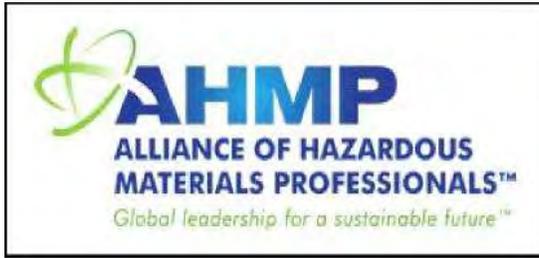


The Hazardous Materials Manager

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



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 promote qualified environmental decision

making. We endeavor to provide you with the training and other educational opportunities you want. Hope to see you at an upcoming event!



Eastern Washington Chapter of the Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers

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Vice President: Open
Secretary: Roni Ashley
Treasurer: Chuck Mulkey

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Membership Development: Open
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1998 – Robert Newell
1997 – Delores Lutter
1996 – Terry Ostrander
1995 – Bill Holstein
1994 – Brian Dixon
1993 – Bruce Vesper



AHMP National Conference Overview

From: Roni Ashley

I had the opportunity to attend the 2018 AHMP National Conference in Reno, Nevada that was held August 26 through August 29th. On the first night, I got together with 16 other Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals (AHMP) from all over the country. We enjoyed a Mexican dinner at a restaurant called the Cantina. The dinner was held in the hotel where the conference was held, i.e., The Grand Sierra Resort.

In the picture is Peggy Williamson and me. Bruce Donato, AHMP President presented us an award. EWC was recognized for the 25 years we have been a chapter.

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AHMP National Conference Overview, continued –

The workshops were informative. I attended expert presentations on emergency response, hazardous waste management, including transportation of dangerous goods. I learned about chemical substitution and pollution prevention activities. A speaker from the California Governor's office discussed fire cleanup activities in California. It was interesting to learn that one of the first cleanup activities done after a fire is to pick up the hazardous materials left behind to assure they are properly packaged and transported to approved landfills.

In addition, I visited with representatives from the India chapter, including Rampur Viswanath (a past-president of the EWC). This was significant for me because I was part of the first American delegation to India in 2006 that taught a hazardous materials overview course. Many other of the first delegation were also in Reno.

Other noteworthy events included a sustainability presentation by the City of Reno revealing many of their EH&S programs. I also toured the University of Nevada's research facility and observed drones that detect radioactivity, as well as self-driving cars. This year's conference was productive and I am looking forward to a more positive relationship with the AHMP in the future. I understand that AHMP would like to hold a national conference in Washington state and I expect that EWC will assist with that.

October is National Fire Prevention Month Tips to Remember

Smoke Alarms – These are still a very important addition to your home. Smoke alarms are widely available and inexpensive. Install a smoke alarm on every level of your home and test it monthly.

Prevent Electrical Fires – Don't overload circuits or extension cords. Cords and wires should never be placed under rugs or in high traffic areas. Avoid loose electrical connections by checking the fit of the plug in the wall outlet. If the plug loosely fits, inspect the outlet right away. A poor connection between the plug and the outlet can cause overheating and can start a fire in minutes.

Keep Plugs Safe – Unplug all appliances when not in use. Follow the manufacturer's safety precautions and use your senses to spot any potential disasters. If a plug is overheating, smells strange, shorts out or sparks – the appliance should be shut off immediately, then replaced or repaired.

Alternate Heaters – Make sure there is ample space around any portable heating unit. Anything that could catch fire should be at least three feet away. Inspect your chimney annually and use fire screens to help keep any fires in the fireplace.

Regulatory News

Hazards from Natural Disasters

From: Brian Gerber & Melanie Gall

Heavy rains following Hurricane Florence have raised concerns over the release of toxic materials. Ash from coal-fired power plants stored at a landfill has spilled out and the state of North Carolina has said dozens of sites have released hog waste, or are at risk of doing so.



These types of events not only highlight the potential of harm to humans and the environment due to this type of uncontrolled pollution, but also the linkage between environmental regulations and the risks communities face when natural disasters occur.

The decisions communities make when managing a range of hazards, including industrial waste siting, are a key factor in a community's vulnerability during a disaster—a dynamic we've seen play out in many ways in our work in disaster policy and management. Such choices also help explain why disaster damage is so costly and disaster recovery so complex.

Heavy rainfall from Hurricane Florence caused the Neuse River to flood and erode three soil-capped coal ash landfills near Goldsboro, North Carolina. At another coal ash landfill near Wilmington, heavy rains exposed its toxic contents, which include lead, arsenic, and mercury, washing them into a nearby lake that drains into the Cape Fear River. Duke Energy, operator of the landfill and nearby power plant, estimates about 2,000 cubic yards escaped into the lake but claims contaminated storm waters did not make it into the river.

Coal ash is the toxic waste product of burning coal for energy production. There are more than 100 coal ash waste sites in the southeast; 37 are located in North Carolina. Coal ash waste contains a wide range of compounds, most concerning of which are heavy metals. If not contained and monitored, toxic coal ash poses a significant health risk, because it can contaminate drinking water, surface waters, accumulate in fish, and harm other living organisms.

What You Need to Know about EPA's New e-Manifest System

From: Maricha Ellis, Stericycle Environmental Solutions

Advances in technology are meant to simplify lives and make jobs easier. When it comes to hazardous waste, many business leaders are largely unfamiliar with the industry – which can make it difficult to comply with the ever-changing regulations of generated waste. That's why the EPA recently established the Hazardous Waste Electronic Manifest Establishment Act, a system that tracks hazardous waste shipments electronically in an effort to improve visibility to manifest data and minimize environmental impact. The EPA launched the e-Manifest system on June 30, 2018. However, the EPA will not phase out paper manifests completely until June 30, 2023.

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The EPA e-manifest system will offer several benefits for generators, transporters and TSDFs, including:

- Long-term cost savings
- Accurate and more timely information on waste shipments
- Rapid notification of discrepancies or other problems related to a particular shipment
- Creation of a single hub for one-stop reporting of manifest data for use by EPA and states
- Increased effectiveness of compliance monitoring of waste shipments by regulators, and
- The potential for integrating manifest reporting with Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) biennial reporting process and other federal and state information systems.

While there are many benefits of this new program for business leaders, states and the environment alike, this program will generate additional fees for organizations. Companies with small IT infrastructures may find it difficult to comply with e-Manifest regulations. In turn, they must pay IT consultants to re-format systems, which will lead to an increased cost of rush fees and urgent updates. This single EPA requirement has made it difficult for these smaller companies to comply with this new system as there have been changes to multiple systems, frequent IT adjustments to accommodate program tweaks and ever-changing requirements.

System architecture and timing is another additional challenge for businesses. In the week prior to release, the EPA was still testing system functionality and capacity limits. This ultimately left the system with insufficient time to finalize IT programming, testing uploads and debugging. Moreover, this system was built for generators to create manifests when most manifests are created by industry.

Businesses are also seeing e-Manifest challenges with TSDF administrative burdens. This includes IT system changes, manifest data quality control checks, additional invoicing reconciliation, generator status confirmation and more.

The risk of not following these regulations can be detrimental. If generators are not compliant or behind the industry standard in regards to data submission to EPA and state agencies, consequences will arise, making it that much more important that companies find a way to properly adhere to this new system.

Communicating with Regulators and Firming up Compliance Plans

On September 14th, the Eastern Washington Chapter Academy of Certified Hazardous Managers (EWC-ACHMM) sponsored a presentation on working with regulators. Michael T. Chuah, CHMM, PMP, CET, presented some great information for successfully reaching agreement with the regulators on various projects requiring regulatory involvement. We really appreciate Michael taking time out of his busy schedule to speak to us!

