



*West Virginia Environmental Council's*

# **GREEN Legislative Wrap Up**

*Published at the conclusion of West Virginia's Legislative Session*

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**WVEC's Legislative Wrap Up:** This is our 2013 *Wrap Up* edition. It includes the outcome of all the various legislation we were involved with this session. While we were preparing this newsletter the Legislature also met in the first Special Session of 2013. They passed five bills that did not make it through the Regular Session. None of those bills involved environmental issues.

## **Important Meeting Announcement**

### **Beginning of Triennial Review of Water Quality Standards**

Next week the WV Department of Environmental Protection's Water Quality Standards Program will conduct a public meeting from 3:30 to 5 p.m. on April 24 at DEP headquarters in Charleston.

The DEP is required by the federal Clean Water Act to conduct a comprehensive review of the state water quality standards every three years. All revisions must be approved by the state Legislature before final approval from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. DEP staff will discuss revisions that will be included for the 2014 review and will provide an overview of the review process.

For information, contact Kevin Coyne at DEP at 304-926-0499, ext. 1110.

*We would like to thank our "extended lobby team" for working with us so closely this session. Thanks to Angie Rosser, WV Rivers Coalition; Dave McMahon, SORO; Chuck Wyrostok & Jim Kotcon, WV Sierra Club; Gary Zuckett, Julie Archer, Norm Steenstra, Maggie Fry, WV Citizen Action Group; JB Christensen, MTV Solar / Berkeley County Solid Waste Authority; Cathy Kunkel & Stacy Gloss, Energy Efficient WV and Dan Taylor, OVEC.*

*Don and Denise*

# Under the Dome

By Donald S. Garvin, Jr.  
WVEC Lobbyist

## Halliburton and “CleanStim®”

“What causes good people to become reckless legislators?”

That’s the question Charlotte Pritt asked in a recent opinion piece in the *Charleston Gazette* (Charlotte needs no introduction for our readers).

“As I visited the Capitol recently for the first time in nearly 20 years,” she goes on to say, “I found myself stunned by good people (people whom I served with in the state Senate) making really bad decisions!”

And Charlotte continued: “The most important factor in being a ‘citizen legislature’ is knowing what sources of information to trust. Even though it may seem obvious to most people that industry-paid ‘experts or scientists’ give a necessarily biased view, some legislators will unthinkingly believe the industry sources rather than independent scientists or their own citizens who have nothing to gain by sharing half-truths and misinformation.”

Well, sad to say, Charlotte, there were plenty of examples of legislators trusting the wrong sources of information this session.

Halliburton and its “CleanStim®” fracturing fluids is a perfect case in point.

Halliburton is an oil field service company that has been operating in West Virginia for decades. The company provides chemicals, equipment and technology for cementing well casing and hydraulically fracturing oil and gas wells. The company holds numerous patents and trademarks on its products, which compete with other oil field service companies in the marketplace.

Until now, Halliburton has been competing successfully for business in West Virginia drilling operations with just the “trade secrets” provisions provided by state law. But this year Halliburton lobbyists told legislators that the company needed additional protections.

They said that Halliburton had developed a new “CleanStim® Hydraulic Fracturing Fluid System” that “provides exceptional fracturing and environmental performance as compared to traditional formulations.”

They claimed that CleanStim® “uses a new fracturing fluid formulation made with ingredients sourced from the food industry,” and that, “Acquiring the ingredients from the food industry provides an extra margin of safety to people, animals and the environment in the unlikely occurrence of an incident at the wellsite.”

Oh, but before I forget it, the information on their website also includes the following disclaimer: “Intended Use - The CleanStim formulation is designed for use in hydraulic fracturing. Even though all the ingredients are acquired from food suppliers, **the CleanStim fluid system should not be considered edible.**”

At any rate, Halliburton lobbyists convinced the DEP and enough legislators to accept an amendment to the new Horizontal Drilling Control Act rule that would allow the company not only to protect the CleanStim formula, but also to hide the **specific ingredients** as trade secrets.

They accomplished this by threatening **NOT** to use CleanStim in West Virginia unless the amendment was adopted, even though the process is not yet in widespread use, and has never been used here.

While we had heard indirectly during the course of the session that Halliburton was making this threat to legislators, it wasn't until the last week when the rule was taken up by the House Judiciary Committee that the threat became public.

In that meeting Del. Cindy Frich (R-Monongalia) asked one of the Halliburton lobbyists, who had been recognized to address the committee as an **expert**, "Are you saying that unless the legislature adopts this amendment your company will not use CleanStim in West Virginia?"

The lobbyist's answer was, "Yes. It's not likely."

And back to Charlotte Pritt's point, no "independent scientists" or citizen lobbyists were allowed to address the committee on the specific trade secrets provisions of the Halliburton amendment.

That's what "causes good people to become reckless legislators".

You can read more about CleanStim here:

<http://www.halliburton.com/ps/default.aspx?pageid=4184&navid=93&Subtopic=CleanStim>

And here:

[http://www.halliburton.com/public/projects/pubsdata/Hydraulic\\_Fracturing/disclosures/CleanStim\\_Pop\\_up.html](http://www.halliburton.com/public/projects/pubsdata/Hydraulic_Fracturing/disclosures/CleanStim_Pop_up.html)

And you can read Charlotte Pritt's entire article here:

<http://www.wvgazette.com/Opinion/OpEdCommentaries/201304120180>

Spring has sprung, so keep your bird feeders full and enjoy the show. It's not a trade secret.

## Revenue Neutral?

*By Denise Poole  
WVEC Lobbyist*

As I was bill tracking and lobbying (playing defense) regarding coal industry bills this session, I also found myself observing the WV Coal Association lobbyists with even closer scrutiny than I had in quite awhile. I heard the terms – like a mantra if you will - "revenue neutral" and "job creating" used to justify and support coal legislation throughout the session.

Was this a small sign of desperation? This tactic usually works. Did I detect just a little gasping for continued survival? Hmm. What if we *are finally* seeing tiny indications coal is on the decline in West Virginia?

Maybe I was just trying to remain sane amid all of my angst, and I know a huge part of their concern is the boom in gas production, but I often thought, “They do seem a little desperate and worried.” Don’t get me wrong - the slow pace of change is grueling. It’s difficult to participate in the political process when horrid bill after bill is passed, and positive bills bite the dust. It’s nauseating to see some of our legislators (and far too many times our DEP) work in conjunction with industry to pass legislation that is crafted to aid and abet the coal industry’s bottom line - regardless of the negative impacts to our state’s economy, health, and environment. The last thing the state of West Virginia can continue to afford is subsidizing coal operations.

It seems as if nothing is changing – and in many ways even worse. Particularly when they are not willing to allocate any tax incentives or “one red cent” for renewable energy, but willing to offer additional tax breaks to the coal industry (not to mention Marcellus shale gas production).

Then – the last week, several coal bills that seemed to be on a straight path for passage, died.

Take my favorite pet-peeve for example. HB 3072, entitled “The West Virginia Coal Employment Enhancement Act” (creative, eh?) provided an additional \$3 per ton credit against severance taxes on coal sold to WV power plants and other industries who increase their consumption of West Virginia coal – above 2012 production (which was low) as the baseline. The argument was that West Virginia coal could then be more competitive with less expensive out of state coal our power plants are buying.

WV Coal Association President Bill Raney spoke to the bill in Senate Energy, Industry & Mining (EIM) saying, “We just want to incentivize WV power plants and industries to buy WV coal, and for West Virginia to be competitive. Out of state coal is cheaper to buy.” And, “We are just making it **revenue neutral**, that’s all”. He further justified the bill by saying if they had the credit, it would **create more coal jobs!** When asked, he estimated perhaps 170 jobs.

Senate EIM passed the bill unanimously. Several comments from committee members related to needing to do *all they could* to help our coal (and gas) industries as much as possible. Bill Raney was still at the podium during this discussion. Senator Herb Snyder (D-Jefferson) asked Raney what the price difference in other states’ coal verses West Virginia costs was, saying, “I am just wondering how much help we are giving you” to which Raney replied, “Senator, we’ll take all the help you can give us.”

Does this sound a little like corporate welfare to you, too?

HB 3072 next went straight to Senate Finance. I was able to speak with Chairman Roman Prezioso (D-Marion) questioning the fiscal impact this bill would have on West Virginia and the *other* jobs and areas these severance taxes now support. The *Center on Budget and Policy* and the *WV Education Association* were also asking these same questions.

Chairman Prezioso wisely did not place it on the agenda. So there, it died.

It’s important to thank **everyone** who took the time to contact Senate Finance against this bill.

So, maybe West Virginia is just a little more “revenue neutral” after fending off such a huge ask from the coal industry. Gasp, gasp, gasp.



# What Really Happened to the Oil and Gas Rule?

*By Don Garvin, Jr.  
WVEC Lobbyist*

35CSR8 the new DEP rule that implements the Horizontal Well Control Act, was passed out of the Senate with an amendment weakening the “trade secrets” provisions for frac fluid contents contained in the proposed rule, along with a “gag order” to prevent medical personnel from revealing that information to the public.

When the House Judiciary committee took up the rule, they first adopted an amendment by Del. Barbara Fleischauer (D-Monongalia) that would have removed the "Halliburton Loophole" amendment on trade secrets and confidentiality agreements for physicians that was passed by the Senate.

However, when it was pointed out that adopting Fleischauer's amendment would prevent consideration of other amendments that had been filed, Del. Fleischauer withdrew her amendment.

Then the committee adopted three other amendments to the rule. One required Water Management Plans to be posted or available at the location of water withdrawals. A second required that Material Safety Data Sheets required by OSHA be available at the well site. And the third changed the physician confidentiality agreements provision to read as follows:

“10.1.e. In the event of a medical emergency or for purposes of diagnosis of a patient who has been exposed, or may have been exposed, to a chemical used at a well drilling operation, the operator or service provider shall provide the contents of the chemicals used at the well site. A health care professional shall only use the information provided by the operator or service provider for diagnosis or treatment of an individual, and the operator or service provider may provide notice to the health care professional at the time of release of information, that the information provided is solely for diagnosis or treatment of the individual, that the information may be a trade secret, and that disclosure to others for any other purpose may subject that health care professional or the other persons so disclosed, to legal action by the operator or service provider for violation the operator or service provider’s trade secret.”

Then the committee went back and reconsidered Del. Fleischauer’s amendment to remove the entire Senate EIM amendment. Her amendment was defeated by a vote of 5 to 20.

So, the Senate amendment was improved somewhat by the House, particularly the section dealing with physician confidentiality. But the trade secrets provisions in the amendment were unchanged. And that’s basically the final version that passed both chambers.

(PS, we really want to thank former Senator, Doctor Dan Foster for attending the committee meeting and speaking against the “gag order” provisions contained in the Senate amendment.)



# A Funny Thing Happened on the way ... In House Judiciary

*By Denise Poole  
WVEC Lobbyist*

When the “Jobs Impact Statement” bill, SB 187 (same as HB 2507) had passed through the Senate, it then went to the House Judiciary Committee in the waning days of the session.

Keep in mind, this bill would allow the Governor, or the Speaker of the House, or the Senate President to require a “jobs Impact Statement” on *any* proposed legislation. This bill passed Senate Economic Development with an amendment offered by Senator Eric Wells (D-Kanawha) expanding the legislative members who could request a job impact statement. This amendment was removed in Senate Finance where it then passed to House Judiciary.

When House Judiciary took up the bill on April 9th, an amendment was offered by Delegate Tim Manchin (D-Marion) to include job impacts to Unions. The full committee voted aye. Then, Delegate Stephen Skinner (D-Jefferson) offered one to include job impacts on LGBT’s. Then, Delegate Meshea Poore (D-Kanawha) offered an amendment to include the elderly and yet another to include impacts on minorities. Then, Delegate Linda Longstreth (D-Marion) offered one on impacts to veterans. All voted Aye.

They weren’t finished yet.

Delegate Isaac Sponaugle (D-Pendleton) included job impacts to utilities, transportation and infrastructure. Delegate Barbara Fleschauer (D-Monongalia) on adverse environmental impacts. More amendments were tacked on to include males, females, seniors ..... Delegate Patrick Lane decided it was a good idea to add other Legislative leaders to the list of those who could request these job impacts – Chair of Economic Development and the Chair of Energy, Industry & Labor / Economic Development & Small Business. All voted Aye.

OK, *then* Delegates John McCuskey (R-Kanawha) and Eric Householder (R-Berkeley) together amended the bill to include members of a Labor Union. Everyone thought that if they were adding Unions – what about people who didn’t work for a Union? So the amendment included both. Union Workers and Non-Union workers. Great idea! Aye, aye, aye.

Finally, Delegate Kelli Sabonya (R-Cabell) offered her amendment. “Job Impacts on everyone and everything not included in the bill.” Delegate Manchin actually asked if she was serious or joking before he read the amendment. Everyone just laughed. “Aye!” they all said.

At *this* point (after about a half hour), Delegate Woody Ireland (R-Ritchie) spoke up. “Now wait just a minute here. We have taken what was originally a credible idea, and turned it in to something ... well, we just don’t know anymore. And, we haven’t even included elderly retired Irish Delegates!” Laughter ensued by all.

The committee took a vote on the full bill - voting it down – unanimously.



# The Good, the Bad, and the Very Ugly

(What follows is the outcome of a list of environmental bills the Legislature dealt with this session. Some of the details may be lacking in our summaries, because the Legislative website has not yet posted the final “engrossed” versions of the legislation).

**Selenium** – The Legislature passed **HB 2579**, which will delay efforts to force the coal industry to clean up its toxic selenium pollution. The bill will eliminate the compliance schedules for coal companies to meet the current EPA water quality standard for selenium, and mandate that the Department of Environmental Protection issue new “state-specific” selenium standards that could be weaker than the current EPA standards. Particularly galling is this note at the end of the bill language: “The purpose of this bill is to **protect state waters** by creating an implementation plan to establish state specific selenium criteria.”

**Environmental Quality Board** – The Legislature passed **HB 2571**, which will make members of state agencies, other than DEP, eligible to serve as members of the state Environmental Quality Board. This is a blatant attempt to stack EQB with state employees from the Department of Agriculture and the Division of Forestry, agencies that exist primarily to promote industry, not to regulate it.

**WV Land Stewardship Corporation** – The Legislature passed **HB 2590**, which would create a private non-profit corporation that could by-pass current brownfields law. The purpose is supposedly to work in conjunction with brownfields law, but to stimulate the clean up and reuse of “idled and underutilized commercial, industrial and mining properties.” Our biggest concern is the tax burden that could be placed on counties where these sites are located, as the new owner can be exempted from county property taxation. Our other concern is that this seems to be a way to allow DEP to avoid its current legal obligations for clean up of these sites. The only positive thing we see in this legislation is that the Governor has to appoint someone representing the West Virginia Environmental Council to serve on the corporation’s board of directors. At least we will know what’s going on.

**Jurisdiction Over Mining Operations** – The Legislature passed **HB 2352**, “Clarifying that the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection does not assume a mine operator’s obligations or liabilities under the Water Pollution Control Act.” However, the final version of this legislation stripped all of the language terminating the DEP’s jurisdiction of mine sites, and left only tax credits for a coal company that volunteered to reclaim an abandoned site. Two other bills supported by DEP – **SB 424** and **HB 2826** – would also have “relieved” the DEP of its reclamation responsibilities under the Clean Water Act, but neither of these bills were taken up by committee. Count this one as a victory!

**“The Intrastate Coal and Use Act”** – Early in the session the House EIL Committee passed **HB 2597**, a coal industry bill which would eliminate federal oversight of coal mined and burned within the state. The measure was blatantly unconstitutional. Thankfully, the bill died a fitting death when House Judiciary Committee did not take it up for consideration.

**Making Protesting a Felony** – In its original version, **SB 488** could have resulted in protestors arrested at mine sites being charged with a felony, simply for exercising their constitutional rights. Fortunately, the bill was amended with far weaker language in Senate EIM Committee. The bill passed the Senate, but died in the House when House Judiciary Committee did not take it up for consideration.

### Other Bad Bills that Died in Committee:

- **SB 629**, Limiting liability of landowners, operators and contractors in water pollution abatement projects.
- **SB 98**, Creating the Shale Research, Education, Policy and Economic Development Center at WVU.
- **SB 449**, Removing the ban on disposal of electronic devices in landfills.
- **HB 3148**, the "ATV and UTV Recreation Act", the bill would have allowed ATV use on all public lands.

### Energy Bills Also Take a Beating:

- **HB 2803**, Requiring electric utilities to implement integrated resource plans (EEWV bill). On 3/29/13 House Judiciary amended this bill with a strike and insert amendment into HB 2176. The bill died on an 11 – 11 committee vote. For more about the way all this was handled, check out Bill Howley's blog at: <http://calhounpowerline.com/2013/03/31/coal-industry-pulls-the-string-delegates-dance-wv-electric-rates-continue-to-rise/>.
- **HB 2210**, Relating to energy efficiency for utilities and their customers (EEWV bill). This bill was never considered in committee.
- **SB 551** and **HB 2875**, Continuing the residential solar energy tax credit which expires this year. Both bills died in committee.
- **SB 185**, Tax Credits for Alternately Fueled Vehicles. This was the Governor's bill that removed electric and hybrid-electric vehicles from eligibility for the alternately fueled vehicle tax credit. The Legislature passed the bill.

### Finally, Some Things Positive:

- **HB 2805** – In a real victory, the Legislature passed this legislation, **making the Supreme Court Public Campaign Financing Act permanent**. Congratulations to all our friends who have worked so hard on making this happen for years!
- **SB 158** – The Legislature passed this bill, known as the "**Complete Streets Act**". The purpose of this bill is to "insure that streets are safe, efficient and convenient for travel by all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders, in the policies, design guidance, planning, development, construction and maintenance of roads in this state."





## Calendar of Events



**April 20:** Greenbrier County's Sustainability Fair. To be held at the Community Center – the Clifford Armory. Eco-Community Plan revealed, plus plans for creating a greener future. Groups from around the state invited to participate. Sponsored by, Main Street Ronceverte. For more information: [mainstreetroncevertepres@gmail.com](mailto:mainstreetroncevertepres@gmail.com)

**April 20:** 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Earth Day Celebration – Appalachian Folklife Center, Pipestem WV. From 11 a.m. till 11 p.m. Music, Art & Activism. Free admission. In cooperation with Llynium Entertainment. For more schedule & information: [www.folklifecenter.org](http://www.folklifecenter.org) or (304) 320-8833.

**April 20-21:** Tree Planting – Red Spruce Ecosystem Restoration. Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge. Meet at the Refuge Headquarters & Visitor Center at 9 a.m. each day. Come dressed for the weather (sturdy shoes or boots & bring gloves). Lunch provided. Please RSVP! For more information: [www.restoreredspruce.org](http://www.restoreredspruce.org) or contact Dave Saville: [daves@labyrinth.net](mailto:daves@labyrinth.net) or (304) 692-8118.

**April 21:** FaCT-OV Earth Day Event. Warwood Garden Park in Wheeling, WV. From 2-5 p.m. Protesting the proposed Green Hunter Energy facility. It will be located just 1.2 miles upstream from Wheeling's water plant. There will be music, speakers, information tables, activities for children and more. Bring a protest sign. For more info contact [jacobson64@gmail.com](mailto:jacobson64@gmail.com)

**April 22:** Earth Day

**April 22:** Monroe County's Clean Water Earth Day with SWTO.org (Save the Water Table). Union Rescue Squad Building (on Pump Street, one block behind the Court House). Begins at 6:00 p.m. Free Dinner and Sweet Springs Water. Speakers will include: Diane L. Pitcock, WV Host Farms Program Administrator, M.S., C.A.G.S., Adult & Community Educ., Johns Hopkins University, who will present a program re: Marcellus shale drilling and some of its lesser-publicized affects on West Virginia landowners; and Theresa Higgins, who will discuss her first-hand experiences with fracking as a resident in northern WV. Question and answer period to follow. Open to the public.

**April 24:** DEP Water Quality Meeting. DEP headquarters, Charleston. From 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. The DEP is required by the federal Clean Water Act to conduct a comprehensive review of the state water quality standards every three years. All revisions must be approved by the state Legislature before final approval from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. DEP staff will discuss revisions that will be included for the 2014 review and will provide an overview of the review process. For information, contact Kevin Coyne at 304-926-0499, ext. 1110, or [Kevin.R.Co...@wv.gov](mailto:Kevin.R.Co...@wv.gov).

**April 25:** PUBLIC MEETING for Underground Injection Control Well on Frank's Run. 6:00 p.m. - Doddridge County High School. For more information: Christina Woods [mchrisw40@aol.com](mailto:mchrisw40@aol.com)

**April 27:** 5th Annual Panhandle Earth Day Celebration. Morgan's Grove Park (corner of Kearneysville Pike – Rt. 480 & Morgan Grove Rd. just outside Shepherdstown). Music, Art, Crafts, Food, Kid's Activities, Demonstrations, Environmental & Conservation groups, Activists, Vendors, a Farmers Market and more! This is a family friendly, community-oriented event, held

rain or shine. It is a leave no trace occasion. Feel free to bring a picnic lunch, lawn chairs, blankets and comforts for an afternoon in the park. Please leave your dogs at home. This year's music will include: The Boatmen - The Woodshedders - Billy Thompson Band - Moogatu - Handsome Sonic Bongo Band - LowBrau Highballers - Acoustic Blues Revue - Flowers & Birds - Roots Coalition - Rick Hill - Captain Obvious and the Moot Points - and more! This year's sponsors include: Kohlepp Insurance Agency, Apple Valley Waste, Frederick Acoustic Music Enterprise, Shepherdstown Community Club, The Bloomery Distillery and Man on the Line Music.

**May 7:** Public Hearing: Danny Webb Underground Injection Well. Oak Hill High School - Fayette Co., WV. Begins at 5:30 p.m. For more information and questions: Jamie Peterson, WVDEP - Office of Oil and Gas - 304-926-0499 ext. 1653

**May 22:** WVU Extension Service 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Natural Gas Conference – Enhancing Public Understanding of Natural Gas Issues. Bridgeport Conference Center, Bridgeport WV. Begins at 8:30 a.m. There is no fee to attend but pre-registration is required by May 3rd. If you are interested in issues surrounding natural gas exploration and development in WV, you are encouraged to attend. For more information: Georgette Plaughter, Visiting Instructor/Program Coordinator, WVU Extension Service-Preston County, 115 W Court Street, Kingwood, WV 26537. Phone: 304-329-1391. .

**May 22:** Energy Efficiency in West Virginia Conference. Marshall University ~ Foundation Hall, Huntington WV. 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Speakers include experts from various state and government agencies, private organizations and academic institutions. For more information and registration: [www.ohvec.org](http://www.ohvec.org)

**June 13-16:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Stop The KABOOM Benefit Music & Arts Festival. Rainbow Bill's (132 Titmouse Lane), Hedgesville, WV. Raising awareness about mountaintop removal and hydraulic fracturing extraction processes. This event is family friendly and filled with 30 musical acts featuring genres such as jam, rock, reggae and bluegrass. There will be live performance art, local art and food vendors, children's art and activities space and guest speakers speaking on mountaintop removal and hydraulic fracturing. All proceeds will support the RAMPS Campaign against surface mining for coal and Morgan County Frack Ban. Full 4 day passes and day passes available online at [www.stopthekaboom.com](http://www.stopthekaboom.com) Camping included. Gates open at 12 noon on Thursday and music starts at 6 pm Thursday evening and goes on through Sunday evening. For More information please visit [www.stopthekaboom.com](http://www.stopthekaboom.com)

**June 29-30: (Save the date) - Wellness and Water II: Health Impacts of Fossil Fuel Extraction Conference.** To be held at WV Wesleyan College, Buckhannon WV. To include speakers and workshops related to both coal and gas affected communities. Overnight housing and meals will be available. *More detailed information available soon.*

**July 13-14:** Marcellus Academy 2013. WV Wesleyan College, Buckhannon WV. WV Sierra Club's Marcellus Academy 2013 is a no-cost, easy way to take in a wide variety of topics presented by professors, scientists, organizers and environmental activists plus experts in surface owner rights, state agency well inspections, medical issues and county government. Marcellus Academy is designed to equip emerging activists with the skills and tools needed to organize and raise awareness in their local communities. This is **not** an introductory course on how Marcellus drilling works. Instead, emphasis will be on education, outreach and recruiting concerned citizens. The atmosphere is informal and friendly. Everyone is welcome. No

affiliation with any organization is required. Information on the program, the speakers and activities will be announced soon. For more info contact [outreach@marcellus-wv.com](mailto:outreach@marcellus-wv.com)

**October:** WVEC Annual Fall Conference. The West Virginia Environmental Council (WVEC) holds a state-wide conference each year in a special location in WV. Workshops, environmental groups, nature outings, music, food and more are planned. Exact date and location to be announced – please stay tuned.

► To have your event posted, please contact Denise Poole: [deniseap@earthlink.net](mailto:deniseap@earthlink.net)

### Legislative Session 2013 Information Sources:

**Legislative Reference & Information Center:**

MB-27, Bld. 1 - State Capitol Complex, Charleston WV 25305

**WV Legislative web-site:** [www.legis.state.wv.us](http://www.legis.state.wv.us)

(For bill tracking, bulletin board (journals), legislators' e-mails.)

**To Call Toll Free:** 1-877-565-3447 or local Charleston area: (304) 347-4836

**Listen Live:** West Virginia Legislature page <http://www.legis.state.wv.us> and click on "listen live."

**WV Environmental Council Web-site:** [www.wvecouncil.org](http://www.wvecouncil.org)

WVEC Office: (304) 414-0143

**Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition:** <http://ohvec.org/news.php>

Every morning, OVEC checks scores of news sources and posts links.

**WV Citizen Action Group:** <http://www.wvcag.org>

**Legislative Wrap Up** is published by the West Virginia Environmental Council (WVEC) – a statewide organization dedicated to facilitating communication and cooperation among citizens in promoting environmental protection in West Virginia. *Legislative Wrap Up* is published at the conclusion of the regular Legislative Session.

We welcome letters, articles, and artwork from readers and reserve the right to edit or reject submissions. Please send materials to Denise Poole, *editor* at [deniseap@earthlink.net](mailto:deniseap@earthlink.net)



## WVU 50/50 Solar Decathlon Challenge / Fundraiser

Our WVEC / WVU 50/50 Fundraising effort continues: WVU students entered and qualified for the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon Challenge and will be going to Orange County California October 3-13<sup>th</sup>. Groundbreaking for the project on campus is April 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM - the public is invited to attend. Half of the funds raised through WVEC during this time **designated** for our **50/50 challenge** go in support of the **WVU Solar Decathlon Challenge**, and half go in support of **WVEC**.

To learn more: [www.wvecouncil.org](http://www.wvecouncil.org) – follow link at the top of front page. Mountain View Solar: [www.mtvsolar.com](http://www.mtvsolar.com)

I'd like to donate to the 50/50 WVU Solar Decathlon Challenge in the amount of:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Make checks payable to WVEC - **be sure to note the 50/50 challenge**.  
1/2 of this donation is tax-deductible).

Name & Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Support the West Virginia Environmental Council

P.O. Box 1007, Charleston WV 25324

Phone: (304) 414-0143 [www.wvecouncil.org](http://www.wvecouncil.org)

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Student / Senior:	_____ \$10	Regular:	_____ \$25
Seedling:	_____ \$50	Sustaining:	_____ \$100
Enviro Steward:	_____ \$250	Canopy:	_____ \$500
Old Growth:	_____ \$1,000	Other:	_____

WVEC is a 501-C4 not for profit organization registered with the WV Secretary of State. Donations are not tax deductible.