved the budget for 2010 there was decided to produce only one hard copy of the EA each year in January to provide registration and other pertinent information about the annual Conference. The remainder editions will be published electronically via the web. So keep an eye on the AEP website for information and other postings.

The CAEP has received the final NAEP Affiliation Agreement and Spirit document. The chapter is working on an Action Plan to send the Affiliation Agreement and Spirit document to its chapters for review. During the next six months the chapter will have an active dialogue with its members and call for a vote of the general membership in October this year. By November 2010 the CAEP will know if it will renew its affiliation with NAEP or not.



## Rocky Mountain Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report



The U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution, in partnership with The Rocky Mountain Chapter of AEP and the Colorado Division of FHWA, delivered the first in a series of trainings to enhance collaboration skills: Introduction to Managing Environmental Conflict on Feb. 23-24 at FHWA in Lakewood, CO. The participants included an eclectic mix of transportation and environmental professionals from local, state and federal agencies and the private sector. This training was highly participatory and activity-focused, using a transportation-based scenario. The training included: ECR background, essential communication skills, interest-based negotiation, analysis of situations for appropriate collaboration, and available resources.

This is the first in a series of trainings schedule in Lakewood designed to enhance skills for collaboration and more effective problem-solving and decision-making — and ultimately — more efficient and sustainable solutions to environmental challenges.

Here's what some participants had to say about this training:

- *"I deal with continuous issues often on my job. The tools and skills acquired in this course will be very helpful in moving projects forward. It will provide a more organized means of accomplishing our mission and goals compared to often chaotic public process."*
- *"Having ECR in the back of my mind will/may change the tone of my approach and could lead to the development of a fuller array of alternatives."*
- *"I work with many industries that develop projects on Federal and State lands. There is always an unspoken (sometimes spikier) reactivity between agencies and proponents — I would like to open up real dialogue."*

Those interested in learning about environmental collaboration and conflict resolution are welcome to register online <http://ecr.gov/Training/Training.aspx> for these upcoming trainings in Lakewood:

- **NEGOTIATION 101: Interest-Based Negotiation of Environmental Issues**

April 21-22, 2010

Interest-based negotiation provides the foundation for all training at the U.S. Institute. This highly interactive workshop helps new and experienced resource managers engaged in environmental decision making become more effective in environmental conflict negotiation, prevention, and management. Lessons learned in this training also transfer to many facets of life.

- **ECR 301: Collaboration Skills**

June 15-17, 2010

To work more effectively and efficiently, federal agencies and others recognize the need to develop collaboration competencies at all levels. This training facilitates staff in acquiring advanced skills in collaboration; multi-party negotiation; conflict prevention, management and resolution; meeting facilitation; and alternative dispute resolution. This training develops essential skills in communication, collaboration, negotiation, and conflict management needed by environmental and natural resource managers.

- **NEGOTIATION 301: Advanced Multi-Party Negotiation of Environmental Disputes**

September 14-16, 2010

Provides a practicum for high level managers to explore best practices in ECR, triage complex environmental disputes, create constructive atmosphere and dialogue, champion teams, and enable solutions. Use a scenario-based practice opportunity to analyze complex environmental disputes and formulate a plan of action for dealing with both immediate and longer term needs.

- **ECR & NEGOTIATION 201: Facilitation Fundamentals, Arlington, VA, April 14-15, 2010**

Prepare for role as an in-house agency facilitator in connection with an environmental dispute. Requires experience with environmental conflict situations and skill in organizing. Practice techniques to plan and convene a meeting and manage complexities of group dynamics and logistics.

Continued on page 12





## Texas Association of Environmental Professionals (TAEP)



Our 4th Annual Environmental Challenges & Innovations Conference: Gulf Coast 2010 took place on February 11th, 2010, at the Crowne Plaza-Medical Center. Curt Johnson and Leslie Yoo were co-chairs for the conference. We had over 300 attendees and 36 registered exhibitors, along with over 30 presentations, and 7 special sessions and workshops. Approximately \$7500 in underwriter support was obtained for the meeting. In addition, a silent auction held in conjunction with the conference generated over \$2000, with all proceeds going directly to TAEP's Student Scholarship Fund.

Carlos Rubinstein, the newest commissioner for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), was scheduled to be our keynote speaker, however, he was unable to attend due to inclement weather. Donna Phillips, Regional Director of the TCEQ, graciously stepped in to speak and provided a regulatory update for conference attendees.

Several outstanding environmental professionals in the region were recognized at the conference. TAEP awarded Environmental Professional of the Year to Glenn Buckley, TAEP Member of the Year to Valori Ranson, and Environmental Regulator of the Year to Donna Phillips.

## RMAEP

*Continued from page 11*

- **NEGOTIATION 301: Advanced Multi-Party Negotiation of Environmental Disputes,**  
Arlington, VA, June 15-17, 2010

Provides a practicum for high level managers to explore best practices in ECR, triage complex environmental disputes, create constructive atmosphere and dialogue, champion teams, and enable solutions. Use a scenario-based practice opportunity to analyze complex environmental disputes and formulate a plan of action for dealing with both immediate and longer term needs.

- **GTG 201: Government-to-Government — Laying the Groundwork for Effective Government-to-Government Consultation,**  
Arlington, VA, August 17-19, 2010

Develop awareness of key concepts of government-to-government consultation and principles for building trust between sovereigns; learn different ways to manage information, communication, decision-making, roles and responsibilities. Deepen appreciation for tribal preferences, the meaning of cultural and sacred sites; and of how historic events and federal Indian policies have shaped government-to-government relationships.

- More sessions will be added throughout the year to the website. For additional information and to register for U.S. Institute courses, see the Training tab at [www.ecr.gov](http://www.ecr.gov).



## Become a Certified Environmental Professional (CEP)

OBTAIN THE RECOGNITION YOUR CAREER DESERVES

### Certification Opportunities

*Certification is available in five areas:*

- Assessment
- Documentation
- Operations
- Planning
- Research/Education



Beginning in 1979, experienced environmental professionals were able to become certified through a comprehensive peer-reviewed process reflecting years of experience, responsibility, and knowledge. Certifications are nationally-recognized and available for federal/state/local agency staff, consultants, researchers, compliance managers, enforcement officials, and activists. Initially offered as a certification through the National Association of Environmental Professionals, in 1993, the national certification became a stand-alone entity and in 1999 an independent non-profit organization.

Certified individuals maintain his/her knowledge, experience, and credentials through continuing education, teaching, mentoring, publishing papers, and complying with the Code of Ethics. The Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards (CESB, [www.cesb.org](http://www.cesb.org)) accepted ABCEP for membership and accredited the CEP certification.

Certification brings heightened confidence with documents, evaluations, and decisions issued by a CEP. Certified individuals satisfy the requirements outlined by the USEPA, ASTM, and other regulatory agencies, which provides assurance to employers and customers. For the individual, certification increases opportunities for promotions, marketability, and career advancement.

### Find a CEP

Have an environmental question, situation, or project and need help?...find a CEP through a new online feature...member search. The member search portal enables anyone to search listed CEPs using a keyword/specialty area, location, or by name. Besides linking information seekers with knowledgeable CEPs, it also enables CEPs to search for other CEPs when confronting situations outside his/her circle of expertise. This searchable database adds a new benefit to employers and customers by adding value to the individual CEP's marketability. Find the search portal at [www.abcep.org](http://www.abcep.org).

### Become a CEP

*Do you or your staff have the knowledge, skills, and experience to be a CEP? Many public and private sector employers recognize the CEP as a threshold to obtain for promotion eligibility. Find out more on [www.abcep.org](http://www.abcep.org).*

### Become a CEP-IT

ABCEP offers mentoring and a CEP-In Training (CEP-IT) designation to junior and mid-level professionals developing towards CEP eligibility. CEP-IT increases individual and firm marketability, enhanced career opportunities, and enhanced networking opportunities.

**MORE INFORMATION:** Contact ABCEP at [office@abcep.org](mailto:office@abcep.org); [www.abcep.org](http://www.abcep.org); or 1.866.767.8073

*Have an upcoming meeting and need a speaker? Speaker opportunities by CEPs about ABCEP are available in certain geographic locations.*



Call for papers for publication in the scholarly journal:

# Environmental Practice

The journal of the National Association of Environmental Professionals

WATER  
vol. 12 no. 4

Manuscripts are sought with an emphasis on wastewater, whether in terms of recycling, treatment, or quality; surface water quality; stormwater treatment and reuse; drinking water quantity, quality, treatment, and reuse; urban demand and conservation measures; non-sustainable water uses; farming use and groundwater depletion; watershed planning and management; water rights; rivers, wetlands, and oceans; invasive aquatic species; and innovative treatment methodologies, or means for extending freshwater supplies in a world of growing demand. Perspectives are welcome from scholars, practitioners, and students.

Deadline for submittals is  
July 15, 2010 to  
[dcarro17@depaul.edu](mailto:dcarro17@depaul.edu)

Sample issues of the journal  
can be found at:

[http://journals.cambridge.org/action/  
displayJournal?jid=ENP](http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayJournal?jid=ENP)

For questions, please contact  
Dan Carroll, Managing Editor, at  
773-325-2298, or by email at  
[dcarro17@depaul.edu](mailto:dcarro17@depaul.edu)

**Guidelines for publication can be found at:**  
<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/>





Call for papers for publication in the scholarly journal:

# Environmental Practice

The journal of the National Association of Environmental Professionals

ENERGY  
vol. 13 no. 1

The editorial office of Environmental Practice is currently in the planning stages of a theme issue on the subject of Energy. While Environmental Practice accepts articles on a wide variety of subjects, manuscripts are especially sought with an emphasis on all types of energy particularly nuclear energy and its associated waste disposal.

Perspectives are welcome from scholars, practitioners, and students.

Deadline for submittals is  
August 1, 2010 to  
[dcarro17@depaul.edu](mailto:dcarro17@depaul.edu)

Sample issues of the journal  
can be found at:

[http://journals.cambridge.org/action/  
displayJournal?jid=ENP](http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayJournal?jid=ENP)

For questions, please contact  
Dan Carroll, Managing Editor, at  
773-325-2298, or by email at  
[dcarro17@depaul.edu](mailto:dcarro17@depaul.edu)

**Guidelines for publication can be found at:**  
<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/>