

Let's Talk Trash

April 2016 Edition

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2016 NM SWANA Road-E-O Competition Set for May 7, 2016!! by Randy Watkins, Caja del Rio Landfill Manager

The 2016 NM SWANA Road-E-O competition will be held on May 7, 2016, at the Caja del Rio Landfill in Santa Fe. Registration for competitors begins at 7:30 am.

Contestants representing public and private waste collection agencies and solid waste disposal facilities are invited to compete for top driving and operating honors in a friendly competition. Drivers and operators are required to complete a written exam, and then maneuver competition vehicles through a preset course that will challenge their skills at starting and stopping the vehicle, negotiating the course, and backing up the vehicle, while demonstrating general safe driving and operating skills. All categories are judged on a combination of written exam scores, vehicle accuracy through the preset course, and time.

Competition Categories

- Drivers will be able to compete in two of three vehicle categories: (1) front loader; 2) side loader; and 3) roll-off truck.

- Operators will be able to compete in either or both equipment categories: (1) compactor; and 2) dozer.

The first and second place finishers in each vehicle category are eligible to compete at SWANA's International Road-E-O event. This year the international competition will be held from September 1-3 in Dublin, Georgia.

The registration cost is \$15 for participation and lunch for contestants, their spouses and children. Also, lunch will be served to the contestants, judges, and their families. The deadline to register is April 22, 2016. More information on registration, hotel accommodations, and sponsorship opportunities are available on the NM SWANA web page (www.nmswana.com).

Questions regarding the Road-E-O competition should be directed to Randy Watkins at 505-424-1850x130. For registration information, please contact JoAnne Weaver at 505-363-4795.

Chapter Announces Dates for 2016 Training and Certification Classes

NM SWANA will again co-sponsor the NMED solid waste facility operator training and certification classes. The next Transfer Station Operator Certification Class will be held from June 14-16, 2016 in Farmington and the Landfill Operator Certification Class will be held September 13-16, 2016 in Santa Fe. The second Transfer Station class will be held from November 15 - 17, 2016 in Deming.

Operators and other interested persons may register for these classes at http://www.nmswana.com/swana_training.htm

NM SWANA Recognizes Professional who Earned a Perfect Certification Test Score

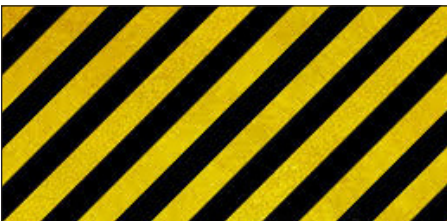
Gary Beidelman of Otero County Solid Waste earned a 100 percent score on the fall 2015 NMED Transfer Station Operator Certification Class exam. NM SWANA congratulated Gary for this achievement at its December annual meeting.



*Joan Snider, NMED/SWB,
Gary M. Beidelman –
100% Certification Exam Winner*

Gary works at the LaVelle Convenience Center as a Transfer Station Attendant/Laborer and has worked for the County since 2012. His duties include signing people into the site, directing them to the proper areas to dispose of their items, educating the public about the recycling program, and operating the backhoe to pack the roll-off boxes. He also volunteers to staff the County's recycling booth on an as-needed basis.

Gary previously worked for the City of Alamogordo in a similar capacity and also helped operate the solid waste and recycling program at Holloman Air Force Base. "We are very lucky and proud to have him as one of our employees," said Ralph Murphy, Otero County Solid Waste superintendent.



E-Session Training Event Scheduled For May 17, 2016

by Jerry Kamieniecki, Consultant

On May 17, 2016 (Tuesday), NM SWANA will hold an electronic training session (E-Session) featuring a pre-recorded webinar developed in 2015 by several SWANA members. The title of the webinar is "Assessing Exiting Post-Closure Care," and features three presenters who describe events relating to a landfill's objective to terminate Post-Closure care monitoring activities after completing the required 20-year Post-Closure (PC) care period.

The municipal solid waste (MSW) landfill featured in this webinar is owned and operated by a County in the state of Washington, and the County was given permission to close the landfill consistent with the state regulations that preceded the federal Subtitle D regulations. When landfill operations ended in 1994, closure activities were completed, and landfill representatives began discussions with the state environmental regulatory agency (Department of Ecology; DOE) to determine if there were any additional items that DOE would require more information about regarding the County's assertion that the PC care monitoring period had been completed. These discussions revealed that DOE expected the County to make a demonstration that

the landfill had "stabilized." For example, the demonstration needed to address stabilization issues including: settlement, cover integrity, leachate and landfill gas (LFG) generation, and groundwater quality results.

In addition to the value of this E-Session information, NMED/SWB has reviewed the content of this Training Session and determined that it meets the definition of "alternate training". Therefore, participants can earn two (2) credit hours (i.e., CEUs) for attendance, which can be used by Certified Operators toward the renewal of their Operator Certification. (Note: Renewal of Operator Certification requires 24 hours of approved course work within 3 years of previous Certification issuance).

This E-Session is a great opportunity to learn new skills and strategies regarding a landfill's objective to terminate its Post-Closure care period while satisfying regulatory requirements and expectations. This is also a great opportunity to network with your peers in an informal, friendly setting. To reserve your spot, simply access the NMSWANA website (www.nmswana.com) to complete and submit the Registration Form.

NM SWANA Appoints Safety Ambassador to Support SWANA's Growing Safety Program

by David Robinson, City of Albq. Solid Waste Mgmt. Dept.

SWANA International has requested that each Chapter appoint a Safety Ambassador who will help disseminate safety information to solid waste facilities in each state. The idea came from SWANA President David Biderman, who saw an opportunity to help remove the solid waste industry from the top ten fatality list, where the industry has appeared for too long. I am thrilled to take this position and will do my best to reduce fatalities and accidents at New Mexico solid waste facilities. The first step was taken on January 21, 2016 with a conference call between all Chapter Safety Ambassadors and SWANA headquarters. In the near future, I will be contacting each solid waste facility in the New Mexico to inquire about health and safety issues and their needs. I will also conduct at least one or two safety presentations at upcoming NM SWANA events. I am looking forward to making this a safer year for the solid waste industry in New Mexico.

Review of 2015 NMED Solid Waste Bureau (SWB) Permitting and Enforcement Activities

by Jerry Kamieniecki, Consultant

At NM SWANA's Annual Meeting on December 11, 2015, two representatives from the New Mexico Environment Department's (NMED's) Solid Waste Bureau (SWB) made presentations that highlighted numerous accomplishments made by the Bureau's facility permitting and enforcement sections.

The SWB's first speaker was Chuck Akeley, who manages the Bureau's Enforcement Section. Mr. Akeley informed the audience that in 2015, the number of Bureau enforcement areas that were previously established was trimmed from five to four. Mr. Akeley also reminded the audience that the Enforcement Section's Regulatory Authority is established by:

- The Solid Waste Act [NMSA 1978, 74-9-1 to 74-9-43] and the related New Mexico Solid Waste Rules [20.9.2 – 20.9.10 NMAC], and
- The Recycling and Illegal Dumping Act [NMSA 1978, 74-13-1 to 74-13-20]

and its related Rules (Recycling, Illegal Dumping and Scrap Tire Management Rule) [20.9.20 NMAC].

Formal Enforcement Actions initiated by the Enforcement Section resulted in fifteen (15) Administrative Compliance Orders or Stipulated Orders (one is pending). In 2015, a total of \$99,625 in Civil Penalties were Assessed (so far), and \$66,175 in Civil Penalties were paid/being paid (so far). Mr. Akeley added that the Enforcement Section also inspects Scrap Tire generators to verify that these businesses are managing their scrap tires consistent with the 20.9.20 NMAC Rule.

Auralie Ashley-Marx, Chief of NMED's Solid Waste Bureau, informed the audience that a Tire Recycling/Storage Facility Permit had recently been issued (12/8/16) to: Tire Storage Facility at Tijeras Cement Plant, GCC Rio Grande, Inc (GCC). This permit allows for thermal treatment of tires using excess heat from the existing Tijeras

Cement Plant. According to GCC's Permit Application, tires will be accepted for free, but the tire generator must provide or pay for tire transportation to the facility. GCC is permitted to accept up to 1.7 million tires per year for treatment.

Ms. Ashley-Marx also mentioned that the SWB's website continues to be developed and upgraded, and is a great resource of Solid Waste Facility Permitting Information. The website information includes sections that focus on: Facility Registration, Regulatory Citation Guidance for Permitted Facilities, and a Solid Waste Facility Permit Application Review checklist. Auralie added that there is a new Waste Screening and Inspection Plan Guidance Document on the website in the section titled Guidance Documents. In addition the SWB had updated two of its process flow charts, including: Updated Solid Waste Facility Pre-Application Process (12/7/15), and Solid Waste Facility Process with RAI Information Added (12/7/15).

NM SWANA's Annual Meeting a Great Success

by Jerry Kamieniecki, Consultant

On December 11, 2015, the NM Chapter of SWANA held its Annual Meeting at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Albuquerque, NM. The meeting was attended by 43 solid waste/materials management professionals, and included seven presenters that spoke on a wide variety of issues. The meeting also included a presentation by keynote speaker David Biderman, SWANA's Executive Director and CEO. In addition to the presentations, meeting attendees were provided a continental breakfast and buffet lunch.

Other articles in this newsletter that highlight presentations given at the Annual Meeting include:

- "THE STATE OF SWANA" by SWANA Executive Director and CEO David Biderman
- "Review of 2015 NMED Solid Waste Bureau (SWB) Permitting

- and Enforcement Activities" by Jerry Kamieniecki, Consultant
- "Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) Shaping Landfill Futures" by Stephen Miceli, Waste Management, Inc.



Jake Daugherty, COA/SWMD, Teresa Musial NMED/SWB, Joan Snider, NMED/SWB



Terry Nelson, Nelson Waste Consultant, LLC, JoAnne Weaver, Exec. Secretary, NM SWANA

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Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS): Shaping Landfill Futures

by Stephen Miceli, Waste Management, Inc.

It is early morning in Afghanistan. A reconnaissance drone flies quietly over a small town known to harbor Taliban operatives, gathering invaluable data and transmitting it back to the flight control center 20 miles away. The pilot is tucked safely inside the control center, flying the drone with a keyboard and mouse, a joystick controlling the high resolution camera that also has infra-red capability for seeing what the naked eye cannot. Without their knowledge of being seen, the targets are quickly acquired and verified by the stealthy eye in the sky. Within minutes, a strike team deploys and the targets are apprehended, a victory against terrorism.

So what does this have to do with Solid Waste, you ask? Well, it is the same technology that the U.S. military is using in combat that is also vastly useful in surveying and construction. In the solid waste industry, it can be a huge asset to landfill surveying. We all know that landfill airspace equates to capacity, which, in turn, equates to \$\$\$\$\$. Surveying a landfill's topography on a regular basis is key to determining compaction rates, calculating landfill site life, planning fill sequence and cell development, and identifying overfills. Most landfills currently use ground surveys, or expensive aerial surveys using a piloted aircraft. A drone survey may just blow away ground and piloted aerial surveys in terms of cost and accuracy.

A ground survey is a tedious process that can take days to complete by a professional survey team. Aerial surveys in piloted aircraft are much quicker, but also very costly due to the need for a licensed pilot, and aircraft and fuel costs. In comparison, a drone survey can be accomplished quickly, usually within a day, and the cost of the drone and fuel is significantly less than a piloted aircraft. Compared to a traditional ground survey,

a drone survey will cost about six times less to complete. Considering budget restraints that all landfills deal with in today's economy, a drone survey is likely to garner a huge cost savings, while achieving the same or better result.

So what exactly is a drone? A drone, also known as an unmanned aerial system (UAS), is essentially an aircraft without a human pilot onboard. A drone can be controlled remotely by an operator on the ground, or autonomously through pre-programmed instructions in onboard computers. Operators communicate with the drone via radio transceivers or via satellite. Drones vary in size from large military attack and reconnaissance drones such as the MQ-1 Predator, to small rotary-wing or fixed wing drones that you can buy at a local hobby store. For landfill survey purposes, we will discuss hand-launched drones with a wingspan of about 100 cm, or rotary-wing (helicopter type) drones of roughly the same size.

In terms of accuracy, a drone can achieve greater precision because it can fly closer to the ground, achieving higher resolutions. It can also use the same accelerometers and gyroscopes used to control the drone for keeping the camera steady and on-target. In general, drone surveys can achieve map and elevation accuracy of about 5 cm compared to manned aerial surveys that can achieve an accuracy of about 10 cm. Combined with the latest mapping software, the survey results are astoundingly accurate and can provide any product your engineers would need for landfill planning and design, to include aerial imagery, topographic maps, digital elevation models, and orthomosaics.

The use of drones in surveying and mapping applications is increasing drastically. There are more and more traditional survey companies establishing

drone surveying capabilities, as well as new businesses starting all over the globe that specialize in drone surveying. A quick internet search will give you numerous options for setting up a drone survey in your area. It is important to ensure that your drone surveyor has a Certificate of Authorization from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and must have their UAS registered with the FAA.

Proper surveying of landfills is a key component of effective planning and design, efficient operation, and regulatory compliance. Drone surveys can be an inexpensive and effective method to give landfill managers the tools to successfully manage their landfill operation.



*Meeting attendee, Derek R. Bohannan,
Owner, Volo Pervidi*



*David Biderman, SWANA President and
Executive Director, Derek R. Bohannan,
Owner, Volo Pervidi*

NM SWANA Holds Strategic Planning Meeting

Terry Nelson, Nelson Waste Consultant LLC,
and NM SWANA's Strategic Initiative Coordinator

On October 23, 2015 the NM SWANA Board of Directors and invited guests held an all-day strategic planning meeting at the City of Albuquerque's Open Space Visitor Center. In the conference room, attendees participated in an open discussion focusing on improving the outreach and impact of NM SWANA on the solid waste/materials management industry in New Mexico. Early on in the discussion, the group agreed to update the Chapter's Mission Statement, which now reads:

- To inspire and support solid waste professionals to responsibly manage solid waste resources. Additional discussion motivated the group to identify its Core Values, such as:
- Professionalism: to treat each other, our clients and partners and the environment with respect, reliability and competence.
- Stewardship: To ensure that our programs and actions promote and enhance health and safety and responsible care for the environment.

Our overall strategic initiative was to try to identify and develop training programs to meet the needs of solid waste professionals in New Mexico. This is to be

accomplished by searching out potential funding options (including grants); updating existing training classes and adding new training classes as determined by industry requests and NMED Solid Waste Bureau determinations; expanding training venues and delivery options to include regional sessions, web based training and other electronic delivery methods; and marketing initiatives to include telephone contact with solid waste professionals to try to better understand their training needs and response to various training delivery options. Two additional initiatives discussed were developing an accessible information resource base to help manage solid waste resources and to explore additional options for partnering with other similar or related organizations.

NM SWANA has already partnered with New Mexico Recycling Coalition (NMRC) to hold a joint conference every two years. Any input or suggestions from the New Mexico solid waste/materials management industry for NM SWANA to consider would be appreciated. Please contact the NMSWANA.com website to provide any input or contact me directly via e-mail at: nls306@aol.com.

Annual Meeting a Great Success

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- "NM SWANA Training Awards" by Joan Snider, NMED Solid Waste Bureau

Leading off the speakers was Chapter President David Robinson, who was completing the final year of his 2-year term as President. David noted that the

Chapter continued to assist the NMED/Solid Waste Bureau to provide Certified Operator training classes for both Landfill

Operators and Transfer Station Operators (two classes per certification type).

In addition, David mentioned that in April 2016, the Chapter hosted a Regional Round Table meeting for its members and other interested parties.

Also, the Chapter offered two electronic training (E-Session) events. Each of these additional events was offered for free. Electronic copies of six of the seven

Summary of April 12, 2016 Regional Roundtable Meeting

by Danita Boettner, Santa Fe
Solid Waste Mgmt Agency

The Roadrunner Chapter of SWANA hosted a Regional Roundtable Meeting on Tuesday, April 12, 2016. The meeting was held at the Nancy Rodriguez Community Center in Santa Fe.

Thirty-two (32) people attended the Meeting, which consisted of a short presentation by Shirlene Sitton, Director of Environmental Services for the City of Santa Fe; a brief question and answer period; lunch; and an interactive discussion among the attendees. Ms. Sitton described the services currently being provided by the City of Santa Fe for collection and management of both municipal solid waste and recyclables. In addition, she outlined collection program changes and capital purchases that are being implemented to expand the program while increasing efficiencies.

After lunch, the group re-convened and discussed topics related to the presentation, as well as other solid waste issues chosen by the attendees.

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Annual Meeting presentations can be viewed on the Chapter's website (www.nmswana.com) at the "2015 Annual Meeting Presentations" tab.

The State of SWANA International

by Jerry Kamieniecki, Consultant

The Chapter's Annual Meeting on December 7, 2015 featured a presentation by Mr. David Biderman, SWANA's Executive Director and CEO. Mr. Biderman's presentation was titled "The State of SWANA International", and he described SWANA's vision and plans to accomplish a number of short-term initiatives.

Mr. Biderman is a veteran of the solid waste industry, having worked for the National Solid Waste Management Association (NSWMA) for eighteen (18) years. Mr. Biderman noted that SWANA will be focusing on collaborations with other organizations to develop training and certification materials. For example, Mr. Biderman mentioned that SWANA would like to develop a Zero Waste training and certification program.

Mr. Biderman also updated the audience on SWANA's emerging Affinity Program. This program, still in development, would consist of a partnership with a pre-screened company that would make the SWANA brand more visible while also generating revenue for SWANA. For practical purposes, SWANA would sell select membership information to a company and be compensated for those sales. SWANA members would have the choice to opt-out of this Program if they didn't want to participate.

Mr. Biderman mentioned that the SWANA Board approved a New Strategic Plan in March 2015. The Plan recognizes changes in the industry, the Association, and the needs of its members. SWANA's main purpose continues to be "to advance the responsible management of solid waste as a resource." Accomplishing this purpose will be achieved by following SWANA's core values, including: (1) Education – training/certification/research, (2) Advocacy – policy makers & media, (3) Collaboration – networking and partnerships, and (4) Respect – encourage diverse ideas & opinions.

Over the past year, SWANA has become a more visible and effective advocate for its members and the waste industry. Recently, SWANA met with EPA regarding recycling and landfill research issues, and met with OSHA to discuss safety issues concerning temporary workers.

Mr. Biderman emphasized that the "new" SWANA will focus on improving safety in the industry. He noted that the federal government recently reported that collection workers have the 5th highest fatality rate in the country. Furthermore, Mr. Biderman added that injury and accident rates in the waste industry are also high.

SWANA is responding to these issues by expanding its Safety Program to include priority information distribution, and offering specialty symposia, including:

- (1) Safety Monday – weekly safety alerts,
- (2) Safety Matters – new monthly newsletter,
- (3) WASTECON Safety Summit – 6 sessions
- (4) Safety Webinar,
- (5) Fatality Information distributed to Chapters,
- (6) Slow Down to Get Around Information Campaign, and
- (7) Having each Chapter designate a Safety Ambassador to prioritize safety communications with SWANA members.

Also, SWANA has developed a new webpage titled Safety Matters (www.swana.org/safety.aspx), which serves as an online resource portal in a central place for SWANA members and others to use. Safety Matters features the latest in safety news, important safety materials and upcoming safety events. Included on the webpage is information about each of SWANA's new safety initiatives – including the Safety Ambassador program and Slow Down to Get Around decal distribution – and direct links to outside resources.

The Safety Matters webpage is yet another example of SWANA's growing focus on and commitment to safety. The webpage will continue to grow and expand in the coming months as additional safety initiatives and resources are added.

SWANA has become an important and trusted voice concerning challenges associated with recycling in this country. The Association continues to believe that solid waste management, including recycling, is an essential public service. The primary objective of this service includes protecting public health and the environment. In addition, SWANA believes that local governments should decide how these services are provided, and that these services should not be dependent on private sector profits. Also, recycling, as an essential component of solid waste management, provides jobs, reduces green house gas (GHG) emissions, and preserves landfill space.

Finally, Mr. Biderman reinforced that SWANA will continue to emphasize that waste is a resource, and that responsible waste management also includes supporting diversion, recycling and energy generation from waste. Mr. Biderman closed his presentation by noting that SWANA will become a more visible advocate for the waste management and recycling sectors.