



More than Liability: A Positive Spin for Remediation in Corporate Sustainability

Want the C-suite to see remediation projects in a new light? Having some trouble connecting your remediation projects to corporate sustainability goals? Use ESG!

Environmental, social, and governance (ESG) are the key factors used by corporations to measure the sustainability and ethical impact of an organization, alongside financial factors. Corporations are expanding their sustainability goals based on ESG criteria to help improve the planet, people, and communities.

At the AEHS West Coast Conference in March, Paige Molzahn (SURF Secretary) demonstrated how an environmental remediation project can contribute to ESG performance and corporate sustainability goals. In her presentation, “Remediation Project Influence on Environmental, Social, and Governance Priorities,” she outlined how to use multi-objective decision

analysis to evaluate the influence of a remediation project – and its alternatives – on ESG criteria. (Paige will demonstrate this approach in an upcoming SURF webinar – see Upcoming Events.) Using this approach allows remediation practitioners to select, define, and weight ESG components based on industry- and company-specific priorities. Remediation project alternatives are then scored based on their potential results. Paige reviewed a specific remediation project example where this approach was used to provide insight into selecting an alternative based on its positive impact to ESG performance and corporate goals, compared to expected cost.



Dive In! Golden Opportunity to See Beauty and Science Combined

The French philosopher Albert Camus once said, “Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower.” We couldn’t agree more. Apparently so does the Association for Environmental Health and Sciences (AEHS) Foundation. Yellows, reds, and oranges greet attendees every October at the AEHS East Coast Conference in Amherst, Massachusetts. This year, SURF’s technical sessions focus on environmental justice (EJ) and updates and innovations in the field of sustainable remediation. Presentations include how the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has prioritized green and sustainable remediation, case studies highlighting the beneficial reuse of a landfill near a harbor and the integration of climate resilience in an EJ community, and an assessment of environmental footprints for per- and

polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) treatment technologies. See Upcoming Events for conference dates and click [here](#) to view the online program.



Did You Know? European Union Proposes New Soil Monitoring Law

According to the European Union (EU) Soil Observatory, over 60% of EU soils are unhealthy. On July 5th, the EU proposed a new Soil Monitoring Law to protect and restore soils and ensure that they are used sustainably. Among other items, the proposed law requires Member States to address the unacceptable risks to human health and the environment caused by soil contamination. It does not propose country-level targets to improve soil quality, but instead proposes a risk-based approach so standards can be set at the national level. The proposed law also promotes a sustainable remediation solution, one that should be “selected through a balanced decision-making process that takes account of the environmental, economic and social impacts.” For more information, click [here](#).

Upcoming Events

SURF Event

SURF Webinar: More Than A Liability: ESG, UN SDGs and Sustainable Remediation

Wednesday, August 30, 2023
3 p.m. – 4 p.m. EDT
Registration information coming soon.

SURF Virtual Membership Meeting
September 2023
Stay tuned for exact date and time.

SURF Membership Meeting @ AEHS East Coast Conference
Tuesday, October 17, 2023
3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. EDT

Conferences

2023 National Brownfields Training Conference
August 8-11, 2023
Detroit, Michigan
Click [here](#) for more information or to register.

16th Annual Georgia Environmental Conference
August 23-25, 2023
Jekyll Island, Georgia
Click [here](#) for more information or to register.
Be sure to stop by the SURF booth and say hi!

***AEHS East Coast Conference: 39th Annual International Conference
on Soils, Sediments, Water, and Energy***
October 16-19, 2023
Amherst, MA
Click [here](#) for more information or to register.