

SUSTAINABLE REMEDIATION FORUM

April 2024 Newsletter



Serene Duan (fifth from left), Founder and Executive Director of YESAction, gathers with some attendees after her presentation at the SURF meeting.

YESAction Founder Inspires SURF Meeting Attendees

Do you remember hearing “Stay at Home, Save Lives” at the height of the pandemic? For most of us, it was a slogan that captured the gravity of the moment. For high school student Siyu (Serene) Duan, the actions the slogan spurred were a testament to our shared resilience and unity. It was in this spirit that Serene founded the nonprofit Youths for Environmentally Sustainable Action (YESAction). YESAction recognizes the fractured approach the U.S. has toward sustainable education and aims to empower the middle and high school students in their 70 chapters across the U.S. to make a difference and drive real change. Their accomplishments and energy inspired attendees at the

SURF meeting last month to connect with the youth in their communities. Thanks again, Serene! For more information about YESAction, click [here](#).



Dive In! EPA Publishes Wildfire Guide for Storage Tank Sites

Last year, 56,580 wildfires consumed almost 2.7 million acres of U.S. land – for context, that’s more acreage than Delaware and Rhode Island combined! In January 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency published a wildfire guide that consolidates federal, state, nongovernmental, and industry resources for owners and operators of storage tanks. The guide includes case studies with takeaways to demonstrate the steps that can be taken to prepare for and recover after a wildfire. Click [here](#) to access.



Did You Know? A Corny Spin on Earth Day

April 22nd is Earth Day, when common celebrations take the form of trash cleanups and tree plantings. As corny as it sounds, what if we were more intentional and actively advocated for the earth every day? As remediation practitioners, we can integrate sustainable concepts into our work. As humans, we can mirror the actions of younger generations who remind us that small actions can make a difference.

Upcoming Events

Short Course

SURF Guide to Sustainable Resilient Remediation Tools

Sunday, June 2, 2024 during Battelle's 2024 Chlorinated Conference in Denver, CO
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. MDT

Click [here](#) for more information and [here](#) to register for the early bird registration deadline on April 19th.

Webinars

EPA Webinar: Understanding Extreme Weather Events—Impacts of Extreme Precipitation and the Urban Heat Island

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. EDT

Click [here](#) for more information.

Not MI Species: Invading Classrooms—Empowering Students to Take Action on Invasive Species

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. EDT

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.