

Illinois Solid Waste News

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ILCSWMA Members,

It was great to see so many of you at the annual conference this past June. The conference was a success with many great speakers and events. The keynote speaker was very informative and confirmed the importance of the service role we all have in solid waste. I was also encouraged by one of our tour locations, Mission Outreach, operated by the Franciscan Sisters. They collect medical equipment and supplies no longer needed or used by hospitals in Illinois. They then sort, prepare, and inventory all that they collect and deliver it to areas in need overseas. They were amazingly organized and involved a large number of volunteers. It was wonderful to see how a local organization can have such an impact on other countries and at the same time reduce the amount of waste generated.

Also in the ILCSWMA tradition, it was enjoyable to surprise Paul Purseglove with the Distinguished Service Award at the conference. Paul has been very helpful to ILCSWMA and its members as a resource and especially as a speaker for many of our conferences and workshops. For those unable to

attend we hope to see you at our annual conference in the fall of 2012. The conference location has not been confirmed; however we hope to select a venue in Champaign shortly.

On June 28th we had the third call for our Illinois Product Stewardship Initiative. Peter Petit from the New York Product Stewardship Council joined us on the call to explain the details and benefits of possibly developing such a Council in Illinois. The primary benefits in becoming a Council over our current arrangement appear to be that we will become a more organized and cohesive group with similar goals, which would help formalize our identity and increase our legitimacy, especially when soliciting funding and legislative support to increase product stewardship in Illinois.

To become involved in the Initiative please contact Caitlin McCallister (caitlin@productstewardship.us) at the Product Stewardship Institute to be put on the email list. The next conference call has been scheduled for August 16th.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

September 30th will mark the end of the term for ILCSWMA's Executive Board. Therefore, in the near future, the contact person at full member agencies should be receiving a ballot in the mail to elect the new officers. Please send those back promptly. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Best Regards, Dave Hartke

Photo at right: Paul Purseglove, IEPA, accepts the Annual Distinguished Service Award from President Hartke at the conference



MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

NEW IL THERMOSTAT DISPOSAL LAW

Effective July 1, 2011, it is illegal to intentionally dispose of mercury-switch thermostats in the solid waste stream in Illinois (Public Act 96-1295, Mercury Thermostat Collection Act). This means that any person removing a mercury-switch thermostat from service is required to recycle the device and cannot dispose of it in the trash.

Mercury-switch thermostats typically contain four grams of mercury. The mercury is contained in a glass bulb inside the thermostat. Because mercury is a toxic chemical that does not break down and accumulates in humans and wildlife over time, it should not be released to the environment.

The new law requires thermostat manufacturers to implement a recycling program and pay for the collection of out-of-service mercury switch thermostats. This includes thermostat wholesale distributors (typically businesses that are engaged in the wholesale distribution of heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning components) that act as collection locations. HVAC contractors or service technicians can take unwanted mercury-switch thermostats to thermostat wholesale distributors for recycling.

Thermostat manufacturers are using the existing Thermostat Recycling Corporation (TRC) to set up

their collection programs for mercury-switch thermostats that are taken out of service in the state. These thermostats are regulated as "universal wastes" in order to streamline their collection and transport.

HVAC contractors in rural areas, contractors in metropolitan areas with seven or more technicians, household hazardous waste facilities, solid waste management agencies, environmental management agencies, or departments of public health are eligible to obtain a collection bin from TRC. They must pay a one-time fee of \$25 to participate in the collection program. Information on how to participate in the TRC program is available at www.thermostat-recycle.org, or by calling 800-238-8192.

Illinois EPA's Office of Pollution Prevention is overseeing the development of the statewide collection program for out of service mercury-switch thermostats. The Agency has sent letters to thermostat wholesaler distributors and HVAC contractors around the state notifying them of their collection and recycling responsibilities under the new law. For more information, please contact Becky Jayne, Illinois EPA, at either Becky.Jayne@illinois.gov or 217/524-9642.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS continued

AUTO SALVAGE YARDS

(Ed. Note: The Indiana Dept. of Environmental Management provided a presentation at last month's annual conference on their efforts to address environmental management at auto salvage yards. This article follows up that presentation. While Indiana regulations will be discussed at the workshops indicated, some information may be useful to Illinois local governments looking to develop local programs to address this industry.)

Indiana Dept. of Environmental Management will be presenting three free workshops to provide auto salvage facilities and other interested parties information on environmental regulations that apply to the Auto Salvage Industry. Presenting at the workshops will be knowledgeable IDEM staff ready to answer any questions asked.

The Indiana Clean Yard Program is a way to help auto salvage yards improve and monitor compliance with environmental regulations. By participating in this program, salvage yards can help ensure that their environment and community are protected. Participation in the program includes conducting an environmental self-evaluation, correcting any problems, and incorporating practices that will help ensure continued and on-going environmental protection. By participating in this program and meeting certain requirements, facilities could be certified by IDEM as an *Indiana Clean Yard*.

Each workshop will start at 9AM, with registration opening at 8AM. We encourage people to call ahead and pre-register at 317/234-6951. Workshop dates and locations:

- ◆ August 3 at Evansville, IN
- ◆ August 16 at Ft. Wayne, IN
- ◆ August 22 at Indianapolis, IN

STATE ELECTRONICS CHALLENGE

The manufacture, use, and end-of-life management of computers is fraught with environmental challenges. Computers contain a range of hazardous constituents, including lead and mercury. These toxics can enter the environment when disposed of or recycled improperly. The manufacturing and use of computers also consumes a significant amount of energy.

If your county or municipality is interested in lowering the impacts of computers on the environment and accruing cost savings, consider joining the State Electronics Challenge (SEC). The SEC is a national, voluntary program that works with state, regional, tribal, and local governments, including schools, colleges, and universities to:

- ◆ Purchase greener computer products.
- ◆ Reduce the impacts of computer products during use & decrease paper usage.
- ◆ Manage obsolete computer equipment in an environmentally safe way.

Through a recent Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant, government agencies and organizations in Illinois can now participate as "Partners" in this program. The SEC provides Partners with free resources and technical assistance to improve computer management practices.

To date, 69 government organizations in 27 states have signed on as [SEC Partners](#). If you're interested in joining the Challenge, [registration](#) takes just a couple of minutes online.

For more information, visit the Challenge Website at www.stateelectronicschallenge.net, send an email to info@stateelectronicschallenge.net, or call Patty Dillon, Program Manager, at (802) 254-8911. SEC program staff is also available to "meet" with your organization individually by teleconference to introduce you to the Challenge program and its benefits. The SEC is managed by the Northeast Recycling Council Inc. in Brattleboro, Vermont.

STATE NEWS

ELECTRONICS MANUFACTURERS EXCEED 2010 STATE RECYCLING GOALS

Submitted by Dave Walters, Illinois EPA

When Public Act 95-0959 became law in Illinois in September 2008, it established a statewide system for recycling and/or reusing computers, monitors, televisions, and printers discarded from residences by requiring electronic manufacturers to participate in the management of discarded and unwanted electronic products. All manufacturers selling computers, printers, monitors, and televisions in Illinois are now assigned recycling goals. For 2010 those goals were based on 2.5 per capita and totaled over 31 million pounds of recycled electronics.

2010 E-Waste Collection Results

For 2010, 107 manufacturers were assigned electronic product recycling goals. Forty-seven of those manufacturers received credit for recycling 33,080,566 pounds of electronic products for the first year of the program. That exceeded the statewide recycling goal set by the Illinois Products Recycling and Reuse Act by 1,743,663 pounds.

Manufacturers that were assigned an Illinois recycling goal were required to submit their amounts collected by March 1, 2011. Of the 47 reporting collection results, 23 exercised the portions of the legislation that allowed adjustments for collecting in underserved counties, refurbishing products for their original intention, and donating to an educational institution. That allowed those manufacturers to be credited with an extra 2,738,499 pounds of materials. The actual amount reported as collected was 30,342,067 pounds.

Electronic product collectors were also responsible for submitting the amounts that they collected from Illinois residents. However, Illinois EPA has asked all registered collectors to resubmit the information due to errors in the submitted reports. The two most common errors in collector's reports revolved around amounts collected for manufacturers and the credit for collecting in underserved counties. All

collectors must report all items collected regardless of whether or not they were collected for a manufacturer. Credits for collecting in underserved counties only pertain to manufacturers and do not impact the amounts collected by collectors.

2011 Collection Goals

Collection goals for calendar year 2011 were based on the amount collected and sampled during the first six months of 2010. Because the amounts collected during that period reached only 80% of the statutory goal, the 2011 was reduced to 28,203,213 pounds. Based on sampling audits and television sales, the goal was divided among 106 manufacturers. For more information on amounts reported and how the goals was derived see <http://www.epa.state.il.us/land/electronic-waste-recycling/recycle-goals-2011.html>.

New Legislation

Significant changes to the Electronic Products Recycling and Reuse Act are in Senate Bill 2106. At this writing, it has passed both houses and awaits the Governor's signature. If signed, it would expand the types of devices that are considered "covered electronic devices," to a total of 16 different products. It would eliminate the "return share" sampling and goal setting requirements and require each manufacturer to recycle or reuse a set percentage of the weight of products sold in the two years before (40% in 2012, 50% in 2013). In addition, it would allow the IEPA to issue grants up to \$2,000 to county recycling coordinators to inform residents about the legislation.



STATE NEWS continued

IEPA 2009 LANDFILL CAPACITY REPORT

(Excerpted from the Executive Summary)

IEPA recently released its 23rd Annual "Nonhazardous Solid Waste Management and Landfill Capacity in Illinois" report covering the year 2009.

Forty-seven landfills reported more than one billion gate cubic yards of remaining capacity, as of January 1, 2010, down less than one percent from a year ago. Capacity from a new facility in Atkinson was included. Capacity from another landfill in Clinton and one landfill expansion permitted during 2009 were also included in this figure.

In mid-2009, two new landfills opened in DeWitt County and Henry County. Clinton Landfill #3 (Clinton) opened across the road from Clinton Landfill #2 on July 14, 2009. Atkinson Landfill, Atkinson, was permitted to open on July 24, 2009, but actually opened for business on August 20, 2009. In February 2009, vertical and horizontal expansions were permitted at Indian Creek Landfill No. 2. Other expansions are pending Agency review and approval at landfills located in Elwood, Rochelle and Milan.

In 2009, 44 active landfills in Illinois accepted more than 45 million gate cubic yards of municipal waste for disposal. An issue for local commerce is the closure of any of these active landfills. Landfill closure occurred in Charleston in April 2009 when ERC/Coles County Landfill ceased accepting waste. A transfer station operated by another company then opened at the same location in May 2009. CID RDF #4, Calumet City/Chicago, also closed on Dec. 16, 2009.

In January 2008, Congress Development Company closed in Hillside, leaving River Bend Prairie as the only active landfill located in Cook County.

Expansions were also permitted in the previous years between 2007 and 2008. At River Bend Prairie, Dolton, a permit was received for a horizontal expansion of 2.94 acres on Jan. 2, 2008; at Rochelle Municipal #2, a vertical expansion above Unit 2 was approved on May 16, 2008 and at Winnebago Landfill, Rockford, a horizontal expansion of the North Unit (66.6 acres) was also approved on May 16, 2008. Previously in 2007, in Bloomington and Elwood, landfill expansions were also approved.

Three landfills located near Harrisburg, Jerseyville and Streator continued to remain inactive through all of 2009; although they again reported capacity remaining as of Jan. 1, 2010.

Besides 44 active landfills, 109 active transfer stations and 40 active compost facilities are also available to handle waste generated in Illinois. This list includes two new transfer stations in the Chicago Metropolitan area: Crystal Lake and Lake Bluff, one in Charleston (Region 4) and one in Jacksonville (Region 5). All total for the six different counties in the Chicago Metropolitan area there are 75 transfer stations, some that handle both waste and recyclables.

Two compost facilities named Mariani Landscape Design, Lake Bluff and Countryside Landscape, Round Lake, were permitted by the Agency in 2009.

For more information, visit www.epa.state.il.us/land/landfill-capacity/2009/.

To see presentations from the Illinois Recycling & Waste Management Conference, held June 6-8, 2011, visit www.illinoisjointconference.com and click on "Presentations".

STATE NEWS continued

DCEO & IRA LAUNCH RE-TRAC CONNECT

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) in partnership with the Illinois Recycling Association and Emerge Knowledge recently launched Re-TRAC Connect™ at the 2011 Illinois Recycling & Waste Management Conference. Re-TRAC Connect represents the latest evolution of Emerge Knowledge's widely celebrated Re-TRAC web application. Re-TRAC is a web-based waste reduction management system for governments and organizations to efficiently collect, measure, benchmark, and report recycling and solid waste data. With Re-TRAC Connect, Emerge Knowledge has included new tools to help connect people with information to improve programs and achieve sustainability outcomes. This project was funded under a grant from DCEO.

Using Re-TRAC Connect, local governments and organizations in Illinois can publish information about recycling and reuse facilities through EcoPoint™. EcoPoint is a searchable directory with up-to-date information about local recycling and reuse opportunities. Members of the public can use EcoPoint to generate a convenient map that displays nearby drop-off locations and facilities for managing anything from aluminum cans to yard trimmings!

Local Governments will also be able to use Re-TRAC Connect to publish information about their waste reduction programs on Community Profiles™.

Through the Illinois Recycling Association's website, the public will be able to access these Community Profiles to learn about which materials are collected in their community, how they're collected, and much more!

With the support in part of the Illinois Recycling Association and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, basic Re-TRAC Connect accounts will be available to all local governments and many organizations throughout Illinois. Go to <http://connect.re-trac.com> to create your free account!

Scheduled Walk-throughs:

If you would like assistance in creating or managing your Re-TRAC Connect account, Emerge Knowledge will be delivering webinars providing step-by-step walk-throughs on Thursday, July 14th, 2011 @ 10 to 11am.

Please email connect@re-trac.com or call 1-888-600-3907 to reserve a spot. Space on the webinars is limited so please call early.

Note to County Users: After creating your Re-TRAC Connect account, you may notice that you cannot create a Community Profile (See: the "Public Profile" tab in your account or <http://il.mycoville.com/community-profiles/program-info?state=IL> for reference). County Profiles will be enabled in an update to Re-TRAC Connect in the near future. Email connect@re-trac.com or call 1-888-600-3907 if you have any questions.

Important Links:

Re-TRAC Connect (registration and login):

<http://connect.re-trac.com>

After communities submit key information in Re-TRAC Connect, any member of the public can view their community profile at:

<http://il.mycoville.com/community-profiles/program-info?state=IL>

MEMBER NEWS

WILL COUNTY

Will County and Vintage Tech Recyclers announced a new, free, Front-Door Collection service for electronics on April 1, for Aurora, Bolingbrook, Crest Hill, Channahon, Elwood, Homer Glen, Joliet, Lemont, Lockport, Minooka, Naperville, New Lenox, Plainfield, Rockdale, Romeoville, Shorewood and Woodridge. This program includes parts of the communities that extend into other counties and is scheduled to expand to all parts of Will County by the end of the year. It is available only to homes with ground-level access and not to apartments or coach homes at this time. In May, the 13th intergovernmental electronic drop-off agreement was approved for Homer Glen Township/Village of Homer Glen. A one-day electronics collection was held for the first time in Elwood in April.

In May, for the second year in a row, the County partnered with Celebrating Sustainability to offer electronics collection at GR2011 in Joliet. That same day, an electronics collection was held at an Earth Celebration in Homer Glen.

Will County held three one-day Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events in April and May. The locations spanned from east to west to north and included local volunteer support at Governor's State in University Park, the Village of Plainfield and the Village of Bolingbrook.

At the same time, our School Education program climaxed with a record 52 schools earning their Earth Flag and our educator providing 62 separate presentations in April alone!

Staff attended numerous fairs, promoted our new website, www.willcountygreen.com, and special events in newspaper, radio, handouts and electronic media.

In May, Will County held its first Green Business Seminar to address energy and recycling opportunities. It was done in partnership with Joliet Junior College and kicks off a series of two or more half-day seminars for businesses. Speakers from

ComEd, Nicor, SEDAC, Siemens and more offered money saving tips while other companies and non-profits, including the Illinois Recycling Association, offered information at booths.

In June, staff enjoyed the annual ILCSWMA conference and an extremely successful Book Reuse, Recycling and Document Destruction Event over three days. An estimated 40,000 books came through but, after reuse, only 2,500 remained to be recycled!

CITY OF URBANA

The City is co-sponsoring a Countywide Residential Electronics Collection Event on August 6. Champaign County residents can drop-off of various types of electronic equipment for free. Vintage Tech is the contracted recycler. This event is the third one of four quarterly events being held in 2011. Residents are being particularly encouraged to take advantage of recycling opportunities due to the 2012 landfill ban on many electronic products.

JO DAVIESS/CARROLL COUNTY

On June 11, the Jo Daviess - Carroll Solid Waste Agency participated in the unused medication collection coordinated by Keep Northern Illinois Beautiful. This was the first time in Jo Daviess and Carroll Counties for this event thanks to the experience and input from KNIB, the event preparation went very well. Financing from many local organizations and businesses was used to pay the drug disposal cost and volunteers from law enforcement, health departments, and pharmacies made the collection successful by providing knowledgeable product sorting. Jo Daviess and Carroll Counties expect to participate in the 2012 collection and also increase the number of households served.