

Mid-Atlantic Chapter Solid Waste Association of North America



SOLID WASTE NEWS For Waste Professionals

August 5, 2004

President's Message

By Evelyn Tomlin

2004 has been another good year. Our Mid-Atlantic Chapter of SWANA offered a variety of programs with many people participating in these activities and programs. Again this year, tours of a variety of facilities were conducted after three of the Board meetings. Special thanks go out to the people who paved the way for these events, including: Tony Duckett of Washington, DC for setting up the routing and collection software demonstration; Hedy Alavi of Johns Hopkins University for arranging the visit to the Phoenix Medical Waste Incinerator, Frank Henderson for hosting the Harford Waste-to-Energy facility tour and Liz Smolen for the tour of the Brown Station Road Landfill Gas to Energy Project.

Our annual spring technical meeting was held at the offices of the Maryland Department of the Environment. Thanks go out to all the speakers for sharing their experiences. It is always good to know what works and what doesn't work. Special thanks go to Ed Dexter for presenting regulation updates and for hosting the chapter meeting.

If you are interested in hosting a tour or have ideas for future meetings, please contact Dana Murray or Cathy Hall of SCS at (703) 471-6150. Dana and Cathy coordinated all the tours and meetings!

In May, we had another great turn out for the joint Keystone and Mid-Atlantic Chapter Road-E-O at the Harford County Waste Disposal Center with several Mid-

Atlantic Chapter winners going to the International Competition. Good luck guys!

So many people were involved in this Road-E-O event, I wanted to thank some of them again. This year we had a lot of great exhibitors, sponsors and demonstrations. Special thanks to Harford County's staff for the use of the facility and especially all their hard work! Other people and groups involved included the Keystone Chapter Partners; Doug Sawyer from Malcolm Pirnie, Rodeo committee chairman; Kerry Hartline from Baltimore County for the equipment arrangement; Anne Arundel County mechanic, staff and Bob DeMarco; Ed Biddinger from the Keystone Chapter for setting up the truck course; Bob Watts from the Keystone Chapter as technical adviser and go-to-guy; all committee members; judges from various agencies, MDE, Baltimore County Community College, consultants, and suppliers. A DVD documenting the event is available by contacting Bob Watts at (610) 273-3771 x227 or bwatts@chesterccswa.org.

In June we had another delicious Crab Feast with big heavy crabs and lots of good food. Thanks to our caterers and cooks from SCS and Calvert County. This is one of my favorite events. Also in June, we were able to award scholarships to six amazing students!

Thanks to all of you who helped to make this year one of our Chapter's best!

NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Michael Houlihan (<i>GeoSyntec Consultants</i>)
Vice President	Martin Sanford (<i>Camp, Dresser & McKee</i>)
Secretary	Doug Sawyers (<i>Malcolm Pirnie, Inc.</i>)
Treasurer	Gregoria Africa (<i>Maryland Environmental Service</i>)
Int'l. Board Member	Stephen Lippy (<i>Baltimore County, Bureau of Solid Waste Mgmt.</i>)
Past President	Evelyn Tomlin (<i>Howard County</i>)
Board Member	Bob DeMarco (<i>Howard County</i>)
Board Member	Frank Henderson (<i>Harford County, Environmental Affairs</i>)
Board Member	MeHal Trivedi (<i>Frederick County, Utilities & Solid Waste Mgmt.</i>)
Board Member	Tom Houski (<i>Delaware Solid Waste Authority</i>)
Board Member	Dana Murray (<i>SCS Engineers</i>)
Board Member	Laura Thomson (<i>Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority</i>)
Board Member	Tony Duckett (<i>Washington DC, SWCD</i>)

Annual Chapter Elections to be held at the Annual Meeting on September 10th (see inside for details).

For those of you unable to attend, please complete the Ballot on the last page of this newsletter.

Collection Software in Use at District of Columbia's SWMA

By John O'Hara

Through the implementation of two key pieces of software, the District of Columbia DPW Solid Waste Management Administration (SWMA) has been able to dramatically improve the management and efficiency of its waste and recycling collection operations. SWMA staff and consultants gave a presentation of the software's capabilities to Chapter members after the Board's business meeting held at the District's Reeves Municipal Center on July 28th.

"DPW Works" is a Windows-based custom database management package designed to track numerous measures of performance for SWMA's extensive collection operations. SWMA provides all residential waste collection services for the District and will soon take over recycling collection services currently provided by private contractors. A range of services including waste collection, street sweeping, bulk item collection, and litter pick up is provided using 530 pieces of equipment. DPW Works, developed over a 1 year period and in use for the past 3 years, tracks numerous types of data critical for assessing field operations. An employee module is used to track and manage personnel data including time and attendance, contact information, assigned work location, and overtime hours worked. A vehicle module is used to track equipment route assignments, operational and repair status, and downtime. Daily data input is the responsibility of staff in each field office. Also, each vehicle driver is responsible for completing a daily worksheet to document collection route and other rele-

vant information (start times, times related to disposal facility deliveries, problems encountered, etc.) which is input to an operations module. Collected data can be incorporated into any of several reports which provide critical performance information to field supervisors and upper level management. Reports provide organized summaries of performance data such as hours performing collections, hours off route, overtime hours, average time per collection location, total vehicle hours and miles per route, labor/equipment costs per route, equipment downtime, and employee attendance.

SWMA has begun using "Routesmart" software developed and marketed by Routesmart Technologies Inc., Columbia, MD., to design efficient waste and recycling collection routes. This GIS (Arc View) based routing software provides substantial flexibility in route design. The software utilizes GIS data layers to both partition service areas into collection routes and to designate specific street by street vehicle travel plans. Obviously, the ability of the software to determine route boundaries and travel directions within a route area is dependent on the accuracy and level of detail available in the GIS data layers utilized. Working with other District agencies, SWMA is developing several data layers to support Routesmart. For example, a street centerline data layer provides street information including one way designations, turn restrictions, alley connections, and address ranges for each city block. An office data layer provides locations of District facilities including disposal fa-

ilities, equipment yards, and offices. The data layers have been fully developed for a pilot recycling collection route in one District Ward, where Routesmart has been used to successfully determine route size and street routing. SWMA'S long term goal is to use Routesmart to design waste and recycling routes throughout the District. Data input to Routesmart from the DPW Works software is critical to the design of collection routes. DPW Works provides data on collection times and waste tonnage which is used to size routes and to ensure that routes are balanced to minimize overtime use.

SWMA has used Routesmart to dramatically improve the District's bulk item collection program. Bulk item collection requests are received at a call center and are entered into a database which is transferred each day to SWMA. Daily collection locations are input to Routesmart, which partitions the collections into defined areas which are then assigned to collection crews. A map showing each numbered collection location and a suggested collection sequence is provided to the crew along with a checklist providing each address and the items to be collected. Space is provided on the checklist for the crew leader to record field information on the status of individual collections. This new approach to assigning collections, which replaced a cumbersome and time consuming manual system, has substantially reduced the time needed for collections and has freed up supervisors to spend more time in the field overseeing operations.

Mid-Atlantic Chapter – Solid Waste Association of North America

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Tour: Prince George's County Brown Station Road Landfill Gas to Energy Project

The SWANA Mid-Atlantic Chapter sponsored a tour of the Prince George's County Brown Station Road Landfill Gas-to-Energy Project on May 26, 2004. Approximately 25 people attended the presentation and landfill tour graciously hosted by Prince George's County.

The Project was developed in two phases. The first phase commenced operation in 1987 and provided landfill gas from Area A to the County correctional facility for direct use in boilers and for the generation of electricity (approximately 2 MW) using Waukesha engines. Phase two started in 2003 with landfill gas from Area B collected and used to fuel three Waukesha engines (approximately 3 MW) at a generator plant on the landfill property with some of the electricity being used to operate the generator station itself, and the remainder being sold to the local utility.

For further information on this project, please contact Lee Flick of Prince Georges County at (301) 952-7607 or email at dlflick@co.pg.md.us.



Chapter members visit the landfill generator station and view the four Waukesha engines (One is slated for future use upon an increase in gas flow.)



SWANA International Election

Please remember to vote in the SWANA International election! The polls are open now until August 15th, 2004 at 5 p.m. You can vote on-line at www.swana.org/election or you may choose a paper ballot option. To obtain a paper ballot, please call (301) 585-2898, ext. 401, and then fax to (309) 431-7583. Thank you in advance for your participation!

Mid-Year International Board Meeting Update

Steve Lippy attended the Mid-Year International Board (IB) meeting on June 14 and 15, 2004, in Silver Spring, Maryland. Highlights of the meeting included:

- Recognition of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter as #1 in regard to the total loan amount that any Chapter has provided SWANA
- Final approval for the adjustment to the distribution of insurance costs so that there is not undue burden on smaller chapters
- Reminder that each Chapter's bylaws should be reviewed at least every five years to ensure they are in compliance with state law
- Reported that SWANA has NOT been contacted regarding combining of trade shows, and is not anticipating a change in the short term

If you have any questions regarding the meeting or the activities of the IB, please contact Steve Lippy at (410) 887-2009.

Still Accepting Registrations...

For the event of the year: WASTECON 2004 in Phoenix, Arizona. If you have not yet registered, please check the SWANA website for details at www.swana.org.

Solid Waste Operator of the Year Nominations Due

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter is seeking nominations for the 2004 Operator of the Year Award. This prestigious award is accompanied by appreciation, year-long rights to a trophy, a plaque and a small cash prize. The deadline for nomination submittals is August 31, 2004.

For Award criteria, please check the website at www.swana-midatl.org or contact Jerry Scanlan at gpscanlan@co.ha.md.us or (410) 638-3637.

Think Globally, Ad Locally

Have you ever considered the benefits of advertising in a publication with your ideal target audience: people in the solid waste management field located in the Mid-Atlantic region? Here it is...your big chance! The Chapter is accepting business-card sized ads that will run in four consecutive quarterly newsletter issues for the low price of \$100. If you are interested in pursuing this exciting opportunity, please contact Laura Thomson at lthomson@nmwda.org or (410) 333-2730.

Open Procurement: Landfill Gas Wells & Monitoring Wells

Baltimore County currently has an open procurement for both landfill gas wells and monitoring wells. For further information, please contact Steve Lippy at (410) 887-2009 or slippy@co.ba.md.us.

Correction: Mid-Atlantic Road-E-O Winners

The Editor regrets to report that an error was made in the last newsletter regarding the winners of the Haul Truck Event. The correct standings are:

1. Francis Jones - Calvert County, Maryland
2. William Taylor - Camden County, New Jersey
3. Mike Powers - Baltimore County, Maryland

Congratulations on your success!

2004 SWANA Mid-Atlantic Chapter Scholarship Recipients

This year was a banner year in terms of the number of applications received and the quality of applicants. Each applicant was sponsored by a Mid-Atlantic Chapter member. The Board is happy to report that the following students were awarded scholarships: Suzanne O'Hara; Kyle Fluman; Andrew Singleton; Christian Pazdersky; Paige Peterson; and Michael Vlach. Congratulations and best of luck in your studies! Extra kudos go out to Suzanne O'Hara who also won a SWANA National scholarship!

ANNUAL MEETING BALLOT VOTE No. _____

*Please fax or mail your proxy to Laura Thomson by 5 p.m. on September 8, 2004
Fax: (410) 333-2721 or Mail: NMWDA, Tower II - Ste. 402, 100 S. Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21201*

I cannot attend the Annual Meeting, please accept my mail-in ballot. I am a member in good standing of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of SWANA. I do hereby approve the slate offered by the nominations committee.

Yes _____ No _____ (Please complete nomination section below if applicable.)

I nominate and vote for the following candidate(s):

name(s) position(s)

(Numbering of ballots assures that duplicate ballots are not submitted)