



Air and Waste Matters

DNREC Office of Environmental Protection

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Highlights in this edition include:

**MIRT: Training
to Save Lives
and Protect the
Environment** 2

**Getting Down,
Dirty and Wet at
"Up a Creek"** 3

**Great, Green
Gobs of Greasy,
Grimy, Clam
Guts** 4

**Great, Green
Gobs
Continued...** 5

**Ozone Action
Season—Kick-
off at Killens
Pond State Park** 6

**New!
Delaware
Brownfields
Marketplace** 7

**More
Information
on the
Division** 8

MIRT: Training to Save Lives and Protect the Environment

Have you ever wondered what DNREC's highly-skilled, well-trained emergency responders do for fun? How about dangling out of helicopters over the Delaware Bay for starters!

While most folks were relaxing on the beach at nearby Cape Henlopen State Park, they were being hoisted down on a barge in the bay, as part of helicopter rescue training with the Delaware State Police, Delaware Air Rescue Team, and Claymont, Lewes and Wilmington fire departments.

The barge was on loan for the day from Northstar Marine of Cape May, New Jersey. Capt. Clarke Droney, owner of Tow BOAT/US Indian River, volunteered his time and vessel to position the barge for the exercise.

The Division of Waste and Hazardous Substances emergency responders, Mark Lutrzykowski, Wendy March and Erich Schuller, participated in the helicopter rescue training exercise as part of the state's Maritime Incident

(Continued on page 2)



From the left: Jack Wilson, Wilmington Fire Department; and DNREC responders, Erich Schuller, Wendy March and Mark Lutrzykowski, prepare for the helicopter hoist.

Training to Save Lives and Protect the Environment *Continued...*

Response Team (MIRT). They train several times each year to practice emergency response techniques in hazardous material (hazmat) release scenarios.

The training was conducted by Priority 1 Air Rescue and focused on rescuing victims via helicopter from barge and vessel spills in the bay. The scenario included rescuing two unconscious injured workers, while a third worker was trapped on the lower level of the barge. The training included hoisting the responders, as well as their gear, down to the barge, readying the "victims" for transport and extrication techniques.

Lutzykowski explained that the training is good practice for rescuing survivors and obtaining hazmat cleanup equipment during potential hazardous spills in Delaware waters. Schuller admitted that the training was the most intense he had to date, which must be pretty darn in-

tense considering that two years ago he was involved in the helicopter to tanker-ship deck training in the Delaware Bay!

They each went through seven days of training prior to the barge rescue to practice using the equipment. The group must constantly practice cleanup activities and rescues in hazmat situations to become experts in a real emergency.

The Division's Emergency Prevention and Response Section — Emergency Response Branch (EPRS-ERB) responds to oil spills, hazardous material incidents, and weapons of mass destruction events, statewide 24/7. For more information on the ERB, please visit:

<http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/whs/awm/EPR/Pages/RespGroup.aspx>

*Article by C. Wirtz, WHS
Photos by Lt. John J. Randolph,
Wilmington Police Department (Ret.) - Line of Duty Images*



DNREC responder Erich Schuller is lowered to the deck of the barge.

JOHN J. RANDOLPH 2011

Getting Down, Dirty and Wet at “Up a Creek”



The Flagship IV lies partially submerged at the dock.

Jamie Bethard of the Division's EPRS-ERB assisted Wilmington's Police and Fire Departments with a vessel inspection for hazardous chemical/waste releases to the Brandywine River in the freezing month of February 2011.

The incident occurred on the Flagship IV at the former 'Up the Creek' dock on the Brandywine River in Wilmington. Following the inspection, the vessel was defueled and dewatered, and is now afloat again at the dock.

DNREC is a member of the State Emergency Response Team (SERT). In addition to DNREC, SERT members include the Delaware Emergency Management Agency, the Delaware State Fire School, the Delaware State Police, the Division of Public Health, local and county government agencies and local fire companies.

DNREC responds to over 300 emergency response incidents per year and relies on support



Jamie Bethard begins his inspection of the stern.

and coordination with other federal, state and local agencies to protect human health and our natural resources and waterways. For more information on the SERT, please visit: <http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/whs/awm/EPR/Pages/StateEmergencyResponseTeam.aspx>

Article by J. Bethard, EPRS
Photos by Lt. John J. Randolph,
Wilmington Police Department (Ret.) - Line of Duty Images

Great, Green Gobs of Greasy, Grimy, Clam Guts

(And other stories from DNREC's Stranger-than-Fiction Files)

When it comes to the strange, unusual, or just plain bizarre, the Emergency Prevention and Response Section (EPRS) has seen it all. And, due to the nature of their work, they have seen it all up close and way too personal, so to speak!

Some of these odd events are so amazing, that they have now become the stuff of DNREC's urban legends. From the Department's own "Dragnet" files, what you are about to read is true, only a few of the names have been changed to protect the innocent.

Straight from DNREC's State Emergency Response Team (SERT) Incident Reports, the "Most Colorful" Award definitely has to go to the Apollo Transportation Grape Juice Spill incident.

APOLLO TRANSPORT GRAPE JUICE SPILL aka, incident #030910-02-D-N-K; Jamie Bethard responding for DNREC:

An Apollo Transportation Specialist tractor-trailer transporting a Sealand container developed a leak in the load, spilling its contents on the roadway. Delaware State Police eventually stopped the vehicle under the Route 1 Bay Road overpass in Dover. Delaware State Police requested DNREC's assistance. Prior to DNREC's arrival, the container was opened, causing a tote to crash to the ground. **Purple juice splashed onto the police officer, truck driver, and engulfed the police car!**

DNREC arrived and cleared the rear of the container of damaged pallets. Oil dry and a boom were placed in the container to allow the container to be transported to Quality Kitchen, the owner of the juice. Fourteen 300-gallon totes were in the container. Quality Kitchen hired an environmental cleanup contractor to remediate the spillage. The driver of the tractor trailer was cited by one of DNREC's Environmental En-

forcement Officers. And you can bet that the state police officer had some explaining to do back at the troop regarding his "engulfed" police car turned juice-box on wheels!



A broken tote and ruptured liner are strewn about at the scene of the grape juice incident.

For the "Supreme Environmental Protector of the Year" category, Matthew Higgins is a hands-down winner for keen investigative skills and intrepid dedication in protecting public health, safety, and the environment.

WHITELYSBURG HAZMAT STOCKPILE aka, incident # 100714-01-D-N-K; Matt Higgins responding for DNREC:

On that momentous day of July 14, 2010, Higgins responded to a report of abandoned, potentially-hazardous materials, west of Felton on Route 12. He dutifully travelled the western length of the highway looking for the suspect containers and lo and behold, as he approached the state line in Whitelysburg, he found the reported containers.

Higgins carefully photographed the containers and relayed the photos back to the office for comment. Ellen Malenfant, the EPRS manager, received the pictures and replied back that the bucolic "vegetable" scene was a nice joke, however, she would need to review the

(Continued on page 5)

Great, Green Gobs *Continued...*

real photos and other details when Higgins returned to the office. But no, this was not a joke, the photos were actually of the reported **abandoned, potentially hazardous containers!**

Apparently, the reported incident was the result of a neighborly spat that went a little too far on a simmering, summer day in Whitelysburg.



Scene of the infamous “vegetable” crime.

And speaking of simmering, in the “Just Plain Foul” category, certainly the Atlantic Road Clam Waste Dumping incident rises to the top, like the rotten stench of discarded seafood on a hot summer day. **Wait a minute; it WAS rotten, discarded seafood on a hot summer day!** The responders reported that it created such an unbelievably, nauseating odor that it took several washings to remove the odor from their clothes and protective equipment. Needless to say, they are also none too keen on eating clams now!

ATLANTA ROAD CLAM WASTE DUMPING aka, incident #070809-02-D-N-S; Matt Higgins and Jamie Bethard responding for DNREC:

The responsible party (RP) illegally dumped three loads of maggot-teaming, waste clam meat in the Marshyhope Wildlife Management Area (WMA), northwest of Bridgeville, Delaware.

The dump-site was on the bank of a tax ditch off Atlanta Road. Matt Higgins arrived on-site and assessed the scene. The waste clam meat was dumped in two piles visible from the road. The amount initially dumped was estimated at approximately 24 cubic yards. Higgins advised the onsite responders that DNREC-EPRS would hire a contractor and remediate the waste clam meat dump-site.

DNREC’s contractor removed approximately 60 cubic yards (35 TONS!) of a mixture of waste clam meat, maggots and soil from the dump-site.



Close up of the clam waste, teeming with maggots.

Although DNREC’s Emergency Response Team is highly skilled, equipped with the latest technology to protect human health and the environment, and extensively trained for all events (including weapons of mass destruction); **the Great Green Gobs of Greasy, Grimy, Clam Guts** incident will forever rank high (no pun intended!) in DNREC’s truth-IS-stranger-than-fiction files.

*Article by E. Malenfant, EPRS and C. Wirtz, WHS
Photos by EPRS Staff*

Ozone Action Season—Kick-Off at Killens Pond State Park

Now that the dog days of summer are upon us, so are unhealthy ground-level ozone exceedences. Ozone is a colorless gas that is the main ingredient of smog. Ground-level ozone is a severe public health concern. It damages lung tissue, aggravates respiratory conditions and makes people more susceptible to respiratory infections. Last month alone, the ozone level in Delaware exceeded the National Ambient Air Quality standard on six days.

The Air Quality Partnership (AQP) of Delaware kick-started its 2011 Ozone Action Season during the Delaware Solid Waste Authority's 11th Annual Earth Day Festival at Killens Pond State Park.

The Partnership's focus at the event was on the health aspects of air quality. Speakers included William Leitzinger of the DHSS-Division of Public Health, Pat Canzano of DSWA, and Ali Mirzakhilili of DNREC's Division of Air Quality (DAQ).

The Air Quality Partnership is a group of citizens, public agencies, and private corporations concerned about the region's air quality. Its mission is to raise awareness and inform Delawareans about practices that improve air quality and citizen health.

On days when air quality is poor (action days), a free service called Enviroflash sends e-mail alerts for people to take measures that improve air quality. These measures include trip chaining (combining errands into one trip), taking mass transit, sharing a ride or carpooling, riding a bike, walking, not topping off the gas tank, and refueling when it's cooler in the morning or evening.

The Partnership includes the American Lung Association in Delaware, Bayshore Ford, Chesapeake Utilities, the Clean Air Council, Delmarva Broadcasting, the Dover/Kent County MPO, DNREC, DART First State, the Delaware Division of Public Health, Delaware Ecumenical Council on Children and Families, RideShare Delaware, TMA Delaware, and WILMAPCO.



DAQ Director Ali Mirzakhilili reviews the Governor's Ozone Awareness Proclamation at the kickoff event with his son, Cameron, and event coordinator, Terri Brixen.

For more information about the Air Quality Partnership of Delaware, or to sign up for Enviroflash e-mail alerts, please visit: www.wilmapco.org/aqp.

For more information on ground level ozone and exceedences at DNREC monitoring stations in Delaware, please visit: <http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/whs/awm/Info/Pages/Ozone.aspx> and http://www.dnrec.state.de.us/air/aqm_page/airmont/air.asp, respectively.

Article by T. Brixen, DAQ and C. Wirtz, WHS
Photo by R. Novakoff, WILMAPCO

New! Delaware Brownfield's Marketplace

The Delaware Brownfields Marketplace is an interactive database that contains a list of market-ready Brownfield sites throughout Delaware. The inventory is designed to make it easier for potential buyers and developers to locate available Brownfield properties.

Cleaning up and reinvesting in these properties protects the environment, reduces blight, and helps to create jobs for Delaware citizens, while preserving Delaware's precious green space and natural resources.

Brownfields are real property that may be vacant, abandoned or underutilized as a result of a reasonably-held belief that they may be contaminated.

Productive use of these idle properties provides "new" areas for economic development, primarily in former industrial/urban areas with existing utilities, roads and other infrastructure. This is consistent with Livable Delaware and Smart Growth strategies - designed to preserve green space and improve the quality of life in our Delaware communities.

DNREC's Brownfields Development Program has grant money available to support investigation and cleanup activities for sites contaminated with petroleum and hazardous substances. Non-profits and private parties may apply to DNREC's Site Investigation and Restoration Branch for no-to-low interest loans and grants to perform Brownfield cleanups.

The Delaware Brownfield Marketplace is a growing listing. Sites are added to the list after a careful screening by DNREC to make sure



Wilmington's Riverfront has a number of former brownfield sites such as the Justison Landing condominiums and the new ShopRite.

they meet the criteria of a market-ready Brownfield site in Delaware.

Sites may have been identified as a Brownfield by DNREC; submitted for consideration by the site's owner; or may have already gone through DNREC's Brownfields Certification process. The new centralized database will allow prospective purchasers to "one-stop-shop" for Brownfield sites in Delaware.

For more information, or if you are an owner of a possible Brownfield site, and want to submit your property for potential listing, please visit the new site at:

<http://apps.dnrec.state.de.us/BFExt/BFExtMain.aspx>

*Article by C. Wirtz, WHS
Graphic by M. Globetti, DNREC Public Affairs*

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ENVIRONMENTAL
CONTROL

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We're on the web!
www.awm.delaware.gov

Visit the Site

Investigation and
Restoration Section
Brownfields Website

at:

[http://
www.awm.delaware.gov
v/SIRB/Pages/
Brownfields.aspx](http://www.awm.delaware.gov/v/SIRB/Pages/Brownfields.aspx)
for more Brownfields
information.



The Division of Waste and Hazardous Substances includes the following sections and responsibilities:

- **Emergency Prevention and Response** — preventing industrial accidents, assuring emergency planning and community right-to-know, and responding to environmental emergencies.
- **Site Investigation and Restoration** — remediation of sites contaminated by hazardous substances (Superfund/Brownfields/Voluntary Cleanup Programs).
- **Solid and Hazardous Waste Management** — reuse, recycling, transport and disposal of solid and hazardous waste.
- **Tank Management** — maintenance and installation of underground and above ground storage tanks & overseeing cleanup of tanks that may leak. This section oversees the Boiler Safety Group as well.

EASY REFERENCE PHONE NUMBERS

24-hr. Environmental Report and Spill Notification Line - 1-800-662-8802

Aboveground Storage Tanks - 302-395-2500
Air Quality - New Castle Office - 302-323-4542
Asbestos—New Castle - 302-323-4542
Asbestos—Kent & Sussex - 302-739-9402
Biosolids Permits - 302-739-9946
Boiler Safety - 302-744-2735
Brownfields - 302-395-2600
Delaware Estuary Program - 302-739-9949
Div. of Air Quality, Director's Office - 302-739-9402
Div. of Waste and Hazardous Substances, Director's Office - 302-739-9400
Div. of Water, Director's Office - 302-739-9950
Dock/Dredging/Bulkheads/Rip-Rap/Wetlands&Subaq. Lands - 302-739-9943
Emergency Prevention and Response - 302-739-9404
Environmental Crimes Unit - 302-739-9401 or 1-800-662-8802
Hazardous Waste - 302-739-9403
Loans & Grants for Wastewater and Septics (FAB) - 302-739-9941
Medical Waste - 302-739-9403
Non-Hazardous Liquid Waste Transporters - 302-739-9948
On-site Wastewater Licensing Program - 302-739-9948
Open Burning - 302-739-9402
Outreach Ombudsman - 302-395-2515
Recycling - 302-739-9403
Septic System Permits - Large Systems Statewide - 302-739-9948
Septic System Permits - Small Systems for Kent & NCC - 302-739-9947
Septic System Permits - Small Systems for Sussex Co. & Holding Tank Compliance Program - 302-856-4561
Site Investigation & Restoration Section (NPL & Brownfields) - 302-395-2600
Solid Waste - 302-739-9403
Source Water Protection - 302-739-9945
Stormwater Permits - 302-739-9946
Surface Water Discharge Permits (NPDES) - 302-739-9946
Underground Injection Control & Spray Irrigation - 302-739-9948
Underground Storage Tanks - 302-395-2500
Wastewater Collection, Conveyance and/or Treatment Facility Construction Permits – 302-739-9946
Wastewater Treatment Facility Operators - 302-739-9946
Water Allocation Permits - 302-739-9945
Water Testing - Drinking Water (Div. of Public Health) - 302-741-8630
Well Driller's License - 302-739-9944
Well Permits & Licensing - 302-739-9944