

Talking... **TRASH**

The Newsletter of the SWANA Florida Sunshine Chapter

Summer 2012

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Letter from the President

August 2012

I'd like to extend a hearty and sincere Thank you! to the organizers of this year's Summer Conference and all attendees. We had over 140 members brave the inclement weather to participate and help make our conference a great success. We had excellent representation from both the public (56) and private (85) sectors as well as over 30 exhibitors.

The conference received overwhelmingly positive reviews by the attendees, who rated the overall value of the conference with 4.5 points out of a possible five (5). We received many productive comments and suggestions that will help us to continually improve.

I'm sure everyone wants to join me in expressing appreciation to our outgoing Board Member, Ray Moreau, for his many years of service to our organization. Thank you, Ray! I'd like to congratulate our newly elected incumbent Board Members Tonja Brickhouse, Daniel R. Rodriquez, and James Becker, and to say "Congratulations and welcome back!" to Kimberly Byer as well. Although Kim is new to this Board, she has served in years past.

Last year I told you that I was committed to growing our membership, offering new and expanded services, and wisely investing our resources to provide our members with new opportunities for professional growth and technical support. I am happy to report that we have succeeded in our first goal. Our Chapter has won the 2012 SWANA award for increasing



our membership with the largest number of members. Through our hard work and efforts, we had a 9% increase in membership from FY2011. We are the largest chapter in the country with over 530 members. Congratulations to the Membership Committee!

The Board remains committed to increasing member services such as our newly expanded website, where you can now find all of the presentations from the Summer Conference. I encourage you to volunteer by joining a committee. Please get in touch with me, the Committee Chair, or Crystal Bruce. The Board needs and greatly values your input.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mitch Kessler'.

Mitch Kessler

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Landfill Gas-to-CNG Fueling Facility is Greening St. Cloud

Written by James Golden, HSA Golden and Don Wood, Team Energy, Inc.

In early 2010, enlightened City of St. Cloud leaders met with renewable energy project developer Team Energy, Inc. to discuss options for the use of the methane gas that was being vented, and sometimes flared, from their closed 32-acre MSW landfill. The City has a Green Mission Statement that pursues a sustainability strategy focusing on reducing the carbon footprint of municipal operations. Recently, the City has also been designated a certified Green Local Government by the Florida Green Building Coalition. One of the City's goals is to use alternative fuel vehicles. The Team Energy proposal to capture and use the City of St. Cloud's landfill gas (LFG) as a renewable natural gas (RNG) for use in city vehicles was a big step in this green direction.

A public-private initiative between the City of St. Cloud and Team Energy was formed in early 2011 to permit, construct, and operate a LFG to compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicle fueling facility at the City's transfer station site, located adjacent to the closed landfill. Operated from 1965 and closed in 2004, the MSW landfill is estimated to supply 400 scfm of LFG from an existing array of 29 gas vents to the CNG

conditioning plant. The environmental engineering firm HSA Golden of Orlando, Florida, is designing, permitting, and will manage construction of the project.

"Since renewable energy project funding for local governments is limited, Team Energy's ability to offer private sector funds was appealing. LFG is a dirty gas and only contains about 50



Firm Green's CO₂ Wash® module at Grove City, Ohio landfill site

percent methane (natural gas). Thus, it must be cleaned or conditioned to meet strict vehicle and natural gas pipeline standards. Firm Green (www.firmgreen.com) technology and equipment was selected as the best fit for the relatively small system. Firm Green utilizes a CO₂ Wash® process that was invented by Acion Technologies, Inc. of Ohio, to remove hydrogen sulfides, water, non-methane VOCs, siloxanes, and CO₂ from the raw, dirty, LFG. Firm Green's Ohio LFG-to-CNG fueling project was recognized by the USEPA's Landfill

Methane Outreach Program (LMOP) Project of the Year award in 2009.

CO₂ Wash® is a cryogenic distillation process that converts the CO₂ recovered from the LFG to a liquid form to wash-out the remaining impurities, eliminating the need for any additional solvents. The CO₂ Wash product is now a contaminant-free mix of about 70 percent methane and 30 percent

CO₂ that can be used to generate electricity. The system for St. Cloud will further purify the gas by membrane separation to remove the remaining CO₂ to produce RNG suitable for vehicle use or pipeline injection. The final phase of the system will compress the gas from about 100 psi to 2,400 psi at the gCNG® fueling pump. The plant will yield an estimated 2,000 gasoline gallon equivalents (GGE) [125

scf methane per gasoline gallon] of CNG per day.

The project goal is to produce CNG vehicle fuel for the City's fleet. A small budget is available within the project to convert a few of the City's light-duty trucks to run on CNG (estimated at \$12,000/truck). With the project estimated to produce over 700,000 GGE of CNG per year, an initial oversupply of CNG is anticipated, therefore creating the proverbial chicken and egg situation. Since the CNG fueling station will be the first of its kind in Osceola

County, the lack of local CNG vehicles is primarily due to lack of access to CNG fueling stations, a nationwide problem. Therefore, the excess CNG from the plant may initially be directly injected into the Florida Public Utilities natural gas pipeline that, conveniently, traverses the City's transfer station site. Once into the pipeline, the RNG can be used by other CNG fueling stations across Florida to obtain renewable energy credits or renewable identification numbers (RINs) credits if used as a transportation fuel. These RINs can be sold by the owners of the gas rights to companies that are mandated to reduce their carbon footprint.

To better utilize the plant's CNG supply, local partnerships with commercial and government transportation fleet operators, such as local school buses, are planned to be forged to fully support a local CNG fueling station in St.

Cloud. Leon County School District recently broke ground on a pipeline based CNG fueling station in Tallahassee that was born from just such a public-private partnership.

The City of St. Cloud and Team Energy may be on the forefront of LFG-to-CNG development in Florida; however, there is a robust movement of private and government trucking fleets toward CNG vehicles across the U.S. This movement to CNG vehicles is especially evident within the waste haulers market, driven by \$2.00 per GGE for CNG compared to \$4.00 per gallon for diesel (a spread that is at historic highs), greatly reduced emissions, reduced maintenance, reduced noise, and a reduced dependence upon foreign oil in favor of an American resource. Waste companies, such as Waste Management, Republic, Veolia, Waste Pro, Advanced Disposal, and Choice, as well as gov-

ernments such as the Cities of Tampa, Clearwater, Pensacola, Hollywood, North Miami, Apopka, and Ft. Lauderdale, and Volusia, Polk, Marion, and Escambia Counties have made strong commitments to CNG-fueled vehicles in Florida because it will save a fortune in diesel fuel, or because it is the "green thing" to do (or both). There are currently 31 CNG fueling stations across Florida, primarily used by fleets; a very sparse coverage at present.

The St. Cloud LFG-to-CNG system is expected to be operational by early 2013. "With about 76 closed MSW landfills in Florida, there is a sizeable untapped resource for LFG-to-CNG in the state. If similar landfills developed a CNG system like St. Cloud's, it has the conservative potential to replace 50,000,000 GGE per year," Don Wood, CEO of Team Energy stated.



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Conscientious Contracting for Recycling

Written by John Burkett, Kessler Consulting, Inc.

Procuring new recycling collection and processing services can be a long and winding road for some jurisdictions. These procurements can easily result in less-than-stellar revenues for a city or county (if any at all), emphasizing the importance of proper planning and an understanding of the local marketplace before embarking on the procurement process.

Historically, recycling processing services have typically been bundled together with collection services under a single contract. In many cases, jurisdictions received little or no revenue for the sale of their own recyclables. Now that more processing options are becoming available and new material recovery facilities (MRFs) are being built, jurisdictions are becoming savvy to the benefits of procuring their recycling processing services separate from collection. After all, recyclables are commodities that have a value when marketed, and local governments should be sharing in that revenue. In addition, separate contracts enhance hauling competition by creating a level playing field for all haulers to bid, whether or not they own processing facilities.

To create mutual benefit for all parties, recycling revenues should be "shared" between the processor and the jurisdiction, and the value of these recyclables should be calculated based on their current market value. A num-

ber of nationally-recognized indexes exist that fluctuate based on market conditions and supply and demand; it is important that all parties agree on an index, and stick with it throughout the contract. Index-derived revenue sharing ensures that outside forces will not interfere with the original contract that has been agreed upon by both parties. KCI pioneered the use of this methodology, and has helped clients procure collection and processing services separately, which during this past year has resulted in recycling revenues ranging from \$40 to \$100 per ton; some of them had previously seen no revenues from the sale of recyclables. The market conditions of every location are different and unique, but building an index into a contract can help any jurisdiction receive its fair share of revenue for its recyclables.

Jurisdictions are quickly realizing the value and protection offered by separate processing procurements. While some feel that their current agreements are satisfactory, the market-savvy industry experts will agree: it is always better to evaluate new opportunities before settling for the status quo. The tide in solid waste will continually be in motion, but it's innovative thinking that will keep us from being left behind.

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Landfill Gas Utilization at the Manatee County Lena Road Landfill

By Joseph L. Miller, PE, Atkins NA

Manatee County Government operates the Lena Road Class I Landfill and the Southeast Water Reclamation Facility on 1100

acres located

one mile east

of I-75 and

just south of

State Road 64.

The Class I

Landfill has 316

acres permitted

for disposal

with a design

capacity of 32.6

million cubic

yards. Closure

is estimated for 2044. The landfill

is producing 1500 SCFM at 57%

methane and less than 1% oxygen. It is

anticipated that the landfill will produce

usable gas for up to 30 years after

closure. Manatee County is utilizing

this landfill gas in a Biosolids Dryer. In

2012, a design-build-operating contract

was awarded to use landfill gas to

generate electricity for the Southeast

Water Reclamation Facility. Planning for

a landfill gas to vehicle fuel project will

start in 2013.

The Biosolids Dryer is designed to

process the Biosolids from the County's

three wastewater treatment plants, and

has the capacity for 28.8 wet tons per

hour using 20.4 MMBTUs per hour of

fuel. The Dryer can operate on natural

gas or landfill gas. The gas is burned

in a furnace and the heat blown into

a rotary drum to dry the biosolids.

Using natural gas at \$1.25 per therm

(1 therm = 100,000 BTUS), it costs

\$255 per hour to operate the Biosolids

Dryer. Operating the Dryer 4000 hours

per year on landfill gas saves Manatee

County about \$1 million.

Since at maximum capacity, the

Biosolids Dryer consumes only about

600 SCFM, Manatee County looked

for a second project. In March 2008,

Florida's Public Service Commission ratified a rule intended to promote the development of customer-owned, renewable electricity generation and getting those systems connected to the power grid.

The new rule

expanded

eligible systems

from 10

kilowatts to

2 megawatts,

and besides

solar included

electricity

generated using

landfill gas or

other renewable

sources. Now

customers can generate their own

electricity without having to disconnect

from the grid. And, when excess power

is generated, it flows into the grid.

If more power is needed than being

generated,

the power

flows back

from the

grid to the

customer.

At the

end of the

year, the

customer

pays for any

electricity

supplied by

the power

company,

or if more

is generated

than

consumed, the power company pays

the customer. Also, no complicated

power purchase agreement is needed.

The power company uses the same

simple agreement for a 5 kilowatt solar

system installed by a homeowner or

a 2 megawatt generator operating on

landfill gas.

In March 2012 Manatee County

signed a design-build-10 year operating agreement for a landfill gas to electricity project for the Southeast Water Reclamation Facility. The Facility consumes 12 million KWH per year costing about \$1 million. The project will use a Caterpillar 3520C generator rated at 1.6 megawatts to generate an estimated 13 million KWH per year using 500 SCFM of landfill gas at 57% methane. This project eliminates the Facility's electric bill. After capital and operating costs, the savings are projected at \$600,000 for the first year. So while electric bills will go up over the next 10 years, Manatee County's Facility will see no increase.

In 2013, Manatee County plans to study the conversion of the remaining 400 SCFM into compressed natural gas (CNG) for vehicle fuel. It is estimated that 400 SCFM will yield 2000 gallons of gas equivalent (GGE) fuel per day. At 20 miles per gallon and driving 100

miles per day, that is enough fuel for about 400 vehicles. At \$3.50 per gallon, the market value of this fuel is \$2.6 million per year. The plan is to use excess landfill gas when

available to make CNG.

Using 1500 SCFM of landfill gas to dry biosolids, generate electricity and make vehicle fuel, Manatee County has the potential to save \$4.4 million a year. With 70 more years of landfill gas, the savings in 2012 dollars are projected to be over \$300 million. Landfill gas is no longer a waste, but a valuable resource.

Talking Trash 7



Caterpillar 3520 Generator



Landfill gas knock outs, control panel and compressor for supplying the Biosolids Dryer with landfill gas

Alternative Funding: Covering the Cost of Doing the Right Thing

Written by Allison Trulock and Katie Brown, HDR Engineering, Inc.

As communities strive for sustainability, an increased focus is being placed on achieving higher diversion and recycling rates. A growing number of communities are setting and moving toward achieving “zero waste” or very high diversion goals in an effort to achieve sustainable materials management. However, while most industry professionals would agree that maximizing diversion and recycling is ideal, many local government solid waste programs are currently supported, in large part, by the tipping fees collected at landfills and waste-to-energy facilities. This creates a difficult choice for many local governments that would like to increase their diversion and recycling efforts, but risk facing a very real financial shortfall commonly referred to as the “death spiral”. With declining tipping fee revenues in many areas due to the economy and associated decrease in consumption, the “death spiral” becomes even more exaggerated.

In most cases, diversion and recycling programs cannot pay for themselves through the sale of recovered materials or disposal fee avoidance. Collection costs can account for as much as 60 to 80 percent of the costs to the customer (whether the material collected is trash, recyclables or organics). As a result, some local governments and industry professionals have begun examining and implementing a variety of alternative funding options that can be used to better align the necessary revenue generation with their waste reduction, diversion and recycling goals. These can take many forms, and can be implemented at different points on the materials management loop.

While there is no alternative funding “magic bullet”, HDR has identified

some best practices through our work with a variety of communities facing program funding issues. Some include:

- Compensating collection service providers based on cost of service, rather than Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) inclined rates, thus removing a disincentive for diversion.

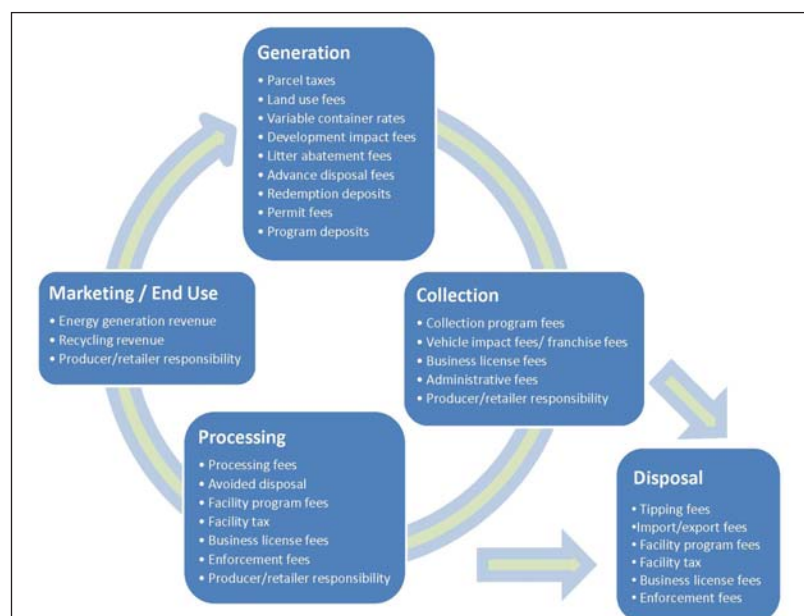


- Providing a baseline collection service rate that covers the cost of service and then layering City or County-controlled PAYT rates on top of the baseline to create customer incentives.
- Utilizing an enterprise fund for solid waste programs to better track costs and revenues.

- Maintaining a balancing account to avoid rate shock.
- Diversifying operations and fee structures to avoid dependence on one source of revenue.
- Using a flat rate instead of percentage for franchise fees.

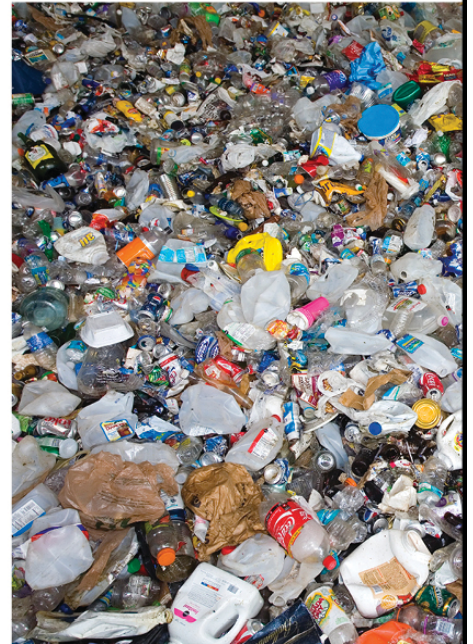
The right combination of tools and approaches will be different for every community based on their specific political, social, and financial goals and circumstances. However, common keys to success include: selecting funding mechanisms that send the appropriate signals to the appropriate stakeholders; and communicating openly and transparently with all stakeholders.

In transitioning to a sustainable materials management system, the goal is to cover the costs of fixed assets, while sending a signal to customers and service providers to reduce waste and increase recycling and composting. Ultimately, you want to right-size your services, infrastructure, collection systems and funding mechanisms, and manage your resources responsibility to achieve the best outcomes for the environment and the economy.





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Offices Throughout Florida

Committee Updates

Summer Conference Undaunted by Debby

*Written by Tammy Hayes, FL SWANA
Vice President & Conference Chair*

This year's FL SWANA Summer Conference was held June 24-26th under the constant threat of Tropical Storm Debby. At the beautiful Marriott Sawgrass Resort in Ponte Vedra Beach, rain seemed to come in waves but it didn't dampen anyone's spirits. Again, thanks to all of the sponsors and exhibitors whose support helped to make this conference possible.

The conference began with a Board Meeting on Sunday afternoon during which the Board approved the election results welcoming Jim Becker, Tonja Brickhouse, Kim Byer, and Dan Rodriguez to new 2012-14 terms. The Board also approved the scholarship committee's recommendations to award chapter scholarships to Ian Eyeington and Robert Wright, and to recommend Kelsey Strobbridge for the Grant Flint scholarship at the International level. Congratulation to all! The Board also approved the Training Committee's recommendation to establish a Chris Kohl Training Scholarship in his honor. This committee will be working on its implementation so stay tuned for further details.

During the annual business meeting, which was held on Monday, awards were given to Kelsi Oswald and Nancy McCann who co-chair the very active waste-to-energy committee, and Tonja Brickhouse accepted an award to the City of Tampa for hosting a very

successful state Road-E-O. In other news, Sam Levin (treasurer) reported that the chapter's finances were on track, and Warren Smith (IB rep) reported an International dues increase of \$6.00 for public sector, \$10.00 for private sector, and \$7.00 for small business memberships (no increase for student and retired members). Mitch Kessler (president) thanked



*Left to right: David Deans
Tonja Brickhouse and Deb Bush*

Ray Moreau, who decided not to run again, for his service on the Board and announced Steve Nataline's retirement. It was also noted that Mitch Kessler would be receiving a well deserved professional achievement award from International at WASTECON.

The remainder of the conference included an opening reception with

the exhibitors on Sunday evening, a wide variety of technical sessions all day Monday, with breaks and lunch in the exhibit hall, and a barbecue dinner and band on Monday night that would have been nice by the pool where it was planned but Debby had other ideas. During the technical sessions, Deb Bush (secretary) gave a demonstration of our new website and pointed out a new feature, which gives all members the ability to create forums on specific items of interest—check it out.

On Tuesday morning, more technical sessions and committee meetings were held followed by a technical tour at Coastal Recycling Services. Unfortunately, Debby forced the cancellation of our golf tournament on Tuesday afternoon. On a brighter note, a number of drawings were held throughout the conference, and some lucky winners went home with great prizes.

Overall, attendance and reviews of this conference were very good although we're looking for a new weather chair if anyone is interested... Please remember that we read your evaluations, take your suggestions seriously, and do our best to incorporate your ideas into future conferences. We look forward to seeing you all at our Joint Winter Meeting in January in Orlando, and are planning our next Summer Conference in the Sarasota area. Check our website for additional information at www.swanafl.org.

Florida Sunshine Chapter's Toolbox

Written by Deb Bush, Pinellas County

It happened so swiftly and effortlessly that most of the members weren't even aware that a new era had enveloped us. I mean really, how often do we sit down at the computer and type in www.swanafl.org?

The first effort of the Communications committee was to update and improve the newsletter. We believe we have done that. The past president Dave Deans has even referred to the Talking Trash as a Technical Journal. While the committee is flattered by the reference, we are just happy that the newsletter has become more than just fluff and is a document the members embrace.

Our second challenge was to update the website. We wanted to make it interactive, user friendly and a tool for our members to communicate and find information. We wanted sections for the chapters standing committees as well as technical committees. We also wanted a forum where members could talk about current issues, ask questions, exchange ideas and interact with each other.

Take a few minutes and visit www.swanafl.org. Surf around, it is easy and you'll be amazed at what you find. Looking for a contract for a private operator for your publicly owned landfill or WTE facility? There are copies there. Looking for a design of a Citizens Drop Off Facility (mini-transfer station)? There are plans along with "lessons learned notes." Interested in a committee? All committee chairs are listed along with notes, minutes, meeting schedules or upcoming events. Have a job opening or looking for one? We've got an employment section where you can advertise available openings or maybe land that dream job in our industry. Couldn't attend the summer, winter conference or the Road-E-O? The presentations are there, as well as a great video of the Road-E-O. It is worthy of an Emmy. Ever wonder

what goes on at the Board of Directors meetings, the minutes are there as well as the Board roster. Want to know about upcoming events or re-read a copy of the Talking Trash? Go to www.swanafl.org.

A few FAQ's as they say in the web business:

1. I see a log in box; do I have to join to use the web site?

No, you do not have to join to use the web site. If you want to post something on the forum you do need to register. Basically it is like most sites, you give your name, email address, phone (if you want) and pick a password. There is no cost and you do not have to be a Florida SWANA member, although we'd love to have you join.

2. How do I register?

It's really easy. Click on the "Forums" tab.

- a. Select Create a Account. Once you have selected Create an Account, you will be asked for your email address and then to type in a cryptic (usually letters and numbers, they are not case sensitive).
- b. The next screen will ask for your first and last name and your organization. This is the only mandatory information required. Everything else is optional such as address and phone number.
- c. Review and confirm. If you make a mistake just hit the back key and correct. Don't worry you will not have to re-type what you have already entered. If all is correct, confirm application.
- d. The next screen that pops up is the My Profile screen. Go to email subscriptions. The selection for event and email and the newsletter are already selected. You will see a third selection for the forum subscription. There is a note there that tells you to go to the forum links and manually subscribe. More on that soon.

e. There are three other tabs on that screen, privacy, photo album and invoices and payments. We do not use the invoices and payments, but feel free to create a photo album if you like.

That's it, even I can do it and it takes about 3 minutes, even if you are a slow typist.

3. If I post something, how will I know if anyone responds?

When you register, you need to go to each forum that you are interested in and manually check the box to subscribe to this forum (located in the bottom right hand corner). This way you will be notified when someone posts. You can select the frequency.

4. Can I advertise on the web site?

Absolutely, contact the chapter administrator, Crystal at info@swanafl.org or call her at (727) 797-4234.

5. When I select Contact and the Membership tab, I can not sign up for the web site.

There are three tabs in the Contact link: Membership, Contact and Create an Account. The membership tab provides information on membership in the SWANA organization and the Membership Application link at the top of that page will direct you to SWANA International's membership application.

In order to join the www.swanafl.org website and participate in the forums, you must select the Create an Account tab. The follow the steps listed in FAQ 2.

So go ahead, take a little trip and visit your website www.swanafl.org. If you want something added, like that new contract every county is asking for, or technical committee information, contact Crystal. We all love a new tool and even better a fancy toolbox to hold that shiny new tool. Don't hesitate open up your new toolbox and get busy using those tools. The website is only as good as the people who use it.

Technical Division Corner

Technical Division Update

The majority of the Technical Committees met at the SWANA Florida Chapter met on June 26, 2012 at the Sawgrass Marriott in Ponte Vedra, Florida. At this past winter meeting in St. Petersburg Beach, the Board of Directors approved the creation of a Landfill Gas Technical Division. The creation of a Health and Safety Committees was also approved. The Landfill Gas Technical Division, chaired by Dan Cooper held its inaugural meeting with good attendance. We recently identified a candidate with the appropriate credentials to Chair the Health and Safety Committee. It is my hope to have the Health and Safety Committee up and running by the winter meeting.

Going forward each Division will be meeting quarterly at a minimum. There will be two face to face meetings, one meeting at the winter meeting and one at the summer meeting. There will be two teleconferences, one between each face to face meeting for a total of four meetings per year. In addition, if there is sufficient interest or a timely topic, the Technical Divisions may hold additional face to face meetings throughout the year.

If you are interested in participating in any of these committees, please contact Crystal Bruce or myself, or the Chair of the Technical Committee that you are interested in participating in to have your name placed on the Technical Committee Roster.

Raymond J. Lotito
Chair, Technical Division

Collection & Transfer Committee (Where's the beef?)

At our recent committee meeting we discussed future plans. We noted that at the recent Summer Conference there were basically no sessions on collection and transfer technologies. We are working on several ways to get more programs on collection and transfer. We discussed the possibility of a separate half day segment to be held at our next general meeting. We also discussed the possibility of holding a separate one day meeting in Orlando and involving vendors as sponsors and possible funding from the state chapter. Earl Gloster, Director of the Clearwater Solid Waste Department, was appointed to be Vice Chairman of the Collection and Transfer Committee.

Scalehouse and Finance Committee

There were two Public Sector and two Private Sector members at the committee meeting held during the Summer Conference. The primary discussion was how to re-vitalize the initial interest that was present when the committee was formed several years ago. Keith Howard from Lee County and Deb Bush from Pinellas County agreed to co-chair the committee until a chair emerges. Our initial effort is to find a topic that is universal to most organizations and have our first conference call with one discussion point. The initial call topic will be "Cash customers- how do you manage them?" The date for the call will be in the early fall.

Waste Reduction and Pollution Prevention (WRAPP)

The WRAPP Committee met in Ponte Vedra on Tuesday, June 26th, 2012, as part of SWANA Florida's Summer Conference. The Committee meeting was chaired by John Benton from the City of Oakland Park since the Committee Chair, Ray Moreau of SWIX, was not in attendance.

The agenda for the meeting included a discussion of WRAPP committee member survey project, recycling bins available at the conference hotel, more active promotion by the Committee of waste reduction, recycling and pollution prevention papers and speakers for SWANA's conferences and meetings, and a discussion of having WRAPP committee meet in concert with the SWANA/RFT Winter Issues Forum in January of every year. In addition, having the Committee meet quarterly during the year was discussed as well as incentives to join and/or attend SWANA and WRAPP committee meetings.

Disposal Committee News

The SWANA Florida Sunshine Chapter Disposal Committee met on June 26, 2012, at the Sawgrass Marriott in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida. The committee Chairman, John Banks, led the meeting. The meeting attendees reviewed the committee objectives which are as follows:

"To investigate topical issues related to solid waste disposal and landfill operations and share information with the Chapter membership."

Richard Allen with Charlotte County accepted the nomination as

Vice Chairman of the Committee.

The Disposal Committee previously identified a need to track landfill disposal capacity on a statewide basis. As a result of these discussions in 2011, the Hinkley Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste Management agreed to initiate a project to develop a data base for landfill capacity in the state of Florida. Tim Vinson with the Hinkley Center provided an update on the status of this project. The project is currently unfunded and is not complete. A suggestion was made that the Hinkley Center should develop a funding proposal to complete this much needed project. The Disposal Committee agreed to present the proposal for consideration by the Florida SWANA Chapter. Mr. Vinson also reviewed some of the research projects recently approved for funding by the Hinkley Center.

The Committee also discussed the recently approved revisions to Chapter 62-701 and possible additional burdens some of the changes could present to landfill owner/operators. The committee agreed to draft position papers on the need for interim submittals of financial assurance cost estimates, operating plans, and water quality monitoring plans if there are no changes needed for these documents between permit renewal dates.

The status of the Sinkhole Technical Advisory Group (TAG) was discussed. This TAG is to be re-activated later this year. Also the issue of possible Rule revisions involving secondary groundwater cleanup target levels was discussed. Attorney David Dee mentioned this issue in his presentation in the general meeting later in the day.

Member News

Tampa Solid Waste Department Prepares for RNC

Written by Brittany J. Jackson, City of Tampa Department of Solid Waste & Environmental Program Management

All eyes will be on Tampa as the city braces itself for the largest event the area has seen in years. As the host city for the 2012 Republican National Convention, Tampa will receive floods of people hovering in one central area and producing mounds of trash.

For the weeks leading up to the Convention and during the main event, the City of Tampa Department of Solid Waste & Environmental Program Management will kick into high gear to help keep trash off the streets, ensure the safety of the public and continue to provide service to customers situated in the event zone.

"An event of this magnitude is sure to present major challenges and as such, the Department has been in preparation mode in excess of 18 months," said Tonja Brickhouse, director of Tampa's Department of Solid Waste.

With a mix of people coming to the area, challenges will include keeping the city clean amid throngs of people, securing garbage receptacles, and being aware of potential threats, all while maintaining quality service.

The department says it's positioned to provide service delivery according to a well-crafted plan with safety as the top priority during an event that puts the city in the international spotlight. "The solid waste department is a critical element in how Tampa will be portrayed to the world," Brickhouse said.



City of Kissimmee

The following individuals were recently promoted in the Sanitation Division of Public Works and Engineering. **Jody Kirkendall** is our new Sanitation Superintendent. **Jennifer Trogdon** is our new Solid Waste Franchise Coordinator. **Kevin Palmer** is our new Sanitation Service Technician. Congratulations to all of them!

Chapter Calendar

January 28-30
Managing Recycling
Systems Training
and Exam
The Florida Hotel and
Conference Center
Orlando, FL

January 30-31, 2013
SWANA/RFT
Joint Winter Meeting
The Florida Hotel and
Conference Center
Orlando, FL

June 2013
SWANA Summer
Conference
Sarasota Area
Details Coming Soon!

Collier County Solid Waste Management Department in Partnership with Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida

Written by Linda Best, Waste Reduction and Recycling Manager

The Collier County Solid Waste Management Department and Goodwill Industries began a partnership in 2010 during an event for America Recycles Day (November 15th). While Goodwill has been referred to as “the original recyclers” because of their organization’s practice of repurposing gently used goods, Collier County Solid Waste Management Department is also committed to reuse and recycling to reach our program goals; attaining the State of Florida 75% recycling rate by 2020, and through reuse and recycling to reduce the waste stream of materials that are buried in the Collier County Landfill, thereby extending the life of the Landfill for future capacity for generations to come.

The partnership has grown and expanded since 2010, to include more collection events and the addition of Goodwill donation containers stationed at three of the Collier County Recycling Drop-off centers; Marco Island, Naples Recycle Center and the North Collier facility. More than 17,000 pounds of recyclable and reusable items were donated during the first event and in co-hosting collection events for the past three years; we have been able to collect approximately 74,986 pounds of donations, recyclable commodities, household hazardous materials and

electronic waste. The 74,986 pounds of goods translates into nearly \$60,000.00 of revenue to help fund Goodwill’s job training programs for people with disabilities and other disadvantaged conditions. The 74,986 pounds of materials collected are diverted from the Collier County Landfill and have allowed Goodwill to increase their waste diversion rate from 38% in 2009 to 52%

The partnership’s marketing costs are minimal and include flyers, newspaper and radio advertisement. Collier County staff and Goodwill employees work together at the events and other volunteers from other agencies such as; the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Drug Free Collier’s Operation Medicine Cabinet all participate. As Goodwill and Collier County Solid Waste Department continue to work together, both agencies are benefiting from the alliance.

In March of 2012, Collier County Solid Waste Management Department was chosen to receive the Goodwill “Business Partner of the Year” award received in May at the Goodwill Break Through awards held in Ft. Myers. Previous award recipients included the Visually Impaired Persons of SW Florida; Center

for Independent Living; Florida Gulf Coast University; and the City of Fort Myers. The award and the community recognition of the successful partnership both organizations have developed since 2010, and the common goals of reuse and recycling truly demonstrate a strong public/private partnership that will continue to grow and benefit both agencies from the partnership.



Left to right: Jodi Jacoby, General Manager, Goodwill Industries; Michael Stark, Recycling Coordinator, Collier County SWMD; Dilia Camacho, Recycling Coordinator, Collier County SWMD; Linda Best, Waste Reduction and Recycling Manager, Collier County SWMD; Janet Go, Recycling Coordinator, Collier County SWMD; Jennifer Nelson, Senior Director of Retail Operations, Goodwill Industries; Robert Randall, Vice President of Retail Operations, Goodwill Industries

in 2011.

Our collection events bring the community together because we not only offer electronic waste drop off but also encourage other household items that can be sold in the Goodwill stores to fund their mission of helping people with disabilities and other disadvantages; provide small business training courses for entrepreneurs; complete vocational assessments for individuals with disabilities, or paid internships for Goodwill.



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