



Air and Waste Matters

DNREC Division of Air and Waste Management

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New Community Yard Waste Site—Mulching at Last!

The new DNREC/DART Mid-County Community Yard Waste Drop-Off site that opened in July is currently operating in high gear! New Castle County residents are bringing their yard waste for drop off and picking up free mulch.

Thanks to the County's first public yard waste drop-off site, significant amounts of useful material are being diverted from the Cherry Island Landfill. Yard wastes make up nearly a quarter of the residential waste in Delaware. Managing yard waste as mulch or compost is both environmentally and economically sensible.

Two additional community yard waste sites are now in the works and should be open soon. One of the sites is located near Newark along Polly Drummond Hill Road, just off Kirkwood Highway and across from the former Judge Morris Estate section of White Clay Creek State Park. The other site will be located in the Brandywine Hundred area. These sites will help build and sustain community recycling activities, and allow residents to participate in the effort to keep yard wastes out of Cherry Island Landfill.

The new DNREC/DART Mid-County Community Yard Waste Drop-Off site is open every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Located at DART's Mid-county facility at the southwest corner of U.S. Routes 13 and

72 near Bear, it is easily accessible from Route 13 South for New Castle County residents to drop off yard wastes and pick up free mulch. Signs are posted listing yard waste materials that are acceptable for drop-off including grass, leaves, prunings, brush, shrubs, garden materials, Christmas trees, and tree limbs up to 4 inches in diameter. Only loose material can be left at the yard waste recy-



Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony: Valerie Longhurst, State Representative, 15th District; Brock J. Vinton, Chairman, Recycling Public Advisory Council; Chris Coons, New Castle County Executive; Pasquale S. Canzano, CEO, Delaware Solid Waste Authority (DSWA); and John A. Hughes, Secretary, DNREC

Global Settlement for Premcor Refinery

Over the summer, DNREC entered into a global settlement with The Premcor Refining Group Inc. for alleged air pollution, hazardous waste and water pollution violations at its refinery in Delaware City. The result was more than \$6 million in fines, penalties, environmental improvement projects, and pollution control investments, as well as more than 1,000 tons of pollution reduction.

The company anticipates spending an additional \$4.5 million to improve the burner management systems at its two carbon monoxide boilers, and to conduct enhanced monitoring of oxides of nitrogen (NOx) emissions from process heaters.

The agreement also includes \$1.3 million in environmental improvement projects including: \$1.2 million to re-route Premcor's hydrogen sulfide sulfur pit vapors from its sulfur recovery plants and to recover these vapors as elemental sulfur; \$60,000 for power generation at Fort Delaware; \$30,000 to establish community yard waste sites; and \$10,000 to enhance fish habitat as part of the

Delaware Reef Program.

Under the agreement, Premcor will pay an administrative penalty of \$425,000 related to alleged air violations and \$30,000 related to alleged hazardous waste violations.



Premcor Refinery
(Photo by B. Steltzer, AQM)

Better reliability in the operation of the two carbon monoxide boilers at the fluid catalytic cracking and coking units can be expected, resulting in pollution control devices being bypassed less frequently. The agreement will also result in a reduction of 137 tons per year of sulfur dioxide emissions.

DNREC Press Release, 6/28/07

New Community Yard Waste Site Continued...



FREE Mulch, as Available, at the New DNREC/DART Mid-County Community Yard Waste Site near Bear

(Continued from page 1)

clinging center; plastic bags and other containers must be emptied and removed from the site.

The new Community Yard Waste Drop-Off site is for use by residents only; commercial businesses, such as landscaping and lawn-care companies should continue using one of the commercial yard waste facilities or DSWA. Municipalities are also excluded from using the site. For more information, please visit :

www.dnrec.delaware.gov/yardwaste

or contact Jim Short or Bill Miller with the Division's Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Program at (302) 739-9403.

Article and Photos by W. Miller, SHWMB

Developing a Brownfield Site—Former Speakman Factory

The once thriving Speakman factory at the intersection of East 30th and North Spruce Street in Wilmington started operations in the early 1900s. The Speakman Company manufactured bathroom plumbing fixtures at the site including brass-casting, electroplating, machining, assembling and finishing of the bathroom fixtures.



Former Speakman Factory in Wilmington
(Photo by R. Newsome, SIRB)

However, the business experienced a downturn and the dilapidated factory stood idle for decades. Now the former factory site is turning heads as affordable townhomes — another Brownfields success story in Wilmington!

The property encompasses approximately eight acres near Brown/Burton/Winchester Park. The site was purchased by Cornerstone West Community Development Corporation in order to develop a 71-unit townhome development for low and middle income families. Cornerstone West began working with the Division's Site Investigation and Restoration Branch (SIRB) in 2005 on site investigation and cleanup under the Brownfields Program.

In March 2006, SIRB began working with REACT Environmental, Cornerstone's environmental consultant, to perform the Brownfields investigation of the site. The results of the investigation revealed that several contaminants of concern

were present at the site including metals such as lead, arsenic and chromium, semi-volatile organic compounds and trichloroethylene, a volatile organic compound.

SIRB completed a Proposed and Final Plan of Remedial Action for the former Speakman Company site in October 2006. The Final Plan included:

- Installation of an impervious cap consistent with construction of concrete slab-on-grade structures, concrete partial sub-grade structures, and asphalt parking lots and drives during the redevelopment, and the installation of a soil cap in areas not planned for impervious cover,
- Installation of an engineered vapor barrier in future inhabited buildings, as required,
- A restrictive environmental covenant consistent with the Uniform Environmental Covenants Act on the property, and
- Completion and approval of an Operation and Maintenance Plan for the property.

Today, the townhomes are under construction, turning the once dilapidated factory property into a new community of happy homeowners.

Article by R. Newsome, SIRB



Townhome Development to be Completed in 2008. (Photo by T. Keyser, SIRB)

2007 Legislative Changes Affecting Air and Waste Management

Delaware's legislative session ended on July 30th with the passage of an important bill on the Division's legislative agenda – the Title V fee bill. Title V is the reference to a section of the federal Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 requiring operating permits for major emissions of air pollutants. By law, the permitting program must be funded by fees charged to facility owners holding Title V air permits. HB 187 raised the fees by 20% for a one-year period to cover program costs. Over the next several months, the Air Quality Management Section will be working with facility owners on a new fee schedule to be implemented in July 2008.

Another important bill that passed this session is HB 234. This bill eliminated the “double payment” to the Hazardous Substance Cleanup Act (HSCA) Fund by small retailers and wholesalers. The HSCA Fund is supported by a tax on gross receipts of petroleum products by large wholesalers. These taxes are typically passed on as the product is sold to buyers and consumers. The HSCA fund is used for the cleanup of contaminated sites throughout the state. The result of HB 234 is that revenue to the HSCA fund will be significantly reduced by approximately \$3 million per year at current gasoline prices. The bill also extended the life of the program an additional three years until 2015.

Senate Joint Resolution 2 also passed this year, which delayed the implementation of the yard waste ban in Northern New Castle County until January 24, 2008. The delay includes a schedule for DNREC to report on progress toward a “seamless” yard waste management system to the legislature. During this time, DNREC has begun establishing community yard waste drop-off/free mulch pick-up sites, including one in Bear near Routes 72 and 13, and another on Polly Drummond Hill Road. DNREC is also working with New Castle County and community organizations to locate a site in the Brandywine Hundred area.

Perhaps the biggest disappointment of the 2007 session was the failure of the Department's recy-

cling bill (HR 159), which would have established a recycling grant fund to help communities, small business, and local governments establish recycling operations, including yard waste sites. Local governments would also be able to use grant funds to provide seed money for entrepreneurial programs like “RecycleBank,” now enjoying extraordinary success and popularity in Wilmington and Philadelphia (see below).

Educators could use the grant funds to support outreach efforts, like the composting workshops offered by the University of Delaware's Extension Service. A short mandatory recycling bill, with no funding for communities, educators or local governments (HR 146) was offered near the end of session and was defeated. DNREC will renew its efforts to enact such legislation in 2008.

Finally, Senator David McBride introduced Senate Bill 168. This bill establishes requirements for the disclosure of all environmental liability by a seller to both a prospective purchaser and DNREC prior to the sale of properties that have, at any time, held up to one million pounds of hazardous materials. This bill was one of the recommendations of the Metachem Task Force following the bankruptcy of Metachem Products, LLC. The bankruptcy forced the state and the federal government to pay for the proper shutdown of the facility, including removal of hazardous materials and cleanup of the site. This bill was assigned to the Senate Natural Resources and Environmental Control Committee.

Article by M. Crofts, DAWM



More Information on RecycleBank

For more information on RecycleBank, please see the April 2007 issue of **Air and Waste Matters** at: <http://www.awm.delaware.gov/info/e-news> and RecycleBank's website at: <http://www.recyclebank.com/home.cfm>.

Metachem—Major Phase of Cleanup Completed!

In the last few months, the Division of Air and Waste Management assisted with the USEPA's completion of construction of the groundwater remedy at the former Metachem Products, LLC Superfund site. The remedy includes a subsurface concrete barrier wall around the site and a system to pump and treat the contaminated groundwater from inside the barrier wall.

The site is located near Delaware City in New Castle County, Delaware. Metachem Products, LLC and its predecessor, Standard Chlorine of Delaware, both manufactured chlorinated benzene chemicals at the 85-acre site for more than 35 years. Throughout its operation, but particularly in the 1990s, Standard Chlorine had a history of chronic non-compliance with numerous environmental laws. The site was listed on the USEPA's Superfund National Priorities List (NPL), due to tank-related spills, and soil and groundwater contamination in the 1980s. Standard Chlorine's legacy of non-compliance continued with Metachem, which eventually negotiated a Consent Decree with the State in early 2001 for compliance and site cleanup.

However, before cleanup could be implemented, Metachem declared bankruptcy in May 2002, abruptly closing and abandoning the plant. With no environmental cleanup funds set-aside by the company, the cost of removing accumulated hazardous product and waste was left to DNREC and USEPA (i.e., state and federal tax payers).

Today, the former chemical portion of the plant, which previously contained buildings, process vessels and piping, and a wastewater treatment plant, has been properly decommissioned by the USEPA with support from the Division's Site Investigation and Restoration Branch (SIRB), and is currently being dismantled.

The USEPA and SIRB oversaw the coordination of multiple contractors tasked with demolition, asbestos abatement, contaminated material removal for incineration, as well as ensuring that



Construction of the 70-Foot Deep Barrier Wall

the contractors were provided with an active water supply for remediation, construction and fire safety. In addition, the Division's Tank Management Branch coordinated the removal of several previously closed-in-place underground storage tanks that were in the line of the concrete slurry wall, as it progressed along the southern edge of the site.

The concrete barrier wall that encircles the site, along with the pump and treat system, is a complex groundwater remediation system with multiple extraction wells. The system is designed to treat the groundwater to drinking water standards before discharging the water to the Red Lion Creek. The concrete slurry wall "keys-into" a basal clay layer up to 70 feet below land surface and creates a "bathtub" that contains the majority of the contaminated groundwater at the site. The new groundwater treatment system has been active for several months, and will be used as the long-term remedy for groundwater at the site. Additional information is available at:

<http://www.awm.delaware.gov/Metachem+cleanup+update.htm>

Photo and Article by Todd Keyser

Gas Stations—Potential Brownfield Sites in Your Neighborhood

We have all seen them — gas stations that have closed and are boarded up. They are usually unkept, unattractive, and a general eye sore to our communities. They are also vacant and underutilized, and a place where harmful chemicals may have leaked into the environment. You guessed it, abandoned gas stations are definitely Brownfields sites.

If leaks and spills are identified, these properties typically go through our Division's Leaking Underground Storage Tank Clean-up Program. Since 1985, DNREC has worked with responsible parties to clean up over 3,300 leaking underground storage tank projects. The scope of these projects have ranged from removing contaminated soils around small leaks or spills to large scale remediation projects involving the cleanup of contaminated groundwater, relocating residents, and extending public drinking water systems to affected communities.

With 70% of all Delawareans relying on groundwater for their drinking water, our Division's Tank Management Branch strives to prevent leaks from tank systems by performing inspection and enforcement activities to ensure owners and op-

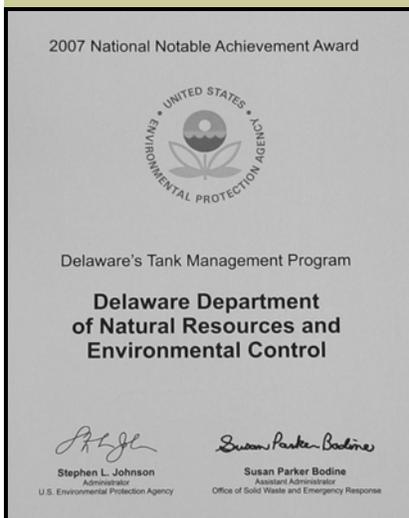
erators maintain their systems in compliance with DNREC's regulations.

So the next time you are putting gas in your car, think about the thousands of gallons of gasoline stored and transferred through piping right below your feet. What would happen if that gas station went out of business? Who would take care of any environmental cleanup that needed to happen? If your neighborhood gas station goes out of business and a cleanup is needed, you are likely to be standing on a future Brownfield site regulated by the Division's Tank Management Branch.

The Tank Management Branch will be on site to administer and assist with any new installations, and the management of abandonment, removal, and cleanup of underground storage tank systems in order to prevent contamination of soils and groundwater supplies in the community. And along the way, helping to redevelop a Brownfields site that might be in your neighborhood.

Article by A. Rittberg, TMB

National Notable Achievement Award for Tank Branch



On June 13, 2007, Alex Rittberg stepped up to the podium in Arlington, Virginia to accept a National Notable Achievement Award from the USEPA on behalf of the Tank Management Branch. As the manager of the Division's Tank Branch, he accepted the Underground Storage Tanks – Cleanup/Revitalization Team Award for the work done on the Region 3 Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Program Technical Conference and the Region 3 LUST Program Ethanol Workshop.

The award recognized the Tank Management Branch for facilitating in the development, production, and delivery of two major regional events. The events provided the region's state partners with the latest technical information related to LUST site investigation and remediation, and specifically addressed the use and compatibility of ethanol and ethanol-blended motor fuels. The workshop was one of the first of its kind to discuss the important emerging issues associated with transitioning to ethanol as a fuel additive.

Photo, R. Keyser, TMB/Article Excerpts from USEPA June 2007 Awards Summary

Summer “Externship” for Teachers

The Air Quality Management Section (AQM) once again hosted the University of Delaware’s Business/Industry/Education Alliance Teacher’s Externship Program during the summer of 2007. The program includes a unique 18-hour professional “externship” at a business or industrial site. Participating teachers learn the principles of contextual teaching and how the Delaware academic standards relate to on-the-job skills. The teachers investigate the workplace and then develop methods for showing students the relationship between academics and real-life business, industry, and community applications.

AQM was delighted to have the opportunity to host two educators. During the week of June 20, Denise Maslanka, an English teacher from Delcastle Vo-Tech and Mary Osman, a science teacher at Christiana High School, observed how the skills and knowledge taught in their classrooms can be applied to the business world. The educators receive 30 professional development hours towards renewal of their continuing education requirements for licensing.

The teachers saw a power point presentation on the Toxic Release Inventory, observed vehicles being tested at the New Castle DMV, took a tour of various Brownfield sites in New Castle County, attended a meeting on Delaware’s Air Toxics Assessment Study, and visited two air monitoring stations. The teachers also reviewed examples of air pollution microscopy, including some local pollen, on a monitor screen via Air Surveillance’s new microscope digital camera.

Photo and Article by T. Brixen, AQM



Update on Claymont Steel Fugitive Dust Study

In the wake of two DNREC enforcement orders in late 2006, Claymont Steel has begun a special air monitoring program and a series of additional control measures to stop a continuing dust problem in nearby communities. After a series of community meetings to receive input and make changes to the draft plan, DNREC directed Claymont Steel to begin the special air monitoring program, which supplements the ongoing air monitoring stations operated by DNREC statewide (see http://www.dnrec.state.de.us/air/aqm_page/airmont/air.asp). Although the monitoring results were intended to provide a “baseline” measure of conditions before additional dust controls were implemented, Claymont Steel has begun implementing control measures including major modifications to process operations involving slag processing, steel scrap handling, and roadway dust controls, as well as a study of ventilation at the melt shop. Claymont Steel is submitting a final implementation schedule as this newsletter is being finalized.

DNREC Community Ombudsman, James Brunswick is also working with the community to establish an additional monitoring program. This program is supported by a grant to the Claymont Community Coalition that was provided by Claymont Steel. Funding will provide resources to train the Claymont Community Monitoring Team on ambient air quality standards and teach them to use monitoring devices to document air quality. Claymont residents will independently monitor and document the effectiveness of emissions dust controls from “hot spots.” These “hot spots” are locations that the community identified as the most impacted by fugitive dust fallout. Sometimes called the “bucket brigade” program, this monitoring method has been successful in equipping communities with data generated by sampling methods and equipment that meet USEPA sampling protocols. By doing so, community residents are empowered by their ability to make use of sound technical data to negotiate solutions to environmental problems.

**DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL
RESOURCES AND
ENVIRONMENTAL
CONTROL**

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Deputy Sec. David Small**

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

Visit the Site
Investigation and
Restoration Branch
Brownfields Website
at:

[http://
www.dnrec.state.de.us/
dnrec2000/Divisions/
AVM/sirb/
brownfield.asp](http://www.dnrec.state.de.us/dnrec2000/Divisions/AVM/sirb/brownfield.asp)

for more Brownfields
information.



Integrity, Respect and Customer Focus

The Division of Air and Waste Management oversees the handling, transferring and storing of solid and hazardous materials by regulating, monitoring, inspecting, enforcing and responding to emergencies. The Division also implements the state's air monitoring, permitting and compliance programs. The Division's responsibilities include administering air and waste programs including:

- Delaware's Air Quality Section — air monitoring and regulating air emissions.
- Tank Management Branch — maintenance and installation of underground and above ground storage tanks & overseeing cleanup of tanks which may leak.
- Emergency Prevention and Response Branch — preventing industrial accidents, assuring emergency planning and community right-to-know, and responding to environmental emergencies.
- Enforcement Section — the Environmental Protection Officers enforce the state's air, waste and water pollution laws, and participate on DNREC's Environmental Response Team by responding to environmental emergencies.
- Site Investigation and Restoration Branch — remediation of sites contaminated by hazardous substances (Superfund/Brownfields/Voluntary Cleanup Program).
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Branch — reuse, recycling, transport and disposal of solid and hazardous waste.

EASY REFERENCE PHONE NUMBERS

24-Hour Report and Spill Notification Line - 1-800-662-8802
Aboveground Storage Tanks - 302-395-2500
Air Quality - Dover Office - 302-739-9402
- New Castle Office - 302-323-4542
Asbestos - New Castle - 302-323-4542
- Kent & Sussex - 302-739-9402
Boiler Safety - 302-744-2735
Brownfields - 302-395-2600
Emergency Prevention and Response - 302-739-9404
Enforcement - 302-739-9401 or 1-800-662-8802
Hazardous Waste - 302-739-9403
Medical Waste - 302-739-9403
Open Burning - 302-739-9402
Outreach Ombudsman - 302-395-2515
Recycling - 302-739-9403
Site Investigation & Restoration Branch (Superfund/Brownfields) - 302-395-2600
Solid Waste - 302-739-9403
Underground Storage Tanks - 302-395-2500

DID YOU KNOW?

DNREC has a new purchasing policy that requires Department-wide purchasing of recycled-content paper, Energy-Star appliances, and recyclable, reusable, and recycled products. The initiative was developed by DNREC's in-house Green Group.