ASTSWMO
Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials

ASTSWMO’s 40th Anniversary

ASTSWMO turns 40 on October 22, 2014, and to celebrate our birthday, the Association will host a reception on October 29, 2014, from 5:30 to 9:00 PM. The reception is part of the October 29-30, 2014, Annual Meeting at the Hyatt Reston Town Center in Reston, VA. Registration for the meeting and the reception will open by early August. There will be a fee associated with the reception for all who wish to attend. The reception will feature dinner, photographers, music, and more. We hope that past and current members and partners from the States, U.S. EPA and DOD, and others who have worked with ASTSWMO will join us for the 40th Anniversary Reception.

ASTSWMO is seeking entities or individuals who are interested in sponsoring the reception, as well as people who would like to tell a story about their experience with the Association. ASTSWMO also seeks wordsmiths to help develop a new slogan and artists to submit designs for 40th Anniversary slogan and logo contests. If you or someone you know would like more information on becoming a sponsor, giving a toast, or submitting a slogan or logo design, please contact Executive Director Dania Rodriguez at 202-640-1061 or daniar@astswmo.org.

DOD Environmental Restoration Programs Budget

ASTSWMO wrote to the House Armed Services Committee requesting that it review and reconsider the FY 2015 budget request for Department of Defense Environmental Restoration Programs. The House Committee proposed an additional $220 million reduction in funding from the original $1.104B request, which would result in a delay to all new investigations planned for FY 2015 and delay or stop many ongoing cleanup activities at former and current DoD-owned and operated facilities nationwide.
The Site Evaluation Focus Group published two documents this quarter. The first is “Analysis of Superfund Site Assessment Program Cooperative Agreements with States: Benefits of Effective State and Federal Partnerships”. The goals of this report include showing how States leverage CERCLA Site Assessment work products to achieve cleanup outcomes, both NPL and non-NPL. Additional goals included gathering and analyzing information on how States:

- Use their Site Assessment Cooperative Agreement funding;
- Employ efficiencies and best practices to improve the Site Assessment program; and
- Track non-NPL beneficial outcomes of sites evaluated with their Site Assessment Cooperative Agreement funding.

This Analysis reports on the Focus Group’s research methods and shows how States use Site Assessment work products to achieve both NPL and non-NPL cleanup outcomes, multiplying the benefits of the Site Assessment Program. The report also describes: trends in the Site Assessment Program; State’s recommendations for improving the Site Assessment Program; availability of State programs to address NPL-caliber sites; and tracking non-NPL outcomes.

The Site Evaluation Focus Group also published a position paper on the Value of the CERCLA Site Assessment Program.

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**Federal Facilities Subcommittee**

ASTSWMO and State members of the Munitions Response Dialogue (MRD) are hosting a States-only webinar on June 3, at 2:00 PM EDT, to discuss the current activities of the MRD and identify priority policy issues in the States related to munitions response. Email Charles Reyes at charlesr@astswmo.org for a link to registration. This is the first in a series of webinars hosted by ASTSWMO that will focus on issues related to federal facilities cleanups. Future webinars will include updates from the ASTSWMO Federal Facilities Research Subcommittee, and discussions with State and federal representatives on issues of concern to State federal facilities managers.

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**Hazardous Waste Subcommittee**

The Hazardous Waste Program Information Management (PIM) Task Force, working with the Training Task Force, organized and conducted a Data Search and Results webinar on March 10, 2014. PIM Task Force Chair Christine Roob (ND) and Task Force members Lynn Metcalf (VT) and Doug Nevel (NY) presented data searches in RCRAInfo, RCRARep and ECHO. Around 49 registrants participated in the webinar; this number does not include additional staff who joined registrants to conserve webinar lines. The recording of the webinar and presentation material is available at http://astswmo.org/Pages/Policies_and_Publications/Hazardous_Waste.htm, in the Presentations from Webinars section.
Tanks Subcommittee

The UST Task Force released the UST Common Compliance Violations Report – FY 2012 in April 2014. The intent of this report is to provide a national perspective with regard to which UST violations are discovered in greatest frequency and may require additional attention. The data could impact where States allocate resources and how they perform onsite UST inspections, where the regulated community can best allocate their resources to improve compliance, and future decisions regarding the long-term direction of State and federal programs.

The 2013 Annual State Fund Survey data tables and summary were released in May 2014.

In April 2014, the Board of Directors and Tanks Subcommittee established plans for forming the Emerging Fuels Task Force. The Task Force will continue efforts started by the Alternative Fuels Workgroup.

Materials Management Subcommittee

The Materials Management Subcommittee’s Training and Technology Transfer Task Force organized and conducted a Construction and Demolition Recycling 101 webinar on March 27, 2014. Around 60 registrants participated in the webinar; this number does not include additional staff who joined registrants to conserve webinar lines. The recording of the webinar and presentation material is available at http://astswmo.org/Pages/Policies_and_Publications/Materials_Management.htm, in the Presentations from Webinars section.

A webinar on Alternative Final Covers is planned for June; an announcement will be sent to State and Territorial Solid Waste/Materials Management program contacts and invited EPA guests. For more information, please contact Kerry Callahan in the ASTSWMO office at kerryc@astswmo.org or 202-640-1062.

Alumni

Are you close to retirement? Do you know retired waste managers who used to be active in ASTSWMO?

ASTSWMO staff would like the personal contact information for retired or soon-to-retire waste managers. Staff continues to work on a plan to create a mentoring network for young professionals who work in RCRA C and D, Tanks, CERCLA, Brownfields, and Federal Facilities.

We would also love to have alumni join in the fun for the 40th anniversary celebration.

Send your contact information to Barbara Hall: 202-640-1066 or barbarah@astswmo.org.
ASTSWMO is expanding its online presence to Twitter and Instagram in order to make your ASTSWMO experiences more vibrant.

Please follow ASTSWMO on Twitter at https://twitter.com/ASTSWMO. Our feed will soon be full of the latest publications, videos, and information about upcoming webinars and meetings. Be sure to tweet @ASTSWMO!

Please also follow ASTSWMO on Instagram, where our username is ASTSWMO. If you upload photos or videos of ASTSWMO events, please be sure to tag us.

ASTSWMO continues to be active on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ASTSWMO. We welcome your ASTSWMO-related content there, too.

The 2014 Mid-Year Meeting: Recap

ASTSWMO hosted the 2014 Mid-Year Meeting April 23-24 in Virginia Beach, Virginia. The plenary sessions on the theme “Transitioning to Long-Term Management” featured speakers from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Minnesota, and U.S. EPA.

Over two hundred people from 44 States, U.S. EPA Headquarters, four U.S. EPA Regional Offices, DOD, BLM, and 11 partners from both the non-profit and private sectors attended the one-and-a-half day meeting.

ASTSWMO funded 105 attendees through its cooperative agreements with U.S. EPA, and 16 States self-funded 45 attendees. For 29 attendees, the 2014 Mid-Year Meeting was their first ASTSWMO meeting.

Cardno, HDR, and Timmons Group sponsored the luncheon, which featured a presentation by Joe Rieger, Deputy Director-Restoration of the Elizabeth River Project.

The Association recorded the welcome session, plenary sessions, luncheon presentation, and one of the CERCLA and Brownfields breakout sessions. All available presentations and all video are online.

Four Past-Presidents attended the 2014 Mid-Year Meeting. From left to right: Ed Thamke (MT), Stephen Cobb (AL), Jeffery Steers (VA), and Gary Baughman (CO).