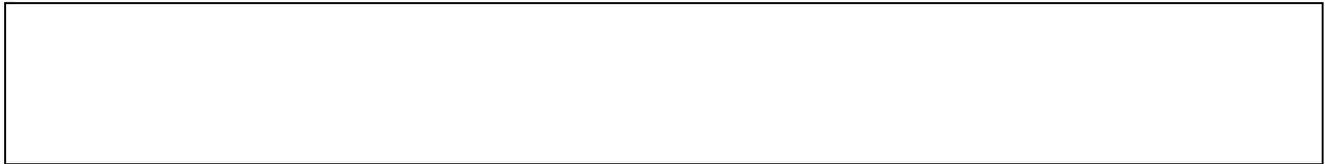


<http://www.netoopsblog.com>



MSW MANAGEMENT MAGAZINE (HTTP://FORESTERNETWORK.COM/CATEGORY/MSW-MANAGEMENT-MAGAZINE/)

From the [September-October-2017](http://foresternetwork.com/ms-issues/september-october-2017/) issue

SWANA News

« [Previous](http://foresternetwork.com/msw-management-magazine/safety-msw-management-magazine/safety-in-numbers/)

[Next »](http://foresternetwork.com/msw-management-magazine/landfill-managers-notebook/landfill-rate-increases/)

Forester Media (<http://foresternetwork.com/author/forester-media/>) • August 16, 2017

Add Comment (<http://foresternetwork.com/msw-management-magazine/swana-news/swana-news-16/#comment-on-post>)

Like 0 Tweet Share G+

[\(http://foresternetwork.com/msw-management-magazine/swana-news/swana-news-16/email/\)](http://foresternetwork.com/msw-management-magazine/swana-news/swana-news-16/email/)

[\(http://foresternetwork.com/msw-management-magazine/swana-news/swana-news-16/print/\)](http://foresternetwork.com/msw-management-magazine/swana-news/swana-news-16/print/)



SWANA Announces Winners of the 2017 Safety Awards

SWANA is proud to announce the winners of the 2017 SWANA Safety Awards selected by SWANA's Technical Divisions and the SWANA Safety Committee for their excellence in solid waste safety.

This year, SWANA expanded its Safety Awards program and selected winners based on SWANA's 7 Technical Divisions, as well as an overall winner. These companies and local governments have all championed safety within the solid waste sector in the United States and Canada and demonstrated profound commitment to improving workplace safety.

"I am very pleased by the exceptional quality of the submissions in our second year of SWANA's Safety Awards program," noted David Biderman, SWANA's Executive Director and CEO. "SWANA's Safety Awards recognize the biggest and best safety improvements and innovations, and we hope that the best practices adopted by the winners are considered by others in both the United States and Canada."

COLLECTION & TRANSFER DIVISION

Biggest Safety Improvement

Fairfax County Solid Waste

Management Program

The Fairfax County Solid Waste Management Program (SWMP) took safety out of the shadows with staff, asking difficult questions and no longer settling for the status quo. The overhaul of the safety program resulted in significant reductions in safety statistics driven by operational improvements: Where the SWMP averaged closer to 40 annual recordable injuries in 2015, there were only seven in 2016. And, most importantly, workers now see they hold the key to their own safety—to ensuring they go home safely each night.

Best Safety Innovation

McNeilus Truck & Manufacturing

McNeilus Truck and Manufacturing partnered with FleetMind Solutions in 2016 to offer an integrated safety solution called the SSV10. The SSV10 is an on-board computer that provides a comprehensive safety solution that allows for a 360 degree bird's eye view of the vehicle, object detection, live stream video, video playback, driver safety coaching and scorecard, and automated routing. The product can be installed on any refuse vehicle by any manufacturer. Safety technology is always developing, so with this on-board computer platform, the latest safety features and functionalities can be pushed automatically to the software without the need for additional hardware or installations. An important part of the safety innovation is the training and implementation. With over 30 branches in the US, McNeilus makes sure that the haulers know how to utilize the software and incorporate it into their daily activities through rigorous training and on-site support.

COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION & MARKETING DIVISION

Biggest Safety Improvement

Lakeshore Recycling Systems

Upon revamping Lakeshore Recycling Systems' (LRS) safety initiatives, the company began instilling a new safety culture. Unlike many companies that keep safety a priority, LRS chose to forgo this option with the notion that safety is not a priority, but a value. The philosophy behind this statement is that priorities can change and shift over time. At LRS, safety has become a value and a core pillar of the company's foundation.

LRS' safety program can be broken down into three major elements: training, communication and recognition. Each area offers a specific purpose to decrease incidents and embed a positive safety culture as the company continues to expand in service area, revenue, facilities, fleet, employees, system-wide services and more.

LANDFILL GAS & BIOGAS DIVISION

Best Safety Innovation

DTE Biomass Energy

DTE Biomass Energy (DTEBE) has several sites where employees work unsupervised. The company recognized that if a "lone worker" were incapacitated in an emergency, there would be no method to initiate emergency response. After identifying a device that would work for their industry to automatically alert emergency responders, they implemented a Lone Worker Safety Program. Through this program, they reduced by 88% the amount of lone work time without the ability to summon emergency responders. In addition, they achieved coordination with local emergency services to ensure a timely response should a lone worker need emergency assistance.



LANDFILL MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Best Safety Innovation

City of Vancouver

The City of Vancouver recognized that the receipt and handling of asbestos containing material at the City's transfer and landfill operations could pose health risks to employees. To understand the potential levels of asbestos exposure, asbestos sampling has been completed on a yearly basis creating a historical data base from which to identify any asbestos risk change. To ensure employee health and to control the handling of asbestos received at both the transfer station and landfill, a comprehensive Asbestos Exposure Control Plan with accompanying Safe Operating Procedures was written with the final review and implementation in 2016. The plan is now used to educate employees and to guide their safe work activities when handling asbestos.

SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Biggest Safety Improvement

Maryland Environmental Services

Despite facing extraordinarily difficult circumstances upon taking over the Prince George's County Material Recycling Facility (MRF), employees designed a unique safety program, which strongly adheres to Maryland Environmental Service standards and made significant impacts on safety outcomes. Moreover, this facility has maintained a stellar record as compared to national industry standards.

BEST SAFETY INNOVATION**2017 SWANA Safety Award Overall Winner****Hamm Waste Services**

Hamm Waste Services (Hamm), based in Perry, Kansas, provides integrated waste management services in Kansas and Missouri including: collection, transfer stations, landfill, and a material recovery facility. As part of its movement towards lean processes and increased safety, Hamm began the process of 5S implementation at their MRF in Lawrence, Kansas. The MRF 5S system improved housekeeping and organization; reduced employee exposure to rolling stock; and further intensified employee focus on safety, operational process, and risk minimization. Implementation of the innovative 5S process at the Hamm MRF has reduced occupational hazards and exposure in their facility by over 50%.

“It’s a tremendous honor to receive the SWANA Overall Safety Award for our safety systems at the Hamm Material Recovery Facility in Lawrence, Kansas,” said Charlie Sedlock, Director at Hamm Waste Services. “Protecting our employee team members is the most important thing we do each day at Hamm.”

SWANA is a leader in the effort to move the waste collection industry off of the federal government’s list of 10 most dangerous jobs; this awards program, along with numerous other safety initiatives, including the award-winning Chapter Safety Ambassador Program and the “5 to Stay Alive” campaign, are important steps in that direction.

All of the Safety Award entries are available for review on the Safety Matters website at **SWANA.org/safety** (<http://SWANA.org/safety>).

SWANA would like to thank PRECO, the official sponsor of the SWANA Safety Awards program, for all of their support.



**Saying “Thank You” to
Recognize Waste & Collection
Workers**



Dennis Batts, Emergency Operations and Safety Manager, Solid Waste Management Program shows off the Slow Down to Get Around branded cooling-towels he was giving out.

Kentucky became the 13th state to pass a “Slow Down to Get Around” law when Governor Matt Bevin signed the legislation on March 16. Drivers will now need to yield the right of way to solid waste collection vehicles and employees on the job. Both of the state’s legislative branches passed SDTGA unanimously.

As collection workers arrived at the transfer station to empty their trucks, they were greeted by smiling faces, refreshments, and gifts from volunteers spent their entire day waving, cheering, and celebrating these individuals. This is what National Garbage Man Day is all about—recognizing the necessary and important service that collection workers offer our society and showing appreciation for the work they do during long and often under harsh weather conditions.

This industry-wide campaign to recognize and show appreciation to waste and refuse workers



Volunteers show appreciation by handing out water bottles to Fairfax County collection workers.

is observed the week of June 17–24, 2017. Fairfax County’s Solid Waste Management Program celebrated with a thank-you event on June 20th to honor the dedicated men and women who work for Fairfax County. Volunteers came out to show appreciation to drivers in more than 160 trucks who came through the transfer station.

Started five years ago by John D. Arwood, CEO of Arwood Waste, this week-long recognition program has grown exponentially over a short time. Dennis Batts, Program Manager of Emergency Operations and Safety for Fairfax County, brought this event to Fairfax County to raise awareness about safety in the solid waste industry, as well as to demonstrate appreciation for the vital work of Fairfax County’s collection and transfer employees.

“Seeing the faces and hearing the responses from the men and women in those collection vehicles told me that they really appreciate the recognition we were showing them,” said Dennis Batts, Emergency Operations and Safety Manager, Solid Waste Management Program for Fairfax County.



A volunteer at the event in Fairfax walks back to get more supplies for incoming trucks.

Year after year, trash collection remains on the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics list of top 10 most dangerous jobs. In response to this sobering fact, Fairfax County, and many other jurisdictions in the United States, have amped up their efforts to raise awareness about safety in the solid waste industry. Efforts such as the Slow Down to Get Around Campaign communicate ways the public can help mitigate injuries to collection workers by slowing down around garbage trucks. Slow Down to Get Around laws have now been passed in 16 states, a notable success for safety in the industry.

“This week of industry worker recognition is a great way to acknowledge the valuable service that collection workers provide every day in our communities,” said Jesse Maxwell, SWANA’s Advocacy & eLearning Program Manager. “As one of the most dangerous jobs out there, events like this remind the public that they also play a role in keeping these men and women safe and healthy.”



Throughout the United States, there are over 100,000 trash and recycling collection workers responsible for over 250 million tons of waste per year. With this designated National Day of recognition growing, Fairfax County and many others have the opportunity to show widespread support for all of the collection workers doing such an important service for the community. For more information, please visit [garbagemanday.org](http://www.garbagemanday.org) (<http://www.garbagemanday.org/>).

Research on Landfill Alternative Final Cover Systems Documented in New Report

FINDINGS RELEASED BY SWANA’S APPLIED RESEARCH FOUNDATION

A recent report issued by SWANA’s Applied Research Foundation (ARF) documents the benefits of two alternatives to the conventional final cover systems prescribed in US EPA non-hazardous waste landfill regulations.

In response to growing concerns with the performance of prescribed final cover systems installed within one year after final waste placement, the 23 subscribers of SWANA’s ARF Disposal Research Group supported and participated in a study to evaluate cover systems that, though not prescribed in federal municipal solid waste landfill regulations, have been permitted as final cover systems.

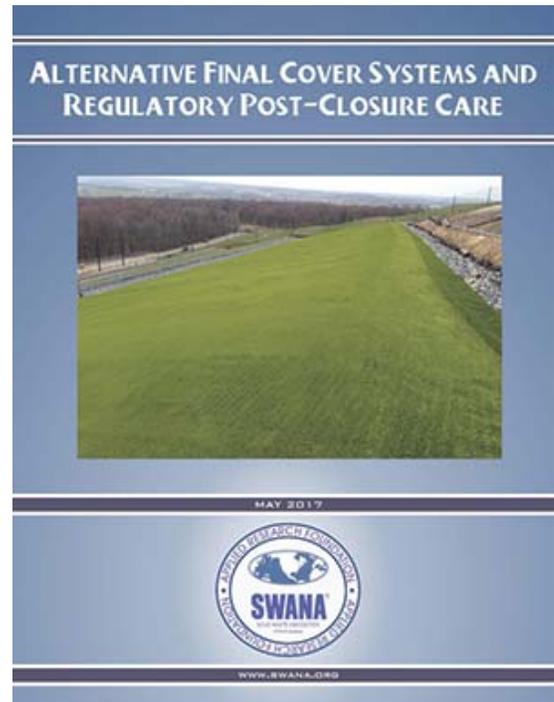


“Our research focused on two systems—exposed geomembrane covers and engineered

turf covers—that appear to offer significant potential to address the concerns subscribers identified,” said SWANA’s ARF Director, Jeremy O’Brien, P.E. “These identified concerns include the effect of landfill settlement on the final cover integrity during the post-closure care (PCC) period, loss of landfill airspace to cover soil, veneer slope stability, soil erosion, and the continual need to mow and maintain the cover vegetation.”

Exposed geomembrane cover (EGC) systems do not install the vegetative, topsoil, infiltration, and drainage layer components otherwise found in the EPA’s prescribed final cover systems.

Engineered turf cover (ETC) systems utilize an engineered turf layer to cover and protect the underlying geomembrane from UV radiation and oxidation and use a sand ballast to mitigate wind and landfill gas pressure issues.

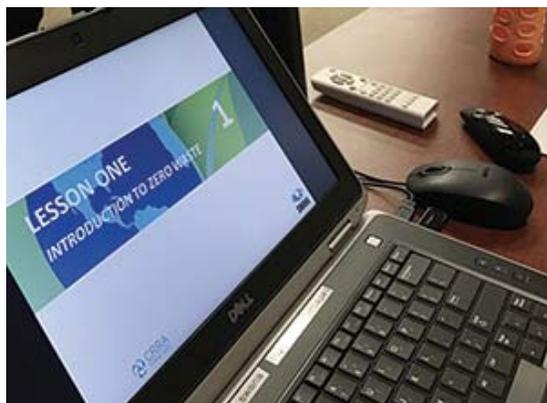


Credit: HDR



The ARF report emphasized the evaluation of the service life of the cover systems in comparison to a 30-year post-closure care period and the estimated 450-year service life of the EPA-prescribed final closure system. Laboratory and field testing results discussed in the report found service lives ranging from about 100 years for the EGC to about 200 years for the ETC.

“The report indicates both alternatives have real potential to meet and even exceed federal closure requirements while also offering landfills flexibility to better address specific, on-site issues and optimize their approach,” added O’Brien.



“Early on, CRRA’s Board recognized the importance of bringing a structured educational program to the non-profit, public, and private sector engaged in developing and bringing zero waste plans to reality,” said Rob Hilton, CRRA’s President. “CRRA’s early certification program was successful in training hundreds of professionals, many of whom are now in Zero Waste careers. This partnership with SWANA allows us to reach and learn from thousands of our colleagues and industry partners across North America, and it is my

sincere hope that this sharing and learning evolves the concepts of Zero Waste from a movement to an established industry.”

The *Zero Waste Principles & Practices* course is perfect for entry and mid-level managers of programs and systems serving local governments and other industry professionals that work in an advisory or consulting capacity with municipal programs and staff.

After its initial launch at CRRA’s Annual Conference and Tradeshow that took place in San Diego in August, the course is now available as part of SWANA’s industry-renowned Certification Program. For more information on *Zero Waste Principles & Practices* course, visit swana.org/training (<http://swana.org/training>).



SWANA®

SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
of North America



YP Spotlight

The SWANA Young Professionals group continues to grow and expand across the country. SWANA YP members have been busy this past year speaking at SWANA events, leading teams, mentoring students and making strides in every aspect of the industry. With more than more than 800 YPs, their accomplishments are certainly something to be very proud of. Meet the latest SWANA YP of the Month:



MARILISA

B. PORTER, M.S., GS12

Solid Waste Program, Qualified Recycling Program (QRP) and HAZMAT Re-Use Manager (Interim Manager September 2015-March 2016 then April 2016 to Present)

Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Branch of the Marine Corps Base – Quantico

Meet Marilisa Porter with the Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Branch of the Marine Corps Base in Quantico, Virginia.

Marilisa has achieved several accomplishments over her career in the industry. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2016, Marilisa grew diversion rates from 30.30% (FY15) to 48.08%. She also invested in new equipment (baler, brass deformer and industrial shredder) and debuted recycling streams by deploying Quantico-owned recycling bins in four new locations. In FY17, Marilisa added the following diversion streams: cardboard, metals, plastic film, hard plastic (via agreements with local contactors).

Marilisa is also responsible for creating a hazardous material re-use program that continued to grow and expand by 1.26 tons from FY13 – FY15. In addition to being the sole employee in the QRP program, Marilisa is proud to be a part of a \$200,000 profit surplus distributed to the base for use by moral programs supporting the Marines, Civilian Marines and their families, Energy initiatives, P2 program initiatives, and Occupation Health and Safety programs.



Credit: istock/Janine Lamontagne

When asked about her experience as a SWANA YP member, she says:

“I recently became a YP member of SWANA and look forward learning more about the group and attending the ISWA World Congress & WASTECON 2017 in September.”

Thanks for all of your industry work, Marilisa!

Do you know an exceptional YP SWANA member who is 35 years of age or younger and working in the solid waste industry?

Or are you a Young Professional who wants to share your accomplishments with fellow SWANA members?

MSW



Comments

LEAVE A REPLY

Name (required)

Email (will not be published) (required)

Comment

Submit Comment