ASTSWMO News Fall 2015

ASTSWMO Annual Meeting Bethesda, MD

The ASTSWMO Annual Meeting and Tanks Regulations Forum was held on October 28-30, 2015 in Bethesda, MD. There were approximately 100 participants for the Forum and 270 members at the Annual Meeting from 42 States, 2 Territories, the District of Columbia, U.S. EPA Headquarters and Regions, and other organizations.

The Tanks Forum was well attended and speakers highlighted issues facing State Tanks programs, with special attention paid to the new Federal Tanks Regulations that were released this summer. The opening session featured presentations overviewing the new rules and a Q & A session with EPA representatives. States, industry representatives, and other partners provided their perspectives and information on how each is implementing the regulations throughout the event.

The Annual Meeting’s plenary session focused on the “Air-Waste-Water Nexus” and creating channels of communication across program areas. The opening panel discussion featured speakers from Association of Clean Water Administrators (ACWA); National Association of Clean Air Agencies (NACAA); Environmental Council of the States (ECOS); and Association of State Drinking Water Administrators (ASDWA). The attendees then asked questions to the panel regarding the cross programmatic issues that they faced. The EPA OSWER, Assistant Administrator and the Deputy Assistant for the Air and Water offices followed the panel by giving updates on program issues and addressing concerns brought up by the membership concerning new EPA policies and regulations.

Upcoming Meetings:


ASTSWMO Subcommittees

CERCLA/ Brownfields Subcommittee

The ASTSWMO CERCLA & Brownfields Subcommittee had productive sessions during the Annual Meeting. The sessions were Optimization of Remedies, State Superfund Contract and ARARS LEAN, Emerging Contaminants, and an EPA report out. The Site Assessment Focus Group is developing comments on EPA's draft Pre-CERCLA Screening Guidance. Please provide your questions/comments to Scott Lauher (scottl@astswmo.org). The EPA deadline for comments is December 29, 2015.

Hazardous Waste Subcommittee

The Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Task Force is developing comments on EPA's proposed Hazardous Waste Generator Improvements and Pharmaceutical rules. Please provide input your State program would like to share with the Task Force by December 4, 2015: Chair Penny Wilson (AR), (wilson@adeq.state.ar.us), Vice-Chair Steve Simoes (VT), (steve.simoes@vermont.gov), and ASTSWMO staff Kerry Callahan (kerryc@astswmo.org). ASTSWMO would also appreciate receiving a copy of the comments that your State program may directly submit to EPA. The EPA deadline for comments on both rules is December 24, 2015.

Thank You!!

ASTSWMO would like to recognize the members of the Hazardous Waste and Materials Management Subcommittees for their excellent work in planning and conducting the very successful Joint Hazardous Waste and Materials Management Training on August 11-13, 2015 in Long Beach, CA, which had approximately 180 attendees from 41 States, two Territories, EPA Headquarters and Regions, and other organizations:

Hazardous Waste Subcommittee:

Hazardous Waste Subcommittee: Tammie Hynum (AR), Chair; Christine Roob (ND), Vice-Chair; Penny Wilson (AR); Ray Leclerc (CA); and Steve Simoes (VT). The members of the Program Information Management Task Force are recognized for the particular contributions they made to the Training by developing handouts that highlighted the functions and use of RCRAInfo in State hazardous waste programs, and staffing the RCRAInfo information station throughout the meeting: Christine Roob (ND), Chair; Valerie Kauffman (NV), Vice-Chair; Heather Alexander (KY); James Pearson (WA); and Melissa Ferree (DE).

In addition, ASTSWMO would like to thank the Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Task Force for analyzing how the final Definition of Solid Waste rule incorporated Task Force comments on the 2011 proposed rule, and preparing the summary analysis that is posted on the ASTSWMO website: Penny Wilson (AR), Chair; Steve Simoes (VT), Vice-Chair; Mike Hastry (NJ); Russell Deppe (VA); Brad Justice (MS); Bruce Kizer (IN); Judy Watkins (MT); Evan Chambers (NV); Leslie Morris (WA); and ex officio member Karen Hale (OH).

Materials Management Subcommittee:

Mark de Bie (CA), former Chair; Bob Blankenburg (AK), current Chair; Bob Doctor (WY); Marshall Graham (CA); Jennifer Opila (CO), former Chair of the Radiation Task Force; and Bud Yard (TN), current Radiation Task Force Chair.
ASTSWMO Gives Back

ASTSWMO Raises Money for Charities During Our Meetings

ASTSWMO’s initiative to raise money for local charities in the cities in which we host our meetings included both the DC and CNMI communities this quarter. During the National Tanks Conference in Phoenix, AZ, we raised $202 to help CNMI after they suffered tremendous damage from Typhoons this year. During the Annual meeting, we raised money for a local student’s charity. Thank you to all who gave and please read the excerpt below from 826 DC, the ASTSWMO Annual Meeting donation recipient:

“Many thanks to the members of ASTSWMO for their generous gift of $502 on October 29, 2015. With your help, we are on our way to serving more than 5,000 students this school year with our creative writing curriculum, academic support, and student publishing opportunities. Students in the District of Columbia are in need of 21st Century skills, including critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity/innovation, and these skills are shown to improve with our free programs. I am tremendously excited to have you share in this work. Thank You, Joe Callahan, Executive Director”

ASTSWMO State News

EPA Region 6 2015 All-States’ Meeting

The EPA Region 6 States (AR, LA, NM, OK, and TX) held a 2015 All-States’ meeting from November 17-19, 2015 in Addison, TX. The 2015 meeting was hosted by Oklahoma DEQ. Both EPA Region and Headquarters representatives attended the meeting. In total there were approximately 70 State and EPA representatives present. The topics of discussion included, but not were not limited to, RCRA STAG, RCRA Messaging, Post-Closure Care, Coal Combustion Residuals, the Definition of Solid Waste Rule and Implementation of the SW Rule, Financial Assurance, Identification of Significant Violations, State Review Framework, Data Mining of BRS data, and Enforcement Initiatives of the States and EPA. Each State also presented “What They Do Well”. The meeting was attended by active ASTSWMO members and provided a venue to highlight all the great work that the ASTSWMO Hazardous Waste Subcommittee has been involved with, and to also provide an overview of projects upcoming and the need to have input from the States.

California fights fires

After a tremendous drought and a series of damaging forest fires, California is beginning to heal again. Thanks to the hard work of the dedicated State workers. Click here to watch a video of the recovery!

What is going on in your State?

ASTSWMO wants to hear from you! Do you have programs that have had a recent success or milestone? Share it with us! ASTSWMO is committed to continuing to be a resource for our membership. So if you’ve done something, say something! ASTSWMO will share this information on our social media pages, newsletter! If you have news, please submit to Molly Lowney at mollyl@astswmo.org.

ASTSWMO Publications

Compatibility Considerations for UST Systems - The Emerging Fuels Task Force developed this report as an update and replacement to the 2013 ASTSWMO Alternative Fuels Workgroup’s Compatibility of UST Systems with Biofuels report.

An Analysis of UST System Infrastructure in Select States - In 2014, ASTSWMO formed the Aging Tanks Workgroup to examine issues related to aging UST systems and the potential impacts to owners, operators, and State UST programs.

The Removals Focus Group has released an information paper on Post Removal Site Control. This project is an update to their 2010 report “Transition Issues Analysis”.

All publications are available on the ASTSWMO website!
**President’s Letter**

Bonnie Buthker, ASTSWMO President 2015-2016, released her President’s Letter, which gives an overview of her plans for the Association and what she hopes to accomplish during her tenure. Click [here](#) to read!

**Vice-President**

ASTSWMO’s welcomes our new Vice-President Mark de Bie (CA)! With over 13 years of service to the Association, Mark is excited by the opportunity that this new leadership role offers. Congrats, Mark! The Association thanks you for your continued service!

Executive Committee: Nancy Maker, Bonnie Buthker, Mark de Bie, and Mike Forbeck

**Alumni**

Are you close to retirement? Do you know retired members who used to be active in ASTSWMO? ASTSWMO staff would like the contact information for retired or soon-to-retire waste managers. Please send your contact information to Dania Rodriguez: 202-640-1061 or daniar@astswmo.org.

**Members in Action**

Are you interested in volunteering on an ASTSWMO Task Force or Focus Group?

The 2015 Members in Action Rotation has created many new openings.

Visit the Task Force and Subcommittees Pages today to see how you can participate!

**ASTSWMO Website**

It’s here! ASTSWMO’s new website has been launched and we are excited to share it with you! The new design was meant to help connect the membership in a more user and mobile friendly manner.

Thank you very much to our members, Kathy Hotovec (CO) and Greg Overtoom (IN), for your help with our redesign!

Please go to [www.astswmo.org](http://www.astswmo.org) to see the changes for yourself!