

Good morning!

You are receiving this email because you are a Sewage Enforcement Officer (SEO), or an SEO candidate, working in the Act 537 Planning Section and have never taken the Advanced Soils class (#109 Advanced Soils).

In the past, the completion of the class had been a requirement to maintain certification as an SEO. The soils class has not been offered since 2010 and as a result there are several hundred SEOs who have not completed an advanced soils course.

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) believes that a comprehensive soils course is fundamental for all SEOs. A thorough understanding of soils and how soils relate to on-lot sewage systems is essential for all SEOs to adequately perform their duties.

Currently, there is only one (1) DEP-approved soils course meeting the same qualifications as the #109 Advanced Soils, the *Precertification Soils Course*. The training sponsor for this course is Soil Hub. The course is a blended learning event offering on-line material and two (2) field days; the course is worth 15 credits. To successfully complete the soils course and earn the 15 credits, you must take and pass the online exams and a field exam.

The on-line portion of the course will take approximately four (4) hours to complete and must be done prior to attending the field portion of the course. The schedule for the 2019 field days is as follows:

April 25 & 26 – Shippensburg University
May 16 & 17 – Bucks County
May 23 & 24 – Bucks County
June 6 & 7 – Bloomsburg University
June 20 & 21 – Bloomsburg University

For additional information and registration, visit <https://pacleanwateracademy.remote-learner.net/> or <https://www.soilhub.com/seo/>. **NOTE:** you should have received, or will be receiving, an email to set up your account in Pa Clean Water Academy (PCWA); make sure to set up your PCWA account before trying to register for the precertification soils course. If you have not received this email or are having trouble setting up your account, please contact Jay Braund at jbraund@pa.gov, 717.772.5636, or Janice Vollero at jvollero@pa.gov, 717.772.5157.

The cost for the course is \$550, payable to Soil Hub. Central Office has partnered with Soil Hub to provide a \$250 subsidy to the first 100 registrants for the class. We hope you can take advantage of this offer. The \$250 subsidy offer will expire on June 30, 2019. The additional \$300 you will have to pay yourself or request Regional approval for payment. Central Office is not paying the remaining \$300.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Janice Vollero at 717.772.5157 or by email at jvollero@pa.gov.



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