Army Engineers to Explore Secondary Water Supply for DC

For years, DMV leaders have tried to change the fact that the Potomac River is the lone source of drinking water for Washington, DC, and they may finally be gaining some momentum. Officials told FOX 5 that DC is one of the largest metropolitan areas in the US with a lone drinking water source.

If something were to happen to the river, whether it’s a drought or an accidental or intentional spill, it could wreak havoc in our area. There have been a few close calls before. An oil spill in the early 90s and a few droughts, but for years, DC, Maryland, and Virginia leaders have collectively tried to come up with a second source of drinking water for this area.

In a bill recently signed by President Biden, a half million dollars was set aside for the US Army Corps of Engineers to look into the best way to do that and how much it would cost. Mike Nardolilli, the executive director of the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin, says that an additional supply is important, especially given what their models show about the impact of climate change down the road.

Read more.

District DOT: Connecticut Avenue Won’t Get Bike Lanes

After years of planning and contention, Connecticut Avenue won’t be getting bike lanes. The news came during a recent budget hearing with the District’s Department of Transportation (DDOT) director, DC News Now reports.

Some businesses are celebrating the news while bicyclists are upset. “I want to be able to go a half mile on my bike to a business in the next community up without risking my life,” said Gawaine Kripke, ANC 3C07 commissioner.

Initial plans from DDOT had a protected bike lane on Connecticut Avenue as part of safety improvements but Director Sharon Kershbaum told the council they
weren’t moving forward with that plan. “It’s always been a safety project, but in terms of which design to work, that’s been something we’ve been revising over the past few weeks,” Kershbaum said. Read more.

Stay up to date on legislative issues through the NSPE Advocacy Center.

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**Connect and Learn at NSPECon24**

Registration is open for NSPECon24 (Raleigh, North Carolina, August 7-9), the prime national event for professional engineers to engage and connect with their peers and to advance their careers. The early-bird discount rates are available until June 27. Access registration information and rates here. Access the preliminary conference program for details on keynote speakers and session topics.

The deadline for reserving a hotel room at the Raleigh Marriott Crabtree Valley for the NSPECon24 rate is July 15. We encourage you to make your reservation early.
since there are a limited number of conference rate hotels rooms available.

NSPECon24 also offers a variety of sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities to put your company or organization in front of senior executives and other decision-makers from across the industry. A special exhibitor discount is being offered to Research Triangle-based businesses.

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**New Program: Leadership Institute for Women PEs**

NSPE’s Women Leadership Program is sponsoring the Leadership Institute for Women Professional Engineers, a three-day program designed to support mid-career women PEs in confidently navigating their career path and leveraging their leadership skills.

The institute agenda is interwoven into the NSPECon24 program with participants attending pre-conference opening sessions on Wednesday, August 7, and sessions the mornings of Thursday, August 8 and Friday, August 9, in Raleigh, North Carolina. Attendees must register for NSPECon24 to attend the institute.
QBS Awards Program Accepting Nominations

NSPE is seeking nominations for the 2024 QBS Awards. The QBS Awards program promotes and recognizes the exemplary use of the qualifications-based selection process in three categories: federal government sector, state governor sector (includes all governmental units under the state level), and nongovernment sector. The deadline for nominations is June 7 (close of business). Access the awards information and nomination form.

Read a PE magazine article about a longtime champion of QBS.