

Society of Women Environmental Professionals
Greater Philadelphia Chapter

Newsletter

April 2020



Touchstone Awards Planning is Underway...

In the current times, when everyone not deemed 'essential' is under a shelter-in-place order, most of us don't have much to occupy our minds, our bodies, or our pent-up energy. There is way too much 'waiting' time available, and the minutes, hours, days and weeks seem to stretch endlessly before us.

So what else is a girl to do other than wait? **HOW ABOUT PLAN??**

A good plan implemented TODAY is better than a perfect plan implemented tomorrow.

That's right – your 2020 Touchstone Co-Chairs Erin Rodgers (*SWEP BOD Member and Principal Chemist at Environmental Standards*) and Beth Brandt (*SWEP Co-Chair and Sales Manager at Suburban Testing Labs*) have been busy putting the event planning schedule in place to set us up for action!

So...what can we tell you so far?

We have identified the co-chairs, ***Erin and Beth***, we have a tentative date, ***Thursday November 12th***, and we have selected a tentative venue, ***Tendezza in Philadelphia***. Our planning activities will soon be ramping up and we are certain that we will ALL be ready for a huge blow-out celebration when restrictions are lifted!

So raise your hand now and let us count you in to help with the planning of this fabulous Gala Event! [Reach out to Erin or Beth today and get involved.](#)

COMPLETE A SHORT SURVEY TO HELP US PLAN BETTER >>>



2020 SWEPI Scholarship and Grants – Application Deadline Extended!

In light of the challenges we are facing due to COVID-19, the deadline for SWEPI's 2020 Scholarship and Grant Applications have been extended to June 15th, 2020. As a reminder, each year SWEPI is proud to present graduate scholarships to outstanding women studying to pursue environmental careers and grants to help fund organizations, programs or projects that creatively address a locally-defined need to create, enhance, restore, or protect the natural environment. We encourage all qualified graduate students and organizations to [learn more and apply!](#)



Catching up with the Social Programs Committee

While the Social Programs Committee may be on a temporary break due to the Covid-19 outbreak, we started 2020 with several well-attended programs. In January, we celebrated the holiday season with a joint happy hour with Brownfield Coalition of the Northeast ([BCONE](#) and [American Institute of Professional Geologists \(AIPG\)](#)) at Maggiano's in King of Prussia and held an appreciation breakfast for our members at Founding Farmers in King of Prussia. In March, we combined with [Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Professionals \(PAEP\)](#) to host a networking lunch at Miller's Ale House in Plymouth Meeting. These events were a great way for our members to network and learn about other like-minded local organizations.

Our planning for upcoming events is not on a break and we look forward to bringing additional networking lunches, happy hours and are in the planning stages for an orienteering event this fall.

If you have ideas for future social programs or virtual events that would you like to see added to our agenda, please reach out to [Erin Rodgers](#) . And as always, if you are interested in volunteering or helping to plan an event, we would love to have you!



Help Wanted - Marketing & Design

SWEP will be doing some spring cleaning, which includes an update of our logo, website updates, and preparing to introduce some new faces in leadership to you, our members, in 2021. As part of our updates, we would like to develop some marketing materials to help grow our members, provide information to our corporate members, and be well represented at future meetings and conferences. So, we are looking for someone to help us design some SWEP swag!

During these challenging times, we may know someone who is part of the graphics design or marketing industry that may be out of work. SWEP would like the change to help someone out by bringing them on for this marketing project. If you know someone in Philadelphia or surrounding area, please have them send an email to info@swepweb.com. We will then reach out to them with more details. SWEP members are encouraged to forward this to anyone who may be interested. Proposals will be accepted until May 15th.

Volunteer Needed

The Technical Programs Committee sees this move to digital programming as an opportunity to seek your input and engagement. We would love to hear your **suggestions for upcoming sessions on topics and/or speakers**. We would also love to hear from those of you who might be **interested in moderating** an upcoming Virtual Lunch and Learn. The moderator would introduce the presentation and speaker and then run the Q&A portion of the program. Please submit your topics and speaker ideas, as well as your own interest in moderating a virtual session, by contacting the [Technical Programs Committee](#)

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Our mailing address is:

Society of Women Environmental Professionals of Greater Philadelphia
P.O. Box 35017
Philadelphia, PA 19128-5017