



**GEO-
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**Delaware Valley
Chapter**

DELAWARE VALLEY GEO-INSTITUTE

DVGI - November, 2025

Volume 25, Issue 8

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November 2025 DVGI Dinner Meeting

SPEAKERS: Catherine Chia-Calabria, P.E. — McCormick Taylor ;
Jason Taylor, P.E. — Susquehanna Civil

TOPIC: "The Story of Hanging Rock — SR 320 Section M07, Montgomery Co."

DATE: Tuesday November 18, 2025 – Social Hour 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM;
Dinner 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM; Presentations 7:30PM to 8:30PM

WHERE: Valley Forge Casino – “Parkview Ballroom”

1160 1st Ave, King of Prussia, PA 19406

Cost: \$70 General*, \$35 Government/Retired*, \$10 Student Rates

***Complimentary Drink Ticket Included for Registrants Over 21**

MEETING ABSTRACT:

PennDOT District 6 had long considered Hanging Rock a “legacy” project. Due to its complex nature of design, location, and environmental permitting issues this project was with the Department for more than 20 years. The project team worked through the rigorous environmental clearance process and complexities of the site to achieve a new design that reconstructed the flood prone roadway, raising it above the 100-year flood elevation.

The project installed nearly 1,000 linear feet of retaining wall for support against the fast-moving waters of Gulph Creek during storm events. A 600-foot-long section of the retaining wall features a cantilevered roadway over the creek to move the travel lanes away from the historic Hanging Rock. This simple yet innovative solution allowed for conventional means and methods of construction to achieve the project goals and restore mobility and safety on PA 320. The project was recognized as the ASHE Delaware Valley Section Project of the Year 2022 for projects under \$20 million.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS:

Catherine Chia-Calabria, PE is Senior Manager for Structural Engineering at McCormick Taylor. She is a registered Professional Engineer in six states and has 40 years of experience in the design and construction of transportation structural facilities. Her extensive project experience includes steel and concrete bridges, culverts, retaining walls, noise walls and sign structures.



**McCORMICK
TAYLOR**

Jason Taylor, PE, PG is a licensed Professional Engineer and Professional Geologist with over 24 years of experience in geotechnical engineering and environmental consulting. As Geotechnical Group Manager at Susquehanna Civil, he leads complex infrastructure projects across Pennsylvania, specializing in foundation design, slope stability, retaining walls, and subsurface investigations.



Please register by November 13th, 2025 at:

[DVGI November Dinner Meeting](#)





October 2025 DVGI Dinner Meeting

Speaker : Melinda Eason, P.E. — U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Topic : “Geotechnical Review of Beach Nourishment at Indian River Inlet”

MEETING ABSTRACT:

The Indian River Inlet in Delaware is a vital access point to the Delaware Inland Bays, supporting commercial, recreational, and U.S. Coast Guard navigation. Initially authorized by Congress in 1937 and modified in 1945, the project includes parallel jetties spaced 500 feet apart, a 200-foot-wide channel dredged to a depth of 15 feet extending 7,000 feet into the bay, and additional dredging of a 9-foot-deep channel through the bay and river. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Philadelphia District received funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act for maintenance repairs, including design and construction of jetty restoration, repair of a failed bulkhead on the interior north shore, and beachfill nourishment to reduce erosion. The project addresses geotechnical aspects of shoreline instability and infrastructure risks through engineered solutions that protect navigation, infrastructure, and surrounding beaches.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER:

Melinda Eason is a Geotechnical Engineer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District, and a registered Professional Engineer in Delaware. She has over 11 years of combined private and public sector experience in geotechnical engineering, including shallow and deep foundation design, site characterization, beach nourishment, and dredging projects. Melinda earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering from the University of Kentucky and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering at Villanova University with a focus on geotechnical engineering. In addition to her engineering career, she is a strong advocate for STEM education.





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October 2025 DVGI – Dinner Meeting

Photo Gallery





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ANNOUNCEMENTS — GETT EXPO 2025

The Girls Exploring Tomorrow's Technology ® (GETT) Expo is an annual event for girls in grades 4-10, along with their parents and educators, to learn more about career opportunities in a broad scope of STEM related industries. The day is filled with exciting and enlightening experiences including hands-on activities lead by successful women in STEM fields. GETT is a free event to all students, however accompanying adults will be charged a fee of \$10 to attend, to help offset event costs.

GETT 2025 took place at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center at Oaks, PA on November 1st from 10am – 2pm. It was a successful event where DVGI representatives were able to engage with about 250 girls. Thank you to our volunteers: Ashley Kellmyer – GTA; Cassidy Niederland – GTA; Marissa Ciocco – Princeton Hydro; Elisabetta Iannetti - Pennoni; Theresa Loux – Aero Aggregates; Grace Hepler – WSP; Kristin Sample-Lord – Villanova; Melinda Eason – USACE; Amanda Hess – Villanova. For information about GETT, please visit <https://gettpa.org>.



Girls Exploring Tomorrow's Technology®





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ANNOUNCEMENTS — GETT EXPO 2025 — Photos





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ANNOUNCEMENTS — Save the Date — ECP Multi-Society Meeting



REGISTRATION ANNOUNCEMENT

2025 ECP MULTI-SOCIETY MEETING



Topic: I-95 Emergency Construction (Cottman Avenue) – Detours and Community Impacts

Join us as our panel of speakers reviews the intricate and complicated maintenance of traffic, detours, and handling of impacts of the addition of the over 100,000 vehicles that would normally be using I-95 during the emergency construction in June 2023 following the incident and fire that required I-95 to be temporarily closed.

Date & Time

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

11:30 AM registration/networking, 12:00 Noon lunch, session following lunch

Location

Maggiano's Little Italy

12th & Filbert Streets, Center City, Philadelphia, PA

Cost

\$70 ECP members and members of co-sponsoring societies

\$80 Others

Late fee (after December 1st)

Registration

www.engrclub.org/2025MultiSocietyMtg

Panelists:

Francis J. Hanney
Senior Assistant District Executive – Operations
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, District 6-O

Richard J. Montanez, PE
First Deputy Commissioner – Transportation
Philadelphia Department of Streets

Sandi K. Yeakley, PE
Senior Project Manager/Principal Associate
Benesch

Moderator:

Jaclyn Whelan, PE
Project Manager – Design
Conrail
(2025 Delaware Valley Young Engineer of the Year)

We will continue our tradition of conducting a Toys for Tots collection at this meeting. Please bring unwrapped toys that will be collected by the Marines at the event.



Co-Sponsoring Societies





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Location: Chadds Ford, PA

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 - Diverse Projects: From transportation to water to energy, every day is different
 - Competitive Compensation + bonus program
- Comprehensive Benefits: Medical, dental, 401(k), ESOP, 9 paid holidays, and more!

What You'll Do

- Lead and support geotechnical projects from exploration through construction
 - Conduct subsurface investigations and geotechnical analyses
- Develop design drawings, specifications, and technical reports
 - Mentor junior staff and collaborate across disciplines
 - Travel to project sites and make a real-world impact

What You Bring

- 6-10 years of geotechnical experience and PE License (*More experience? Please apply!!!*)
 - Strong analytical, communication, and leadership skills
- Experience with tools like LPile, Slope/W, Rocscience, gINT, AutoCAD, Microstation/ORD
 - Passion for solving complex problems and working outdoors

Apply now and become part of a team that values innovation, integrity, and impact!

[Mid-Level Geotechnical Engineer | Schnabel Engineering, Inc.](#)

Scan to apply!





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A vibrant, futuristic cityscape with tall buildings, green spaces, and a hot air balloon, serving as the background for the Keller advertisement.

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An advertisement for Langan. The top half shows a photograph of a bridge under construction with the word 'LANGAN' in large white letters. The bottom half is a brown banner with white text and two award logos. The text reads: 'WE ARE HIRING! Langan's Philadelphia Geotechnical group is growing. See how you can make an impact by joining our collaborative teams.' The logos are 'Hot Firm' and '2024 Best Firms To Work For'. At the bottom, a dark blue bar contains the URL 'LANGAN.COM/CAREERS' in white.

LANGAN

WE ARE HIRING!

Langan's Philadelphia Geotechnical group is growing. See how you can make an impact by joining our collaborative teams.

Hot Firm

2024 Best Firms To Work For

[LANGAN.COM/CAREERS](https://www.langan.com/careers)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Dates for 2025-26 Dinner Meetings, Webinars and Events are as follows:

11/18/2025 – Tuesday – Catherine Chia-Calabria & Jason Taylor — “The Story of Hanging Rock — SR 320 Section M07, Montgomery County, PA”

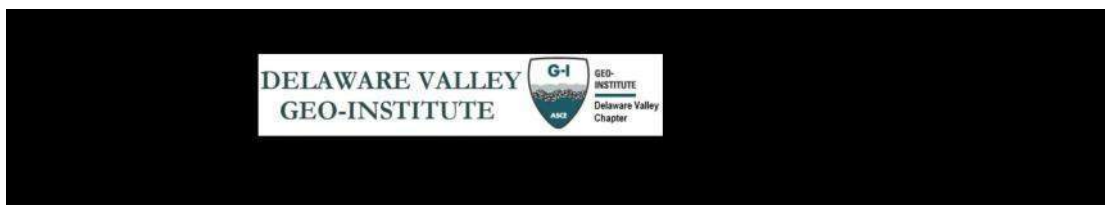
12/2025 — Ethics Webinar—Date and Speaker TBD

01/20/2026 — George Koerner — “Green Wrap Walls”

One PDH will be awarded for most meetings that you attend.

If you are interested in presenting at one of our monthly meetings or have ideas about potential speakers, please get in touch with a DVGI board member.

NEW DVGI.ORG WEBSITE



Welcome to Delaware Valley Geo-Institute!

- [About Us](#)
- [Awards](#)
- [Corporate Ads and Sponsorship](#)
- [Current Sponsors](#)
- [Geotechnical Resources](#)
- [Newsletter and Attendance](#)
- [Students and Scholarships](#)

Check out our revamped website at DVGI.ORG!
