Joint Hazardous Waste and Materials Management Training

The ASTSWMO Joint Hazardous Waste and Materials Management Training was held on August 11-13, 2015 in Long Beach, CA. There were approximately 180 participants from 40 States, 2 Territories, the District of Columbia, U.S. EPA Headquarters and Regions, and other organizations. This was the first ASTSWMO hazardous waste or materials management/solid waste conference since 2011.

Plenary sessions at the Joint Training highlighted issues that cut across the hazardous waste and materials management programs. The opening session featured presentations on RCRA’s Critical Mission and the Path Forward, Post-Closure Care for both Subtitle C and Subtitle C, and Subtitle C and D Corrective Action Financial Assurance. The second day of the Training began with a plenary session on Oilfield and NORM (Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials)/TENORM (Technologically-Enhanced Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials) Wastes. The closing plenary discussed cross-programmatic State/EPA topics, and also provided the opportunity for attendees to highlight issues and ideas for future topics based on what they learned at the Training.

In addition to joint plenary sessions, the Training also featured hazardous waste and materials management program-specific sessions, on topics that included product stewardship, land disposal restrictions, the coal combustion residuals rule implementation, the final definition of solid waste rule, anaerobic digestion, LEAN corrective action, corrective action inspection training and sustainable materials management measurement.

For recordings of sessions and copies of presentations, visit the ASTSWMO Past Meetings webpage: http://bit.ly/1Enj9mO

ASTSWMO 2014 Strategic Plan:

Want to check out our 2014 Strategic Plan workplans? Click below!

CERCLA Brownfields Subcommittee
Federal Facilities Subcommittee
Hazardous Waste Subcommittee
Materials Management Subcommittee
Tanks Subcommittee
CERCLA/ Brownfields Subcommittee

The ASTSWMO CERCLA & Brownfields Research Center’s Site Assessment Focus Group has released an information paper on Benefits of Flexibility During Pre-CERCLA Screening. This project relies upon feedback from States, EPA OSRTI data and cases studies to examine States’ use of Pre-CERCLA Screening Assessments and how they can be applied most effectively.

The Subcommittee had a meeting August 12-13 in Washington, DC. Each Focus Group was represented. Discussions were highlighted with what each Focus Group is working on, as well as discussions with EPA that included Vapor Intrusion, Sediment Site, ITRC Complex Site Team, Remedy Enhancements and Removal Betterments, SSC, ARAR LEAN Project, the Joint Symposium planning as well as Annual Meeting planning.

Federal Facilities Research Subcommittee

PFCs Paper Released! In August, the Remediation and Reuse Focus Group released the Perfluorinated Chemicals (PFCs): PFOA & PFOS Information Paper. The document provides members with information on PFCs, which are emerging contaminants of concern, and focuses on two specific PFCs - perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perflurooctane sulfonate (PFOS). Included is introductory information and resources on its historical and current uses, effects on human health and the environment, and current State and federal guidelines for investigation and remediation.

FUDS Forum Outreach Calls. This summer, State members of the FUDS Forum Working Group assisted the U.S. Army in conducting outreach calls to States and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Districts and Divisions. The calls provided States with updates on the FUDS Forum discussions and focused on the USACE’s implementation of the interim risk management program at munitions response sites and development of State Management Action Plans. For more information on FUDS Forum activities visit the Portal at: https://www.fudsforum.org/.

Tanks Subcommittee

Revised Federal UST Regulations are Final! U.S. EPA’s updated underground storage tank (UST) regulations are final and were published in the July 15, 2015, Federal Register: http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-07-15/pdf/2015-15914.pdf. Additional information about the UST Regulations, including links to “crosswalk” comparison of the 1988 regulations to the 2015 regulations and updated guidance materials are available on the EPA OUST Website. Visit the ASTSWMO Tanks Publications page to access ASTSWMO’s 2012 comments to EPAs proposal to revise UST regulations.

Tanks Regulations Forum this Fall! The Tanks Subcommittee and UST Task Force are hosting a Tanks Regulations Forum on October 28-30, 2015, in Bethesda, MD, in conjunction with the ASTSWMO Annual Meeting. The Forum will provide information on the new federal UST regulations and sessions will focus on new EPA guidance documents, State Program Approval (SPA), system testing and inspections, and outreach to States and the regulated community.
ASTSWMO Gives Back

ASTSWMO raises money for Long Beach Food Bank

ASTSWMO’s initiative to raise money for local charities in the cities in which we host our meetings came to Long Beach in August. ASTSWMO’s most recent meeting marked another successful donation collection for a local charity. ASTSWMO raised over $500 to help the organization Food Finders in their mission of “rescuing food, ending hunger”.

The “ASTSWMO Gives Back” initiative, spearheaded by Executive Director Dania Rodriguez, has been met with attendees eager to donate to charities that are offering resources in order to build up local communities. Food Finders Executive Director Patti Larson accepted the award on behalf of her organization. She thanked ASTSWMO and elaborated on how the donations would be used to help fight hunger in Long Beach. Look out for “ASTSWMO Gives Back” at ASTSWMO’s next meeting in Phoenix, AZ. All proceeds will go to the Red Cross to help those affected by the typhoon in the N. Mariana Islands.

Above: Dania Rodriguez with a Patti Larson and a Food Finders Volunteer

If you would like to Donate to Food Finders Long Beach, please follow this link: http://www.foodfinders.org/donate/

Upcoming Meetings:


Green Sheet: Check out Ecovac’s latest newsletter! This document contains valuable information on upcoming conferences and training in the fields of energy and resource management. http://bit.ly/1dC63GB
ASTSWMO State News

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.

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.

2015 Summer Intern: Erica Allen

Thank you Erica for a great Summer! Erica will be continuing her studies at the University of Rhode Island this Fall and will graduate with a degree in Marine Affairs. We look forward to watching her pursue her passion for helping the environment!

2015 ASTSWMO Annual Meeting Registration is open!

ASTSWMO is pleased to invite State and Territorial (State) Hazardous Waste, Superfund, Brownfields, Tanks (UST), Federal Facilities, and Materials Management managers, as well as EPA Headquarters and Regional staff, DOD officials, and other invited guests to the October 29-30, 2015, ASTSWMO Annual Meeting in Bethesda, MD.

Click here to register!!

ASTSWMO Elections

The Association is now accepting nominations for the ASTSWMO position of Vice-President. Elections will be held at the Annual Meeting in Bethesda, MD.

All interested parties should contact Ryan Benefield, ASTSWMO Past-President.

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 Page today to discover how you can participate: http://astswmo.org/Pages/Members/Task_Force_Focus_Group_Openings.html

ASTSWMO Website

ASTSWMO will be rolling out its new website in the next month. There will be a grand unveiling at the Annual Meeting in Bethesda, MD. Stay tuned for all the changes!

Follow us!!

Have questions or comments about ASTSWMO’s newsletter? Email Molly Lowney:
mollyl@astswmo.org

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