



2010 National Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Workshop

P3: The Next Generation *Its Continuing Mission to Clean the Nation's Water*

May 19-21, 2010

Hyatt Regency Phoenix
Phoenix, Arizona

Wednesday, May 19

Morning

8:00 – 4:00

Registration

9:00 – 12:00

GENERAL SESSION I

Welcoming Remarks

Theresa Pfeifer

Chair, NACWA Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee

Regulatory Compliance Officer

Metro Wastewater Reclamation District

Denver, CO

Opening Remarks

Benjamin Grumbles

Director

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

Phoenix, AZ

Panel Presentation –

National Pretreatment Program Update

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Headquarters staff will update Workshop attendees on several national issues affecting the pretreatment program. The status of the development of Pretreatment Performance Measures will be discussed, including EPA's plans for using the Measures when they are finalized. An update on Effluent Limitation Guidelines will also be presented, including the new guidelines for airport deicing operations and stormwater from construction and development, and the study of unused pharmaceutical disposal for the health services industry and EPA's planned development of best management practices will be an area of focus.

Moderator:

Theresa Pfeifer

Chair, NACWA Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee

Panelists:

Marcus Zobrist
Chief, Industrial Branch
Water Permits Division, Office of Wastewater Management
Office of Water
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, DC

Jan Marie Pickrel
National Pretreatment Team Coordinator
Water Permits Division, Office of Wastewater Management
Office of Water
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, DC

Janet Goodwin
Chief, Technology and Statistics Branch
Engineering and Analysis Division, Office of Science and Technology
Office of Water
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, D.C.

10:30 – 10:45

Break

Panel Discussion –

The Mission to Control Mercury: How Far Should We Go?

Last year, the Michigan Amalgam Separator Law went into effect, requiring dental offices to install amalgam separators, but specifically preventing a local pretreatment program from imposing any further limits on mercury discharges from dental offices. While EPA is considering how to deal with this situation, the Agency is also being asked by the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Oversight and Government Reform to reconsider mercury emission sources from dental amalgam, including incineration and land application of biosolids. Upcoming maximum achievable control technology (MACT) standards for sewage sludge incinerators may require further controls on mercury as well. This panel will discuss the possible national impacts of the Michigan law and the current political and regulatory pressures on mercury discharges.

Moderator/Speaker:

Martie Groome
Vice Chair, NACWA Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee
Laboratory and Industrial Waste Supervisor
City of Greensboro Water Resources Department
Greensboro, NC

Panelists:

Janet Goodwin
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Jerry Bowman
Public Affairs Counsel
American Dental Association
Chicago, IL

Curt McCormick
President
CWA Consulting Services, LLC
Pine, CO

Afternoon

12:00 – 1:15

Lunch (on your own)

1:30 – 3:00

Opening Remarks

Martie Groome
Vice Chair, NACWA Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee

Panel Discussion –

Law and Order: FOG and Toxics Unit

Discharges of fats, oils, and greases (FOG) can create wreck havoc on a sewer system, and wastewater utilities sometimes find themselves in legal battles with dischargers over the damages caused by FOG. Two legal case studies will be presented from utilities that tackled food manufacturers with excessive FOG discharges, including descriptions of the problems resulting from FOG, the legal procedures that were followed, and the resulting settlements. A third legal case, involving a hauled waste service provider that was knowingly bringing toxic wastes to the treatment plant that were in violation of its contract, will also be presented.

Moderator:

Donna Dessoir
Environmental Compliance Supervisor
West County Wastewater District
Richmond, CA

Panelists:

Carolyn Fiore
Director, Toxic Reduction and Control
Operations Division
Massachusetts Water Resources Authority
Chelsea, MA

Shahram Mohsenin
Director, Wastewater Planning and Monitoring Division
Department of Public Works and Environmental Services
County of Fairfax, Va.
Lorton, VA

Ron Johnson
Chief of Pretreatment & Pollution Prevention
Hampton Roads Sanitation District
Virginia Beach, VA

Announcements

Martie Groome
Vice Chair, NACWA Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee

3:00 – 5:00

EPA Regional Roundtable Discussions

The Regional Roundtable session provides an opportunity for EPA, state, and municipal workshop participants to discuss priority issues in each EPA Region. Regional EPA officials will be on hand to take your questions.

NOTE: Breakout room assignments for specific region discussions will be announced before the session.

Region 1

Justin Pimpare
Pretreatment Coordinator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region I
Boston, MA

Kerry Britt
Pretreatment Manager
Narragansett Bay Commission
Providence, RI

Region 2

Virginia Wong
Pretreatment Coordinator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II
New York, NY

Jacqueline Rios
Environmental Engineer
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II
New York, NY

Christine Gasparine
Industrial Pretreatment Operations Manager
Hanover Sewerage Authority
Whippany, NJ

Region 3

Ron Johnson
Hampton Roads Sanitation District

Region 4

Jon van Hoff
Industrial Pretreatment Coordinator
Metropolitan Sewerage District of Buncombe County
Asheville, NC

Region 5

Carol Staniec
Pretreatment Program Enforcement Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region V
Chicago, IL

Bill Oldenburg
Pretreatment Program Coordinator
Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District
Green Bay, WI

Regions 6 and 7

Paul Marshall
Pretreatment Coordinator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VII
Kansas City, KS

Larry Hare
Regulatory Compliance Team Leader
Des Moines Metropolitan Wastewater Reclamation Facility
Des Moines, IA

Region 8

Lori Maag
Industrial Waste Supervisor
Metro Wastewater Reclamation District
Denver, CO

Region 9

Keith Silva
Pretreatment Coordinator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX
San Francisco, CA

Linda Shadler
Supervising Civil Engineer
Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Whittier, CA

Region 10

Michael Le
Pretreatment Coordinator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region X
Seattle, WA

Curtis Barton
Source Control Coordinator
Water Environment Services of Clackamas
Oregon City, OR

Evening

6:00 – 7:00

Reception

Thursday, May 20

Morning

8:00 – 4:00

Registration

9:00 – 12:00

GENERAL SESSION II

Opening Remarks

Theresa Pfeifer

Chair, NACWA Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee

Featured Speaker –

The Nose Knows: A Shelter Dog Becomes a Sewage-Sniffing Dog
“Sable the Sniffer” is a German shepherd mix that has been sniffing out illegal sewage discharges for two years, visiting over 200 municipal storm sewer system outfalls and conducting extensive upstream investigation work. Sable provides immediate and cost-effective detection services that are almost 90 percent accurate compared with traditional laboratory water tests. Sable sniffs out human sewage and detergents, and evidence suggests that he is able to distinguish between animal and human sources of wastes. Sable’s trainer and handler will talk about the dog’s journey from shelter dog to sewage-sniffing dog, the benefits of canine detection services, and how two other dogs are joining the sewage-sniffing force.

Scott Reynolds
Director of Canine Training
Environmental Canine Services LLC
Vermontville, MI

Featured Speaker –

Pretreatment Program Audits: Common Problems and How to Avoid Them
Even good pretreatment programs that try to do everything right sometimes make mistakes. In this presentation, Carol Staniec will discuss the common problems that she has seen during her extensive experience with pretreatment program audits and give her advice on how to avoid these problems.

Carol Staniec
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region V

Featured Speaker –

After the Floods: Returning Wastewater Service to Rhode Island

Record flooding in Rhode Island earlier this year inundated many wastewater treatment utilities, and re-establishing wastewater treatment services has been a challenge for many utilities. Justin Pimpare was in Rhode Island assisting utilities with recovery efforts, and his presentation will show the extent of the damage caused to utilities by the floods. He will also present some preliminary lessons learned from the floods, and emphasize what utilities should do to prepare for these types of disasters.

Justin Pimpare
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region I

10:30 – 10:45

Break

Panel Presentation –

Flushable Wipes Clogging Pipes – What Can be Done?

Many sewer systems have experienced problems from “wipes” and other products called disposable and “flushable.” These products can clog pipes, pumps, and other equipment, causing increases in O&M tasks and operating costs to prevent sewer spills. Many products claim to be flushable, while others that do not claim to be flushable are flushed by consumers anyway. The ability to pass through toilets and plumbing fixtures does not resolve the downstream issues in the sewer system. The nonwoven fabrics industry is working on this issue through voluntary testing of products and better labeling, and NACWA has formed a joint group with the Water Environment Federation (WEF) to examine how advocacy can address the problem. In California, a legislative solution, Assembly Bill 2256, has been proposed. Panelists will discuss the problems caused by wipes and the possible solutions, and an overview of the Uniform Plumbing Code language and current prohibitions will also be presented.

Moderator/Panelist:

Clayton Brown
Source Control Manager
Clean Water Services
Hillsboro, OR

Panelists:

Rory Holmes
President
Association of Nonwoven Fabrics Industry
Cary, NC

Nick Arhontes
Director, Operations, Maintenance, and Regional Services
Orange County Sanitation District
Fountain Valley, CA

Richard Cunningham
Public Works Manager
City of Albany
Albany, CA

12:00 – 1:15 Lunch (on your own)

1:30 – 2:45 Opening Remarks
 Martie Groome
 Vice Chair, NACWA Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee

Panel Presentation –

Getting to the Source: Controlling Contamination Where It Begins
Many municipalities are looking to reduce both conventional and emerging contaminants through source control programs that target domestic and other non-industrial sources. Some localities have passed laws to assist with source control, such as bans on detergents containing phosphorus, and Oregon has passed a law requiring wastewater utilities to develop toxics reduction plans by next year to reduce “priority persistent pollutants” that occur in their effluent above threshold levels. This panel will examine the effectiveness of domestic source control programs, the impacts of source control legislation on utilities and their pretreatment programs, and potential national actions for encouraging or improving source control.

Moderator:

Curtis Barton
Water Environment Services of Clackamas County

Panelists:

Clayton Brown
Source Control Manager
Clean Water Services
Hillsboro, OR

Paul DeLeo
Senior Director, Environmental Safety
The Soap and Detergent Association
Washington, D.C.

Preeti Ghuman
Civil Engineer
Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Whittier, CA

Announcements

Martie Groome

Vice Chair, NACWA Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee

2:45 – 3:00

Break

3:00 – 4:00

Pretreatment Issues Roundtable Discussions

This session will provide an opportunity for Workshop participants to network with other pretreatment professionals and discuss issues affecting their programs and potential solutions.

4:15 – 5:45

NACWA Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee Meeting

Evening

6:00 – 7:00

Reception

Friday, May 21

Morning

8:00 – 10:00

Registration

9:00 – 11:00

GENERAL SESSION III

Opening Remarks

Theresa Pfeifer

Chair, NACWA Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee

Panel Presentation –

PFCs – Has the Time Come for Regulatory Action?

Perfluorochemicals (PFCs) are a class of environmentally-persistent, largely unregulated chemicals that are used in products such as fire-fighting foams, cleaning products, and coatings to repel water and stains from carpet, textiles, and paper. One type of PFC, perfluorooctyl sulfonate (PFOS), is used in the metal plating industry to reduce fumes during the chrome plating process. PFCs gained national attention when release from industry into the sewer system resulted in contaminated biosolids that were land-applied to agricultural fields in Alabama. A study completed by EPA Region 5 last year has also shown that PFOS discharged into the sewer system by metal plating facilities could be ending up in the environment. Panelists will discuss the findings of the Region 5 study and steps that the metal plating industry could take to reduce discharges of PFOS.

Moderator:

Scott Broski

Manager, Water Quality & Industrial Surveillance

Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District

Cleveland, OH

Panelists:

Christian Richter
Executive Vice President
National Association of Surface Finishing
Washington, D.C.

Katherine Sleasman
Existing Chemicals Branch
Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, D.C.

Panel Presentation –

When It Rains, It Pours... Into Sanitary Sewer Systems?

As EPA pursues new regulations for stormwater controls, many pretreatment programs are finding themselves increasingly responsible for municipal stormwater programs. In some locations, sanitary sewer systems are being asked to accept “first flush” and dry season diversions, which had previously gone to the stormwater system. The potential challenges of accepting these diversions will be discussed by this panel, as will potential actions that pretreatment programs can take to minimize or eliminate these problems.

Moderator:

Jerry Baumgartner
Industrial Source Control Manager
Water Pollution Control Laboratory
City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services
Portland, OR

Panelists:

Tim Potter
Environmental Compliance Superintendent
Central Contra Costa Sanitary District
Martinez, CA

Carolyn Fiore
Massachusetts Water Resources Authority

Closing Remarks

Theresa Pfeifer
Chair, NACWA Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee

11:00

Adjourn