



WSEHA Newsletter

WASHINGTON STATE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Save the Date!!

WSEHA and WSBRS invite you to:

Bedbugs Presentation 3:00 - 4:00 pm
WSEHA's Annual Business Meeting 4:00 - 5:00 pm
WSBRS Directors' Meeting 5:00 - 6:00 pm

@ The Snohomish Health District Auditorium
December 15, 2010

Mark your calendars for WSEHA's Annual Membership Meeting and a WSBRS board meeting. The meetings will be held on Wednesday, December 15, 2010, after the Bedbugs, from 4:00 - 6:00 pm in back to back format so members and board members of both organizations can attend each meeting if they wish. All will be held at the Snohomish Health District Auditorium. Click [here](#) for directions.



One hour of **free** continuing education on Bedbugs is scheduled for 3:00 - 4:00 pm. Dave Hickok will be presenting and the subject matter promises to be informative.

Topics to be discussed at the Annual Membership Meeting include:

- An overview of WSEHA's budget
- An overview of 2010's events
- Proposed changes to WSEHA's Constitution and Bylaws. For more information, please see Ned Therien's article on page 4 in this newsletter.



Current Job Vacancies

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST II

Opens: Currently Open

Closes: Open until filled

Salary: \$3940.00 per month plus benefits

Type: Permanent Full-Time

Location: Whitman County - Colfax, Washington

More information: <http://whitmancounty.org/HmnResc/Jobs.aspx>

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST I

Opens: Currently Open

Closes: Open until filled

Salary: \$2,468-\$2,697 per month plus benefits

Type: Permanent Full-Time

Location: Whitman County - Colfax, Washington

More information: <http://whitmancounty.org/HmnResc/Jobs.aspx>

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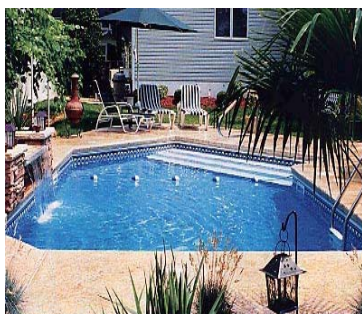
Pool Operator's Manual

A Guide for Safe and Healthy Operation of Swimming and Spa Pools

Manuals are available for \$25 or \$20 when purchasing a quantity of 10 or more. WSEHA members rate is \$20 per manual.

Please make check payable to WSEHA and mail to:

WSEHA, 103 Sea Pines Lane,
Bellingham, WA 98229-9363



Next Newsletter Deadline:

**Monday, January 31,
2011**

The Washington State Environmental Health Association Newsletter is the official publication of WSEHA. Membership in WSEHA includes a subscription to the newsletter. Manuscripts for publication must be type-written and submitted via e-mail to kerri@wseha.org, or on a computer disk mailed to WSEHA at the address above. Membership in WSEHA is not required for acceptance of articles in the newsletter.

Opinions expressed in articles published in the WSEHA newsletter should not be accepted necessarily as statements of policy or opinions of WSEHA.

WSEHA Office Location and Contact Information

103 Sea Pines Lane
Bellingham, WA 98229-9363
Website: www.wseha.org
Phone (360) 738-8946
Fax (360) 738-8949
Kerri Wagner, Executive Secretary
kerri@wseha.org

WSEHA Board of Directors

President

Geoffrey Crofoot (425) 339-5250
Gcrofoot@shd.snohomish.wa.gov

President Elect (Vacant)

Immediate Past President
Bruce Scherling (509) 427-8833
bruiserlarue33@yahoo.com

Secretary

Vikki Barthels (509) 324-1475
vbarthels@spokanecounty.org

Treasurer

Steve Garrett (360) 740-1233
Steve.garrett@lewiscountywa.gov

Central Regional Vice President (Vacant)

Eastern Regional Vice President
Michael Baker (509) 397-6280
Michael.baker@whitmancounty.net

Northwest Regional Vice President
Tom Kunesh (360) 676-6724
tkunesh@co.whatcom.wa.us

Olympic Regional Vice President
Jodie Holdcroft (360) 337-5629
holdcj@health.co.kitsap.wa.us

Southwest Regional Vice President (Vacant)

WSEHA Committees Chairs

Policy and Procedures Committee
Ned Therien (360) 236-4103
Ned.therien@doh.wa.gov

International Health

Ross Lytle (360) 337-5677
lytler@health.co.kitsap.wa.us

Nominations and Awards

Joe Graham (360) 236-3305
Joe.graham@doh.wa.gov

President's Message by Geoffrey Crofoot

As we near the close of 2010, I offer several truths, an observation and some sage advice.

The Washington State Environmental Health Association (WSEHA) has had a busy year. Please check out Kerri Wagner's, WSEHA's Executive Secretary, excellent article in this newsletter about all of our accomplishments.

If you found Kerri's article inspiring, please consider that WSEHA is still in need of volunteers and requests your time and energy to help move this organization forward. Of particular need are Regional Vice Presidents for the Central, and South-western regions, Committee Chairs and members for all committees, and finally the position of President-Elect still remains open. As the current President, I encourage courage on your behalf to step forward and take on the challenge of making WSEHA a better organization.

It has come to my attention that Environmental Health professionals, particularly Health Department (District) types are unique. Now, I've made this observation before, <http://www.wseha.org/message.htm>, and it is worth a little more attention. It's worth remembering that Environmental Health stands for, as appropriately illustrated on this Student Environmental Health T-shirt, "...Protecting People from Hazards in the Environment." You and a few professional peers, stand for clean water, safe food and properly handled wastes and so much more. Environmental Health stands for disease and injury prevention for all. The fact that there are so few of us standing for so much of what permits Americans to enjoy life liberty and the pursuit of happiness, suggests to me that you and the work you do is special in the fabric of [our] society and thus unique.

The votes have been cast in this 2010 mid-term election. The long term results are unknown at this time, but whatever the outcome of the election, Environmental Health, will face the same challenges, of more work, less money and limited awareness of the service that we provide. On these facts, I offer this simple advice. **Do the best work you are capable of.** I recommend this to individuals just starting out their careers as I do for folks who have been on the job for 20-plus years. For me, (and I'm aware that this sounds Pollyanna) doing my very best just makes sense. At times it's all I have to hang on to because nothing else has substance. In times of low motivation or challenge doing the best gives direction and a directive even when a course of action is unclear. I'm aware that it's a struggle to do your very best, especially in the midst of woeful economic times. That said, let me assure you that the best work will eventually pay dividends. The pay-off may come in the form of a successful outcome in a pending case, perhaps you'll be noticed for your efforts or at the very least (and most likely) you'll know that you couldn't have done any better in the given situation.

So, I hereby challenge you to re-double your efforts to do your very best. And for those of you who are currently doing so, and likely under recognized for it, Good Work!



"It has come to my attention that Environmental Health professionals, particularly Health Department (District) types are unique."

Proposal to Change WSEHA Constitution and Bylaws

Ned Therien, Chair of Policy and Procedures Committee

The primary mission of the Washington State Environmental Health Association (WSEHA) is to help provide continuing education opportunities for environmental health professionals. The WSEHA Board of Directors takes its direction from the WSEHA Articles of Incorporation; Constitution and Bylaws (C&B); and Policy and Procedures (P&P) manual. The P&P has an annex called the Nominations and Awards Manual and another called the Annual Educational Conference Guidebook. The AEC Guidebook was drafted in 2001 but appears to not have been formally adopted by the Board.

The Board decided to spend a great deal of its volunteer time over the past year and a half on the task of reviewing the P&P manual. The Board has developed proposed updates to the WSEHA Constitution and Bylaws (C&B), as well as most of the rest of the WSEHA Policy and Procedures (P&P) manual and the AEC Guidebook. The board has the authority to change most of the P&P manual and annexes by a vote of the board. However, changes to the C&B require approval of the membership. The upcoming general membership meeting on **Wednesday, December 15, 2010** at the **Snohomish Health District Auditorium** will give members the chance to discuss proposed changes for the C&B with the Board. The Board will send out a final proposal for changes to the C&B a few weeks to a month after the general membership meeting, depending on the extent of comments from members and possible revisions made by the Board in response to comments. The members will be asked to vote on the final proposal.

The updates to the P&P and C&B were developed for many reasons. It had become hard to identify a “true” version. Procedures need to be streamlined and made more flexible to make more efficient use of the time of committee volunteers and the Executive Secretary. The Board also needs more flexibility to be able to balance the WSEHA budget, especially in these times of reduced training and travel budgets and layoffs in public health agencies. And, frankly, volunteerism is way down. After the Board identified the changes it considered appropriate in the P&P manual, it cross-referenced to the C&B to determine changes to ask the membership to approve in that document. These represent the reality of how WSEHA is functioning today, but maintain processes for a hoped for more vibrant future.

“Procedures need to be streamlined and made more flexible to make more efficient use of the time of committee volunteers and the Executive Secretary.”

Summary of Changes. Many of the proposed changes are merely clarifications. More significant ones are outlined below:

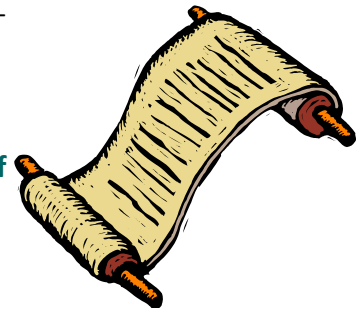
- Student Membership more fully defined.
- Affiliate Membership would include the member organization to register one person per training event at the membership rate. The person may change between training events.
- Sustaining Membership annual fee raised to \$250 but includes registering up to four persons per training event at the membership rate and listing on a new web page, which may have a link to the member’s own web page.

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- Emeritus Membership annual fee of \$5 added to pay for processing.
- Membership is for one year from the time of joining.
- Tightening up and clarifying provisions for expiration of membership if annual dues are not paid on time.
- Not requiring officers of WSEHA to be members of the National Environmental Health Association. Only one officer representing WSEHA would have to be a member of NEHA.
- Any disbursement over \$2000 requires the signature of two officers.
- Requirement removed for quarterly meetings in each region.
- Clarify provisions for electronic meetings and Email voting by the Board.
- Reduce the number of members required for most committees.
- The Board may suspend holding an Annual Education Conference in any year it considers a significant financial loss is likely to occur.
- Shorten time of voting process for election of officers and provide flexibility in method of distributing ballots.
- Clarifying process for petitioning the Board.

Please visit www.wseha.org/ProposedChangesConst&Bylaws.pdf to see the full text of the proposed document.



Upcoming Events:

School Environmental Health & Safety Fall 2010 Workshops

Dates:

Nov. 30 – Bremerton, OESD 114*
Dec. 2 – Tumwater, Point Plaza East
Dec. 7 – Redmond, L.E. Scarr Resource Center
Dec. 8 – Mount Vernon, Padilla Bay National
Estuarine Research Reserve (Bring your lunch!)

Time: 8:30am-3:30pm

Register at: www3.doh.wa.gov/waphtn/class.asp

WSEHA Annual Membership Meeting

Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2010

Location: Snohomish Health District Auditorium

Time: 3:00—5:00 pm

For more information, please visit www.wseha.org

Washington State Environmental Health Association

Events and Accomplishments for 2010

Submitted by Kerri Wagner, WSEHA Executive Secretary

Your WSEHA Board has truly been busy this year organizing and providing excellent environmental health educational opportunities. Just look at this list of accomplishments:

January and February – Updated WSEHA Website
February 2010 – Winter 2010 WSEHA Newsletter Out
April 7, 2010 – Compost Regulator Training Workshop in Everett
April 15, 2010 – Surveying Seminar in Bremerton
April 27, 2010 – Washington State Swimming Pool and Spa Conference in Lakewood
April 29, 2010 – Washington State Swimming Pool and Spa Conference in Kennewick
May 2010 – Spring 2010 WSEHA Newsletter Out
May 25, 2010 – Food Safety Workshop in Everett
June 16, 2010 – National Sanitation Foundation Food Safety Equipment Webinar
July 14, 2010 – On-Site Sewage Drip Systems Class in Moses Lake
August 2010 – Summer 2010 WSEHA Newsletter Out
October 7-8, 2010 – Certified Pool Operator Training for
Local Health Jurisdiction Staff in Shelton
November – Fall 2010 WSEHA Newsletter Out

Other significant items in the works...

- Ned Therien and your WSEHA Board are updating the WSEHA Policy and Procedure Manual. We value having a document that clarifies responsibilities and accountability. This manual also provides structure to our organization and helps to ensure continuity over time.
- Tom Kunesh is heading up the comprehensive review and update to the *Pool Operator's Manual – A Guide for Safe and Healthy Operation of Swimming and Spa Pools*. If you are interested in helping with this process, please contact Tom at tkunesh@whatcomcounty.us or (360) 676-6724, extension 50832.

Please keep in mind that the Washington State Environmental Health Association exists because of volunteers wanting to promote environmental health related educational opportunities. This list is possible because of these volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, please let Geoffrey know (he's the guy in the President's Message wearing the cool t-shirt). He can be reached at gcrofoot@shd.snohomish.wa.gov. You can also contact me at kerri@wseha.org or phone (360) 738-8946. Thanks!



Washington State Environmental Health Association (WSEHA)

Membership Application

WSEHA is a nonprofit professional and educational organization. It was established in 1946 to provide a forum for dialogue and a vehicle for advanced training opportunities. WSEHA enhances individual and collective expertise, promotes professional growth, and revitalizes Environmental Health endeavors. The Association is enriched by the diversity of ideas and orientations of its members, who represent both the public and private sectors.

Categories of Membership (please mark next to the category that applies)

_____ **Regular Membership (\$50.00)**- Persons who are active in the field of environmental health or related educational activities, who have a bachelors degree from an accredited college or university.

_____ **Associated Membership (\$50.00)** - Persons who are active in the field of environmental health or related educational activities, but who do not meet the requirements of regular membership.

_____ **Student Membership (\$5.00)** - Persons who are working towards a bachelor or higher degree in sanitary science, public health, environmental health, or related academic field.

_____ **Subscribing Membership (\$20.00)** - Persons residing outside of the state of Washington whose principal membership benefit is receiving the WSEHA Newsletter and other generally distributed information.

_____ **Affiliate Membership (\$75.00)**- Professional or civic organizations which share the goals and objectives of WSEHA and wish to improve communications and coordination of mutual programs.

_____ **Sustaining Membership (\$75.00)** - Persons or organizations that are interested in supporting WSEHA and its goals and objectives.

_____ **Emeritus Membership** - May be awarded by the WSEHA Board of Directors to persons who have been active in the field of environmental health for at least 25 years, including at least 6 years as a member of WSEHA, and who have retired because of age or disability.

First Name	MI	Last Name	Degree(s)
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Job Title	Agency/Organization
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Work Address	City	State/Zip
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Work Phone	Fax Number	E-mail (for newsletter and other WSEHA information)
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Home Address	City	State/Zip
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_____ Use as my primary mailing address: () Work () Home
Alternative E-mail

I have read and will abide by the WSEHA Code of Ethics found at <http://www.wseha.org/CodeofEthics.pdf>.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please make check payable to WSEHA and mail to: WSEHA, 103 Sea Pines Lane, Bellingham, WA 98229-9363. Memberships expire one year from the date issued and are non-transferable.