



RT ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.

Your Solution-Oriented Environmental Services Firm

PENNSYLVANIA'S ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERS

When I go into the Rachel Carson State Office Building in Harrisburg (DEP's Headquarters). I see the portraits of Rachel in the rotunda and portraits of PA's key environmental leaders. Rachel Carson is the one who convinced the nation before EPA even existed that we might have a Silent Spring if wholesale use of herbicides and pesticides did not get attention. Congress listened.

I remember in the 1970's, hearing Maurice Goddard proudly say that industrial caliber lined landfills were opening in key areas of PA to handle industrial waste properly as "Residual Waste" even before the nationwide hazardous waste program was authorized by Congress.

Even earlier, we can think of Gifford Pinchot as one of the nation's first leading Resource Conservationists, who had an eye on PA's forests as early as 1905 and who later became Governor. More recently, Environmental Secretaries Katie McGinty and David Hess ran DEP with a high level of leadership and accomplished a lot during their tenure.

DEP employees work every day to improve PA's environment from Philadelphia to Wilkes Barre/Scranton to Erie and Pittsburgh. With the recent DEP Secretary dismissed, I think that DEP staff should not spend any time worrying about the future. There is too much work to do.

DEP staff should remember their heritage and hold their head high as they go to work each day. Although there are disappointments, accomplishments trump setbacks. If you go to the Rachel Carson State Office Building, just pause and look up before you sign in at Security. I like to look up and see a name I don't know, and then I can look on Wikipedia later to see what that leader did to improve PA's environment.

To DEP staff - you have the honor of improving PA's environment every day. Remember that those leaders are keeping an eye on everyone coming into the building and they want you to follow their leadership. PA is my home Professional Engineer state (in 1978) and I see how much we have accomplished when I travel the Commonwealth. Let's keep the excellence moving forward; I am sure that excellent leadership ahead, which is our tradition.

Gary R. Brown, P.E.
President
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