

# The Equalizer

Bi-annual Newsletter

October 2012 – March 2013

## Meet Your Committee

The WS EEO Committee is here to:

- ✚ Identify EEO barriers and actions to address them.
- ✚ Provide management with guidance on EEO issues.
- ✚ Manage Special Emphasis Programs.
- ✚ Assist management with required EEO reports.
- ✚ Monitor workforce diversity, EEO outreach, and program delivery.

Contact Committee Members:

Committee Chair	Pam Engstrom	(715) 369-5221
Women SEPM*	Sandra Torrez	(210) 472-5451
Disability SEPM	Emily Gaydos	(252) 902-1755
African American SEPM	Virginia Green	(614) 861-6087
Hispanic SEPM	Larry Duran	(970) 498-1452
Asian Pacific SEPM	Melissa Warrick	(970) 266-6029
Native American SEPM	Michael Pacheco	(210) 652-2224
GLBT SEPM	Krista Wenning-Hausig	(602) 870-2081
Veterans EPM**	Carrie Joyce	(301) 735-4890
Member at large	Aaron Guikema	(919) 855-7200
Member at large	Wendy Anderson	(908) 735-5654

\*SEPM = Special Emphasis Program Manager

\*\* EPM = Emphasis Program Manager

Visit These Sites for More Information

EEO and Civil Rights brochures, postings, and other information have been posted on WS' internet homepage:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wildlife\\_damage/eoo\\_cr/index.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wildlife_damage/eoo_cr/index.shtml)

Additional information for employees is posted on WS' Intranet:

[http://inside.aphis.usda.gov/ws/eoo\\_cr/index.shtml](http://inside.aphis.usda.gov/ws/eoo_cr/index.shtml)

Native American Heritage Month – November

The 2012 theme is “Serving Our People, Serving Our Nations; Honoring Those That Served Our Country.” National Native American Heritage Month celebrates the contributions, sacrifices, and culture and history of American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Information is available on the Bureau of Indian Affairs Website:

<http://www.bia.gov/DocumentLibrary/HeritageMonth/>

National Disability Awareness Month – October  
Held each October, National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) is a national campaign that raises awareness about disability employment issues and celebrates the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities. This year's theme is "A Strong Workforce is an Inclusive Workforce: What Can YOU Do?" Given the Federal government's commitment through Executive Order 13548 to become a model employer of people with disabilities, Federal agencies are highly encouraged to take part in NDEAM. For “What Can YOU Do?” ideas please visit:

<http://www.dol.gov/odep/topics/ndeam/agencies.htm> and <http://www.dol.gov/odep/topics/ndeam/employers.htm>. To print copies of the 2012 theme poster visit <http://www.dol.gov/odep/topics/ndeam/2012PosterEnglish.pdf> (English) or <http://www.dol.gov/odep/topics/ndeam/2012PosterSpanish.pdf> (Spanish).

Black History Month - February

Every February, American recognizes the struggles, achievements and contributions that the African-American community has made to honor its ancestry and recognize the advancements and innovations that have shaped our lives and society. President Gerald Ford started the tradition of issuing messages on the observance of Black History Month, but it wasn't until 1986 when Congress approved and Ronald Reagan signed the first proclamation officially recognizing February as Black History Month.

The theme for this year is “At the Crossroads of Freedom and Equality: The Emancipation Proclamation and the March on Washington.” The theme highlights two important anniversaries: the 150 year anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation which set the country on a path of ending slavery and the 50 year anniversary of the March on Washington where hundreds of thousands of Americans, black and white, marched in pursuit of the ideal of equality of citizenship and Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his famous “I Have a Dream” speech.

Women's History Month – March

The 2013 theme is “Women Inspiring Innovation through Imagination: Celebrating Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.” For information about Women's History Month please visit [www.nwhp.org](http://www.nwhp.org). Here you will find news, events and resources about Women's History Month. You can also visit [www.dol.gov/dol/audience/aud-women.htm](http://www.dol.gov/dol/audience/aud-women.htm) for information and services that the Department of Labor offers for women including: information on Labor Force Information, Women in the Military, Federal Laws and Regulations of Interest to Working Women, as well as Publications of Interest to Women.