

State News for NSPE Members

2021 Montana Annual Joint Engineers Conference

The [Annual Joint Engineers Conference](#) will be held at the Delta Colonial Hotel in Helena on **November 3-5**. Registration for the in-person meeting closes on November 1.

Visit the Montana Society of Engineers [website](#) to register and access the conference schedule/session details.

State Licensing Board Meeting

The Montana Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors will hold a virtual meeting on **Wednesday, November 3** (10 a.m.). New agenda items may be added up to three business days before the meeting. Access the licensing board [website](#) for more information.

Missoula Airport Plans East Concourse Construction Despite Challenges

With the opening of the new south concourse of Missoula Montana Airport planned for April, officials are starting to plan the second phase of the passenger terminal project. However, they face rising construction costs and labor shortages at this critical point in the effort, [The Missoula Current reports](#).

The airport plans to bid out the estimated \$42-\$62 million east concourse project in early 2022. It will include a rental car center, two additional jet bridges with room to expand, and baggage claim.

EPA Was Justified in Issuing Exceptions for Wastewater Treatment Plants, Court Says

A federal appeals court recently [ruled](#) that the Environmental Protection Agency did not

violate the Clean Water Act when it approved less stringent water pollution limits in Montana for some wastewater treatment plants, [Reuters reports](#).

In its ruling, the panel said the EPA can consider extra costs of complying with such limits when approving exceptions like these.

Montana Learning Center Awarded \$360K NASA Grant

NASA has awarded a \$360,000 grant to the Montana Learning Center (MLC) at Canyon Ferry Lake in Helena to continue funding its education and outreach for an additional four years. The award will support a variety of the center's programs, and will take effect January 1, 2022, according to a MLC [news release](#).

The MLC received this award as a partner of the Northwest Earth and Space Sciences Pathways (NESSP) at Central Washington University. NESSP's mission is to provide NASA-themed STEM activities to underserved students throughout the Northwest. Earlier this year, NASA awarded a \$90,000 NESSP grant to the MLC to connect Montana students and teachers with cutting-edge NASA science and improve students' and teachers' STEM skills.

Funds will support the MLC's efforts in five key areas, including the acclaimed Montana Aerospace Scholars program, online training for Montana K-12 science teachers, teacher training to operate the MLC's remote telescope, a two-day NASA Student Robotics Challenge workshop for middle and high school teachers, and a partnership with Montana libraries to offer patrons a unique citizen science opportunity.



NSPE's **Job Board** is your one-stop resource for professional engineering employment. Whether you are on the hunt for your next career move or looking for today's top engineering leaders and talent, you will find it here.

NSPE provides the tools PEs need to keep current in the profession and advance their careers.

Featured Jobs

[City Traffic Engineer](#)
Billings, MT

Water Rights Bureau Chief

Helena, MT

Find more job openings or reach the right employees on the [NSPE Job Board](#).

Stay up to date on legislative issues through the [NSPE Advocacy Center](#).

Volunteer Leaders Make a Difference – Are You Ready?

Do you want to influence the future of the profession? Are you a young professional looking to advance your career? Have your professional achievements created a desire to give back and serve?

Join NSPE leaders Tricia Hatley, Megan Schultz, and Craig Sisco on **November 1** (4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET) as they explore the rewards, benefits, and requirements of volunteer service. NSPE President Rick Guerra will serve as the moderator during this **free webinar**.

Attendees will learn about the opportunities available and gain an understanding of the skills and abilities desired for these positions. The panelists will also share real-life stories of how volunteer service with NSPE has improved their careers and provided fulfillment of their goals and aspirations. [Register now](#).



Tricia H. Hatley,
P.E., F.NSPE



Megan J. Schultz,
P.E.



Craig S. Sisco,
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Rick J. Guerra,
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Delaware Improves Licensure Mobility for PEs

Legislation designed to expand licensure mobility for professional engineers in Delaware was signed by Governor John Carney on September 17. Members of the Delaware Engineering Society let state legislators know of their support for the bill through the [NSPE Advocacy Center](#), a critical factor in gaining support for its passage.

The amendments to the state's PE law provide multiple licensing opportunities. Individuals with an NCEES Record or who qualify as a Model Law Engineer will now find it easier to obtain a PE license in Delaware. The law was also amended to recognize applicants who are graduates of an engineering educational program approved by an accrediting agency

that is a signatory to the Washington Accord. The accord covers 21 countries, including Australia, Canada, China, India, Ireland, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Russia, South Africa, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

An applicant with a minimum of five years of continuous and verifiable experience as a professional engineer can also apply for comity licensure. These applicants must also submit five references, three of which must be from professional engineers licensed in the US, Canada, or an International Professional Engineer registrant under the International Engineering Alliance.

The law's new provisions also eliminate the requirement that licensees can use only an embossed seal, making way for use of a digital seal.

Challenges Facing the Profession



NSPE Immediate Past President Tricia Hatley, P.E., F.NSPE, offers her advice on how engineers can get the most satisfaction from their careers in a four-part series featured in *Machine Design*.

In the first article installment, [Challenges Facing the Profession](#), Hatley discusses the value of professional engineering licensure and the challenges the profession faces—population growth and urbanization, the recent pandemic and its short and long-term effects on society, the need for diversity to increase the ranks of engineers, and advances in technology.

Member Benefit: Build Your Financial Future with BHG

Did you know that NSPE has a member-benefit partner to support your financial needs? BHG offers members a variety of financial solutions including:

- Business loans to cover expenses such as debt consolidation, working capital, technology or equipment, business acquisition, or startup costs;
- Personal loan solutions to cover expenses such as debt consolidation, investments, life events, or major purchases;
- SBA 7(a) loans for business debt consolidation, or costs associated with startup or acquisition, real estate, renovation, or expansion; and
- Credit cards that offer low rates, cash back, and elite rewards, designed for professionals.

For more information or to get started, visit the BHG [website](#).

Not sure what financial solution is right for you but trying to improve your credit health? Learn four great ways to improve your credit health in BHG's recent webinar, [The Credit Gambit](#).

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