Planning for the WASTECON / ISWA 2017 conference is underway. Our Chapter is very fortunate to be hosting this international conference! The event will include around 3,000 attendees from all over the world and there will be great range of presentations and exhibits. We have had great success in forming our committees and have many enthusiastic volunteers to help on those committees.

Please see list and contact names below if you are interested in joining a committee:

**Planning Co-Chairs**
- Kristyn Oldendorf  kristyn.oldendorf@baltimorecity.gov  410-396-1960
- Mark Gutberlet  mgutberlet@eaest.com  410-329-5135
- Dana Murray  dmurray@scsengineers.com  571-353-2020

**Technical Tours**
- Laura Oakes  loakes@eaest.com  410-584-7000

**Tuesday Night Networking Event**
- Robin Roddy  rmr@dswa.com  302-764-5385
- Lynsey Kocenko  lbk@dswa.com  302-284-8851

**Golf Outing**
- Tom Ramsey  tramsey@Geosyntec.com  410-381-4333

**Technical Session Proctors**
- Niti Blackwell  nblackwell@howardcountymd.gov  410-313-6418

**Publicity**
- Steve Lippy  s.lippy@verizon.net  410-296-9150

The priority right now is promotion and finding sponsors. See article by Steve Lippy regarding promotion. Looking forward to seeing everyone at WASTECON / ISWA World Congress in September!
Technical Abstract Reviewers Needed

By: Niti Blackwell, P.E.
Howard County, MD

One of the benefits of our chapter hosting the 2017 WASTECON / ISWA World Congress is that our members can participate in the selection of speakers by reviewing abstracts.

The theme of this year’s conference is “No Time to Waste!”

All submissions are reviewed and evaluated by committee members, from both SWANA and ISWA, who represent specific industry disciplines that are aligned with the proposal categories.

You can volunteer to be a part of one or more of the following review committees:

- Landfill Management
- Waste-to-Energy
- Planning and Management
- Sustainable Materials Management
- Collection and Transfer
- Communication, Education and Marketing
- Landfill Gas and Biogas

SWANA will hold a training webinar for reviewers. Volunteers will need to be available during the last two weeks of February to perform the reviews. The number of reviews will depend on the number of submissions received.

If you are interested, please reach out to Niti Blackwell by email at nblackwell@howardcountymd.gov as soon as possible. Please include your name, email address and telephone number. Also, please specify the review committee(s) you are interested in joining. You do not have to volunteer to review under the technical division to which you belong.
SWANA

No current advocacy actions

FEDERAL - EPA

No updates related to solid waste

FEDERAL - OSHA

OSHA has released a final rule focused on fall protection that updates standards on walking-working surfaces and on personal protection equipment standards. The rule took effect on January 17, 2017 and is expected to affect an estimated 112 million workers. Because this rule covers a wide range of employers it is expected to affect the waste industry as well.

FEDERAL - FMCSA

New training standards for entry-level truck operators have been finalized by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) and will become effective on February 7, 2020. The rule officially becomes law February 6, 2017, allowing a three-year grace period for carriers, trainers and others to prepare for the February 2020 compliance date. The rule does not affect CDL holders who receive their CDL before the February 7, 2020, compliance date.

Like other sectors, the waste industry is already experiencing effects of the national truck driver shortage through service interruptions and hiring challenges. A new FMCSA rule published in October 2106 that will make it easier for veterans to obtain their CDLs is seen as one solution. This final rule extends the period of time for applying for a skills test waiver from 90 days to one year after leaving a military position requiring the operation of a Commercial Motor Vehicle.

STATE - MARYLAND (MDE)

February 2 – The Maryland Recycling Network (MRN) hosted a free webinar presented by Dave Mrgich, Chief of MDE’s Waste Diversion Division, discussing the Maryland Recycling Act. The presentation covered major provisions of the act, amendments and complimentary legislation (e.g. Electronics Recycling Program, 2013 Composting Bill, etc.), regulations, key metrics and results to date.

STATE - MARYLAND (Legislative)

The Legislative Session began on January 11 and will run until April 11.

HB 0124 - Solid Waste and Recycling Facilities
Requiring the Department of the Environment to adopt specified regulations relating to recycling facilities, including conditions for specified permit exemptions; providing that specified enforcement provisions apply to specified violations; requiring the Department to convene and consult with a workgroup of affected stakeholders in developing specified regulations; and requiring the workgroup to include representatives of specified entities.

SB 0099 - Yard Waste and Food Residuals Diversion and Infrastructure - Study
Requiring the Department of the Environment, in consultation with specified persons, to study, review, explore, identify, and make recommendations regarding specified matters that relate to the diversion of yard waste and food residuals from refuse disposal facilities, including specified infrastructure; requiring the Department to provide an interim report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before July 1, 2018 and to report its final findings and recommendations by July 1, 2019; etc.

Legislative Update continues on page 4
SB 0168 - Maryland Paint Stewardship Program
Requiring specified producers or a representative organization to submit a plan for the establishment of a Paint Stewardship Program to the Department of the Environment on or before January 1, 2018, and in accordance with specified requirements; requiring the Department to review and approve specified plans, including a specified assessment, submitted in accordance with the Paint Stewardship Program; prohibiting the sale of specified architectural paint under specified circumstances beginning July 1, 2018; etc.

SB 0174 - Clean Energy Production - Qualified Energy Resources (Maryland Clean Energy Incentive Act)
Altering the definition of "qualified energy resources" to mean wind, solar energy, or marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy that may be used to produce energy that qualifies for the clean energy production income tax credit.

SB 0186 - Polystyrene Food Service Products and Polystyrene Loose Fill Packaging - Prohibition on Sale
Prohibiting a person from selling in the State specified expanded polystyrene food service products or expanded polystyrene loose fill packaging on or after January 1, 2018; prohibiting specified food service businesses from selling or providing food in specified expanded polystyrene food service products on or after January 1, 2018; authorizing a county health department to impose specified penalties for violations of the Act; requiring a county health department to notify the Department of specified violations; etc.

STATE – DELAWARE (DNREC)
The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) is in the process of finalizing Universal Recycling Regulations. The purpose of the Universal Recycling Regulations are to ensure: proper programs and collection services for recyclable materials are implemented, maintained, and consistent with 7 Del C.Ch. 60 Subchapter III; the collected recycled materials are diverted from landfill disposal; the recyclable materials are otherwise properly processed and enter the marketplace; recycling in Delaware can be effectively measured; and that waste diversion is maximized through the reduction of solid waste deposited in Delaware landfills.

STATE – DELAWARE (Legislative)
General Assembly is in session. The Legislative Session began on January 10 and will run until June 30. There is currently no active legislation related to solid waste.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (Legislative)
There is currently no regulatory or legislative updates related to solid waste.

News Updates
On November 29, 2016, Delaware Governor Jack Markell and DNREC Secretary David Small were joined by Delaware Recycling Public Advisory Council (RPAC) Chair B.J. Vinton to announce $714,076 in recycling assistance grants to schools, businesses and municipalities for projects that develop or expand waste reduction, reuse or recycling activities. DNREC’s Recycling Assistance Grant Program is marking its sixth year as a competitive, matching grant program. The program encourages recipients to provide at least 25 percent of the total project cost in either cash or in-kind services. Since the grant program’s inception, 112 grants, totaling more than $8.5 million, have been awarded to bolster recycling activities in the state.

On December 4, 2016, a second trash collecting water wheel, named Professor Trash Wheel, was put in operation at the Harris Creek Park in Canton to help clean up the Baltimore Harbor. Her predecessor, Mr. Trash Wheel, was installed in Jones Falls in May 2014 and has since collected over 1 million pounds of trash. It is intended that Professor Trash Wheel will have the same effect on both consumers and the environment as her predecessor, and her position as a "woman in waste" will hopefully have an influence on young girls to become interested in waste-related fields. Inspired by Baltimore’s Mr. Trash Wheel, officials in Newport Beach, CA are studying the potential of putting their own trash-collecting barge in Upper Newport Bay, as reported by the Los Angeles Times.

On January 3, 2017, Governor Larry Hogan announced key elements of the administration’s environmental agenda for the 2017 legislative session, which includes targeted investments and market-based solutions to protect and preserve Maryland’s environment and natural resources. The governor’s 2017 Environmental Package includes initiatives to grow jobs in green industries, promote the use of electric vehicles, invest in renewable energy innovations, and promote clean water commerce. In total, the proposals outlined by Governor Hogan represent nearly $65 million of investment in Maryland’s environment.

On January 10, 2017, The District of Columbia Department of Public Works announced the release of the District’s Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 & 2016 Solid Waste Diversion Progress Report. The purpose of the Annual Waste Diversion Update is to provide District residents, businesses, the Mayor, and Council a report on waste diversion programs and initiatives underway in the District as well as data on the District’s waste generation and diversion rates.
The SWANA Mid-Atlantic Chapter is a believer in supporting the higher education goals of today’s youth. The Chapter offers college scholarships to eligible students working toward undergraduate or graduate college degrees. In addition, the Chapter will submit the application of the most qualified, eligible candidate for the Grant H. Flint Scholarship Awards Program administered by SWANA International.

A candidate must be sponsored by a Mid-Atlantic Chapter member, or shall be a Mid-Atlantic Chapter Student Member, in good standing at the time of application, selection, and award. Because an applicant does not have to be related to a member, please circulate these scholarship links to others who are not SWANA members, e.g., those in your office or field locations, as well as those in the solid waste field who work for your agency (such as contract trash and recycling owners and employees), solid waste vendors, your high school or college (to post on their scholarship websites), etc.

For additional information regarding scholarship eligibility criteria, please visit the Scholarship Eligibility Criteria page on the Chapter website.

Instruction & Application Forms:
Category I - (PDF / Word)
Category IA - (PDF / Word)
Category II - (PDF / Word)
Category III - (PDF / Word)

The Chapter is currently looking for an organization to sponsor the highest scoring candidate. The sponsor could be any organization and can suggest a name to be given to the award. The Chapter will accept an annual sponsorship of either $500, $1,000, $1,500 or $2,000.

For additional information on the Mid-Atlantic Chapter’s Scholarship Program, or if you have problems downloading any of the documents, please contact Mehal Trivedi at 301-600-3043 or mtrivedi@frederickcountymd.gov.

Please refer to the Chapter website for any Scholarship updates: http://swana-midatl.org/scholarship_info.htm.

The deadline to apply for scholarships is May 1, 2017.
Reminders / Wanted

- “Reporters”/writers for our Chapter newsletter.
- Training the Trainers: Contact a Board member if interested in being trained to be a trainer for a SWANA course.
- SWANA Web Sessions: If your organization presents web sessions, make them a Chapter event so that all attendees can get CEU’s. Contact Steve Lippy, Dana Murray or Shirl Wright.
- Job Vacancies in your Organization: Contact swright@nmwda.org for inclusion in our Chapter newsletter and website.
- Articles, information, recent/on-going projects of interest, active purchase orders, etc.: Contact swright@nmwda.org to be placed in our Chapter newsletter.
- Scholarship Sponsors: The Chapter is currently looking for an organization to sponsor the highest scoring candidate. The sponsor could be any organization and can suggest a name to be given to the award. The Chapter will accept an annual sponsorship of either $500, $1,000, $1,500 or $2,000. Please contact Steve Lippy or Mehal Trivedi.
- Name(s) of Prospective SWANA Members: Contact either our Chapter Membership Chair, Deji Fawole dfawole@scsengineers.com or direct the prospective member to our Chapter website [www.swana-midatl.org](http://www.swana-midatl.org) or SWANA’s website [www.swana.org](http://www.swana.org).
- Newsletter Ads: These are business card size ads only (2” x 3.5”); $100 for 4 issues. Send your ad in a JPG or PDF file to swright@nmwda.org. Please make check payable to: Mid-Atlantic Chapter of SWANA and mail to the attention of Shirl Wright at NMWDA, 100 S. Charles Street, Tower II - Suite 402, Baltimore, MD 21201-2705.
- American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists: If you are an environmental engineer or environmental scientist, you are eligible to become a member or to be certified in solid waste management by the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists. See [www.swana-midatl.org](http://www.swana-midatl.org) or [www.aaees.org](http://www.aaees.org).

2017 Scholarships
Application Deadline is May 1st

Visit Chapter Website for more info. [www.swana-midatl.org](http://www.swana-midatl.org)

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**SWANA Guiding Principle:**

“Local government is responsible for municipal solid waste management, but not necessarily the ownership and/or operation of municipal solid waste management systems.”