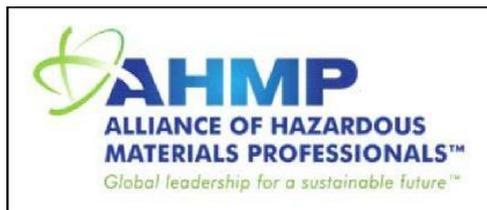


# The Hazardous Materials Manager

EASTERN WASHINGTON CHAPTER OF THE ACADEMY OF CERTIFIED HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGERS NEWSLETTER



## Executive Committee's Corner



### Eastern Washington Chapter of the Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers

1370 Jadwin, Suite 113

Richland, WA 99352

<http://www.ewcachmm.org>

#### Current Officers:

President: Chuck Mulkey

Vice President: Andrea Hopkins

Secretary: Roni Swan

Treasurer:– Chuck Mulkey

Past President: Wade Winters

#### Committee Chairs:

Professional Development: Mike Schmoldt

Membership Development: Open

Public & Community

Relations & Awards: Scot Adams

Government Liaison: Harold Tilden

Education: Andrea Hopkins

Web Master: Anne Dukelow

Newsletter: Roni Swan

Past President's Advisory Council: Chuck Mulkey, Rampur Viswanath, Andrea Prignano

#### Past Presidents:

2014 – Wade Winters

2013 – Roni Swan

2012 – Chuck Mulkey

2011 – Russ Johnson

2010 – Mike Schmoldt

2009 – Robbie Tidwell

2008 – Mark Riess

2007 – Andrea Prignano

2006 – Robbie Tidwell

2005 – Michelle Y. Mandis

2004 – Chuck Mulkey

2003 – R. Terry Winward

2002 – Rampur Viswanath

2001 – Stan Jones

2000 – Roni Swan

1999 – Chris Brevick

1998 – Robert Newell

1997 – Delores Lutter

1996 – Terry Ostrander

1995 – Bill Holstein

1994 – Brian Dixon

1993 – Bruce Vesper

Welcome to spring! It is great to finally see green grass on Rattlesnake Mountain and all the beautiful flowers in the meadows! First of all, the Eastern Washington Chapter of the Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers (EWC-ACHMM) would like to thank the U.S. DOE, WRPS and CHPRC, with their support of the annual awards program last December. As a technical organization providing a certification program, the EWC-ACHMM understands the importance of continuous improvement and supporting Hanford continues to be a priority. This year the EWC-ACHMM is planning four events, including presentations and field trips. EWC events are always open to the public and without cost. Other activities and events will be announced as they are developed. The EWC-ACHMM is a non-profit organization and support from other organizations is tax-deductible.

We kicked off 2015 with a dynamic presentation from Peggy Williamson, CHMM, Fulcrom Environmental Consulting (2014 Hazardous Material's Manager of the Year). Peggy delivered a comprehensive presentation on the challenges that exist with remediating sites in the Northwest. She shared innovative ways to successfully complete those projects.

Also this year on March 14, 2015, the EWC-ACHMM provided cash awards to two students participating in the Mid-Columbia Science and Engineering Fair in Richland, WA. The student projects demonstrated accomplishment with hazardous materials objectives. The two winning students were Scott Bar fuss, Enterprise Middle School, and Payton Sample, Sunnyside High School.

The EWC-ACHMM would like feedback from you on how to get you more involved with the organization. We want to know how the Chapter can best serve you. If you have ideas for topics for the bimonthly meetings, or think you would become involved in the Executive Committee if certain activities were held, let us know. Anyone who has a minimal amount of time is welcome. Just let us know what you think. We want to identify how to encourage you to participate. We would like to increase the involvement of more individuals this year, including those outside of Hanford.

Mark Your Calendars!  
AHMP 2015 National Conference  
Scottsdale, AZ  
Aug 30, 2015 to Sep 02, 2015



Attend the AHMP 2015 National Conference for education and networking this year. The landscape of EHS&S is constantly changing. You, as an environmental, health safety and security professional and leader, have the vision, knowledge and the experience to effectively manage hazardous materials and mitigate risk. It is crucial that you continue your professional development, remain adaptable, motivated and responsive.

From the moment the sun rises over the Sonoran Desert until long after it sets, Scottsdale offers exciting options for things to see and do. From outdoor adventures and championship golf to upscale shopping and spa treatments, Scottsdale days can be as active or relaxed as you'd like. And after dark, every hour is happy hour, especially in downtown where more than 80 restaurants, clubs and lounges await. It is a great time to get together with your friends and colleagues. Looking forward to seeing you there!

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## ***Cruise on the Columbia Planned for Friday, April 24***

This event is being coordinated in conjunction with one of EWC's sister organizations. The group cost is \$52 per person. The cruise will leave at 6:30 p.m. from the Clover Island Marina in Kennewick. To sign up, contact Roni Swan at 372-9627 or 302-1402. Roni's email is [rhonda\\_j\\_roni\\_swan@rl.gov](mailto:rhonda_j_roni_swan@rl.gov)



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## Awards Presented by EWC-ACHMM to Students at the *Mid-Columbia Regional Science and Engineering Fair* March 14<sup>th</sup> in Richland, WA

Hundreds of Eastern Washington students, in grades 6 through 12, displayed science and engineering projects at the Columbia Center Mall in Kennewick, WA. This year's fair was held March 12 – 14<sup>th</sup>. The quality of their projects was outstanding.

The EWC-ACHMM award winners that were selected met the CHMM criteria. The areas of focus included environmental, waste management, industrial hygiene, and hazardous material response. The winners of the EWC awards are listed below:

- Scott Barfuss, Enterprise Middle School, *Can Nanotechnology Help Clean Up Oil Spills?*
- Payton Sample, Sunnyside High School, *The Development of a Filtration System for Simulated Waste Treatment to Reduce Microplastic Pollution.*



Each student received a framed certificate and a check for \$100.



The only source of knowledge is experience...*Albert Einstein*



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## REGULATORY NEWS

### **Safeway Enhances Hazardous Materials Handling Training Following Settlement**

On January 5, Safeway, Inc. announced its plan to pay nearly \$10 million to settle allegations that its locations “routinely and systematically” disposed of hazardous materials in local landfills. According to a civil lawsuit filed by the district attorneys of Alameda, Orange, Ventura and several other California counties, more than 500 grocery stores, including Safeway locations, allegedly improperly disposed of hazardous waste such as medicine and batteries. Additionally, Safeway is accused of failure to protect confidential records of its pharmacy customers.

Under Safeway’s settlement, the company admits to no wrongdoing, but will pay \$9.87 million in civil penalties, costs and supplemental environmental projects. Safeway will also adopt new policies and procedures for disposal of pharmaceutical and other hazardous waste going forward.

Safeway’s settlement follows a recent wave of crackdowns on environmental violations in California. In 2011, Target Corporation paid \$22.5 million to settle a government investigation into the alleged dumping of hazardous waste. In 2010, Wal-Mart agreed to pay \$27.6 million in settlements for charges of improperly handling and disposing of hazardous materials.

### **EPA Supplements Proposal to National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP)**

The EPA requested comment on a proposed rule that would supplement amendments to the national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants (NESHAP) for the Primary Aluminum Production source category published in the Federal Register on December 6, 2011. In that action, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed amendments based on the initial residual risk and technology reviews (RTR) for this source category, and also proposed certain emission limits reflecting performance of Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT). Today’s action reflects a revised technology review and a revised residual risk analysis for the Primary Aluminum Production source category and proposes new and revised emission standards based on those analyses, newly obtained emissions test data, and comments we received in response to the 2011 proposal, including certain revisions to the technology-based standards reflecting performance of MACT. This action also proposes new compliance requirements to meet the revised standards. This action, if adopted, will provide improved environmental protection regarding potential emissions of hazardous air pollutant (HAP) emissions from primary aluminum production facilities.

### **Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration Gives Notice on Special Permits Applications**

On January 7, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration released a notice of the actions on special permits applications. The modes of transportation involved are identified by a number in the “Nature of Application” portion of the table below as follows: 1—Motor vehicle, 2—Rail freight, 3—Cargo vessel, 4—Cargo aircraft only, 5—Passenger-carrying aircraft. Application numbers prefixed by the letters EE represent applications for Emergency Special Permits. It should be noted that some of the sections cited were those in effect at the time certain special permits were issued.

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## **EPA Cleans up Residential Home in Yakima, Washington**

On April 6, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced they had performed an emergency cleanup of elemental mercury at a residential home in Yakima, Washington. EPA said they worked closely with Yakima Health District and the Washington State Department of Ecology to complete the cleanup and ensure that public health and the environment were not harmed.

On March 19, the Washington State Department of Ecology received a call from a concerned citizen about an elemental mercury spill at a home in the neighborhood. The citizen had observed children at the home playing with mercury. A tenant of the home confirmed that the children had found mercury in a small vial and had been playing with it for two months. In addition, the tenant had used a broom to sweep up mercury in the driveway. This is the third such mercury exposure reported in the Yakima area in recent years.

“The citizen who reported this mercury and stopped the children’s exposure is a hero,” said Dr. Chris Spitters at the Yakima Health District. “Mercury poisoning can have serious and permanent effects on the brain, especially in children. We worked with the affected families and with their health care providers to ensure that all the exposed children and adults received a proper medical evaluation.”

Mercury is a highly toxic substance that builds up in human body tissue. In young children, exposure to mercury can lead to learning disabilities and damage to the nervous system. In adults, exposure may cause cardiovascular and central nervous system problems. Mercury can be especially harmful if its fumes are inhaled. Vacuuming or sweeping mercury spreads it into the air and into smaller droplets, contaminating the home and the vacuum or broom.

EPA recovered about four fluid ounces of mercury from the home. Air monitoring indicated mercury measurements up to 50 times higher than safe occupancy levels. The contamination required disposal of the washer, dryer, clothing, bedding, and carpet. In addition, EPA excavated soil where the children played with mercury. EPA cleanup costs for residential mercury contamination have ranged from \$100,000-\$400,000.

“Once you have mercury contamination, cleanup is expensive and difficult because the mercury spreads easily from room to room, as was the case at this property,” said Jeff Fowlow, EPA On-Scene Coordinator. “We urge anyone who finds mercury stored in their home to contact the Yakima County Hazardous Waste program at (509) 574-2450. Correct handling and disposal will avoid an unfortunate incident like this, which was difficult for the family and resulted in a lot of belongings that had to be disposed.”

Metallic mercury appears as a thick, silver colored liquid that forms small drops or beads and breaks into smaller pieces easily. This and other mercury-containing products should be handled with extreme care and carefully transported to a household waste facility. Spills should be reported immediately to the Department of Ecology regional office closest to you or 1-800-258-5990.

For information on how to handle mercury, visit <http://www.epa.gov/mercury/spills/index.htm>. For more information on the EPA’s cleanup activities, contact: Hanady Kader, EPA Public Affairs, 206-553-0454, [kader.hanady@epa.gov](mailto:kader.hanady@epa.gov).

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## Rampur S. Viswanath, CHMM, Awarded the Distinguished Diplomat



EWC is very pleased to announce that Rampur Viswanath, CHMM, has been recognized by the Institute of Hazardous Materials Management (IHMM) as its ninth Distinguished Diplomat. Dr. Viswanath served as President of the EWC in 2002, and was actively involved in the Chapter over the years.

The Distinguished Diplomat Award is the highest honorary designation conferred by IHMM. The IHMM Board of Directors elected Dr. Viswanath during the December quarterly meeting.

Dr. Viswanath recently retired from his position as Senior Scientist and Project Manager, at WRPS-Hanford. Dr. Viswanath earned his Bachelors in Chemistry and Physics and Masters of Science from Mysore University in Mysore, India and his Doctorate in Chemistry from the University of Detroit in Detroit, Michigan. He worked in the environmental field for more than 34 years and has published and presented technical papers domestically and internationally. Dr. Viswanath has provided ongoing leadership and expertise that helped develop state-of-the-art procedures and practices in the areas of sampling, analysis, and the long-term management of millions of gallons of highly hazardous materials, including nuclear waste. Dr. Viswanath earned the CHMM credential in 1992 and was elected as a Fellow of the Institute in 2006. Dr. Viswanath also served as Chair of the Fellows Nominating Committee for five years.

The Distinguished Diplomat designation is awarded to Fellows of the Institute who have either contributed noticeably and substantively to the field of hazardous materials management and/or to the overall IHMM's Mission. Such contributions may include: founding of a significant element of an IHMM credential program or of a non-competing hazardous materials organization or program; organizing or leading a major hazardous materials management program to successful completion; long-standing devotion with notable contributions to the field; and/or, originating or leading a major breakthrough in hazardous materials management.

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### Spring Tip - Compost yard waste

Yard waste makes up a large percentage of landfill garbage, but what a "waste"! You can benefit the soil in your yard when you turn your yard waste into "black gold" compost, rich in nutrients and humus. Dirt is just bits of clay, sand and rock, but soil is a living community of enriching nutrients and tiny organisms that benefit plant roots. You can turn your dirt into soil with compost.

