



## President's Letter to Members

Welcome to the fall issue of our newsletter. I have been thinking about the difference between well-meaning intentions and well-realized actions. I know confidently that NAEP is again action focused thanks to the commitment and volunteer efforts of our Board of Directors, Executive Committee, our national Committees and Working Groups and our association's Managing Director. Through teamwork we have realized the fruition of our three strategic initiatives that we embarked upon in a summer retreat two years ago. We have become again what our vision and mission exemplify: being the go-to source of unbiased information on environmental practices and the association that supports the environmental professions, collectively and individually. In this issue, Vice-President Paul Looney gives an excellent summary of the actions and Board accomplishments at the recent Denver quarterly NAEP Board meeting and you will enjoy Owen Smith's intriguing "play on words" essay about the meaning of words in our profession. Having both a civil/environmental engineering degree and an advanced degree in literature and creative writing, I have always been amused with words that have multiple meanings depending upon the context and circumstances of their use.

NAEP is moving rapidly forward with our next annual conference and the 2011 Conference Committee had an excellent planning meeting in Denver in mid-October, accomplishing the hard work of preparing for the 36th Annual Conference to be held in Denver April 26-29th. The 2011 Conference theme, "Seventh Generation Thinking: Learning from the Past – Planning for the Future" emphasizes sustainable practices but will include a diverse range of environmental topics, such as climate change, brownfields, NEPA, water resources management and transportation. For this coming conference there will be a special day-long Energy Symposium. You can be assured that the top environmental professionals will be there to deliver many excellent papers, panel discussions and keynotes. So mark your calendar and join us in Denver for the 2011 Annual Conference where I can guarantee you will meet new friends, reacquaint with old friends, and enjoy the insight of your peers. It is through the giving of your experience and "in the field" knowledge that we all learn and become better environmental professionals.

Our thanks go to the Rocky Mountain chapter of NAEP (RMAEP) for organizing such an informative training event while we were in Denver for the NAEP Board meeting. RMAEP worked with Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) to host a learning session on stormwater permitting in Colorado and a fascinating, hands-on tour of CDOT's stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP) training facility. The BMP "park" gave us a first-hand look at methods used and what really happens in the field with regard to stormwater control and water quality/pollution prevention when roadway projects are being built. For someone like myself, a manager of NEPA impact studies for transportation infrastructure, who recommends BMP measures for water quality as mitigation, it was enlightening to have the opportunity to see the actual measures in place during simulated storm events to evaluate their effectiveness. The two main CDOT instructors, Rik Gay and Tripp Minges, certainly provided us with some insight and knowledge to take back to our workplace.

One of NAEP's strategic initiatives has been to improve our national identity and image. This initiative reached fruition when in September, Horst Greczmiel, Associate Director of NEPA Oversight for the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), and I discussed collaborative actions and opportunities for NAEP and CEQ to work together. Lisa Mahoney, Chair of the NEPA Working Group, was part of the discussions as well. We agreed upon the following initiatives; first NAEP, through the auspices of the NEPA Working Group, will develop draft criteria for a national NEPA training certification. The intent of this initiative is to establish some foundational standards for training companies and institutions that are offering NEPA training across the country. The goal is to develop substantive draft training certification criteria to present at the 2011 NAEP conference for peer-review feedback. Second, NAEP will move forward with the development of an "Advanced NEPA Practice" training course, accomplished under the auspices and talented professionals that comprise the NEPA WG. Initial launch is anticipated sometime in early to mid-2011. NAEP also plans to launch a series of webinars on NEPA and other environmental topics of interest in early 2011 as well.

The third collaborative initiative that NAEP and CEQ discussed was in regard to NAEP's Annual NEPA Report. CEQ finds great value in the NEPA Annual Report and fully supports that effort continuing. CEQ is interested to see the NEPA



## Saying what we mean

*An indefinite series of essays about words and phrases that do not necessarily mean what we say*

*First in a series by Owen L. Schmidt*

### Need

“I need that.” It’s a familiar phrase, indicating anything from a whim to a necessity. It could be some new bling, the latest electronic gadget, or – let’s get real – food, water, and shelter.

In our everyday world the word “need” is used for wants and wishes as well as for real necessities, but in the NEPA world the word has special meaning. An EA has 4 elements, according to NEPA regulations, the first of which is “the need for the proposal.” 40 CFR 1508.9(b). For an EIS the wording is more complicated. The recommended format includes a section called “purpose of and need for action,” 40 CFR 1502.10(d), which is later called “purpose and need,” 40 CFR 1502.13. The “purpose and need” section should “specify the underlying purpose and need to which the agency is responding.”

This much is fairly clear: the purpose and need section of an EIS should specify the purpose and need. For an EA, on the other hand, there is no purpose, only a need. There is no other information in these regulations on what a need is, or a purpose. Or a “purpose and need.”

I’m feeling thirsty, so I think I need a drink of water. There it is. I need a drink. Or do I?

What I need is hydration. A drink of water is a really good way to meet that need. There are many other ways to hydrate, of course. Saline drip. Watermelon. Beverages of many kinds will

hydrate. In our informal day-to-day speech we take a shortcut. The phrase “I need a drink” means, of course, I need hydration and so I’m going to go to the water fountain to get a drink. Too many words. Easier to say, I need a drink.

We don’t necessarily mean what we say, and we don’t necessarily say what we mean.

There is a sense in the NEPA regulations that there should be a direct relationship between a proposal for action, and the need for the proposal. An EA should state the need for the proposal and an EIS should state the underlying need to which the agency is responding with its proposal. If an agency could be thirsty, it would likely propose to take a drink in response to a need for hydration. Alternatives to the proposal would be other ways to hydrate. This is how the statement of underlying need defines the range of alternatives in an EA or EIS.

A need is a noun, according to the dictionary. As a noun it is a thing. It is a problem, usually, or it can be an opportunity. Problems and opportunities are also nouns. A need is a thing that we don’t have and that we wish we had (hydration), or a thing that we have and wish we didn’t (thirst). Either way we look at it – problem or opportunity – we propose to get a drink in response to that need for hydration or need for dealing with thirst.

A verb indicates action. Action is what we propose to do in response to a need. Thus we should expect to see a proposal for action written in the sense of a verb, and the problem to which

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## Quest for papers

As you have noticed over the last 6 months, NAEP is trying to improve the content of this newsletter. While there are fun things going on and there is planning going into the direction NAEP is going, we have also tried to include technical articles for the membership to read and to provoke thought, comment and possibly conversation. I have taken on the responsibility for helping to put the newsletter together and am now asking for members and non-members alike to submit articles to me for inclusion in future newsletters.

Here is what I am looking for: approximately 2,500 to 3,500 words, MS word format. The content is up to you. We have had

articles on Hometown Democracy, Confined Animal Feeding Operations, and this month — Water Quality Standards.

We have some lined up, but I know that the membership is full of amazing stories, ideas and knowledge. Please consider sharing with us. If you are controversial, that can spark some debate in these pages. I ask for respectful discussion, but we all learn from those exchanges.

Consider providing me either an idea that we can flesh out together, or a fully realized article for publication. This newsletter is getting better and I want all of us to feel we are a part of this positive change.

*Paul B. Looney, CEP, CSE, PWS, NAEP Newsletter Editor  
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## Saying What We Mean *Continued from page 2*

we are responding written in the sense of a noun. I propose to get a drink, in response to the need for hydration.

This is more formal than day-to-day speech. But when we are writing an EA or EIS, we should be writing in a more formal style. Plain language, yes. Informal style, no.

It is quite a surprise, then, to see an EA or EIS express the need in terms of a verb rather than a noun, as if to say “I propose to take action because I need to take action.” The proposal is to take action. This is in response to the need to take action? A very tidy loop, but a loop is not what we are looking for. We are looking for the need that underlies the proposal.

It would be as if to say “I propose to get a drink.” Why? “I need to get a drink.” A loop. It would be as if we opened an EA or EIS to read the agency proposes to build a project, because of a need for the project.

“There is a need to treat mid-seral stands that are currently overstocked to maintain stand vigor ... maintain/enhance stand diversity ... and improve wildlife habitat ...” This is actual language quoted from the “purpose and need” section of an actual EA written by an actual agency in recent months (contact me if you want the citation). As written here, the need is “to treat.” “To treat” is a verb. As a verb, it’s the proposal. The agency is in fact proposing to treat these stands. Why? Because of a need to treat these stands. Well, okay ... but that doesn’t explain anything.

What they meant to say was there is a proposal to treat these stands, and – apparently – there are 3 needs: stand vigor, stand diversity, and wildlife habitat. It seems reasonable that there is something about the stand vigor, stand diversity, and wildlife habitat that is not quite what is desired. There is a problem or opportunity of some kind having to do with these 3, and in response to these 3 the agency is proposing to take action. Once we find out the details, we can begin to make sense of what the agency is proposing to do, and why they are proposing to do it.

This is not a trivial slip of language. This runs deeper. There is supposed to be a proposal for action and the need that underlies it. In formal writing, when a reader encounters the phrase “there is a need” ... the reader should safely assume that what will follow will be a noun, a thing—a problem or opportunity. There is a need for stand vigor. There is a need for stand diversity, for wildlife habitat. In response to those needs, the agency is proposing to treat these stands. Details to follow. Now we are in the process of understanding what the agency is proposing, and why.

Too often we see the proposal for action written in the place

of the need for action, as in the sentence “There is a need to ... [verb] ....” when in fact, “There is a need for ... [noun] ....” That’s the difference. A need is a noun, and so the phrase should start with the words “need for” rather than what we see too often, the “need to” ...

Most of us take shortcuts in our day-to-day informal communications. Such as “I need a drink.” In a shared culture where everyone understands these shortcuts, there is no problem with communication. But for more formal communication we should simply say what we mean. We mean to say we are proposing action in response to an underlying need. To act, for a need.

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*Second in a series by Owen L Schmidt*

## Impact

**T**he NEPA world is pretty much ruled by cause-and-effect, or cause-and-consequence. There are causes. These are the proposed actions, alternative actions, mitigation actions, connected actions, similar actions, and so on. There are consequences. These are summarized as direct, indirect, and cumulative.

The Supreme Court, in several of its NEPA opinions, has referred to cause-and-consequence akin to tort law. Tort law is the law of the slip-and-fall, the automobile accident, negligence, and malpractice. Tort law seeks to attach responsibility for a consequence to an actor. In EAs and EISs, in the words of the Supreme Court, we are looking for a reasonably close causal relationship between action and the consequences of action.

So it is something of a surprise that we so often choose the one word in the English language that could be either a cause or a consequence – the word “impact.” According to the dictionary, the word “impact” could be a noun or a verb. As a noun, it is a thing – a consequence. As a verb it is an action – a cause. The word could indicate a cause, or a consequence.

Thus the phrases “impact assessment” and “impact statement” could be an assessment or statement about causes, or about consequences. Or both. Without context, or more information, we don’t necessarily know what the writer means to say. It is ambiguous.

Here is an actual paragraph quoted from an actual EA prepared by an actual agency in recent months (contact me if you

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## Saying What We Mean

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want the citation):

“Alternative A would helicopter yard a portion of the ... project area. Helicopter yarding is generally considered to be less impacting in terms of soil disturbance. Less soil disturbance means less potential for hydrologic impact and would not cause greater impacts to stream flow than those analyzed under the Proposed Action Alternative.”

There are 3 occurrences of some form of the word “impact” in this paragraph, but no occurrence of the words cause or consequence. The first occurrence refers to helicopter yarding being “less impacting in terms of soil disturbance” – which could mean there is “less cause” (less soil disturbance) or “less consequence” (less deleterious to the soil). Or it could mean both. The second occurrence refers to “hydrologic impact” which appears to be jargon for “changes related to hydrology” – which in fact follow. But of course a “hydrologic impact,” taken out of context, could be hydrology as a cause or it could be the consequences to hydrologic resources. The third occurrence refers to “greater impacts to stream flow” which in context undoubtedly means “greater consequences to stream flow.” Which way those consequences run – beneficial or detrimental, larger or smaller – we don’t know.

We don’t necessarily mean what we say, and we don’t necessarily say what we mean.

The word “impact” almost always means a “deleterious consequence” in the world of NEPA. It is not necessarily so. In plain language, an “impact” is simply a forceful or dramatic effect. It could be positive or negative. In the sample language above, the phrase “less potential for hydrologic impact” is almost certainly

intended to convey the sense of less adverse consequence. But that’s not what it says. The reader doesn’t know whether a hydrologic impact is a good thing or a bad thing. And the phrase “greater impacts to stream flow” is almost certainly intended to convey a sense of greater adverse consequences to the riparian environment. But that’s not what it says. This leaves it to the reader to decide whether “impact” is a good thing, or a bad thing. The writer has lost control of the message.

Could we write an entire EA or EIS without a single use of the word “impact”? Of course we could (except for the EIS title). When we mean cause, we should say cause. And when we mean consequence, we should say consequence. Here’s a rewrite of that sample paragraph, with no ambiguity:

“Alternative A would helicopter yard a portion of the ... project area. Helicopter yarding is generally considered to cause less soil disturbance. Less soil disturbance means less change to stream flow than what would be caused under the Proposed Action Alternative.”

Not only is the ambiguity removed, the paragraph is about 10 words shorter. We still don’t know whether the “change to stream flow” would be good or bad. In fact, we don’t even know for sure if it means more or less stream flow. We don’t know what sort of “soil disturbance” the authors are referring to, though it most likely means soil compaction. These ambiguities will still have to be fixed.

Staying away from ambiguous words – “impact” being one of the most ambiguous – is a good first step when we intend to say what we mean.

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## NAEP Environmental Excellence Awards Nomination Information – *Deadline extended to December 1, 2010*

The National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP) is seeking nominations for our annual National Environmental Excellence Awards. We are requesting nominations from you, your company, or agency describing outstanding environmental contributions from applicable projects and programs. It is not necessary for you or your organization to be a member of NAEP and nominations may include projects or programs recognized by others. The Environmental Excellence Award nomination(s) are to be submitted to the NAEP Awards Review Committee and must be received by December 1, 2010. Each selected Award Winner will receive a beautiful award plaque and an invitation to briefly address participants at the Annual NAEP National Conference. This year’s conference will be held in Denver Colorado, April 26-29, 2011. Award winners are required to prepare a poster for display during the entire conference. Award winners may also be asked to present their program or project in one of the technical sessions scheduled throughout the conference (optional). Please visit [www.naep.org](http://www.naep.org) for a nomination form.



## Board Meeting Summary, October 2010

*Paul B. Looney – NAEP Vice President*

Like July's meeting in Pittsburgh, Denver provided a great meeting prior to the October Board Meeting. Ron Deverman, NAEP President and I attended the Thursday meeting of the Rocky Mountain Association of Environmental Professionals (RMAEP) at the Denver offices of the CDOT. The topic was NPDES regulation changes and Best Management Practices for erosion control. The CDOT "playground" was an amazing place. Within about an acre of land in the middle of the city, the CDOT has assembled a variety of erosion scenarios with the capability to test erosion control devices and test their inspectors in the proper installation of BMP's. The site also has the capability to test new products and ideas. That is an article for another day. Our thanks go to Rachel Peterson and Laura Lutz-Zimmerman and the CDOT instructors (Rik Gay, Tripp Minges, and Tom Boyce) for a very informative afternoon.

Denver itself is a really nice city with lots of parks, miles of bicycle trails, and a very active downtown night life. I was amazed at the number of people along the pedestrian mall that is just outside the Conference hotel doors. The conference will have more than enough for attendees to do, officially and unofficially.

The October Board meeting in Denver was another great success. Many thanks to HNTB's Denver staff for helping the Board to once again save NAEP money. By holding our meeting in their offices, HNTB saved us the cost of a room and AV equipment. Specific thanks go to Jennifer M. Stewart who was responsible for most of the logistics and planning and to Annette J. Price who helped us with tech support and was there all day to be sure the meeting went off without a hitch. Despite a very full agenda, the Board was able to hold substantive discussions on all of the items and agree to a new Budget. The Progress of the Affiliation Agreement was another focus, especially with the signing of the Affiliation Agreement by Florida, the second largest affiliated chapter (California is first) with the most NAEP members.

The Association as a whole is still working its way back to financial sustainability, but the climb is not nearly as high nor as steep as the last few years. The plans for the coming year are actually anticipated to provide us with a surplus. Joe Musil and Tim Bower have taken the structure of the budget that was developed by Brian Smith and we finally have a remarkable and comprehensive understanding of our finances that is clearly presented and understandable.

Tim Bower (Bower Management Services), the Managing Director for the NAEP has done a remarkable job since coming



to us a year and a half ago. Membership has increased approximately 40%. The latest count has us reaching 908 total members. Much of that increase is based on his efforts to recover members who were lost over the last three years. Also, given the better communication from the main office to the membership, our retention is better. We are seeing a good spread over all the categories and there is movement afoot to start looking at how to increase Corporate and Student memberships. There is still a standing request for each member to try to bring new members or regain lapsed members. Those who have been here before will see a great improvement in services; new members will be well informed through the regular email updates.

What has Bower Management Services brought to us? There are regular updates on all Chapter activities. Some Chapters still have not taken advantage of this great new service, but there is awareness that it is valuable to them. At a meeting of the Rocky Mountain Chapter in Denver, I was informed that there were some NAEP members in the Chapter area that had no idea of the existence of the Chapter.

While we are progressing, we are still in need of continuing membership increases. Last year we were looking at what seemed to be impossible numbers, this year we are looking for an increase of a little over 7 members per month (over those already renewing) to start to see positive growth. The Chapters being able to renew on line for both NAEP and the local Chapters has helped everyone as well. It is estimated that 40% of the renewals

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## Board Meeting Summary *Continued from page 5*

received on the NAEP website are also generating membership in the local Chapters. The combined efforts of us all are turning NAEP around. More on that later as you will be amazed to see what is going on with NAEP.

Harold Draper's streak of no-controversy, comprehensive meeting minutes continued. As one of the recent in a line of great secretaries, Harold has distinguished himself in providing quick turn around on the meeting minutes that result in few changes. He is an amazing listener and recorder of the Board activities.

What has NAEP done recently? Well, the ENews newsletter has been going out on time for nearly a year. For that same time, the content has gotten better and better. The technical articles are addressing some of the aspects of the professions that we do not usually get to see. There is a standing invitation to the membership to contribute a 2,500-3,500 word technical article about what you do as a professional or what interests you. We have a lot of ideas, but definitely need the membership to realize that this is a group effort. We all want to hear from you.

As I stated earlier, NAEP is facilitating a method for getting Chapter information out to the National audience. There are general Chapter activity emails that are going out monthly as well as targeted emails that are being coordinated by the local chapters and going out to the membership in the Chapter area. These are providing the membership as well as the Chapters with some excellent opportunities to get their activities known. For those not attending, we also look to receive monthly updates that will be included in the ENews so everyone can see the tremendous activity taking place at the local Chapters.

The NAEP is working toward scheduling our first webinar. Ron Lamb, and Marie Campbell have worked with Tim Bower to come up with a plan for doing a NEPA legal and policy update. We are shooting for early December. Always good, the NEPA subject is only one of many to come as we roll out more and diverse offerings to our wide environmental audience.

If the subject weren't draw enough, NAEP will be working to get various applicable professional development credit hours including AICP. We are approaching DePaul University about providing CEUs and we are looking to getting CLE credits as well. This type of service to the membership and affiliates will not only provide those requiring additional continuing education credits for their professional registrations and certifications, we see this as another service which brings value to the members and the affiliated members. There are also plans to make the presentation recordable for future downloads for those who can't directly

attend. Cambridge University Press is providing limited-time free passes to the online site of the journal as part of the benefits for attending the webinar.

Speaking of Cambridge and DePaul, the Environmental Practice Journal has also been improved. The peer review process has been greatly speeded up by the Managing Editor, Dan Carroll. As a co-editor on the upcoming Water Issue (December 2010), I can attest to his effective management and the required quickness of turnaround for peer reviews. I really liked working with him and Jim Montgomery and I think you will find that particular issue very interesting for the breadth and content of articles. The March 2011 transportation theme issue is also well underway. The December 2011 theme is environmental justice. We are working toward having a conference themed issue that deals with the "Seventh Generation Thinking" conference in Denver.

We now have a Publications Committee, so I believe we will also be seeing a lot more coming out of NAEP outside the ENews and Journal. Bob Michaels, John Perkins, Bob Smythe, and Paul Looney have volunteered to get this very important committee back and operational.

The Journal also is providing NAEP with great financial news. We are now getting profit sharing from Cambridge Press. This is in part due to their willingness to renegotiate our contract to allow us to recapture the proper number of Journals to publish each issue based on our membership. Using the estimates that Tim Bower provided to them we have actually exceeded the agreed upon number by the increasing membership we have seen. As we continue to grow, this revenue source will be a great addition.

As for the Conference in Denver (Seventh Generation Thinking – April 26-29, 2011), the planning committee met Friday and set the schedule for the conference. There is still room for exhibitors and sponsors, so everyone should try to get one of each. The success of the conference also leads to NAEP success. We are looking ahead to the 20102 conference in Portland and are working for locations in 2013 and 2014.

The reports from the Committees and Working Groups were an amazing stack of great news. From the publication of the NEPA Working Group Annual Report to their work with CEQ on NEPA training, to the on-going and related efforts to provide Member Benefits and Education, the backbone of the Association is working very well. The Energy and Environmental Policy (E2P) Committee provided an excellent report on their progress in obtaining timely news for the membership as well as an insightful article concerning Greenhouse Gases and an NAEP statement on the issue. These items will be made available on the





## Board Meeting Summary *Continued from page 6*

web in the members-only section and there will be an effort to be sure that the position paper gets sufficient exposure.

Ron Lamb is working toward a very interesting benefit for the membership – Access to environmental news and insights into government through an association with one or more environmental newsfeed organizations. He was tasked to provide the list of member benefits as revenue neutral and/or profit building. He has developed several ideas that are going to be excellent benefits to members and affiliated Chapter members alike. He would very much welcome any sponsors to help provide this service. Contact Tim Bower to get the details and some of the potential information that we expect to result from Ron's efforts.

Tim Bower also provided a good summary of another member benefit that has been on the NAEP wish list for a while: Liability Insurance. This applies both to individual operators who are associated with NAEP as well as the Affiliated Chapters. The Chapter liability insurance has been one of the benefits that NAEP is trying to provide to Chapters as a means of making their affiliation cost effective through saving insurance costs by going through NAEP's provider. You will hear more on the

Professional Liability Insurance that will be available to members at a discounted rate in November and December.

The Marketing Plan update continues with a lot of initiatives coming out each time we discuss it.

For those members who are Facebook fans, NAEP has a presence. We are looking to be sure that the digital changes occurring daily do not pass us by. Those interested in becoming involved with either member site as editor or guardian, please contact Tim Bower for more information.

As part of our renewal effort, we are also putting together a By-Laws review team which will be tasked with reviewing, revising and updating the by-laws. The team members are Kristen Maines, Paul Looney, Jim Melton, Gary Kelman, and Erik Neugaard. The last dated effort was 2004. We are seeing more potential areas that need to be changed. The schedule is to have the updates available for review at the January Board Meeting and Present them for approval at the April conference.

I hope you all share with me the excitement that NAEP is growing, progressing, and becoming “the interdisciplinary organization dedicated to developing the highest standards of ethics and proficiency in the environmental professions.”

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## NAEP needs “You” to serve as an elected at-large Board Member

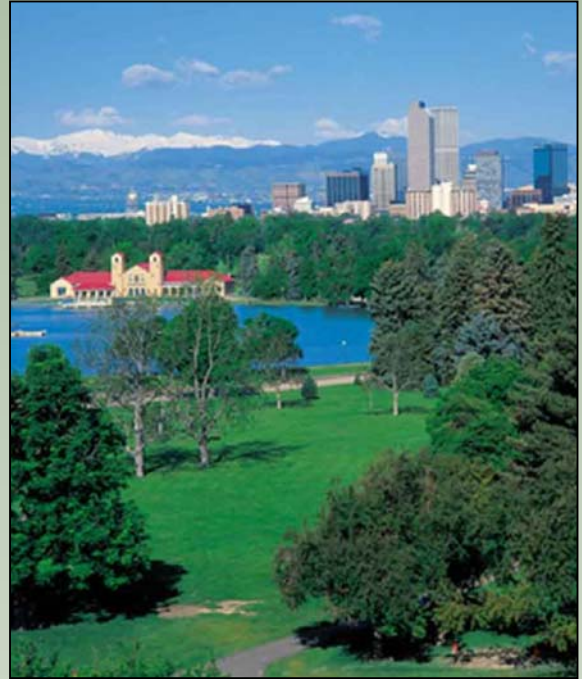
NAEP is a voluntary association headed by a Board of Directors. The Board is composed of 12 at-large elected members from the environmental field, four ex-officio members, and one chapter representative for each 150 NAEP members in the Chapter. All serve without compensation. Each year prior to the annual conference, 4 at-large Board Members are elected to serve a three-year term of office. For more information the requirements and expectations of an elected at-large Board Member please review the Self Nomination Form that is attached to the link below. The deadline for submission is November 26, 2010. Please visit [www.naep.org](http://www.naep.org) for a submission form.



National Association of Environmental Professionals

## Seventh Generation Thinking: Learning from the Past — Planning for the Future

NAEP 36th Annual Conference  
*Sheraton Denver Downtown*  
*April 26–29, 2011*



**T**he schedule for next April's conference is set and will be available online later this week. We had many more abstract submissions than we had space, so you can expect super technical sessions with lots of interesting and relevant discussions.

We will be applying for AICP credit for the entire conference and CEU's will be available for both Symposiums.

We have two full day Symposiums that will take place on Tuesday, April 26th. The Energy Symposium will cover topics such as transmission and its role in energy siting, renewables and their challenges, federal funded financing programs and NEPA, new players and resources, brownfields and disturbed lands energy siting strategies, community outreach, issues specific to Federal Lands, and more!

The NEPA Symposium will offer examples from a variety of agencies, individuals, and firms that have successfully navigated changing conditions in the NEPA field. Topics include streamlining the contracting process, streamlining alternative selection using GIS and other tools, linking planning and NEPA, document quality initiatives, and fast-tracking ARRA-funded projects, among others. There will be ample opportunities for participants to ask questions and share their own experiences and suggestions to facilitate an interactive learning environment.

Exhibit space is filling up and several sponsors are already on board, but there is always room for more. So consider if it would be beneficial to your company to be part of this great conference. It's a great way to get company exposure while supporting your organization. There are numerous opportunities available, check them out on the conference website. Or contact Donna Carter at 863-949-0262, or [naepfl@verizon.net](mailto:naepfl@verizon.net).

Check the NAEP website ([www.naep.org](http://www.naep.org)) for the latest information on the conference including the schedule, track descriptions, the offsite event, and more! Mark your calendars and plan on joining us in Denver on April 26th.





## Sure You Are Smart, but Can You Talk to a 7th Grader?

*Paul B. Looney, CEP, PWS, CSE Vice President NAEP*

Through the NAEP Post Office Box I received a great letter from a 7th grader to the Vice President of NAEP. She wrote well and had some really challenging questions to ask of me/the Association. As I responded to this letter I realized that my response really needed to reflect our Mission statement and our code of ethics.

Specifically, since we proclaim ourselves as “the primary source of unbiased information on environmental practices” and that we are “dedicated to developing the highest standards of ethics and proficiency in the professions” I had big shoes to fill in answering her direct and important concerns/questions.

Being asked to answer these questions made me reflect on the amazingly vast impact the environmental professions have on the world. I am proud of the work we all do and the long lasting impact we have. I was also reminded of the great impact we all can have on the future generation.

Here I had a girl in middle school who was still interested in science. In our world, this is one of the most at risk populations in schools for losing interest in math and science. I felt a big obligation to be considered in my responses and to be sure I remained that unbiased source of information.

Since I am the one who wrote her back, I do not want this to be about what I wrote. Look to yourself and see if you can simplify your message enough to inform her while providing your scientific expertise. It is harder to do than it looks initially.

Here are the questions she asked me, paraphrased slightly. Even 7th graders can have some editorial opinion while asking questions. Look at them and determine your own answers. If you would care to share with us in future newsletters, I would welcome what you have to say.

- How much longer do you think we will see the effects of the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico?

- Tons of people drink water each day but, how safe is our tap water?
- Recycling is extremely important to the environment, so why isn't it mandatory in the United States?
- As much as I use technology every day, I want to know whether cell phones and microwaves are safe.
- Some of my friends are vegetarians and they say how much healthier organic food is, but is it that much healthier?
- A major concern is the amount of trees we are losing every day. Millions of trees are lost, so that people can eat out of paper bags from fast food restaurants.
- Going Green is cool.

In case you haven't been to the web site recently, the Mission Statement for NAEP was revised in response to our Strategic Initiative effort over the last two years. The Board members who put this together have captured everything I believe I consider to be important as a member.

*Our mission is to be the interdisciplinary organization dedicated to developing the highest standards of ethics and proficiency in the environmental professions. Our members are public and private sector professionals who promote excellence in decision-making in light of the environmental, social, and economic impacts of those decisions.*

*Our vision is to:*

- *Be the primary source of unbiased information on environmental practices*
- *Support the advancement of the environmental professions as a whole and our individual members in their careers*
- *Encourage better decision-making that thoughtfully considers the full implications of those decisions*



*Please Donate to the James Roberts Scholarship Fund*



*You may not have known him.  
Yet you were certainly influenced by him.  
Honor his legacy.  
Donate to the James Roberts  
Scholarship Fund TODAY.*

**J**im Roberts travelled far and wide to espouse the worth of living an ethical life, including the way you performed your job. He lived the Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice for Environmental Professionals.

NAEP has developed the James Roberts Scholarship Fund to assist promising individuals while they are still in school. This is your opportunity to preserve and extend the legacy of Jim Roberts.

All donations are tax-deductible. Go to [NAEP.org](http://NAEP.org) and click Scholarship Foundations to make your contribution. You can also donate when you renew your NAEP membership.

Thank you,  
Gary F. Kelman, Chair

James Roberts Scholarship Committee  
Mel Willis  
John Perkins  
Bruce Hasbrouck  
Teri Hasbrouck



## NAEP Appreciates the Support of HNTB

The NAEP Board would like to thank HNTB, for allowing us to hold our October 2010 Board Meeting in their Denver office. HNTB is pleased to support NAEP through support of the Board Meeting. “We applaud NAEP’s contributions to the environmental professions and we are proud of Ron Deverman’s, HNTB principal environmental planning manager, leadership role in NAEP as President” says Mike Davis, HNTB’s National Director of Environmental Planning.

HNTB is one of the nation’s premier planning, engineering, construction management and architecture firms with about 4,000 professionals in 75 locations nationwide. For nearly a century, HNTB has exceeded client expectations in the delivery of

environmental services, program management, infrastructure, federal services and water resources. With client relationships spanning decades, HNTB understands infrastructure life cycles and has the perspective to solve technical challenges with clarity and imagination. We see and help address the far-reaching issues of financing, legislation, design-build opportunities, community outreach, and ongoing infrastructure operations. HNTB successfully provides our clients with environmental planning, compliance, permitting, and sustainability services in all phases of infrastructure project delivery.

For more information on HNTB please visit the website at [www.hntb.com](http://www.hntb.com).



## The Ultimate Vacation!

By Donna Carter

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to have a vacation where you didn’t have to do anything except enjoy the scenic views, eat, sleep, have

great conversations, and best of all keep your wallet in your pocket? Sound like a pampered trip for the rich and famous? Well, let me tell you how you too can participate in this one of a kind trip.

First, you have to attend the NAEP 2011 conference in Denver. And second you have to bid (and be high bidder of course) on the “Germany for 2” silent auction item. Once you are the winner, the only additional expense you have is your airfare to Germany and any souvenirs you buy. The trip includes all hotels, personal transportation within Germany, food, and a personalized, fantastic tour guide by the name of Johannes Ehmanns, an NAEP member (pictured here).



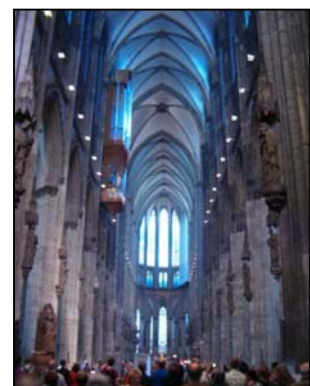
Chip (my husband for those of you who don’t know him) and I were the winning bidder on this trip at the 2007 conference, and we finally got our schedule together to go this past

June. We flew nonstop from Orlando to Frankfurt, taking along Chip’s mother and sister Mary. Johannes has graciously agreed to take up to 4 people; you just have to pay double the winning auction bid, which is for 2 people. And if you didn’t know already, Johannes donates the whole trip to NAEP. In other words, all the money from the silent auction goes to NAEP. So you get a fantastic trip and help your favorite organization at the same time. And, Johannes is the perfect host, who by the way, is planning on attending the Denver conference.

So how does it work...once you are the high bidder? You talk with Johannes (by email and/or phone) to determine which week will work for all of you. You also let him know what you would like to see or do. In our case we opted for back roads, country side and the Black Forest area, not museums nor large cities. We flew out on a Wednesday evening, arrived Thursday morning in Frankfurt and departed back to the US on the following Thursday. Johannes will meet you at whichever airport works best for you – Cologne, Munich, or Frankfurt.

Our first night was in Cologne where we stayed less than one block away from the Cologne Cathedral. We walked around the area, toured the Cathedral, walked over the Rhine River to an

*Continued on page 12*







## The Ultimate Vacation!

*Continued from page 11*



observation tower, saw an original Roman road, and had a fantastic dinner.

The next day we enjoyed a cruise on the Rhine River from Kolbenz to Mainz, about 5 hours. You wouldn't believe the acres and acres of vineyards we saw, and all were terraced up steep hillsides.

Also every road in Germany seems to have a bicycle path beside it, and most every path was heavily used. People were biking everywhere, in groups, families, and singles. The ups and downs didn't slow them down a bit!



From Mainz we toured through the back roads again, stopping often for views, pictures, food or any other thing we might want. We ended this day in Baden-Baden where we enjoyed dinner in the local "Biergarten". Germany is known for beer, but since they also have all

those vineyards, the wine selections are also superb (as I can attest!). One other thing that surprised me was all the flowers and flower boxes. Every building had window boxes full of bright blooming flowers, gardens in full bloom, raised flower beds, and hanging baskets. This included businesses as well as private homes. If you have a green thumb or just like flowers, early June was the time to go.



From Baden-Baden we drove southeast into the Black Forest stopping to view and hike to the highest waterfall in Germany at Triberg (163 meters), visited a clock museum (the Black Forest is where cuckoo clocks originated), then continued on along the northern shore of Bodensee (Lake Constance) and entered Austria, where we spent the night in Bregenz. The last time I was in Europe (in 1971) you had to show your passport every time you crossed from one country to another. With the European Union, that requirement is gone, there is no border control between members of the Union.



We left Bregenz and entered Switzerland, traveling along the southern shores of Bodensee. We stopped at the largest waterfall in Europe which is on the border between Switzerland and Germany. The Rhine Waterfall is 50 meters

wide, and offers a boat tour out to the small island in the middle of the falls. It looked pretty wet so we declined to go! Back through the Black Forest stopping for great views, interesting sites and of course more food. We ended the day in Freiburg where we met up with Johannes's good friend Joerg, who joined us for the remainder of our trip. We spent another full day touring through and around the Black Forest, visiting St Margen and Lake Titisee. Joerg, an expert on the Black Forest as he lives close by, made an excellent guide.

Our last full day was spent touring Strasbourg, France. Strasbourg is trisected by 3 rivers, with the center of the city sur-



rounded by a canal. A boat tour around the city center and the Cathedral Notre Dame by boat included going through two locks. We then toured the Cathedral itself.

We left France behind and headed back to Heidelberg, Germany for our final night. A lovely dinner outdoors at the famous Red Ox Inn with the Heidelberg Castle above us was a great way to end our trip.

So what else can I say? It was a fantastic trip, with a great tour guide, no worries about where to stay, where to eat, or what to do. And if you want another opinion, I'll introduce you to the 2009 auction winners, who have completed their trip, and also have rave reviews.

So mark your calendar to be in Denver the last week in April and come prepared to bid for the trip of a lifetime.





## AEP Considers NAEP Affiliation Agreement – 2010

By: Roger W. Turner, NAEP Liaison

*This article was first published in the AEP official journal, Environmental Monitor, in July 2010. This was a communication to the AEP members regarding the proposed Chapter Affiliation Agreement between NAEP and AEP. For more information on AEP please visit [www.califaep.org](http://www.califaep.org).*

This article discusses an important and timely issue before AEP — to consider renewing the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP) Affiliation Agreement. Some history - AEP entered into an Affiliation Agreement with NAEP in January 2005 and became one of its 19 current affiliated chapters. At that time, AEP amended its By-Laws to recognize the affiliation with NAEP and to create a new Board position, the NAEP Liaison. The NAEP Liaison represents AEP at NAEP Board meetings and committee meetings, and keeps the AEP Board and membership informed on NAEP activities. The NAEP Liaison reports are posted on the AEP website under the NAEP section and in each issue of the Environmental Monitor.

In April 2010, NAEP presented a new Affiliation Agreement to its chapters for consideration and adoption by December 2010. NAEP also prepared a document entitled “The Spirit of the Affiliation Agreement” (or, “Spirit Paper” to accompany the Affiliation Agreement). The Spirit Paper provides a better understanding of the intent of the Affiliation Agreement. The Affiliation Agreement and Spirit Paper are attached to this article and are available on the AEP website at (<http://www.califaep.org/NAEPaffiliation>).

### Who Decides on the AEP Affiliation Agreement with NAEP?

The new Affiliation Agreement requires a vote by the AEP membership to determine whether or not AEP should continue its affiliation with NAEP. The vote will occur in the late September 2010 timeframe using a ballot process. The AEP Board of Directors will make the final decision, based on the results of the voting members and the desires of respective chapters at their November 2010 meeting. The final vote will be reported to the AEP membership. We are looking forward to the next four months having an active dialogue amongst AEP members on the Affiliation Agreement. It is very important that each member be active in this process.

### What is NAEP?

More than one AEP member has said that they do not know what NAEP is or what it represents. NAEP is actually similar to AEP as an organization representing environmental professionals except that it is at the national level versus the state level. NAEP is a multidisciplinary, professional association dedicated to the promotion of ethical practices, technical competency, and maintaining professional standards in the environmental fields. Sound familiar? Its members reflect a diversity of employers, including government, industry, academia, consulting firms, and the private sector in the U.S. and abroad. NAEP members have

access to and maintain the most recent developments in environmental practices, research, technology, law and policy. While NAEP is a national organization it also has local perspectives on environmental issues. Many NAEP members probably work in your community. This national professional forum provides a great opportunity to exchange technical information as well as add to environmental policy perspectives on any one particular issue. Environmental professionals also have the opportunity to develop business and professional relationships and interests with like-minded professionals in other parts of the country.

NAEP provides two significant publications to keep its members and affiliates informed of current developments and trends in the practice of environmental planning: the NATIONAL E-NEWS, a Newsletter that is published bimonthly; and the ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICE JOURNAL which is published quarterly by the Cambridge University Press in cooperation with DePaul University. The E-News is sent directly to each member when it is published. The Environmental Practice Journal offers a professional forum for research and commentary papers on contemporary environmental issues related to environmental science and policy. This is very helpful in finding various topic solutions to contemporary environmental policy or practical environmental mitigation approaches to topics such as Brownfields or wetlands. Similar to AEP, NAEP conducts much of its business through the use of committees. NAEP sponsors workshops around the nation and an annual conference whereby environmental professionals can attend panel discussions, and lectures on timely matters relevant to environmental planning, policy, and the profession. It is important to note that instead of a local (California/CEQA) perspective on environmental planning NAEP provides a national perspective (NEPA), and in some cases an international perspective regarding environmental planning, policy, and practice issues.

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## AEP Considers

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### How Do AEP Members Benefit from the Affiliation with NAEP?

Two main questions have been asked by the AEP Chapter and its members: What is the cost for Affiliation? What do I/we get (benefits) for the cost of Affiliation?

#### What is the cost for Affiliation?

- The AEP chapter cost for Affiliation is \$2,000/yr. The cost for a representative attending two NAEP Board meetings and the annual conference is \$2,200. The NAEP membership cost for the AEP Executive Board is \$600/yr. Total cost for affiliation with NAEP is \$4,800/yr. The AEP member cost is less than \$3.00/yr. (Note: The AEP member cost of \$140/year will not increase)

#### What do I/we get for the cost of Affiliation?

Individual Benefit:

- 10% discount off general registration to annual conference for Affiliate Chapter members (This is about a \$59 cost savings per affiliated member);
- 10% discount on NAEP sponsored training seminars opportunities for Affiliate Chapter members (This is about a \$25 to \$75 cost savings per member per event);
- Purchase online articles from Environmental Practice;
- E-News from NAEP provides the latest news on the organization and what is happening in the environmental profession;
- Promote a collaborative fellowship, professional development, networking and employment opportunities, information exchange, professional development and technology transfer between local and national environmental professionals;
- Gain a national perspective on environmental expertise and impact analysis; Federal environmental policy and law, i.e. NEPA, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, Endangered Species Act, and the Federal Transportation Act, and interaction with federal agencies such as the Fish & Wildlife Service and the Army Corps of Engineers (CWA Section 404, etc.) as it directly affects our work as environmental professionals.
- Work with the Academy of Board Certified Professionals (ABCEP; [www.abcep.org](http://www.abcep.org)) to obtain professional certification.

#### Chapter Benefits:

- Chapter representation on the NAEP Board of Directors;
- Chapters and their associated local chapters can claim affiliation with NAEP in all aspects of corporate documentation. This is beneficial for greater exposure to local and national perspectives;
- Chapters and their associated local chapters can utilize the national speakers list for AEP events; and
- Chapter websites and publications can incorporate logos and documentation stating that the Chapter and their associated local chapters are “An Affiliate of the National Association of Environmental Professionals.” Chapter websites are listed on the NAEP website to facilitate national networking opportunities. For example, the AEP 2010 Conference was advertised nationally for more than one year at no charge to the AEP Chapter. NAEP affiliated members can enroll in the certification program offered by the Academy of Board Certified Environmental Professionals (ABCEP). This is an independent rigorous certification offered to become a Certified Environmental Professional. This program, certified by the Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards, NAEP, and EPA, is a worthy certification program for the environmental profession.

#### Questions and Answers on the 2010 NAEP Affiliation Agreement

To facilitate the dialogue between AEP members and Chapter Boards several actions have been taken. A select group of AEP members familiar with the agreement will be meeting in June and July with each local Chapter Board to discuss the Affiliation Agreement and answer your questions. Your local Chapter Board will have an ongoing dialogue with you on the Affiliation Agreement to answer your questions. You are encouraged to be in contact with your local Chapter Board members to

discuss any and all questions on the Affiliation Agreement. If they cannot answer your questions they will refer them to the State AEP Board who will answer your question(s) in a timely manner. The local Chapter Boards will communicate questions and issues received by their members to the AEP Board (through Lynne Bynder). All salient questions and issues will be answered and will be posted on the AEP Website. See the NAEP section under Affiliation Agreement for the latest updates. Gene Talmadge, AEP President, will be providing regular updates to the membership on the Affiliation Agreement in his monthly President's E-Blast and his President's message in the

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## AEP Considers

*Continued from page 14*

Environmental Monitor. The first message was posted in June. Also, a new section has been developed on the AEP website to provide the latest information regarding the NAEP Affiliation Agreement. This includes a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) section that is intended to be informative answering the most common questions.

My hope is that this will be an engaging and active dialogue among the AEP membership and with the AEP Board. In the next several months every AEP member will clearly understand what the NAEP Affiliation Agreement is about. As noted, a membership vote will take place in late September or early October 2010 on this important issue. If you have a question or require direct contact to further discuss your questions, please send them to Lynn Bynder at [califaep@gmail.com](mailto:califaep@gmail.com). She will contact the AEP team member who will be in touch with you. All questions will be addressed.

Your AEP Board looks forward to your interest and active dialogue on the Affiliation Agreement. The AEP Board of Directors will report the AEP membership decision at their November 2010 meeting and send this report to the AEP membership.

## Awards Committee

We now have 17 nominations on hand for the 2011 environmental excellence awards. The deadline for nominations is extended to December 1, 2010. We are expecting many additional nominations. Some people have suggested that the award application criteria may be limiting or discouraging small-scale, local project proponents from applying for an award. The committee will schedule a discussion regarding the application form and evaluate the need for improvements. This is the first year that we have allowed applicants to submit nominations in electronic format. Thus far 80% have elected to use electronic transmittal of nominations. Many have also submitted paper copies. For this year's review of nominations, all electronic applications will be copied onto flash drives and distributed to the award committee in early December. With the help from the NAEP staff, the processing of awards, distribution of acknowledgements, press releases, scheduling of award presentations and technical session discussions, as well as securing and distributing award plaques should be greatly improved. This assistance should improve the scheduling necessary for the April conference in Denver. Thank you very much.

## Meet the newest member of the NAEP Team



Many of you have already been in contact with Abby but we wanted to officially introduce all of you to her. Abby has been working with individual members regarding any membership issues and with the chapters on certain projects.

Abby Murray is the Administrative Director for Bower Management Services. Abby possesses more than 7 years of experience as a corporate travel agent and event planner. She was also the lead agent in charge of the company's online reservation system and prior to that was in charge of the clients executive ground transportation and concierge services. Since leaving the corporate travel industry Abby has worked as an Administrative Assistant at a non-profit music school in South

Jersey. There Abby has been able to hone her skills administratively and has also gained experience in fund-raising and increasing enrollment for the school.

Abby prides herself in her outstanding customer service, communication and attention to detail.

Abby currently resides in Collingswood New Jersey with her husband and two sons. Abby volunteers as a committee member of the Knight Park Playground Improvement Committee in Collingswood and with various community projects through her church and her son's school.

Please join the Board in welcoming Abby to NAEP.

**Contact information for Abby Murray:**  
**Phone: 856-470-4521 Fax: 856-210-1619**  
**[naepmbrsvcs@bowermanagementservices.com](mailto:naepmbrsvcs@bowermanagementservices.com)**



## President's Letter

*Continued from page 1*

Report distributed yearly to the largest federal agency audience possible. This past year's NEPA Annual Report is available to members on our website [www.naep.org](http://www.naep.org). The fourth collaborative initiative between NAEP and CEQ focuses on the fine work our other national committees and working groups are accomplishing, as one example the Energy and Environmental Policy Committee (E2P) chaired by Judith Charles. CEQ's keen interest to remain in touch with the Chairs of these national committees and WGs is so CEQ can have access to the top professionals in the fields of NEPA, energy, sustainability, transportation and environmental policy whose research interests and focus may synchronize with CEQ and their federal initiatives.

It is professionally satisfying for me as President of NAEP to realize this reconnection and collaboration with CEQ as NAEP has over many years enjoyed a positive and productive relationship with CEQ. This long-standing relationship confirms that NAEP is the go-to association for unbiased, objective environmental information and cutting-edge, environmental excellence in the professions.

You will see in this newsletter that I had the distinct pleasure of signing the NAEP Chapter Affiliation Agreement with the Florida Association of Environmental Professionals (FAEP). Florida, with eight local chapters within the state, is one of our largest, most active and formidable chapters. Every local chapter in Florida has monthly events and FAEP has now launched an annual conference of their own for all professionals in the state. I have had the opportunity to attend monthly local chapter events in Florida and the activities and endeavors environmental professionals undertake in Florida are applicable nationwide and provide a learning opportunity for us all. This is why in the Spirit White Paper for the Affiliation Agreement I articulated that it is

NAEP's belief that together we are stronger and that strong friendships and affiliations begin with the belief that each individual, and in our case each NAEP member and Chapter member, will find value in our professional interactions, our connectedness and our mutual interests.

Several chapters have now signed the new Affiliation Agreement and we expect many more to sign in the coming two months. It's an exciting time. The Affiliation Agreement is intended to support a stronger and more mutually-beneficial relationship between NAEP and the Chapters and it is happening. The Agreement is the means whereby we start a new journey together; a journey we are confident will result in increased benefits to every member at every level of the Association and Chapters. I believe we all benefit from the additional interactions because we become better informed as environmental professionals and lead more enhanced career lives. Leadership begins with how we shape and create our future and the future of those we lead. We are all leaders, so let's lead the way. Just this week I talked with leaders and members of six NAEP chapters and while in Washington DC and Virginia spoke to Mid-Atlantic Region (MAREP) professionals on environmental ethics. We are bound together in the immediacy, the challenges and abundance of our professions. It is what compels us beyond well-meaning intentions, compel us to leave our desks and go out into the fields and the communities of our work, where through our leadership and actions our projects are fully realized within our care.

Ron Deverman, NAEP President



## Arizona Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

The Arizona Chapter of NAEP (AZAEP) serves environmental professionals in the state of Arizona. We typically meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:00 P.M. in central Phoenix or Tucson. Most meetings feature a speaker discussing current topics relevant to environmental professionals in Arizona. Upcoming events include:

- October 26 – Ali Fakhri, Principal, Sustainable Engineering Group and AZAEP Vice President, will speak on challenges to water resources sustainability, stormwater management, and rainwater harvesting. Please note that Dr. Laurie LaPat's talk will be rescheduled sometime in early 2011. (Sun Up Brewhouse, Phoenix)
- November 19 – AZAEP 3rd Annual Golf Tournament, at the Kokopelli Golf Club in beautiful Gilbert, Arizona. A portion of the proceeds from the tournament fund the AZAEP Future Environmental Professionals Scholarship. Sponsorships are available. For more information on how to participate, donate prizes, or become an event sponsor, contact Joe Pinto ([joepinto@mail.maricopa.gov](mailto:joepinto@mail.maricopa.gov)). Click here for a full information on the golf outing.
- November 23 – Sarah Rinkevich and Jesse Minor, PhD Candidates & AZAEP Scholarship Recipients, will speak about their research on Wolf Reintroduction and Native American Perspectives, and Fire Regimes in the Arizona Sky Islands. (Location TBD, Tucson)
- December 14 – AZAEP Holiday Party!

Please visit our website for more information, [www.azaep.org](http://www.azaep.org).



## California Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

By Roger Turner NAEP Liaison

The California Chapter has voted on the NAEP Affiliation Agreement, see update below. We have conducted our fall CEQA Basics Workshops. We are working on developing our draft budget for 2011. As a part of this effort the AEP Board held a Board Retreat on July 18, 2010 to evaluate and prioritize its Strategic Plan priorities. Various committees have updated their Action Plans to implement AEP's Strategic Plan. The budget has been challenging this year because there is less revenue to do all the activities our members want AEP to do. A very challenging time indeed! The AEP 2011 draft budget will be considered for approval at the November 13, 2011 Board meeting.

AEP conducted a proactive communication and outreach program during the past four months to discuss the NAEP Affiliation Agreement, member issues and provide answers on issues raised. Each member was given a copy of NAEP's Affiliation Agreement, the Sprit document and a paper discussing the agreement cost and benefits to AEP members. Also, various E-Blasts and President's reports were sent to members by Gene Talmadge, AEP President discussing points of concern and interest on the Affiliation Agreement. AEP recently conducted a vote of its members. The results are 158 – Yes, 23 – No, with 181 – Total votes (Approximately 11% of membership voting which is consistent with past elections and other membership voting). This means the vote was 87% in favor of the NAEP Affiliation. Gene Talmadge will bring the member vote to renew the California Chapter AEP Affiliation Agreement before the AEP Board at its November 13th Board meeting. He will be recommending approval to continue affiliation with NAEP! More after the vote.

AEP continues to work on membership issues with NAEP and ABCEP. Membership materials are made available to new potential members for greater exposure to AEP and NAEP. What do these two professional organizations represent? We intend to answer this question.

The AEP Conference for 2011 is well along in its planning. A venue has been picked in Monterey, California. A call for papers has been sent out and will be compiled in October 2011.

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## AEP Report

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This is a great opportunity to meet and greet and enjoy great presentations in the wonderful coastal setting of Monterey, California. We hope you can come to this great conference.

AEP has prepared a new Student Chapter Handbook. This handbook presents methods on the “how to” create and retain student chapters at our colleges and universities. It will assist chapters in organizing, establishing and running a student chapter. It is expected that this handbook will be quite valuable as a living document. It will continue to grow with additional experiences from all student chapters. AEP is making this document available to NAEP through NAEP’s Chapter Committee.

AEP continues redeveloping its web site. The new website is up and running and is changing weekly with improvements that make it more user friendly for our members. This is the go-to site for current information on chapter activities and historic documents. The website is more responsive and robust in capabilities for multitasking with features including membership renewals, conference and workshop registration capabilities. One new added feature is a searchable version of CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines. Another great feature includes a template that the Chapters can use for their own websites. This saves costs and time for not creating their own individual websites.

AEP implements much of its good work through committees. The committee’s are filled with volunteer members who work hard to develop great programs. These committees include:

- a. Emerging Issues – looks into the latest developing issues affecting the Environmental profession.
- b. Legislative – monitors and works with the California Legislature on the latest environmental law and policy issues.
- c. Membership – promotes and actively works on membership development and retention.
- d. Permanent Conference – works with current and future conference committee’s to develop AEP’s annual conferences.
- e. Website – Works to develop the latest website capabilities for AEP.
- f. Climate Change – works on GHG and Climate Change legislative and policy issues and drafts white papers.
- g. CEQA Workshops – develops the annual CEQA Workshops
- h. Financial Policies/Budget – Works on creating and updating AEP’s Financial Policies.
- i. Publications – Works on all the various publications for AEP including website articles
- j. Awards - Professional Recognition – Produces the annual Awards and Professional Recognition program at the annual conference.



## Florida Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

The Florida Association of Environmental Professionals ([www.FAEP-FL.org](http://www.FAEP-FL.org)) provides numerous monthly networking and educational sessions throughout the state via the Central ([www.CFAEP.org](http://www.CFAEP.org)), Northeast ([www.NEFAEP.org](http://www.NEFAEP.org)), Northwest, South ([www.SFAEP.org](http://www.SFAEP.org)), Southwest ([www.SWFAEP.org](http://www.SWFAEP.org)), Tallahassee, Tampa Bay ([www.TBAEP.org](http://www.TBAEP.org)), and Treasure Coast ([www.faepl-fl.org/TCC](http://www.faepl-fl.org/TCC)) Local Chapters. To see a list of upcoming events, please visit the local chapter website for your area, or visit the “Happenings” section on the FAEP website ([www.FAEP-FL.org](http://www.FAEP-FL.org)) for a full list of events throughout the state.

The FAEP Annual Conference, hosted by our South Chapter, will be held November 19th at the Florida International University Kovens Conference Center in Miami. The theme of the conference this year is Habitat Restoration. Please visit the South Chapter website ([www.SFAEP.org](http://www.SFAEP.org)) for additional information about the Annual Conference.

On October 15th, FAEP signed the latest NAEP Affiliation Agreement. The decision to sign the Affiliation Agreement was made at a special meeting of the FAEP Board of Directors and FAEP Local Chapter Representatives on August 20th. The FAEP was already a NAEP Affiliate, having previously signed an Affiliation Agreement on April 19, 2005. Though there was initially opposition to the financial contribution required by the new Chapter Affiliation Fee Schedule, many took the following into consideration:

1. NAEP needs additional financial support;
2. Unlike most national organizations, NAEP does not generate income by requiring every chapter member to also be a NAEP member, and the alternative decision to generate revenue by changing that requirement would likely cost more in lost FAEP membership dues than the than the cost of the annual affiliation fee;
3. The success of FAEP in attracting and retaining members is due in part to our affiliation with a national organization, and the loss of that affiliation would likely also cost more in

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## FAEP Report

*Continued from page 18*

lost membership dues and sponsorships than the cost of the annual affiliation fee;

4. The cost of reorganizing as an independent organization would include revising our bylaws, creating a new logo, and possibly re-incorporating FAEP and each local chapter under new names, which would also more than cost of the annual affiliation fee;
5. The annual affiliation fee can be readily offset by actively seeking additional chapter sponsorships; and
6. Nurturing the success of our profession will require national unity and collaboration.

The FAEP encourages all associations of environmental professionals to sign the NAEP Affiliation Agreement in support of our profession!

### FAEP Board of Directors

<b>President</b>	<b>Erik Neugaard, CEP</b> Reynolds, Smith and Hills, Inc.
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Kristin Bennett</b> Tetra Tech EC, Inc.
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Jeremy Sterk</b> Davidson Engineering, Inc.

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Mitigation Marketing, LLC

### Past President

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Faller, Davis & Associates, Inc.

### NAEP Representative

**Paul Looney**  
Volkert Environmental Group, Inc.

### Board Member

**Kathy Hale**  
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### South Chapter

**Jeff Marcus**  
C3TS

### Central Florida Chapter

**John Lesman**  
Bio-Tech Consulting, Inc.

### Northwest Chapter

**Jill Johnson**  
Geosyntec Consultants

### Southwest Chapter

**Matthew Miller**  
Southwest Florida Water Management District

### Northeast Chapter

**Ed Currie**  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

### Tampa Bay Chapter

**Greg Page**  
ARCADIS U.S., Inc.

### Treasure Coast Chapter

**Courtney Arena**  
Stanley Consultants, Inc.

## SFAEP/FAEP Habitat Restoration Annual Conference and Meeting

Koven's Conference Center  
FIU North Campus  
3000 NE 151st Street • Miami, Florida 33181

**Friday November 19, 2010**

8:30 AM to 5:00PM

Please visit our website at  
[www.sfaep.org](http://www.sfaep.org)

RSVP required by November 13, 2010  
[erik.neugaard@rsandh.com](mailto:erik.neugaard@rsandh.com)



## Georgia Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

The GAEP holds monthly meetings in either a social/networking environment, or as an educational event at Lunch. Our next Lunch and Learn event is scheduled for Wednesday November 3, 2010. Access our website for additional information, [www.gaep.org](http://www.gaep.org), or contact Chapter President Katherine Atteberry ([Katherine.Atteberry@jacobs.com](mailto:Katherine.Atteberry@jacobs.com)) or Chapter Representative Josh Earhart ([jeahart@edwards-pitman.com](mailto:jeahart@edwards-pitman.com)) for additional information and details.



## IAEP Illinois Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

On September 2, IAEP held its annual golf outing at White Deer Run Golf Course which was attended by 30 environmental professionals, a portion of the proceeds from the outing funds the monetary awards for our University student essay competition in the fall. Thanks to IAEP's chapter representative to NAEP Greg Merritt for planning the successful outing.

On September 18, 2010 IAEP and DePaul University co-hosted a Student Career Seminar at DePaul University's new science building that attracted a dozen students from DePaul, Northeastern Illinois University, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Oakton Community College.

Speakers included Dr. Chris Green from New Program Development at DePaul, IAEP Board Member Suzanne Wootton D'Souza, IAEP Board President Robert Sliwinski, Robbie Sliwinski (unrelated) (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) and even NAEP President Ron Deverman made a guest appearance. Dr. Green provided a summary of the new LEED certification programs available as continuing education at DePaul. Suzanne provided a review of her career from soil science to environmental sales and encouraged students to break out of their shell, become more adept at networking and establish a network of colleagues and friends. Ron Deverman provided promotion of the National Association, the benefits to students and critical tips through-out each presentation describing the benefits of various topics to the real world.

IAEP President Robert Sliwinski spoke at length on how to build an environmental career while still in school. The presentation was interactive = no sleeping students. Students were encouraged to join professional organizations, network at seminars and conferences, increase their involvement with volunteerism, pursue internships and take classes and seminars outside of school that

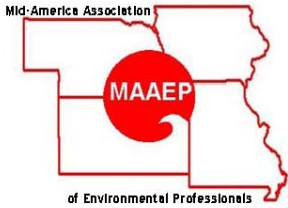


will set them apart from others. A premier example of a student that used this approach was our last speaker Robbie Sliwinski, botanist at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) who graduated from DePaul two years ago and showed students that with a keen interest in the environmental field he was able to find the right coincidences that contributed to landing two major internships, participation in additional education seminars and conferences, achievement of certifications and licenses that made him a top contender for a job at the USACE during this difficult economy.

This was a rewarding experience for both speakers and students. IAEP will be working to increase the size of the event for next year. IAEP would like to thank Dr. James Montgomery and Dr. Sarah Richardson at DePaul for organizing and catering this great event.

The IAEP Board is currently reviewing the Affiliation Agreement and planning the Fall seminar schedule. For more information on IAEP please visit [www.iaepnetwork.org](http://www.iaepnetwork.org).





## Mid-America Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

By Ed Bowers, Chapter President

President – Ed Bowers

Vice President – Kara Friedman

Secretary – Dave Kocour

NAEP Representative – Harold Draper

Board Members – Ken Johnson, Chris Wood, John Dunham

The Mid-America Association of Environmental Professionals (MAAEP) has been meeting monthly over lunch at Dos Hombres Mexican Restaurant in South Kansas City, Missouri. However, on October 25th the MAAEP met at the offices of URS Corporation, in Overland Park Kansas where Jeffrey Hardy of Missouri Department of Transportation provided a presentation on environmental issues related to the I-470 repairs during the summer of 2010.

The MAAEP board and officers recently renewed our Articles of Incorporation with the Missouri Secretary of State to reflect updates to the chapter that have occurred since its founding in 1992. We are also been working on updating the chapter bi-laws.

We have discussed ideas for a major chapter event for 2011. Our membership continues to grow and represent a wide range of environmental professionals from the region.



## Mid-Atlantic Region Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

Interest in MAREP is continuing to grow. Membership has more than doubled since the spring when we initiated our networking events and rolled out our website - <http://www.marepweb.org/>. We are actively updating content and soliciting contributions from the membership.

While other groups take a summer break, MAREP decided to power through and hold networking events in June, July, and August to keep interest strong.

On July 22, MAREP met at the Green Turtle in Columbia, Maryland for a purely social networking event. There was a good turn out with prospective members from the Baltimore and Annapolis areas.

On August 26, MAREP met at the newly opened Mason Inn at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. Members of the development team gave a brief talk on the sustainable infrastructure of the facility and then led the group on an informative tour of the LEED Certified Building. The technologies used to incorporate sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, and indoor environmental quality into the design and construction of the Mason Inn were examined. These green enhancements allowed the facility to achieve LEED Silver certification.



On September 23, MAREP met again in the Columbia, MD area at the Union Jack Restaurant. A still larger turn out gathered to hear a presentation by author Ned Tillman. Ned has served as chair of the County Environmental Sustainability Board, the

Howard County Conservancy, and the Maryland Geothermal Energy Commission. Mr. Tillman's award winning book, *The Chesapeake Bay Watershed: A Sense of Place and a Call to Action*, is



## MAREP Report

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a must read for mid-Atlantic environmental professionals. His book was the 2010 winner of the Excellence in Journalism Award by the Renewable Natural Resource Foundation of Bethesda, Maryland and the 2010 winner of the Best Book on Environmental and Natural Resources by The American Society for Public Administration.

Our next scheduled event is October 26th at the Hard Rock

Café in Fairfax, VA, where NEAP President Ron Deverman will be our guest and talk to the group about NAEP and its leadership in the practice and promotion of Environmental Ethics in the industry.

Currently we are planning our December Holiday Gala, which will also mark the anniversary of the first organizational meeting of MAREP.

We are also organizing our first half day seminar in May. We are in the early stages of planning, but if our past events are any indication, it is sure to be a success!



## Northwest Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

**W**e will be holding a talk on November 10th entitled, **Geothermal Power in Oregon: An insider's look at the Enhanced Geothermal System (EGS) Demonstration Project at the Newberry Volcano, Deschutes County, Oregon.** Will Osborn, Vice President of Project Management for AltaRock Energy, a renewable energy develop-

ment company focused on the research and development of Engineered Geothermal Systems (EGS) will be the speaker. For more details see the events page at [NWAEP.org](http://NWAEP.org).

For our September event, NWAEP hosted “speed networking” at the Lucky Lab in Portland. We had a good turn out and the feedback was that we should have a similar once a year.

Our October event was co-hosted by OAEP. Mike Rosen from the City of Portland gave a firsthand account of the program called **PDX 2 Gulf Coast**. Mike told us what the group of 22 Oregonians learned through one-on-one meetings with Gulf of Mexico neighbors, fisherman, scientists and responders impacted by the BP Oil Spill.

We are pulling together interested individuals from around the northwest to help plan the NAEP 2012 Portland conference. Our first conference call meeting was held October 11th. We are looking forward to working with NAEP to put together a great conference.



## Rocky Mountain Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

**T**he Rocky Mountain Association of Environmental Professionals (RMAEP) is a non-profit professional society of members in six western states: Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming.

- In August, RMAEP members had a fun, informative, and tasty tour of the New Belgium Brewery in Ft. Collins, Colorado with New Belgium's Sustainability Specialist, Katie Wallace. Among other things, the brewery recycles heat from their brew kettle, maximizes daylighting, and runs a cogeneration engine to produce heat and electricity using methane captured from wastewater. In 1999, New Belgium became the first wind powered brewery, and recently commissioned a 200 kW rooftop solar photovoltaic array.
- Envirofest 2010, held on September 16, was a great success! Everyone who attended the event had a great time visiting with our sponsors, networking, and listening to interesting presentations.

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## RMAEP Report

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RMAEP is very proud that Envirofest was a zero waste event for the third year in a row. All materials at the event were either composted or recycled. Additionally, RMAEP paid to offset three metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> to cover attendee transportation to and from Envirofest. We are so grateful for the speakers who took time out of their busy schedules to join us this year. A big thank you to Katy Piotrowski from Career Solutions Group, Mark Komp and Michelle May Reichmuth from EPA Region 8, Francisco Reina from Lightly Treading, Inc., Walter Avramenko from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and David Neslin from the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission. To show our appreciation, RMAEP is pleased to be offsetting a year's worth of carbon emissions for each of our speakers as well as a giving each speaker a year membership to RMAEP.

- For our October meeting, RMAEP partnered with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) for a stormwater permitting overview and a tour of CDOT's stormwater training facility. It was a pleasure to have NAEP

representatives Ron Deverman and Paul Looney join us for the meeting and talk to our members about NAEP and the upcoming National Conference in Denver this spring.

### RMAEP's upcoming events:

- November 10: Happy hour networking event with the Colorado Hazardous Waste Management Society (CHWMS). 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. at the Uptown Tavern located at 538 East 17th Avenue in Denver, Colorado. Visit [www.rmaep.org](http://www.rmaep.org) for more information or to RSVP.
- December: Member holiday party, date TBD.
- January: Annual member meeting, date TBD.

### NAEP 2011 Annual Conference Coming to Denver:

#### Seventh Generation Thinking: Learning from the Past - Planning for the Future

Sheraton Denver Downtown, April 26-29, 2011

Sponsorship and Exhibitor Opportunities are now available!

Please see the NAEP website for additional details: [www.naep.org](http://www.naep.org)



## Texas Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

- TAEP is preparing for the upcoming Environmental Challenges and Innovations Conference scheduled for February 2010. Please check our conference website for information regarding our call for abstracts and sessions, awards, exhibitor opportunities, and more: <http://www.taep.org/ECIC11/>.
- TAEP is updating our website, with the goal to provide

greater service to our membership. Our goal is to keep the user friendly layout that has served us well for many years, while updating some aspects of our services to be more efficient (such as event and information management) and develop the opportunity to expand some additional services as we continue to grow. We expect to complete the transition early in 2011.

- TAEP and our Young Environmental Professionals subgroup is looking forward to hosting our annual Holiday Social at the St. Arnold Brewing Company's new facility on December 9th!
- Our next luncheon meeting is November 18th at Brady's Landing Restaurant, featuring guest speaker Dr. Hanadi Rafai of the University of Houston giving a presentation titled: Dioxin and PCB Contamination in the Houston Ship Channel and Galveston Bay: Past, Present, and Future





## NEPA Annual Report Now Available Online to NAEP Members

In April 2010, the NEPA Working Group published the third National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Working Group Annual Report. The report provided a summary of activities conducted by the NEPA Working Group and of major NEPA-related issues during 2009. Of particular note for 2009 was passage and implementation of the American Revitalization and Recovery Act, also known as “the stimulus act,” which infused a great deal of Federal funding into projects. Our report brought together the activities of the NEPA Working Group with a retrospective view of NEPA documentation, regulation and court case summaries from 2009. Commentary considered the relationship between ARRA and the NEPA process. To download a copy of the report please visit [www.naep.org](http://www.naep.org) and log in as a member. If you need your login information please email [naep@naep.org](mailto:naep@naep.org).

## September 2010 Issue of *Environmental Practice* is Available Online

The September 2010 issue of *Environmental Practice*, the official NAEP journal, is now available online through the members-only section of the NAEP website. This is a great members-only benefit since members have access to the current and many past issues of the journal.

To access the online journal please visit [www.naep.org](http://www.naep.org) and login as an NAEP member. Once you are logged in go the member-only section at the bottom of the left hand menu bar. In the Quick Links section you will see “Environmental Practice Online”. Please click it and follow through to the Cambridge University website.

If you have misplaced your username and password or have questions regarding your membership status please follow the instructions below or call Abby Murray at 856-470-4521.

1. Go to website: [www.naep.org](http://www.naep.org)
2. Click on “Login” on the right hand side of the page.
3. Click on “Forgot your password?” in the middle of the log-in page.
4. Enter the email address associated with your NAEP membership and your username and password will be emailed to you.



## ABCEP Report

The ABCEP Board of Trustees met on October 15th in Denver. Each of our committees presented their annual work plans for projects that will advance our five-year strategic plan. Projects include revamping our website ([www.abcep.org](http://www.abcep.org)) to

allow on-line application for the CEP and CEP-IT certifications, increasing CEP to CEP communications through an e-commerce vehicle and increasing recognition of the CEP by States and companies. The Board also discussed our efforts to notify expired CEPs of the repercussions of this expiration including losing the ability to use the “CEP” credential in their professional activities.

Gary Kelman, President of ABCEP and elected member of NAEP’s Board of Directors, reported to the NAEP Board on the ongoing results of his appeal to the NAEP Board to apply for certification as a CEP. Several NAEP Board members have submitted their applications or are in the process of applying. Others have already received their CEPs. NAEP members who have reached the education, experience and responsibility levels required to attain the CEP credential are urged to apply NOW. Increased competition among environmental professionals for limited employment opportunities make advanced certifications, such as the CEP, necessary to set you apart from uncredentialed environmental professionals.

Any questions on ABCEP or the certification process can be found on our website or by e-mailing Gary Kelman at [ABCEPPrez@gmail.com](mailto:ABCEPPrez@gmail.com).



## Become a Certified Environmental Professional (CEP)

### OBTAIN THE RECOGNITION YOUR CAREER DESERVES:

- *Do you have an environmental certification? Good*
- + *Does this environmental certification measure your experience and depth of knowledge, not just facts? Yes*
- + *Does this environmental certification include an objective peer review of your abilities? Yes*
- + *Is your environmental certification accredited by a third-party certifying body? Yes*
- + *Then your environmental certification must be a CEP from The Academy of Board Certified Environmental Professionals (ABCEP).*



### Certification is available in five areas:

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

**B**eginning in 1979, experienced environmental professionals were able to become certified through a comprehensive peer review addressing years of experience, responsibility, and knowledge. Certifications are nationally-recognized and available for a wide range of eligible professionals including:

- Federal/state/local agency staff - Consultants - Researchers - Compliance managers
- Enforcement officials - Activists

Initially offered as a certification through the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP), the Academy of Board Certified Environmental Professionals (ABCEP) established organizational independence in 1993. In 1999 ABCEP became a non-profit organization. In 2005, the ABCEP achieved accreditation by the Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards (CESB – [www.cesb.org](http://www.cesb.org))

The ABCEP CEP brings heightened confidence in the professional quality of documents, evaluations, and decisions. Certified individuals satisfy the professional requirements outlined by the USEPA, ASTM, and other regulatory agencies, providing assurance to employers and customers. For the individual, certification increases opportunities for promotions, marketability, and career advancement. Certified individuals maintain their knowledge, experience, and credentials through continuing education, teaching, mentoring, publishing papers, and complying with the Code of Ethics.

**Become a CEP-IT:** The ABCEP offers mentoring and a CEP-In Training (CEP-IT) designation to junior and mid-level professionals developing towards CEP eligibility. The 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 Do you 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

## SEVENTH GENERATION THINKING vol. 13 no. 2

To coincide with the 2011 NAEP conference, the editorial office of *Environmental Practice* is currently soliciting manuscripts on the subject of Seventh Generation Thinking. Within this topic, manuscripts are welcome on a variety of topics of relevance to the environmental practitioner. Submissions for this issue are due by **November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010**.

## ENERGY vol. 13 no. 3

The editorial office of *Environmental Practice* is currently soliciting manuscripts for 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. Submissions for this issue are due by **February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011**.

**Submittals should be sent 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)

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