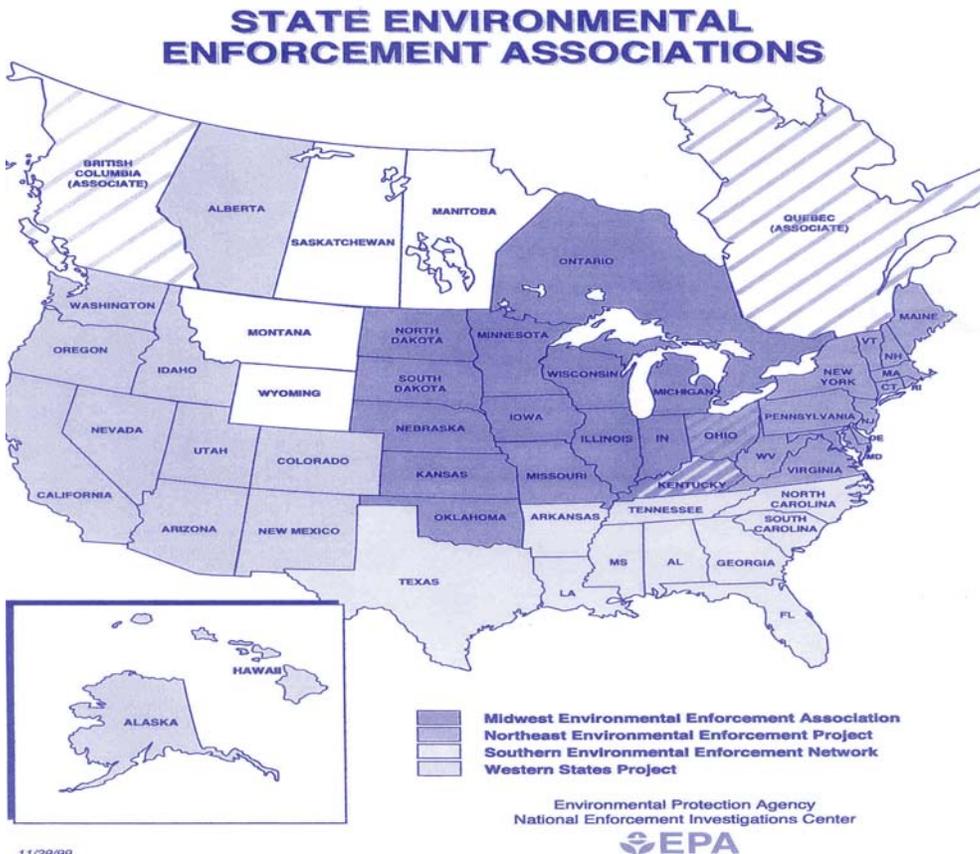


Northeast Environmental Enforcement Project

MEMBERSHIP STATES



- Connecticut
- Delaware
- District of Columbia
- Maine
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New York
- Ohio
- Pennsylvania
- Rhode Island
- Vermont
- Virginia
- West Virginia

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

- Province of Quebec
- Air Force Office of Special Investigations
- Defense Criminal Investigative Service
- Naval Criminal Investigative Service
- Environment of Canada



NEEP STATE REPRESENTATIVES

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the state Attorneys' General and Environmental Commissioners/Secretaries for their continued commitment to the Northeast Project. We are aware that our Coordination Committee involvement and contributions are made possible only because of the support they receive from those in leadership.

CONNECTICUT

Richard Blumenthal, *Attorney General*
Arthur J. Rocque, Jr., *Commissioner*

MASSACHUSETTS

Tom Reilly, *Attorney General*
Bob Golledge, *Commissioner*

PENNSYLVANIA

Gerald J. Pappert, *Attorney General*
Kathleen McGinty, *Secretary*

DELAWARE

M. Jane Brady, *Attorney General*
John A. Hughes, *Secretary*

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Peter Heed, *Attorney General*
Michael P. Nolin, *Commissioner*

RHODE ISLAND

Patrick Lynch, *Attorney General*
Frederick J. Vincent, *Acting Director*

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Robert J. Spangnoletti, *Attorney General*
Theodore J. Gordon, *Chief Operating Officer*

NEW JERSEY

Peter C. Harvey, *Attorney General*
Bradley M. Campbell, *Commissioner*

VERMONT

William H. Sorrell, *Attorney General*
Jeffery Wennberg, *Commissioner*

MAINE

G. Steven Rowe, *Attorney General*
Dawn R. Gallagher, *Commissioner*

NEW YORK

Elliot Spitzer, *Attorney General*
Erin M. Crotty, *Commissioner*

VIRGINIA

Jerry Kilgore, *Attorney General*
Robert G. Burnley, *Director*

MARYLAND

J. Joseph Curran, Jr., *Attorney General*
Kendal P. Philbrick, *Secretary*

OHIO

Jim Petro, *Attorney General*
Christopher Jones, *Director*

WEST VIRGINIA

Darrell V. McGraw, Jr., *Attorney General*
Stephanie Timmermeyer, *Cabinet Secretary*

60th Membership Conference

Princeton, New Jersey

The Northeast Project hosted its 60th Membership Meeting in Princeton, New Jersey on April 14-16, 2004. The members meet twice annually to share their respective expertise and experience, discuss regulatory and enforcement initiatives, and inform each other of significant milestones in each state's environmental enforcement and compliance programs.

We were very fortunate to have both Attorney General Peter C. Harvey and Commissioner Bradley M. Campbell presenting the Opening Remarks at this conference. We thank Attorney General Harvey and Commissioner Campbell for their continued support and commitment to the Northeast Project.

Topics that were addressed during this meeting included: Recent Su-



From left to right: Attorney General Peter C. Harvey and Commissioner Bradley M. Campbell.



From left to right: Attorney General Peter C. Harvey, NEEP Executive Director Connie Morder, and SDAG Edward Bonanno.

preme Court Decisions and Case Law Updates, Smart Negotiating, State Enforcement Initiatives: Massachusetts Environmental Endangerment Bill, New Jersey DEP/DCJ's Urban Initiative, New Jersey DEP's Enforcement Sweeps, Bankruptcy-Application in Environmental Law, NJ Environmental Management System (NJEMS) and DOJ Worker Safety/Environmental Initiative. In addition, time was set aside for Roundtable Discussions and Discipline breakout sessions, giving individuals the opportunity to share their latest cases and current issues developing within their state.

We would like to take this opportunity to once again thank the experienced instructors who presented these topics: James Morgulec-USDOJ, Richard Migliore, Paul Molloy-MA OAG, Edward Bonanno-NJ DCJ, Jeff Gross-NJDCJ, Jeffrey Meyer-NJDEP,

Stephan Sedlak-NJDEP, Raymond Rude-NJDEP, Maureen Leary-NYDOL, John McManus-Ohio OAG, Alan Tenenbaum-USDOJ, Andrew Goldsmith-USDOJ, Robert Kulick-USDOJ/OSHA, Deborah Hillman-USDOJ, William Lometti-USEPA, and David Dillion-USEPA.

We are also pleased to have Barbara Forman (see page 9) from USEPA at the conference to present the Northeast Project with a proclamation from President Bush recognizing our accomplishments during "National Environmental Crimes Prevention Week." We thank Barbara for all of her efforts in obtaining this recognition for NEEP.

If you are interested in receiving any of the handout materials for this conference, please contact the Project office.

Letter from President George W. Bush



Presented by: Barbara Forman, USEPA



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 5, 2004

I send greetings to those observing April 11 through April 17, 2004, as National Environmental Crime Prevention Week.

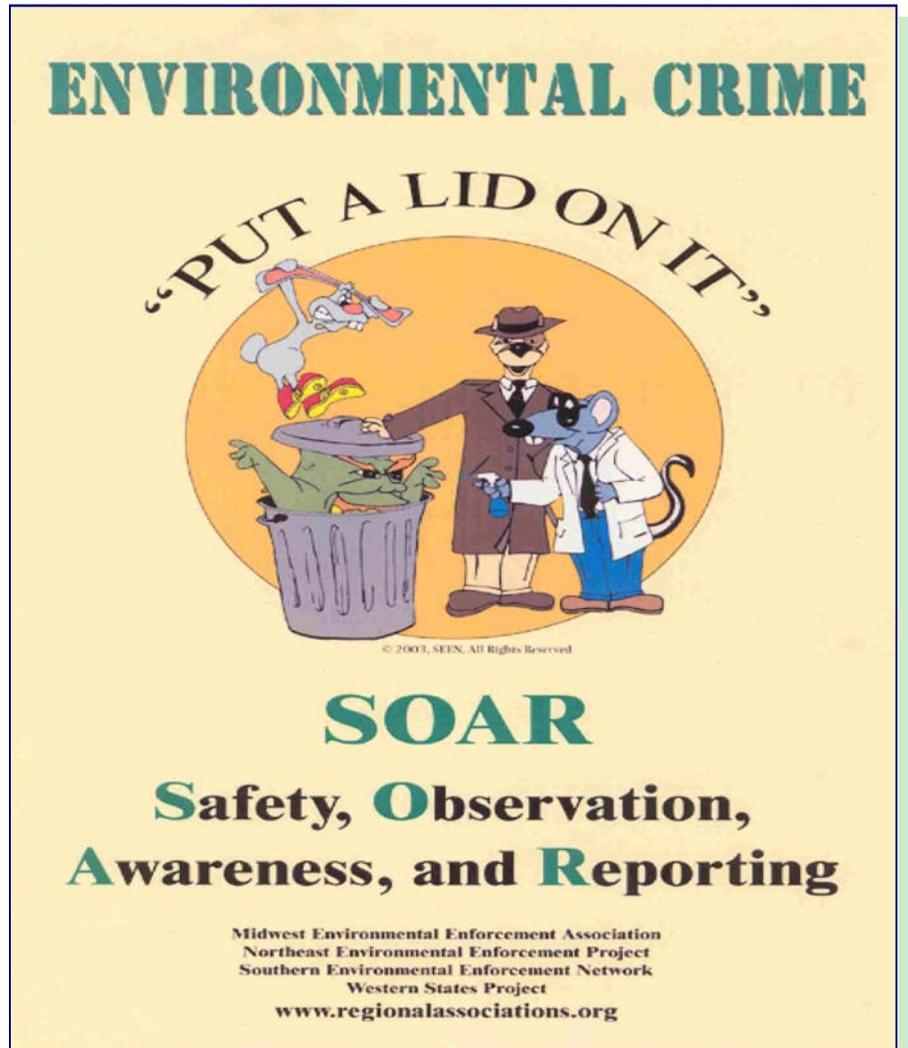
America takes pride in our wildlife, forests, deserts, ranges, mountains, and shores. During National Environmental Crime Prevention Week, the Environmental Protection Agency and other organizations educate the public about preventing and reporting environmental crimes that harm our natural resources. My Administration continues to work determinedly to enforce the laws that protect our environment. I encourage all our citizens to be responsible stewards and to be aware of the dangers of environmental crimes. By taking a stand against those who harm our environment, we improve public health and enhance the quality of life for generations of Americans to come.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes.

National Environmental Crimes Awareness Program

The Project continues to support the states through our environmental crimes awareness program designed for the nation's middle school students. As many of you know, the four Regional Environmental Enforcement Associations developed a collection of materials that can be used to make presentations to middle school students in an effort to increase awareness of environmental criminal activities. The acronym *SOAR* is used throughout the materials...**S**afety, **O**bservation, **A**wareness, and **R**eporting. The material packet contains the following:

- ✓ A CD containing a PowerPoint presentation describing environmental laws, criminal activity and suggestions for action. The CD can be modified to include information about the presenting agency, i.e., contact information;
- ✓ A short video, "Isn't It About Time?" features a boy and his mother who observe possible environmental criminal activity. The video discusses what they should do about it;
- ✓ A supply of comic books, "It's Grime Crime, Justin Tyme!" introducing students to environmental crimes. The comic book directs students to an Internet-based environmental crime inves-



tigative game. Students who complete the game will receive a “special agent T-shirt.”

- ✓ A commemorative poster featuring the national poster contest winner.

The Project would like to promote this awareness program and encourage the member

states to outreach to their middle schools.

If you would like more information on this outreach program, please contact Training Coordinator Pat Jones

SETTLEMENT STRATEGY

We have been extremely fortunate to have received settlement monies from the member states throughout the years. The money received has been vital to our existence and allows us to continue to provide quality training and services to our members.

The basis for this type of income started as a result of the threat of losing EPA funds into NEEP, approximately 4 years ago. The four regional associations were faced with the unprecedented prospect of losing the annual federal grant, and together, they worked very hard to prevent it from happening, but all were left with the first-hand experience of budgeting for a program without that source of funds. This had been a threat for years, but had never come to pass, and while the four associations were successful in preventing it, the message was clear: *don't rely on this money every year.*

The Steering Committee of NEEP took that message and put it into action: individual members began to direct enforcement settlements to the NEEP account,

to offset the anticipated federal loss. This started a trend, and NEEP reported on it during membership conferences, and the trend increased and has continued. States that had previously indicated they did not have the ability to direct their settlements to NEEP went back to their administrations, and in many cases because of the example set by other

states, found they were able to do this. At this writing, these examples are reported regularly, during Membership conferences and during the Prosecutor course, since the states' attorneys are the members in the position to be able to contribute via this means. As part of this effort, NEEP has developed a settlement package that they use to provide examples, options, contacts, and explicit instructions on how to direct settlements to NEEP. This tool was revised by the "Settlement Committee" which held its first meeting at the National Conference in San Antonio,

Texas in April 2003.

On behalf of the members and staff of the Northeast Environmental Enforcement Project, we would like to thank those members who have contributed settlement monies to NEEP.



Why Support NEEP?

The landscape for environmental enforcement has changed dramatically over the years. Thousands of regulated facilities (including small quantity hazardous waste generators, air toxic emission sources, and operators subject to community right-to-know requirements) have been added to the enforcement workload. Both legislators and the public have placed more emphasis on enforcement of the environmental laws, including an increasing emphasis on the use of criminal sanctions to deal with the most egregious environmental violations.

These changes have occurred at the same time that state and local budgets have become more restricted than ever. It is crucial for state and local governments to utilize limited enforcement resources as efficiently as possible to meet growing demands on their programs. The four regional environmental enforcement associations that have been established in the United States are an important asset to state and local governments in building and maintaining efficient and effective environmental enforcement programs.



The Northeast Environmental Enforcement Project (NEEP), headquartered in Trenton, New Jersey, was the first of four state environmental enforcement organizations to be formed in the country. Its predecessor, the Northeast Hazardous Waste Coordination Committee, was formed in 1980 as a result of a proposal presented by the Attorney General of New Jersey to the attorneys general of ten northeastern states.

NEEP served as the model for the establishment of the Midwest Environmental Enforcement Association in 1982; the Western States Project in 1986; and the Southern Environmental Enforcement Network in 1987. All four organizations are supported by USEPA grants and matching state contributions. Headquarters offices are located within "host" state agencies. The Northeast Environmental Enforcement Project headquarters is hosted by the New Jersey Attorney General's office.

Fourteen states are now members of the NEEP, in addition to the District of Columbia. The Naval Criminal Investigative Service, the Defense Criminal Investigative Service, the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, the province of Quebec, and Environment of Canada are currently Associate Members.

Efficient & Effective Facilitation

The service provided by the Northeast Project is more important than ever at a time when state and local budgets do not often stretch to provide for training of personnel. The associations provide training at a nominal cost. This efficiency is due to a very small, highly experienced operation which is focused on sharing state and local expertise among enforcement personnel. The Project is viewed as an extension of states' resources - one that provides low cost, high quality training and technical support. The four associations serve as a model for efficient, specialized government service.

