

State News for NSPE Members

Advocacy Alert: Lend Your Voice to Improve PE Mobility

To improve PE license mobility in the state, NSPE-DE has launched an [advocacy campaign](#) in support of a state bill that could soon arrive on the House floor for a vote and needs your support. The bill (H.B. 142), would make license mobility easier for those individuals seeking licensure in Delaware, especially for those who have an NCEES™ record or who qualify as a Model Law Engineer. The bill would also expand qualifications for licensure to those whose degree is accredited by a signatory country of the Washington Accord, an international accreditation agreement. The accord, which is signed by ABET, sets standards for equivalency among engineering programs internationally. Voice [your support](#) today!

Anaerobic Digester Could Turn Organics to Energy

Sussex County has approved a rule change that will allow for anaerobic processing of tons of the Delmarva Peninsula's chicken manure and organic matter. Bioenergy Devco wants to build one of Delaware's first anaerobic digesters near the town of Blades. The machine would turn organic chicken materials into a soil additive and renewable natural gas.

If final approval is given by the state, the digester tanks will [ferment poultry waste](#) to create a compostable soil conditioner, and natural gas, which rises to the top of the tank for removal. Chesapeake Utilities has expressed interest in adding the gas to its pipeline. The digester tank should be operational early next year if the company gets approval, reports the [Delaware Business Times](#).

Contaminated Water Found in Wells Near New Castle Airport

The levels of "forever chemicals" found in some public drinking supply wells in Delaware are higher than reported in previous years, reports [Delaware Online](#). The contaminants have been found in all four New Castle city public wells and six

Artesian Water Company wells. An EPA spokesman was quoted as saying the wells contained PFAS that exceeded the EPA's lifetime health advisory levels. Unlike when higher than recommended levels were found in area water in 2014, no public notice has been issued.

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

New Jersey Student Wins MATHCOUNTS Title

Marvin Mao, an eighth-grade student from Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, was named the [2021 Raytheon MATHCOUNTS National Competition](#) champion during the virtual event held May 8-10. Mao will receive a \$10,000 scholarship.



This year's national competition engaged 224 students representing 56 US states and territories in four rounds: Sprint, Target, Team, and Countdown.

The runner-up for the individual competition was Bohan Yao, an eighth-grader from Redmond, Washington, who will receive a \$5,000 scholarship. Ten finalists will receive \$3,000 scholarships.

Mao is also a member of the first-place New Jersey team consisting of fellow eighth-grade students Evan Fan, Ying Lu, and Alexander Wang. The team will receive a trip to the US Space Camp. The California team finished in second place and the New York team placed third.

California Team Captures Math Video Award

A video combining algebraic equations with an exciting heist won the [2021 Math Video Challenge](#) for a team representing the Elite Academic Academy in southern California.

Team members Bradley Carpiuc (eighth grade), Madelynn Carpiuc (sixth grade), Zoe Kim (eighth grade) and Cole Seelman (sixth grade) each won a \$1,000 college scholarship for their "[The Sanitizer Stealers](#)" video during the challenge finals on May 9. The video is about a group of thieves who steal overpriced hand sanitizer from a store.



The crime is caught on camera, and the owner uses math to piece together just how much the thieves got away with.

The Math Video Challenge is a national program sponsored by MATHCOUNTS and the Department of Defense (DoDSTEM). More than 200 students who advanced to the national level of the MATHCOUNTS competition voted to determine the winning video.

[Access the 2021 finalist videos.](#)

Nominations Open for the QBS Awards

Every year, ACEC and NSPE partner to administer the [QBS Awards](#), recognizing public and private entities that make exemplary use of the qualifications-based selection process at the federal, state, and local levels. Award winners serve as examples of how well the QBS process works, and they help promote the practice in jurisdictions that do not use or underuse QBS to procure engineering services.

ACEC and NSPE are now seeking nominations for the 2021 QBS Awards by the deadline **Monday, June 7**. The awards are administered in three categories: federal government sector; state government sector; and nongovernment sector.

Nominations may originate from an ACEC member organization, an NSPE state society, a public or private entity, or an individual in the public or private sector. Self-nomination is not permitted.

[Learn more and download a nomination form.](#)

Boost Your Career with NSPE's Spring Webinars



This season's NSPE webinars will take place on Wednesdays starting at 2 p.m. EST. The webinars are available to members for \$99 (\$129 for nonmembers) and will include an online discussion and a 10-question quiz for the sessions to qualify for continuing education credit.

May 26: [Catapult Your Win Rate by 50%](#)

June 2: [Engineering Challenges of the 21st Century: A Discussion with Leaders of Engineering Change Lab – USA](#)

June 9: [Tools to Ensure Effective Litigation Preparation and Testimony as an Engineering Professional](#)

[Register now.](#)

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