



It has been an exciting and very busy year for the New Jersey Chapter of the Society of Women Environmental Professionals! NJSWEP hosted a number of networking events, seminars, and, of course, the annual NJSWEP Gala, which honors an outstanding woman environmental professional in New Jersey with NJSWEP's Growing Great Women in the Garden State award. We also had several NJSWEP MetroNet events this year in New York City and Northern New Jersey. Here are the highlights from this year!

NJSWEP and BCONE: NJDEP Regulatory Update Seminar

On February 4, 2015, NJSWEP and BCONE co-hosted the return of NJSWEP's ever-popular NJDEP Regulatory Update in NJDEP's Public Hearing Room in Trenton, NJ. The list of distinguished speakers included the NJDEP Chief of Staff, as well as many of the NJDEP Assistant Commissioners. In this one-day workshop, we heard about NJDEP's priorities and plans, as well as the status of existing programs, updates, and proposed legislative changes that are key to the Department's programs. The event was a notable success with well over 100 people present.

So many people made this event a success, especially Stephanie Turkot (GeoCleanse), Riche Outlaw (NJDEP), and Colleen Kokas (NJDEP), whom we thank for their help. A summary of the event can be read by clicking on this [link](#). NJSWEP looks forward to putting the Regulatory Update back on our annual calendar and invites you to join us for the 2016 Regulatory Update on February 24th.

New Members Dinner and Annual Meeting

NJSWEP held our New Members Dinner & Annual Meeting on March 11th at Tre Piani in Princeton, New Jersey. We welcomed several new members, as well as introduced our existing members, officers and chairs. We expressed our gratitude to the outgoing Secretary Tali MacArthur and Treasurer Sharon McSwieney, as well as officially voted in our new co-Secretaries Ashley Fehn and Jullee Kim, and Treasurer Nicky Brice. In anticipation of another exciting and eventful year, we discussed the upcoming events NJSWEP is already working hard on to plan, as well as new ideas for types of events members would like planned for the future. The discussion benefited from the ideas and comments on NJSWEP's programming, as well as longer term goals and focuses, from both longstanding and new members, all dedicated to help continue NJSWEP's success and contribution to female professionals in the environmental

industry.

NJSWEP MetroNet Hiking Event

On May 2nd, NJSWEP's MetroNet hosted a hike and picnic lunch at the South Mountain Reservation in Millburn, NJ. Approximately 30 NJSWEP members, family, and friends came out to enjoy the fresh air and warm weather. Led by Dave Hogenauer of the South Mountain Conservancy, the hike included information regarding the park's flora and fauna as well as historically significant sites, including a bridge and dam built by the Civilian Conservation Corps. With such a positive response to MetroNet's first weekend, outdoor event, NJSWEP is excited to plan more for the future!

MetroNet caters to NJSWEP members and supporters alike in the North Jersey/New York Metro Area by providing networking, social, and educational opportunities in the Northeast portion of New Jersey and in New York City. If you have an idea for a future MetroNet event, or if your company is interested in sponsoring a future event, please contact Cristin Mustillo at cmustillo@sclegal.com or Ilkay Cam-Spanos at icam@langan.com.

NJSWEP Members Connect at the PA Brownfields Conference

On May 14th NJSWEP members connected at the PA Brownfields conference in Erie, PA. The conference was a collaborative presented by the Engineers' Society of Western Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). Elizabeth Limbrick, co-chair of the New Jersey SWEP Chapter, presented on "Financial Assistance 101 – The Basics of Public Funding Assistance Programs". Elizabeth is a project manager in NJIT's Office of Strategic Initiatives, where she is responsible for providing technical assistance to communities for brownfield redevelopments. The conference provided experience, expertise and resources for information regarding brownfield redevelopment.

NJSWEP 9th Annual Gala

On June 24, 2015, we held our 9th Annual NJSWEP Gala at the Wine Room of Cherry Hill. The event was a huge success from the great conversations, to the wine, the food, the harpist, and, above all, our honorees.

This year's gala sold out, with so many people coming out to show their support for Caryn Barnes, LSRP, a Principal/Vice President at Langan Engineering and Environmental Services, who was this year's recipient of the NJSWEP "Growing Great Women in the Garden State" Award. In addition, we awarded scholarships to two very deserving students, undergraduate Nicole Provost (Montclair State University) and Lisa Oberreiter (Rutgers University). Congratulations to all the recipients.



NJSWEP Hosts Summer Networking Reception in Somerville

On July 23rd, NJSWEP took to Central Jersey for its latest networking opportunity: a reception at Verve in Downtown Somerville, a short walk from the train station. The location brought out new faces who joined old friends and colleagues for drinks and hors d'oeuvres underneath disco balls and string lights in the restaurant's swanky upstairs lounge. With over 20 people in attendance, the event was a summertime success and NJSWEP will see what other opportunities Central Jersey may hold for get-togethers!

2nd Annual NJSWEP Golf Par-Tee Social

Have you ever been invited to a golf networking event and thought, “If I could only play...” On October 8th, NJSWEP hosted our second annual Golf Par-Tee Social at the Anchor Golf Center in East Hanover, NJ. More than 20 NJSWEP members and guests attended and learned the basics of the game of golf from a professional instructor. The golf instructor provided a lesson on proper swing, posture, the types of clubs, key terms and much more! Prior to the instructed lesson, attendees enjoyed appetizers, pizza, beverages (some adult), and desert. Following the mini lesson, the attendees took to the stalls to practice their swings! Jan Manisera from Accutest won the longest drive contest! Golf can be an extremely effective networking tool to increase your business and make new lasting relationships. Don't miss next year's golf social – you could have the longest drive!



Aspiring Professionals Networking Event

On October 29th, NJSWEP co-sponsored an Aspiring Professionals Networking Event, together with the Licensed Site Remediation Professionals Association (LSRPA), Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals (AHMP-NJ), and Association of Environmental Geologists (AEG) at the Chimney Rock Inn in Bound Brook. This free event, which drew more than 60 people, gave up-and-coming professionals an opportunity to network with peers and learn about professional organizations that could help them advance their careers.

New York Regulatory Update

NJSWEP MetroNet held a New York Regulatory Update on November 12th at Langan's NYC office. The following environmental professionals spoke to us about recent developments in NY's Brownfield programs:

- Jane O'Connell – Chief, Superfund and Brownfield Cleanup Section, Division of Environmental Remediation – New York State Department of Environmental Conservation;
- Hannah Moore – Assistant Director – New York City Mayor's Office of Environmental Remediation; and
- Sarah Crowell, AICP – Brownfield Opportunity Area Program Director – New York Department of State.

This event was designed to keep attendees abreast of NY's priorities and plans, as well as the status of existing programs, updates, and proposed legislative changes that are key to NY environmental programs. We had an excellent turnout, and hope to make the NY Regulatory Update an annual event.

The event also included wine, beer, and snacks generously provided by our sponsor, Langan Engineering & Environmental Services.

Camden SMART Event

The NJSWEP Camden SMART Initiative Workshop, held on November 19th at the Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center in Camden, New Jersey was a great success. Major Sue Dunigan gave a background on the Salvation Army organization and led the group of 30 attendees on a tour of the brownfield redevelopment site. After the tour of the facility, Frank McLaughlin (NJDEP) and Sarah Bryant (Cooper's Ferry Partnership) gave a presentation on the Camden SMART Initiative (www.camdensmart.com). The initiative is a collaborative effort that is changing the lives of the residents of Camden, by addressing flooding issues with green infrastructure solutions.

Annual Holiday Networking Breakfast and Charity Drive

NJSWEP gathered at The Americana Diner in East Windsor, New Jersey on December 1st for breakfast to kick-off the holidays and to wish our many friends well as we approach 2016! We

had a wonderful crowd of about 40 NJSWEP members who donated both cash and gently used professional clothing to our charity of choice, Dress for Success; a local group supporting women in the workforce. This event has been a crowd favorite in years past, and this year was no exception. We collected more than \$300 and at least a dozen bags of clothes -- a new record for us! Dress for Success was extremely grateful for our contributions.

Looking Forward to 2016 . . .

We are planning several great events for next year, including the NJDEP Regulatory Update Seminar on February 24th. Renew your membership today so that you don't miss out on any of them. You can renew online by logging in with your and password at njswep.org. We look forward to seeing you there.

Warm wishes for a happy new year,

Elizabeth Limbrick & Jillian Mooney
NJSWEP Co-Chairs