



P2 Bulletin

the newsletter of the New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (NYSP2I)

MARCH 2013

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As I reflect back on 2012, NYSP2I had another very busy and successful year. We participated in and held many events throughout NYS and are very happy with the warm reception and attendance we received. We are pleased to have introduced two new programs to assist start-up and existing companies in NYS: Green Technology Accelerator Center (GTAC) & the Sustainable Supply Chain & Technology Program (SSC&T). We have also worked with industries through our Direct Client Assistance program & MEP partners, community groups through our Community Grants Program and funded innovative and applied research through our Partner Universities. We are excited about our upcoming Student Competition to be held during Earth Week in April and welcome you to join us in Albany. We look forward to our continued partnership in 2013!

– Dr. Anahita Williamson, Director, NYSP2I

Second Annual R&D Student Competition

NYSP2I is hosting its annual Research and Development Student Competition, “Go Green on Campus” or G2C. The competition requires students to identify a specific activity at their university with a large environmental footprint and come up with innovative solutions to make their campus more environmentally friendly. Student teams will exhibit their results and compete for prizes at the Legislative Office Building in Albany on **April 24, 2013**. The student competition is in its second year and this is the first year that it is open to students from all New York State colleges and universities.

“This year’s competition is state-wide and will give a variety of undergraduate and graduate student teams the opportunity to develop ideas focused on environmental sustainability on their campus. The students will gain valuable experience in identifying inefficiencies and developing innovative and cost-effective solutions. We are looking forward to meeting the students and reviewing their projects.” said Anahita Williamson, Director of the NYSP2I.

Last year, a team from Clarkson University, took first place with its project titled “Dormitory Motion Sensor lighting” aimed at reducing lighting use in the dorm hallways using motion sensors and potentially saving Clarkson \$600,000 per year with a three-to-five year payback on the investment. Second Place was awarded to a Rochester Institute of Technology team, and third place was awarded to a team from University at Buffalo.

The exhibition is open to the public. We encourage you to stop by and see first-hand, the innovative ideas from our next generation of environmental stewards!



Teams from the following schools have been selected to compete: Clarkson University, CUNY–College of Staten Island, The New School, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Rochester Institute of Technology, Siena College, Skidmore College, SUNY–College at Buffalo, Syracuse University

Project topics include:

Small Wind Energy Analysis;
High Altitude Measurements

Harvesting Rainwater off the Carrier Dome Roof

Degradation of Dyes Used in Undergraduate Instructional Laboratories

Inclusive Strategies for Reducing Urban Municipal Waste

Low Flow Sink Aerators

A Carbon-Cap-and-Trade Market for Commuters

Making Industrial Design a carbon neutral department, a case study

Inconvenient Consumption

Analyzing Photovoltaic Data for Applicability to Universities in New York State

Fast Doesn't Need to Last: Converting to Biodegradable and Renewable Resource-based Packaging in Food Services

Residential composting Education and Process

Comparison of Environmental Impacts of Paper towels and High-Velocity hand Dryers in and Institutional Setting

Microbial fuel cell technology as sustainable alternative for treatment of food waste on campus

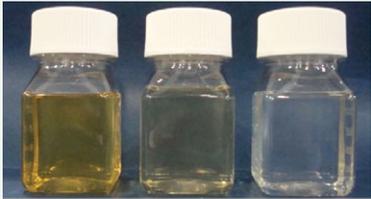
LEDesigning

Green Infrastructure Project to Mitigate Stormwater on Campus

R&D The NYSP2I Research and Development Program

Waste Cooking Oil —

Problem or Opportunity?



Waste cooking oil can be a real problem! It clogs sink drains and sewers, can quickly ruin septic tanks, and pollutes the environment if dumped in landfills.

One solution is converting waste cooking oil into biodiesel, a vegetable oil- or animal fat-based fuel that can be used as a sustainable replacement for petroleum-based diesel. On October 5, more than 50 representatives of the service industry, higher education and government participated in a free workshop at Rochester Institute of Technology that explained the technology involved in the process, as well as the potential environmental and economic benefits.

The workshop included presentations and demonstrations by NYSP2I Senior Engineer Dave Fister and Dr. Thomas Trabold at RIT, followed by a tour of the Monroe County EcoPark, where waste cooking oil is collected from the community and processed into biodiesel to run service vehicles and maintenance equipment such as lawnmowers.

On January 17, 2013, NYSP2I held a workshop at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Center for Biotechnology and Interdisciplinary Studies in Troy and presented the workshop again at the NYWEA conference on February 4-6 in New York City. For more information on waste cooking oil and its conversion to biodiesel, visit: <http://www.rit.edu/affiliate/nysp2i/workshop-material-archive>.



RIT's Dr. Thomas Trabold (left) and Senior Engineer Dave Fister discuss the different stages of processed waste cooking oil.

The New York State Environmental Excellence Awards

Recognizing innovative and sustainable projects that also contribute to a viable economy

In its tenth year, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) Environmental Excellence Awards Program recognizes and gives visibility to outstanding, innovative and sustainable projects or programs. Eligible applicants include businesses, educational institutions, not-for-profit organizations, facilities, government agencies (except DEC), and individuals leading by example through their innovative, sustainable actions or by working in creative partnership to improve and protect New York's environmental resources and contribute to a viable economy.

DEC is now accepting applications. To be eligible, a project must: be in New York State; result in measurable environmental, economic and social benefits beyond what could have been achieved by using standard techniques or complying with regulatory requirements; be initiated within the past three years and be fully operational for at least 12 months. Applicants must be in compliance with New York Environmental Conservation Law, applicable permits and local laws.

Information about the award program, the application materials and information on past award winners is available on DEC's website at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/public/945.html>; by writing to the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Pollution Prevention Unit, 625 Broadway, Albany, New York 12233-1750; by phone to DEC's Pollution Prevention Unit at (518) 402-9469 or by email at eeawards@gw.dec.state.ny.us. Applications must be completed and post marked no later than Friday May 10, 2013.



CGP **Community Grants Program**

NYSP2I is pleased to announce the awardees for the 2012-2013 Community Grant Program. A total of 35 applications from across New York State were received! NYSP2I was able to fund 12 projects. We are excited to work with these organizations and look forward to their initiatives!

*Pharmaceutical Collection Program Outreach Education — **Monroe County Department of Environmental Services** will expand upon an existing outreach program to raise awareness for the County's pharmaceutical collection program.*



*Know Your Environmental Numbers — **Sustainable Long Island** is creating an awareness campaign in order to help health system leaders, administrators and employees better understand how health care facilities affect the environment and what they can do to reduce pollution levels.*

*Homeowner Education for Improved Private Decentralization Wastewater Management in 2 Lakeshore Communities — **Cornell University** will educate homeowners about maintenance of decentralized treatment systems in two communities around Chautauqua Lake in Chautauqua County and Canadarago Lake in Otsego County by conducting two workshops each in both communities that build on ongoing lake monitoring and education efforts by community partnerships.*



*Collect, Construct, Change — **New York Hall of Science** will develop and offer a camp program that utilizes up-to-the-minute educational technology to engage middle school youth and help them learn about air quality issues in their neighborhoods.*

*Healthier Nail Salons Project — **New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health** will promote safer working conditions and processes developing and widely disseminating informational and educational materials in four languages: English, Spanish, Korean, and Nepalese for workers in nail salons.*



*Training the Trainers: Preventing Pollution through Professional Development — **Center of Excellence at Syracuse University** will provide a robust teacher conference on sustainable materials management and green infrastructure, and will create a "STEM" teacher-to-teacher exchange that enables sharing of best practices in teaching environmental subjects.*

*Northern Manhattan Compost Bioremediation — **We Act for Environmental Justice** will educate and engage students of the Washington Heights Expeditionary Learning School (WHEELS) in a composting and waste reduction project.*

*Rainwater Harvesting Ancient Technologies to Solve Modern Problems — **GrowNYC** will target New York state residents to take advantage of a new manual highlighting stormwater management best practices, with simple steps for community gardeners or city dwellers to follow — including assessing the possibilities for their site and how to implement improvements.*



*Residents Engaging Residents in a Building to Building Energy Challenge in Public Housing — **Green City Force** will train urban young adults in a six-month full-time program that offers outreach to New York City Housing Authority residents and will host a competition between housing areas that will encourage residents to be more environmentally and energy conscious.*

*Pollution Prevention Public Education Campaign — **Erie County Department of Environment and Planning** will undertake a public service announcement campaign with radio spots, bus rail/advertising and bus billboards to raise awareness about the need to reduce toxic chemical use in Western New York.*

*Storm Drain Identification and Education — **Erie County Department of Environment and Planning** will raise awareness about storm drain dumping by placing metal markers by storm drains stating "No Dumping Drains to Waterway" and will develop and disseminate educational materials.*

*Erie County Envirothon — **Erie County Soil & Water Conservation District** will host a local environmental education competition with high school students to potentially advance to the state Envirothon competition.*

*The goal of NYSP2I's Community Grants Program is to support projects that raise awareness and understanding of pollution prevention practices and lead to implementation at the local level. Request for Applications typically are announced in the fall. **For more information, visit:** <http://www.rit.edu/affiliate/nysp2i/community-grants-program>*



Advancement in Cleaner Production Award

Recognizing NYS Businesses with a Commitment to Sustainability

Advancement in Cleaner Production Award — Brooklyn Navy Yard

NYSP2I is pleased to announce Brooklyn Navy Yard Industrial Park as the recipient of a Pollution Prevention Achievement Award. The Navy Yard is being recognized for their commitment to sustainability. The Navy Yard has constructed the first multi-tenant, multi-story industrial LEED Silver buildings in U.S., as well as NYC's first building-mounted wind turbines. All new buildings and renovations are required to be LEED Silver and all vehicles purchased by the company are hybrid and low emission. The Brooklyn Navy Yard is located on the Brooklyn waterfront and is a 300-acre industrial park with over 40 buildings, 4 million square feet of leasable space, over 275 tenants and nearly 6,000 workers. The Navy Yard was nominated by NYSP2I's partner Regional Technology Development Center, ITAC. The P2A2 awards ceremony will be held on **April 18, 2013**, at the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

Announcing Environmental Health for New Parents Workshop Series

NYSP2I received an Environmental Education grant from the US EPA to provide new parents with the knowledge and skills to reduce the risk of exposure from potentially toxic chemicals found in household and children's products; reduce exposure of parents, children, and unborn babies to environmental health hazards; and enable parents to make informed decisions about household products.

Four environmental health workshops will be developed to address:

- Children's products
- Toys
- The home
- Nurseries



**Environmental Health
for Young Children
& New Parents**
N Y S P 2 I

Workshops will be offered through the Rochester General Hospital's (RGH) prenatal classes beginning in April 2013. The first class will begin April 30 and is entitled "Environmental Health at Home and in the Nursery." The second class, "Environmental Health and Children's Products & Toys," is on May 4, 2013. For more information on the prenatal classes at RGH, contact Erica at (585) 475-2512.



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Upcoming Events

SAFER HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS,
GREEN HOMES FOR
CLEANER LAKES
March 25, 2013, Massena

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS
WASTE, GREEN HOMES
FOR CLEANER LAKES
April 8, 2013, Massena

POTENTIAL HIDDEN DANGERS
IN PERSONAL CARE
PRODUCTS, GREEN HOMES
FOR CLEANER LAKES
April 15, 2013, Massena

P2A2 CEREMONY AT THE
BROOKLYN NAVY YARD
April 18, 2013, Brooklyn

R&D 2ND ANNUAL STUDENT
COMPETITION
April 24, 2013, Albany

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AT
HOME AND IN THE NURSERY
April 30, 2013, Rochester

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND
CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS & TOYS
May 4, 2013, Rochester

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