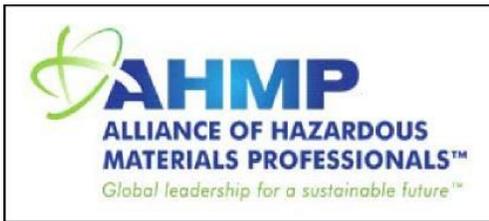


The Hazardous Materials Manager

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



Executive Committee's Corner

Is it hot enough for you?



For those in the outdoor professions summer can be brutal. We have seen triple digit temperatures so far this year in some areas. With that in mind, this issue includes an article on heat illness to help you recognize symptoms in yourself and others to stay safe.

When it comes to people who have to work in environments, extreme heat can be a life or death matter. Appropriate measures must be taken to minimize the effects of the heat.

Scot Adams is coordinating our next EWC presentation (will be open to the public and at no charge). Scot says it involves a local company that has teamed up to do Hanford work. So, stay tuned for more information on the day/time of that event -- should be very interesting!

EWC-ACHMM would like to know what you think. Are you interested in participating in events? Do you prefer a facility tour, a webinar, or an evening speaker? Would you like to help support a community service project or become involved in a EWC leadership position? Thank you for letting us know what you think. Send you opinions to Chuck Mulkey at charles_h_mulkey@rl.gov, Scot Adams at scadams@hotmail.com or Roni Ashley at rhonda_j_roni_swan@rl.gov Your feedback will help direct our efforts and provide more value back to you. Please do not hesitate to contact us at any time with suggestions and have a safe and happy summer!



Eastern Washington Chapter of the Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers

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Current Officers:

President: Chuck Mulkey
Vice President: Andrea Hopkins
Secretary: Roni Ashley
Treasurer:-- Chuck Mulkey
Past President: Wade Winters

Committee Chairs:

Professional Development: Open
Membership Development: Open
Public & Community
Relations & Awards: Scot Adams
Government Liaison: Harold Tilden
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1998 – Robert Newell
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1995 – Bill Holstein
1994 – Brian Dixon
1993 – Bruce Vesper

Heat Exposure and Avoiding Illness



Exposure to heat can cause illness and/or death. The most serious heat illness is heat stroke, which is considered a medical emergency. Other heat illnesses such as heat exhaustion, heat cramps and heat rash should always be avoided.

Risk Factors:

- High temperatures, direct sun exposure (no breeze or wind).
- Low liquid intake
- Heavy physical labor
- Waterproof clothing
- No recent exposure to hot workplace

Symptoms of Heat Exhaustion:

- Headache, dizziness, or fainting
- Weakness and wet skin
- Irritability or confusion
- Thirst, nausea or vomiting

Symptoms of Heat Stroke

- May be confused unable to think clearly, pass out, collapse, or have seizures (fits)
- May stop sweating

To Prevent Heat Illness:

- Provide lots of cool water close to the work area. At least one pint of water per hour is needed.
- Modify work schedules and arrange frequent rest periods with water breaks in shaded or air-conditioned areas.
- Gradually increase workloads and allow more frequent breaks for workers new to the heat or those that have been away from work to adapt to working in the heat (acclimatization).
- Routinely check workers who are at risk of heat stress due to protective clothing and high temperature.
- Consider protective clothing that provides cooling.
- Know signs/symptoms of heat illnesses; monitor yourself; use a buddy system.
- Block out direct sun and other heat sources.
- Drink plenty of fluids. Drink often and BEFORE you are thirsty. Drink water every 15 minutes.
- Avoid beverages containing alcohol or caffeine.
- Wear lightweight, light colored, loose-fitting clothes.

When Worker is Ill:

- Call help (a supervisor or 911). If worker is not alert, call 911 immediately.
- Have someone stay with the worker until help arrives.
- Move the worker to a cooler/shaded area.
- Remove outer clothing.
- Fan and mist the worker with water; apply ice (ice bags or ice towels).
- Provide cool drinking water, if able to drink.

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Regulatory Update

EPA accepting nominations for the Chemical Safety Advisory Committee

June 15, 2015

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a Federal Register notice on June 12 stating that it recently established the Chemical Safety Advisory Committee (CSAC).

The purpose of the CSAC is to provide expert scientific advice, information, and recommendations to the Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT). The major objective is to provide advice and recommendations on the scientific basis for risk assessments, methodologies, and pollution prevention measures or approaches.

Copies of the CSAC charter will be filed with the appropriate congressional committees and the Library of Congress.

EPA invites the public to nominate experts to be considered for the Chemical Safety Advisory Committee. Submit your nominations, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA-HQ-OPPT-2015-0233 at www.regulations.gov/.

Comments must be received on or before July 13, 2015.

Nominations should include candidates who have demonstrated high levels of competence, knowledge, and expertise in scientific/technical fields relevant to chemical risk assessment and pollution prevention. To the extent feasible, the members will include representation of the following disciplines, including, but not limited to: toxicology, pathology, environmental toxicology and chemistry, exposure assessment, and related sciences, e.g., synthetic biology, pharmacology, biotechnology, nanotechnology, biochemistry, biostatistics, pharmacologically based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) modeling, computational toxicology, epidemiology, environmental fate, and environmental engineering and sustainability.

Federal agencies focus on chemical facility security

June 16, 2015

A coordinated group of federal agencies has been taking actions to improve chemical facility safety. The group, which was established after the issue of Executive Order 13650 "Improving Chemical Facility Safety and Security", includes the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Labor, and the Environmental Protection Agency. The executive order was in response to catastrophic chemical facility incidents, including one in West, Texas, in April 2013.

In a June 9 blog titled, "Chemical Facility Safety and Security: A Shared Commitment," OSHA head Dr. David Michaels highlights actions the group has taken in the past year. These actions include:

- Developing an online training module on the key requirements under Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act;
- Initiating a multi-organization working group to identify a list of government approved training courses for first responders and emergency planners;
- Institutionalizing a federal working group to improve communication and coordination between agencies;
- Establishing regional working groups in all 10 federal regions;
- Incorporating chemical facility safety and security data into the EPA's facility registry service;
- Reissuing the advisory "Chemical Advisory: Safe Storage, Handling, and Management of Ammonium Nitrate" to incorporate stakeholder comments and concerns and the latest practices in ammonium nitrate safety.

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EPA releases technical guides to support vapor intrusion assessment and mitigation activities

June 16, 2015

On June 11 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released two technical guides to support assessment and mitigation activities at sites where vapor intrusion is an actual or potential concern.

The Technical Guide for Assessing and Mitigating the Vapor Intrusion Pathway from Subsurface Vapor Sources to Indoor Air applies to all sites being evaluated under federal land cleanup statutes by EPA, other federal agencies, state and tribal governments and brownfield grantees. A companion document, the *Technical Guide for Addressing Petroleum Vapor Intrusion at Leaking Underground Storage Tank Sites* addresses any sites where vapor intrusion related to petroleum contamination from underground storage tanks is a potential concern. Both guides are applicable to residential and non-residential settings.

Vapor intrusion refers to the migration of hazardous vapors from contaminated subsurface sources such as groundwater through soil into overlying buildings and structures. Exposure to these vapors by building occupants can potentially pose both acute and chronic health risks. Vapor intrusion is a potential concern at any building - existing or planned - located near soil or groundwater contaminated with vapor-forming toxic chemicals.

National awareness and concern about vapor intrusion has grown over the last several decades. At the same time, knowledge of and experience with assessment and mitigation of vapor intrusion has substantially increased, leading to heightened understanding of and improved approaches for evaluating and managing vapor intrusion. The guides present EPA's current recommendations for identifying, evaluating, and managing vapor intrusion while providing flexible technical approaches to accommodate site-specific conditions and circumstances.

At sites where vapor intrusion poses a potential or actual hazard to occupants' health or safety, exposures usually can be prevented or reduced through relatively simple actions such as changing building pressure and ventilation. In most cases, costs associated with addressing vapor intrusion can be very manageable, resulting in long-term benefits including improved public health and less costly response actions. These benefits are especially likely when actions are undertaken early.

Toxic Algae Bloom Might Be Largest Ever, *Seattle Times* (06/15/15) Doughton, Sandi

Possibly the largest toxic algae bloom ever recorded off the West Coast, stretching from Central California to British Columbia, and perhaps as far north as Alaska, is being surveyed by a team of NOAA biologists. The bloom contains hazardous levels of domoic acid, which have shut down recreational and commercial shellfish harvests in Washington, Oregon, and California this spring. "The fact that we're seeing multiple toxins at the same time, we're seeing high levels of domoic acid, and we're seeing a coastwide bloom—those are indications that this is unprecedented," notes the Northwest Fisheries Science Center's Vera Trainer. She also says marine algae require a rich supply of nutrients, as well as currents to carry them close to shore. Other factors thought to have contributed to the bloom include this year's unseasonably high temperatures, as well as a massive pool of unusually warm water that surged in the northeastern Pacific in late 2014. The NOAA researchers will collect water and algae samples, quantify water temperatures, and also test plankton-feeding fish. "By collecting data over the full West Coast with one ship, we will have a much better idea of where the bloom is, what is causing it, and why this year," reports UCSC (Santa Cruz) scientist Raphael Kudela.



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EWC Cruises the Columbia with MCLDA

EWC in conjunction with the Mid-Columbia Leadership Development Association (MCLDA) sponsored a dinner cruise on the Columbia River. The cruise was a perfect night out. A vibrant setting enhanced by dazzling city sights and harbor lights filled to the brim with festive cuisine, locally sourced, and prepared fresh on board.



Where All EHS&S Disciplines Connect, AHMP National Conference

Mark your calendar for August 30 - September 2, 2015, for the annual AHMP National Conference. This year the conference will be held at the Phoenician in Scottsdale, Arizona.



One of the featured speakers is Dr. Todd Conklin, who spent 25 years at Los Alamos National Laboratory as a Senior Advisor for Organizational and Safety Culture. Los Alamos National Laboratory is one of the world's foremost research and development laboratories; Dr. Conklin has been working on the Human Performance program for the last 15 years of his 25-year career. It is in this fortunate position where he enjoys the best of both the academic world and the world of safety in practice. Conklin holds a Ph.D. in organizational behavior from the University of New Mexico. He speaks all over the world to executives, groups and work teams who are interested in better understanding the relationship between the workers in the field and the organization's systems, processes, and programs. He has brought these systems to major corporations around the world. Conklin practices these ideas not only in his own workplace, but also in the event investigations at other workplaces around the world. Conklin defines safety at his workplace like this: "Safety is the ability for workers to be able to do work in a varying and unpredictable world." Conklin lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico and thinks that Human Performance is the most meaningful work he has ever had the opportunity to live and teach.

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Another featured speaker is Damon Carson, the visionary founder and President of *repurposedMATERIALS*. His company has a very unique business model focused on creative re-use – or, “repurposing” - within the sustainability sector. His presentation is called Repurposing, The New Frontier in Landfill Diversion.

This fun and engaging presentation will cause the audience to look at byproducts and waste through a different lens. Many materials can be diverted from the landfill and solve real problems with a little ingenuity. We call this ingenuity...“repurposing”.

The company is focused on the creative re-use side of the famous three-sided reduce, re-use, recycle arrowed triangle. *repurposedMATERIALS* is the only company in America whose entire product line is made of “repurposed” items. What is “repurposing?” It is taking a byproduct or waste stream such as a retired street sweeper brush and giving it a 2nd life as a backscratcher for horses or cattle. It is taking a decommissioned fire hose and giving it an extended life as a boat dock fender. It is taking an obsolete ski lift cable and giving it a second life as hand railing in a luxury condo building.



And, you do not want to miss the presentation by CDR Lisa Delaney, MS, CIH. CDR Delaney joined the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) in 1999, after graduating with a Master of Science degree in Environmental Health and Industrial Hygiene from the University of Cincinnati. She currently serves as the Associate Director for Emergency Preparedness and Response at NIOSH where she coordinates NIOSH’s response to emergencies, ensures federal response plans incorporate occupational safety and health protection measures, and promotes research in the area of protecting first responders during emergencies. CDR Delaney directs deployment of NIOSH staff providing disaster technical assistance and leads EPRO staffing, budget, project planning and reporting, and program evaluation activities. She also serves as a senior-level technical reviewer and co-author of Institute responder safety and health policy, plans, training and exercise documents. She serves as the co-lead of the NIOSH Disaster Science Research Initiative.

CDR Delaney has responded to nearly every major domestic public health emergency beginning with the September 11th attacks and more recently Ebola. CDR Delaney has specialized in biological emergency responses with a focus on understanding the role the environment plays in disease transmission and protecting workers during these responses. She is responding to the current Ebola outbreak by serving as the Worker Health and Safety Team lead within CDC’s Emergency Operation Center. This team is providing personal protective equipment expertise on appropriate selection and use of PPE for all workers; conducting heat stress and comfort measurements to assess impact of wearing PPE, and providing recommendations on ways to protect CDC and other deployed staff.