



Association of Environmental Authorities of New Jersey

Monday, April 8, 2024

Recognition Luncheon Features Wave Awards and EPDA Ceremony



AEA announced **Wave Awards** for six individuals and eight member organizations at its annual Recognition Luncheon in March. Congratulations to all those honored. They honorees:

Outstanding Commissioner

Mary Coutts of Hamilton Township MUA
Albert Jones, Cumberland County UA
Arthur Schmidt, Two Bridges SA
John Villapiano, Township of Ocean SA

Individual Achievement

Michael Dow, Bayshore RSA
Carolann Weisel, Bayshore RSA

Best Management Practices

Hanover Sewerage Authority
Musconetcong SA

Forward Thinking

Bayshore RSA
Camden County MUA
Hillsborough MUA
Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission
Two Rivers WRA

Energy Savers

Hanover Sewerage Authority

Public Education

Western Monmouth UA

At the Recognition Luncheon, 20 staff of AEA member organizations were honored for completing the AEA Environmental Professional Development Academy. EPDA Director Brian Valentino passed out certificates and accolades to the following individuals:

Atlantic City UA

Kevin O'Donnell

Evesham MUA

Richard Bock

Morgan Clark

Joe Clauss

Brendan Hirsh

Craig Moyer

Hamilton Twp. DWPC

Tony DeSilva

Lower Twp. MUA

Steve Pierce

Middletown Twp. SA

Evan Capuano

Jonathan Mannarino

Mount Holly MUA

James Lutes

Mount Laurel Twp. MUA

William Shaw

Ocean County UA

Eric Amato

Douglas McCombie

Christopher Winningham

Sussex County MUA

Timothy Day

Joseph Sesto

Twp. Of Ocean SA

Vinnie D'Esposito

Western Monmouth UA

Arthur Green
Michael Kane

Karen Burris, Bernard Bujak, Apryl Roach and Michael Ruppel were honored for their dedication to the EPDA program.

A big thank you to the speakers, attendees, and the following exhibitors: Colliers Engineering, Kuehne, CME Associates, Jersey Water Works, Mantis Innovation, Mott MacDonald, Trinity Consultants, and Suburban Consulting Engineers.

Registration for EPDA Open

Registration for the Environmental Professional Development Academy is now open for the 2024-25 cohort. Visit the AEA website, www.aeanj.org for more info. The administration track begins Wednesday May 22, 9am at the Western Monmouth UA.



PVSC General Counsel Urges Senators to Enact CERCLA Exemption

Michael Witt, Passaic Valley SC General Counsel and a member of the board of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (**NACWA**) called on Congress to create for water and wastewater systems statutory **protection against**

liability for PFAS chemicals pollution.

He testified before that Senate Environmental and Public Works Committee at a hearing entitled “Examining PFAS as a Hazardous Substance” on behalf of the Water Coalitions Against PFAS, a group of associations that includes NACWA. AEA is a member of NACWA.

He told the Senators: “Wastewater and drinking water agencies were literally created for environmental and public health protection. That’s our mission, and to help us do that, we want polluters to pay for PFAS remediation. Ironically, it is through the very act of providing clean and safe water to the public that utilities are exposed to CERCLA liability. **Utilities do not manufacture or profit from PFAS.** Industry did that, for decades.”

According to Witt, AEA members can best help with this effort by writing to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee expressing support for S.1430 and sending a letter to their Congressional reps. After that they should follow up with phone calls or meetings.

AEA has set up a folder with a model letter and Congressional delegation contact information. For access, please email the request to Karen, with “ **Model Letter**” in the subject line.

NJDEP Posts PFAS Sampling Template

The NJDEP has finalized and posted templates and information to be used for recording PFAS sampling data at <https://dep.nj.gov/dwq/pfas-data-collection/>. The PFAS Data Collection webpage is part of the effort to better understand PFAS sources. At last count, about 21 AEA wastewater members indicated they were voluntarily sampling or intended to begin doing so.

An AEA team developed a Work Plan wastewater utilities could follow to conduct the sampling and provide data to the NJDEP. AEA published the final Work Plan on last June. It includes a sampling schedule and protocols for influent, effluent, and residuals/sludge sampling duplicates and blanks, use of sample bottles and labeling, sample handling and custody, sample storage, and sample pickup or shipping. Group laboratory service pricing was also made available with the Work Plan.

The NJDEP has indicated a preference for sampling done under User Defined EPA Method 1633, which was finalized by the EPA in January.

PFAS Lawsuit Settlement Information



The following information was sent through AEA member firm AquaLaw:

A judge in South Carolina gave final approval on Friday, March 29 to the **3M PFAS Settlement**. This starts the clock on several important deadlines for drinking water utilities that accepted the settlement and chose not to opt out. May 3, 2024 is the effective date of the 3M Settlement. **July 2, 2024 is the final deadline** for Phase-One Class Members to file Phase-One Claims Form.

Phase One Members are water systems that have any documented PFAS in source water prior to June 2023.

These timelines could be paused if there is an appeal of the 3M Settlement. A settlement with another PFAS manufacturer, DuPont, was appealed, and it is considered highly likely that the same would occur in the 3M Settlement.

For more information and for claims forms, visit www.pfaswatersettlement.com.

AEA is happy to pass along to AquaLaw any questions members may have on these law suits.

April AEA Safety Committee Newsletter is Available

The latest edition of the AEA Safety Committee's monthly newsletter is

available [here](#). It features information about complying with OSHA fall protection regulations, with links to the OSHA guide to fall protection, the OSHA standard for working over water, and related information.

The newsletter also includes a reminder about managing allergies, mold, and air quality. There are links to NJ air quality standards and related information.

The AEA Safety Committee welcomes inquiries on safety and risk management matters.

At its quarterly online meetings, the committee discusses developments and challenges associated with safety and risk management. New members are welcome.

The next online meeting is scheduled for April 19 at 10 a.m. To join the meeting, contact Janette Kessler, chair, at JKessler@acua.com or Karen Burris, AEA office manager, at karen@aeanj.org.

Visit AEA's Career Center

Job listings for the public water / wastewater industry. AEA members may submit listings for free. [Check our job listings now](#).

NEWS LINKS

AEA gathers news relevant to our industry and archives it in one convenient place for you. [Go there now](#).

Association of Environmental Authorities | 2333 Whitehorse-Mercerville Road, Unit 2, Mercerville, NJ 08619 | (609) 584-1877 | [Join Us](#) | <https://www.aeanj.org/>



Association of Environmental Authorities | 2333 Whitehorse-Mercerville Road Unit 2 |
Mercerville, NJ 08619 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!