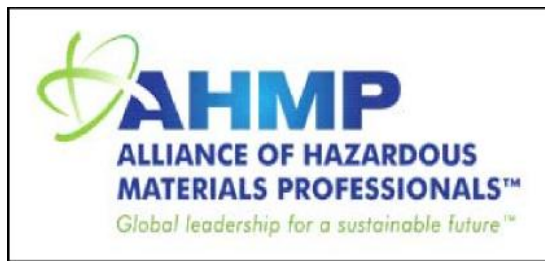


The Hazardous Materials Manager

EASTERN WASHINGTON CHAPTER OF THE ACADEMY OF CERTIFIED HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGERS
NEWSLETTER



Eastern Washington Chapter of the Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers

1370 Jadwin, Suite 113
Richland, WA 99352

<http://www.ewcachmm.org>

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Vice President: Randall Fox
Secretary: Roni Ashley
Treasurer: Chuck Mulkey

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Membership Development: Randal Fox
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Education: Andrea Prignano
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Executive Committee's Corner



Fall is in the air! We hope you are getting the chance to get out and enjoy the Pacific Northwest. EWC is a non-profit community service organization that functions to provide a forum to exchange information and to promote qualified environmental decision making. Our goals include prudent hazardous materials management, in the interest of protecting human health and the environment. We endeavor to provide training and other educational opportunities for you, the hazardous materials professional. We hope to see you at an upcoming event.

Mark Your Calendar!

Presentation on Project Management Challenges at Remote Cleanup Sites October 11, 2017 at 6:00 p.m., Richland Library

The Eastern Washington Chapter Academy of Certified Hazardous Managers (EWC-ACHMM) will sponsor a presentation entitled *Project Management Challenges at Remote Cleanup Sites* on Wednesday, October 11, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at the Richland Library. Andrea Hopkins will relate essential aspects of planning and implementation of project management activities at remote locations. This work is based on her experiences in the Alaskan Arctic Circle and Johnston Atoll in the South Pacific. Project planning included anticipating living conditions, logistics against bear intrusions and managing interfaces with the local native population were a major focus. Comprehensive planning of remediation projects at distant sites is completed far in advance, and likely without a mechanism to address second thoughts. There is no charge and the EWC-ACHMM will serve complimentary light refreshments.



Management of Hazardous Materials Training

The Eastern Washington Chapter Academy of Certified Hazardous Managers will hold a training course to build or refresh expertise in regulations and information related to the lifecycle of hazardous materials.

Who: For regulators, managers, planners, manufactures, procurement, professionals- health physics, industrial hygiene, safety, environmental protection, waste management, emergency response, Home Land Security, firemen, police, and property managers.

What: The course is designed 1) to introduce current regulations and other information to personnel responsible for hazardous materials and 2) to help prepare personnel to take the certification exams. The course will cover an overview of disciplines related to handling hazardous materials and wastes. The breadth of presentations from about 20 experts (including regulators) will cover the following:

- Chemistry, physical properties, and analytical techniques
- Biological risks from use and releases - human and environmental
- Radioactive emissions
- Transportation
- Environmental protection- planning, management, treatment, disposal, and remediation
- Regulatory compliance- air, soil, water, treatment, containment, governmental requirements
- Organizational standards for control of exposures and management
- Certifications and applications
- Reference text provided

Where: HAMMER Training Facility, Richland Washington

When: November, 28, 29, and 30, 2017 (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday). For Additional Information, contact: Andrea Hopkins- Work 509-373-5395 or [Andrea M Hopkins@rl.gov](mailto:Andrea_M_Hopkins@rl.gov), Andrea Prignano–Cell 509-727-8924 or andes59@charter.net or Roni Ashley –Cell 509-302-1402 or [Rhonda J Roni Ashley@rl.gov](mailto:Rhonda_J_Roni_Ashley@rl.gov)

Tuition Cost: \$650.00

Regulatory News

Potentially Hazardous Materials Recovered During Hurricane Harvey Flooding

The Environmental Protection Agency says it has recovered 517 containers of "unidentified, potentially hazardous material" from highly contaminated toxic waste sites in Texas that flooded last month during Hurricane Harvey. The agency has not provided details about which Superfund sites the material came from, why the contaminants at issue have not been identified and whether there's a threat to human health. At least a dozen Superfund sites in and around Houston were flooded in the days after Harvey's record-shattering rains stopped. Associated Press journalists surveyed seven of the flooded sites by boat, vehicle and on foot. The EPA said at the time that its personnel had been unable to reach the sites, though they surveyed the locations using aerial photos.

The Hazardous Materials Manager

It was reported that a government hotline also received calls about three spills at the U.S. Oil Recovery Superfund site, a former petroleum waste processing plant outside Houston contaminated with a dangerous brew of cancer-causing chemicals. Records obtained by the AP showed workers at the site reported spills of unknown materials in unknown amounts.

Local pollution control officials photographed three large tanks used to store potentially hazardous waste completely underwater on Aug. 29. The EPA later said there was no evidence that nearby Vince Bayou had been impacted.

PRP Group, the company formed to clean up the U.S. Oil Recovery site, said it does not know how much material leaked from the tanks, soaking into the soil or flowing into the bayou. As part of the post-storm cleanup, workers have vacuumed up 63 truckloads of potentially contaminated storm water, totaling about 315,000 gallons.

About a dozen miles east, the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund site is on and around a low-lying island that was the site of a paper mill in the 1960s, leaving behind dangerous levels of dioxins and other long-lasting toxins linked to birth defects and cancer. The site was completely covered with floodwaters when the AP surveyed it on Sept. 1.

To prevent contaminated soil and sediments from being washed down river, about 16 acres of the site was covered in 2011 with an "armored cap" of fabric and rock. The cap was reportedly designed to last for up to 100 years, but it has required extensive repairs on at least six occasions in recent years, with large sections becoming displaced or having been washed away.

The EPA has not responded to repeated inquiries over the past two weeks about whether its assessment has determined whether the cap was similarly damaged during Harvey.

The companies responsible for cleaning up the site, Waste Management Inc. and International Paper, have said there were "a small number of areas where the current layer of armored cap is thinner than required."

The companies said there was no evidence of a release from any of these areas, saying sediments were sampled last week. The EPA has not yet released those test results to the public.



EPA Announces Improvements to New Chemical Safety Reviews

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt is reporting the backlog of reviews for new chemicals has been eliminated. "EPA has a tremendous responsibility to review new chemicals intended to enter the U.S. market for safety," said EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt. "EPA can either be a roadblock to new products, or it can be supporter of innovation and ever-improving chemical safety. I am happy to report that the backlog of new chemical reviews is eliminated. With the ongoing commitment of the staff working on TSCA reviews, and input from stakeholders, our goal is to ensure a new chemicals program that is both protective of human health and the environment, while also being supportive of bringing new chemicals to market."

The Hazardous Materials Manager

The Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), amended by the 2016 Lautenberg Chemical Safety Act, ensures that EPA must make an affirmative safety determination before a new chemical can come to market. EPA can request more information from chemical companies if it needs more information to make a safety determination.

When Administrator Pruitt was confirmed, over 600 new chemicals were 'stuck' in the EPA review process. The current caseload is back at the baseline and now in line with the typical active workload. Administrator Pruitt committed to being a partner in the regulatory process, and ensuring safety for health and the environment, while also seeking ways to allow new chemicals to enter the market quickly. "Not only do I support reducing the backlogs that have built up at this Agency, I also encourage continuous improvement and increased transparency," said EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt. He said that EPA is committing to the following operating principles in its review of new chemicals:

- Identification of reasonably foreseen conditions of use will be fact-specific. It is reasonable to foresee a condition of use, for example, where facts suggest the activity is not only possible, but, over time under proper conditions, probable.
- The purpose of testing in Section 5 is to reduce uncertainty in regard to risk. Specifically, it is to address risk concerns that gave rise to a finding of "may present unreasonable risk" or another Section 5 finding other than "not likely to present unreasonable risk." In addition, consistent with the statute, any request for testing by EPA will be structured to reduce and replace animal testing as appropriate.

Rescue Dog Frida Tirelessly Saving Lives of Earthquake Victims in Mexico



Mexico had been through numerous natural disasters this month alone, the latest being a powerful 7.1 earthquake that recently killed hundreds of people and destroyed buildings and other infrastructures. The people are downhearted but they find consolation and hope reading about the accomplishments of a rescue dog named Frida who is a member of the rescue unit in charge of finding and saving earthquake victims who are still alive but trapped under the rubble.

The 7-year-old Labrador is an expert in search and rescue having been deployed in various rescue missions all over the country and even internationally. To date, more than 50 people owe their lives to Frida's bravery and heroism. Frida is so well-known and admired that even Enrique Pena Nieto, the President of Mexico, praised her hard work on saying she has helped save 52 lives in various natural disasters at national and international levels.



Job Opportunity

Permit Unit Supervisor (Environmental Engineer 5), Dept. of Ecology, Job Number - 2017-WQ0636-07149, Salary - \$72,744.00 - \$95,484.00, Location - Spokane, WA, Closing – Continuous until filled.

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Contact: Kelli Ristine, Department of Ecology, Human Resource Consultant, Training and Recruitment, (360) 407-0294, kris461@ecy.wa.gov