



P2 Bulletin

the newsletter of the New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (NYSP21)

FEBRUARY 2014

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Happy New Year and welcome to NYSP21's first P2 Bulletin of 2014! In this edition, you will find announcements of our 2013–2014 Community Grant recipients and R&D Grant awardees. Our 3rd Annual Student Competition will be held on Earth Day (4/22) at RIT and we invite you to join us to celebrate our NYS students, partners, industries and local community groups. Also featured is Potsdam Specialty Paper, for their commitment to sustainability and cleaner production. We have a list of upcoming events/workshops in the spring and hope you can join us. Thank you for your continued support as we look forward to an exciting year ahead!

Warm Regards, Dr. Anahita Williamson, Director, NYSP21

3rd Annual R&D Student Competition Teams Announced

We are pleased to announce the student teams that have been selected to participate in [NYSP21's 3rd annual R&D Student Competition – "Greenovate NYS"](#). The competition is open to students from all New York State colleges and universities. "Greenovate NYS" challenges student teams to identify a specific problem at their university or in their community with a large environmental footprint and come up with innovative solutions to reduce its impact.

All teams will exhibit their projects on **Earth Day, April 22, 2014** at the Rochester Institute of Technology to a panel of judges. In addition, student teams will have the opportunity to showcase their projects and ideas to environmental experts, gain insights from established professionals, and receive recognition by potential future employees. The winning teams will also receive cash prizes. Congratulations to the selected teams!



Greenovate NYS

Graduate Teams

Clarkson University

"Saving Water with a Shower Orb"

Rochester Institute of Technology

"Development of a Food Waste Composting System Using Black Soldier Fly Larvae"

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

"Controlled Environmental Agricultural (CEA) LED Lighting Systems, New Metrics"

Cornell University

"High Rate Anaerobic Digester Design for Chobani's Wastewater"

Syracuse University

"Green Heating: Reduce Overheating and Pollution on Campus"

Undergraduate Teams

Rochester Institute of Technology

"Harnessing Dorm Dryer Heat"

SUNY Stony Brook University

"Take Back Roth Pond"

SUNY University of Buffalo

"Sustainable Hand Drying: Realizing the Benefits"

Clarkson University

"Clarkson's Score Program"

Clarkson University

"On Campus Food Waste Collection"

Rochester Institute of Technology

"Power Consumption Reduction of College Computer Labs"

SUNY Cobleskill

"COBY SEEDS Free Rides"

St. Lawrence University

"Fostering Social Change through Reduced Plastic Water Bottle Sales at St. Lawrence University"

Earth Day 2014

Tuesday, April 22, at the Golisano Institute for Sustainability at RIT.
Open to the public.

An exciting and educational morning of activities for all ages!

R&D STUDENT COMPETITION & K-12 Student Poster Competition posters will be on display.



Click for info: [K-12 Student Poster Competition, apply by 3/7/14, posters due 4/8/14](#)

2013 R&D Grant Awardees

NYSP2I recently awarded two [Research and Development](#) grants to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) to conduct innovative research projects that will lead to more immediate solutions to keep NYS companies competitive in the marketplace while reducing their environmental footprint.



As a follow on to preliminary research funded by NYSP2I, Dr. Joel Plawsky from the Chemical Engineering Department at RPI will continue his research on the Claus process, a ceramic, static mixer used in combustion-based systems (such as power plants and waste incinerators), which converts hydrogen sulfide, a highly toxic gas, into sulfur with fewer environmental impacts and less energy than the alternative.



Dr. Michael Shur from the Electrical, Computer, and System Engineer Department, will collaborate with USDA to study ultraviolet LED illumination as a means to lengthen the shelf-life of agriculture products at room temperature, and reduce food waste.

The research funding through NYSP2I is designed to advance research efforts in the broad category of sustainability and pollution prevention, resulting in transferable technologies throughout New York State.

(photos: www.rpi.edu)



Rensselaer

“The New York State Pollution Prevention Institute is proud to support these pollution prevention projects,” says Eugene Park, Assistant Director of Technical Programs at NYSP2I, “which have a significant impact on combustion-based industry sectors and agriculture. Reductions in air pollution, energy use and food waste will help NY become more sustainable.”

Advancement in Cleaner Production Award — Potsdam Specialty Paper

NYSP2I is pleased to announce Potsdam Specialty Paper, Inc. (PSPI) as the recipient of NYSP2I's Advancement in Cleaner Production Award. PSPI was recognized for innovative environmental initiatives that have resulted in significant reductions in the plant's waste and energy usage.

The paper mill earned the Award for making significant investments in projects that have considerably reduced the plant's environmental footprint. These include:

- Nearly eliminating the plant's overall landfill waste by implementing a fiber recovery and landfill reduction project using equipment investments totaling nearly \$700,000.
- Several conservation projects that have contributed to decreasing electricity consumption by nearly 4 million kilowatt-hours annually, along with increased heat recovery, resulting in an annual savings of nearly \$200,000.
- Considerable investment in the plant's rail infrastructure—including an extension of the service line—that has enabled the paper mill to receive and ship materials that were formerly limited to trucking exclusively. The change has resulted in the annual reduction of nearly 4.5 tons of carbon dioxide emissions.

PSPI was nominated by NYSP2I's partner Regional Technology Development Center, CITEC. The award was presented during a ceremony at the paper mill on August 1st, 2013.



Cindy Bowen

From left: Tony Collins, Clarkson University President; Anahita Williamson, NYSP2I's director; Ron Charette, PSPI General Manager; Addie Russell, Assemblywoman of the 116th District; Ronald Bacon, CITEC Board of Directors President

“The New York State Pollution Prevention Institute is pleased to recognize Potsdam Specialty Paper for its leadership in environmental and sustainability initiatives,” says Anahita Williamson, NYSP2I's director. “PSPI is a great example of how proactive New York businesses can leverage available support to directly tie improved environmental performance with economic benefits for a win-win.”

NYSP2I Funds Eight Community Projects Across New York State

The New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (NYSP2I) is pleased to announce the awardees for the 2013-2014 [Community Grants Program](#). The goal of the Community Grants Program is to support projects that raise awareness and understanding of pollution prevention (P2) practices and lead to implementation at the local level. This year, NYSP2I received a total of 20 applications from across New York State! NYSP2I will fund eight projects. We are excited to work with these organizations and look forward to their initiatives!

Retrofit Standardization in Low- and Moderate-Income Communities — **Pratt Center for Community Development** will create a community-based model for New York City's low-income neighborhoods by creating a standard, simple package of easily implemented energy efficiency measures.

The Hospitality Green Cleaning Challenge — **The New York State Restaurant Association Educational Foundation** will educate restaurant owners and staff about toxic chemicals found in cleaning products and raise awareness about safer alternatives.

Pollution Prevention Through Child Care Provider Engagement — **Clean and Healthy New York's (CHNY)** current toxics reduction program in the Great Lakes Basin of NYS will be expanded to train child care providers in Broome, Chenango, and Tioga counties.

Chemicals Education for Cancer Prevention: Linking Pollution Prevention and Breast Cancer Risk — **Breast Cancer Coalition of Rochester** will increase the public's understanding of chemicals with potential endocrine-disrupting and carcinogenic effects. This project will focus on low income, minority, and recent immigrant women of childbearing age who are at risk of chemical exposure through their workplace, particularly in beauty and nail salons.

Collect, Construct, Change — **NY Hall of Science** will expand their "Collect, Construct, Change" (C3) program through which NYC youth learn about air pollution issues through hands-on exercises and active participation.

A Template for Community ReUse Centers in NYS — **Finger Lakes ReUse, Inc.** will develop an interactive online template that will assist communities in replicating the successful Community ReUse Center model as a tool for reducing solid waste generation, creating quality "green" jobs, and developing a skilled workforce.

Classroom Energy Challenge — **CNY Regional Planning and Development Board** will implement a curriculum that focuses on energy use and environmental protection along with a School Green Team at a middle school in Syracuse, NY.

2014 Erie County Envirothon — **Erie County Soil and Water Conservation District** will conduct their annual natural science competition, this year on the topic of "Sustainable Local Agriculture/Locally Grown". The winning Erie County team, will participate in the state level competition, and could potentially advance to the North American Envirothon.



NYSP2I is pleased to announce Leanne Bossert as our new Marketing and Communication Program Coordinator.

In this role, she will be responsible for overseeing marketing and communication efforts, as well as outreach and event coordination. Prior to moving back to New York and joining NYSP2I, Leanne was the Director of Events, Marketing & Communication and the owner, of a green construction company in Honolulu, HI. There, she used her talent for communication to pioneer a green building movement as the first Certified Green Professional Builder in the state of Hawaii. Leanne was the first ever Pacific Edge Magazine Business Achievement Award winner for, "Commitment to Green." Mrs. Bossert holds an M.A. in Organizational and Intercultural Communication from the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Upcoming Events Open to the Public

GREEN HOMES FOR CLEANER LAKES SERIES

Attend any or all sessions at the Carlson MetroCenter YMCA, 444 East Main Street, Rochester, NY 14604.

Tuesday, February 11, 6-8pm

"SAFER HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS"

Tuesday, February 18, 6-8pm

"POTENTIAL HIDDEN DANGERS OF PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS"

Tuesday, March 4, 6-8pm

"HOW GREEN IS YOUR CLEAN?"

For a complete description of the series — which is offered periodically throughout New York State and will be offered as a webinar in the future — visit www.rit.edu/affiliate/nysp2i/green-homes-cleaner-lakes-0

Wednesday, March 26, 7-9pm

CLEAN, GREEN, AND HEALTHY

Part of the Environmental Education for Young Children & New Parents Workshop Series

840 University Ave, Rochester, NY 14607

www.rit.edu/affiliate/nysp2i/environmental-education-young-children-new-parents

Tuesday, April 22

EARTH DAY EVENT & STUDENT COMPETITION EXHIBITION

RIT Campus, Golisano Institute for Sustainability

www.rit.edu/affiliate/nysp2i

Exciting New Projects

New York City Industrial Waterfront Communities Pollution Prevention, Toxics Reduction and Resiliency Planning

The New York State Department of Conservation (NYSDEC) was awarded a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Pollution Prevention Grant to fund this project. NYS P2I will partner with NYSDEC and the New York City Environmental Justice Alliance (NYC-EJA) to promote pollution prevention strategies and identify climate adaptation strategies to reduce the risk of toxic exposures associated with climate change impacts on industrial waterfront communities in New York City.



Great GREEN Opportunity for NYS Grocers!

Partnering with NYSDEC under another EPA award, our new Sustainable Grocer Pilot Project will provide grocers the opportunity to improve their supply chain, conserve water, reduce toxic & hazardous materials and manage organic waste. NYS grocers interested in participating, please contact Kate Winnebeck at 585-475-5390 or kate.winnebeck@rit.edu.

Look for more information on these projects in our next P2 Bulletin.

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