

SWANA Mid-Atlantic Chapter's Operator of the Year Award 2003

Mr. Louis Gross, Sr., a truck driver for the Calvert County, Maryland, Division of Solid Waste, was honored at the Chapter's annual meeting and technical seminar this past September with the presentation of the Operator of the Year Award.

Congratulations, Louis!



WASTECON 2003 Awards Luncheon Mid-Atlantic Honors

At WASTECON 2003, several SWANA Mid-Atlantic Chapter members/organizations were recognized:

Anne Germain, Delaware Solid Waste Authority – for service as the Landfill Management Division Director

Newland Park Landfill, Department of Public Works, Salisbury, Maryland – Bronze Award for Landfill Management Excellence

Shady Grove Transfer Station Montgomery County Department of Public Works and Transportation, Derwood, Maryland – Silver Award for Transfer Station Excellence

In addition to these awards, two Mid-Atlantic members were presented with individual achievement awards:

Lanny Hickman, "Solid Waste Guru" – Professional Achievement Award for Life Member

N.C. Vasuki, CEO & General Manager, Delaware Solid Waste Authority – Robert Lawrence Lecturer Award

Congratulations!

Upcoming Events (Mark Your Calendars!)

- ◆ January 22, 2004—Board Meeting (10 am—12 pm) with tour of Harford County's Waste-to-Energy Facility *
- ◆ March 24, 2004—Board Meeting (10 am—12 pm) with medical waste tour at Johns Hopkins University *
- ◆ April 16, 2004—Technical Seminar
- ◆ May 7, 2004—Rodeo & Exhibits for Mid-Atlantic & Keystone Chapters (to be held in Harford County)
- ◆ May 26, 2004—Board Meeting (10 am—12 pm) @ Howard County Offices
- ◆ June 5, 2004—Crab Feast
- ◆ July 28, 2004—Board Meeting (10 am—12 pm) with tour of DC transfer Stations *
- ◆ September 10, 2004—Annual Meeting

* Please note that lunch and a tour will be included with these board meetings, which are open to Chapter members and associates.

Registration information will be provided at a later date.

Upcoming Procurements

◆ Construction of Two Transfer Stations in Delaware

The Delaware Solid Waste Authority (DSWA) is planning to put out a request for bids in February 2004 for the construction of two new transfer stations; one in Milford and the other in Long Neck.

Interested parties may contact Drew Sammons at the DSWA at 302-739-5361 or ars@dswa.com.

◆ Design/Build of Maintenance Building

A request for bids for the design/build of a new maintenance building at the Southern Solid Waste Management Center (SSWMC) will be issued in December or January.

For more information, please contact Lynsey Kocenko at 302-739-5361 or lbk@dswa.com.

◆ Transfer Station Construction Improvements

The Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority (NMWDA) plans to issue a request for proposals for construction services for improvements to the City of Baltimore's Northwest Transfer Station.

Interested parties may contact Laura Thomson at the NMWDA at 410-333-2730 or lthomson@nmwda.org.



SWANA
SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
of North America

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SOLID WASTE NEWS For Waste Professionals

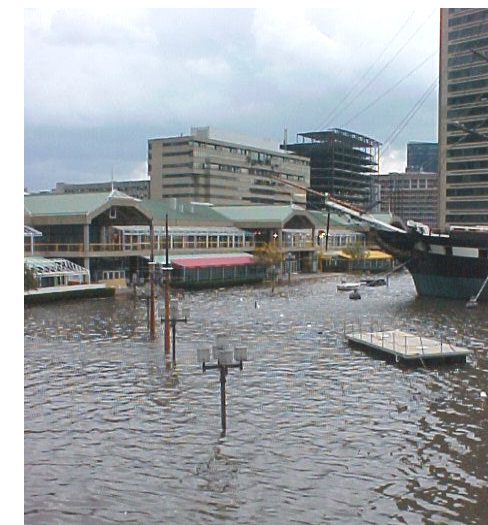
November 25, 2003

TROPICAL STORM 2003: A Look at the Aftermath in Maryland

By John O'Hara

While Maryland was able to avoid a direct hit by Hurricane Isabel, the tropical storm which did sideswipe Maryland nevertheless severely taxed many County and City solid waste management systems. Before making landfall, Isabel packed winds exceeding 90 mph, and was projected to move up the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. Solid waste managers in jurisdictions throughout central and southern Maryland anticipated that they would be handling large quantities of demolition debris resulting from wind damage. But Isabel weakened and tracked further west, minimizing wind damage and the resulting waste quantities. However, most jurisdictions in the State still found themselves inundated with natural wood waste - tree limbs (and whole trees) brought down by sustained 40 mph winds which gusted as high as 70 mph in some areas. As might be expected, the larger more developed Counties have received the highest quantities of wood waste. Through October 15, Anne Arundel County collected or received through direct deliveries to the Millersville Landfill over 10,800 tons of wood waste. Jurisdictions bordering the bay faced another major challenge. Despite Isabel's downgraded status and weakened winds, the tidal surge was severe, and exceeded normal levels by as much as 7 feet in some areas. Flood damage to low lying communities along the Bay and its tidal tributaries was substantial, and large

amounts of debris resulting from water damage were generated. As might be expected, flood damage included furniture, carpet, and other personal belongings. In the worst cases, some homes and businesses were so extensively damaged that they were condemned and will require demolition. Shorefront property owners were faced with disposing of washed up debris including portions of destroyed piers and floating heating oil tanks. Dislodged heating oil and other above ground fuel tanks created another solid waste problem. Higher than normal quantities of excavated soil contaminated by leaking tanks required disposal. In response to this need, MDE authorized the use of oil contaminated soil as daily landfill cover for lined cells. (continued on page 2)



Baltimore's Harborplace

Tropical Storm 2003

(continued from page 1)

Anticipating the demands which would be placed on local solid waste facilities, MDE issued a blanket approval on September 16, prior to Isabel's arrival, allowing solid waste facilities to remain open for extended hours during the following weekend. On September 23, MDE extended this authorization through September 30. Many local facilities took advantage of this authorization, staying open from early morning until 6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., 7 days a week for 2 to 3 weeks after the storm. Some facilities waived tip fees which would have otherwise been charged for storm related debris delivered by residents or their contractors. Fortunately, solid waste facilities survived the storm with only minor damage to recently stabilized areas. Temporary power failures affected some facilities, such as Baltimore County's Western Acceptance Facility.

Jurisdictions implemented a variety of emergency measures for waste collection and disposal. Anne Arundel County temporarily suspended regular community clean up and bulk item collections to concentrate on operating 22 roll off container drop off sites located throughout the County. Baltimore County established 5 debris drop off sites, primarily in the southeastern portion of the County, to support debris removal from flood impacted areas. In cases where residents had already contracted with a private hauler to remove debris, the County established a procedure to reimburse those homeowners for the rental of a roll off container. Harford County, which had planned prior to Isabel to close several waste drop off sites, decided to temporarily leave those sites open to receive storm debris. Highways operations in several jurisdictions were pressed into service to remove wood waste and other debris brought to the road right of way by County residents. Collected waste was delivered to temporary staging areas, including County maintenance yards, where it could be segregated by type to facilitate recycling, including natural wood waste and metal. In Howard County, wood waste was chipped and offered to the homeowner by Highways personnel at the point of collection.

Grinding of stockpiled wood waste for recycling, which generally requires the use of high capacity tub grinders, is the preferred management option. However, given the huge quantities generated over a short time period, this approach requires the long-term storage of large quantities of unprocessed wood waste. For jurisdictions which own a tub grinder, greatly increased personnel, fuel, and repair costs will be incurred to process the backlog. Jurisdictions relying on contract services will likewise realize substantial processing costs. As might be expected, the market for wood chips and mulch is now saturated with supply outstripping demand and driving down prices. Several eastern shore and southern Maryland Counties have opted for burning wood waste. Local health departments have issued burn permits for natural wood waste at generation and designated collection sites.

Some experts are predicting that the east coast will see an increased number of hurricanes as global weather patterns change. Given Isabel's impact, let's hope that they are wrong.



Pratt Street in Baltimore



BGE Crew Hard at Work



Holocaust Memorial in Baltimore

Mid-Atlantic Chapter Marks 20th Anniversary

By John O'Hara

This month marks a notable milestone for the Mid-Atlantic Chapter. It was on November 29, 1983 that the Chapter held its first Board of Directors' meeting. As SWANA has grown, so has the Mid-Atlantic Chapter. The fledgling chapter started out with 18 members from 6 counties, Baltimore City, 2 private firms and Johns Hopkins University. Compare that to a current membership of 210 representing 27 jurisdictions (counties, cities, and towns), 32 private firms, 8 organizations, and 2 universities.

It all started back in April 1983 when Lanny Hickman, the Executive Director of the Governmental Refuse Collection and Disposal Association (GRCDA), which we now know as SWANA, sent a letter to the GRCDA's at-large members in Maryland soliciting interest in forming a local chapter. Eight GRCDA members responded, and the first organizational meeting was held on June 10, 1983 at the Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center in New Carrollton. A follow-up meeting on July 7 chaired by Lanny Hickman resulted in the formation of organizational and membership committees. It was at this meeting that the decision was made to establish a mid-Atlantic chapter with geographic boundaries encompassing Maryland, Delaware, and Washington D.C. The first order of business was to prepare a chapter constitution and bylaws, and to begin a membership drive.

One more chapter formation meeting was held on October 20 after GRCDA's regional "Solid Waste '83 Expo" held at the New Carrollton Sheraton, at which the first slate of chapter officers was prepared, including: Steve Lippy, President (Baltimore County); George Winfield, Vice President (Baltimore City); and Bradley Hilton, Secretary/Treasurer (Montgomery County). Membership on the newly formed Board of Directors included George Dickens, Prince George's County; Parker Andrews, Anne Arundel County; Ellen Bogardus, SCS Engineers; and Lee Steiner, EMCON Associates.

Steve reminisced how Lanny worked to persuade the at-large members present to volunteer for officer positions in the new chapter. "People quickly volunteered to lead up committees, and take on other jobs, but no one was volunteering to be President or Vice President. I looked at George Winfield, and he looked at me, and I said 'I'll be president if you'll be vice president.'" And the rest is history, as the reluctant first president went on to become a Chapter Life Member, International Director, and most recently recipient of SWANA's Professional Achievement Award in 2002.

The Chapter was formally established at the first Board

of Directors' Meeting held on November 29 with new chapter president Steve Lippy presiding. At this meeting, the constitution, bylaws, and petition for chapter status were signed and given to Lanny Hickman. Committees were formed and the format of the first chapter technical session was decided. The new chapter was granted "provisional" status by GRCDA International Headquarters in December 1983, followed a year later with acceptance of the Chapter Constitution and Affiliation Agreement.

Board of Directors' meetings were held monthly during early 1984, as the new officers worked hard to accomplish a number of "firsts." Steve prepared and distributed a "State of the Chapter Address" in January and prepared the first Chapter newsletter in April. The Chapter's first technical meeting was held on April 19, 1984. The program was "Safety in Solid Waste - Making it Work" and was attended by over 60 people. As of May, Chapter membership had increased to 66. The Chapter held its first annual business meeting on August 10, 1984 and later that month 8 Chapter members attended GRCDA's International Convention in Orlando, Florida. It was at this convention that the Chapter's three flags (one each for Maryland, Delaware, and the District of Columbia) were presented and paraded in at the convention banquet.

The chapter is presently on a solid financial footing, but that wasn't always the case. Steve Lippy, noting his reputation as the Chapter's spending watchdog, recalled a much different time that shaped his fiscal conservatism. "In the early days of the chapter, money was tight. The dues structure was different and we had not benefited from profit sharing from a Baltimore-based WASTECON," Steve noted.

The chapter continued to grow. By mid-1985, membership had increased to 90, and attendance at the Chapter's April 1985 technical seminar in College Park on "Groundwater Protection at Sanitary Landfills" exceeded 100. Ten companies participated with vendor displays and the Chapter banner was displayed for the first time. In June of that year, the Chapter scheduled a luncheon and its first tour of a solid waste facility, the new Montgomery County Transfer Station. Numerous new programs have been implemented since those early days (the scholarship program, equipment rodeo, the Operator of the Year Award, and annual crab feast to name a few). With support and active participation of the Chapter membership, we can look forward to many more years as the region's premier organization for solid waste professionals.

