

Montana Solid Waste News



SPRING 2014 ISSUE

In Montana...

By Kathy O'Hern

In Montana...

There are twelve feet of snow. The snow begins to melt and a single patch of earth is finally, after months, uncovered. As soon as the patch is revealed—it's dusty.

In Montana...

Tourists flock to our state and invade small communities. At times it seems that a full 1/3 of the vehicles on the roads bear out-of-state licenses. The towns bordering the National Parks overflow. Support staff hired by resorts and parks add another boost to the population. And more people = more garbage.

In Montana...

The short summer season is sometimes referred to as "Construction Season." Construction and demolition impact solid waste facilities throughout the state—and at the exact time that the aforementioned tourists and support employees increase the facility's workload.

In Montana...

Snowbirds arrive in the spring in their RVs and park everywhere. Snowbirds also add to more garbage being generated during the summer months.

Note: I do have one friend who is an opposite Montana snow bird—winter in Montana and summer in Alaska.

In Montana...

Although you're extremely busy due to the increased summer workload, it's also the season when DEQ Solid Waste Inspectors are out—and, yes, we know that there will be a wind storm the day before we arrive at your site.

See you soon!

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Practical and Effective Solid Waste Equipment Maintenance & Solid Waste Equipment Rodeo

Operating heavy equipment costs a lot of money. Failing to make needed repairs due to a poor equipment maintenance program is not good business! Completing a maintenance inspection checklist can take as little as 15 min/day, and might catch a problem before it costs several days of equipment down time.

On the second day of this two-day training you'll have a chance to show off your skills in operating solid waste equipment, as well as view equipment demonstrations provided by heavy equipment dealers. Even if you're not participating in the rodeo, plan to stay for day two!

AGENDA

Tuesday April 29, 2014, 7:30am—5pm

7:30am Registration

8:00am - noon

Best Western Kelly Inn & Suites Classroom
Practical and Effective Landfill Equipment Maintenance

12:00pm - 1:00pm *Lunch on your own*

1:30pm - 5:00pm

Travel to Billings Regional Landfill for the "field exercise" portion of Practical and Effective Landfill Equipment Maintenance.
Heavy Equipment Demonstrations

Wednesday April 30, 2014, 8am—5pm

8:00am

Billings Regional Landfill
Rodeo Registration

8:30am - noon

Solid Waste Equipment Rodeo Courses
Heavy Equipment Demonstrations

12:00pm - 1:00pm *Lunch served at the landfill*

1:00pm - 4:30pm

Solid Waste Equipment Rodeo Courses
Heavy Equipment Demonstrations

4:30pm - 5:00 pm

Classroom Training at the Best Western Plus Kelly Inn and Suites

4915 Southgate Dr, Billings, MT 59101 * 406-256-9400

A block of sleeping rooms has been set aside until April 11, 2014. Mention the DEQ Solid Waste Program to receive the discounted rate of \$ 83 + tax

Directions from the hotel to the Billings Landfill - go south on S. Billings Blvd, cross the Yellowstone River, turn right on Jellison Rd, and follow the signs.

Register for the classroom/field "Equipment Maintenance" training AND each rodeo course you want to compete in.

Licensed Facility attending "Practical and Effective Landfill Equipment Maintenance." *NO Charge*

Non-Licensed Business attending "Practical and Effective Landfill Equipment Maintenance." *\$ 175*

Listed on online Registration form as "special event." Rodeo competitors are limited to Montana Licensed Facility Operators only, no entry fee.

- Heavy Equipment Rodeo competitor in the Bulldozer Course Competition.
- Heavy Equipment Rodeo competitor in the Loader Course Competition.
- Heavy Equipment Rodeo competitor in the Compactor Course Competition.

1st, 2nd and 3rd Place awards & Top Score Overall Award

Contact Kathy O'Hern, 406-444-9879 or kohern@mt.gov, if you need assistance with the online registration.

REGISTER ONLINE:

<https://app.mt.gov/confreg2/> Click on "start" then "Solid Waste Equipment Maintenance & Rodeo"

Idaho recyclers look to alter scrap metal purchasing law

NEW YORK — A coalition of Idaho recyclers has proposed amendments to a state scrap metal purchasing law that would ease transaction record requirements and exempt scrap metal businesses from being charged with a felony for violating provisions of the law.

House Bill 433 would amend legislation passed in 2013 that requires scrap purchasers to obtain either photographs or digital recordings lasting more than 30 seconds for all nonferrous and stainless steel scrap transactions (*amm.com*, April 1).

The bill would remove this provision and simply require that purchasers obtain a photographic or video image of the “person, property and vehicle involved in the transaction,” while also mandating that recyclers retain transaction records for at least five years.

The bill would also exempt scrap metal businesses from a provision that classes repeat violations of the law as a felony.

The bill is the product of

a collaboration by the local scrap recycling industry, Pacific Steel & Recycling Inc. vice president of scrap operations Patrick Kons told *AMM*. Great Falls, Mont.-based Pacific Steel & Recycling operates 46 locations in Idaho, Washington, Utah, Nevada, Wyoming, South Dakota, North Dakota, Colorado, Montana and Alberta, Canada.

“We did not agree with this bill when it was passed last year, (but) it was passed with the contingency that we would bring an amended bill to the floor this year,” Kons said.

Kons said the scrap industry engaged the services of a law firm to help craft the alternative bill, which has been referred to the House Judiciary, Rules, and Administration Committee.

“It’s enforceable, it’s compatible with business, and it gives the state of Idaho and law enforcement all the information and data they need,” he said.

Daniel Fitzgerald
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Hartz Shrinks Packaging Footprint

Environmental & Energy Management News, January 2014

Pet care products company Hartz Mountain has redesigned its pet shampoo bottles to save 220,000 pounds of polymer across 10 million bottles, the company’s director of packaging engineering tells *Packaging Digest*.

The new 18-fluid-ounce shampoo bottle’s footprint also allows for a 1.5 percent more efficient pallet pattern, which means fewer trucks — and GHG emissions — on the road, Nicole Tom tells the publication.

As part of its commitment to sustainable packaging, Tom says Hartz’s packaging team is working on additional products that leave a smaller waste management footprint. Its dog treats, for example, will soon be sold in a recyclable bag.

Sustainability is not an optional add-on, but rather an essential part of business for the packaging industry, *Food Production Daily* reported last month.

Headwaters Recycling UPDATE -

Pate Auction in Helena has the remaining Headwater’s Recycling equipment listed for sale on their website:

<http://www.pateonlineauctions.com/#>

Rick’s Corner



By Rick Thompson, SW Program Section Supervisor

It has been a long, snowy winter for most, and I am certain you are all looking forward to a great spring and summer. I don’t have much to include in this issue, but I do want to remind you that inspection season has begun. The Solid Waste Program inspectors intend to visit each facility at least once in the upcoming six months. Our goal is to continue building a “solid” and cooperative working relationship by providing timely inspections and compliance assistance. A full inspection should take approximately an hour and a half to complete. The inspectors will endeavor to give you adequate notice prior to conducting an inspection; however surprise inspections will be conducted as well.

For your reading pleasure I have included the link to the recently published EPA Municipal Solid Waste Characterization Report <http://www.epa.gov/osw/nonhaz/municipal/msw99.htm>. It is loaded with information on the current state of solid waste generation and materials management in the United States.

Please remember to register for the upcoming Solid Waste Equipment Maintenance Training and Equipment Rodeo to be held in Billings on April 29 and 30, 2014. A link to the registration site is located on the Solid Waste website’s training page - <http://www.deq.mt.gov/solidwaste/training.mcp>

That is all I have for now.

Take Advantage of the Safety Training DVD Loan Program

The Solid Waste Program has a SAFETY TRAINING DVD Library for licensed facilities. These DVD's were developed by Blue Ridge Services. To borrow any of the DVDs for your safety meetings, call 406-444-5300 or e-mail wutbcomments@mt.gov. The DVD(s) will be mailed to you along with a return envelope. The DVDs are loaned out for two weeks at a time.

- LF-05 Working in Dusty Conditions
- LF-06 Traffic Safety/Road Design
- LF-13 Working in Extreme Weather - Hot Weather

- LF-14 Preventing Landfill Fires
- LF-21 Extreme Conditions - Rain Storms/Wet Weather
- LF-41 Methane Gas Safety
- LF-47 Slope Stability - Excavation Slopes
- LF-55 Leachate Management & Handling
- LF-70 Landfill Odors: Safety Issues
- TS-01 The Basics of Transfer Station Safety
- TS-03 Equipment Safety - General Issues
- TS-06 Bloodborne Pathogens
- TS-28 Dealing With Unruly Customers

To borrow a DVD contact Janet Handy – jhandy@mt.gov or 406-444-3463

Solid Waste Training Scheduled for Fall 2014 and Spring 2015:

Fall 2014

- Landfill Training: Rules update, Operations & Maintenance Plan development, landfill economics, inspections
- 24-Hour HAZWOPER

Spring 2015

- Manager of Landfill Operations (MOLO)
- Composting: Food waste, animal mortality composting, Montana's new composting rules



"Trash People" by German artist HA Schult. Hundreds of human-size figures constructed from 20 tons of recycled materials.

Auto Recycling...

The automotive recycling industry - with \$22 billion in sales annually - plays a necessary and crucial role in the efficient, ecological disposal of inoperable motor vehicles. Although sometimes known as auto salvage dealers, professional automotive recyclers deal strictly in the recycling of motor vehicles - i.e., domestic and foreign automobiles, light and heavy-duty trucks, buses and motorcycles.

Newsletter Contact: - Kathy O'Hern

Send your questions or submissions for upcoming issues to: kohern@mt.gov, 406-444-9879

