Colorado SWANA News:  
1st & 2nd Quarters 2018

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President’s Corner  
By Brad Coleman

Welcome to 2018! Colorado SWANA is already off to fast start this year with many more events yet to come. On February 13 we held a technical session on issues surrounding the disposal of TENORM – technically enhanced naturally occurring radioactive material. This is an issue of importance to our membership as new legislation is working its way through the legislature. Thank you GEOTECH for letting us use your meeting space. On March 7, as part of the national SWANApalooza conference held in downtown Denver, we hosted a reception party at the Rhein Haus in LoDo. It was an outstanding networking event with about 300 attendees and lots of interesting and tasty food and beer. I would like to give a special thanks to Mountain Waste & Recycling for being our title sponsor.

We are not stopping there. Our second technical session is coming up April 10 on “Thinking Differently about Ozone in Colorado”. This session, led by three speakers from the Air Pollution Control Division at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), will be focused on emissions from solid waste operations such as landfilling and composting. Later this year we are tentatively planning a landfill operations best practices technical session as well as a MOLO training class. We’ve also got our state ROAD-E-O coming up on June 16 and are honored to host the international ROAD-E-O again this year on September 22. Last but not least, we are looking forward to our annual conference in Glenwood Springs in October.

As a side note, I would like to give my colleagues on the Colorado SWANA board a heartfelt thanks for all the hard work in planning and hosting these events. Your many volunteer hours are greatly appreciated. It takes a team effort to put these events together, write newsletters, manage scholarships, teach MOLO, and in general run the organization. Additionally, we are always looking to get new people involved with our all-volunteer board of directors. It’s a great way to get to know people in our industry as well obtain additional training. If you would like to get involved with Colorado SWANA, please contact me at 303 362-2335 or bacoleman@burnsmcd.com.
The 2018 Annual Colorado SWANA Annual Conference Heads to the Western Slope
By Cathy Hall

Mark your calendars for Colorado’s premier solid waste conference event. Colorado SWANA’s annual conference is heading to Glenwood Springs and the historic Hotel Colorado, October 10-12, 2018. Attendees will have the opportunity to hear about the latest solid waste topics ranging from recycling to landfill operations. Also, the speakers will be giving updates on what is happening in Colorado solid waste and how it could affect you.

The conference is an ideal opportunity to meet and network with your peers and see the latest technology in the exhibit area. The Hotel Colorado is the premier Glenwood Springs Hotel, located in the heart of Glenwood Springs. Historic Hotel Colorado in Glenwood Springs' only full-service meeting hotel and is recognized as Glenwood's cultural icon for more than 120 years. A block of rooms has been reserved for conference attendees. Hotel, conference and sponsorship information will be updated regularly on the Colorado SWANA webpage at https://coloradoswana.org/annual-conference/.

Call for Presentations
Interested in presenting? Presenters (one per presentation) will receive complimentary conference registration, including full conference attendance, food and beverage. Travel and lodging are not included.

APPLICATION PROCESS:
• Complete the abstract application form and submit by May 31, 2018.
• Applications will be evaluated by Colorado SWANA’s Program Committee.
• You will receive notice of acceptance or non-acceptance on or about June 30, 2018.

For more information regarding the 2018 Annual Conference and Call for Presentations, please contact Cathy Hall at 970-429-2882 or Cathy.Hall@PitkinCounty.com.

Introducing 2018 Pro-Tem Chapter Board Members
Sarah Phillips

Sarah Phillips is a Civil & Environmental Engineer working for Waste Connections as a Region Landfill Engineer and Environmental Specialist. Sarah is originally from Michigan where she received an undergraduate degree in Civil & Environmental Engineering from Wayne State University. Sarah moved to Colorado seven years ago to attend Colorado School of Mines where she earned a master’s degree in Engineering. When she’s not traveling around the mid-west for work, Sarah enjoys traveling internationally for fun. Sarah is also a member of the Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society, as they seem to be the only types of plants she claims to be able to keep alive. Sarah is currently assisting the Chapter on the legislative committee and helping to organize this year’s Annual Conference in Glenwood Springs this fall. Please reach out to say hello to Sarah!
Barrett Jensen

Young Professional (YP) Liaison - Barrett Jensen is the current Solid Waste Director for the Mesa County Solid Management Division in Grand Junction, CO. Mesa County Solid Waste Management offers services including the landfill and four transfer stations, a green waste composting facility, a year-round hazardous and electronic waste collection facility, a drop off recycling center, a recreational riverfront corridor, and a public outreach/education program. Jensen began his career in solid waste after leaving the Marine Corps in 2012. Since then, Jensen has worked in every capacity within a landfill setting. Jensen holds a Bachelor’s in Public Administration/Public Safety, has a Manager of Landfill Operations Certification, and is currently finishing his Master’s in Public Administration. Jensen endeavors to provide for greater representation for Colorado as a whole while being on the Board for the Colorado Association for Recycling. Jensen believes regional and local needs vary throughout the state, and the challenges we all face can be far more efficiently solved with full participation and representation.

Road-E-O Updates
By Kathy Andrew

2018 Colorado SWANA State Road-E-O

The 2018 Colorado SWANA Truck, Mechanics & Equipment Operator Road-E-O will take place on Saturday, June 16, 2018. The Road-E-O is an annual competition of professional waste industry drivers, equipment operators and mechanics to demonstrate their knowledge and professionalism through a series of tests and skills in driving, inspection, safety, and mechanical skills. Competitors undergo a written examination, pre-trip inspection test and finally, the most visible - the skills test. This contest is a great incentive for professionals to operate safely, because they must be accident-free for at least one year prior to the competition. Many of the competitors have thousands of accident-free hours to their credit.

Colorado SWANA encourages all public and private haulers to reward their best drivers and take their safety program to the next level by participating in this exceptional event. The Colorado Road-E-O is set for Saturday, June 16, 2018, beginning at 7 AM at Denver International Airport, 27065 E. 71st Ave., Denver, Colorado. Bring the whole family and support your participant. There will be plenty of vendor booths, food, and things to do for the entire family including a climbing wall, face painting, bounce house, and lots of give-a-ways. Volunteers and sponsors are needed. Watch your email and coloradoswana.org/road-e-o/ for more information.

Colorado SWANA to Host 2018 International Road-E-O This Fall

Described as the "Super Bowl of knowledge, safety habits, driving and mechanic skills,” Colorado SWANA is proud to host the Solid Waste Association of North America's 2018 International Road-E-O. The competition portion of the event will take place on Saturday, September 22, 2018 at Denver International Airport, 27065 E. 71st Ave., Denver, Colorado. The competition features the best of the best drivers and mechanics from around the country. These professionals are tested on many levels including the ability to spot hazards, knowledge of safety rules and regulations, driver ability behind-the-wheel and mechanical ability in tools, diagnosis, measuring instruments, and specific vehicle components.
Event participants and sponsors will celebrate at Coors Field at the Road-E-O awards banquet the evening after the competition. The 2018 International Road-E-O will feature a number of tours and surprise activities to keep the event energetic beyond the competition. Again, volunteers and sponsors are needed. Watch your email and coloradoswana.org/event/2018-swana-international-road-e-o/ for more information.

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**SWANApalooza 2018 a Huge Success!**

*By Tom Strickland*

Over 1,000 solid waste professionals converged in downtown Denver in early March to participate in SWANApalooza 2018. A wide variety of activities, symposia, training sessions, certification classes, and tours were offered at SWANApalooza 2018, along with a massive number of exhibitors displaying products and services. Even a few strictly fun events found their way into the conference.

One of those was the reception hosted by Colorado SWANA at the Rhein Haus, where Colorado SWANA hosted “Oktoberfest in March” to welcome SWANApalooza 2018 visitors to our great state. Reception attendees enjoyed live music performed by “The Rhinelanders,” a wide selection of beers on-tap and some great food. Some guests even tested their skills on the indoor bocce ball courts. Thank you to our title sponsor Mountain Waste & Recycling and our other event sponsors for helping to make this reception such a big hit (Burns & McDonnell, HDR, Larimer County, Waste Connections, SERA, Waste Management, Boulder County, City & County of Denver, SCS Engineers and Pitkin County Landfill).

Also, thank you to all our Chapter members that volunteered at SWANApalooza as session and tour moderators. Finally, thank you to Jill Parisi, Kathy Andrew and Tom Strickland for dedication and hours of work in coordinating our host chapter responsibilities for SWANApalooza 2018.

Mark your calendars for SWANApalooza 2019 in Boston!
Lithium Battery Safety
By Jim Clare

Lithium batteries have made energy on the go possible. However, when these batteries come to the landfill embedded in solid waste loads, they can cause safety concerns to field crew and the current apron of trash being compacted. This year data from Prachi Patel of IEEE Spectrum of Advanced Technology suggest only 5 percent of lithium batteries are recycled currently. These batteries can smolder or start fires even when they are buried underneath a lift of trash in landfill cell. Compounds used in the batteries can emit toxic fluorine gas, which could cause irritation to the eyes, respiratory, damage to the lungs, liver and kidneys.

The public needs to be more aware of recycling alternatives to landfilling the batteries. Some retailers and landfill websites have proper disposal information, and recycling locations to provide convenience to customers knowledgeable about battery recycling. The public also needs to be educated on the difference between what can be recycled in single stream versus household hazardous waste recycling. With the right communication and knowledge, waste diversion can increase, we can improve recycling, and improve site safety.

“TENORM” Technical Sessions Wrap Up
By Jill Parisi

On Tuesday, February 13, Colorado Rocky Mountain SWANA hosted a technical session on “TENORM Waste Acceptance at Colorado Landfills” where attendees had an opportunity to expand their knowledge on the management and disposal of potential TENORM waste generated by the oil and gas industry. CDPHE has relied on a general 2007 policy detailing methods for characterization and disposal of TENORM waste, but over the last year there has been a lot of discussion focused on developing industry-specific regulations to provide a framework for this disposal. Suggestions for this potential framework, testing of oil and gas wastes, and waste acceptance procedures were discussed throughout the session.

Jason Chan, Director of Energy Services/Oil Field Services for Waste Management, and Kurt Rhea, the General Manager of NORM Services for Secure Energy Services, kicked off the session with an overview of what NORM and TENORM are, typical sources of NORM/TENORM wastes, radioactivity exposure levels from typical NORM/TENORM sources, and the impacts these exposures may have on waste acceptance and disposal practices.

Mike Dinkel, an Environmental Health Safety Representative from Anadarko Corporation, provided a detailed summary of Anadarko’s operations in Colorado, the types of waste they produce, and typical waste management practices for these wastes. He also provided preliminary NORM/TENORM analytical data from a comprehensive study they were working on with other oil and gas operators in the Colorado Front Range area.

Julie Ellingson, the Laboratory Director with ALS Global, presented a synopsis of the analytical testing procedures for NORM/TENORM testing of both liquid and solid wastes. She also provided her prospective on the differences between testing liquids and solids and the pros and cons for the different types of testing for radium concentrations, including ingrowth testing over different lengths of time and direct emission testing.
Elizabeth Stengl, an Environmental Manager for Republic Services, concluded the session with a discussion on the changes her firm has made to its waste acceptance program as a result of CDPHE’s 2017 correspondence regarding TENORM waste acceptance.

Colorado SWANA thanks these industry representatives for participating in this training session to share their expertise with our members and guests, and for preparing for regulatory changes through a series of teleconference calls on the best approach given the technical unknowns and possible pending legislation on the subject.

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**Scholarships Available**

By John Briest

To help prepare the next generation of professionals for the environmentally and economically sound practice of solid waste management, and to promote continuing education, SWANA offers several National and Chapter-level scholarships for students and professionals studying in fields related to solid waste management. Scholarships available in 2018 include the following:

- Grant H. Flint International Scholarship Program – May 1st submittal deadline
- The Robert P. Stearns/SCS Engineers Scholarship Award – May 1st submittal deadline
- Colorado SWANA Chapter Scholarships – Submittals accepted throughout the year

Additional information can be found online at the Colorado SWANA Chapter (https://coloradoswana.org/programs/scholarships-awards/) or SWANA National (https://swana.org/Awards/ScholarshipsInternships.aspx).

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**Safety News from SWANA: New Year Begins with Several Industry-Related Deaths**

**SWANA Calls for Renewed Safety Focus in 2018**

**Silver Spring, MD** – In just the first ten days of 2018, there were seven solid waste-related fatalities in the United States. These tragedies come just weeks after the Bureau of Labor Statistics again identified solid waste collection as the fifth deadliest job in the U.S., based on 2016 data.

The seven fatal incidents occurred in Pennsylvania, New York, Georgia, Virginia, Massachusetts and North Carolina, and involved large solid waste companies, regional haulers, and municipal sanitation departments alike. With six of the seven incidents involving solid waste collection, this disturbing start to 2018 reinforces the urgent need to create a safer environment for industry employees and the public.

“I am very disappointed by the number of fatal incidents in the first ten days of 2018; each of them is a tragedy and serves as a reminder that the entire industry needs to improve its safety culture,” said David Biderman, the Solid Waste Association of North America’s (SWANA) Executive Director and CEO. “We urge companies and local governments to not only take the time to educate supervisors and employees, but also commit to making safety a workplace priority. Nothing we do at SWANA is more important.”

While the uptick in fatalities to start the New Year is alarming, 2017 saw high numbers as well. SWANA is aware of more than 100 fatal incidents that year involving the solid waste sector in the U.S., and several more in Canada. With the
fatality frequency increase in the first few days of 2018, SWANA is committed to increasing its safety resources even further to jumpstart efforts throughout North America.

Through multiple 2018 events and programs, SWANA will bring together solid waste professionals from across North America to share safety best practices and plan future industry initiatives. Safety was a major topic at both SWANApalooza in Denver this March and at WASTECON in August in Nashville, where SWANA’s 6th Annual Safety Summit will take place. In the coming months, SWANA and its Chapter-based Safety Ambassadors will launch an initiative aimed at small haulers to provide resources, in multiple languages, to their drivers and helpers.

“We need to be more creative in our safety efforts and target smaller companies and local governments who may lack the resources and expertise to provide safety training and information to their front-line workers,” stated Tom Parker, Associate at CH2M Hill and SWANA Safety Committee Chair.

Keeping the seven deaths that have already occurred in 2018 front-of-mind, SWANA will continue to grow its safety program to reduce industry injuries and fatalities, with the goal of moving solid waste collection off the list of most dangerous jobs and getting employee’s home to their loved ones safely, every day.

For more information on SWANA’s Safety Program, visit swana.org/safety.

This email news update is a service provided to members of the Colorado Rocky Mountain Chapter of SWANA. If you would like to share information with chapter members in future updates, please email your information to Lisa Skumatz at skumatz@serainc.com or Tom Strickland at thomas.strickland@denvergov.org.

Also, don't forget to visit us online at www.coloradoswana.org.