

The Preventive Measure

SPRING 2017
Volume 18, Issue 2



2017 Leadership

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|-----------------------|----------------|---|
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Greetings! I hope this newsletter finds you well and ready to move into another wonderful year! As I am writing this, the largest or should I say the only snow storm of the season is upon us. We have had some interesting weather this season and I am ready for warm weather and the spring season. Along with the arrival of the spring season comes our annual Spring Educational Conference which will be held on **April 27th** in Washington D.C. Presentations range from food safety to on-site systems. Check out our Conference flyer on **page 9**.

With this New Year, we had some changes and additions to our Board. I am proud and excited to be the new Board President and look forward to the future of NCAEHA. I am also thrilled to have *Laura Wildey*, *Christy Kunes*, *Kendra Washington*, and *Chuti Nakronsri* join me as the new VP of Membership, VP of Programs and Professional Advancement, Maryland Representative, and Director of Communications respectively. This Board is committed to making NCAEHA the best it can be!

With changes on the Board come new ideas, a strategic plan and high hopes to increase NCAEHA's presence in the DMV area. We are currently creating the agendas for our next Fall and Winter Educational Conferences, scheduling a Certified Pool Operator class, adding social and educational networking opportunities (you should have received our survey), updating our webpage and other social media sites and the working on the annual awards dinner. Be sure to check out our webpage, FB page, and Twitter for updates, opportunities and other important information. Please also keep your eyes out for our credentialing survey. We plan on sending this survey out to membership to determine interest in credentialing opportunities such as the REHS/RS and CP-FS.

Don't forget to submit your applications for the Jerrold M. Michael Award, James M. Wordsworth, and the NEHA Certificate of Merit. Applications can be found on **page 6** and are due by **May 1, 2017**. Finally, if you are interested in being involved in NCAEHA, please let me know. We are currently forming committees to include: by-law revision, awards, and social events. We are a fun and energetic team, and would be happy to have you on board.

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you on **April 27th** 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,
Kristen Pybus



Meet the 2017 Board Members ANNOUNCEMENT

Kristen Pybus, MPA, REHS/RS, CP-FS
President
kpybus@ncaeha.com



It was nice to see many of you at our Winter Educational Conference. With this New Year came a few new board members and I am excited about this opportunity to serve on the board as President. In order to be more forward thinking, during my term, I plan on creating a strategic plan to accomplish the already set goals of the organization. For example, creating conference agenda's months in advance so more members can take advantage of the CEU's. I also plan on collaborating with neighboring jurisdictions as well as NEHA, VEHA and CASA to bring you relevant and exciting conferences as well as any upcoming changes within the industry. This passionate board is motivated and dedicated to accomplishing the purposes of this organization. I am open to any suggestions or ideas for NCAEHA's future. Please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you for this opportunity. I look forward to seeing you all at our next conference.

Christy Kunes, REHS
Vice President of Programs
and Professional Advancement
ckunes@ncaeha.com



I am excited to take on the role of Vice President of Programs & Professional Advancement. Currently, I am creating a survey for our members to determine the need for the Certified Professional-Food Safety (CPFS) and the Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) exams. If you have any suggestions for NCAEHA's future educational opportunities please don't hesitate to contact me. This is going to be a good year!

Laura Wildey, CP-FS
Vice President of Membership
lwildey@ncaeha.com



Hello NCAEHA! I am very excited to be your Vice President of Membership! Thank you for this opportunity. I am looking forward to helping to increase our membership and widen our impact in the food safety industry. I'm eager to take part in receiving nominations for awards and scholarships and recognize our outstanding members for jobs well done. You can find the applications and information here: NCAEHA.com/ScholarshipAwards. As chair of the social committee, I hope to help plan some interesting social events for us to get together to network and have some fun. If you have any ideas about social events you would like to see, please don't hesitate to reach out. I'm excited to see what the next couple of years have in store for NCAEHA!

Julia Balsley, REHS/RS, CP-FS
Secretary
jbalsley@ncaeha.com



I look forward to serving you as Secretary again this year. I'm currently working on updating our membership and email distribution lists. I will continue to send out group emails announcing our educational conferences, training opportunities, surveys and job announcements. I record monthly board meeting minutes and I anticipate updating the by-laws this year. I look forward to receiving your RSVPs and helping you register at our upcoming conferences and issuing your attendance certificates.

Victoria Griffith
Treasurer
vgriffith@ncaeha.com



I am excited to continue on as NCAEHA's Treasurer. It is tax season so I have been busy working on filing our taxes for 2016. This year, I will continue to create a budget and provide monthly treasurer reports. Thank you for making our last conference was a great success. I look forward to seeing you all at future conferences!

Dawn Adams
Washington, DC Representative
dadams@ncaeha.com



As your DC Representative, I am excited to announce our next conference will be in DC on Thursday, April 27, 2017! We have many great speakers lined up so please look for the agenda coming soon! I hope to see you all there!!

Erin Miller, MPH, CP-FS
Virginia Representative
emiller@ncaeha.com



I am so glad many of you got to make it to the last Virginia Conference. We had a great turn out. This year, I plan on assisting with coordinating our next few conferences and updating our by-laws. We are always looking for suggestions on topics and presenters so please let me know if you have any ideas. Also, if you are interested in helping us with the next by-law revision let us know. Hope to see you all soon!

Chuti Nakronsri, MPH
Director of Communications
cnakronsri@ncaeha.com



Thank you to the board and to members for welcoming me into the NCAEHA. I am new to the organization and was thrilled that the previous board reached out to me for this opportunity. I'm excited for 2017 and hope to get our name out there to more public health professionals who work in and find an interest in environmental health. I will be working on updating our webpage as well as expanding our social media presence. Keep a lookout for us on Twitter and Facebook! If you have any ideas that you would like to share, please feel free to connect with me — thank you all!

CDC Takes Action to Improve the Reporting of Environmental Assessment Data During Foodborne Illness Outbreak Investigations

Journal of Environmental Health
Erik W. Coleman, MPH

When a foodborne illness outbreak is detected, food safety officials work quickly to collect as much information as possible to determine the cause and prevent more people from getting sick (*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2016*). Environmental assessments are an essential component of foodborne illness outbreak investigations. Typically conducted by food safety officials (e.g., environmental health specialists), environmental assessments help determine how and why the environment contributed to the introduction or transmission of agents that cause illness. Critical data from these assessments help prevent and reduce future outbreaks and improve food safety in the U.S.

The National Outbreak Reporting System (NORS) is a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) surveillance system that collects foodborne illness outbreak data (e.g., date and location of the outbreak, number of people who became ill, and illness symptoms) from state, local, and territorial food safety programs. NORS collects, however, limited environmental assessment data. To address this gap in foodborne illness outbreak data collection, CDC launched in 2014 a companion surveillance system to NORS, the National Environmental Assessment Reporting System (NEARS) (**Figure 1**).

NEARS is a surveillance system that collects environmental assessment data as part of foodborne illness outbreak investigations. Since NEARS launched, CDC has worked to

- promote the importance of conducting environmental assessments during foodborne illness outbreak investigations,

- increase the amount of environmental assessment data reported from food safety programs, and
- improve the quality of environmental assessment data collected and reported.

To promote NEARS, CDC staff presents at meetings where food safety officials discuss and address food safety concerns, such as the National Association of County and City Health Officials' annual conference, the Association of Public Health Laboratories' PulseNet and OutbreakNet regional meetings, and the Food and Drug Administration's regional retail food protection seminars.

Additionally, to improve competency on conducting environmental assessments and reporting data to NEARS, CDC conducted in-person NEARS training for over 180 California and Southern Nevada Health District food safety officials who conduct foodborne illness outbreak investigations. Most food safety officials indicated a high level of overall satisfaction after the training. They went on to report the following as the most useful portions of the training:

- completion of the training prerequisite, CDC's free and interactive e-Learning on Environmental Assessment of Foodborne Illness Outbreaks (www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/elearn/ea_fio/index.htm);
- detailed review of the NEARS data reporting instrument; and
- live demonstration of the NEARS webbased platform.

In addition to formal NEARS presentations and trainings, CDC has streamlined and improved its NEARS Web site content (www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/nears), developed NEARS fact sheets

NCAEHA provides opportunities for Environmental Health Specialists and other Environmental Health Practitioners to advance their professional growth through educational programs.

The Association encourages cooperation between private and public sectors in activities directed toward the improvement of public health and the environment.

FIGURE 1: National Environmental Assessment Reporting System: Instruction Manual

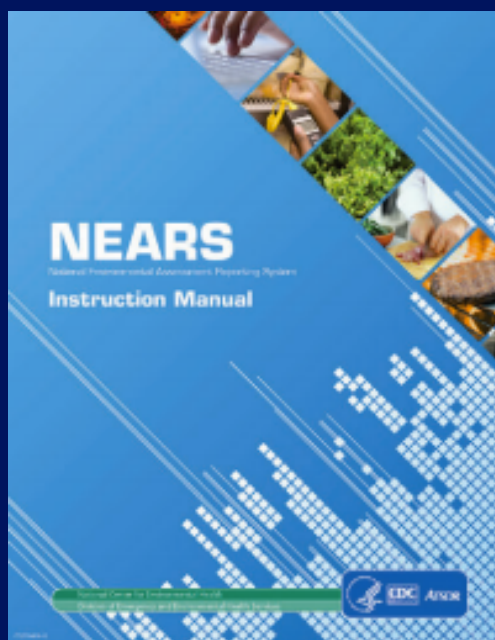
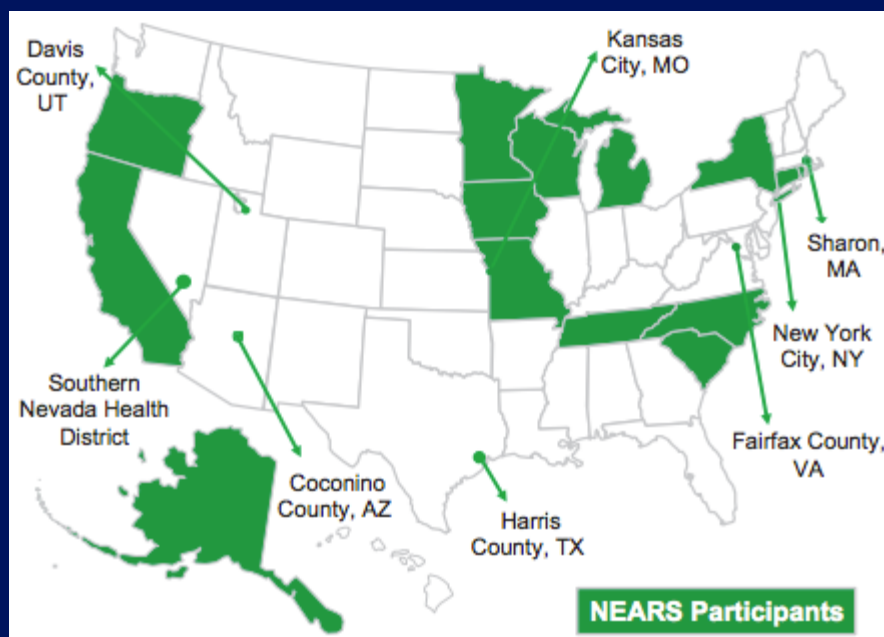


FIGURE 2: National Environmental Assessment Reporting System (NEARS) Participants



(www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/docs/factsheets/nears-factsheet.pdf), distributed NEARS 2014 summary reports (www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/nears/docs/2014-summary-report.pdf), and disseminated electronic promotional messages to thousands of food safety officials via environmental health listservs and social media outlets (e.g., Twitter and LinkedIn).

CDC's successful marketing and promotional activities have increased the number of state and local food safety programs registered to report environmental assessment data to NEARS. In 2014, 11 state and local food safety programs were registered. In 2015, that number increased to 16. To date, 21 food safety programs are registered (**Figure 2**). A current listing of NEARS participants can be found at www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/nears/participants.htm. A minimum of 100 outbreaks have been reported into the system since its launch. Prior to the NEARS launch, these data were not reported on a national level. More frequent reporting of environmental data helps to improve the quality of foodborne illness outbreak data collected by CDC and provides opportunities to link outbreaks across NORS and NEARS.

In 2014, CDC formed an intra-agency NORS-NEARS workgroup to aid foodborne illness outbreak response and prevention to improve reporting and analysis of foodborne illness outbreak data. This group is also exploring ways to ensure that the burden of reporting overlapping foodborne illness outbreak data in both NORS and NEARS is minimized. Based on an analysis of 2014 outbreak data reported to NORS and NEARS, the workgroup learned that 87% (97 of 111) of foodborne illness outbreaks reported to NEARS were also reported to NORS. These dually-reported data provide additional context about the series of foodborne illness outbreak events. For example, these data will allow us to monitor and evaluate timeliness and outbreak response by comparing the date of initial exposure (reported to NORS) to the date the establishment was identified for an environmental assessment (reported to NEARS).

As CDC continues its work to improve food safety, understanding how and why foodborne illness outbreaks occur will be pivotal in its reduction and prevention. To achieve this goal, CDC encourages food safety programs to improve competency on conducting environmental assessments and report these data to NEARS.

Corresponding Author

Erik Coleman, Health Scientist (Informatics), Environmental Health Services Branch, Division of Emergency and Environmental Health Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 4770 Buford Highway NE, MS F-58, Atlanta, GA 30341 3724. E-mail: ecoleman@cdc.gov.

Reference

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2016). *Investigating outbreaks: Using data to link foodborne disease outbreaks to a contaminated source*. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/outbreaks/investigating-outbreaks/index.html>

NCAEHA Scholarships and Awards

- **James M. Wordsworth Scholarship**
- **Jerrold M. Michael Award**
- **Certificate of Merit Nomination**



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, 2017**. See **page 6** 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 2015 Jerrold M. Michael Environmental Health Professional of the Year Award by **May 1, 2017**. See **page 7** for the application.

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 lwildley@ncaeha.com by **May 1, 2017**. Recipients are announced during the AEC awards program and in the Journal of Environmental Health. The application is available on **page 8**.



National Capital Area Environmental Health Association

James M. Wordsworth Scholarship Application

About the award: James Wordsworth has been a long standing restaurateur and advocate for the work Environmental Health Professionals do to help keep the public safe. Mr. Wordsworth is an Honorary Lifetime Member of NCAEHA and every year helps make a scholarship available to a candidate that is seeking higher education in a field related to Environmental Health.

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 |
|--------|-------|-------|--------|
| 1. | | | |
| 2. | | | |
| 3. | | | |

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)

12. Provide one letter of recommendation from either the school in which you are currently enrolled, an active NCAEHA member, or a current or past supervisor

Send completed application by May 1, 2017 to: Laura Wildey at lwildey@ncaeha.com



**National Capital Area Environmental Health Association
Nomination Form for: Jerrold M. Michael Award
(Environmental Health Professional of the Year)**

About the award: Jerrold Michael was the Founding President of NCAEHA. He was a true leader and pioneer in the field of Environmental Health. This award is to recognize a professional in the field of environmental health that 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.

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
and must be received by **May 1, 2017**.

Send complete nominations to:

Laura Wildey
NCAEHA Vice President of Membership
lwildey@ncaeha.com



National Capital Area Environmental Health Association Nomination Form for: NEHA Certificate of Merit Award For Individual or Team



About the award: Each year at the NEHA Annual Educational Conference & Exhibition (AEC), NEHA recognizes an individual or team, from each of its Affiliates, who has made outstanding contributions to the profession of environmental health. It is one of the benefits of your affiliation with NEHA and your local Affiliate chapter. This is a National recognition.

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 or team should be selected as this year's **Certificate of Merit Award** recipient. Specifically describe how this person or team has contributed to the field of Environmental Health.

THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE MAY CONTACT YOU FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

Nominations may be sent either by postal service or email to the NCAEHA
and must be received by **May 1, 2017**.

Send complete nominations to:

Laura Wildey
NCAEHA Vice President of Membership
lwildey@ncaeha.com



SAVE THE DATE

NCAEHA
SPRING EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

THURSDAY,
April 27, 2017



JUDICIARY SQ. METRO STOP
441 4TH ST., NW
WASHINGTON DC, 20001



MORE DETAILS TO COME!



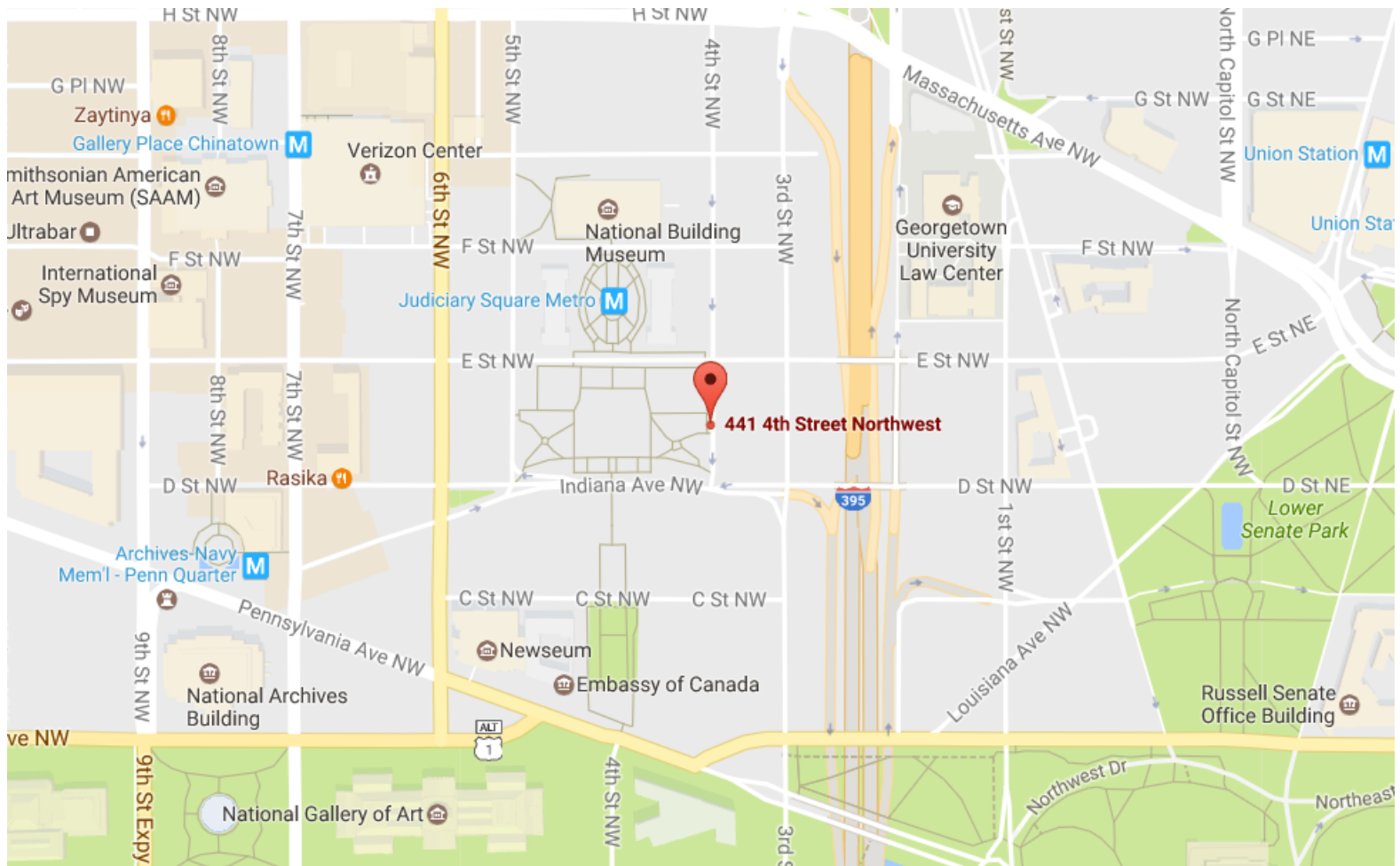
NCAEHA 2017 Spring Educational Conference



Location Details

Judiciary Square Metro Stop
441 4th Street, Northwest
Washington, D.C., 20001

0.2 miles away from Judiciary Square Metro Station (Red Line)
Street parking available



Interested in becoming
a Certified Pool
Operator?

BROUGHT TO YOU BY NCAEHA:

Pool Operator Training Course

MAY 8 - MAY 9, 2017

KELLY SQUARE, 10777 MAIN ST.,

ROWLAND 310A

FAIRFAX, VA 22030



Register
now to attend
our CPO training!

CONTACT V.P. OF PROGRAMS & PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT
CHRISTY KUNES FOR REGISTRATION: CKUNES@NCAEHA.COM
\$100 COVERS BOOK, EXAM, & CERTIFICATION FEES
RSVP BY APRIL 24, 2017

Upcoming Events for 2017

Mark your
calendars!



Conferences

| | |
|---|--|
| 3/29 - 3/30, Herndon, VA | 2nd Annual International Zika Virus Conference  |
| 4/3, Nellysford, VA | VEHA Spring Educational Conference & Field Day  |
| 4/5 - 4/6, VIRTUAL | CDC/NACDD (<i>National Association of Chronic Disease Directors</i>) Environmental Public Health Tracking Virtual Conference  |
| 4/5 - 4/7, Arlington, VA | CEHN (<i>Children's Environmental Health Network</i>) Children's Environmental Health Conference  |
| 4/11 - 4/12, Washington, DC | CFA (<i>Consumer Federation of America</i>) Annual National Food Policy Conference  |
| 4/27, Washington, DC | NCAEHA Spring Educational Conference  |
| 4/30 - 5/2, Alexandria, VA | HEI (<i>Health Effects Institute</i>) Annual Conference  |
| 5/8 - 5/9, Fairfax, VA | NCAEHA Certified Pool Operator Training Course  |
| 5/15 - 5/17, Washington, DC | AMCA (<i>American Mosquito Control Association</i>) Annual Washington Conference  |
| 7/9 - 7/12, Tampa, FL | IAFP (<i>International Association for Food Protection</i>) Annual Meeting  |
| 7/10 - 7/13, Grand Rapids, MI | NEHA Annual Educational Conference  |
| 10/15 - 10/19, Research Triangle Park, NC | ISES (<i>International Society of Exposure Science</i>) Annual Meeting  |
| 11/4 - 11/8, Atlanta, GA | APHA (<i>American Public Health Association</i>) Annual Meeting & Expo  |

Observances

| | |
|--|--|
| 4/3 - 4/9: National Public Health Week | 6/4 - 6/10: Bed Bug Awareness Week |
| 4/7: World Health Day | 6/5: World Environment Day |
| 4/22: Earth Day | 6/25 - 7/1: National Mosquito Control Awareness Week |
| May: Building Safety Month, Clean Air Month, Lyme Disease Awareness Month, National Electrical Safety Month, National Water Safety Month | 8/20: World Mosquito Day |
| 5/1 - 5/5: Air Quality Awareness Week | September: National Food Safety Education Month, National Preparedness Month |
| 5/5: Hand Hygiene Day | 9/17 - 9/23: National Child Passenger Safety Week |
| 5/7 - 5/13: Drinking Water Week, National Hurricane Preparedness Week | 9/22 - 9/28: Fall Prevention Awareness Week |
| 5/14 - 5/20: Food Allergy Awareness Week | 10/8 - 10/14: National Fire Prevention Week |
| June: National Safety Month | 10/13: International Day for Disaster Reduction |
| | 10/15: Global Handwashing Day, Home Fire Drill Day |
| | 10/15 - 10/21: National Teen Driver Safety Week |

Renew Your Membership

Complete the following application to renew your membership for 2017. Mail the completed application with the appropriate membership fee (payable by check or money order to NCAEHA) to:

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

Or renew online using PayPal at 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 The following NEHA credential applications and information:
☐ NEHA E-News ☐ REHS/RS (Registered Environmental Health Specialist/Registered Sanitarian)
☐ NEHA's upcoming AEC & Exhibition ☐ CP-FS (Certified Professional - Food Safety)
☐ NEHA Publications ☐ CEHT (Certified Environmental Health Technician)
☐ NEHA Workshops ☐ RET (Registered Environmental Technician)
☐ Becoming a SUSTAINING MEMBER ☐ RHSP (Registered Hazardous Substances Professional)
☐ Becoming an EDUCATIONAL MEMBER ☐ RHSS (Registered Hazardous Substances Specialist)
☐ Food Safety Training Materials (NEHA Food Safety Training) ☐ NEHA National Radon Proficiency Program

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) 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 _____

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 Internet: www.neha.org