

AIR & WASTE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION Nevada Section



A&WMA at a Glance

What's In The News:

- Luncheons and speakers
- Upcoming field trips
- EPA proposes to extend PM2.5 Stay
- NASA tests eco-friendly propellant
- Check out our sponsors!



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By Sarah Hoffman

Many exciting events have happened in the past few months for the Las Vegas Chapter, now Nevada Section, of Air & Waste Management Association. A new Executive Board was elected in April 2009 (see below for list of Board members); the 2009 Annual Conference was held in Detroit, Michigan in June 2009; the Las Vegas Chapter was officially approved to now be the Nevada Section in July 2009; and members were invited to attend a free-for-members field trip to the Atomic Testing Museum in August 2009.

A synopsis of the annual conference and the change from Chapter to Section are further discussed by your Chair in a Letter from Our Chair on page 2 of this newsletter.

On August 15 A&WMA members, friends, and family gathered at the Atomic Testing Museum for a guided tour of the facility by Chuck Costa, President of the Foundation and acting Director of the Museum. The tour was followed by lunch from Memphis BBQ. The Executive Board is enthusiastic about the attendance to the Atomic Testing Museum field trip and would like to conduct these on a quarterly basis. Stay tuned to see where we'll be going next!



2009-2010 Executive Board Members, above, from left to right: Jon Bell, Mike Skromyda, Anthony Francis, Sarah Hoffman, Kyle Hansen, Victoria Hansen, and Paul Fransioli. Chair Emeritus, John Letkeman, not pictured.

Letter from Our Chair

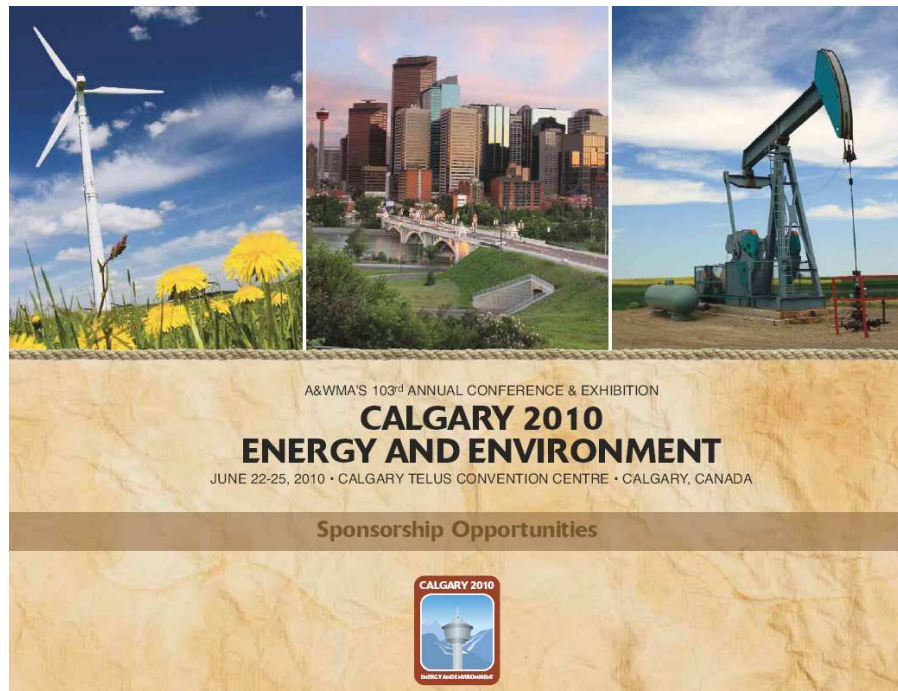
I hope everyone has enjoyed their summer. The extremely hot weather is behind us with only the usual hot weather coming up. Time has gone by so quickly this year. A lot has happened in the past several months. First we need to mention the change that has occurred with our chapter.

As of August 6th, we are no longer the Las Vegas Chapter of the Air & Waste Management Association. After updating and changing our bylaws, filing the necessary paperwork, and receiving the green light from the national board, we are now the Nevada Section of the Air & Waste Management Association. Our Board has thought long and hard about this change and we believe it will help those in the state without access to a local chapter while allowing for increased support of the Eastern Sierra Chapter in their efforts for growth and sustainability. Although you will begin to see small changes occurring in our website and other communications over the next few weeks, our monthly luncheons and occasional excursions will continue as usual.

One excursion I was able to make was to attend the A&WMA International Conference and Exhibition in Detroit. Although the tough economic times are affecting everyone, attendance was better than expected. There were some very interesting topics ranging from Bioterrorism to Clean Energy Technologies. There was such a diverse range of topics, it was difficult to choose which ones to attend. There was also plenty of tours to attend as well. My favorite was a behind the scenes tour of OnStar, the GM vehicle security/communications system.

I hope all of you are doing well personally and professionally. I hope we can all continue to maximize our membership with A&WMA to meet new people and expand your network. Keep your eyes peeled for upcoming special events sponsored by the Section in addition to our wonderful monthly luncheons.

Tony Francis
A&WMA Nevada Section Chair



Monthly Section Luncheons

The Nevada Section conducts monthly luncheon meetings on the **second Wednesday of every month**. During each luncheon, a presentation is given on various topics related to environmental issues and impacts facing Southern Nevada.

Luncheons are held at the Las Vegas Country Club @ 3000 Joe W Brown Dr, Las Vegas, 89109

Check-in: 11:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. **Lunch Begins:** 11:30 a.m. **Presentation:** 12:00 p.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Cost: Members: \$25.00 Non-Members: \$30.00 Full Time Students: \$10.00

For more information, or to RSVP please contact **Kyle Hansen** no later than noon on Monday the week of the luncheon by calling 702-365-1001 or email **Kyle.Hansen@gesnevada.com**. All interested parties are welcome.

<http://www.lvawma.org/meetings.html>

Upcoming Speakers

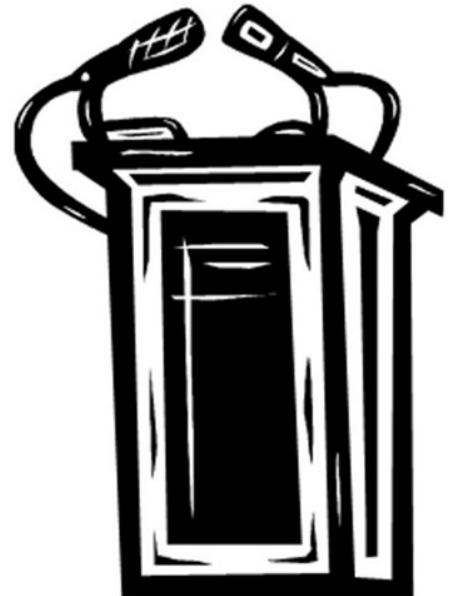
September 8, 2009 - *Dr. Dale Devitt, UNLV, Sustainable water use in an urban landscape in the 21st century, a Las Vegas perspective.*

October 14, 2009 - *Christine Herndon, president of Herndon Solutions Group, Conducting Environmental Audits: You Can't Afford to be Non-compliant.*

November 11, 2009 - *TBD.*

December 16, 2009 - *David Sims, NV Energy, Overview in renewable energy.*

*Speakers and topics are subject to change.



Upcoming Events

After the successful field trip to the Atomic Testing Museum, the Nevada Section Board would like to continue to give back to our Members by conducting these field trips on a quarterly basis. The next locations being considered include the Nevada Test Site (as a follow up, Part II, to the Atomic Testing Museum) and Hoover Dam. If you have a suggestion of an environmentally relevant location to go behind the scenes and receive an in-depth tour on, please contact a Board member.



In the News

A&WMA Welcomes Interim Executive Director

A&WMA is pleased to announce that Past President Bob Hall (1999-2000) will serve as interim executive director of the Association after Adrienne Carolla's resignation which was effective August 14, 2009.

Bob, a Charter Member of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), retired from his position in January 2009. Bob's executive responsibilities at EPA, his distinguished engineering career, and his 40 years of dedicated service to A&WMA make him a qualified candidate to carry out the mission of the Association during the search for a new executive director.

Adrienne made many significant contributions during her 17 years with the Association. We wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

Environmental News

U.S. EPA Proposes to Extend PM2.5 Stay

On July 23, 2009, the U.S. EPA proposed to extend until June 1, 2010 the existing administrative stay on the “grandfathering” provision for PM2.5 requirements in the New Source Review (NSR) Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) program.

The grandfathering provision allows the permitting authority to review PSD permit applications received before July 15, 2008 according to U.S. EPA’s 1997 policy of satisfying the requirements for particulate matter less than 10 micrometers (PM10) as a surrogate for meeting the new requirements for PM2.5.

The existing administrative stay is in effect June 1, 2009 until September 1, 2009. This action proposes to extend the existing administrative stay by an additional nine months. U.S. EPA expects to propose, take public comment on, and issue a final action concerning the repeal of the grandfathering provision for PM2.5 in the PSD program by the end of the stay.

U.S. EPA Proposes New Air Standards for Area Source Paint Manufacturers

On July 13, 2009, U.S. EPA proposed new emissions standards for area source paint manufacturers. This proposal has not yet been published in the Federal Register.

Nationwide, this could potentially affect about 2,190 small or area sources in the paints and allied products manufacturing category.

The proposed national emissions standards for hazardous air pollutants (NESHAP) are based on generally available control technologies (GACT) or management practices, which U.S. EPA describes as ... methods, practices and techniques that are commercially available and appropriate for application by the sources in the category considering economic impacts to and the technical capabilities of the firms to operate and maintain the emission control systems.

The proposed standards would affect any facility that is not a major source of hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) and that manufactures paints, inks, adhesives, stains, varnishes, shellacs, putties, sealers, caulks, and other coatings, the intended use of which is to leave a dried film of solid material on a substrate. HAPs addressed by the NESHAP comprise volatile substances (e.g., benzene and methylene chloride) contained in solvents that evaporate during the manufacturing process and metals (e.g., chromium, cadmium, lead, and nickel compounds) that are emitted during the handling of solid materials such as pigments and resins. U.S. EPA’s proposed control standards are also correlated to either volatile or metal HAP emissions and apply to both new and existing sources. Specifically:

- For volatile HAPs, sources would be required to follow management practices that include covering process and storage tanks, immediately cleaning up spills, and keeping waste solvent rags and other materials used for cleaning in closed storage vessels.
- For metal HAPs, sources would need to operate a particulate control device at all times during the manufacturing process when metal HAP emissions could be present. A 5 percent opacity limit averaged over 6 minutes would also apply.

To demonstrate initial compliance, all affected sources would need to certify that the required control technologies and management practices have been implemented and all equipment associated with the processes will be properly operated and maintained.

In addition, a visual emissions test using EPA Method 9 would need to be performed on the particulate control devices on or before the compliance date and every 6 months thereafter.

Notification, recordkeeping, and reporting requirements are included in the proposed standards to ensure compliance.

Ohio Proposes Greenhouse Gas Reporting Regulations

On July 13, 2009, the Ohio Public Utilities Commission proposed to adopt new regulations regarding greenhouse gas reporting and carbon dioxide control planning for public utilities owning or operating electric-generating facilities.

The proposed rule specifies that:

- Any public utility owning or operating an electric generating facility within Ohio shall become a participating member in the climate registry and shall report greenhouse gas emissions according to the protocols approved by the climate registry.
- Any public utility that owns or operates an electric generating facility within Ohio shall file with the commission by April 15 of each calendar year an environmental control plan, including carbon dioxide control planning. A copy of such plan shall also be provided to the director of the Ohio environmental protection agency, or his designee.

These rules are proposed in accordance with statutory requirements specified by the legislation in July 2008. They are intended to ensure that competitive retail electric services are provided.

<http://www.eqm.com/>

World Environmental News

Indians Add Green Touch to Religious Festivals

Few events can rival the ancient rituals and riotous color of India's religious festivals. This year, the months-long celebration season is also becoming eco-friendly. Alarmed by the high levels of pollution caused by firecrackers, toxic paints and idols made of non-recyclable material, schools, environmentalists and some states are encouraging "greener" celebrations.

In Mumbai, where the 10-day festival for the elephant-headed Ganesha (the Hindu deity of prosperity) is underway with giant, colored idols and noisy street parties, radio and TV stations are airing environmental messages and school children are learning to make eco-friendly idols.

The statues, made of brightly painted plaster of Paris, are usually immersed in the sea or a lake after a lively procession that can sometimes take half a day to navigate the choked streets, and which ultimately leaves dismembered idols strewn along the shore.

But a growing number of Indians are opting for smaller clay idols which they immerse in water at home.

"An idol that doesn't dissolve in the sea is just a tragic end for something you have worshipped for so many days," said Abhijit Karandikar, a creative director at an advertising agency. "More people are realizing they can be more eco-friendly in our festivals. It's something that's in our control."

Japan Emissions Target Hinges on International Deal

The greenhouse gas emissions target for 2020 set by Japan's incoming Democratic Party government is based on the premise that there will be an international agreement including China and India, a party executive said on Friday. The party, promising a more aggressive green policy than the outgoing government, has called for a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 25 percent by 2020 from 1990 levels, although the target faces resistance from industries. "This is not something Japan will do on its own," party secretary-general Katsuya Okada said in an interview with Reuters. "The premise is an agreement that includes other countries such as China and India."

In June, Japan's outgoing government set a target for a 15 percent reduction in emissions by 2020 compared with 2005 levels, which is equivalent to an 8 percent cut from a 1990 baseline.

Okada, who will soon step down as party No.2 but is expected to take up a key post such as finance minister in the new cabinet, said the 25 percent target for Japan was only natural given an agreement at the G8 summit to cut devel-

oped countries' emissions by 80 percent by 2050.

He added that the new government would urge business groups to accept the target.

"We will persuade them," said Okada, who has long led the party's discussions on climate policy.

For a graphic comparing international greenhouse gas cutting targets, click r.reuters.com/wuc84d

Top business group Keidanren is set to lobby against the Democrats' emissions targets, a newspaper reported this week, while the auto industry lobby has said it is concerned about the feasibility of the target.

Japan, the world's fifth-largest greenhouse gas emitter, is under pressure for tougher climate policies after its emissions rose 2.3 percent to a record in the year to March 2008, putting the country 16 percent above its Kyoto Protocol target.

The Democratic Party has also said a tough 2020 target is needed for Japan to play a bigger role in U.N.-backed climate talks in Copenhagen in December.

The talks will try to work out a new agreement on reducing emissions to succeed the current Kyoto Protocol, the first phase of which ends in 2012.

For a graphic of Japan's CO2 emissions, click r.reuters.com/xuc84d

Asked if Japan would change its target in the absence of an international agreement, Okada said: "We are trying to reach an agreement so we are not discussing what to do in the absence of an agreement."

Industrialized nations are planning average cuts in greenhouse gas emissions of between 10 and 14 percent below 1990 levels by 2020 as part of a new U.N. climate pact, according to a compilation of national data.

Analysts doubt Japan's new ruling party will back down from its emissions target after it was featured in its campaign platform, but some are skeptical of the new government's ability to implement an array of promised green policies.

To reduce emissions, the party plans to create a domestic emissions trading market with compulsory volume caps on emitters and introduce a "feed-in" tariff for renewable energy to help expand capacity for clean energy sources.

It is also considering introducing a carbon tax but other campaign pledges such as a plan to eliminate highway tolls and to end a decades-old surcharge on gasoline have drawn concern from green groups.

<http://planetark.org/enviro-news/>



Recycling News

Growing Problem of E-waste: Bringing Harmony to Electronic Waste Disposal

Disposal and recycling standards for old computer equipment and other electronic waste must be harmonized for this rapidly growing problem to be dealt with effectively across national borders. An analysis of the current rules and regulations is reported in the latest issue of the International Journal of Environmental Engineering.

Sunil Herat, a senior lecturer in waste management at Griffith University, Queensland, Australia, explains that different policies are being developed worldwide to deal with e-waste. This, he says, could lead to new problems as the waste stream grows as any unscrupulous companies charged with recycling or disposing of electronic goods exploit loopholes in regional legislation.

The European Union's Directives on Waste Electrical and Electronic Waste (WEEE) and Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) have paved the way for controls while China, Japan, Korea, and some US states have adopted similar laws. The United Nations through the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal adopted the Nairobi declaration on e-waste in 2006, but there are still countless issues to be addressed.

Used electronic equipment, including computers, cell phones, and TVs has become one of the fastest growing waste streams across the globe. There is even evidence that developing nations are increasingly reluctant to accept electronic equipment that is considered obsolete in the West. This is not surprising given the complex mix of often toxic materials from which modern electronic devices are made and the rapid descent into total obsolescence for most devices.

Indeed, Herat explains, 20 to 50 million tonnes of e-waste are generated across the globe each year bringing with it significant risks to human health and the environment. It is estimated that a billion computers could be deemed obsolete each decade from now on and that number may grow as technology advances and more devices are developed. The disparate policies that are being implemented on a state, national, and federal basis relating to the management of e-waste will, to some extent, help to combat the problem. However, worldwide there remains an urgency to deal with e-waste so that regions do not become dumping grounds for what is essentially a toxic and potentially intractable waste stream.

Herat has reviewed the various legal frameworks being established in different parts of the world and now emphasizes that the only way forward is to find a way to harmonize and unify these different approaches and to ensure that the Basel Convention is enforced and extended.

NASA, Air Force Test Environmentally-friendly Rocket Propellant

NASA and the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, or AFOSR, have successfully launched a small rocket using an environmentally-friendly, safe propellant comprised of aluminum powder and water ice, called ALICE.

"This collaboration has been an opportunity for graduate students to work on an environmentally-friendly propellant that can be used for flight on Earth and used in long distance space missions," said NASA Chief Engineer Mike Ryschkewitsch at NASA Headquarters in Washington.

"These sorts of university-led experimental projects encourage a new generation of aerospace engineers to think outside of the box and look at new ways for NASA to meet our exploration goals."

Using ALICE as fuel, a nine-foot rocket soared to a height of 1,300 feet over Purdue University's Scholer farms in Indiana earlier this month. ALICE is generating excitement among researchers because this energetic propellant has the potential to replace some liquid or solid propellants.

When it is optimized, it could have a higher performance than conventional propellants.

"By funding this collaborative research with NASA, Purdue University and the Pennsylvania State University, AFOSR continues to promote basic research breakthroughs for the future of the Air Force," said Dr. Brendan Godfrey, director of AFOSR.

ALICE has the consistency of toothpaste when made. It can be fit into molds and then cooled to -30 C 24 hours before flight. The propellant has a high burn rate and achieved a maximum thrust of 650 pounds during this test.

"A sustained collaborative research effort on the fundamentals of the combustion of nanoscale aluminum and water over the last few years led to the success of this flight," said Dr. Steven F. Son, a research team member from Purdue.

"ALICE can be improved with the addition of oxidizers and become a potential solid rocket propellant on Earth. Theoretically, ALICE can be manufactured in distant places like the moon or Mars, instead of being transported to distant locations at high cost."

http://www.sciencedaily.com/news/earth_climate/recycling_and_waste/

Join A&WMA

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Today!!**



**AIR & WASTE MANAGEMENT
ASSOCIATION**

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The Air & Waste Management Association (A&WMA) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan professional organization that offers individuals a wide array of resources and benefits embodied within the technical and scientific environmental community. Membership benefits include the opportunity for professional development, information exchange, networking opportunities, and public education and outreach. By helping to promote global environmental responsibility, A&WMA hopes to increase the effectiveness of organizations and individuals to make critical decisions that benefit their surrounding communities. These benefits are currently extended to over 8000 environmental professionals in 65 countries. In 2007 A&WMA celebrated its 100th year of providing service to environmental professionals.

For more information and to see how the A&WMA will benefit you, access the links to the following web sites.

<http://www.awma.org/about/index.html>

<http://www.awma.org/join/index.html>



**AIR & WASTE MANAGEMENT
ASSOCIATION**

Serving the environment by serving our members



Sponsorship & Advertising Opportunities

The A&WMA Nevada Section encourages interested companies to sponsor a monthly A&WMA luncheon meeting. A&WMA luncheon sponsorship will allow a firm to:

- * Provide and display a poster/sign indicating company name and services;
- * Provide a short introduction of the company and services provided at the beginning of the meeting (2 minutes);
- * Provide meeting attendees with cards, pens, information packets, etc.;
- * In addition, the sponsor's company logo will be displayed on the A&WMA (Nevada Section) web page for six months and will be included in the respective quarterly newsletter.

Upcoming sponsors will be scheduled for the next available meeting on a first come first serve basis (one sponsor per luncheon). A company/business will be the monthly lunch sponsor with a donation of \$100.00. Donations are requested one month prior to the sponsored event.

For more information on sponsoring a meeting, please contact the Media Director, Sarah Hoffman.

Luncheon Sponsors

June 2009



www.broadbentinc.com

September 2009



www.republicservices.com

For questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact the Media Director:

Sarah Hoffman
Ninyo & Moore
6700 Paradise Road, Suite E
Las Vegas, NV 89119

Phone: 702.433.0330

E-mail: shoffman@ninyoandmoore.com

Visit us online!!

<http://www.lvawma.org/index.html>
