



## TAMPA BAY ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS

WWW.TBAEP.ORG

### 2006 FAEP YEAR IN REVIEW

After compiling the information from each of FAEP's local chapters, it is apparent that we are fulfilling one of our primary goals, education. The rather large collection of information is attached to this month's email. It is interesting to note that in May of last year, every chapter had a meeting. March and September were big months as well. Tallahassee is a newly formed chapter that is working hard to provide programs for the members. Under Curtis Watkin's leadership, that effort will continue to prosper.

The monthly topics of TBAEP were similar to many of the other chapters in that the meetings covered both physical and natural sciences, included presentations from regulatory agency representatives, some lessons learned topics, and the latest technologies were presented. Some of the more popular events were the field events including Treasure Coast's turtle walk on Juno Beach and the wetland delineation workshop sponsored by the Central Florida chapter.

As a member of FAEP, you can attend other chapter meetings for the member rate. Most of the chapters have up-to-date websites that list the meetings and give information about registration. Based on our monthly FAEP board meetings (held by conference calls) it is evident the chapter meetings with the best turnout are lunch meetings. The leadership of TBAEP has recognized the same trend with our meetings.

As a service to our members, starting in February, TBAEP will include a column in our monthly newsletter that will provide meeting information for other local chapters within the state.

The TBAEP Board of Directors will be holding its annual retreat on January 6<sup>th</sup> to plan the upcoming programs, discuss membership driving, finalize our plans for the 2007 NAEP conference, approve the 2007 budget, and discuss upgrading our involvement with students.

Another topic of discussion will involve our leadership succession plan. The strength of any organization is rooted in the ability to maintain a group of dedicated individuals who cultivate new members that will lead in the future. We are actively seeking new board members and will formulate the plan to assure TBAEP's continued success.

### JANUARY 2007

#### Mark your Calendar!

#### Upcoming Meetings:

- **Jan. 18 - 5:30 PM**

**Happy Hour at Kahuna's Bar & Grill - the only beach bar not on the beach**

- **Jan. 19 - 8AM-5PM**

**Wetlands Workshop**

*David Melvin*

**Weedon Island Educational Center**

- **Feb. 21 - Luncheon**

**Florida Aquarium**

- **Mar. 21 - Luncheon**

**Joint luncheon with ASCE**

- **April 18 - Luncheon**

**EpiCenter at ICOT**

## NAEP

### 32ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Environmental Leadership:  
Science, Education, Alliances  
April 22-25, 2007 Orlando, FL

Go to: [www.naep.org](http://www.naep.org)



## Sinclair Tulsa Refining Company. Two Managers Plead Guilty to Felony Pollution Charges

Sinclair Tulsa Refining Company has pleaded guilty to two felony counts of deliberately manipulating wastewater discharges at its Tulsa Refinery in violation of the Clean Water Act (CWA). In addition, two company managers, Harmon Connell and John Kapura, have each pleaded guilty to one felony count of violating the CWA by manipulating discharges into waters of the US.

The company, a subsidiary of major oil and gasoline producer Sinclair Oil, and the managers admitted to knowingly manipulating the refinery processes, wastewater flows, and wastewater discharges to result in unrepresentative wastewater samplings during mandatory testing required under the CWA. The manipulated samplings were intended to influence analytical testing results reported to the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

"Sinclair had the capability to comply with environmental regulations, but chose to violate federal law simply to save money. The defendants viewed repeated violations as nothing more than 'doing business,'" said Granta Y. Nakayama, EPA's assistant administrator for Enforcement and Compliance Assurance.

Under the agreement, Sinclair has agreed to pay a criminal penalty of \$5 million and a community service payment of \$500,000 to be paid into an environmental fund, to be identified at a later date. Connell and Kapura each face a maximum penalty of three years in prison, up to a term of one year of supervised release, and a penalty to be determined by the court. Sentencing is scheduled for April 2, 2007.

More information on the Sinclair action on the U.S. Dept. of Justice Web site:  
[http://www.usdoj.gov/opa/pr/2006/December/06\\_enrd\\_832.html](http://www.usdoj.gov/opa/pr/2006/December/06_enrd_832.html)

EPA News Release

## EPA Makes Fuel Economy Estimates Stick

To provide American consumers with improved information when shopping for cars and trucks, EPA is issuing new methods to determine the MPG estimates that appear on new vehicle window stickers. The new standards will take effect for model year 2008 vehicles, which may be available for sale as soon as next month. EPA's new methods bring MPG estimates closer to consumers' actual fuel use, by including factors such as high speeds, aggressive accelerations, air conditioning use and driving in cold temperatures. To more clearly convey fuel economy information to consumers, EPA is also enhancing the design and content of the window sticker. For the first time, EPA will be requiring fuel economy labeling of medium-duty vehicles, which are between 8,500 and 10,000 lbs., including large sport-utility vehicles and vans. Manufacturers will be required to port fuel economy labels on these vehicles beginning with the 2011 model year. For more information go to:

[www.epa.gov/fueleconomy](http://www.epa.gov/fueleconomy)

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Did you know that together we can achieve more? If every TBAEP member introduced the benefits and services of our association to a co-worker, colleague, friend or associate, we would double the resources available to meet the needs of **YOU**, our member. Not only financial resources, but human resources, our most important ones.

We'd like to welcome these new and renewing members to our organization:

**Phyllis Green**

## Employment Opportunities

Position	Employer	Exp.	Contact	Info.
Senior Biologist	EarthBalance-Davenport Office	5 yrs	<a href="mailto:Kburnett@earthbalance.com">Kburnett@earthbalance.com</a>	Permitting, Project Management

Go to <http://www.naep.affiniscape.com/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=48> for national internship opportunities.

Check out [www.eco.org](http://www.eco.org) for other Environmental Internship opportunities!

## Kids Fun!!!

### Test your WaterSense about Water Efficiency

*Which activity uses less water - a five minute shower or a full bath? How can you test whether your toilet has a leak? How much of the Earth's water is available for human use? The answers may surprise you as you take EPA's new interactive quiz. To take the quiz, players must maneuver the water-efficiency hero through the maze while avoiding water-wasting monsters such as Sogosaurus and Drainiac!*

For fun go to [www.epa.gov/watersense/water/test.htm](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/water/test.htm)

## Pasco County ELASC Meeting

### Schedule

January 10	New Port Richey
March 14	Dade City
May 9	New Port Richey
July 11	Dade City
September 12	New Port Richey
November 14	Dade City

## EPA Proposes to Broaden Categorical Exemptions from NEPA Review

On December 19<sup>th</sup>, EPA published a proposed rule that would administratively exempt a broad range of actions currently subject to review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The proposed rule would allow environmental "benchmarking," meaning reliance on existing environmental analysis rather than submission of entirely new information. The rule would also extend to actions that affect the environment of other countries or what EPA staff has termed the "global commons." NEPA requires federal agencies to take a "hard look" at the environmental consequences of proposed actions with a federal nexus. Congress statutorily exempted certain federal actions from NEPA. Even if they are not statutorily exempt, some actions may not be subject to either an EIS or EA if federal agencies adopt rules under which they "categorically exclude" from review actions that experience has indicated will not have significant environmental effects, individually or cumulatively. Implementation of EPA's proposed rule could be controversial and the agency says it is anticipating criticism from environmentalists over the expanded use of Categorical Exclusions (CEs). With this week's publication of the proposed rule in the Federal Register, the public comment period regarding EPA's newly proposed procedures has begun and the debate regarding the impacts of the expanded use of CEs and benchmarking now commences. For more details go to: <http://www.martenlaw.com/news/?20061220-nepa-review-exceptions>

From Marten Law Group Environmental News

### Florida Renewable Energy Technologies Grant Program

DEP received more than 180 grant proposals during Nov. and Dec. for the Renewable Energies Technologies Grant Program. Part of the 2006 Florida Energy Act, the program is designed to stimulate capital investment in the state and promote and enhance the statewide utilization of renewable energy technologies. DEP received 183 grant proposals seeking nearly \$215 million in grant funding and providing more than \$505 million in cost share for renewable energy projects. The proposals will be evaluated by the state based on a number of different criterion, including cost sharing percentage, economic development potential, energy efficiency and how the project fosters public awareness of renewable energy technologies. Grants will be awarded January 2007 at a maximum of \$2.5 million per project. From: Depnews

### New York Times Review of Saturn Vue Green Line and Mercury Mariner Hybrid

At the end of the summer, I took the Saturn VUE Green Line and Mercury Mariner Hybrid out for one-week test drives, on assignment for the New York Times. The reviews, as well as a journal of my mileage experiences, ran on Sunday, Nov. 19. Here are a few highlights from the reviews:

#### Saturn VUE Green Line: Green Bummer

<http://www.hybridcars.com/suvs-minivans/saturn-vue-green-line.html>

The mild-hybrid Saturn VUE Green Line is GM's first gas-electric vehicle, unless you count the company's ultra-mild hybrid pickup trucks. The hybrid field is starting to get crowded—there are now a dozen to choose from—so the pitch for the Saturn VUE Green Line is "the most affordable SUV hybrid." In other words, this VUE appeals to your inner accountant.

The numbers would impress any CPA. For \$22,995, the Green Line delivers an E.P.A. fuel economy rating of 27 mpg in town and 32 on the highway, which is the highest such rating for any sport utility. For comparison's sake, a gas-only VUE with 4-cylinder engine, front drive and automatic transmission is rated 22 in town, 27 on the highway. I drove the Green Line on two successive 78-mile highway loops, one well below the speed limit and a second in complete disregard of the 65 mph speed limit. As a saint, I achieved an impressive 36 mpg. As a sinner, my fuel economy dropped to 24. I have little doubt that a careful foot applied to the Green Line could regularly produce 30 mpg on the highway.

Were good mileage the only criterion for likeability, this review would be over. The problem, though, is that every automotive credit requires a debit, and accountants' fingerprints can be seen all over this VUE.

#### Mariner Hybrid: Eco Yet Macho

<http://www.hybridcars.com/suvs-minivans/mercury-mariner-hybrid-overview.html>

If the Saturn seems more driven by green-marketing imperatives than by driver satisfaction, GM's crosstown rival has come up with a hybrid SUV that really works, albeit one that costs some \$7,000 more.

The Mercury Mariner Hybrid combines the most robust gas-electric system available today—it will stay in electric mode longer than any competitor—with the body of a stylish yet rugged-looking sport utility. With its mix of digital-era sophistication and creature comforts, the Mariner Hybrid works so well that one wonders whether, if it had been more aggressively marketed since its debut in late 2004, it could have been the hit that the ailing Ford Motor Company so desperately needs.

from *The Hybrid Cars Newsletter*

## USF Career Center

**2007 Career Fair**  
**Thursday, February 22, 2007**  
**11AM - 3PM**  
**Located in the**  
**Campus Activities Center**

The Career Center Staff members work with students, faculty, and employers to provide a broad range of services. For employers, the Career Center staff is available to assist with your hiring needs and will partner with you to develop a strategy to reach the greatest number of our students.

## DOE Completes Its Five -Volume Series on Best Practices for Builders

DOE's Building America program released last week the fifth and final volume in its handbook series on regional best practices for builders and homebuyers. The new volume provides energy efficiency tips and outlines steps for builders in the marine climate zone to reach 30% energy savings in space heating and cooling and water heating. The marine climate zone is a narrow band on the west coast of North America that runs from the Canadian border south to the border between Ventura and Los Angeles counties in California. The handbook includes chapters for each member of the building team, including **homeowners, managers, marketers, site planners, designers, and site supervisors**. Real-life case studies highlight the energy efficiency efforts of builders in the marine climate zone.

The previous four volumes addressed best practices in **hot-humid climates**, hot-dry and mixed-dry climates, cold and very cold climates, and mixed-humid climates. See the [DOE press release](#) and download the handbooks from the [Building America Web site](#).

From: Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

## Don Petit Goes to Antarctica

Readers of Science@NASA may remember six fun months in 2002-03 when astronaut Don Pettit circled Earth on board the International Space Station (ISS). Don was the expedition's science officer - and more than that, he was infected with a mischievous sense of experimentation. In the shower, he assembled giant blobs of floating water. He spun them, inflated them with air, and made them vibrate in ways impossible in the water-squishing gravity of Earth. Physicists are still puzzling over some of the things he observed. In the lab, he built a "barn-door tracker" for cameras using odds and ends he found around the station. This device allowed him, essentially, to nullify the 17,000 mph motion of the station in order to take steady photos of cities, aurora borealis, stars and planets. The ISS became Don's personal Hubble.

Now, 4 years after the ISS, Don is about to serve up a new batch of experiments - this time from Antarctica. He calls them *Saturday Morning Science on Ice*. "We're on a bit of an adventure," explains Don. "I've joined a scientific expedition to Antarctica to hunt for meteorites. The name of the expedition is ANSMET, short for Antarctic Search for Meteorites, and it is funded by the National Science Foundation and operated by principal investigators from Case Western University. Due to a team member dropping out, Don was asked to go along. "I plan to continue my Saturday Morning Science that I started on the space station four years ago. I have a microscope, a centrifuge, cameras and other gear for all kinds of scientific investigations." The ANSMET team reached the ice fields of Antarctica's Grosvenor Mountains on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> where they set up camp. They'll spend six weeks there - plenty of time for discovery. Go to <http://science.nasa.gov> to read the details.

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

4 <sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON REMEDIATION OF CONTAMINATED SEDIMENTS	JAN 22-25	SAVANNAH	<a href="http://www.battelle.org/sedimentscon">www.battelle.org/sedimentscon</a>
NEW PARTNERS FOR SMART GROWTH	FEB 8-10	LOS ANGELES	<a href="http://WWW.NEWPARTNERS.ORG">WWW.NEWPARTNERS.ORG</a>
ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES AND INNOVATIONS CONFERENCE	FEB 15	HOUSTON	<a href="http://WWW.TAEP.ORG/TAEP/CONFERENCE/DEFAULT.ASPX">HTTP://WWW.TAEP.ORG/TAEP/CONFERENCE/DEFAULT.ASPX</a>
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOLID WASTE TECHNOLOGY & MANAGEMENT	MAR 18	PHILADELPHIA	<a href="http://www2.widener.edu/~sxx0004/call.html">www2.widener.edu/~sxx0004/call.html</a>
ENGINEERING SUSTAINABILITY 2007	APR 15-18	PITTSBURGH	<a href="http://www.engr.pitt.edu/msi/2007conference/confmain.htm">www.engr.pitt.edu/msi/2007conference/confmain.htm</a>
NAEP ANNUAL CONFERENCE	APR 22-25	ORLANDO	<a href="http://WWW.NAEP.ORG">WWW.NAEP.ORG</a>
INTERNATIONAL SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION SOCIETY-INVASIVE SPECIES SYMPOSIUM	JULY 21-25	TAMPA	<a href="http://WWW.SWCS.ORG">WWW.SWCS.ORG</a>

**TBAEP BOARD**

**President, Bruce Hasbrouck**  
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**Vice President, Heather Maggio**  
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**Treasurer, Bill Brammell**  
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**Secretary, Mike Lodato**  
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**Past President, George Feher**  
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**At-Large Member, Eric Hovland**  
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**At-Large Member, Mindy Hogan**  
Melinda.Hogan@sqj02.usace.army.mil

**TAMPA BAY ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS**

New Member?  Yes  No    Renewal?  Yes  No    Date \_\_\_\_\_

\$45 Chapter Membership *and* FAEP Membership     \$10 Student Chapter Membership

National Association of Environmental Professionals Membership (optional)

\$150 NAEP only Dues    (NAEP Member # \_\_\_\_\_)

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (w): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

CEP?  Yes  No

Jan newsletter

Employment:     Academic     Government     Private

Type of Work:     (1) Environmental Management     (2) Environmental Planning     (3) Environmental Compliance

(4) Biology-Botany, Ecology, Wildlife Management     (5) Engineering

(6) Law     (7) Environmental Consulting     (8) Other

Area of Expertise:     (10) Impact Assessment     (20) Design     (30) Permitting

(40) Monitoring/Analysis     (50) Teaching     (60) Research

(110) Waste Management     (120) Other

Degree(s)/Year \_\_\_\_\_ University \_\_\_\_\_

**AFFIRMATION:** I hereby affirm and agree that I will abide by the Code of Ethics of the Association. I further understand that falsification of the contents of this application will be grounds for rejection and/or termination of my Association membership and revocation of all benefits resulting there from.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Questions?  
Contact Teri Hasbrouck  
(Membership Services)  
at 727-464-7319  
THasbrouck@PinellasCounty.org

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Please make checks out to TBAEP