

SWANA

SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

Newsletter

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Message from the President

Welcome to Spring! Hope everyone has dusted themselves off from a fairly mild Winter and enjoying some of the typical New England weather. So make sure you plan accordingly as it can be 60 degrees or 90 degrees. With the new season comes change and challenges for our industry. We will start to see volume increases, spring cleanups, and all sorts of other things that can affect our business. Now is a good time to take stock of your staff and remind them of the change in season and to refocus on safety to protect themselves and the community. Focus on your surroundings and be on the lookout for bikers, joggers, etc while on the roadways as the good weather will bring them out. Be careful in picking up large items from the curbside as folks do their spring cleaning. And most of all, be ready for the unexpected as spring typically brings us the unusual event or two.

Switching gears a bit, our WASTECON Planning Committees have been hard at work developing the networking event, tours, sponsorships, etc. for the upcoming event. Many of our members have attended various events promoting Boston 2023 and we believe the event will be a large success. There continues to be opportunities for you to participate, so if interested please reach out to any Board member and ask how you can contribute.

Finally, I would like to share our Chapters well wishes to David Biderman and Darryl Walter, both of whom have recently moved on from SWANA. These gentlemen have long supported our Chapter in the past and we are grateful for their leadership in guidance over the many years they served. We wish them luck in their next life chapter. Please enjoy this newsletter.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship applications are available on our website. The first deadline has passed but you still have time to get in an application for the local scholarship. The local deadline is June 1, 2023. Please take advantage of this opportunity to receive a few extra dollars to help pay for college costs. Winners will be notified in August with an invite to be recognized at WASTECON coming to Boston in September 2023.

WASTECON 2023

WASTECON is officially coming back to Boston in 2023. The event will be held September 27-29, 2023 at the Hynes Convention Center. As the Host Chapter, we look forward to welcoming our peers to our great area for this Premier Leadership Experience. We have been busy lately promoting the event at various conferences and shows across the country.



The following committees have been hard at work developing the content and plans for the event:

- The Networking event to be held on September 28th. This will be one of the major social events for WASTECON and a time for you to get together with old friends and meet some new ones as well. Please plan on joining us at this event. Even if you do not plan on attending WASTECON, tickets for this event only will be available.
- The Tour Committee had been diligently reaching out and securing locations where we can showcase the innovative and collaborative efforts being made in our industry here in New England. These tours promise to offer a great glimpse into new ways of managing materials. If interested in offering up your site please reach out and we can further discuss.
- The Young Professional Committee is working on a smaller social event geared towards the up and coming professionals. This event will allow for folks to meet one another and develop those long lasting connections that many of us have cherished over the years.
- The Golf Committee is working on planning our annual event that will be held in conjunction with WASTECON this year. Please plan on joining this event as it provides our funds for the annual scholarship.
- If interested in sponsoring or supporting the SNE Chapter at this event please reach out to me. This is a great opportunity to get your company's name in front a large group of industry professionals.



REGULATORY UPDATES

CT: Legislature continues working on a bill to expand the state's environmental justice law to cover additional types

of facilities. The bill recently moved through various committees in the legislature. Information and a link to the bill can be found [here](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA) Recycling Conference, May 22-23, 2023, Grappone Conference Center, Concord, NH.
- NY Federation Solid Waste Conference, May 21-24, 2023, Sagamore Resort near Lake George, NY. Information can be found [here](#).

WHATS IN THE NEWS?

- Food waste recycling – there have been many pilot programs looking at diverting organics from the local disposal stream. A few ambitious HS students in MA started a program in their school. These are the next leaders in our Industry, way to go. Story [here](#)
- Recycling: Real or Not? There has been a lot of discussion and commentary lately in the news that recycling is a hoax and further question the validity of recycling plastics. At the recent MARecycle Conference in April there was a great deal of information [shared](#) as to why these stories are not presenting a full picture. As an industry we need to continue to support the recycling initiatives and counter a lot of the misleading information that makes for great headlines.

ORGANICS RECYCLING

There have been a few small successes in the food waste diversion and collection programs in our area. Recently Boston [announced](#) the expansion of their curbside collection program from 10,000 households to 30,000. This is amazing growth in the programs second year, having already diverted over 800 tons of curbside food waste. In addition, the State of CT continues to [expand](#) organics recycling with grant funding to as many as 15 municipalities across the state. The goal of many of these programs is to slowly grow and get people enthusiastic about the ability to source separate. If your municipality or clients are interested in learning more about some of the programs there are many organizations that can assist and the SNE Board is available to help connect you with them.

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