



TxSWANA Annual Conference
June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX
Program

Conference on the Coast:
Sun. Sand. Solid Waste.

The Sparking City by the Sea Welcomes

Texas Solid Waste Association
of North America



Conference on the Coast:
Sun. Sand. Solid Waste.

TABLE OF CONTENTS



2

WELCOME

3

SPONSORS

5

CONFERENCE AGENDA

11

TXSWANA BOARD OF
DIRECTORS

13

TOURNAMENTS

15

SHUTTLE SERVICE

16

TECHNICAL TOURS

18

EXHIBITORS AND EXHIBIT HALL

21

TECHNICAL SESSSIONS

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Greetings to all you Solid Waste Professionals!

TxSWANA's board is proud to have you attend our annual conference, and is grateful to the City of Corpus Christi for hosting us this year. It's been seven years since we were last in this beautiful city, and that's too long. So many people have worked so hard to bring you this conference, with its mix of education, networking, socializing, and family fun. We hope you take full advantage of the opportunities.

One highlight of our conference is the legislative update from both Charly Fritz, the director of the waste permits section of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and Ty Embrey, with Lloyd Gosselink, TxSWANA's liaison to the state legislature. Listen in to this informative talk to find out the direction that the legislature is taking our industry.

The City has arranged for activities, not only for you professionals, but for your families as well. Check the program and the website for details and let your families enjoy all that Corpus Christi has to offer. And don't forget to check out the beach, the aquarium, Whataburger Field, the museum of science and history, and of course the USS Lexington.

I want to especially thank all of our sponsors. Without you, this event couldn't happen. I also want to thank David Lehfeltdt, our conference chair, for his and his team's efforts to put together this conference. If you see David or anyone on his team, please take a minute to thank them.

I am so proud to be a part of this industry and this organization. Please make the most of this opportunity this conference offers to network, and hopefully take a new idea back to your home organization.

Jeffrey Reed,
TxSWANA President





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Thank you to all our Event Sponsors!

Chastang Autocar - Welcome Reception

Heil of Texas - Social Banquet

Texas Pack + Load - Golf Tournament

Heil of Texas - Fishing Tournament

AshBritt - Afternoon Break

Republic Services - Passport

Integrated Transfer Services - Welcome Bag

Frontier Waste Solutions - Morning Break



Sustainability in Action



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TxSWANA Conference Agenda

Sunday, June 11, 2023

Time	Event	Location
4:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Registration	Omni Hotel

Monday, June 12, 2023

Time	Event	Location
7:00 AM - 1:00 PM	TxSWANA Golf Tournament Sponsored by: Texas Pack + Load	Lozano Golf Center 4401 Old Brownsville Road (Transportation on your own)
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Technical Tour <i>Republic Services MRF</i>	Bus begins loading at 8:00 AM at Omni Hotel, departing the Omni Hotel at 8:30 AM
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Technical Tour <i>Lone Star UAS Center for Excellence and Innovation Unmanned Aircraft Systems</i>	Bus begins loading at 12:00 PM at Omni Hotel, departing the Omni Hotel at 12:30 PM
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	Technical Tour <i>Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) Marine Development Center Hatchery</i>	Bus begins loading at 12:30 PM at Omni Hotel, departing the Omni Hotel at 1:00 PM
5:15 PM - 5:45 PM	Young Professionals Mentoring Minute	American Bank Center Exhibit Hall
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Exhibit Hall Grand Opening Event Sponsored by: Chastang Autocar	American Bank Center Exhibit Hall Bus service to the American Bank Center from the Omni Hotel will run from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM
8:00 PM - 9:15 PM	Young Professionals Networking Event	American Bank Center Exhibit Hall



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TxSWANA Conference Agenda, continued

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

Time	Event	Location
7:00 AM - 8:30 AM	Welcome Breakfast <i>Speakers: Paulette M. Guajardo, Mayor of Corpus Christi</i> <i>Jace Tunnell, Director of the Mission-Aransas Reserve at the</i> <i>University of Texas Marine Science Institute</i>	American Bank Center Exhibit Hall
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM	Technical Sessions Track A: Solid Waste Management Processes and Facilities <i>Salvador E. Ytuarte, Solid Waste Management, City of San Antonio</i> Track B: Composting Principles, A Lesson From SWANA Training Course - Managing Composting Programs <i>Risa Weinberger, P.E., S.C. Principal, Risa Weinberger & Associates,</i> <i>Inc.</i> Track C: Combatting Recycling Contamination Through Education and Enforcement <i>Jon Perez, Corpus Christi Solid Waste Code Compliance</i> <i>Superintendent</i> Track D: Preparation & Prevention - The Dynamics of Driving Defensively <i>Mike Ezzell, National Safety Council</i>	Room C101 Room C102 Room C103 Room C104
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	Technical Sessions Track A: Finding Efficiency and Managing Growth in Residential Collection Operations <i>Catelyn Scholwinski, Senior Consultant, NewGen Strategies and</i> <i>Solutions, LLC</i> Track B: Electric Vehicle Battery Management System and Challenges <i>Sonia Samir, Ph.D., PE, Parkhill</i> <i>John Daniel Holmes Jr., South Central Solid Waste Authority</i> Track C: Contamination Efforts in Full Effect <i>Brandi Neal, City of Denton, Solid Waste and Recycling</i>	Room C101 Room C102 Room C103



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TxSWANA Conference Agenda, continued

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

Time	Event	Location
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	Technical Sessions Track D: Implementing an Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT) Program <i>Stasha Merz, Business Process Specialist, City of Austin - Austin Resource Recovery</i>	Room C104
10:30 AM - 11:00 AM	Morning Break Sponsored by: Frontier Waste Solutions	American Bank Center Exhibit Hall
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Technical Sessions Track A: Right-Sizing Solid Waste in San Antonio 2023 <i>Nick Galus, Assistant Director, City of San Antonio</i> <i>Matthew Stolze, Assistant Solid Waste Manager, City of San Antonio</i> Track B: Best Management Practices on High BTU LFGE Projects; Mitigation of Odors, Reduction of NOV's and Maximizing Plant <i>Daniel A. Monroy, Morrow Energy</i> <i>Robert L. Benshoff, Morrow Energy</i> Track C: Chasing Chickens While Elephants Walk By <i>Michael Carleton, Michael Carleton & Associates</i> Track D: Safety Management System, ISO 4500 Certification <i>Walter Barrett, Solid Waste Manager, City of San Antonio Solid Waste Management Department</i>	Room C101 Room C102 Room C103 Room C104
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM	Lunch <i>Speaker: Ty Embrey - Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C.</i> <i>Charly Fritz, and Megan Henson TCEQ</i>	American Bank Center Exhibit Hall
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	Technical Sessions Track A: From Reactive to Proactive: A Practical Approach to Controlling LCS Clogging <i>Steven Carl, Progressive Environmental Services</i>	Room C101



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TxSWANA Conference Agenda, continued

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

Time	Event	Location
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	Technical Sessions, continued	
	Track B: 2023 Winter Storm Mara Debris Recovery <i>Richard McHale, Deputy Director, City of Austin</i> <i>Amy Slagle, Resource Recovery Division Manager, City of Austin</i>	Room C102
	Track C: Wishing Away Contamination: Aspirational Recycling Amongst Texas Renters <i>Jamie K. Johnson, Senior Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, University of North Texas</i>	Room C103
	Track D: Safety and Health at Composting Facilities <i>Risa Weinberger, P.E., S.C., USCC CCOM Principal, Risa Weinberger & Associates, Inc.</i>	Room C104
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Technical Sessions	
	Track A: Annual Regulatory Update <i>Mattie Isturiz, Esq., Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C.</i>	Room C101
	Track B: Solid Waste Services - When to Municipalize, When to Privatize and How to Know What to Do <i>Dave Yanke, President, NewGen Strategies and Solutions, LLC</i>	Room C102
	Track C: Residential Food Waste Processing: Lessons Learned from the Canadian and Texas Experience <i>Scott Pasternak, Environmental Department Manager</i> <i>Seth Dittman, Senior Environmental Engineer, Burns & McDonnell Engineering</i>	Room C103
	Track D: Using Metrics to Create a Safer Work Environment <i>Brian Boerner, CPM, CHMM, Solid Waste Director, City of Denton</i> <i>Jason Pelofske, Solid Waste Safety & Training Specialist, City of Denton</i>	Room C104
3:30 PM - 4:00 PM	Afternoon Break Sponsored by: AshBritt	American Bank Center Exhibit Hall



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TxSWANA Conference Agenda, continued

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

Time	Event	Location
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Technical Sessions Track B: Municipal GovTopic: Municipal Government Roundtable Discussion for Municipal Employees only <i>Moderated by: David Newman</i> <i>Panelist: Brenda Haney, P.E.</i> <i>Panelist: Richard McHale</i> <i>Panelist: Cliff Gillespie</i>	Room C102
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Networking Event & Dinner Sponsored by: Heil of Texas	Art Center of Corpus Christi 100 North Shoreline Bouvard Bus service to the Art Center from the Omni Hotel will run from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Time	Event	Location
7:00 AM - 8:30 AM	Breakfast	American Bank Center Exhibit Hall
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM	Technical Sessions Track A: Data Driven High Impact Outreach and Education <i>Julissa Amador, Environmental Services & Sustainability, City of Denton</i> Track B: Increase in Plastic Waste During Covid-19 Pandemic - A Study of Solid Waste in North Texas <i>Sehneela Sara Aurpa, Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Civil Engineering, University of Texas at Arlington</i> Track C: Vetiver Grass: Sustainable Vegetation for Landfills <i>Sonia Samir, Ph.D., P.E., Project Manager, Parkhill</i> <i>Sadik Khan, Ph.D., P.E., Associate Professor, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Jackson State University</i>	Room C101 Room C102 Room C103



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TxSWANA Annual Conference
June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



TxSWANA Conference Agenda, continued

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Time	Event	Location
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	Technical Sessions Track A: Recycling on Campus - Denton Independent School District <i>Kimberly Jennings, Environmental Services & Sustainability, City of Denton</i> Track B: Inside A Brown Cart <i>Josephine Valencia, Deputy Director of Solid Waste Management, City of San Antonio</i> Track C: 898PFAS: What are PFAS and How Could They Impact the Solid Waste Industry? <i>Jack Simmons, PG, Burns & McDonnell</i>	Room C101 Room C102 Room C103
10:30 AM - 11:00 AM	Morning Break	American Bank Center Exhibit Hall
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Technical Sessions Track A: Modern technology has made capturing, analyzing, and reporting reliable information much easier. <i>Rocky Strong, Strong Data</i> Track B: Waiving the Magic Wand - Groundwater Monitoring Waiver Extension <i>Tewobista Metaferia, P.E., Project Engineer CP&Y, an STV Company</i> <i>Greg Velazquez, Assistant Public Works Director, City of Del Rio</i> Track C: Leveraging the Renewable Natural Gas Potential of Small to Medium Size Landfills <i>Bryan Johnson, Project Development Director, Waga Energy</i>	Room C101 Room C102 Room C103
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Lunch <i>Speaker: Jeff Mayfield, Past President TxSWANA</i> <i>Jeff Reed, President TxSWANA, Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C.</i>	American Bank Center Exhibit Hall
1:15 PM - Adjournment	TxSWANA Board of Directors Meeting	Room C101



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TxSWANA Conference Agenda, continued

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Time	Event	Location
6:00 AM - 2:30 PM	TxSWANA Fishing Tournament Sponsored by: Heil of Texas	Bluff's Landing Marina 4242 Laguna Shores Road (Transportation on your own)

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Tournaments

TxSWANA Golf Tournament

Monday, June 12, 2023

Check-In 7 AM to 7:30 AM

Shotgun starts at 8:00 AM

Gabe Lozano Golf Course



Lozano Golf Center

The Gabe Lozano Golf Course is a golf gem by the gulf coast. The course is home to an 18 Hole, Par 72 Championship Golf Course measuring 7,027 yards from the professional tees and a 9 Hole, Par 30 Executive Course measuring 1,947 yards. Water is a feature on most holes for a spectacular setting with plenty of bunkers to make things interesting. The fairways have large landing areas allowing the golfer several angles of attack at the greens. The tournament will be played in SCRAMBLE with four-person teams. Breakfast, drinks, and a casual lunch will be included as you compete for victory!

TxSWANA Fishing Tournament

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Check-In at 6:00 AM

Boats leave the dock at sunrise

Bluff's Landing Marina



The Texas coast is abundant in invaluable natural resources and vital habitats. Corpus Christi's shallow bays are protected by narrow barrier islands, providing excellent fishing conditions year-round. We are setting out to the fabled waters of the Laguna Madre and Baffin Bay area down to the Land Cut – home to the finest saltwater fishing on the Texas coast. June's sport fish options will likely be Speckled Trout and Red Drum. But there is the potential to catch other species as well. Remember that you must obtain at least a one-day saltwater fishing license for the event to participate. Breakfast, drinks, and a casual lunch will be provided.

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June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



TxSWANA Shuttle Service Schedule

Monday, June 12, 2023

Time	Pick-up Locations
8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	Republic Services MRF Tour <i>Pick-up and Drop-off at the front of the Omni Hotel</i>
12:00 PM - 12:30 PM	Lone Star UAS Center for Excellence and Innovation Unmanned Aircraft Systems Tour <i>Pick-up and Drop-off at the front of the Omni Hotel</i>
12:30 PM - 1:00 PM	Coastal Conservation Association Marine Development Center Hatchery Tour <i>Pick-up and Drop-off at the front of the Omni Hotel</i>
5:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Welcome Reception at American Bank Center (ABS) <i>Shuttle service will run continuous between the Onmi and ABS during the provided time.</i>

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

Time	Pick-up Locations
6:30 AM - 5:30 PM	TxSWANA Conference at American Bank Center (ABS) <i>Shuttle service will run continuously between the Onmi and ABS during the provided time.</i>
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Networking Event & Dinner at Art Center of Corpus Christi <i>Shuttle service will run continuously between the Onmi and the Art Center during the provided time.</i>

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Time	Pick-up Locations
6:30 AM - 3:00 PM	TxSWANA Conference at American Bank Center (ABS) <i>Shuttle service will run continuously between the Onmi and ABS during the provided time.</i>



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Technical Tours

Republic Services Recycling Center Tour

Monday 9:00 AM

Republic Services partnered with the City of Corpus Christi in 2011, providing single-stream recycling to the City. It involves gathering multiple types of recyclable materials in one collection stream and then separating it in Republic Services' recycling center. You will be provided the opportunity to see how a material recovery facility operates, receives, sorts, and processes thousands of tons of recyclables each month.



Lone Star UAS Center for Excellence and Innovation Unmanned Aircraft Systems Tour

Monday 1:00 PM

Lone Star UAS Center of Excellence and Innovation is a research facility dedicated to the innovation and safety of Unmanned Aircraft Systems flights throughout the U.S. It is one of seven Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) UAS test sites in the United States. They are a global partnership for research, development, testing, and evaluation of UAS technologies across educational, public and commercial agency interests. Lone Star UAS also provides an economic stimulus to attract related industry partners to Texas and informs governing agencies regarding UAS operations in the National Airspace System. In addition, LSUASC supports the aeronautical research needs of research institutions, private-sector service providers, non-profit corporations, and local, state, and federal agencies.

During the tour, guests will be provided with a brief rundown of our history, partners, missions, and how our equipment helps us get the results we need. Next, we will show our Mission Control Center (MCC), where we monitor and guide drone missions off-site. Then they will talk about their netting structure and, if weather permits, demonstrate the different types of drones they use. And finally, visit our Electronic Systems Integration Lab (ESIL), where they will showcase the equipment they use on our drones.



Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) Marine Development Center Hatchery Tour

Monday 1:30 PM

Coastal Conservation Association Marine Development Center in Corpus Christi is a state facility that with eight saltwater aquariums, spawning tanks, an incubator room and outdoor rearing ponds. The aquariums replicate eight different Texas coastal habitats. The hatchery produces juvenile (30 millimeters) red drum and spotted seatrout for release into Texas bays for stock enhancement. A guide will provide information on the history of the hatchery and current aquaculture techniques used to rear red drum and spotted seatrout. Next, you will be guided through the three-thousand-gallon saltwater spawning tanks and then through the incubator room to view the fish eggs and larvae, concluding at the outdoor rearing ponds.





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TxSWANA Exhibitors

Booth E1.	Chatang Autocar	Booth 13.	Reich Landfill Equipment
Booth E2.	Texas Environmental Training and Compliance Simulator	Booth 14.	Strong Data
Booth E3.	Reliance Truck & Equipment	Booth 15.	Samsara
Booth E4.	Dickson Equipment Company	Booth 16.	Rubicon
Booth E5.	Battle Motors	Booth 17.	Terracon Consultants
Booth E6.	Peak Trailer Group	Booth 18.	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Booth E7.		Booth 19.	Safe Fleet
Booth E8.	RDO Equipment Co.	Booth 20.	Brown Bear Corporation
Booth E9.	Texas Pack & Load	Booth 21.	ISCO Industries, Inc.
Booth E10.	Texas Pack & Load	Booth 22.	NewGen Strategies and Solutions, LLC
Booth E11.	HEIL of Texas	Booth 23.	Parkhill, Smith, Cooper, Inc.
Booth 1.	Republic Services	Booth 24.	
Booth 2.	Paradigm Software, LLC	Booth 25.	LSC Environmental Products
Booth 3.	Progressive Environmental Services	Booth 26.	Routeware
Booth 4.	Lloyd Gosselink Law Firm	Booth 27.	Rehrig Pacific Company
Booth 5.	Burns & McDonnell	Booth 28.	Morrow Energy
Booth 6.	Hanson Professional Services	Booth 29.	Keith Manufacturing Co.
Booth 7.	GDB Paint	Booth 30.	Texas Environmental Training and Compliance
Booth 8.	Southwestern Equipment	Booth 31.	McCourt Equipment
Booth 9.	Kinloch Equipment & Supply, Inc.	Booth 32.	Integrated Transfer Services, L.P.
Booth 10.	McNeilus	Booth 33.	Frontier Waste Services
Booth 11.	Crowder Gulf	Booth 34.	TxSWANA
Booth 12.	Waste Systems Equipment, Inc.	Booth 35.	AshBritt

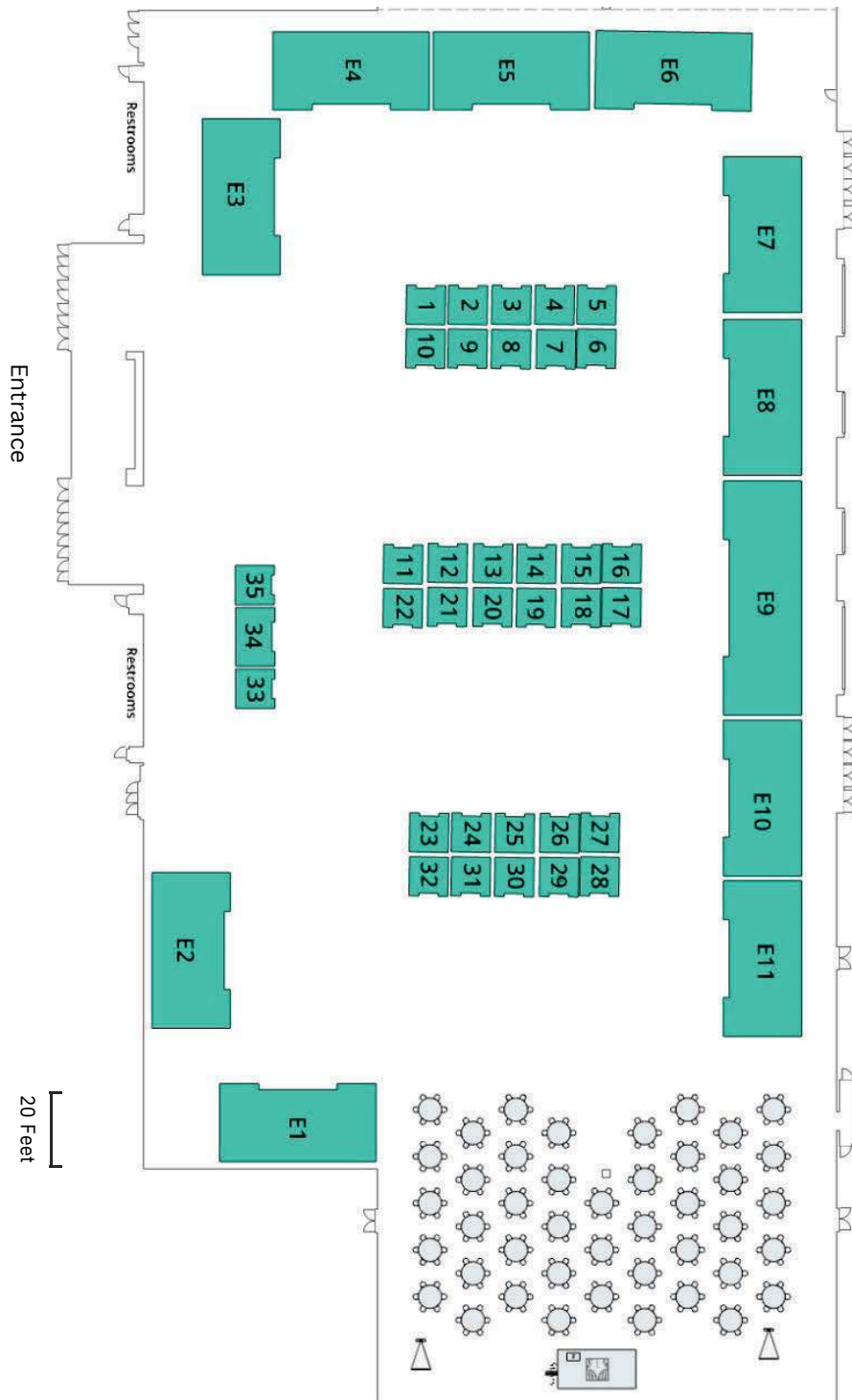


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TxSWANA Exhibit Hall



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Technical Sessions

Breakfast
Tuesday 7:00 AM



Paulette Guajardo, Corpus Christi Mayor

Mayor Paulette Guajardo is Corpus Christi's 59th mayor. She was elected by a strong community mandate for progress and change. She is a former two-term councilwoman, at-large, first elected to serve in November of 2016. She is a proud native Corpus Christian, a graduate of Flour Bluff High School and Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi alumni, where she earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree.

At 24 years of age, Mayor Guajardo embarked upon an entrepreneurial career as a small business owner in the insurance industry. As a sole proprietor, she owned and operated her Allstate Insurance agency for 15 successful years. During that time, she learned about the significant challenges that small business owners face and understand the value they bring to the City – as taxpayers, job creators, innovators, and business leaders.

Mayor Guajardo is devoted to being a full-time mayor. She is critically focused on securing a long-term water supply, public safety, infrastructure, and public health. She believes that Corpus Christi is on an upwards growth trajectory as a coastal community with breathtaking views, world-class attractions, and strong economic growth.

As the principal spokesperson and diplomatic representative for the citizens of Corpus Christi, Mayor Paulette Guajardo believes she can make an impact by working together to build consensus and creating a vision of making Corpus Christi a city of momentum.

Marine Debris Research
Tuesday 7:00 AM

The Mission-Aransas Reserve at the University of Texas Marine Science Institute has conducted several important research projects across the Gulf of Mexico, and has developed a unique way of educating the public about marine debris washing up on beaches around Texas. This presentation will dive into some of the marine debris research and education programs developed to engage the public about how they can help conserve the ocean..



*Jace Tunnell, Director of the Mission-Aransas Reserve
University of Texas Marine Science Institute*

Jace Tunnell is the director of the Mission-Aransas Reserve at the University of Texas Marine Science Institute where he has been since 2014. Jace is the founder of a citizen science project called Nurdle Patrol that tracks plastic pellet concentrations internationally to create awareness of plastics in the ocean and develop new policy based on the data. His conservation efforts include educating the public about plastic pollution, estuarine science, and protection of our natural resources. Jace received a Master's degree in Marine Biology from Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi in 2001.



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Technical Sessions

Solid Waste Management Processes and Facilities

Tuesday 8:30 AM

The City of San Antonio (City) Solid Waste Management Department (SWMD) operates four centers dedicated to the collection of bulky waste dropped off by residents. Centers are located at each quadrant of the City allowing for convenient access by residents who pay a nominal environmental fee through their energy bill. The presentation will center on the bulky-waste collection centers -- how they operate and the way they benefit residents and the city. Specifically, the presentation will relay information on the following about the bulky waste centers:

- Background & Services: Development timeline and on-site available services.
- Accessibility: Who can access and general description of logistics for residents who use services provided at centers.
- Metrics: Customer attendance and tons of waste collected from FY 2016-2022.
- Benefits to Community: For example, thwart illegal dumping, increased level of service for customer through year-round disposal option in addition to two curbside collections per year.



Salvador E. Ytuarte, Solid Waste Management

City of San Antonio Solid Waste Management Department

Mr. Ytuarte began his career with the City of San Antonio in 1991 and joined the Solid Waste Management Department in 1993 where he assisted with the citywide Recycling Curbside Program. Mr. Ytuarte has had many roles of Solid Waste Management Department. In 2008, Mr. Ytuarte was appointed to the position of Solid Waste District Manager over the city's Northeast Service Center. He guided implementation of the citywide automated two-cart collection system and the largest compressed natural gas fleet in Texas with 30 automated garbage and recycling trucks. In 2010, he became Solid Waste Manager for the Brush and Bulky Waste Collection Program where he revamped the program and increased diversion of brush material from the landfill. In 2017, his team assisted the City of Houston with Hurricane Harvey clean up and recovery efforts in Kingwood, Texas. In 2018, became Senior Solid Waste Management Manager.

Composting Principles, A Lesson From SWANA Training Course - Managing Composting Programs

Tuesday 8:30 AM

This presentation will be an interactive lesson taken from the SWANA Certification training for Managing Composting Programs. The lesson will be taught by Risa Weinberger, co-author of the Managing Composting Programs certification training manual and SWANA Outstanding Faculty Award recipient. Learning objectives include:

- Providing an overview of the fundamental biological principles governing composting and
- Introducing the concept and importance of balance in composting.

Since organic material makes up over half of the municipal solid waste stream - both residential and commercial/industrial - solid waste managers should be knowledgeable about the primary technique for recovering this valuable resource for beneficial use. This presentation will explain in very practical terms how to manage the fundamental biology and physics of composting to optimize the process and increase chances of success. This is less a science lesson than a basis of understanding for solid waste and organics managers to use on a day-to-day basis in their operations and decision-making.



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TxSWANA Annual Conference
June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions



*Risa Weinberger, P.E., S.C., Principal
Risa Weinberger & Associates, Inc.*

Risa Weinberger, P.E., SC co-wrote the composting certification curriculum for SWANA and has been its instructor for almost 20 years. She was recognized as SWANA's Outstanding Faculty Member. She has over 40 years of solid waste experience.

Risa formed Risa Weinberger & Associates in 2003 to provide consulting focused on solid waste, organics and composting nation-wide. She is a recognized authority on organic waste management, composting processes, facilities, and regulations. She is a member of the US Composting Council and a founding member of the Texas Chapter. She served on the Boards of the State of Texas Alliance for Recycling and its Texas Compost Council Steering Committee. She represents the composting industry on the MSWMRRAC, and the NCTCOG Resource Conservation Council.

Combating Recycling Contamination Through Education and Enforcement

Tuesday 8:30 AM

Learn how the City of Corpus Christi reduced its recycling contamination by 25% in the first year of implementing curbside recycling inspections. This class will cover their research, planning, deployment, and best practices they've discovered along the way.

Jon Perez

Corpus Christi Solid Waste Code Compliance Superintendent

Jon Perez has 20 years of experience in the field of Code Compliance and over 10 years in business management. Expect an energetic overview of how their recycling program came to fruition and gain tips on how this process can be duplicated in other municipalities.



Preparation & Prevention – The Dynamics of Driving Defensively

Tuesday 8:30 AM

Every day we ask our drivers to maneuver the roadway in a safe way, but what does that really mean? Are they making well-informed decisions behind the wheel, staying focused and are we instructing them to do so? This session will share how employees can prepare for their workday as a driver and reduce their risks while driving by anticipating situations, avoiding risky behaviors behind the wheel and make safe decisions based on the situation and road conditions. There will also be discussion on how adopting defensive driving techniques can help everyone get to their destinations safely. Best practices and resources will be shared.

During this session, participants will learn:

- Risky driver behaviors – what to do and what not to do
- Defensive Driving Techniques to dodge unsafe situations and bad drivers
- Resources that can assist with employee training



Conference on the Coast:

Sun. Sand. Solid Waste.

TxSWANA Annual Conference
June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions



Mike Ezzell

National Safety Council

Mike Ezzell is a National Safety Council instructor. He conducts online and in-person training for the Our Driving Concern Texas Employer Traffic Safety Program and serves as the Master Trainer for the Drug Impairment Training for Texas Employers (DITTE) curriculum. By spotlighting strategies to prevent motor vehicle crashes and decrease exposure to liability, he helps employers understand the importance of developing a transportation safety culture.

Mike has over 40 years of experience as a public speaker, educator and safety professional. He has a wide range of knowledge in the safety field, including the effects of alcohol and other drugs on both personal safety and workplace safety. His passion for education and guiding behavior change propelled him toward driver safety training and the National Safety Council. Prior to joining the Council, he was a safety director in the Pipeline Construction industry and a past elementary school teacher and counselor. He also served in the Texas Legislature as a representative for a west Texas region.

Mike is also a Master Trainer of NSC First Aid and Defensive Driving courses for 35 years and holds a Master's degree in Education from Abilene Christian University.

Finding Efficiency and Managing Growth in Residential Collection Operations

Tuesday 9:30 AM

Solid waste collection crews are among the first to feel the strain of rapid growth and recognize the need for change. In Avondale, Arizona, a city experiencing rapid growth, solid waste employees partnered with NewGen to analyze several different collection scenarios to maintain a high quality of service and manage costs for residents. Field observations, operational scenarios and growth modelling, and survey data combined to provide city leaders a comparative outlook of capital, operational, and labor costs for the next five years across six scenarios for garbage and recycling collection and six scenarios for bulky items collection. The recommended changes were presented to City Council in January 2023 and the implementation of changes is anticipated to begin in April. This presentation will include an overview of the need for the study, the approach to analysis as well as the resulting recommendations. Updates on implementation progress will also be included as available.



Catelyn Scholwinski, Senior Consultant

NewGen Strategies and Solutions, LLC

Ms. Catelyn Scholwinski joined NewGen in May 2022 with more than a decade of firsthand experience in municipal solid waste and recycling collections and program management. Ms. Scholwinski has held multiple leadership roles in local and national organizations, including the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) and the State of Texas Alliance for Recycling (STAR).



Conference on the Coast: Sun. Sand. Solid Waste.

TxSWANA Annual Conference
June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions

Electric Vehicle Battery Management System and Challenges

Tuesday 9:30 AM

The battery management system (BMS) is a critical component of electric vehicles (EV) and hybrid EV. With the increase in popularity and use of EVs in North America, there is growing concern related to the solid waste management of EV batteries. This concern is mainly due to the lack of established regulations for their handling, inconsistent and minimal recycling practices, and significant safety issues during their transportation and disposal. As an electrochemical product, a battery acts differently under different operational and environmental conditions. The uncertainty of a battery's performance poses a challenge to the implementation of these functions. This paper addresses current infrastructure related to EVs, and the current and future market trends of EVs; challenges associated with EV batteries from a regulatory, recycling and safety perspective; recommendations and solutions for EV battery management, categorized into upstream, midstream, and downstream recommendations, as well as recommendations for state and national involvement.



*Sonia Samir, Ph.D., P.E., Project Manager
Parkhill*

Dr. Sonia Samir is a Project Manager in Parkhill's Environmental Sector. She is a licensed professional in the state of Texas and New Mexico. Her professional experience in numerous sectors of solid waste management includes landfill research, design and permitting, cell construction and design. She served as the professional of record for the liner installation project for multiple MSW landfills in Texas. She served in various Young Professional (YP) leadership roles for Solid Waste Associations of North America (SWANA) since 2018. She is the Young Professional Board of Director for SWANA, acting as a liaison between SWANA YP leadership and the SWANA Board of directors. She received the 2022 YP of the year of the year award at WasteCon.

John Daniel Holmes Jr.

South Central Solid Waste Authority Transfer Station Manager

Mr. John Holmes serves the Authority as the Transfer Station Manager for SCSWA at the Solid Waste Transfer Station in Las Cruces, NM. He started his management training in 2011 when he was a Lead Operator in the Alternative Energy Sector in solar work across New Mexico and Texas for over three years. Mr. Holmes entered the municipal solid waste service industry with SCWSA in 2014. This is where he began developing the skills and trade knowledge for operating a transfer station efficiently and safely. His leadership training began as a Transfer Station Attendant then quickly transitioned to a Heavy Equipment Operator (HEO). He is now Transfer Station Manager with State Certification by the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) for Transfer Station Operator. He is on the NMSWANA board as a YP chair and is YP chapter liaison for New Mexico. Mr. Holmes has just graduated from the first Young Professional Leadership Academy at WASTECON 2022 with standing ovation for project on EV batteries.





Conference on the Coast: Sun. Sand. Solid Waste.

TxSWANA Annual Conference
June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions

Contamination Efforts in Full Effect

Tuesday 9:30 AM

In efforts to reduce contamination the City of Denton has implemented a cart tagging program in both residential and the commercial division. The cart tagging program is designed to educate the resident and not a penalty. The program partners with local colleges to work with interns to help manage the program and recently hired a full-time auditor. The residential cart tagging program consist of a 3 - tag system, recycling star, warning tag and oops tag to notify the resident. The "do not collect" list is the tagging program for dumpsters. Our driver and auditors help to identify contamination and we work toward a solution with the customer before they can be collected. The Solid Waste and Recycling department has seen a decrease in overall contamination by 17% as a result.



*Brandi Neal, Solid Waste and Recycling
City of Denton*

Brandi is the Administration Manager for the City of Denton and currently enrolled at Arizona State University and studying business. She has spent the last 11 years working in the Solid Waste and Recycling industry. As the Administration Manager, she is responsible for ensuring business operations and administration functions are efficient and effective. Along with identifying, coordinating, and implementing programs that attract, and support commercial customers. Brandi leads a team that serves commercial businesses including working toward increasing diversion, reducing contamination through education and outreach, and optimizing commercial services.

Implementing an Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT) Program

Tuesday 9:30 AM

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) implemented new training standards for all Commercial Driver's License (CDL) applicants called Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT). These new standards affect all commercial drivers who receive their CDL after February 2, 2022. This presentation will introduce the Entry-Level Driver Training curriculum, cover the steps necessary to become an Authorized Training Provider and supply various resources for training materials. Additionally, this presentation will examine how Austin Resource Recovery incorporated the new ELDT curriculum into its existing Solid Waste & CDL driver training program.



*Stasha Merz, Business Process Specialist
City of Austin - Austin Resource Recovery*

Stasha Merz joined the City of Austin-Austin Resource Recovery Training and Safety Division in 2019, where she has helped research, plan, and implement multiple training programs, including FMCSA Entry Level Driver Training, TxDPS Third-Party Skills Testing, and solid-waste equipment training. Her current focus is on interpreting and implementing state and federal regulations and automating manual business processes.



Conference on the Coast: Sun. Sand. Solid Waste.

TxSWANA Annual Conference
June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions

Right-Sizing Solid Waste in San Antonio 2023

Tuesday 11:00 AM

The City of San Antonio services over 370,000 residents. During the pandemic there was an increase in volume resulting in partial loads and excessive overtime. In the wake of the pandemic, we continued to see 10% more waste per household than pre-pandemic numbers. We needed to right-size our routes to eliminate the partial loads and ensure crews finished at a reasonable time. After a year of planning, we accomplished this by rebalancing routes citywide and converting from a four day to a five day collection schedule. By shifting to a five day collection schedule we added additional drivers to accommodate shift work and to reduce our daily line-up requirement for trucks. As a result, route completion times have dramatically improved providing employees a better work life balance and more equitable workload. This plan added resiliency that allows us to tackle any challenges we may see in the future.



Nick Galus, Assistant Director

City of San Antonio Solid Waste Management Department

Nick Galus is an Assistant Director for the City of San Antonio's Solid Waste Management Department. He is responsible for the recycling, organics and trash collection programs across four service centers within the city. In addition, he oversees the Department's Customer Account Management Division.

Nick joined the Solid Waste Management Department in August of 2011 as a Sr. Project Manager. He managed and developed the city's curbside organics collection program. As a result, his efforts led to him managing the Pay As You Throw Program, which attached Solid Waste fees to the size of residents' garbage carts and added more recycling opportunities by concurrently expanding the organics program. He was appointed Interim Assistant Director in March 2016 and then promoted to Assistant Director October 2016. His most recent accomplishment was rebalancing and optimizing the collections routes across the city.

Matthew Stolze, Assistant Solid Waste Manager

City of San Antonio Solid Waste Management Department

Matthew Stolze is an Assistant Solid Waste Manager for the City of San Antonio's Solid Waste Management Department. He is responsible for the recycling, organics and trash collection programs at the city's Northwest Service Center.

Matthew first joined the city in June 2011. He started as a side loader equipment operator and within a short time took on the role as a shift leader. He worked his way up the ranks and was promoted to Assistant Solid Waste Manager in May 2019. He led the role out efforts of the city's organics and Pay As You Throw Programs. Utilizing ArcGIS, he was instrumental in rebalancing and optimizing the collections routes across the city that was implemented in November 2022. Prior to joining the City of San Antonio, he worked as a front-end loader for a private waste company.





Conference on the Coast: Sun. Sand. Solid Waste.

TxSWANA Annual Conference
June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions

Best Management Practices on High BTU LFGE Projects; Mitigation of Odors, Reduction of NOV's and Maximizing Plant Tuesday 11:00 AM

Achieving higher flow, improving Compliance, mitigating odors, and maximizing plant production on high BTU LFG sites. Morrow Energy has been able to achieve these goals while maintaining higher inlet methane content and without the assistance of running an NRU. Morrow Energy has built a reputation on compliance by reducing surface and subsurface emissions through increasing collection devices, liquid removal, structured and concentrated data analysis, as well as innovative solutions. These targets are achieved through persistent and specialized teams who maximize data collection to swiftly locate and target issues on wellfields and plants.



Daniel A. Monroy
Morrow Energy

Daniel A. Monroy is an experienced wellfield engineer and manager with a deep understanding of landfill gas operations. Exceptional technique and accuracy of data collection and manipulation. Focused on understanding the broader big data applications of landfill performance data sets.

Robert L. Benshoff
Morrow Energy

R. Logan Benshoff has a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Geology and has 7 years of experience, specializing in compliance monitoring (40 CFR) and landfill gas collection systems. He has developed innovative solutions to improve landfill gas collection. Mr. Benshoff analyzes the collected data to maximize gas collection, prevent odors and Greenhouse gas surface and subsurface migration.



Chasing Chickens While Elephants Walk By Tuesday 11:00 AM

The primary focus of most municipal recycling programs is residential collection with only minor efforts directed to the commercial sector even though businesses and institutions account for over 75% of the waste generated in a community. Houston' Resource Recovery Implementation Committee program is designed addresses this important sector by sharing information and connecting waste generators with service providers and markets. The program resulted in real connections that have helped the City secure grant funding and establish new partnerships for reducing waste from these important sectors. The program included major industry trade associations, solid waste firms and recycling and organics processors. Participants were requested to provide their thoughts on recommended City policies and programs that could be implemented to encourage greater commercial recycling. These recommendations were summarized in a report prepared by Michael Carleton & Associates.



Conference on the Coast: Sun. Sand. Solid Waste.

TxSWANA Annual Conference
June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions



Michael Carleton

Michael Carleton & Associates

Michael Carleton has over 35 years of experience in energy and environmental planning and program management. He has recently managed the City of Houston's Long-Range Solid Waste Management Plan and the City's Resource Recovery Implementation program which focused on reducing waste from the commercial/industrial sectors. Mr. Carleton has also managed unique projects such as the City of Laredo's purchase of a private landfill, the Western Region Solid Waste Study and is currently involved in the NCTCOG Organics Waste Gap Analysis and the City of Weatherford's Regional Compost Facility Feasibility Study. Mike enjoys golfing, kayaking, and maintaining a 100-year-old house.

Safety Management System, ISO 45001 Certification

Tuesday 11:00 AM

The City of San Antonio (City) Solid Waste Management Department (SWMD) provides weekly curbside collection of waste, recyclables, and organic material to 370,000 households. The department employs 805 people, 500+ of which are CDL drivers. Daily, about 375 vehicles are used to conduct daily operations and collectively travel an estimated seven million miles annually.

In 2016, San Antonio's city manager tasked all city departments to come up with a safety strategy. In response, SWMD reviewed existing policies to identify procedural gaps. This led to the creation of the department's Safety Management System (SMS) and obtainment of ISO 45001 Safety Certification through the International Organization for Standardization. More specifically, ISO 45001 is a standard intended to secure the health and safety of employees by preventing work-related injuries, illnesses, or loss of life. The City of San Antonio became the first municipality in the world to achieve this certification earning SWMD the SWANA Innovation Award in 2019. Maintaining accreditation requires annual observation audits and a recertification audit every three years.



Walter Barrett, Solid Waste Manager

City of San Antonio Solid Waste Management Department

Walter Barrett joined the City of San Antonio's Solid Waste Management Department as the Organizational Manager in September 2008. Mr. Barrett provides leadership to a staff of 805 and ensures the consistent application of and compliance with City and departmental policies and procedures. Mr. Barrett is a seasoned professional within the solid waste management industry with over fifteen years of experience. Before joining the City of San Antonio, Mr. Barrett served in many capacities, including acting manager over the residential collection program for the City of Tampa's Department of Solid Waste. In that position, he led the implementation of the city's first fully automated refuse collection program. Mr. Barrett successfully led and coordinated emergency management response teams in Tampa, Florida, and San Antonio, Texas. He is a former union executive board member with collective bargaining experience.



Conference on the Coast: Sun. Sand. Solid Waste.

TxSWANA Annual Conference
June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions

Lunch

Tuesday 12:00 PM

During this session, we will be discussing impacts of recent MSW updates including the Sunset Commission report and current legislation from the ongoing 88th Regular Legislative Session. We will hear and learn about proposed legislation and potential changes to MSW permitting and operations.

Charly Fritz, Deputy Director Waste Permits Division
TCEQ

Charly Fritz started with the TCEQ in 2006 as a member of the Edwards Aquifer Protection Program where she reviewed applications, issued authorizations, and conducted compliance investigations. Charly also conducted stormwater investigations and launched the Aggregate Production Operation Program. In 2013, Charly transferred to the Waste Permits Division and served as project manager before moving into various leadership positions. Today, Charly is Deputy Director of the Waste permits Division and leads a team of 78 staff who authorize the proper and safe management, recycling and disposal of municipal, industrial, and hazardous waste in Texas.

Megan Henson, Manager of Municipal Solid Waste Permits Section
TCEQ

Megan Henson earned a B.S. in Environmental and Resources Studies from Texas State University and started with the agency in 2014 as a member of the Office of Water's Nonpoint Source Team. In 2018, Megan transferred to the Waste Permits Division, first as work leader for the Scrap Tire Program, then as the Section Manager for Business and Program Services and moved to manager of MSW Permits in September 2022. In her time with WPD, Megan developed a five-year plan for the scrap tire program, coordinated Title VI Implementation, and led/supported various projects in the division. Megan is learning the complex world of municipal solid waste management thanks to the help of the dedicated staff in the section.



Ty Embrey

Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C.

Ty Embrey has represented a broad range of clients with legal and policy needs in environmental law and governmental relations related to groundwater, water and sewer utility service, surface water, water resource planning, and other environmental matters. Before joining Lloyd Gosselink in 2003, Ty served as General Counsel and led the staffs of several legislative offices and committees at the Texas Legislature. Ty served as General Counsel for the Texas Senate Natural Resources Committee, the Texas Water Advisory Council and the Joint Senate-House Committee on Water Resources as well as lead staff member for the Oil-Field Cleanup Fund Advisory Committee. Ty also was the General Counsel for State Senator Buster Brown and a Legislative Aide for State Representative Beverly Wooley.



Conference on the Coast:

Sun. Sand. Solid Waste.

TxSWANA Annual Conference
June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions

From Reactive to Proactive: A Practical Approach to Controlling LCS Clogging

Tuesday 1:30 PM

Effective liquids management is an important component of the design and operations of landfill systems due not only to regulatory requirements but also the stability of the system, maximizing the collection of landfill gas and controlling potential leachate outbreaks which can migrate out onto perimeter surface water management systems. For more than a decade, designers and operators have become more aware of clogging issues of landfill and landfill gas pipe systems which affect not only the removal of leachate from the landfill but clog leachate pumps and landfill gas wells.

Several studies have been performed to understand the components in the waste stream and leachate streams as well as conditions within the landfill that might be contributing to the formation of both a hard scale typically known as "biorock" and a more rubbery phenomenon referred to as "goo". While the jury is still out on the causes of these clogging substances, chemical cleaning has proven to be an effective solution to restore clogged leachate management systems to near new conditions by dissolving both the biorock and the goo.

While many landfill operators notice and react to the clogging issues when the systems are at a critical stage, the Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County (SWA) has established a proactive program to control it and stay ahead of it. Over a decade ago, SWA performed demonstration projects to identify effective technologies to clear blockages in leachate collection systems. Chemical cleaning stood out as the most effective solution. After going through several intensive cleaning projects, SWA established a yearly maintenance program to identify and clear problem areas within the LCS and landfill gas systems before they become a major issue.



Steven Carl

Progressive Environmental Services

Steve Carl is the founder and president of Progressive Environmental Services (PES). Steve received his bachelor's degree in Entomology and Plant Pathology from the University of Arizona and managed a 21,000 acre farm for 5 years. In 1988 he co-founded a biotechnology marketing company that developed proprietary environmentally friendly, biological and organic products for the fruit and vegetable crops across the US. In July 2009, he founded PES with the primary purpose of providing the US Navy professional services related to the cleaning of the pipe systems in their naval fleet. This led to a Florida project to perform a leachate collection system cleaning demonstration project using his proprietary chemical product. As of 2019, PES is focused on the solid waste and water/wastewater industries.

Steve is a seasoned presenter with SWANA both nationally and with local chapters. During 2022, Steve presented in the SOAR conference and at over 5 local state chapter conference events.



Conference on the Coast: Sun. Sand. Solid Waste.

TxSWANA Annual Conference
June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions

Winter Storm Mara Debris Management

Tuesday 1:30 PM

Presentation on efforts before, during, and after Winter Storm Mara. This includes preparations made by Austin Resource Recovery to have resources in place for major disasters and how the City of Austin responded to the damage from the ice storm and approximately 1.5 million cubic yards of vegetative debris in an expedited manner. It will also look at the challenges and lessons learned.



*Richard McHale, Deputy Director
City of Austin*

Richard McHale has worked for the City of Austin since 1993 and is currently the Deputy Director for Austin Resource Recovery. He has managed all areas of solid waste operations including the landfill, household hazardous waste facility, materials recovery facility, brush and bulky collection, litter collection, street cleaning, illegal dumping collection, brush processing, dead animal collection, garbage collection, curbside composting collection, single stream recycling collection, FEMA storm debris cleanups, and cart maintenance.

He is Past President of the Texas chapter of the Solid Waste Association of North America, Past President for the U.S. Conference of Mayor's - Municipal Waste Management Association, an Advisory Council member of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality - Municipal Solid Waste Management & Resource Recovery Advisory Council, and also serves on the Solid Waste Advisory Commission for the Capital Area Planning Council of Governments. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Geography & Planning and a Master's of Applied Geography degree in Resource and Environmental Studies from Texas State University.

*Amy Slagle, Resource Recovery Division Manager
City of Austin*

Amy Slagle is a Division Manager with the Austin Resource Recovery Department for the City of Austin, Texas. She currently manages various programs related to compost, litter and homelessness issues. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Geography from Texas A&M University and joined the department in 1998. With over twenty years in the waste management field, her experience includes: operations and program management, program development, materials marketing, processing facility management, customer service and quality assurance/quality control.





Conference on the Coast: Sun. Sand. Solid Waste.

TxSWANA Annual Conference
June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions

Wishing Away Contamination: Aspirational Recycling Amongst Texas Renters

Tuesday 1:30 PM

The Residential Tenants' Recycling Contamination Study is a mixed-method, multi-sited ethnographic research project which examines Texas-based residential tenants' beliefs, attitudes, and practices regarding solid waste and recycling and identifies factors that present barriers and provide incentives for reducing recycling contamination.*

From that study, this presentation takes a deep dive into "wishcycling", or aspirational recycling, as Texas residential tenants, eg. renters living in multi-family dwellings in cities across state of Texas, share their experiences, hopes and frustrations with recycling.

In so doing, the talk illuminates 1) if and how renters received information about recycling and if such means effectively communicate appropriate recycling procedures, 2) how beliefs and behaviors at the household, residential community, and municipal levels are entangled with strategies used by individuals, communities and municipalities to motivate or deter appropriate/inappropriate recycling procedures, and 3) who renters believe should shoulder the responsibility for fulfilling infrastructure's promise of solid waste reduction.

* This study is IRB-approved (IRB-22-480) and was developed by faculty and graduate researchers at the University of North Texas Department of Anthropology in collaboration with participating TxSWANA member cities.



*Dr. Jamie K. Johnson, Senior Lecturer, Department of Anthropology
University of North Texas*

Dr. Jamie Johnson is an Applied Urban Anthropologist and Senior Lecturer at the University of North Texas. Dr. Johnson combines anthropological investigation and pedagogy by collaborating with municipal/organizational stakeholders and training graduate researchers to solve complex "real world" problems. Her research interests include the built environment and socio-spatial arrangements, infrastructure and urban ecologies, architectural heritage and D/development. Ethnographic expertise and creativity inform her goals of understanding, describing and explaining the intimate spaces of everyday life, the institutions and infrastructures that bind them, and the productivity and precarity of those entanglements.



Conference on the Coast: Sun. Sand. Solid Waste.

TxSWANA Annual Conference
June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions

Safety and Health at Composting Facilities

Tuesday 1:30 PM

This presentation will address protecting safety and health at composting and mulch facilities. Although preventing and managing fires is often top of mind at these facilities, there are other factors that owners, managers and employees must consider to protect themselves and the public. This presentation will address these topics and invite questions and comments from participants.

- What makes spontaneous combustion different – reducing risks
- Disinfection of compost products – how, and why it is important
- Confined spaces – products of decomposition
- Employee health screening – issues of particular concern
- Dust and nuisance conditions
- Culture
- Training
- PPE and common-sense precautions that matter
- Big, scary heavy equipment



Risa Weinberger, P.E., S.C., Principal

Risa Weinberger & Associates, Inc.

Risa Weinberger, P.E., SC co-wrote the composting certification curriculum for SWANA and has been its instructor for almost 20 years. She was recognized as SWANA's Outstanding Faculty Member. She has over 40 years of solid waste experience.

Risa formed Risa Weinberger & Associates in 2003 to provide consulting focused on solid waste, organics and composting nation-wide. She is a recognized authority on organic waste management, composting processes, facilities, and regulations. She is a member of the US Composting Council and a founding member of the Texas Chapter. She served on the Boards of the State of Texas Alliance for Recycling and its Texas Compost Council Steering Committee. She represents the composting industry on the MSWMRRAC, and the NCTCOG Resource Conservation Council.

Annual Regulatory Update

Tuesday 2:30 PM

An update on what has been taking place in the courts and agencies, and how TxSWANA has been participating. TxSWANA has been very active tracking and participating in several court cases and draft regulations and guidance documents this past year. In this presentation I will provide TxSWANA members with a brief summary of the cases and agency actions that most directly affect the solid waste industries in Texas, and how TxSWANA has worked to advance the needs and interests of the solid waste industries in Texas.



Conference on the Coast: Sun. Sand. Solid Waste.

TxSWANA Annual Conference
June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions



Mattie Isturiz, Esq.

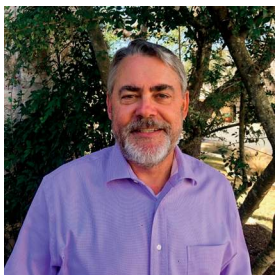
Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C.

Mattie Isturiz is an associate attorney at Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C. Mattie graduated from Texas A&M University with a B.S. in Political Science and a Minor in Spanish in 2017, and from the Texas A&M University School of Law in 2020. Mattie spent her first two years of practice working in the Environmental Law Division of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, where she split her time between the waste, water rights, and water quality sections. Mattie was very excited to move to Lloyd Gosselink in August of 2022 where she now focuses the majority of her time in the solid waste industry.

Solid Waste Services – When to Municipalize, When to Privatize and How to Know What to Do Tuesday 2:30 PM

In the past few years we have seen numerous municipalities wrestle with whether they should contract certain services out, as well as whether they should consider municipalizing certain solid waste services. Examples include commercial solid waste collection (dumpsters and roll-offs), MRF operations, and landfill operations. Sometimes the question is driven by: will privatization “save” money; will municipalization generate additional revenues for the City coffers; politics; a combination of these factors.

The question is, how to evaluate what the best option for the City is and having a story that is defensible, whatever the decision is that the City makes. This presentation will describe several studies completed for cities that were evaluating whether to municipalize commercial collection services, municipalize MRF operations, as well as privatize landfill operations. At the end of this presentation, the attendee will know the methodology required to determine what is best for their city, if these issues arise, and how to use it.



Dave Yanke, President

NewGen Strategies and Solutions, LLC

Mr. Dave Yanke brings over 30 years of financial consulting insight to his public sector water, wastewater, and solid waste clients. His experience includes the conduct of operational reviews, system valuations, feasibility and municipalization analyses, and cost of service and rate design studies for water, wastewater, and solid waste utilities. Having effectively guided numerous repeat clients through a wide variety of operational and financial challenges, Mr. Yanke serves as a trusted advisor in an ever-changing marketplace.



Conference on the Coast: Sun. Sand. Solid Waste.

TxSWANA Annual Conference
June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions

Residential Food Waste Processing: Lessons Learned from the Canadian and Texas Experience

Tuesday 2:30 PM

This session provides an overview of food waste collection programs implemented since adoption of Ontario Canada's 60% diversion target in 2004, as well as a recent project in Texas that evaluated multiple food waste diversion options.



Scott Pasternak

Burns & McDonnell Engineering

Scott Pasternak is an Environmental Department Manager and solid waste and resource recovery practice leader for Burns & McDonnell. He has served as Director for SWANA's Planning and Management Technical Division and is currently on the Editorial Advisory Board for MSW Management and a member of the Texas MSW and Resource Recovery Advisory Council.

Seth Dittman

Burns & McDonnell Engineering

Seth Dittman joins Burns & McDonnell as a Senior Environmental Engineer with 16 years of public and private sector experience in Ontario, Canada. Seth managed source-separated food waste processing contracts for an urban municipal curbside collection program, including procurement of a twenty-year, C\$490,000,000 contract for construction and operation of a biofuel facility scheduled to commence operation in 2027.



Using Metrics to create a Safer Work Environment

Tuesday 2:30 PM

The Solid Waste industry has been identified as the 7th most dangerous industry to work according to the US Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. As we work to keep our employees safe, protect our fleet assets, and continue to provide exceptional and cost-effective customer service to our communities, it is important to understand and affect the issues that are causing accidents and injuries in the workspace.

Data and metrics are key to understanding your issues and affecting change. In this presentation will be reviewing the importance of collecting and documenting accident and injury data and how to use that data to drive compliance, improvement, and safety.



Brian Boerner, CPM, CHMM, Solid Waste Director
City of Denton

Brian K. Boerner, CPM, CHMM is the Solid Waste Director for the City of Denton. He is responsible for directing and managing the activities of the Solid Waste and Recycling Department including prompt and protective solid waste service delivery, ensuring long term disposal capacity, long range planning, outreach, employee and customer relations, and ensuring sound fiscal management.

Brian is a Certified Public Manager and a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager



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June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions

Jason Pelofske, Solid Waste Safety & Training Specialist
City of Denton

Jason F. Pelofske is the Solid Waste Safety & Training Specialist for the City of Denton. He is responsible for all safety and training related activities of the Solid Waste and Recycling Department, including new hire training to accident response/ investigations to defensive driving and CPR/AED instruction to monthly Supervisor Safety meetings and chairing the Department's Safety Review Committee.



Municipal Government Roundtable Discussion Tuesday 4:00 PM

Local governments and utilities across the state share many of the same goals, customer expectations and challenges. Many of us have similar programs. This event should be a great networking opportunity. In this forum, of City and local government staff only, we will discuss the challenges, successes, concerns and future planning of a variety of issues that you want to talk about. Cities may discuss recent program change successes or challenges, as well as how Cities are preparing for and managing changes in the industry.

Topics that may be discussed include:

- Illegal dumping and homeless encampment abatements
- Truck specifications, maintenance and procurement
- Routing efficiency
- Technology
- Customer engagement, education and outreach



David Newman
City of San Antonio



Brenda Haney, P.E.
City of Lubbock



Richard McHale
City of Austin



Cliff Gillespie
City of Dallas



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June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions

Data Driven High Impact Outreach and Education

Wednesday 8:30 AM

The City of Denton leverages data received from drivers, auditors, and contracted MRF to identify contamination trends in the recycling waste stream to make informed decisions on how to target specific neighborhoods and communities. To reduce contamination from single family residential the City of Denton identifies the highest contaminated routes for both residential and commercial customers. Recurring contamination issues are also looked at within the community to distinguish reoccurring gaps of knowledge in curbside recycling. More directed outreach is communicated to specific routes monthly through HOA outreach, bill stuffers, targeted mailers, and neighborhood specific social media. Additionally, staff collaborates with neighborhoods on different in person opportunities to perform education and outreach specific to that community. The department is introducing higher impact marketing and advertising such as movie theater ads, billboards, and vehicle wrapping. These serve as tools to promote to those who may not subscribe to traditional media outlets.



Julissa Amador

City of Denton, Environmental Services & Sustainability

Julissa Amador serves as the Waste Reductions Programs Coordinator within the City of Denton, focusing on recycling education for residents, multifamily properties, and community organizations. She promotes recycling education through outlets like social media, in person, and online workshops to educate residents, multifamily properties, and HOA's. Creating print media, social media, and additional online content to inform the community about Solid Waste services, collection changes, and recycling contamination. Collaborating with Solid Waste & Recycling while in the Sustainability department to ensure metrics and goals are met. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Biology and Minor in Chemistry from the University of North Texas, Denton, Texas.

Increase in Plastic Waste During Covid-19 Pandemic – A Study of Solid Waste in North Texas

Tuesday 8:30 AM

During COVID-19 outbreak in March 2020, the entire world experienced a pandemic crisis that changed the characteristics of MSW generated. The use of PPE (masks, gloves, and other medical equipment) and packaging materials, which are primarily made of plastic, increased significantly during COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, a considerable change in MSW categorization was anticipated. This study's goal was to evaluate the effect of COVID-19 epidemic on MSW characteristics in general and plastic waste in particular. From May 2020 to December 2020, MSW samples were collected from the Irving Hunter Ferrell landfill's working face. To assess the potential changes in MSW properties during the pandemic period, the MSW samples were characterized. Based on the experimental results, plastic generation doubled during pandemic (went from 18% to 35%). During the same period, it was found that one time use plastic bags comprised about one third of all plastic waste.



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June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions



Sehneela Sara Aurpa, Graduate Research Assistant

University of Texas at Arlington, Dept. of Civil Engineering

Sehneela Sara Aurpa earned her bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, Dhaka, Bangladesh in 2018. She then worked as a Lecturer in Stamford University Bangladesh from April 2019 to December 2019. Sehneela joined the University of Texas at Arlington in Spring 2020 for the Geotechnical program as a graduate research assistant. Currently, she's leading her team in several project funded by Texas Department of Transportation. Author's research experience and interests include the areas of Landfill waste and management.

Vetiver Grass: Sustainable Vegetation for Landfills

Wednesday 8:30 AM

Vetiver is perennial grass which is suitable for growing and sustaining vegetation in landfills, especially in an arid and semi-arid climate, where local vegetation is challenging to grow. Vetiver has high survivability in both sandy and clayey soil in extreme climatic conditions, e.g., prolonged drought, flood, submergence, and extreme temperatures without any soil amendments. This paper presents numerous applications of vetiver for landfill and landfill cover. Vetiver has been successfully utilized in several states within the USA and globally for slope stabilization, erosion control seepage control, and wastewater treatment for the ability to survive in toxic environment, capture heavy metals, active evapotranspiration, high tensile root strength. Vetiver has effectively demonstrated in several landfills in the USA for the low energy PFAS removal using Phyto-utilization. It has substantial potential to be used for landfill Water Balance Final Cover (WBFC) in Texas (semi-arid climate and arid climate), making vetiver the sustainable vegetation for landfills.



Sonia Samir, Ph.D., P.E., Project Manager

Parkhill

Dr. Sonia Samir is a Project Manager in Parkhill's Environmental Sector. She is a licensed professional in the state of Texas and New Mexico. Her professional experience in numerous sectors of solid waste management includes landfill research, design and permitting, cell construction and design. She served as the professional of record for the liner installation project for multiple MSW landfills in Texas. She served in various Young Professional (YP) leadership roles for Solid Waste Associations of North America (SWANA) since 2018. She is the Young Professional Board of Director for SWANA, acting as a liaison between SWANA YP leadership and the SWANA Board of directors. She received the 2022 YP of the year of the year award at WasteCon.



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TxSWANA Annual Conference
June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions

Sadik Khan, Ph.D., P.E., Associate Professor

Jackson State University, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Dr. Sadik Khan is an Associate professor in the department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Jackson State University. He is a licensed professional in the State of Texas and Mississippi. His professional and research interest is focused on geophysical testing, instrumentation and performance monitoring and numerical investigations of Geo-Infrastructures and Solid Waste Management. He coauthored two technical books and more than 80 peer-reviewed journal and conference proceedings on different aspects of geo-infrastructure, geophysical evaluation of landfills, landslides, climate change adaptation and nature-based engineering. His focus on Solid Waste Management includes Climate Adaptive Designs, CO2 sequestration in landfills, Bioenergy, ET-Covers and Data-Driven Waste Management. He is a technical member of multiple technical committees of Transportation Research Board, and Geo-Institute of ASCE. Dr. Khan received several awards from State, Regional and National level, including ASCE, National Science Foundation and AASHTO. Dr. Khan is an Associate Editor on ASCE Natural Hazard Review Journal. He pioneered the Climate Adaptive Slope Repair Technique using Vetiver grass.



Recycling on Campus - Denton Independent School District

Wednesday 9:30 AM

The City of Denton services recycling for 43 Denton ISD campuses in over 65 square miles of service area. There was an enormous increase in recycling contamination through 2021, and in 2022 a revitalized Sustainable Schools Program provided recycling education to school faculty, staff, and students to dramatically reduce contamination and provide a great foundation for successful recycling for the student population. The program, now in its 2nd year back after a pause during the pandemic, is training students to assist, monitor, and directly support campus recycling efforts.



Kimberly Jennings

City of Denton, Environmental Services & Sustainability

Kim serves as a Waste Reductions Program Coordinator for the City of Denton, focusing on coordination of the Sustainable Schools program and recycling education for Denton's Independent School District and community organizations. Kim previously served as a Park Ranger with the City of Waco for over 20 years and was accepted into the Beta Gamma Sigma International Business Honor Society after completing her Master of Business Administration—Executive Communication degree from Baylor University this spring.



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TxSWANA Annual Conference
June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions

Inside A Brown Cart

Wednesday 9:30 AM

The City of San Antonio conducted a waste characterization study in December 2022, over a one week period. Our focus was exclusive on garbage generated from single family homes and placed in curbside carts for collection. We conducted ten separate sampling analysis; one for each of our Council districts. I'm proposing a presentation that will review the methodology used in sampling, the resources used in the sampling, and the results of what was found in garbage cart.



Josephine Valencia, Deputy Director

City of San Antonio, Solid Waste Management

Josephine Valencia is the Deputy Director for the City of San Antonio, Solid Waste Management Department. Her presentation on waste characterizations will review operational procedures for conducting a study, safety considerations, data analysis, and results from their study. Information and data on the physical characteristics of solid wastes are important for the selection and operation of equipment and for the analysis and design of disposal facilities.

898PFAS: What are PFAS and How Could They Impact the Solid Waste Industry?

Wednesday 9:30 AM

The concerns of PFAS continue to evolve on a daily basis and as a result, the regulatory framework that governs the identification and management of these substances evolves as well. PFAS are the most discussed and one of the least understood emerging contaminants. It is critical to stay current on the developments related to these substances in order to better understand how they and the rules that govern them may affect your industry and business. The waste industry appears to be most affected by these emerging contaminants. PFAS are being identified in more and more types of waste that ultimately end up disposed in landfills and are actively managed through leachate treatment.



Jack Simmons, PG

Burns & McDonnell

Jack Simmons is a licensed Professional Geoscientist in Texas and has been working in the environmental consulting industry since 2013. Based in Austin, Texas, he specializes in environmental permitting (primarily solid waste), environmental compliance and support, and site investigation and remediation (Phase II and III) in Texas. Jack has worked with clients in the private, state, federal, and local sectors to solve complex environmental issues. During his career, he has had the privilege to work with excellent mentors, coworkers, and clients and is looking forward to conveying his experiences and knowledge to industry professionals and to the next challenge!



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TxSWANA Annual Conference
June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions

Modern technology has made capturing, analyzing, and reporting reliable information much easier.

Wednesday 11:00 AM

Denton Texas began using Strong's SaaS system in 2022 and has seen an 80% reduction in mis-categorized loads and line ups reduced from 40 mins to 10 mins. Information recorded at the scalehouse is available on the server in real time. This means any change to prices, material categorization, customer details, and all other records are updated on all sites simultaneously. Individual PCs and mobile devices have immediate access to changes made at the administrative level and there is no requirement for staff to modify the software on each device. Further, stakeholders that require this information on a regular basis like attendants, customers, supervisors, administrative staff, and managers can easily access it live from anywhere.



Rocky Strong

Strong Data

Rocky studied Mechanical Engineering at Memorial University. After his studies he moved to Norway to work in the oil industry for several years where he lived on a 32 foot sailboat. He moved back to Newfoundland and Labrador where he has led Strong Data with a focus on growth in the waste industry. Rocky is also involved with the Gander and Area Chamber of Commerce and SWANA Atlantic Canada Chapter as a director.

Waiving the Magic Wand - Getting a Groundwater Monitoring Waiver Extension for a Landfill Expansion

Wednesday 11:00 AM

The City of Del Rio was granted a groundwater monitoring waiver in 1994 for its Municipal (Type I) Landfill. The City used various geotechnical investigations to demonstrate the depth of the aquifer around the landfill. A contaminant fate and transport model indicated that contaminants from the landfill would not reach the aquifer during the site life and post-closure period.

In 2020, 26 years later, the City of Del Rio retained CP&Y to prepare a permit amendment for a Vertical Expansion. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality required new data and modeling to keep the groundwater monitoring waiver in place for the permit amendment.

We will share the process CP&Y and the City of Del Rio followed to keep the groundwater monitoring waiver at the Del Rio Municipal Landfill, including handling of hydrogeology data, modeling, issues encountered, and solutions provided.



Tewobista Metaferia, P.E., Project Engineer

CP&Y, an STV Company

Tewobista is a Project Engineer in the Dallas office of the CP&Y/STV National Water Practice. She has 10 years of experience in a variety of civil engineering and municipal activities, that include municipal solid waste landfill permitting, cell design, construction management, pipeline design and site civil. Tewobista earned a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Texas Tech University.



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TxSWANA Annual Conference
June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions



*Greg Velazquez, Assistant Public Works Director
City of Del Rio*

Greg Velazquez is the Assistant Public Works Director for the City of Del Rio. He has been in public works for over 15 years working mainly in the water and wastewater division.

Leveraging the Renewable Natural Gas Potential of Small to Medium Size Landfills

Wednesday 11:00 AM

Landfills are significant sources of biogas. In the USA alone, only about 20% of landfills have operational waste-to-energy facilities. The few Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) facilities that have been built are at large landfills with massive gas flow capacity.

Small and midsize landfills offer untapped potential. These sites often are not considered prime candidates for RNG projects, due to the limited gas flow they offer, and high investment required for an RNG facility.

What is the potential for these smaller sites? What are the drivers that enable project development? What are the environmental benefits of an RNG facility? How can an RNG project fund itself in small or medium sized landfill?

To help landfills that are considering a gas utilization project, we will discuss the parameters to consider in order to promote the best beneficial project for the landfill, its community, and the environment altogether.



*Bryan Johnson, Project Development Director
Waga Energy*

Bryan has been focused on renewable energy for over 12 years. He has project development experience in the wastewater treatment, solid waste management, and gas upgrading sectors. He holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Baylor University, TX, and certifications in Solid Waste Management and Sustainable Energy.



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TxSWANA Annual Conference
June 12 - 14, 2023 | Corpus Christi, TX



Technical Sessions

Lunch - Current Status of TxSWANA and Future Chapter Vision

Wednesday 12:00 PM

We will be hearing from our leadership team on the current status of TxSWANA and what is envisioned for the future of the Chapter.



Jeff Mayfield, Past President TxSWANA

Jeff Mayfield started his solid waste career for several national environmental consulting firms before moving to the predecessor company to Republic Services for 11 years. There he managed a number of landfill and transfer station operations and a hauling company in the Dallas Fort Worth area. In 2005, he joined North Texas Municipal Water District where he is now Deputy Director - Solid Waste & Integrated Services. He oversees the District's three transfer stations, one operating landfill, two closed landfills, and the District's Fleet Management, and Regulatory Compliance departments. He currently serves on the TCEQ's Municipal Solid Waste Management and Resource Recovery Advisory Council as Vice President and is Immediate Past President of the Board of Directors for TXSWANA. He earned a Bachelor of Geo-Engineering degree from the University of Minnesota and is a licensed professional engineer in Texas and Pennsylvania as well as holds a TCEQ MSW Class A operator license.

Jeff Reed, President TxSWANA

Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C.

Jeff Reed is a principal at Lloyd Gosselink. He practices in their Air and Waste Practice Group and Compliance and Enforcement Practice Group focusing on solid waste management permitting and enforcement. Prior to becoming a lawyer, Jeff worked as a civil engineer for almost a decade and received his professional engineering license in 2000. He received his bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Texas in 1993 and his law degree from the Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law in 2006. Jeff also proudly served in the U.S. Army Infantry from 1985-1989.





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What Does SWANA Provide?

With a growing network of over 10,000 members in 47 chapters throughout the United States and Canada, the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) is the go-to source for the most up-to-date information for professionals in the solid waste and recycling industry.

CONNECT TO OTHER PROFESSIONALS on industry specialties, local events, policy changes, best practices, and much more.

UTILIZE KEY RESOURCES for more efficient operations, innovative ideas, Professional service directory, and enhanced communications.

ADVANCE YOUR CAREER and expand your horizons both personally and professionally with some of the industry's most experienced solid waste experts and innovative leaders.

Visit swana.org for more information or to join online!

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