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**DEC SCHEDULES GREEN CHEMISTRY WORKSHOP FOR
SCIENCE TEACHERS AT SUNY-BROCKPORT**

Event to Help Reduce Hazardous Materials in the Classroom

High school science teachers from central and western New York are invited to attend a “hands-on” training on the principles of green chemistry, provided by the State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), on November 8, 2013 at SUNY-Brockport, DEC Commissioner Joe Martens announced today.

“By implementing green chemistry practices, teachers and students can take pride in learning about and conducting chemistry in an environmentally responsible way that reduces the amount of hazardous materials in the classroom,” Commissioner Martens said. “Using green chemistry encourages teachers and students to consider the life cycle of the chemicals they work with and promotes awareness of chemical toxicology, focusing on sustainability and how actions in the chemistry lab can impact the environment.”

This is the fifth green chemistry workshop offered to science teachers as part of the DEC’s “*Advancing Green Chemistry at New York State’s High Schools*” pilot program, funded by a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Previous DEC green chemistry workshops were held in the Capital District, Hudson Valley, New York City and Long Island regions of the state. To date, more than 100 teachers have attended the green chemistry workshops.

As part of DEC’s pilot project to advance green chemistry in New York State’s schools, James Monroe High School, located in the city of Rochester, Monroe County, was chosen to be DEC’s green chemistry candidate school. This choice was based on a chemical management needs assessment and the science teachers’ willingness to embrace and implement green chemistry practices in their classroom laboratories for at least one school year.

For additional information about DEC’s Green Chemistry for New York’s High Schools program, visit DEC’s website at: www.dec.ny.gov/education/77750.html. Inquiries about the DEC green chemistry workshop being held at SUNY-Brockport can be directed to DEC’s Division of Materials Management at 518-402-8706 or email inquiries to greenchemistryinschools@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

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