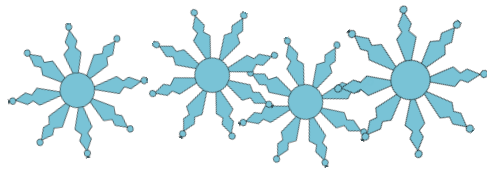


Montana Solid Waste News



WINTER 2014 ISSUE

2012 Waste Diversion & Recycling Report

By Kathy O'Hern

Each year the Department of Environmental Quality gathers solid waste data from landfills, recycling centers, compost facilities, and other solid waste management operations to determine the amount of waste generated in the state. The data is collected, and then categorized by what is done with the waste—is it landfilled, sent out of state, burned, recycled, reused, composted, or what?

What has been determined is that during the past ten years the amount of waste diverted from the landfills and recycled has increased in Montana—from 15% in 2003 to 21.9% in 2012. Way to go Montana!

So, you licensed facilities, when you receive your annual renewal notice in February, 2014, please complete the "2013 Montana Recycling Survey." This is the mechanism used to gather Montana's tonnages.



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Solid Waste Program Staff

Rick Thompson
Section Supervisor, 444-5345

Mary Louise Hendrickson
Technical Lead, 444-1808

Bruce Meyer
Junk Vehicle Program, 444-2835

Tim Stepp
Environmental Engineer,
444-4725

Mitzi Hansen
Data Control Specialist,
444-3493

Kathy O'Hern
Environmental Science
Specialist—compost, recycling,
and training, 444-9879

Bob McWilliams
Environmental Science
Specialist—Septic Pumper
Program, 444-1434

Brady Christensen
Environmental Science
Specialist—Junk Vehicle
Program, 444-3048

John Collins
Environmental Science
Specialist—groundwater and
methane monitoring, 444-2802



Address:
Lee Metcalf Building
1520 East Sixth Ave.
PO Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620
Main Line, 444-5300

www.deq.mt.gov/SolidWaste



Rick's Corner

By Rick Thompson, SW Program Section Supervisor

WHAT'S NEW?

Happy New Year! As we charge forward into the New Year with renewed vigor, armed with the knowledge gained and the lessons learned from the experiences of the past year, I thank your efforts to stay in compliance while providing an invaluable service for the state.

The solid waste world state-wide has been fairly quiet over the past few months. The recent cold snap followed by extremely high winds presented some challenges, but facilities managed to weather the storms by taking appropriate action(s) to reduce litter and equipment shut down due to the extreme cold.

What's on the horizon for 2014? Operator training is high on our list of priorities. Over the years, the free training provided to licensed facilities has translated into a very high level of compliance at licensed solid waste management systems (SWMS). We hope to continue providing courses which are relevant to the day-to-day operations at licensed SWMS facilities. In order to do so, we would like feedback on the type of training you desire, regardless of the type of the facility you operate. To that end, please complete the training survey on the forthcoming license renewal application. Also, if you attend training, please complete the course evaluation. Your feedback on the evaluation is invaluable in helping us plan future training events.

Also high on our list of priorities for 2014 is the completion of rule packages for oil field exploration and production wastes, composting, and petroleum impacted soil treatment facilities. The solid waste program is working with our internal and external stakeholders to produce these rules which will provide better oversight of emerging SWMS.

Last but not least on our list of priorities is to have a greater field presence not just for inspections, but to provide timely compliance assistance.

That is all I have for now, and if you have any questions please contact me or any of the SWP staff.

EPA to Propose New Guidelines for Municipal Solid Waste Landfills

By Rebecca Harbage, DEQ Air Quality Planner

The Environmental Protection Agency is proposing to revise its New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) and associated Emission Guidelines (EG) for Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Landfills. Currently, MSW Landfills with design capacities greater than or equal to 2.5 million megagrams (2.755 million tons) or 2.5 million cubic meters (3.27 million cubic yards) are subject to EPA's original 1996 rules, which regulate emissions of non-methane organic compounds (NMOC). Only those sources with a calculated NMOC emission rate equal to or greater than 50 megagrams per year are currently required to install collection and control systems.

In late 2013, EPA announced that it plans to propose revisions to both the NSPS for new MSW Landfills and the EG for existing MSW Landfills in February 2014. Following this anticipated timeline, EPA intends to publish final revisions before the end of 2014, which would take effect in early 2015. EPA has not yet announced what specific changes sources should expect. However, EPA has indicated the proposal may include a combination of the following: revisions to the design size applicability threshold, revisions to the emission rate applicability threshold, revisions to the time allotted for gas collection system installation, revisions to the time allotted for well field expansion, and revisions to surface monitoring requirements.

More information will be available following publication of the proposed revisions in February 2014. At that time, the Department of Environmental Quality will assess the changes and may present further detail at future meetings of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee and/or the Clean Air Act Advisory Committee.

Upcoming Solid Waste Training

Oil Field Wastes—Characteristics, Impact, and Management

February 19-20, 2014

Miles City Sleep Inn & Suites

1006 S. Haynes Ave, Miles City, MT 59301

Agenda

Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2014, 8am—5pm

Morning

Oil Field Operation:

- What wastes are generated through oil field operations?
- How are these wastes handled?

Afternoon

- Federal Regulations pertaining to oil field wastes
- Policy and guidelines for NORM/TENORM management
- Montana State regulations and enforcement
- Regional consistency in TENORM management

Thursday, Feb. 20, 2014, 8am—5pm

Morning

- Management and Disposal of TENORM, including history, basic chemistry, measurement, control methods, tip & tricks.

Afternoon

- Specific examples of changing operations at regional landfills
- Montana landfill operations and requirements

For more information and to register online:

www.deq.mt.gov/solidwaste/training.mcp

HEAVY EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

**Are you a skilled equipment operator?
Good enough to compete against other
solid waste equipment operators?**

**Here is your chance to show off, have
some fun, and compete for prizes!**

April 29-30, 2014

Billings Best Western Kelly Inn & Suites and the
Billings Regional Landfill

Day 1 Classroom - Equipment Maintenance instruction
by Blue Ridge Services

Billings Landfill - hands on equipment
maintenance

Day 2 Billings Landfill - Landfill Equipment Rodeo and
equipment demonstrations

Pre-registration will be **REQUIRED** for both the two-day
training and to compete in the Heavy Equipment Rodeo.

WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION!!

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

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. If you would like to borrow any of the DVDs for your safety meetings, call 406-444-5300 or e-mail wutbcomments@mt.gov. The DVD will be mailed to you along with a return envelope. The DVDs will be 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 you can also contact Janet Handy –
jhandy@mt.gov or 406-444-3463

On the Lighter Side...

By Tim Stepp, SW Program Engineer

Garbage Bonds?



Mr Cui, a Chinese man, put his savings in a garbage bin to hide from burglars while on a trip away from home - then forgot and threw out the bin.

In the bin was the equivalent of \$6,000 USD. "We looked around our home and finally decided to hide the money in the garbage bin, where we believed it was safest from burglary," said Cui who lives in Qingdao City. But Cui and his wife forgot about the money when they returned home, reports *Bandao City Papers*. "I threw away the garbage the day after I came back, since the bin was full," he said.

Two days passed before Cui remembered where he had hidden the money, and when he rushed to check the garbage room, it had already been taken away. "Our last hope was the city garbage treatment center, but the landfill was so vast that we knew our money was lost forever," he said.

Can Financial Assurance have a "Lighter Side"?

Financial assurance can be tricky with unexpected side effects. This funny true story reminded me of a lesson learned during a recent situation where the humor may also be truly difficult to find for the people it affects, yet it also illustrates how the licensee's choice may have undesired side effects. The focus of the story, and today's topic, both center around careful selection of the FA mechanism that best suits your needs—to faithfully guarantee the availability of adequate funds to meet regulatory obligations without precipitating bankruptcy.

Let's briefly discuss unique issues of timing involved with attractive "financial guarantee" mechanisms, such as the new corporate guarantee. Faulty timing was clearly disastrous in the case of those poor Chinese citizens. A similar problem can arise with financial guarantees that rely on complex annual audits and performance criteria. The parallel case addressed below involves a Local Government Guarantee Option (or LOGO).

Near the end of last year before Christmas, we once again reminded a licensee that their LOGO demonstration would be due as usual by December 31, and that a request for extension may be necessary. Please note that a **deadline of 90 days** after the end of a *corporate fiscal year* is usually considered adequate. Local governments are however given an automatic 90-day extension due to other complexities surrounding the third-party audit requirement. But at a minimum, *all engineering cost estimates* are always due by April 1 yearly, regardless of the FA mechanism selected.

When the contact person for their fiscal office called to discuss the extension, they complained that their third-party auditor was way behind again causing undue delays. We reminded them the performance of their contractors was already accounted for in the extension and that they might consider their options. They insisted that they would not fire the auditor who has balanced the books for the entire operation for years. We noted that they should select another FA option that works for them while also meeting their regulatory obligations.

Gratefully they decided to consider selection of the simpler trust fund option and we sent them the forms. A moment of truth arrived when we reminded them that an initial lump sum deposit must be made at the outset based on the percentage of landfill life elapsed thus far. There was a long silence and I could hear them swallow as they wondered what happened to the nest egg in the enterprise fund. Like the unfortunate Chinese folks, several issues of poor timing have apparently caught up with them!



Water Protection Training

BMP 101: Storm Water Management During Construction
Butte, MT
January 28, 2014

BMP 101: Storm Water Management During Construction
Billings, MT
March 18, 2014

BMP 201: SWPPP Administrator
Billings, MT
March 19 and 20, 2014

Montana Storm Water Conference
Curbing the Flow: Positive Solutions for Storm Water Management
Billings, MT
April 8 thru 10, 2014

BMP 101: Storm Water Management During Construction
Missoula, MT
April 22, 2014

BMP 201: SWPPP Administrator
Missoula, MT
April 23 and 24, 2014

BMP 101: Storm Water Management During Construction
Bozeman, MT
May 13, 2014

BMP 301: Conducting Storm Water Compliance Evaluation Inspections for Construction Activities
Bozeman, MT
May 14 and 15, 2014

For more information visit <http://deg.mt.gov/wqinfo/ctss/default.mcp> or contact Chris Romankiewicz: [cromankiewicz@mt.gov](mailto: cromankiewicz@mt.gov) (406) 475-2138.

