



Earth Day surprise

You never know what you might run into during the Department of Environmental Protection's annual Earth Day Celebration. These grade school students were taking turns holding a bullfrog at the Division of Water and Waste Management's display when the slippery critter briefly escaped their grasp.

Thankfully, the frog was corralled and all ended well. Close to 400 area students attended the Earth Day Celebration on April 20 outside the Clay Center in downtown Charleston. Event Coordinator Travis Cooper said the Clay Center will host the gathering again next year.

► **Story, more photos on Page 7**

Safety Committee has proven record

By Tom Aluise

Tammy Thornton has a pretty good idea when agency officials began talking seriously about organizing a safety committee for the Department of Environmental Protection.

"It kind of started when we were in Nitro," she said. "We got a call to shelter in place and everybody was like, 'What's a shelter in place?'"

The DEP's Safety Committee has come a long way since then.

Thornton, head of Safety and Loss Control for the DEP, has been the Safety Committee's chairman since 1998, four years after it formed. Today, the Committee is 24 DEP members strong and includes a representative from each agency field office.

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WV OASIS

Project to consolidate systems moving along

By June Casto

By now, you've probably heard about the State of West Virginia's project to consolidate all the agencies' administrative systems into one system.

This system is often referred to as an ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) and was actually named from recommendations made by employees. It is now called WV OASIS (Our Advanced Solution with

As with any new system, change will not come easily. But, we are very excited about the fact that all information regarding administrative processes will be housed in one system.

Integrated Systems).

OASIS will replace FIMS (Financial Information Management System), which houses all the information on the state's budget, payables, receivables, fixed assets, and purchasing cards.

It will also replace TEAM (Team Effort for Acquisition Management), which is the state's procurement system. It also replaces the Human Resources systems PIMS (Personnel information Management System)

and HRIS (Human Resources Information System) and EPICS (Electronic Payroll Information Control System), which house all of our personnel and payroll information.

On March 13, the leaders of this major project kicked it off at the Charleston Civic Center, providing all state agencies with information regarding the new system and the

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The DAQ's free tire pressure check drew two-wheelers in addition to automobiles. Tammy Mowrer offers some free popcorn to a visitor, while Mike Egnor checks his tires.

DAQ activities are part of special week

Division of Air Quality staffers stayed busy during their free tire pressure check, as part of National Air Quality Awareness Week, April 30 through May 4.

"We probably had triple what we normally have," said the DAQ's Gene Coccari. "We were swamped."

Coccari estimated that close to 55 cars — there was even a bicycle and tractor — pulled into the mall side of the Department of Environmental Protection headquarters, near the storage bay, on May 3 for the tire pressure check and fill, if necessary.

Proper tire inflation improves gas mileage, which is easier on the wallet.

In addition to the tire pressure check, as part of Air Quality Awareness Week, the DAQ had several energy efficient displays available in the headquarters' lobby and offered a quiz for DEP employees to answer and become eligible to win prizes. Seventy-one people took the quiz and were entered into a drawing. The winners were Jamie Anderson, Dennis Stottlemeyer and Jim Mason.



Far left, Megan Murphy explains one of the DAQ's energy efficiency displays to Janice Smithson, of the DWWM. Left, Mike Egnor (background) and Jay Fedezak stay busy checking tire pressures outside DEP headquarters.

DEP's Polen elected to national leadership post

By Tom Aluise

Dr. Terry Polen joked about his new position as the vice chairman of the national steering committee for Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs (SBEAPs) across the U.S.

"I don't think I'll get a crown or anything," said Polen, who works full-time as the Department of Environmental Protection's ombudsman, a job he's held since 2002.



Polen

Crown or no crown, Polen is excited about his new post, which he was elected to for two years. At the end of his term, he'll move into the chairman's role on the steering committee.

"This is another way that maybe West Virginia can get its voice out there in a stronger way," Polen said. "There's a home advantage here. It's a good way to make us, as a state, look better."

SBEAPs in each state provide technical, administrative and regulatory support for small businesses and serve as a liaison between regulatory agencies and small businesses.

In his role with the DEP, Polen helps businesses of all shapes and sizes understand complicated environmental laws and advises them on steps they must take to comply with those regulations.

The SBEAPs established a steering committee in the early

indepth

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*InDEPth is published monthly
by the Department of
Environmental Protection, an
affirmative action, equal
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New manager feels ‘right at home’

By Colleen O’Neill

Who would have thought starting a new job would be like going back to college and learning something totally new?

“There are seven different software programs that they pull from,” said Denise Truman, the DEP’s new Administrative Services manager in Human Resources.

Truman is filling the large shoes left by Melinda Campbell, who took another position in state government last December.

She is quickly learning the enormity of Human Resources, which touches every corner of the agency.

“It’s like taking a crash course of everything you learned in college, in one day,” said Truman, who is joined by Sue Taylor as HR’s newest hires.

Truman has her work cut out for her. She has to learn benefits, the budget, payroll,

“When I saw this posting on the Division of Personnel’s Web site, I knew I had to apply. The thought of working for a wonderful agency such as the DEP was ideal for me. The chance to work in teams, which is one of my strengths, excited me.”



— Denise Truman
Administrative Services Manager

Wellness, and leave.

Still, she is not discouraged.

“When I saw this posting on the Division of Personnel’s Web site, I knew I had to apply,” Truman said. “The thought of working for a wonderful agency such as the DEP, was ideal for me. The chance to work in teams, which is one of my strengths, excited me.”

Having more than a decade of supervisory

and administrative experience in her prior position, she is a good fit for her current role.

“I was employed with River Valley Child Development Services, working in the Connect Resource and Referral Program,” Truman said.

“I was hired in July 2000 as a case manager, became supervisor in 2001 and director in 2004.

“As the director, I was responsible for managing

and overseeing the annual \$1.7 million grant awarded program,” she said.

“This included supervising 24 staff members, planning and implementing the program’s budget, recruiting, interviewing and hiring new employees, evaluating staff members, reporting program performance measures, and so forth.”

River Valley Child Development Services helped families and early childhood care providers.

“I really enjoyed working at Connect Resource and Referral for the past 11 years,” Truman said. “It was a great opportunity to work in the early care and education field, making a difference in the lives of families and children.

“But it was time for a change, and although change can be scary, it can also be very rewarding. I’ve been here for a month, and already I feel right at home.”

‘Environment Matters’ out with third episode

Earth Day 2012 at the Clay Center, the state’s “green” schools and a Project WET Water Festival in Hurricane are among the topics covered in the latest episode of “Environment Matters.”

The third episode of the Department of Environmental Protection’s new television show is now airing on the Library Channel across the state.

It can also be viewed on YouTube by following these links:

- [Environment Matters Part 1](#)
- [Environment Matters Part 2](#)
- [Environment Matters Part 3](#)
- [Environment Matters Part 4](#)

“Environment Matters” airs on the Library Network on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. It also airs on Thursdays at 3:30 a.m. and on Saturdays at 3:30 p.m.

North Bend State Park set to host Youth Day

Hundreds of young people from across West Virginia are expected to attend the 49th annual state Youth Environmental Day on Saturday, May 19, at North Bend State Park in Cairo.

The popular event is sponsored by the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection’s Youth Environmental Program and several corporations, businesses and other organizations.

Following a night of camping at North Bend in Ritchie County, awards totaling more than \$11,000 will be presented during May 19’s Youth Environmental Awards ceremony.

Youth group members will receive awards for their participation in community environmental projects that include litter cleanups, recycling drives, school landscaping projects, tree planting, backyard composting, wildlife management, watershed protection and much more.

“The work these young people are doing is significant in creating a better environment through projects that produce communities that are cleaner and more beautiful places to grow up in,” said Diana Haid, coordinator for the Youth Environmental Program.

In addition to the awards ceremony, Youth Environmental Day will include exhibits, hiking, sporting events and other activities for participants and their families.

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH



Bernardo Garcia — March EOM

Garcia served as an intern for the Office of Oil and Gas for four months in 2008, working closely with the permitting staff to develop wastewater permits associated with coal bed methane development.

In March 2011, he was hired as an Environmental Resource Analyst in AML and quickly established himself as an asset to the program.

He is always looking for a better way to accomplish the task at hand and has improved the effectiveness of AML site evaluation by incorporating various Arc GIS technologies.

In November 2011, because of his knowledge and expertise with the OOG permitting process, he returned to assist a very short-handed OOG staff. His services were utilized until March 1, 2012 and were very much appreciated.



Pat Webb — April EOM

Webb's duties with the Division of Water and Waste Management — among many other things — include answering many calls each day with a variety of questions, some coming from irate citizens.

She has taken these calls for years, listened to the public, tried to help with their issues, and never once lost her cool. She is a patient listener, always remaining professional and considerate.

She is always willing to help. If another program is short-handed, she is quick to offer her assistance.

On at least five occasions, customers of the agency have called to inform Webb's boss of how appreciative they were for her assistance in resolving issues and what a pleasure she was to deal with. She has been a great asset to the agency and her upcoming retirement is going to leave the DWWM with some shoes that will be very difficult to fill.

PROJECT

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plan for implementation. Then the work began!

Folks in the Office of Administration have been extremely busy participating on committees as subject matter experts for the implementation of this new system.

Process decisions will have to be made that will affect all of state government.

As with any new system, change will not come easily. But, we are very excited about the fact that all information regarding administrative processes will be housed in one system.

What this means to us is that it will eliminate duplicate entry, storage, processing and reconciliation tasks; allow for real-time data updates, retrieval, and validation, which will improve the quality, quantity and timeliness of decision-making; reduce, and in some cases, eliminate paper; provide workflow processes; online inquiries; and provide web-enabled self-service for all state employees and vendors who do business with the state.

There will be more information provided throughout this process and it will be available to all employees at this Web site: www.wvoasis.gov.

The projected timelines for implementation of the new system are as follows:

- Core Finance and Procurement — Oct. 1, 2013
- Remaining Finance and Procurement and Transportation — April 1, 2014
- Human Resources and Payroll — Jan. 2, 2014
- Real Estate and Facilities — July 1, 2014

In Memory

John Damron, an inspector with the Division of Mining and Reclamation, died April 29 in Charleston. John, 30, came to work at the Department of Environmental Protection in 2005.

A Charleston resident, he worked for the DMR out of the Logan office, where he was passionate, enthusiastic and dedicated to his duties, said DMR Assistant Director Benny Campbell.

John is preceded in death by his parents, Robert A. and Carole Legg Damron.

John played college baseball at Oberlin (Ohio), where he graduated with a degree in environmental science.

More recently, he stayed busy playing softball in two leagues.

The family asks donations be made to: John Damron '04 #9 Memorial Scholarship, Oberlin College Office of Development, 50 W. Loraine St., Room 208, Oberlin, Ohio, 44074 or to:

American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 21903, Lexington, Ky., 40522.





Charleston police officers Jim Rinick (left) and Tracy Thompson took time to meet and answer questions from kids participating in this year's Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day at the Department of Environmental Protection.

Kids come to work

DEP continues tradition of participating in program

By Colleen O'Neill

"I ducked under the table when he shot the taser."

Tiffany Kersey, one of the young people who took part in the annual Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day on April 26 at the Department of Environmental Protection, was describing her favorite part of the day.

Charleston Police Officer Jim Rinick showed the kids his taser gun and fired a demonstration shot. Kersey is the daughter of Human Resources' employee David Kersey.

Two Charleston police officers, who patrol on bicycles, were the day's special guests.

"I liked the bike cop," said Brady Hanshaw, a sixth-grader at Sissonville Middle School.

He and twin sister, Bayli, are the children of Division of Air Quality employee Jesse Hanshaw.

The DEP welcomed 26 young people and shared its positive work environment and knowledge about protecting the environment with them.

Barbara Miles, from DEP's



DEP Cabinet Secretary Randy Huffman greeted the kids and answered questions in the Coopers Rock Training Room.

Office of Administration, coordinated the agency's involvement in this national celebration.

"DEP has been involved in bringing our youth to work to create an educational experience," Miles said. "This year, I wanted to let the children learn as much as possible about the DEP and what the agency does."

To accomplish this, the DEP had employees give presentations, show videos and use activities and crafts to illustrate what the agency does to protect the environment.

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Roll call

Here is the list of children and their sponsors who participated in the DEP's Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day on April 26.

Child/Sponsors

- ▶ Jacob Adkins/Jesse and Sandra Adkins
- ▶ Joseph Adkins/Jesse and Sandra Adkins
- ▶ Amanda Barber/Peter Costello
- ▶ Harlee Beasley/Sonya Fleming
- ▶ Mea Billups/Jason Billups
- ▶ Jaelyn Broyles/Steve Graley
- ▶ Molly Campbell/Pat Campbell
- ▶ Devlin Daugherty/Chris Daugherty
- ▶ Abigail Dye/Kevin Dye
- ▶ Marcus Fairchild/Scott Fairchild
- ▶ Bayli Hanshaw/Jesse Hanshaw
- ▶ Brady Hanshaw/Jesse Hanshaw
- ▶ Valerie Harrah/Renee Chapman
- ▶ Benjamin Hass/Judy Smith
- ▶ Megan Hass/Judy Smith
- ▶ Dylan Hodges/Teresa Weaver
- ▶ Brooke Keatley/Robert Keatley
- ▶ Tiffany Kersey/David Kersey
- ▶ Tabitha Kersey/David Kersey
- ▶ Lauren LeBoeuf/Natalie Paynter
- ▶ Jacob Lewis/Judy Smith
- ▶ Lleigh Lockhart/John Lockhart
- ▶ Delaney Monneypenny/John Monneypenny
- ▶ Ruth Odin/Chris Daugherty
- ▶ Aaron Ombler/Tonya Ombler
- ▶ Edward Paynter/Natalie Paynter



From left, Megan Hass, Delaney Money penny and Jaelyn Broyles concentrate on their tie dye efforts, as part of Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day at the DEP.

KIDS

Continued from Page 5

Among the presenters was Keith Carte, from the Office of Explosives and Blasting.

Carte showed the kids a video about blasting techniques for surface mines.

The Division of Water and Waste Management was represented by Project Wet Coordinator Kim Maxwell, who conducted educational activities.

There was also a presentation and craft from Diana Haid, director of the agency's Youth Environmental Program.

The Rehabilitation Environmental Action Plan program, represented by members Lisa Facemyer and Niki Davis, talked with the kids about the importance of recycling.

"We gave them shoelaces, made out of recycled soda bottles, and miniature slinkies, made out of recycled metal," Facemyer said. "We also had the kids make tie dye T-shirts."

At the end of the day, the kids received a goody bag.

"The children seemed to enjoy all the activities of the day and were pleased with their goody bags," Miles said.

The bags included pens, pencils, highlighters and notebooks for use at school, as well as crayons, coloring and activity books, stickers, miniature flashlights, and tote bags.

"After all is said and done, I certainly appreciated everyone who took time to help with the day's events and activities," Miles said.

POST

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1990s to speak on national issues with one voice. As vice chair, Polen will run national meetings and help set strategy for SBEAPs across the nation.

■ ■ ■

POLEN IS getting a lot of good news these days in his email inbox.

In addition to the honor from SBEAPs, Polen recently learned a portion of his doctoral dissertation will be presented during the International Conference on Environmental Science and Technology, sponsored by the American Academy of Sciences.

The event is scheduled for June 25-29 in Houston.

Polen's abstract entitled "A Gap and Delphi Analysis of Small Businesses and Environmental Assistance Programs" was accepted for platform (oral) presentation at the event.

Polen earned his doctorate in management from the University of Maryland in 2009.

Comments being accepted on list of impaired waters

The Department of Environmental Protection, under the authority of the federal Clean Water Act, Section 303(d) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Water Quality Planning and Management Regulations, 40 CFR Part 130.7, has developed a draft list of West Virginia's impaired streams and lakes.

An "impaired water" is a water body which, due to a pollutant or combination of pollutants, fails to meet state water quality standards.

By violating applicable water quality standards, impaired waters fail to support one or more of their designated uses, such as public drinking water supply, aquatic life propagation and maintenance, or contact recreation.

The DEP is required to update its list of impaired waters every two years.

The list, commonly known as the 303(d) List, is compiled from readily available information and serves as an inventory of waters for which Total Maximum Daily Loads must be developed.

In order to allow public participation in the listing process, the DEP established a public comment period beginning May 11, 2012 and ending June 11, 2012, during which interested parties may provide comments regarding the draft list.

Comments may be submitted by e-mail to Stephen.A.Young@wv.gov or via U.S. mail to:

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Water and Waste Management, 2012 303(d) List — Attn: Stephen A. Young, 601 57th Street, S.E., Charleston, WV 25304.

The draft 303(d) List has been posted on the DEP's Web site:

<http://www.dep.wv.gov/WWE/303d>

CDs of the 303(d) List may be obtained by contacting Young at (304) 926-0495, ext. 1042.

This is how it works...



Girl Scout Troop 4988 from Roane County paid a visit to DEP headquarters recently to learn about the "green" features of the building.

About 23 girls, grades kindergarten through high school, took a tour of the building and got a quick lesson from the Division of Water and Waste Management's Teresa Koon (above) on the rain garden that filters runoff from the DEP parking lot.

Earth Day



Left, Jeff Ginger from the DEP’s Division of Water and Waste Management hands over a bullfrog to a mesmerized student at the agency’s Earth Day Celebration. Right, a snake display put together by the DNR’s Jim Fregonara was a popular stop.

Earth Day gets kids thinking

By Tom Aluise

Close to 250 elementary school students officially signed up for the Department of Environmental Protection’s annual Earth Day Celebration at the Clay Center in downtown Charleston.

But more than 400 youngsters took part in the day’s activities, if you include the students who happened to be visiting inside the Clay Center on April 20 and decided to partake in the Earth Day event, said Travis Cooper.

Cooper, the DEP’s Make It Shine coordinator, also organizes the Earth Day gathering that has been at the Clay Center the past three years.

This year, area grade-schoolers were treated to educational displays that included live animals, fun games and interactive gadgets.

Earth Day DEP participants included the Division of Water and Waste Management; the Division of Air Quality; the Youth Environmental Program; the Office of Environmental Advocate; REAP; Homeland Security and Emergency Response; and the Solid Waste Management Board.

Teacher Liz Runion brought her students to Earth Day from Rock Branch Elementary School in Nitro.

She likes the way the event makes her students think outside the box. “Our students benefit because they are exposed to different ideas about the earth, and preserving it, that they might not have thought about before,” Runion said. “The alternative energy exhibit, the tire recycling,



Top, the DWM’s Kim Smith and Michael Whitman talk to students about pollution tolerant aquatic insects. Bottom left, Earth Day Coordinator Travis Cooper gets ready to welcome a group of students to the Clay Center. Bottom right, Dennis Stottlemeyer represents the DEP’s Office of Environmental Advocate.

the hazardous materials exhibit all gave them something new to think about.

“The students always enjoy holding the critters that are there, and playing the games that remind them about our environment and how to take care of it.”

Runion said her students’ visit

to the Earth Day celebration is part of a larger unit she uses in class to get them thinking about conserving, reusing, recycling, and reducing what they use.

“We participate in paper recycling at our school and our third-graders decided to be a part of the Audubon Society’s Pennies 4 the Planet Project this year.”



Earth Day tree planting

The Division of Mining and Reclamation’s Glenn McLernon looks on as students from Madison Middle and Nellis Elementary plant trees during an Earth Day event at Alpha Resources’ Black Castle Mine. Approximately 200 kids took part in the event and learned about the role mining plays in the state and the local area and the importance of protecting the environment.

Robot team does well at worlds

Mentored by a trio of Department of Environmental Protection employees, the Charleston Catholic High School robotics team finished 19th in its 64-team division at last month’s FIRST Tech Challenge World Championships in St. Louis.

With the help of DEP engineers Neil Chakrabarty, Mike Rowe and Laura Crowder, the team of high school students built its own robot for competition and qualified for the world event by finishing first in a regional tournament.

At St. Louis, Charleston Catholic’s team, called the Prototype Posse, won five of its eight matches.

► [To learn more, watch video](#)

Scoring was based on the robot’s ability to pick up balls and lift baskets, both autonomously and while being driver-controlled. Close to 30,000 participants and 600 teams from 32 countries participated in three different levels of FIRST world competition.

FIRST stands for “For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology.” It is a national program that strives to inspire youth to be leaders in science and technology and encourages mentor-based programs to build those skills.

SAFETY

Continued from Page 1

It meets once a month. According to its mission statement, “The DEP Safety Committee’s goal is to eliminate or control both known and potential safety and health hazards, which our employees face on the job.”

“We do trainings and safety inspections of facilities. We have drills and procedures in place for different

emergencies that can possibly happen in our facilities,” said Thornton, noting that the Safety Committee helps organize and monitor fire, bomb threat and lock down drills. “I know people think they’re a pain, but they mean we’re trained. It can save lives.”



Thornton

The Safety Committee can also save the agency money. “We save the agency in BRIM (West Virginia Board of Risk and Insurance Management) premiums,” Thornton said. “We will save the agency \$120,000 for fiscal year 2013.

“Both BRIM and Workers Comp look at the Safety Committee and see that we have a proactive approach.”

DEP Cabinet Secretary Randy Huffman has noticed. He stopped by the Safety Committee’s monthly meeting in April to show support and to thank the group for its work.

“The Safety Committee is often a thankless job with negative feedback, but it’s a very important job,” Huffman told committee members. “I see the numbers reducing in Workers Comp and insurance costs resulting from your work. Your work doesn’t go unnoticed.

“This committee saves lives, saves money and minimizes risks.”

And pleasing everyone, Huffman told the group, isn’t the goal.

“I learned that making everyone happy is not always the best for the whole,” Huffman said. “The same can be said for the Safety Committee. The Safety Committee is a leadership role and, at the end of the day, somebody has to do the right thing for the right reason.”

Said Thornton, “Sometimes I think people think we sit down here and make things up. I’ve had people say, ‘That’s the dumbest thing I’ve ever heard.’ A lot of times people who grumble about something will come back and say, ‘Hey, I realize now why we need it.’”

Thornton is continually trying to find new ways to help DEP employees stay safe. She’s gone from talking to utility companies about what they do to protect their employees from dog bites out in the field to picking the brains of chemical plant safety personnel about their programs.

Thornton even had the Department of Labor visit Special Reclamation sites and air monitoring sites throughout the state to make sure they’re safe for employees.

“Our employees are our most important asset. We don’t want them to miss time because they’re hurt,” Thornton said.

DEP retirements

Betty Hall
DMR
Last day: May 15
Years of service: 22

Carol Bunting
DMR
Last day: May 31
Years of service: 28

Elaine Ranson
Administration
Last day: May 31
Years of service: 35



ALL IN A DAY'S WORK

Environmental Enforcement inspectors Kevin Saunders and Tom Ferguson (now retired) were navigating the backroads of southern Wayne County investigating a complaint when they happened upon a strange sight.

“Although we had the name of the road we were trying to find, it quickly became clear that the area had a severe shortage of road signs,” Saunders said.

After getting some bad directions from a local, the pair was getting ready to resume its search for the hard-to-find address when Ferguson spotted something.

“Tom caught sight of something over the hill and told me to stop,” Saunders said. “We both looked over to see a large dog and deer relaxing next to one another in the sun by a small house.

“Another dog stood a short distance away, apparently unconcerned with the deer as well. It was an interesting scene and we thought it was worth preserving with a few pictures.”

Got an interesting photo from the field that you'd like to share? Send it to: Thomas.J.Aluise@wv.gov

Junior camp scheduled for June 18-22

The Department of Environmental Protection's Youth Environmental Program will be hosting the 32nd annual Junior Conservation Camp for young people, ages 11-14, from June 18-22, at Cedar Lakes Conference Center in Ripley.

The camp offers a wide variety of classes that focus on a sound environmental education.

Approximately 200 campers will learn how to conserve West Virginia's natural resources. They'll attend classes on subjects such as wildlife, archery, recycling, soil conservation, geocaching/orienteering, hunter safety, water study, forestry, fishing and more.

Camp assemblies will take place throughout the week and include guest speakers.

Employees from the DEP, DNR and Division of Forestry will serve as camp counselors and leaders, devoting their time with the camp schedule of classes, sports activities, assemblies and campfire programs.

The State Conservation Camp for youth ages 14-18 is scheduled for June 11-16 in Webster County. For more information visit: wvconservationcamp.com/

For more information on the Junior Conservation Camp, call Diana Haid at 304-926-0499, ext. 1114 or email diana.k.haid@wv.gov.

Annual Corporate Cup Recycle Sale May 22-23

The annual Recycle Sale to benefit the Department of Environmental Protection's Corporate Cup team is scheduled May 22-23.

The sale will run from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day in the Coopers Rock Training Room.

Every year, employees donate clothes, books and all sorts of household items to be sold at yard sale prices.

Those who would like to donate items should bring them to Room 2118 or contact either Tonya Phillips (ext. 1010); Dan Roberts (ext. 1210); Megan Smith (ext. 1281) or Misty Nichols (ext. 1584).

This year's Corporate Cup competition is scheduled from June 9 through June 30 and includes a new soccer event.

Other events include track and field; softball; horseshoes; volleyball; hoop shoot; bowling; tennis; billiards; table tennis; darts; swimming; closest to the pin; cornhole; and putt putt.

The DEP has won 10 consecutive Corporate Cup titles in Division III, competing against the Kanawha Valley's largest organizations. For more information about the events, contact Roberts.

New Additions

Recent DEP hires

- ▶ Denise Truman, Admin.
- ▶ Katherine Campbell, PIO
- ▶ Randolph Collins, DLR
- ▶ Paul Emerson, DMR
- ▶ Jeremy Hopson, DMR
- ▶ Sue Taylor, Admin.
- ▶ Aaron Tonkery, DWWM
- ▶ Chester Wright, DWWM

Make It Shine, Adopt-A-Highway

On the hunt for litter

Final numbers aren't in, but all indications are it was another successful spring for the DEP's Make It Shine and Adopt-A-Highway cleanup programs.

More than 5,000 volunteers registered for Make It Shine cleanups across West Virginia during the first two weeks of April. There were 138 projects on the books and at least one cleanup in each of the state's 55 counties.

Make It Shine Coordinator Travis Cooper said numbers were up this year.

The official Adopt-A-Highway cleanup, co-sponsored by the Division of Highways, was conducted statewide on April 28, with close to 4,800 volunteers in 54 counties participating, said AAH Coordinator Sherry Thaxton.

She said volunteer numbers were up slightly compared to last spring.

The AAH program has cleaned up close to 100,000 miles of West Virginia roadways since 1988.

DEP headquarters and the agency's Oak Hill office staged their own AAH cleanups around their buildings.

Close to 30 volunteers from DEP headquarters fanned out around Kanawha City and collected 55 bags of trash.



Employees from the Department of Environmental Protection's Charleston headquarters participated in an Adopt-A-Highway cleanup in Kanawha City on May 15.



Left, the DEP's Patrick Burch strolls down MacCorkle Avenue in search of litter. Right, DEP employees gear up for their trek for trash. They collected 55 bags of litter.



Students from Andrew Jackson Middle School in Cross Lanes participate annually in the Make It Shine Program by tidying up around their school.



The Plateau Action Network organized a Make It Shine Cleanup in a wetlands area between U.S. Route 19 and the Fayette Square Shopping Center. They had 18 volunteers turn out.