



Partners For Environmental Progress

DECEMBER 2018 ISSUE • PEP MEMBER NEWS

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Dear PEP Member,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we want to thank you for your membership and support of Partners for Environmental Progress. We know that the success of PEP depends on our members' time, talent and resources. Without you, we cannot achieve PEP's mission of promoting strong economic development balanced with stewardship of our coastal natural resources that make the Alabama Gulf Coast a unique and desirable place to live and do business. Thank you for allowing us to help you achieve another successful year.

Please take a moment to review the **2018 Highlights** below. These are just a few of the accomplishments of 2018 that would not be possible without the support of you and other member companies and their employees. Whether you attend every function or just a few, we appreciate your commitment to applying science-based environmental best practices to your business and for our community.

We hope to see you at our first event of the New Year, the [Membership Breakfast](#) on January 17, 2019.

Have a Blessed Holiday Season and a Prosperous New Year!

Best Regards,

Jennifer Denson
Executive Director

PEP 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

- Our [membership](#) tops 220 companies, representing more than 22,000 local employees.
- Our public relations campaign using digital advertising, social media, and print ads in the Business View, Lagniappe and The Call News spotlighted the recipients of the [2018 PEP Member Environmental Stewardship Awards](#).
- We hosted more than a dozen Educational Meetings for our members on diverse topics including (a.) specific industrial concerns such as hose management and safety and advances in gaskets and installation; (b.) how to start a company Green Team; and (c.) broader community issues such as the regional airport re-location, status reports on the I-10 bridge, crisis management lessons learned during Hurricane Harvey and more.
- Our annual half-day Seminar on December 11th shared strategies on how to create a company culture of innovation to support employee "intrapreneurs" as well as legal and practicable tips, tools and potential pitfalls learned from local successful experiences. Stay tuned for full article recap in the January newsletter.
- We partnered with the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (NEP) and Osprey Initiative to support a pilot project to address trash in local waterways. We provided start-up funding for the [Litter Gitter](#) – a small stream litter collection device developed by PEP member, Don Bates with Thompson Engineering. The Litter Gitter has proven success in trapping 90% of the litter entering the water ways in which it is deployed and is being installed by local government and organizations around the region.
- As the Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council debated how to spend the first round of [RESTORE Funds](#), we communicated to the decision makers our strong beliefs that projects selected for funding must use the best available science and the best environmental and management practices, and should only have beneficial and positive environmental impacts. We were pleased that a number of the projects that we identified that met these criteria were selected for funding.
- As the co-chair for the [NEP's Business Resource Council](#), PEP is developing new initiatives for local businesses to improve the quality, cleanliness and health of our local streams, waterways and Mobile Bay.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January Membership Breakfast

Thursday, January 17

(Registration begins January 1)

featuring

Bill Sisson, President and CEO

Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce

Registration 6:30am

Breakfast Meeting 7:00am

Heron Lakes Country Club

3851 Government Blvd, Mobile, AL 36693

MEMBER NEWS

Employee Intrapreneurs Seminar

Creating a culture of innovation was the topic of our Employee Intrapreneurs Seminar held Dec. 11.

Intrapreneurs are employees who work within the organized structure while using innovation and creativity to undertake something new and transforms ideas into a profitable venture or process. Corporate leadership often struggles with recognizing and supporting these creative intrapreneurs. Our speakers shared strategies on how to create that culture of innovation as well as tips, tools and potential pitfalls learned from their successful experiences. [See Agenda and Speakers](#).



Thanks to our generous sponsors for making this a reality: [BASE](#), [Hand Arrendall Harrison Sale, LLC](#), [Ranger Environmental](#), [Engineering Group of the Southeast](#). Thanks also to [Thompson Engineering](#) for hosting the venue.

Look for a feature article detailing this seminar in January!

Bays and Bayous

Symposium:

PEP was excited to sponsor and also be involved with the planning of [Bays and Bayous Symposium](#) this year.



Bays & Bayous offered a two-day smorgasbord of presentations from scientists, professors and students. The purpose is to bring together a broad array of scientists, resource managers, policy makers, and business and industry interests from throughout the southeast region of the U.S. to promote information exchange and networking related to coastal issues that impact long-term sustainability.

Here are two interesting articles that recap some of the informative topics covered:

[Sea Level Rise](#)

[Red Tides aren't Going Away](#)

Policy Statement: Alabama's Draft Initial

State Expenditure Plan

Comments submitted to the Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council on their Draft Initial State Expenditure Plan.

The Board of Directors and members of Partners for Environmental Progress (PEP) appreciate the time and effort that the members of the Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council (AGCRC) have invested in developing the draft State Expenditure Plan (SEP) for the RESTORE Act Spill Impact Component.

During the past few years, PEP has communicated to you our strongly held belief that all projects selected for funding must use the best available science and the best environmental and management practices, and should only have beneficial and positive environmental impacts.

[Read the Full Statement](#)

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