

Colorado Rocky Mountain Chapter
SWANA
“Solid Waste Association of North America”



Newsletter

Spring 2004

Presidents Corner

by John Briest

As we began the New Year, the Chapter wanted to focus their efforts into generating a website which its members could use as a tool for obtaining various sorts of information about SWANA and the Colorado Chapter of SWANA.

The website address is [www. Coloradoswana.org](http://www.Coloradoswana.org)

On the Home Page you will find information about the SWANA organization, as well as an easy link to the United States Congress should you like to write your representative regarding a certain solid waste topic.

The newsletter link provides the latest newsletters which will be kept on a 12-month rolling basis.

The awards program describes the Chapter’s plan for recognizing a member of the solid waste community who has made significant contributions to the industry in the State of Colorado.

The Presentations link is a list of presentations that have been given during one of the recent SWANA programs. All presenters have agreed to allow all or a portion of their presentations to be available on our website for your reference.

The Calendar link gives a list of important chapter dates including dates for upcoming programs and our annual meeting.

The Exchange Board provides a venue where members can post information to exchange with other solid waste professionals.

The Legislative Info link will provide valuable updates concerning legislation on both State and National issues.

The Advertising section is set up for individuals that may be looking for contacts within the solid waste field; this may include consultants, vendors and industry professionals.

The Contact Link provides contact information for your local chapter representatives as well as neighboring chapters.

The board is excited about rolling out this website new and we hope the membership will gain useful and practical information from it.

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2004 Annual Meeting
Elk Bugling Opportunity!

Interested? Come and take this opportunity along with breath taking mountain views of Colorado's most popular tourist destination at the annual meeting planned for Estes Park on October 7-8, 2004. A reception will begin the program on October 7, 2004.

The technical program will be planned for October 8, 2004. Stay after the meeting adjourns in the afternoon and join other chapter members for dinner at the world famous “Stanley Hotel” for dinner on October 8, 2004. Registration information will be sent to you soon but mark this date on your calendars now!

Your Colorado Chapter will host its annual meeting at the Holiday Inn with a special program now being planned. Take 50% off your registration, if you submit and are selected to make a presentation. Send your presentation application by May 14, 2004 to Leonard Butler at lbutler2@wm.com or Deborah Barton at baleit@fone.net.

WASTECON 2004 – September 20-23 in Phoenix
(training begins September 19th)

Providing 13 training courses, 45 technical sessions, and hundreds of exhibitors, SWANA's WasteCon is the premier solid waste conference of the year, drawing well over 2000 professionals. Full details of the technical and social programs are available at www.SWANA.org. Information on this year's incredible WasteCon backdrop of Phoenix, AZ can be found at www.visitphoenix.com.

SADDLE-UP - IT'S ROADEO TIME

by Mark McMullen

The Colorado Rocky Mountain Chapter will be holding its annual Trash Truck Roadeo on May 8, 2004. It will be held at the Mt. Elbert overflow parking lot at DIA, and run from 8:00 a.m. to around noon. This event brings together the best trash truck drivers in the state to compete for prestige and prizes. Contestants bring their families and friends to cheer them on, and the event is followed by a barbeque lunch free to all contestants, volunteers, and their guests. We will also have a number of raffle prizes, which have been a big hit in previous years.

The competition involves a written test of the rules of the road, a pre-trip inspection test, and obstacle course for all categories of refuse collection vehicles. Prizes are awarded to the winners of each category, and the overall winner is sent to the International Roadeo to represent Colorado. This years International Roadeo is in Denton, Texas, and Colorado has

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always been well represented in this event. Competitors, or their employer, must be a member of SWANA, must be employed in the refuse or recycling collection business for a minimum of one year, and have no chargeable accidents or moving violations within the last 12 months. A registration fee of \$125 will be charged, but the Colorado Chapter has limited scholarships available to qualified individuals effectively waiving the fee.

If you are interested in participating as a contestant, please contact Terrie Pineda at 303-450-4003, or to volunteer please contact Mark McMullen at 303-948-7733.

Solid Waste Community Responsibilities in Emergency Preparedness and Response

by Deborah Barton

The Colorado Rocky Mountain SWANA Chapter held an outstanding luncheon seminar on January 20 which featured Mr. Tim Gablehouse, chairman of the Jefferson County Local Emergency Planning Committee. He explained that in many emergency plans, landfills and transfer stations are considered the answer for emergency response cleanup. He cited the 911 cleanup in New York City, the March 2003 blizzard on the Front Range, and the wildfires across the west as recent examples. Some key questions and assumptions that emergency planners may make concerning solid waste facilities include: Can the landfill or transfer station store debris for crime scene investigation without hindering normal operations? What is the capacity of the transfer stations to receive and transport and the landfills to dispose of debris, animal remains, human remains, hazardous materials and similar items? If all the emergency responders are absent, can the facilities take care of emergencies and still operate? Do solid waste facility managers know their local emergency managers? Landfills and transfer stations are known to be resources for heavy equipment and operators. If they are tapped for emergency response, can "normal" operations continue? Mr. Gablehouse recommended that solid waste managers should know their local emergency managers and agencies and to become involved in the emergency planning involving their facilities, equipment, personnel, and capabilities.

Seminar Summary on Disposal Options for Animal Wastes

by Deborah Barton

On March 16, the Colorado Rocky Mountain SWANA Chapter hosted the second solid waste luncheon workshop. Dr. John Scanga of CSU and Mr. Glenn Mallory of CDPHE gave presentations on the current technology and regulations pertaining to the disposal of animal wastes, in particular diseased animal carcasses. With the recent incident in Washington involving Bovine Spongiform Encephalitis (BSE, aka Mad Cow Disease) and the Asian Bird Flu problems in Maryland, solid waste haulers and operators have a concern on the safe handling of animal wastes. Dr. Scanga presented current statistics on livestock populations

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and related statistics. He proceeded to give an overview of current technologies and options for handling, obtaining reusable resources (composting and biorefinery byproducts), and disposal of animal carcasses. Mr. Glenn Mallory presented an overview of current approved disposal options as well as status on animal incinerator permits by the Department of Wildlife to handle Chronic Waste Disease in elk and deer. A copy of Dr. Scanga's Powerpoint Presentation is available on the Colorado SWANA website at www.ColoradoSwana.org for review.

Colorado Legislative and Regulatory Update – April 2004

by Laurie Batchelder Adams

Two of the most visible solid waste bills introduced this year have failed. SB04-91 (Teck, R-Mesa) would have revised the public/private playing field for solid waste collection, especially for municipalities who control hauling and annex unincorporated areas served by private sector haulers. This bill failed to receive enough votes on the Senate floor. HB04-1275 (Paccione, D-Larimer) would have placed a \$0.10 deposit on plastic beverages containers. This bill failed to get out of committee upon first reading. Both bills are expected again in 2005 in some form.

The Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment's new Recycling and revised Scrap Tire regulations have been approved by the Board of Health and become effective on March 30th. The first round of reporting by recycling entities will be due in May 2005. CDPHE is currently developing guidance on implementation of both sets of rules. Please direct any input or queries to Glenn Mallory, Solid Waste Unit Chief, at Glenn.Mallory@state.co.us.

On-going revisions to solid waste legislation are posted on the Colorado SWANA website at <http://ColoradoSwana.org/newsite>. This tabulated information is updated regularly during the January through May Legislative Session.

Recycling Rules - “Implementation”

by Roger Doak

On January 21, 2004 the Colorado Board of Health approved recycling rules to be included in the Regulations Pertaining to Solid Waste Disposal Sites and Facilities (6 CCR 1007-2) as Section 8. These rules will become effective April 1, 2004.

What do these rules do and how may they affect your recycling business?

The purposes of the new rules are to establish minimum operational standards, track quantities of materials recycled in the state, and minimize the potential of sham recycling.

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What the law and the regulations require.

1. Recyclers are to register within 180 days of the effective date of this rule. A facility may eventually register online at www.cdphe.state.co.us. For the immediate future please print the form and either send it to Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment, HMWMD SW, 4300 Cherry Creek Drive South, Denver, CO 80246 or fax it to the Solid Waste Unit at 303/692-3445.
2. Registration is to be done by October 1, 2004.
3. By May 1, 2005 and annually thereafter facilities are to complete the report on materials and volumes/weights of materials that have been recycled in the previous calendar year. The reporting form may be found at www.cdphe.state.co.us/hm, to be downloaded and either sent or faxed per #1 above.
4. Facilities are allowed to accumulate recycled materials (an initial accumulation period) based on a 3-year rolling average for each material.
5. Facilities are to recycle 75% of the accumulated material each calendar year. Variances are available by sending a written justification to the Department per 8.3.1(B) of the regulations.
6. Facility types that are exempt for this rule may be found in subsection 8.2.7 of the rule. (See www.cdphe.state.co.us to read the rule.)
7. The facility is to be operated in a manner to minimize nuisance conditions.

The rules are intended to be self-implementing. Facilities that operate in compliance with the rules do not require a certificate of designation under the solid waste regulations. Those that are found to be in violation may be subject to enforcement action under the solid waste rules. You may access the rule by going to the webpage listed above and going to the Regulations Pertaining to Solid Waste Disposal Sites and Facilities, Section 8.

Some Questions and Answers

1. Are composting sites and facilities considered recycling facilities under Section 8?

No. Composting facilities are defined as solid waste sites and facilities and are to comply with Section 14 of the rules. There is a statutory restriction that does not allow the definition of recycling to include a facility that may contaminate ground water or create odors.

2. Do composting sites and facilities need to report annually?

Yes. Section 14 requires that an annual report be filed by composting sites and facilities each May 1st.

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3. *Do landfills that have a recycling operation as part of their facility operations need to file an annual report under Section 8?*

No. Landfills are required to file a quarterly report on waste volumes and submit the solid waste tipping fee 30-days following the end of each calendar quarter.

4. *What are “self-implementing rules”?*

Under the law facilities are required to know what statutes apply to them as a part of their business. In this instance the facility is required to be registered, file the annual report, and operate in a manner not to cause a nuisance. The Department will notify facilities of their need to comply via a mailing, based on complaints, and other means that may become available.

5. *Can a local governing body require a Certificate of Designation for recycling facilities?*

No. Recycling facilities that comply with the law are exempt from being a “solid waste disposal site and facility” under the law and therefore exempt from having to obtain a Certificate of Designation. However, facilities that do not operate in compliance with the rules may face enforcement action and the potential of a Certificate of Designation. Also, local governments may have restrictions or permits for recycling facilities.

6. *Is a facility required to notify the local government of their activities?*

Yes, under local zoning, land use, or similar ordinances. The recycling rule requires that operations are to be conducted in full compliance with all local requirements.

7. *Is a recycling facility required to notify the Department if they decide to close?*

Yes. Under 8.6.1 the facility is required to notify the Department, in writing, prior to its closure.

8. *Do the rules limit the storage of waste material on a site before recycling?*

The regulations are intended, in part, to prohibit sham recycling so the accumulation of a material with the intent to recycle and not proceeding to recycle would be a violation subject to enforcement. While it would be acceptable to accumulate material at a rate higher than is being recycled the business is accountable to the 75% requirement set forth in the rule. This means that 75% of material accumulated is to be recycled each year unless a variance is obtained for a different amount. Also, the business is to be in full compliance with any local permits, restrictions, or ordinances that could limit the accumulation.

9. *Will the Department allow for electronic reporting?*

Yes. The Department is committed to do this. However the Department has yet to select the technical mechanism to allow for this.

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