

Talking... **TRASH**

The Newsletter of the SWANA Florida Sunshine Chapter

Summer 2016



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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy B. Wall". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Timothy" and last name "Wall" clearly visible.

Tim Wall
President and
Chief Operating Officer



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Letter from the President

August 2016

A lot of exciting things have been happening at SWANA, both at the international and chapter levels, and I'm happy to be part of it. I attended my first chapter Road-E-O in April—what a fun event! If you've never been, you really should consider going next year especially since we'll be hosting the International Road-E-O right here in Florida. Congratulations to all of the winners and participants, and their organizations for supporting them. Thanks to Seminole County for hosting us, all of the sponsors that made it possible, and Gene Ginn, our Road-E-O chair, for doing such a wonderful job of pulling it all together. There's a list of the 2016 winners along with a great video on our website to give you a good feel for what happens, so be sure to check that out.



In May, I attended the SWANA Mid-year International Board meeting in Silver Spring, MD (SWANA HQ) and NAWTEC (North American Waste-to-Energy Conference) in Palm Beach where I was able to tour the Solid Waste Authority's beautiful new plant. And I just got back from a very successful Summer Conference at the Saddlebrook Resort in Wesley Chapel where we tried a few fun new things that our attendees seemed to enjoy—thanks to all of our exhibitors and sponsors. Next, I'll be heading to Indianapolis for WASTECON where I hope to see Florida well represented.

We're already making plans for a great 2017 as well. Mark your calendars now for our Winter Meeting being held in conjunction with SWANA's Senior Executive Seminar from February 19-21 at the Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay. Next summer, we'll be at the Sanibel Harbour Marriott from July 23-25. Check out our website www.swana.org for the latest information.

Speaking of our website, you've probably noticed some new additions. The communications committee held a photo contest in honor of National Garbage Man Day so pictures received are being rotated on our home page. We also have a social media presence now thanks to Marissa Segundo, our communications committee chair, so like us on Facebook and join the conversation.

Finally, I want to encourage everyone to get involved. If you're interested in participating on any of our committees, please contact the chair(s) directly—a listing is included on page 15 of this newsletter. The more people pitch in, the stronger our chapter becomes.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and I look forward to seeing you again soon!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tammy Hayes".

Tammy Hayes
President, SWANA FL

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Achieving Florida's 75% Recycling Goal: Are Mixed Waste Processing Facilities a Viable Option?

Steven Laux, PE, LEED AP, Vice President, Jones Edmunds & Associates, Inc. and Brooks Stayer, Director, Merced County Regional Waste Authority

There has been much talk over the last several years in Florida and throughout the country about mixed waste processing facilities. While there are no true mixed waste processing facilities in Florida, there have been failed attempts in the distant past and a recent resurgence of interest. Technological advances in waste sorting equipment as well as record-high commodity and fuel prices eight years ago spurred interest in mixed waste processing as a way to collect more recyclables more efficiently.

However, the news lately has been mostly negative—low commodity prices, high contamination rates, the October 2015 closing of a \$35 million facility in Montgomery, Alabama after only 18 months of operation, and the suspension of a proposed \$45 million Indianapolis facility earlier this year.

That is why I was surprised to learn that a technology with such a checkered past, that has seen many technological advances, but has also seen wide commodity price fluctuations, has been employed successfully for more than 20 years in Sunnyvale, California.

We took a recent trip to Sunnyvale to tour their facility and assess what some of the challenges and benefits would be to applying similar technologies here in Florida.

A Tour of Sunnyvale
The City of Sunnyvale's Materials

Recovery and Transfer (SMaRT) Station has been sorting recyclables from residential and commercial municipal solid waste collected in Sunnyvale and the nearby cities of Mountain View and Palo Alto since 1994. This facility, which underwent a \$15 million upgrade in 2009, serves a population of 296,000 and uses a combination of manual picking lines staffed by 43 full-time-equivalent employees/vendors and sorting



Conveyor to sorting area.

equipment to sort through 750 tons per day of municipal solid waste, 250 tons per day of mixed source segregated recyclables, yard trash and construction/demolition debris. The process begins with a manual sort to remove large items.

The mixed waste is then processed through a series of trommels, disc screens, magnetic/eddy current sorters, and additional hand sorting to remove ferrous metal, plastic containers, paper, aluminum, glass, metal, wood and cardboard.

The process also produces a mixture of fine organic material, broken glass and other small material that is transported to a nearby private composting facility. Yard trimmings and dimensional lumber sorted from

the waste stream are processed in grinders and transported to the same composting facility. The fine organic material is pre-processed, composted in aerated polyethylene-encased windrows, screened and then mixed with a higher quality yard trimming-based compost that is marketed for agricultural and landscaping uses.

Sunnyvale reports that its SMaRT Station is projected to divert

approximately 31% of its incoming MSW stream from landfills in this fiscal year. It is important to note that the incoming MSW comes from communities that already have fully implemented single/dual stream curbside recycling programs. The SMaRT Station also processes incoming source-separated yard waste and recyclables, giving it an overall projected diversion rate of 44%.

Mixed Waste Processing Facilities in Florida?

A SMaRT Station type

mixed waste operation would go a long way toward achieving Florida's 75% recycling goal. An obvious impediment to implementing this in Florida is cost. Sunnyvale reports a FY 14/15 SMaRT Station mixed waste processing and composting operations cost of approximately \$84 per ton of diverted waste (this does not include capital cost of the facility, and accounts for recycling revenue and avoided landfill tipping fees). This cost is acceptable in Sunnyvale, where landfill tipping fees are \$70 per ton, however, it would be less palatable in Florida where tipping fees are much lower.

For more information, visit www.jonesedmunds.com or contact Brooks Stayer at (209) 723-4481 or bstayer@mcrcwma.org.

Collier County Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Division 2016 Tire Roundup

Dilia Camacho, Collier County Waste Reduction and Recycling Manager

On June 25, 2016, Collier County's Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Division partnered with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), Collier County Mosquito Control District (CCMCD), Collier County's Road and Bridge Maintenance Division (RBMD), Waste Management Inc., of Florida (WMIF), Progressive Waste Solutions (PWS), and Florida Department of Health (DOH) to hold a free "Countywide Waste Tire Amnesty Event." Collier County hosted and advertised the event; CCMCD received, inspected, and sprayed the tires for mosquito larvae; WMIF, PWS and RBMD loaded the tires on 35- and 45-foot trailers using special claw trucks; and, FDEP provided the funds to transport, process and properly dispose of the waste tires providing a savings to the residents of Collier County. All tires collected from the event will be used as a fuel source at a cement kiln and/or power plant, or recycled as feedstock for mulch or crumb rubber.

The event offered Collier County residents the opportunity to remove old tires from their communities in preparation for the upcoming rainy season. Old and abandoned tires become water-holding containers and pose a health hazard as breeding grounds for mosquitoes that transmit the Zika virus and other diseases.

Drop-off collection sites included two Collier County Recycling Drop-Off Centers, the Collier County Landfill, the Immokalee Transfer Station, and a satellite staging location at the Collier County Fairgrounds. Residents were allowed to drop off up to 25 tires for recycling. The tires had to be less than 54 inches in height and 17 inches in width. Staff and residents collected and removed all the tires that were found in canals, ditches, dead-end roads, and/or buried in backyards.

The one day event was highly successful, attracting 361 participants and collecting approximately 15,000 tires totaling approximately 300 tons.

Collier County's networking resources allows for the creation of valuable partnerships and services for residents, making Collier County one of the best places to live, work, and play. This event demonstrated a unique conglomerate of private and public partnerships dedicated to ensuring public health and safety remains a top priority within the county.

For more information, contact Dilia Camacho, Collier County Solid & Hazardous Waste Management Division, at (239) 252-4281.



Controlling Landfill Emissions Guidelines

Ramon Rivera, Diamond Scientific

The EPA issued final rules on July 15 amending the emissions threshold that would require a landfill to install a landfill gas (LFG) collection and control system. For both active and new landfills, this effectively reduces the current annual threshold of 50 metric tons for non-methane organic compounds down to 34 metric tons, while for closed landfills, the current threshold of 50 metric tons per year still applies.

It is estimated that around 989 open and closed solid waste landfills will be affected by the landfill Emission Guidelines, of which 574 are currently required to collect and control the emissions they produce.

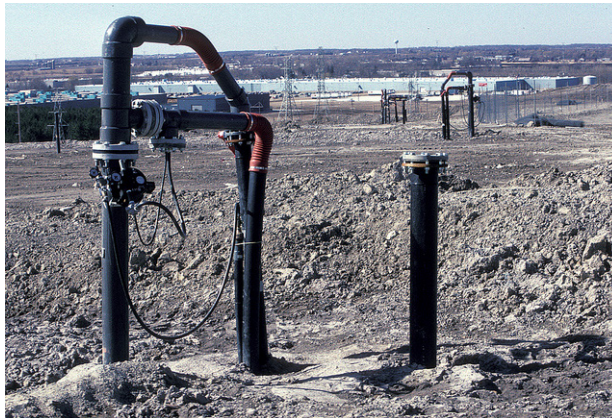
Who Does the Proposed Landfill Emissions Guidelines Effect?

The amendments apply to landfill sites where construction, reconstruction, or modifications were started on or before the July 17, 2014, or which accepted waste after November 8, 1987.

Under the new guidelines, a further 106 open landfill sites would have to collect and control their LFG emissions, increasing the total number of landfill sites collecting and controlling landfill emissions to 680 by 2025. The EPA anticipates that a further 105 open landfills would be required to report their landfill emissions but would not have to collect the LFG produced.

Furthermore, the LFG Emission Guidelines retain several existing requirements, including:

- Any existing landfill with a design capacity of 2.5 million metric tons and 2.5 million cubic meters of waste is subject to the landfill emissions guidelines.
- The best method of controlling landfill emissions is to install a well-designed



LFG collection and control system, and ensure that it is operated efficiently. Landfill owners/managers can control LFG by: 1) combusting it in an engine, boiler or turbine used to generate electricity; 2) collecting, treating, storing and selling the gas; or 3) flaring it.

- Landfills affected by the amendments have to install and begin operating a LFG collection and control system within 30 months of reaching the landfill emissions threshold.
- Landfill sites that have a LFG collection and control system have to expand the system to other areas within the landfill within five years for active areas, and within two years for closed or final grade areas.

Site-Specific Monitoring of Surface Emissions

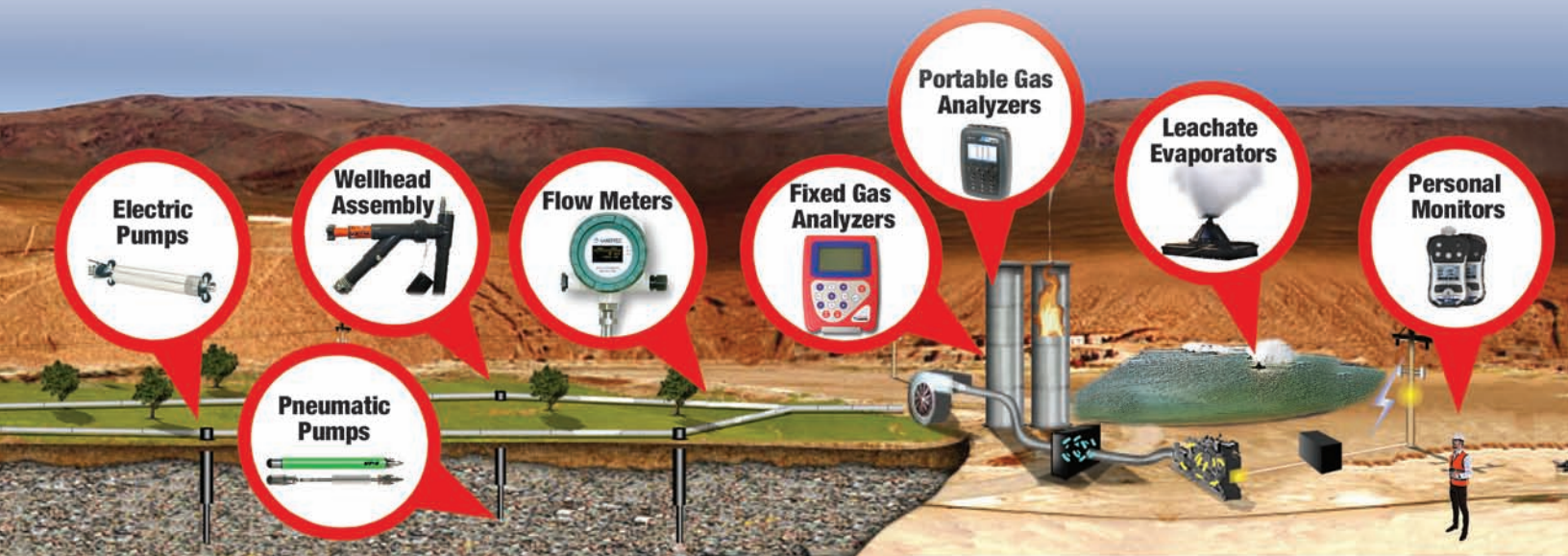
The EPA also proposed a more site-specific method, which involves *monitoring surface emissions*, to determine when a landfill needs to install and operate a LFG collection and control system. If a landfill owner/operator can show that surface methane emissions are less than 500 parts per million over 4 consecutive quarters, the landfill would not be obliged to collect and control LFG emissions.

In addition, the EPA proposed to remove wellhead operating limits set for nitrogen, oxygen and temperature, while limits set for negative pressure still apply. However, landfills would still need to monitor and keep

records of nitrogen, oxygen, and temperature levels so they can gauge when adjustments within the LFG collection and control system are needed.

For more information, visit www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/landfill/landflpg.html.

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FIRST® LEGO® League Suncoast Championship Tournament Takes Place in Plant City, FL

**Ryan Graunke and Jeux Brown,
Kessler Consulting**

Recently, representatives from Kessler Consulting, Inc. (KCI) were asked to serve as judges for the FIRST® LEGO® League (FLL) Suncoast Championship Tournament in Plant City, Florida. FLL is a program under FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology), an extracurricular organization dedicated to increasing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) engagement for children. In FLL, teams of up to 10 children (ages 9-14) participate in competitions consisting of three areas: designing a robot, completing a project and demonstrating the Core Values of FIRST.

Each year, FLL has a special topic that is the focus of the robot design and research project. This year the special topic was "Trash Trek." For this topic, teams were required to design and build a LEGO robot to accomplish a variety of tasks simulating aspects of solid waste management and complete a project to develop an innovative solution to a solid waste problem. For the project, teams were tasked with selecting a specific material that is currently wasted. They conduct research and meet with experts in the field to find out how this material is currently handled. Based on their research, teams design an innovative solution to improve how the material is managed, while also considering feasibility of the solution. Teams then present their solution to experts and stakeholders to receive feedback and use this feedback to improve upon their solution.

While KCI may not be experts in robotics, we are experts in innovative waste solutions. A local FLL team based at Robles Elementary School in

Tampa reached out to KCI's Director of Operations and Vice Chair of SWANA Collection and Transfer Committee, Don Ross, who met with them to discuss their research project challenge: finding new end of life solutions for 6-pack rings and banana peels. As a result of that successful workshop, the Suncoast FLL asked



representatives from KCI to be judges at their regional championship. KCI would bring professional insight for evaluating the solid waste solutions the teams were presenting.

Jeux Brown and Ryan Graunke jumped at the opportunity to be judges and see the work these teams accomplished. They were blown away by the amount of work these children put into an extracurricular project and the ingenuity of their solutions. One of the standout projects was a team that met with a local MRF operator, equipment companies, and County solid waste staff to present their idea of using a glass imploder as a more effective

method of crushing and removing glass from single-stream recyclables. The operator was so impressed that they are considering using an imploder at their MRF. Another impressive project was by a team that designed a compostable replacement to K-cups using pressed banyan tree leaves; they have even applied for a patent and are working with a factory in India to produce these. Other standouts included a team using ground-up, discarded tennis balls as a substrate for artificial turf and a team designing an underwater robot to remove ocean litter.

It gives us all great hope for the future to see such impressive young people working to solve many of our solid waste problems. Find a FIRST LEGO League near you and get involved. These children are the future of our industry!

For more information, visit www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/fll.

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Florida Senate Remodeling Has Recycling in Mind

**Keyna Cory, Executive Director,
Florida Recycling Partnership**

The Florida Senate Chamber is finally being renovated. Originally built in early 1970s, the Chamber has served as the meeting place for more than 45 regular sessions and countless special sessions. That is a lot of wear and tear on the Senators' desks, furniture and carpet. So what will happen to all of the items currently found in the Chamber?

According to Katie Betta, spokeswoman for Senate President Andy Gardiner, many items are being reused and recycled.

For example, the 40 desks, which have been a part of countless historical decisions, will be sold to new homes. Current and past senators will get the first chance to buy them. Then, the general public will have an opportunity to own a little piece of history.

Instead of discarding, additional furniture from the chamber is being used in other locations throughout the Capitol. Paneling on the wall has been saved and a salvage company has been hired to find new homes for other materials.

Florida has a 75% recycling goal by 2020. It's great to see the Senate try and do its part!

But the Senate is going beyond just recycling.

"Our Senate Chamber has received only minimal updates since its original construction in the 1970s. Our HVAC units were outdated and will be

and are working to increase ventilation and improve indoor air quality to be consistent with requirements that have been updated since the initial construction," said Senate President Andy Gardiner.



replaced with newer and more energy efficient models. Lighting fixtures will also be replaced and updated with LED lighting that is more energy efficient and cost-effective. Additionally, we are taking steps to ensure compliance with current ADA and other building code requirements

The Florida Recycling Partnership applauds the Senate's efforts. We can't wait to see the new digs (or final product) as the chamber is long overdue for a facelift. We hope to see something with a little nostalgia paired with modern technology. And hopefully the new Senate Chamber will include a few recycling bins too!

Keyna Cory is Executive Director of the Florida Recycling Partnership, a coalition of top Florida businesses and associations with the mission of educating policy makers and the general public about the benefits of recycling. She can be reached at (850) 728-1054, e-mail Keyna@flrecycling.org, or visit www.flrecycling.org.

For more information on Senate President Andy Gardiner, contact Katie Betta at (850) 487-5229 or e-mail Betta.Katherine@flsenate.gov.

SWA Education Center Earns Recognition For Sustainable Design



Visitors play games on the interactive touchtable and explore displays at the SWA Education Center.



The vegetated roof at the SWA Education Center showcases green design with a view of the landfill.



Students sort recyclables on the interactive touchtable at the SWA Education Center.

The Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County's Education Center at Renewable Energy Facility 2 (REF 2) has been awarded LEED® Platinum by the U.S. Green Building Council. The LEED Platinum rating recognizes the highest level of sustainability practices, with a rating system that assesses seven aspects of sustainable design.

"The SWA Education Center is often the first stop for visitors and students who would like to learn more about our award-winning integrated system of facilities," said Ramana Kari, the SWA's Chief Engineer. "Special attention went into the Education Center so it would be a showcase for sustainable building design."

The SWA's Education Center opened in the summer of 2015 and was built as part of the construction of REF 2, the most advanced and cleanest waste-to-energy facility in North America. The Education Center design incorporates several sustainable aspects, such as:

- Vegetated roofing that reduces the energy needed to cool the building
- Floor tiles made of recycled tires that demonstrate novel recycling concepts
- A rainwater cistern for use on landscaping that reduces the need to use treated water
- Motion-sensor lighting that conserves electricity
- Solar panels that supplement the energy used onsite
- A reception desk made out of reclaimed concrete that demonstrates innovative reuse ideas

"The Education Center at REF 2 efficiently uses our natural resources," said Rick Fedrizzi, CEO and founding chair, U.S. Green Building Council. "It makes an immediate, positive impact on our planet, which will tremendously benefit future generations to come."

The REF 2 project has earned many honors since coming online, including 2015/2016 Project of the Year by the Palm Beach Branch of the American Society of Civil Engineers, 2015 Best Non-Highway Bridge by PCI Design Awards, and 2015 Crown Communities Award for Sustainability by *American City and County Magazine*.

For more information, contact Becky Haltermon Robinson, Public Affairs Coordinator for The Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County, at (561) 640-4000, ext. 4313 or bhaltermon@swa.org.

Conference Wrap-Up: SWANA Members Up Their Game at Summer Conference in Tampa

More than 170 SWANA members gathered to learn how to “up their game” in collection, landfill management and solid waste planning at SWANA FL’s Summer Conference in July. SWANA FL president Tammy Hayes welcomed the eager attendees and SWANA CEO David Biderman kicked off the two-day event with a state of SWANA report. He praised Florida for hosting two successful national events over the past fiscal year. Due to the cooperation with SWANA FL and participation by its membership, these conferences put SWANA’s budget in the black. In Biderman’s keynote presentation, he talked about making safety a top priority and presented a safety panel that included Eleonel Lorenzo from City of Deerfield Beach and Brooke Fait from SCS Engineers. The first day also touted sessions on Bio Solids and Yard Waste by Mitch Kessler and a post-lunch session on Landfill Gas. A panel on once-a-week collection and procurements featuring several models from a municipal and county perspective rounded out the first day of exciting sessions. The casual atmosphere of the evening reception was well-received among attendees. All in attendance enjoyed table games, chatted with colleagues from around the state, and participated in a 50/50 raffle. Proceeds from the raffle will be used to send Florida college students to WASTECON to participate in the Student Design Competition.

The next day began with a light breakfast and attendees had the opportunity to visit with the 28 exhibitors on display. Innovations in landfill development started off the half-day sessions. A panel of presenters from Jones Edmunds and Associates, Inc., Brown and Caldwell and Leachate Management Specialists discussed landfill development, landfill covers and innovative leachate use. Finally, the last session discussed planning for the “future of our sport”. Katie Brown discussed the benefits of solid waste management planning, Lauren Barbieri talked about California’s 75 percent recycling goal and the lessons to learn from their mistakes and successes in the face of Florida’s goal, and Jason Gorrie discussed Pasco County’s beneficial use of ash monofill. This session was a perfect segue into the afternoon tour of the Pasco County Landfill where attendees were able to see the ash monofill used as a road base as well as see first-hand how this increased diversion and repurposed ash. Thank you to all who participated in the 2016 Summer SWANA FL conference. We hope to see you back in Tampa at the Winter Conference in February!

For more information, visit www.swanafl.org.



SWANA FL Celebrates National Garbage Man Day

Marissa Segundo, Resource Recycling Systems and SWANA Communications Chair

Celebrated on the week of June 17th, National Garbage Man Day hails the hard working men and women who strive to maintain sanitary streets by providing safe and convenient collection municipal solid waste and recycling. In recognition of National Garbage Man Day, SWANA members were challenged to submit photos of their drivers and workers doing what they do best. More than 35 photos from across the state were featured on SWANAFL.org website. Photos were also touted on SWANA FL's brand new Facebook page. Facebook allowed visitors to not only see but also engage with these photos by liking or commenting. Some posts reached more than 200 people.

Thank you to all who submitted photos of their crews in action. We encourage you to check them out on SWANAFL.org or facebook.com/SWANAFL. Don't forget to follow us, and keep those photos coming! National Garbage Man Day may be over but SWANA FL still wants to highlight your programs and hear your stories.

Thank you also to the SWANA Communications Committee: Jan Tracy, Pinellas County, Katrina Miller, City of Clearwater, Larry Stone, 3rd Eye Mobile Vision, Angelina Ruiz, Waste Advantage Magazine, and especially to Molly Schweers of Lee County who were instrumental in implementing this photographic celebration.

For more information or if you would like to get involved with the Communications Committee, contact Marissa Segundo at msegundo@recycle.com.





Advertising Opportunities Available

It's not too late to reserve a space in the Fall/Winter issue of Talking Trash.

Job Openings

Post an employment notice on the SWANA FL website for just \$100!

Email info@swanafl.org or visit www.swanafl.org for more information.

Member News



Geosyntec Consultants welcomes Richard Tedder, PE, as a Senior Consultant located in the Tallahassee office. Richard recently joined Geosyntec with nearly 40 years of experience in the environmental field, including 33 years working for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). In his final position with FDEP, Richard served as the Administrator for the Solid Waste Section of the Division of Waste Management. He earned a reputation throughout the industry as a reasonable regulator that evaluated science in making decisions on behalf of the Department. Richard has been intimately involved in rule development, guidance and policy issues

associated with all aspects of waste management for the State of Florida. He is well respected for his technical prowess and problem solving abilities.

In addition to waste management, his background in private and public positions has included environmental compliance and auditing, site assessment and remediation, air permitting, wastewater treatment, and engineering design and operation of reactors and pollution control equipment for fertilizer plants.

Richard has served on the Research Selection Committee of the Hinkley Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste Management for more than 10 years. He is a licensed Professional Engineer in Florida.

Richard can be reached at rtedder@geosyntec.com. For more information on Geosyntec Consultants, visit www.geosyntec.com.

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TBA ▪ 12/6-8

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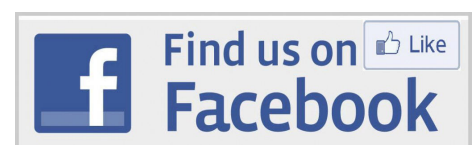
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Webinar Program CONTINUES...

Florida Sunshine Chapter is a member of the SWANA Webinar Program. This allows Chapter members to attend SWANA live webinars with no out-of-pocket cost. The registration fee has already been paid for by your Chapter.

Chapter members can register themselves for SWANA Webinars online at SWANA.org. All you need is to enter the Chapter's **NEW** Debit Card Code at the time of registration.



Visit <http://www.swanafl.org>.
Webinar Program information
is under "Committees/Training."

*Limited number of registrations
available at this time.*

Earn CEU's

All individuals that
attend a webinar can
earn continuing
education units.

empower

SWANA Florida Sunshine Chapter has purchased 50 credits/registrations in the SWANA Webinar Program for member use. To use, members need only:

- Select live webinar from SWANA's offerings.
- Register and enter Florida Chapter code listed below.

Visit

<https://swana.org/Education/eLearning/ChapterWebinarProgram.aspx> for more information.

inspire

To allow as many members to benefit as possible:

- View the webinar in a large room and invite others from your agency to attend.
- Coordinate with other smaller agencies to host a webinar viewing. Dorothy Couch, Bridges BTC, will help with coordination: dcouch@mybridges.org, 321-494-6848.



educate

When a group views a SWANA Webinar through the Chapter Webinar Program, all attendees can receive Continuing Education Units (CEU's). To apply for CEU's:

- Provide a sign-in sheet to certification@swana.org.
- Include the webinar title and date, name of the person who registered to receive the logins, and the name and SWANA ID Number of each of the participants.

SWANA's Training Department will allocate CEU credits for SWANA Certified professionals who attended the webinar and are verified Chapter members.

NEW Florida Chapter Webinar Program

Debit Card Code is: **FL150617**

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Upcoming Events

2017 SWANA Florida Winter Conference and SWANA Senior Executive Seminar

February 19-21, 2017
Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay
Tampa, FL

2017 SWANA Florida Summer Conference

July 23-25, 2017
Sanibel Harbour Marriott Resort
Fort Myers, FL

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