

AIR NEWS

April 7, 2015 || News from the DNR Bureau of Air Management

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New staff join Air program

The Air Program and DNR's Office of Business Support and Science Services are pleased to announce the filling of two Air Program positions: the Small Business Clean Air Assistance Program Coordinator and the Non-Title V Streamlining Engineer.

The new Small Business Clean Air Assistance Program Coordinator, as of February 23, is Renee Lesjak Bachel, who began her career working for the State of Wisconsin more than 20 years ago. From 1992 through 1999, she worked in the Air Program as an engineer, starting as a compliance inspector then permit writer while at the South Central Region office. From 1997 to 1999, she served as the Operation Permit Team Leader in Madison's Central Office. In January 2000 she accepted a position with the Small Business Clean Air Assistance Program (SBCAAP) at the Department of Commerce and spent the next 11 years there. When the SBCAAP was relocated to the DNR in 2011, Renee rejoined the Air Program and worked on expanding the SBCAAP within DNR. In 2012, Bachel embarked on a new adventure in private consulting and worked as a Project Manager for SCS Engineers, Upper Midwest office. She will be assisting with the implementation of the new multimedia Small Business Environmental Assistance Program and will work closely with the Office of Business Support and Science Services' Small Business Environmental Assistance Program.

Susan Lindem started work on February 9 as the Non-Title V Streamlining Engineer at DNR's Central Office in Madison. (Non-Title V air pollution sources are sources that have emissions less than major source levels.) Lindem, who previously worked in the South Central Region, began her career with the department on Earth Day 1990. She comes to her new position with a wealth of experience going back to plan reviews with the air toxics program, followed by being the sector specialist for the foundry industry, then an air pollution construction permit writer in DNR's South Central Region. "Susan's deep understanding of air program issues, her creativity, and her easy manner with colleagues and permittees will serve her well in her new position as she helps the program set up systems to implement streamlining measures affecting mainly the non-Title V community," said Kristin Hart, chief of the Air Permits Section.

"Renee and Susan will work closely together to tackle the issues and find solutions to those challenges unique to smaller businesses in Wisconsin," said Hart.

Deadline approaching for Stage II vapor recovery grants

Under the current Biennial Budget (2013-2015), the Department of Natural Resources was allocated \$1,000,000 for a grant program to support the removal or decommissioning of Stage II vapor recovery systems. Owners and operators of retail gas stations in Kenosha, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Sheboygan, Washington and Waukesha counties may apply for grant funding for eligible costs incurred after April 15, 2012, to remove or decommission Stage II vapor recovery systems.

Applicants can still apply for grants and DNR is awarding the grants on a first-come, first-served basis until all of the allocated funds have been awarded or the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2015), whichever comes first. Eligible facilities should apply for the grant by May 15, 2015 to ensure sufficient processing time. For more information on the grant and how to apply, visit the Stage II grant web page at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/aid/stage2vapor.html>.

Poetry contest for all Wisconsin students in grades 3-5



Wisconsin teachers can help DNR celebrate Clean Air Month this May by leading students through an activity (or more than one) from the Air, Air Everywhere Teacher's Activity guide, which aims to teach 3rd, 4th & 5th grade students about air quality and the importance of clean air.

As part of the [Where's the Air? activity](#), students will complete simple sensory experiments to discover the characteristics of air and then write a poem or riddle describing air. Teachers can submit original poems or riddles created by their students as part of this activity to Wisconsin DNR. The winning poem (and two runners-up) will be featured on DNR's [EEK! \(Environmental Education for Kids\) web site](#). The winner will receive an award certificate and a class set of "It all adds up to cleaner air" solar calculators. The teacher of the winning student will receive a certificate for a free Project WILD or Project WET workshop.

Contest requirements and more information

- The contest is open to Wisconsin's 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade students only.
- Teachers may submit up to three entries per class.
- Any form of original poetry is acceptable. Entry must be 200 words or less and describe air and/or the importance of clean air.
- Writing must be the original work of the student.
- Each entry must include the name of the author, their teacher, the teacher's e-mail and phone number and the school address.

Mail entries to: Lindsay Haas, Wisconsin DNR, 141 NW Barstow Street, Rm. 180, Waukesha, WI 53188, or email them to Lindsay.haas@wisconsin.gov. Entries must be received by Friday, May 15, 2015 to be eligible. Contest entries will not be returned and will become the property of the contest sponsor. Teachers of the winning students will be notified by May 29th, 2015.

The complete Air, Air Everywhere guide, available for download at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/ce/EEK/teacher/air.htm>, includes ten activities. Hard copies may also be ordered by sending your name and mailing address to DNRAirEducation@wisconsin.gov. For more information on this poetry contest, please visit <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/ce/EEK/teacher/airpoetrycontest.htm>, or contact Lindsay Haas, 262-574-2113, Lindsay.Haas@wisconsin.gov.

Clean Air Extravaganza set for May 21

The 2015 Clean Air Extravaganza will be held at the Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce on Thursday, May 21, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. The celebration will feature presentation of the annual Wisconsin Partners for Clean Air Recognition Awards to honor businesses and organizations that implemented innovative strategies the previous year to reduce harmful air emissions. A Commuter Champion Award will also be presented to an organization that provides extensive commuter benefits to its employees. In addition to the awards there will be presentations highlighting small business challenges and successes in dealing with environmental issues.

Invitees include representatives from the over 250 businesses/organizations in [Wisconsin Partners for Clean Air](#), local and state representatives, and others who participate in clean air initiatives. For more event information call 414-263-8751 or email Peter.McMullen@wisconsin.gov.



Attend the annual [DNR Spring Hearings and Wisconsin Conservation Congress County Meetings](#) April 13 to provide your input on current natural resource management issues.

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