



# The Preventive Measure

## Newsletter of the National Capital Area Environmental Health Association

Winter 2014

Volume #14 Issue # 4

### Message from the President

#### Inside This Issue

- 1 Message from the President
- 2 NCAEHA Leadership
- 2 Scholarship & Awards News
- 2 "The Spotlight" Has Arrived
- 3 NCAEHA News
- 4 Educational Article Corner
- 7 NCAEHA Membership  
Renewal Form
- 8 NEHA Individual Membership  
Application
- 9 NCAEHA Fall Educational  
Conference Agenda
- 10 Jerrold M. Michael Award  
Nomination Form
- 11 James M. Wordsworth  
Scholarship Application

Greetings! I hope this newsletter finds you well as we start bundling up for another metro-area winter. We've already seen some snow and dealt with blustery cold days and I have a feeling the best (worst?) is yet to come as far as winter weather goes. But hopefully January 30 comes with clear skies and roads as we head to Clyde's of Tysons Corner for our 2014 Winter Educational Conference. This year's Winter Educational Conference covers topics ranging from the new changes to the FDA Food Code, tattoo safety and the art and finesse of conducting an inspection. You can see the full line-up of presentations in the Agenda attached at the end of this newsletter.

In addition to the Winter Conference, we have the exciting news that our new website is finally live and can be viewed at [www.ncaeha.com](http://www.ncaeha.com). We hope you'll take a look and that you'll find it more user-friendly and with content that highlights recent NCAEHA activities as well as Environmental Health Specialists in our area and the great work that they do every day. Let us know what you think by sending comments or suggestions to our Director of Communications at [pquinonez@ncaeha.com](mailto:pquinonez@ncaeha.com). Compliments are welcome as well as he worked REALLY hard to bring us a more modern site. Thank you so much, Pablo!

Our Vice President of Programs and Professional Advancement is bringing us two opportunities for certification in 2014. We have begun plans to host a Certified Pool Operator training and certification event, most likely in April. More information will follow as soon as we gather all input from the member survey regarding this opportunity. We also plan to host an REHS/CP-FS testing event late spring. A flier with more information will be emailed to our members soon. Please let us know if you have additional continuing education or certification needs by contacting our VP of Programs and Professional Advancement at [kpybus@ncaeha.com](mailto:kpybus@ncaeha.com).

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you on January 30 for another informative conference. As always, please let myself or any member of the Board know of any thoughts or suggestions you may have on how we may better serve you.

Best Regards,

*Shannon McKeon*

NCAEHA President



## NCAEHA Leadership

### President

Shannon McKeon

### Vice President of Programs & Professional Advancement

Kristen Pybus

### Vice President of Membership

Arian Gibson

### Secretary

Julia Balsley

### Treasurer

Bruce Flippens

### District of Columbia Representative

Denise Lucas

### Maryland Representative

Gabriel Curtis

### Virginia Representative

Anna Durden

### Industry Liaison

Vicki Griffith

### Director of Communications

Pablo Quiñónez

## SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARDS NEWS

### James M. Wordsworth Scholarship

The NCAEHA James M. Wordsworth Scholarship program was established to encourage early commitment by students to a career in environmental health and to stimulate professional growth in current environmental health professionals in pursuing graduate or postgraduate studies in environmental health sciences and/or public health. Applications with original documentation must be received by **May 1, 2014**. See page 11 for the application.

### Jerrold M. Michael Award

Do you know of a professional who has contributed greatly to the environmental health profession? If so, nominate the individual for the 2014 Jerrold M. Michael Environmental Health Professional of the Year Award by **May 1, 2014**. The application is available on page 10.

## “THE SPOTLIGHT” HAS ARRIVED

New site; same address! Our new NCAEHA website is recognizing the accomplishments of local environmental health specialists. Would you like to nominate someone for their recent professional certification, promotion, publication, or outstanding service? If so, contact the Director of Communications, Pablo Quiñónez, at [pquinonez@ncaeha.com](mailto:pquinonez@ncaeha.com). View the current Environmental Health practitioners recognized by visiting [www.ncaeha.com](http://www.ncaeha.com).

## NCAEHA NEWS

### CERTIFICATE OF MERIT NOMINATION

Each affiliate is invited to designate one of its members to receive a Certificate of Merit from NEHA, thereby nationally recognizing one of their own for outstanding contributions to the profession of environmental health. Nominate an environmental health professional by submitting a summary of their achievements to [smckeeon@ncaeha.com](mailto:smckeeon@ncaeha.com) by **May 1, 2014**. Recipients are announced during the AEC awards program and in the *Journal of Environmental Health*.

### MEMBERSHIP NOTIFICATION

All NCAEHA memberships expire on January 1 of the new year. Please renew your NCAEHA membership online or by submitting a completed application to Bruce Flippens via mail or at our next educational conference.

A [membership renewal application](#) is available at [www.ncaeha.com](http://www.ncaeha.com) under "Membership". Additionally, it is provided on page 7 of this newsletter.

### UPCOMING EVENT...

Below is the date for our next conference which you can add to your calendar and day timer. For more items and regular updates visit our website at [www.ncaeha.com](http://www.ncaeha.com).

JANUARY 2014

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

FEBRUARY 2014

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

MARCH 2014

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

APRIL 2014

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

## EDUCATIONAL ARTICLE CORNER

### **Prove those antibacterial soaps are better and safe, FDA tells makers\***

Antibacterial soaps don't seem to add any germ-killing power to plain old soap and water and in fact may have some health risks, the Food and Drug Administration said Monday.

So the agency is proposing a new rule that would force soap makers to prove that products with added antibacterial ingredients such as triclosan are safe and effective —something certain to be highly controversial.

They'll have a year to prove it, the FDA says. And they're encouraging public comment, too. "To put it simply, we need to collect additional information from the companies that make these products so that consumers can be confident about their effectiveness and about their safety," the FDA's Dr. Sandra Kweder told reporters in a telephone briefing. Antibacterial soap isn't better than soap and water, the FDA says.

"Under the rule, manufacturers would be required to provide additional safety data for these products before they can be recognized as 'generally recognized as safe for use.'" Generally recognized as safe — GRAS for short — is a designation that covers ingredients that are broadly used and, as the name implies, safe in a wide variety of foods or products.

"The proposed rule covers only those consumer antibacterial soaps and body washes that are used with water. It does not apply to hand sanitizers, hand wipes or antibacterial soaps that are used in health care settings such as hospitals," the FDA says in a blog post. The goal would be to have a final rule by September 2016, Kweder said.

It's not a new issue. The FDA started asking about triclosan in 1978. Environmental groups and some members of Congress, such as Massachusetts Democrat Edward Markey, have been calling for limits on the use of triclosan. The National Resources Defense Council (NRDC) sued and the FDA agreed last month to do something about triclosan by 2016.

"It's outrageous that FDA has waited 35 years to protect the public from this harmful chemical. This final rule should prohibit triclosan from use in soaps," Mae Wu, a lawyer for NRDC's health program, said in November.

There's no proof yet that triclosan is dangerous to people, the FDA says. But studies are ongoing and there are hints it could be.

"Animal studies have shown that triclosan may alter the way hormones work in the body," the agency said. While animal studies don't always predict a problem for humans, the FDA said the studies "are of concern to FDA as well, and warrant further investigation to better understand how they might affect humans."

"In addition, laboratory studies have raised the possibility that triclosan contributes to making bacteria resistant to antibiotics. Such resistance can have a significant impact on the effectiveness of medical treatments."

People will have 180 days to comment and the FDA is encouraging researchers from industry, academic institutions and elsewhere to submit any data they might have that will shed light on triclosan's safety and effectiveness.

The FDA did not say what has prompted the move to suggest a new regulation for triclosan, which is used in 93 percent of liquid products labeled "antibacterial" or "antimicrobial."

"The data that we are talking about are mostly animal studies," Kweder said. But some have shown the products can change hormone levels if ingested or absorbed — affecting estrogen and thyroid hormones, for instance.

It's also not clear if just using soap and then washing it off would expose people to enough of the chemical to have any ill effect.

But it's equally unclear whether adding these chemicals to products offers any benefit at all, Kweder said. "We want companies to actually test these products so consumers who purchase them know if there is any benefit at all over plain soap and water," she said.

And she said sometimes companies seem to be promoting these products in a misleading way, for instance, with pictures showing people who appear to have viral illnesses such as colds or the flu. Antibacterials do not affect viruses.

Kweder says at least 2,000 different soap products contain triclosan or some other antimicrobial agent. While they're popular, she says, "you can absolutely buy liquid soaps that don't have triclosan in them. I looked this weekend to be sure."

The proposed rule only affects hand soaps and body washes. Triclosan is often used in toothpaste and it's been shown to help kill germs that cause gum disease, Kweder said.

While more testing is needed to demonstrate whether triclosan can hurt people who wash their hands with it, Stuart Levy and colleagues at Tufts University have shown how it can help cause bacteria to mutate into forms than can resist the chemical's effects.

Triclosan breaks open the cell walls of bacteria, killing them. By the way, it takes several hours to do this, so triclosan can do little good in the time it takes to wash and dry hands, says Levy.

His team did experiments in the late 1990s that showed the bacteria could evolve just enough and make cell walls using a mechanism that bypassed triclosan's effects. "We grew bacteria in the presence of triclosan," Levy said. His other concern — what are millions of gallons of triclosan-treated soap going down drains doing to bacteria in sewers, lakes, rivers and the ocean?

The American Cleaning Institute defends the safety of triclosan and says it has given FDA numerous studies showing the chemical is effective.

---

\* Fox, Maggie. "Prove Those Antibacterial Soaps Are Better and Safe, FDA Tells Makers." *NBC News Health*. N.p., 16 Dec. 2013. Web.

## Renew your Membership

Complete the following application to renew your membership for 2014. Mail the completed application with the appropriate membership fee (payable by check or money order to NCAEHA) to:

Bruce Flippens, Treasurer  
National Capital Area Environmental Health Association  
2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW #361  
Washington, DC 20006

Or renew online using paypal at [www.ncaeha.com](http://www.ncaeha.com)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership & Credentials – Check all that apply

NEHA Member? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

REHS/RS\_\_\_ CFSP\_\_\_ CEHT\_\_\_ RET\_\_\_ RHSP\_\_\_ RHSS\_\_\_ OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

### Employer – Check one

Academia\_\_\_ Industry\_\_\_ Private Consultant\_\_\_ Retired\_\_\_ Student\_\_\_

State Government\_\_\_ Local Government\_\_\_ Federal Government \_\_\_

### Classes of Membership – Select one

#### \_\_\_ Regular (\$15)

Any person who is actively employed in the field of Environmental Health as an environmental health specialist, sanitarian, or industrial hygienist or who is interested in the field of Environmental Health.

#### \_\_\_ Honorary Lifetime (\$0)

Past NCAEHA Presidents, Jerrold M. Michael Award recipients, or any person for unusually distinguished achievement or service in the Environmental Health field as conferred by the Board of Directors. Members in this class shall not be required to pay dues.

#### \_\_\_ Supporting\* (\$150)

Any company, corporation or association with a general interest in and desire to contribute to the objectives of the Association. Members in this class shall not have voting rights.

#### \_\_\_ Student (\$5)

Any student working towards a degree in Environmental Health or a related field.

#### \_\_\_ Silver (\$5)

A retiree from active employment in the field of Environmental Health

## NEHA INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

☐ **Yes!** I'm joining NEHA today. My dues payment is enclosed.

☐ Please send me more information on (please check all that apply):

- ☐ NEHA
- ☐ NEHA's upcoming ABC & Exhibition
- ☐ NEHA Publications
- ☐ NEHA Workshops
- ☐ Becoming a SUSTAINING MEMBER
- ☐ Becoming an EDUCATIONAL MEMBER

The following NEHA credential applications and information:

- ☐ REHS/RS (Registered Environmental Health Specialist/Registered Sanitarian)
- ☐ CFSP (Certified Food Safety Professional)
- ☐ CEHT (Certified Environmental Health Technician)
- ☐ RET (Registered Environmental Technician)
- ☐ RHSP (Registered Hazardous Substances Professional)
- ☐ RHSS (Registered Hazardous Substances Specialist)
- ☐ NEHA National Radon Proficiency Program

☐ Food Safety Training Materials (NEHA Training LLC)

### 1. CONTACT INFORMATION:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization/Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Area of Expertise: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Referred by (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ Membership ID # \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:

Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ for one year's dues as an **INDIVIDUAL MEMBER** of the National Environmental Health Association.

[Dues: Individual, \$95 per year (U.S. & Canada); Student, \$25 per year (verification of full-time student status required with payment); and International, \$125 per year. All memberships begin when payment is received and are renewable each year.]

### 3. METHOD OF PAYMENT:

☐ Check enclosed

☐ Mastercard or Visa

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
11/06

### 4. FAX OR MAIL TO:

National Environmental Health Association

720 S. Colorado Blvd., Ste. 1000-N

Denver, CO 80246-1925

Phone: 303-756-9090 Fax: 303-691-9490

E-Mail: [staff@neha.org](mailto:staff@neha.org) Internet: [www.neha.org](http://www.neha.org)

WEBMEM



## NCAEHA 2014 WINTER EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

Clyde's of Tysons Corner  
8332 Leesburg Pike, Vienna VA 22182

### AGENDA

*(Speakers Subject to Change)*

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2014**

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 8:00-9:00   | <b>General Registration and Beverages</b><br><b>NOTE: BREAKFAST IS NOT PROVIDED</b>   |
| 9:00-9:05   | <b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b><br>Anna Durden, Virginia Representative<br>Shannon McKeon, NCAEHA President  |
| 9:05-9:15   | <b>Welcoming Remarks</b><br>Pieter Sheehan, Director of Environmental Health, Fairfax County Health Department  |
| 9:15-9:30   | <b>Installation of Officers, NEHA Update</b>  |
| 9:30-10:15  | <b>2013 Food Code Changes</b><br>Larry Edwards, Regional Retail Food Specialist, FDA  |
| 10:15-10:30 | <b>Morning Break</b>  |
| 10:30-11:15 | <b>The Art and Finesse of Restaurant Inspections</b><br>Cathy Gossman, Alexandria Health Department<br>Joe Gossman, Arlington County Health Department  |
| 11:15-12:00 | <b>Sustainable DC</b><br>Heather Reffett (Policy Analyst at DC Department of Health )   |
| 12:00-1:00  | <b>Lunch</b>  |
| 1:00-1:45   | <b>Fairfax Recycles</b><br>Benjamin Boxer, Public Information Officer, <i>Capital Facilities, Land Development Services and Solid Waste Management</i> ,<br>Fairfax County Department of Public Works |
| 1:45-2:30   | <b>Permanent Education: Tattoos and Safety</b><br>Chrissy Fauls, Chief Instructor, On The Scene   |
| 2:30-2:45   | <b>Afternoon Break</b>  |
| 2:45-3:15   | <b>A Day in the Life of a Temp Event</b><br>Carlton W. Shutt, Premiere Hospitality  |
| 3:15-3:45   | <b>Poultry Discharges and E. coli in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed</b><br>Nora Wong, Masters Student and 2013 NCAEHA Scholarship Recipient   |
| 3:45-4:00   | <b>Special Announcements and Closing Remarks</b>  |

Please R.S.V.P. by January 27, 2014 at [rsvp@ncaeha.com](mailto:rsvp@ncaeha.com) (Provide complete name, e-mail, and agency)

Conference Fee: NCAEHA members - \$15.00 and non-members \$30.00

(Payment accepted onsite – Cash, Check or Credit Card)

(5 CEUs available for full day attendance)



## National Capital Area Environmental Health Association

### **NOMINATION FORM: JERROLD M. MICHAEL AWARD (ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR)**

**NOMINATED BY:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOMINEE:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach a brief (one page or less) explanation of the reasons you believe that the above named individual should be selected as this year's Jerrold M. Michael Award recipient. Specifically describe how this person has contributed to his or her employer's environmental health mission, to the goals of the National Capital Area Environmental Health Association, and to the advancement of the environmental health profession.

**THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE MAY CONTACT YOU FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.**

Nominations may be sent either by postal service or email to the NCAEHA Vice President of Membership and must be received by **May 1, 2014**.

Send complete nominations to:

Arian Gibson  
DC DOH/HRLA/FSHISD  
899 North Capitol St NE  
Washington, DC 20002  
[agibson@ncaeha.com](mailto:agibson@ncaeha.com)



# National Capital Area Environmental Health Association

## James M. Wordsworth Scholarship Application

1. Name (Last, First, Middle Initial): \_\_\_\_\_
2. Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_
3. City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_
5. E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Are you an active member of the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA)? YES/NO
7. Are you an active member of the National Capital Area Environmental Health Association (NCAEHA)? YES/NO

8. Education (list most current first)

School	Major	Dates	Degree

Year and date of expected graduation from current program: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

9. Employment history (list present employer first):

Employer	Job Title	Years Employed
1.		
2.		
3.		

10. Write a short summary of your professional achievements, including any major contributions you have made that resulted in the increased protection of human health and the environment. (Not to exceed one type written page, attach additional page if necessary)

---



---



---



---



---

11. List civic groups and other community activities of which you are a member. Also, note any special honors received. (Attach additional page if necessary)

---



---



---



---

Send completed application by **May 1, 2014** to: DC Department of Health, Attn: Arian Gibson, 899 North Capitol St NE, Washington DC 20002, Fax: 202-535-1359, [agibson@ncaeha.com](mailto:agibson@ncaeha.com)