



# Let's Talk Trash

November 2019 Edition

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**ROADRUNNER CHAPTER**

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## Matthew Kingsley, Senior Project Manager, Parkhill, Smith & Cooper and New Board Member of the SWANA Roadrunner Chapter of New Mexico

**W**e are welcoming Matt as the newest board member of the NM SWANA Roadrunner Chapter and he is already active as Chair of the Communication Committee.

Matt's first exposure to SWANA was in Pennsylvania and he will never forget how impressed he was with the caliber, intelligence and work ethic of the members. He was able to absorb a significant amount of industry knowledge, experience and expertise as a part of the local SWANA chapter. This allowed him to become an important leader within his own organization, as well as earn credibility and respect from the regulatory community. Being an involved member of SWANA was central to the success of his career.

### IN MATT'S OWN WORDS— THIS IS HIS STORY!

I was born in Aurora, Illinois and grew up in the West Suburbs of Chicago, Illinois. After High School, I graduated from Valparaiso University in four years and much to the pleasure of his parents I graduated with very little debt. Looking back on my college education, I find that the most valuable things I learned was how to listen, how to learn and how to be accountable for myself.

As a young Civil Engineer I was encouraged by my parents between school years to find a summer job that was relevant to my career. As I did not have



a vehicle, I used the map in the yellow pages to find engineering firms that were within a few miles of my house that could be reached with a bicycle. I was lucky to find an environmental engineering firm within a few miles of my home and was hired almost on the spot for a summer job. This was followed by immediate and continuous work at municipal solid waste landfills in the Chicago area.

After graduation, I was hired full-time by this same firm and spent the next four years as an engineering consultant. I was then hired by Allied Waste to oversee their engineering and compliance department in the Midwest Region. I was with Allied Waste for the next sixteen years eventually working my way up to General Manager over multiple landfill, transfer station and hauling companies in the St. Louis, Philadelphia, and Phoenix markets. I have since enjoyed working for other waste companies such as Veolia, Casella Waste, and Apex Landfill in senior

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## Calling All Young Professionals

If you are not aware SWANA national has a category for professionals in the solid waste industry for people who are 35 years old and younger. They are a group of individuals who represent the future of the solid waste industry. If you qualify as a Young Professional or YP then the membership fees for you are reduced for the first three years of YP membership. These fees are: First-year membership fee of \$100 and renewal rates of:

- Year 2: \$150 for a renewing YP under the Public, Private, or Small Business sector
- Year 3: \$200 for a renewing YP under the Public, Private, or Small Business sector
- Year 4: Back to full price at the standard membership rate for the industry sector

### WHY JOIN?

Here are a few of the many benefits you'll receive by joining SWANA's Young Professional group:

- Excellent networking opportunities at events, conferences, and online
- Webinars targeted at helping you navigate the challenges of the solid waste industry
- Resources that provide you with tools and information needed to succeed in your career
- Opportunities to voice your opinion about the future of SWANA

YPs are passionate about the environment, our industry, and helping each other succeed. They are eager to offer advice, brainstorm ideas, develop solutions, and share in the struggles and triumphs of working in this business. They are energetic, motivated, committed and the next generation of SWANA.

If you are ready to join, contact either Shelby Truxon at [struxon@swana.org](mailto:struxon@swana.org) or Hailey Fitterer [Hailey.Fitterer@hdrinc.com](mailto:Hailey.Fitterer@hdrinc.com). Hailey is our Region 1 representative.

## Matthew Kingsley

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management roles. And I now enjoy working again as a consultant for Parkhill, Smith & Cooper.

I thoroughly enjoy my family and adapting my life lessons to help them learn about life. I also enjoy playing guitar, fixing everything that my wife and children break, and anything to do with responsibly chain sawing trees, milling my own lumber, and working with wood.

My wife and I have three adult daughters Kylie, Kasey and Alexis one adult son Kirby and one son Gunnar in high school. We very recently were delighted with our first grandchild Eleanor.

## Blue Ridge Training DVDs Now Available

According to the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA), most of a landfill's cost is spent on operations. This holds true for other types of waste facilities as well, where individual operations can represent well over 80% of annual costs. National polls indicate that 70% of waste facility managers think their operation is inefficient – mostly as a result of doing the same thing – in the same way – for the past 30 years.

- If 70% of managers think their operations are inefficient...
- If most operational inefficiencies result from facilities doing the same thing they've done for the past 30 years...
- And if operations account for most of a facility's cost...
- Where do you think you'll find the most opportunity to increase efficiency and reduce costs?

Therefore the NM SWANA Roadrunner Chapter is announcing a new opportunity for New Mexico facilities to upgrade their training for their staffs. We have purchased 21 Blue Ridge Training DVD's to loan you for training your staff right in your facility. You may borrow any one of these titles listed below for a two-week period. The titles are as follows:

1. Backing Safety – Landfill Safety Training
2. Bloodborne Pathogens – Transfer Station Safety Training
3. Compactor Safety – Landfill Safety Training
4. Confined Spaces, Hazardous Conditions – Landfill Safety Training
5. Dealing With Unruly Customers
6. Dozer Safety, General – Landfill Safety Training
7. Emergency Response – Controlling Landfill Fires
8. Emergency Response – Hazardous Materials
9. Equipment Safety, General – Landfill Safety Training
10. Handling Difficult Loads
11. Leachate Management & Handling
12. Lightning Safety
13. Lockout Tag-Out
14. Machine Maintenance
15. Methamphetamine – Lab Waste
16. PPE-Eye Protection
17. Scraper Safety
18. Slips, Trips & Falls
19. Slope Stability, Excavation Slopes
20. Traffic Safety, Road Design
21. Water Truck Safety

Go to <http://www.nmswana.com/blue-ridge-training-dvds/> to order your training DVDs.

## Student Scholarships Available for 2020

by Marcia Pincus, SCS Engineers

In order to prepare the next generation for the environmentally and economically sound practice of solid waste, SWANA has developed several scholarship and internship programs for students studying in fields related to solid waste management. Do you have a child or grandchild who is interested in pursuing a career in solid waste? There are three different types of scholarships available to SWANA members.

### GRANT H. FLINT INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

**Category I:** Graduating high school seniors or graduate equivalent certified candidates who have been accepted for enrollment in a junior college, a four-year college, or a university (any program). To be eligible, candidates must be the children or grandchildren of a SWANA Member (sponsor) in good standing as of February 1st of the 2020 calendar year.

**Category II:** Currently enrolled full-time college or university students who are entering their junior or senior undergraduate year and pursuing a degree in environmental science, engineering, or other suitable major related to the field of solid waste management. To be eligible, candidates must be the children or grandchildren of a SWANA Member (sponsor) in good standing as of May 1st of the current calendar year or SWANA Student Members in good standing.

**Scholarship Amount:** The total amount given within Category I and II will be \$20,000. The International Scholarship Committee will determine the amount of each individual award.

### THE ROBERT P. STEARNS/SCS ENGINEERS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Full-time students who are entering or are in graduate school pursuing a degree in environmental science, engineering or other suitable major related to the field of solid waste management. Eligible candidates must be sons, daughters, grandsons or granddaughters of a SWANA Member (sponsor) in good standing as of May 1st or SWANA Student Members in good standing.

**Scholarship Amount:** 1 award of \$5,000.

#### Schedule for Selection:

Participation in the International Scholarship Program begins at the Chapter level in early February 2020. Watch for further information on our website [nmswana.com](http://nmswana.com)!

## October 8th Regional Roundtable Meeting in Albuquerque

by Randy Watkins,  
Buckman Road Recycling and  
Transfer Station Manager

The NM Roadrunner Chapter of SWANA hosted a Regional Round Table Meeting on October 8 in Albuquerque, which consisted of a featured presentation, a question and answer period, lunch, and a discussion among the attendees. Twenty-eight (28) people attended the meeting. The invited speaker was David Mezzacappa, P.E., and Vice President of SCS Engineers, from Bedford, Texas. The topic was the “New EPA’s NSPS and NMED Air Quality Rules.”

Mr. Mezzacappa discussed New Mexico emission guidelines (EG) rules for landfills. He reviewed the history of New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) since 1996, how it relates to landfills and was implemented. Mr. Mezzacappa discussed the new (2016) NSPS, or 40 CFR 60, Subpart XXX, and how it impacted landfills constructed or modified after July 17, 2014. A key provision of the rules is the reduction in the NMOC emissions threshold from 50 Mg/year to 34 Mg/year. He covered recent developments in New Mexico emission guidelines and what actions landfill operators may need to take immediately. Download the presentation at [nmswana.com/roundtable-presentations](http://nmswana.com/roundtable-presentations).

The discussion also went into detail about the steps involved in creating an Initial Design Capacity Report, Tier 1 and 2 testing and calculations, Tier 4 demonstration, a GCCS Design Plan, reporting, quarterly surface scans, and LFG treatment. Mr. Mezzacappa’s extensive knowledge and experience was appreciated by everyone attending.



## It's Time to Update Our Chapter Bylaws

by Charles W. Fiedler, Gordon Environmental/PSC

**W**ith the recent adoption of new bylaws by SWANA, our Chapter has been looking at the changes we need to make in the Chapter bylaws to align with the Association.

During our Board retreat this summer we made an initial evaluation of these changes and have recently completed proposed bylaws for consideration by the Chapter membership. You can review these proposed changes at [http://www.nmswana.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/NMSWANABylaws\\_rev2019\\_102519-FINAL.pdf](http://www.nmswana.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/NMSWANABylaws_rev2019_102519-FINAL.pdf).

Please contact any of your Board members (contact information at [nmswana.com/chapter-info](http://nmswana.com/chapter-info)) with questions you may have regarding these changes. We will be voting on these bylaws at our annual meeting on December 6th and would appreciate your participation to ensure all voices are heard.

### 2019 NM SWANA Roadrunner Chapter Annual Meeting & Regional Roundtable

**WHEN:**

**Friday, December 6, 2019**

**COST:**

**\$50**

**(Covers breakfast, coffee breaks, lunch**

**and the Regional Roundtable)**

**\$250.00 – Sponsor's Tables**

**(Includes Annual Meeting Fee)**

**WHERE:**

**Embassy Suites Hotel – La Ventaña Room**

**1000 Woodward Place NE**

**Albuquerque, NM 87102**

**(505) 245-7100**

**THEME:**

**Establishing a Culture of Safety**

**EARN CEUs**

**Annual Meeting: 4 CEUs**

**Regional Roundtable: 2 CEUs**

**AGENDA:**

**7:30am, Registration**

**and Continental Breakfast**

**8:00 – 11:45am, Presentations**

**12:00 – 1:00pm, Buffet Lunch**

**1:00 – 3:00pm, Regional Roundtable**

**REGISTER NOW:**

**[nmswana.com/event/2019-annual-meeting-regional-roundtable](http://nmswana.com/event/2019-annual-meeting-regional-roundtable)**

**Questions:**

**Contact JoAnne Weaver,**

**Executive Secretary**

**[jlw505nm@gmail.com](mailto:jlw505nm@gmail.com)**



**National  
Waste & Recycling  
Association**<sup>SM</sup>  
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# SAFETY MONDAY

## Preventing Inattentional Blindness

The importance of focusing on safe driving and eliminating distractions can't be stressed enough. Distractions and sensory deprivation can cause what is called "Inattentional Blindness." In these cases, even with his eyes open and focused on the road, a driver can miss what may be very obvious to others. The American Psychological Association reports that unless we pay close attention, we can miss even the most conspicuous events. For example, a driver could be keeping a close eye on the speedometer of his truck while on his route. He is likely also paying attention to the truck's rear view mirror and to oncoming traffic. But, the driver might not be prepared to react to something unexpected in the road like an animal or debris. By the time the driver notices the unexpected object on the road, it might be too late.

The driver probably thought he was doing all the right things by paying attention to mirrors, speed and activity in front of him but, even when our eyes are open we aren't always seeing everything around us if we aren't paying attention and preparing ourselves for the unexpected. Always be prepared to react quickly to something that happens out of nowhere like an animal walking out in front of you or debris falling off a vehicle near you. Your brain and eyes have to be sharp to make safe decisions in these risky situations.

Avoid inattentional blindness by:

- Cutting out distractions when driving such as your cell phone, radio and anything else that might make your mind and eyes stray from road activity around you.
- Try to keep your mind clear and focused. At the same time, get good rest. Stress and tiredness can impact your brain's ability to quickly process information and react rapidly.
- Slow down and be deliberate in your actions.

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