

Region III Full SFIREG Meeting Report

Prepared for June 4-5th

Below are the State Reports collected during the Pre-SFIREG meeting held in Philadelphia PA, March 19th-20th 2018

After completing the grants portion of the meeting the Pre-SFIREG meeting began.

Due to impending snow storm agenda was shortened. To save time states chose to give a copy of their state report to each state for review rather than presenting to group.

The group then discussed the following topics:

1. State opinion on CEU's as part of Use & Records Inspection – All states in region opposed the awarding of CEU's in association with enforcement activities.
2. Photo log vs. initialing & dating all records.
 - Looking for guidance on electronic photo logs without initialing & dating each document/record
 - EPA does not have a rule that addresses this issue
 - If you sign off on the electronic photo log (CD) – that is sufficient. If you print off each document, then you must initial & date each picture
 - EPA said photo log on CD is sufficient from an enforcement standpoint considering that it may be used in the court of law during a case (would be testifying to the photos on the CD)
 - EPA digital photo guidance (Holly mentioned)
3. Pennsylvania gave an overview of the planned agenda for the inspectors workshop in October.
4. Region III representative transition discussed. Washington D.C. assumes the role after the June 2018 meeting.

STATE REPORTS BELOW

State of Delaware

March 20th 2018

Pre-SFIREG State Report -- Philadelphia

A: General Overview

Staff Changes:

- Delaware Department of Agriculture Pesticide section is fully staffed as of March 19, 2018.
- Stephen McReynolds, Environmental Scientist II (Inspector) will be retiring June 30th 2018.

Budget Outlook:

- State of Delaware is currently stable.
- Governor proposed a \$1000 dollar raise in State of the State address. Nothing final.

Equipment/Technology:

- DDA continues to support Fieldwatch/Driftwatch/BeeCheck website. Continue to gain more registered sites. Most of the new sites are beekeepers. DDA has been doing a lot of outreach for the MP3 and BeeCheck. –still true.
- Update: Database is now live. New database allows for online payments for: dealer permits, product registration, business license and certification. Database will also allow applicators to purchase study materials and sign up for testing and some courses online. Database is still being refined. Getting more users to login is the key.

Statute/Regulatory Changes

- Monitoring the status of the C&T changes. Some Rules and Regulations changes will most likely need to be made. (Now awaiting EPA template/guidance)

B. Program Specific Issues

- ***Certification & Training:*** Training DVD is now online and functioning. Agricultural Specialist (Ben) is conducting WPS outreach activities. Ben goes through checklist with growers to check for compliance with the new/old regulations. This is being done in the off-season before workers show up. Still waiting for CPARD to be operational.
- ***Water Quality:*** DDA is continuing to monitor the state's shallow groundwater for pesticide residues using the state-wide network of shallow monitor wells. Sample cost has increased greatly. Cost went from \$110.00 per sample to \$263.00 per sample DDA may start sampling wells every other year to reduce the impact of the increase.
- ***Worker Protection:*** DDA continues to provide outreach materials as they become available. As mentioned above compliance visits are being conducted with every grower we can identify. Ben has recorded every location visited.
- ***Endangered Species:*** When requested, DDA provides pesticide analytical testing for wildlife cases involving endangered species.
- ***Disposal/Recycling:*** DDA continues to support this project with monthly pickup in each county. DDA collected 46,510 lbs. of plastic for chipping and shipped 28,737 lbs. in bale form (Calendar year 2017). U.S Ag Recycling provided on-site chipping at several locations in DE. The program is popular with the commercial applicators and growers but continues to be a drain on DDA's manpower and funds. 2018 pickups will resume in April.
- ***Obsolete Pesticide Disposal:*** MXI Environmental Services, Inc. contract was extended for 2017. The program is being offered to farmer first, commercial applicators second and finally to pesticide retailers. DDA had an April 2017 collection; this collection added over 10,000lbs of obsolete pesticides to the totals amount collected. Since the start of the program, DDA has collected 93,000lbs from 200 locations. Update –Pickup scheduled for April 2018.

C. Enforcement Update:

- Several civil penalties issued. Total of \$43,945.00.
- Biggest case involved unlicensed Custom Ag. Applicator. –Fully paid \$38,500.00

EPA REGION III Pre-SFIREG/GRANTS MEETING

March 20-21, 2018

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES

OFFICE OF PESTICIDE SERVICES

STATE REPORT

Budget

The 2018 General Assembly Session concluded with no pesticide related bills being heard. There was one proposal to prohibit, beginning July 1, 2019, the outdoor application of neonicotinoids on any property

that is either owned or maintained by the Commonwealth or zoned for residential use. The prohibition would not have applied to the use of neonicotinoids purchased before July 1, 2018, or to any facility or other entity licensed by the Commonwealth or the federal government to conduct research on neonicotinoids. This bill was pulled as the request of the Patron.

Personnel

The Office of Pesticide Services currently has seven vacation positions including two full time administrative positions, two part-time administrative position, two pesticide investigator positions, and an additional full time professional/technical position.

Commissioner Sandy Adams retired at the end of 2017. Charles Green, Deputy Commissioner, is serving as the Acting Commissioner until a new Commissioner is appointed.

Regulatory Update

The following laws and regulations have recently been amended or are currently being amended:

1. Proposed - *Chapter 675 (Rules and Regulations Governing the Pesticide Fees Charged by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services under the Virginia Pesticide Control Act)*. The current certification fees for pesticide applicators and licensing fees for pesticide businesses have been in place since 1990. The current pesticide product registration fee has been in place since 1999 (\$160/year). The Board approved the following proposed amendments:

- o Increase the annual product registration fee from \$160 per year to \$225 per year;
- o Increase the certification fee for commercial applicators from \$70 every two years to \$100 every two years;
- o Increase the certification fee for registered technicians from \$30 every two years to \$50 every two years; and
- o Increase the annual pesticide business license fee from \$50 per year to \$150 per year.

Currently undergoing a second executive branch review, which will be followed by a public comment period. Given the change in administrations, the proposed regulation was required to be reviewed again by the newly appointed Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry and returned to the Governor's Office. This is the second stage of a three-stage process.

It is VDACS intention to begin the (re)hiring process once the regulation advances to the third stage.

Certification, License, Registration & Training

During FY17, OPS certified 6,830 private applicators, 7,976 commercial applicators, and 8,478 registered technicians to apply pesticides in the Commonwealth. OPS also licensed 2,905 pesticide businesses and registered 15,798 pesticide products.

Staff participated in or monitored a total of 129 training sessions (certification/recertification) of the 303 continuing education course outlines or agendas were reviewed and/or approved for certification or recertification of pesticide applicators.

Enforcement & Compliance

During FY 2017, Field staff conducted 1381 inspections and 131 investigations, which resulted in the issuance of civil penalties totaling \$24,380. These penalties and other enforcement actions were contained within 53 unique cases. Staff also conducted 199 marketplace registration inspections, checking the registration status of over 3,000 products.

Select Program Activities

VDACS Pesticide Collection and Plastic Pesticide Container Recycling Programs, on hiatus for calendar year 2017, have been reinstated for 2018:

□ The Pesticide Collection Program, which assists agricultural producers, licensed pesticide dealers, pest control firms, golf courses and homeowners with the proper disposal of unwanted pesticides, will take place in the following localities: Amelia, Bedford, Amherst, Danville, Appomattox, Lynchburg, Bedford, Martinsville, Brunswick, South Boston, Buckingham, Campbell, Charlotte, Cumberland, Franklin, Halifax, Henry, Lunenburg, Nottoway, Mecklenburg, Patrick, Pittsylvania, and Prince Edward. Collections are tentatively scheduled for the September – October timeframe.

□ Localities again have the opportunity to participate in this year's Plastic Pesticide Container Recycling Program, which provides a convenient and environmentally friendly way to dispose of properly rinsed plastic pesticide containers. Participation requires localities enter into a cooperative agreement with VDACS. Grant monies are provided to participating local government to defray the costs. Recycling sites are established in participating localities to accept properly rinsed plastic pesticide containers. Containers are granulated by a contractor with assistance from VDACS and local personnel. Granulations are tentatively scheduled for the Fall.

As part of its *Virginia's Voluntary Plan to Mitigate the Risk of Pesticides to Managed Pollinators*, VDACS has procured FieldWatch. VDACS is providing the online technology based communication tool to all beekeepers (*BeeCheck* – Apiary Registry) and pesticide applicators (*FieldWatch*) to facilitate communication and coordination and thereby reduce the potential for pesticide exposure to bees. VDACS is not utilizing *DriftWatch* (specialty crop registry) at this time; and will not accept submissions of crops through *DriftWatch* or *BeeCheck*. *FieldWatch* is being introduced to stakeholders beginning with beekeepers followed by pesticide applicators. Full implementation is expected by the end of calendar year 2018.

DOEE

Pre-SFIREG State Report SPRING 2018-March 20-22

REGULATORY/LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

District Restricted Use Pesticides

This spring, DOEE will publish rules to implement the Pesticide Education and Control Amendment Act of 2016 (PECA 2016) to facilitate the adoption of additional District restricted

use pesticides. The DC Council included language in PECA 2016 stating that “the Department may rely on the findings of state, national, or international government bodies or non-governmental organizations that publish lists of chemicals that are known or likely to be hazardous to human health or the environment”.

DOEE is proposing to add several chemicals recognized by the state of California as requiring restricted use. Additionally, DOEE proposes to adopt Maryland law that restricts the use of neonicotinoid pesticides. DOEE proposes that these chemicals will become District restricted-use pesticides on October 1, 2020, to allow the program sufficient time from the date in which the rulemaking is finalized to incorporate the changes in its databases and records, to allow for outreach with product registrants, and to provide DOEE with time to review labels in renewal applications.

Banning Neonicotinoids

Based on the District restricted-use pesticide changes and the Councilmember’s continuing interest in banning neonicotinoids, the program is in the process of updating the regulations and revising District classifications of pesticides to include restricting the use of neonicotinoids.

DOEE anticipates needing significant time to review product renewal applications with this proposed rulemaking. DOEE registers close to 8,000 products annually with a significant majority of these registrations being product renewals. Product renewals typically take less time than original applications because, unlike original applications, renewals do not require a substantive review of labels. However, DOEE will have to re-review product labels for renewal registrations assuming this rulemaking is finalized. This is because many of the proposed Districts restricted-use pesticides do not qualify as such if they are labeled to be used in particular ways. For instance, a neonicotinoid pesticide is not a District restricted-use pesticide if it is to be used as a personal care product to mitigate lice and bugs. Thus, the Department will need to engage in a thorough and rigorous label review of renewal applications, after the rule is finalized but prior to October 1, 2020, to verify whether products are a District restricted-use pesticide.

To correspond with adding District restricted-use pesticides that are not recognized by the U.S. EPA as restricted use, the DOEE proposes a change to the definition in 20 DCMR 2299.1 of “restricted-use pesticide” to explicitly include District restricted-use pesticides. DOEE is proposing this to make clear that all of the restrictions that apply to “restricted-use pesticides” also apply to “District restricted-use pesticides.” This means that, among other requirements, District restricted-use pesticides shall only be sold by a licensed dealer and shall only be purchased and used by a licensed applicator.

PROGRAM POLICY

PESTICIDE PRODUCT REGISTRATION PROGRAM POLICY CHANGES

DfE

As a follow up to the DOEE Pesticide Program policy to not register products with the DfE label as we felt many of the labels were misleading, a meeting was held between CSPA and our Director to discuss the policy.

As a result of discussion at that meeting DOEE is registering antimicrobial products bearing the Design for the Environment (DfE) logo. Our product registration team will accept those products upon completing our normal product registration review process. We immediately posted language to indicate that we will be accepting these products in FY18 on our website.

Registration of Multiple size, weights, fragrances of Pesticide Products

As reported at the last Pre-SFIREG meeting DOEE has always had a policy to register multiple size, weights, etc. of the same pesticide as single packages. Our justification for this is that despite the size of the package or weight (Gallon vs pint, we still review all labels. In the past we have seen product of the same pesticides with different labels depending on size. We were challenged by a law firm representing CSPA alleging that we were in violation of FIFRA § 24(b) labeling or packaging requirements.

We are now registering products in the District as a single product regardless of multiple package sizes and weights we immediately started accepting all products under the new policy. Products that have been registered under the old policy in 2018 will receive a credit for those registration fees. The credits will be applied over the next 3 years (2019 – 2021) depending on the size of the credit.

INVESTIGATIONS

PESTICIDE PRODUCTS/DEVICES REFERRED TO EPA FOR REVIEW

Main Stay Citronella Outdoor Candle

- (1) Recently we received a new pesticide registration application for Main Stay Citronella Outdoor Candle representing as a 25 b product. The Main Stay candle had only one active ingredient, Citronella Oil at 3 %. The label was reviewed and no pesticidal claims were made within the text. However, the following statement was included “This product has not been registered by the USEPA. Walmart-Stores, LLC represents that this product qualifies for exemption from registration from FIFRA”. This exemption statement is at odds with the absence of pesticidal claims. The registration agent acknowledged that the label made no claims and opted to withdraw the application. We are concerned that the product containing the FIFRA exemption statement will be available to the public, potentially misleading consumers to believe that this product is in fact a minimum risk 25 b product. DOEE submitted all information to EPA Region 3.

Main Stay Citronella Outdoor Candle # 2 (different formulation)

- (2) After we submitted information on the product Main Stay Citronella Outdoor Candle to EPA Region 3 for evaluation. We now have supporting information for the *another* Citronella 25 b no claim candle we received an application for and did not register. This candle label looks almost identical to the first item but the formulation is slightly different. The label, application, statement of formula and supporting packet submitted by the registrant was submitted to EPA Region 3.

Cryonite (Rapid Freeze)

- (3) During a recent investigation we were informed by Terminix that Cryonite (Rapid Freeze) is EPA Registration Exempt (see attached exemption letter). Cryonite (Rapid Freeze) is identified in the exemption letter as a device which freezes insect pests with the application of dry ice generated from carbon dioxide gas. Terminix has indicated that since the product is exempt no label is necessary. Cryonite (Rapid Freeze) appears to be the same as "Rat Ice" (Dry Ice) which is a registered pesticide product by both EPA and the District. Both products carry a pesticidal claim. DOEE submitted all information to EPA Region 3.

DrainGel

- (4) While review of 25b products we recently came across this product DrainGel that is currently being advertised on Amazon. It does not appear to be a registered pesticide or an exempt product. We identified this product before the announcement regarding the investigation and enforcement action at Amazon. The product label does make pesticidal claims (kills drain flies, phorid flies and fruit flies). DOEE submitted all information to EPA Region 3.

ENFORCEMENT

- (1) \$8,000 Unlicensed Operator
- (2) \$3,000 Unlicensed Operator
- (3) \$1,000 (Stop Use)
- (4) 309 NOV-IPM

Pesticide Product Annual Usage Reports

Each year, on or before February 1, operators are required to submit particular pesticide application information to the Department. Operators are required to report EPA Number, Amount, Measurement (lbs, oz, gallons, etc.), and form of pesticide applied during calendar year 2017.

With this information from all operators, the Department will better understand the amount and type of pesticides applied in the District of Columbia, how that data changes over time, and the impact of Department efforts, such as the implementation of integrated pest management, to reduce unnecessary pesticide application.

Failure to report by February 1, 2018 results in \$1,000 fine. We have identified 275 operators who have not submitted their report. We will be sending NOV's out to all of the 275.

Integrated Pest Management

DOEE continues to review and approve all IPM Plans that have been submitted to the Program.

DOEE continues to reach out to child-occupied facilities that have not submitted IPM plans. To date, DOEE has mailed out a total of 234 NOV's. This number includes an additional 75 NOV's currently being processed. This spring, DOEE will follow up with NOI (Notice of Infraction assessing a fine) for non-compliant child-occupied facilities.

The program will repeat presentations in each of the 8 Wards in the District. We will also participate in DC Agency sponsored events when we can reach out to the community and hope to reach out to additional District Agencies. Anne Murray is currently working on an IPM map using GIS analysis. The map includes all the DC childcare centers, schools and pesticide applications with information we can pull from each Pesticide operator/applicator who reported the annual usage as required by DC law. The mapping will identify where pesticides are applied, how much and if there are hot spots we should be concerned about.

Certification, Licensing and Training

Four private universities in the District requested that DOEE determine if they were required to hold an applicators license to apply pesticides at the school. After a review of the DC Regulations for Operator/Applicator licensing the program attorney determined that the Catholic University of America (CUA), Georgetown University, American University and Howard University and its employees do not need to obtain a pesticide operator or applicator license.

The Universities were informed that while no license is required, the Universities are still required to adhere to District law and regulations related to pesticide application. Among other requirements, no person may apply any pesticide in a manner that is harmful to human health, non-target organisms, or the environment. Additionally, all pesticides must be used in strict accordance with the manufacturer's labeling directions. In the future, prior purchasing or using a restricted-use pesticide, the University would need to apply for such a license with the Department.

UDC CAUSES (College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences)

DOEE has come to an agreement with UDC CAUSES. We expect the MOU will be in effect by April 1, 2018.

In the agreement, DOEE and UDC CAUSES drafted a preliminary position description for the program coordinator of the integrated pest management, and pesticide applicator training programs. UDC CAUSES shared this proposed position description with its network of land-grant universities and received valuable feedback on the position description and the title of the position. UDC CAUSES anticipates posting the position description as soon as they have DOEE's approval of the changes in the MOU. UDC CAUSES expects to offer the first training programs with the start of the 2018 growing season in May or early June of this year.

UDC CAUSES is prepared to also draw upon its Urban Food Hubs locations as potential training sites to supplement the training programs that will be conducted at Firebird Farm.

Pennsylvania State Report Region 3 Pre-SFIREG Meeting March 2018

Staffing

Staffing for the Pesticide Program has been stable for the past year. The staff currently has 1 credential administrator, 6 credentialed regional supervisors and 13 credentialed inspectors. Currently, Don Gilbert (Enforcement), Jim Cunningham (Environmental) and Darryl Dressler (Inspector Region 6) are working on obtaining their EPA credentials. Upon credentialing, the department will have returned to pre- 2008 staffing levels. The Division of Health and Safety currently has an opening for a clerk and is working to fill this vacancy with a full time seasonal

employee (8 ½ months assignment). There are no anticipated retirements now; however, there could be several retirements within the 24 months.

Funding

The pesticide program is self-funded through a restricted account which continues to provide stable funding for the program. EPA FY18 (7-1-17 thru 6-30-18) funds were released for use and draw down on these funds for program activities is on track.

Regulation Changes

PDA is still conducting outreach training to growers and stakeholder groups on the changes to the Worker Protection Standard which became active on January 2, 2017. PDA has begun the review process concerning potential regulation changes at the state level in anticipation of the potential EPA changes to the C&T requirements.

The Controlled Plants and Noxious Weeds Act passed through the Pennsylvania legislature and was signed into law by Governor Tom Wolf on October 30, 2017. The Controlled Plants and noxious Weeds Act replaces the Act 1982-74, the Pennsylvania Noxious Weed Control Act. The new law takes a proactive approach in prevention and control of invasive and noxious weeds that can have negative impacts on the commonwealth. A new controlled plant section will enable the growth of plants with economic value and/or beneficial characteristics, but potential invasive plant tendencies, to be grown for biofuel or other uses (medical marijuana and industrial hemp). This new law also updates the current list of noxious weeds to include several new weeds that are having negative impacts in Pennsylvania, and places those weeds in A, B, and C categories based on threat, area of infestation, and eradication potential.

Enforcement

The PDA Enforcement Program continues to provide a strong enforcement presence while at the same time, promoting education and compliance assistance during inspection opportunities. Civil penalty assessments have continued and are an effective enforcement tool. For FY 18 126 cases were completed with 84 civil penalties and 42 Notice of Warnings issued

Pollinators

PDA continues to investigate bee kill complaints during 2017. The PDA laboratory screens samples for 7 neonicotinoids and for 160 compounds on the LCMS/MS. There were four bee kill investigations in 2017. Of the four investigations only one sample tested positive for trace amounts of a pyrethrin in the honeycomb. During the investigation it was determined that the owner of the hive was responsible for the death of the bees. In the other three investigations there were no other pesticides detected and these cases were closed. All bee kill investigations were reported to beekill@epa.gov.

Dr. Christina Grozinger, Director of the Center of Pollinator Research at Penn State University worked with PDA to organize a task force and advisory groups to contribute to the Pennsylvania Pollinator Protection Plan. The P4 was developed with input from 36 individuals represented 28 states- and national organizations and stakeholder groups. It summarizes the current state of pollinators in Pennsylvania, and provides recommendations for best practices and resources to

support and expand pollinator populations. The P4 plan was announced in January 2018 at the Pennsylvania Farm Show.

Worker Protection Standard

PDA continues to contract with the Pennsylvania Office of Rural Health (PORH) to provide WPS compliance assistance to all Pennsylvania growers. With the publication of the changes to WPS we are planning on updating the seven commodity DVDs so they can continue to be used as approved training for workers and handlers. Currently, there are two DVD's available that have been completed – they are Orchards and Greenhouses. The DVD's can be purchased directly from PORH, PERC or can viewed directly through YouTube.

Our inspection staff continues to attend training on the changes to the regulation. PDA continues to participate in a pilot program with Indiana and Oregon for conducting focused WPS inspections that concentrate on the revised sections of the WPS standard.

Certification & Training

PDA continues the process to transition category exams to closed book status. As category exams or study materials are revised the process to change previously open book exams to close book status is put in place. Currently, Category 06 Ornamental & Shade Tree, Category 07 Lawn and Turf, Category 9 Aquatic Pest Control, Category 11 Household & health related, Category 22 Interior Plant Scape, Category 24 Swimming Pools and the Core exam as closed book tests. PDA feels this better aligns with EPA guidelines, will increase exam security, and better align our testing practices with surrounding states. CPARD has not been updated due to technical issues with the system.

For 2017 PDA inspectors proctored 318 testing sessions at locations across the Commonwealth. During these exam sessions over 7,000 examinations were administered. The numbers of certified applicators are holding steady which is offsetting the decline in private applicators. PDA staff attended 334 of the instate meetings and had giving 82 presentations.

Water Quality-Groundwater Monitoring

A four-year contract with USGS began in January 2017 with focus on sampling and analysis in the vulnerable settings in PA. The objective of continued Joint Funding Agreements (JFA) with USGS is to maintain an ongoing monitoring network to detect pesticide occurrence in the most vulnerable settings in Pennsylvania. We have received results from the sampling conducted during 2017. Meetings are scheduled to work on a new multi-year contract to revisit highly leachable areas. This contract will include retesting of wells to develop data for decadal comparisons.

PDA has received a report from USGS on the fifty-seven EPA pesticides of interest (POI) and are being evaluated and will be entered into the POINTS database by the end of March 2018. For Performance Measure 1, PDA has evaluated 98.2% of the POI list: Isoxaflutole remains as the sole POI for which PDA has no sampling data, thus there has been no evaluation.

CHEMSWEEP Waste Pesticide Disposal Program

PDA continues to support the waste pesticide disposal stewardship program. 2017 activities included:

- Farm-to-farm collections in 15 counties totaled 57,453 pounds.
- Fourteen HHW events in 12 counties collected 68261 lbs. of homeowner pesticides

- Total of 125,714 lbs. collected.

For 2018, 19 counties are included for farm-to-farm collections. Currently we have 9 counties conducting 7 HHW events. Site inventories have been mailed to 8000 applicators and businesses with collections to begin in June.

Plastic Pesticide Container Recycling Program (PPCR).

PDA continues to offer the PPCR program to the agricultural and professional pesticide application industries. Single-use bottles and drums are collected and granulated from 165 locations across Pennsylvania. 123,000 pounds of pesticide containers were recycled in 2017.

Laboratory

The laboratory has continued participation in the AAPCO pesticide formulation check sample program and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture pesticide residue check sample program. PDA has purchased an Agilent 1260 HPLC/UV-Vis/ Fluorescence instrument system and a Horizion solvent evaporation system with the periodic EPA lab funding we received in 2017. These pieces of equipment will be used to support the pesticide residue and pesticide formulation testing programs.

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**West Virginia Department of Agriculture
Pesticide Regulatory Programs**

**State Report
EPA Region 3 Pre-SFIREG Meeting
Philadelphia, PA
March 21, 2018**

Staff and Budget

New Division Director for Regulatory and Environmental Affairs Division is Amie Minor. Amie was a long-time microbiologist with WVDA.

Morgantown and Inwood Pesticide Regulatory Officer positions have been filled by Braley Burke and Andrea O'Dell. The Parkersburg position is being advertised as an Ag Materials/Pesticide Regulatory Officer and is currently listed on the website. Jennifer Hathaway hired to fill the Environmental Programs Specialist position. Two Pesticide Residue Chemist positions are vacant, see web site.

During the 2018 Legislative Session teachers from all 55 counties walked out for nine school days demanding a 5% raise and a budget fix for PEIA. Legislators worked their budget magic to include a 5% raise for all state employees, a 17 month freeze on PEIA premiums and a PEIA Task Force was started to look at long term budget source/solution for PEIA.

Regulation

A bill was introduced in the 2018 session allowing active military personnel exemption from state licenses/fees.

WPS Outreach and Ag Safety Days

WPS outreach continues statewide. Numerous presentations at conferences and site visits have been well received by the regulated community. Continue Ag Safety Days events to provide WPS outreach, respirator fit testing, equipment safety training and First Aid/CPR. Next scheduled event is April 10-12.

Pollinator Protection

Worked in cooperation with Plant Industries Division to draft a Managed Pollinator Protection Plan. Contacted stakeholders for input with subsequent revisions. MP3 is available for use and comment. www.agriculture.wv.gov/divisions/plantindustries

Plastic Pesticide Container Recycling

10 sites available for collecting plastic pesticide containers for recycling. Have purchased sea container for 3 recycling locations set up at WVDA field offices and one grower location. Remaining 7 locations utilize rented sea containers. Purchased pressure rinse nozzles to encourage more recycling.

Waste and Unwanted Pesticides

Sought 1 year \$25,000 request for quotations. Entered into a one-year contract for mobile collection site setup and collection services and per trip/per mile when products are deemed unfit for transport. Contract started the first of March. The first pesticide collection event is schedule for Berkeley County Residence only in Mid-April.

WV Plants

Web based product and applicator data tracking via USA Plants went live November 1, 2011. Online payment for renewal of pesticide products and applicators was added in 2014 for the 2015 Renewal Season. Renewal season is November 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018.

MiForms

Field testing electronic inspection forms with HP tablets.

C&T Revisions

Applicator age of 18 needs to be addressed in regulations. Private applicator exams are currently open book take home.

Groundwater Protection

Entered into a financial agreement with WV DEP for a 5-year groundwater monitoring program. Establishing ten locations across the state of West Virginia that are more vulnerable to pesticide exposure. Analysis to begin in 2018.