

# FLORIDA BEACON

## From the President's Desk Elva Peppers



Florida Association of  
Environmental Professionals  
Spring 2023



Hello FAEP Members,

### FAEP Board of Directors

It's an exciting spring for the FAEP. We have several events for members coming up, our membership is on the rise and our chapters are more active than ever!

Two exciting and valuable opportunities are coming up this spring, with the FAEP and CFAEP sponsored Hydric Soils Training Class in Orlando on April 28<sup>th</sup> and the [Annual FAEP Symposium](#) in Tallahassee on May 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. The Annual conference will feature over 25 agency speakers plus many industry leaders discussing new and existing policies and case studies. In addition, there will be training sessions and field trips. The event will be held at the FSU Turnbull Center in Tallahassee and there are still opportunities for registrations, exhibitors and sponsors. This is going to be a great opportunity that you don't want to miss. FAEP members can take advantage of a discounted rate.

Membership in the FAEP is on the rise with more than 100 new members since April of last year. This increase is a testament to the value that the organization provides to its members. Most of the credit goes to the fantastic sponsors and volunteers of our local chapters. Keep spreading the word, as this organization continues to provide great opportunities for networking and updating its members on relevant topics and changes in our industry. There is no doubt that we are currently in a very important industry within this state.

Of course, the biggest thank you goes to our sponsors and chapter volunteers who continue to support the FAEP and its chapters! I hope to see you all at the conference in May in Tallahassee.

Sincerely,  
Elva Peppers  
FAEP President 2022-2023

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**Check the last page of our newsletter  
to determine if you qualify for a  
discount on your FAEP membership!  
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website:  
[WWW.FAEP-FL.ORG](http://WWW.FAEP-FL.ORG)**

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Register today for the FAEP Symposium scheduled for May 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> in Tallahassee! Consider joining the FAEP today to save \$60 on your conference registration and to also enjoy the benefits of FAEP Membership throughout the year! For information on registering for the conference, as well as sponsor and exhibitor opportunities, visit the website for the [2023 FAEP Symposium](#). See you there!

# FAEP ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM



M A Y 1 1 & 1 2  
T A L L A H A S S E E , F L

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## EPA Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Proposed National Primary Drinking Water Regulation

On March 14, 2023, EPA announced the proposed National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) for six PFAS including perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA), hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO-DA, commonly known as GenX Chemicals), perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), and perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS). The proposed PFAS NPDWR does not require any actions until it is finalized. EPA anticipates finalizing the regulation by the end of 2023. EPA expects that if fully implemented, the rule will prevent thousands of deaths and reduce tens of thousands of serious PFAS-attributable illnesses.

EPA is requesting public comment on the proposed regulation. The public comment period is now open following the proposed rule publishing in the Federal Register on March 29, 2023. Public comments can be provided at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) under Docket ID: EPA-HQ-OW-2022-0114. Comments must be submitted during the public comment period that ends on **May 30, 2023**. Information on submitting comments to EPA dockets can be found [here](#).

EPA held an informational general overview webinar of the proposed PFAS NPDWR on March 16, 2023, and another informational webinar about the proposed PFAS NPDWR specifically for water utilities and the drinking water professional community on March 29, 2023.

EPA will also be holding a public hearing on May 4, 2023, where members of the public can register to attend and provide verbal comments to EPA on the rule proposal. Registration is required to attend and the last day to register to speak at the hearing is April 28, 2023. For questions related to the public hearing, contact [PFASNPDWR@epa.gov](mailto:PFASNPDWR@epa.gov).

### Summary

EPA is proposing a National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) to establish legally enforceable levels, called Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs), for six PFAS in drinking water. PFOA and PFOS as individual contaminants, and PFHxS, PFNA, PFBS, and HFPO-DA (commonly referred to as GenX Chemicals) as a PFAS mixture. EPA is also proposing health-based, non-enforceable Maximum Contaminant Level Goals (MCLGs) for these six PFAS.

Compound	Proposed MCLG	Proposed MCL (enforceable levels)
PFOA	Zero	4.0 parts per trillion (also expressed as ng/L)
PFOS	Zero	4.0 ppt
PFNA	1.0 (unitless) Hazard Index	1.0 (unitless) Hazard Index
PFHxS		
PFBS		
HFPO-DA (commonly referred to as GenX Chemicals)		

The proposed rule would also require public water systems to:

- Monitor for these PFAS
- Notify the public of the levels of these PFAS
- Reduce the levels of these PFAS in drinking water if they exceed the proposed standards.

[Find details here.](#)

[EPA Proposal to Limit PFAS in Drinking Water March 2023](#)

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## ABCEP



The Academy of Board Certified Professionals (ABCEP) is the certifying body for NAEP and the lead organization certifying environmental professionals; maintaining exemplary standards of ethics and technical practice; and supporting individuals, our profession, and the public relying upon our services. It is a board-certified recognition. Beyond the acknowledgement by your peers, earning and maintaining the Certified Environmental Professional (CEP) designation is beneficial as a key differentiator when bidding on projects. It also opens new doors personally and professionally.

ABCEP would like to enhance the CEP (and CEP-IT) by growing our numbers and raising the awareness and value of the credential. If interested, you can find more details about the CEP and the application process on our website <https://www.abcep.org>. If you email the office ([office@abcep.org](mailto:office@abcep.org)), our Administrator will follow up to see if you have additional questions about the application process and offer to assign a mentor to help guide you through it.

The initial CEP application fee is typically \$200. ABCEP is offering a 10% discount through the end of 2020 reducing the initial CEP application fee to \$180. This is a great time to submit your application! We also have a CEP-IT application for those that don't quite meet the CEP requirements.

Making the decision to pursue a certification can feel like a daunting task, but in this climate, having the designation after your name can prove that crucial differentiator. Please share this with anyone in your office that might be interested.

## NAEP

### CALL FOR ARTICLES FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICE BULLETIN

The NAEP Environmental Practice Bulletin is published four times a year and emailed to all NAEP members. The newsletter is published in mid-February, May, August and November. Deadline for submissions is the end of the month prior to publication. NAEP is always looking for articles for this great practitioner-based publication. Consider providing NAEP's nationwide audience a bit of your professional experience and insight. For more information about publishing in the Environmental Practice Bulletin visit: <https://www.naep.org/publications>.



National  
Association of  
Environmental  
Professionals

Be Connected

## Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

Event	Date	Place
National Association of Environmental Professionals	May 7 – 10, 2023	Phoenix, AZ
FAEP Annual Symposium	May 11 – 12, 2023	Tallahassee, FL
Florida Brownfield Association Annual Conference	June 19 -21, 2023	Orlando, FL
37 <sup>th</sup> Annual Permitting Summer School	July 18 - 21, 2023	Naples, FL
Florida Water Environment Association Annual Conference	May 30 -June 3, 2023	Kissimmee, FL
Florida Local Environmental Resource Agencies	June 6 – 9, 2023	Orlando, FL
2023 AWWA Water Infrastructure Conference	Sept. 10 – 13, 2023	Philadelphia, PA
Florida Redevelopment Association Annual Conference	October 24 – 27, 2023	Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
2023 Florida Remediation Conference	Nov. 1 – 3, 2023	Orlando, FL
2023 Natural Disaster Resilience Conference	Nov. 6 – 9, 2023	Clearwater Beach, FL
Clean Gulf 2023	Nov. 7 – 9, 2023	San Antonio, TX

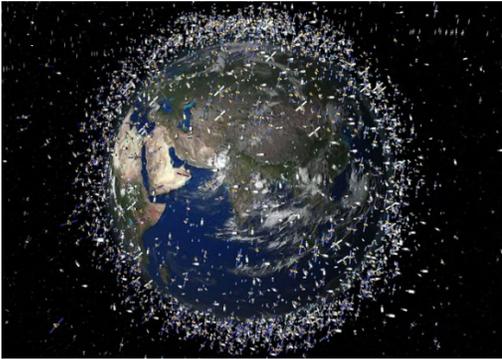
FAEP shares information about conferences pertaining to the environmental professions. FAEP does not endorse any of the referenced conferences.

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## Science Shorts ~NPR Short Wave~ The Science Behind the Headlines

### The importance of Sustainable space exploration in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century



On 1957, the Space Age began with the launch of Sputnik, the first artificial satellite. Since then, the number of objects humans have hurled toward the stars has soared to the thousands. As those objects have collided with one another, they've created more space debris in the Earth's orbit. According to some estimates, all of that debris and human-made space trash, the number of objects – from satellites to screws – could be in the millions.

### News Round Up: mammoth meatballs, stressed plants and apologetic robots

In this Friday round up of science news we can't let go, not everything is as it seems. Meatballs are not made of fresh meat from the cattle range. Robots are keeping something from you. And plants have secrets they keep out of your earshot. It's deceptive science, *Short Wave*-style.

### What history's hidden grandmother of climate science teaches us today



Today, most climate science is done with satellites, sensors and complicated computer models. But it all started with a pioneering female physicist and two glass tubes. Eunice Foote, the woman behind that glass tube experiment, has largely been left out of the history books. Until about 10 years ago, John Tyndall was seen as the grandfather of climate science for setting the foundation for the understanding of the greenhouse gas effect. But Eunice's experiment, done three years prior, showed that air with more "carbonic acid," or carbon dioxide, both heated up faster and cooled down slower than regular air.

### Perennial rice: Plant once, harvest again and again



Rice is arguably the world's most important staple crop. About half of the global population depends on it for sustenance. But, like other staples such as wheat and corn, rice is cultivated annually. That means replanting the fields year after year, at huge cost to both the farmers and the land. For years, scientists have been tinkering with rice strains to create a perennial variety – one that would regrow after harvest without the need to be resown. Today, Scientist in Residence Regina G. Barber takes a look at one promising perennial rice effort.

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## FAEP Sponsors



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Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A. is a statewide law firm with 33 attorneys and over 25 years of experience practicing in the areas of environmental, transportation and infrastructure, land use, real estate, litigation, legislative and governmental affairs. LLW has the experience to navigate complex local, state, and federal laws and regulations. For more detailed information on our qualifications, visit [www.llw-law.com](http://www.llw-law.com).

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**The FAEP Board of Directors would like to extend a big  
THANK-YOU  
to the organizations who continue to support FAEP  
with group memberships for five or more of their employees.**

<b>AECOM</b>	<b>EarthBalance</b>	<b>Verdantas</b>	<b>SurvTech, Inc.</b>
<b>Atkins</b>	<b>EPC Hillsborough County</b>	<b>Johnson Engineering Inc.</b>	<b>Terracon</b>
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**Did you know that you can arrange to renew all of your employees at one time?**

**If your employer would like to take advantage of the Group Membership discount\* and utilize FAEP’s company invoicing services please email [info@faep-fl.org](mailto:info@faep-fl.org).**

\*GROUP MEMBERSHIP Each group membership will be for a minimum of 5 qualified employees.

Group memberships are available to corporations, government agencies, and/or other entities involved in and related to the environmental profession. Employers that do not have 5 or more employees who are members can join as General or Associate members. The cost of each Group Membership is \$45.

<p><b>Interested in advertising to almost 2000 Environmental Professionals in the FAEP’s newsletter and on our website? One year sponsorships also get your organization logo on our webpage!</b></p> <p><b>Sponsorship Rates</b></p>			<p><b>Florida Beacon</b> Published Quarterly by the Florida Association of Environmental Professionals Teri Hasbrouck, Editor PO Box 7416 St. Petersburg, FL 33734 Email: <a href="mailto:info@faep-fl.org">info@faep-fl.org</a></p> <p>If you would like to submit an article to the Beacon contact the editor at <a href="mailto:info@faep-fl.org">info@faep-fl.org</a>.</p>
Size	One Issue	One Year Plus Logo on Website	
Biz Card	\$35	\$100	
¼ Page	\$100	\$375	
½ Page	\$175	\$650	
1 Page	\$250	\$900	

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