



Message from the President

As we all patiently wait for the inevitable spring thaw that everyone keeps promising us is right around the corner, I was elated to finally see the first blossoms on the peach tree outside my backdoor on Sunday. And then we had another round of snow and ice, yet another insult from the already long overstayed winter season—I was sure the blooms were done. However this afternoon when I came home after work, I saw the flowers opening once again and the tree is promising some delicious fruit, just as it always has.

Much like this seemingly never-ending winter season, our environment in Virginia and surrounding states has sustained highly publicized rounds of ‘insults’ over the past several months. Ranging from chemical spills in West Virginia that

affected the drinking water for 300,000 people in nine counties, to the spillage of coal ash into the Dan River from a storage pond in North Carolina, and even finding tetrachloroethylene (dry-cleaner chemical) in Sandston ground water—the true resilience of these environmental systems is being put to the test.

VEHA recognizes the importance of sharing these events with you and providing a forum to learn from each other and our various communities of practice. To this end, the Board has put together an impressive agenda (inside) for the Spring Educational Session scheduled for Friday, April 18 on the Germanna Community College Center for Workforce & Community Education campus located at 10000 Germanna Point Drive in Fredericksburg.

Regardless of your environmental health focus, this session will reconnect you with the basic tenets of our discipline—the science & practice of preventing human injury and illness and promoting well-being by identifying and evaluating environmental sources and hazardous agents, and limiting exposures to hazardous physical, chemical, and biological agents in air, water, soil, food and other environmental media or settings that may adversely affect human health

I look forward to seeing you in Fredericksburg in a few weeks!

-Respectfully,
Chris Gordon
President, VEHA

Professional Advancement

Catherine Cummins, REHS—VP for Professional Advancement

VEHA Educational Scholarship: An annual spring activity for VEHA is to select an undergraduate or graduate student to receive a scholarship to assist with tuition and books. To be eligible, the applicant must be a Virginia resident and enrolled in a program to study in the field of environmental health. The 2013 recipient was Megan Card, who has since completed her studies at Old Dominion University and is currently working as an Environmental Health Specialist with the Chesapeake Health Department. In the current cycle we have actively solicited applications and will be announcing the winner at the Spring Educational session!

Environmental Health Professional of the Year: Each year during our fall educational session VEHA awards this recognition to an environmental health professional. The 2013 recipient of this award was Lombe Scott Honaker, Environmental Health Manager for the Mount Rogers Health District. We are again soliciting nominations from the field for this award, with a deadline of August 15, 2014.

VEHA's membership includes a host of exceptional professionals who are deserving of this recognition, so please consider teaming up with a co-worker in nominating a colleague for this award. To be eligible for the EH Professional of the Year Award, a nominee must:

1. Be a member in good standing of the Virginia Environmental Health Association.
2. Be actively engaged in the field of environmental health.
3. Have performed professional duties in the field of environmental health above and beyond the usual employment requirements so as to elevate the professional status of the environmental health professional.
4. Exemplify the characteristics and principles for which this profession demands.

A. Clarke Slaymaker Award: VEHA last named an individual for the A. Clarke Slaymaker Award in 2011. Please consider the importance of acknowledging an individual who has contributed to the field of environmental health. Nominations can only be made by a VEHA member, or members, in good standing with the organization. The deadline for this award will also be August 15, 2014. To be eligible the individual must meet the following two parameters:

1. NOT be employed as an Environmental Health Professional.
2. NOT be actively engaged in the field of environmental health, but has provided outstanding support to the profession of Environmental Health, and the EH programs in the Commonwealth of Virginia.



2014 SPRING EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP

April 18, 2014

Germanna Community College - Fredericksburg Campus
 Center for Workforce and Education Building
 10000 Germanna Point Dr, Fredericksburg, VA 22408
 (540) 891-3000 - germanna.edu

- 8:00 -- 8:45 AM General Workshop Registration
- 8:45 -- 9:00 AM Opening Remarks - Chris Gordon, VEHA President
 Presentation of NEHA's Certificate of Merit
- 9:00 -- 9:45 AM *Advancing the Practice – National EH Perspective*
 Bob Custard, REHS, Virginia Department of Health
- 9:45 -- 10:30 AM *Radon Risk in Virginia*
 Ryan Paris, Radiation Safety Specialist & Radon Coordinator
 Virginia Department of Health
- 10:30--10:45 AM **BREAK** (break out into separate tracks)
- 10:45 -- 11:45 *Dan River Coal Ash Spill*
 Office of Drinking Water

11:45-1:00PM LUNCH – On your own

Food Protection/General EH

- 1:00 – 2:00 PM *Dumpster Diving Case*
 Paula Vile, VDACS
- 2:00--3:00 PM *Virginia's Farmstead Cheese Program*
 Carolyn Peterson, VDACS
- 3:00-3:15 PM **BREAK**
- 3:15 – 4:30 PM *National Framework for Outdoor
 Cooking/Mobile Units*
 Catherine Cummins, REHS

Onsite Sewage and Water

- Wastewater Re-Use Project*
 Teresa Connor
 Water Environment Research Foundation
- Decentralized Wastewater Management*
 Victor D'Amato, P.E., Senior Engineer, Tetra Tech
- BREAK**
- The "Living Machine"*
 Nate Nickerson, P.E., Environmental Engineer,
 Living Machine Systems

For planning purposes, please pre-register at amy.pemberton@virginiaEHA.org, and let me know which afternoon track you prefer to participate in.

Workshop Fee: Member Registration \$40 Non Member Registration (includes membership) \$60
 Payment is due at sign-in. (please pay by check or bring exact currency)

6 Hours CPE for DPOR OSE licensure awarded by VEHA for attendance. In addition, the Germanna Community College will be available for registration to assist those attendees who are interested in receiving official CEU from the college system (no additional cost).

Advancing the Profession

VEHA Representing Environmental Health



Private Well Program Improvement Workgroup

Tammy Faulkner—Capital Area Delegate

The purpose of this workgroup is to develop a uniform permit package for private wells, develop training to address compliance issues across the Commonwealth, and provide language to update current policy. The workgroup is looking to improve the end-user usage of combined well/sewage permit packages, especially in relation to alternative systems. Finally, the workgroup is currently looking at Class IV wells used to provide drinking water for cows, the requirement for water samples, and whether any changes to the regulations need to be proposed for consideration.

Virginia Food Safety Task Force

Catherine Cummins—VP Professional Advancement



The Task Force met on January 29 to plan for 2014 activities. As part of the meeting, a presentation was given by Paula Vile with the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, regarding an investigation of an individual who was conducting retail sales of meats and other foods recovered through dumpster diving. Paula will be giving this very interesting presentation during the VEHA educational session on April 18.



Legislative Update—2014 General Assembly Session

David Fridley—Secretary

This year, there were a total of nine bills introduced that bear directly on the field of Environmental Health. A brief description of the bill's impact and status is provided for your review below.

- **HB409** Requires the Department of Health to convene a work group consisting of representatives from the Department, DPOR, private sector engineering and design firms and other interested stakeholders identified by the Department to (i) identify services related to the design of onsite septic systems offered by the Department in inappropriate competition with the private sector, (ii) define the role of the Department to avoid inappropriate direct competition, (iii) develop a plan to wind up such services offered by the Department, and (iv) identify any necessary legislative or regulatory changes to implement the plan.

Status: Left in committee

- **HB674** Water supplies and waterworks; defines human consumption; defined human consumption as drinking, food preparation, dishwashing, bathing, showering, hand washing, teeth brushing, and maintaining oral hygiene.
Status: Passed GA, under review by Governor
- **HB1177** Adds the County of Bedford to the list of localities, the governing bodies of which may establish reasonable testing requirements to determine compliance with existing drinking water quality standards prior to the issuance of building permits.
Status: Passed GA, under review by Governor
- **SB31** Requires the Board of Health, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Quality and other entities, to establish a program certifying that a building that was previously a methamphetamine manufacturing site is at or below the post cleanup target. Current law requires the convicted person to pay cleanup costs.
Status: Passed GA, under review by Governor
- **HB135** Allows the sale of food products by a farm operation employing 10 or fewer people or by a private home, so long as (i) the sale is made directly to consumers and (ii) the product is labeled with the producer's name and address, the product's ingredients, and a disclosure statement indicating the product is not subject to Virginia's food safety laws or regulations.
Status: Withdrawn
- **SB547** Requires the holder of a permit for conducting uranium activities to contact those property owners who have wells located within 750 feet of the exploration activity and, with the owners' consent, to periodically sample their water supply.
Status: Continued to 2015 session
- **HB1217** Provides that any locality, allowing owners of on-site sewage treatment systems to submit documentation in lieu of proof of septic tank pump-out, shall require that documentation be certified by a licensed or certified on-site sewage system operator or soil evaluator
Status: Approved by Governor—effective 7/1/2014
- **SB657** Directs DPOR to extend, one time, interim licenses as an alternative onsite sewage system installer when an individual applies to take the examination for an alternative installer license. The extension would be valid until the individual receives a passing score on the examination required or for a period of six months, whichever occurs sooner
Status: Passed GA, under review by Governor
- **SB176** Allows the sale of food products made from any fruit, grain, herbs, honey, meat, milk, mushrooms, nuts, poultry, seafood, or vegetables by a farm operation employing 10 or fewer people or by a private home, so long as (i) the sale is made directly to consumers and (ii) the product is labeled with the producer's name and address, the product's ingredients, and a disclosure statement indicating the product is not subject to Virginia's food safety laws or regulations.
Status: Withdrawn at request of patron



AEHAP

ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

March 13, 2014

Dear NEHA Affiliate,

Isoken Tito Aighevi
President
Benedict College

Michael Fletcher
President-Elect
Missouri Southern State
University

Gary Brown
Immediate Past-President
Eastern Kentucky
University

David Gilkey
Treasurer
Colorado State University

Michael Kennedy
Board Member
Missouri Southern State
University

Phil Kneller
Board Member
Western Carolina
University

Jason Marion
Board Member
Eastern Kentucky
University

Thomas Hatfield
Ex Officio Member
National Environmental
Health Science and
Protection Accreditation
Council

Chuck Treser
Ex Officio Member
Principal Investigator
CDC Cooperative
Agreement

Staff

Yalonda Sindé
Executive Director

Kathryn Mataya
Project Coordinator

The Association of Environmental Health Academic Programs (AEHAP) is a non-profit organization founded in 1999 in response to a national shortage of qualified environmental health professionals. Our mission is to enhance environmental health education to assure the optimal health of people and the environment. AEHAP achieves our mission by promoting and supporting undergraduate and graduate environmental health degree programs accredited by the National Environmental Health Science and Protection Accreditation Council (EHAC) and by supporting programs seeking EHAC accreditation.

As the National Environmental Health Association's (NEHA) Affiliated Organizational member representing the NEHA members in your state, AEHAP is asking for your help in linking AEHAP graduates with mentors and potential employers in the field of environmental health. We are asking if you would serve as a liaison for us to inform students of opportunities to participate in your affiliate meetings, conferences or other events where students and graduates can network with environmental health professionals.

By supporting AEHAP graduates and students, you are ensuring the development of the future environmental health workforce. All NEHA regions have at least one EHAC accredited degree program in close proximity so it should be easy to link students and graduates with opportunities to meet your members.

If you are interested, we just need to hear from you. By serving as a liaison/mentor you are agreeing to serve as a host to our students and graduates and you'd be sending us information about your upcoming meetings and events. AEHAP will serve as a communication base for this effort. We will send out the invitation to your meetings/events and interested students will contact us. We will then send you a list of interested students so you can arrange for them to meet with you before attending. This will help students and graduates feel more comfortable meeting potential employers and other mentors in the field.

If you have any questions please contact Executive Director, Yalonda Sindé at info@aehap.org or 206.522.5272 ext #2. We look forward to hearing from you and we hope that we can build a strong partnership between Affiliated Organizational members and those accredited universities in your region or state.

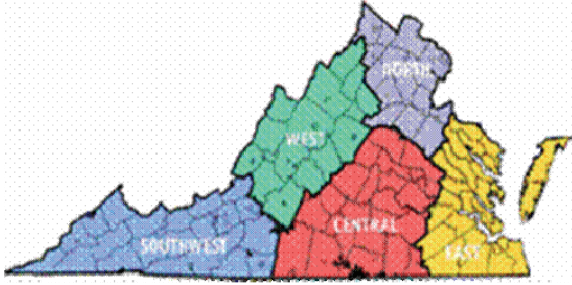
Sincerely,

Yalonda Sindé, Executive Director

4500 9th Avenue NE Suite 394, Seattle, WA 98105
206-522-5272 FAX: 206-985-9805
www.aehap.org email: info@aehap.org

Virginia Environmental Health Association

109 Governor Street
Richmond, VA 23219



Virginia Environmental Health Association

www.virginiaeha.org



Save-the Date!

Fall Educational Session

10/17/14

Henrico Training Center

VEHA Membership Application

Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____
Telephone: (H) () _____ (W) () _____
Email Address: _____

Employment: _____ Government _____ Academia _____ Student

_____ Industry _____ AOSE/CPSS _____ Retired

Employer (or University if student): _____

Any relevant credentials: (ie., REHS, CPSS, CFSP, etc.) _____

Please check the class of VEHA Membership you wish to apply for:

_____ **Active** Any person, who is employed in the field of Environmental Health, has had and maintains an interest in Environmental Health, has retired from service in Environmental Health, and/or who is employed in a responsible position in an enterprise serving or directly related to Environmental Health..
Annual Dues: \$20.00

_____ **Student** Any full time student working towards a degree in Environmental Health or a related field. **Annual Dues: \$5.00**

_____ **Sustaining** Any company, corporation or association of such firms with a general interest in and desire to contribute to the objectives of the association.
Annual Dues: \$100.00

Mail to David Wachsmann, 12312 Washington Highway, Ashland VA 23005