



CTACHMM NEWSLETTER

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CT ACHMM President's Message

Matthew J. Twerdy

Greetings everyone! I hope you had an excellent summer. As I write this, I am coming up on the end of my third year as the President of CTACHMM. The time has flown by. CTACHMM Board Members continue to follow the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CTDEEP) regulatory activities to ensure the CHMM credential is recognized by CTDEEP in applicable General Permits and regulatory programs. Board Members have done an excellent job over the years marketing our credential to CTDEEP. There haven't been any recent opportunities to include the credential in additional programs, but we will let you know if any arise. By the way it's going to take me a while to get used to the new CTDEEP acronym!

I'd like to point out the Institute of Hazardous Materials Management (IHMM) recently launched a new E-Newsletter; *IHMM Today*. Go to IHMM's web page (www.ihmm.org) look for a link in the upper right hand corner to *IHMM Today*. This newsletter contains articles for

Certified Hazardous Materials Managers (CHMM[®]), Certified Hazardous Materials Practitioners (CHMP[™]), Hazardous Materials Managers-in-Training (HMMTs), and others working in homeland security, environmental protection, engineering, health sciences, transportation, and safety professionals that are interested in getting a certification.

Produced biannually, readers can access the newsletter by clicking directly on the articles of interest to them from the Table of Contents page. Readers may also download the entire PDF version of the newsletter.

Additionally, CTACHMM is currently working on scheduling our next General Membership meeting for the end of October. Please keep a look out for the meeting notice coming soon. Environmental, health, and safety professionals involved in hazardous material management will find our meetings interesting and informative, and a great way to meet other professionals in their industry. General Membership Meetings of the Chapter typically include a speaker with a technical presentation pertinent to the professional interests of the membership or a facility tour. Speakers have included regulators, environmental and safety professionals, and chapter members. Tours have been at wastewater treatment plants, cogeneration facilities, trash to energy plants, and industrial facilities. I'm looking forward to seeing you at future meetings, and please don't hesitate to speak with me if you would like to participate further in the organization.

Thank you for your dedication to CTACHMM and for making the Connecticut Chapter a leader among all chapters nationally!

Matt

AHMP 2011 National Conference*Where All EHS&S Disciplines Connect*

August 28–August 31, 2011

Hilton Austin • Austin, Texas



Despite Hurricane Irene's best efforts, several Connecticut Chapter members attended the 2011 AHMP National Conference in Austin, TX. The conference offered a full slate of excellent technical sessions sponsored by the National Environmental, Safety and Health Training Association (NESHTA), Exhibitor Hall, weekend workshops, tours, and keynote and closing presentations by nationally recognized environmental speakers.

Conference attendance was affected somewhat by flight cancellations for East Coast residents, however it is estimated over 600 environmental professionals were able to make it to "environmental, health, safety and security (EHS&S), hazardous materials, and waste management industry's leading conference." Keynote speaker Terry Tamminen, former environmental advisor to California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, and founder of Seventh Generation Advisors, offered strategies for sustainable energy, reduction of Greenhouse Gases (GHG), and independence from carbon based fuels.

Concurrent technical sessions were offered in up to six (6) different Tracks, "Regulatory Requirements, Updates and Legal Trends," "Career and Professional Development," "Environmental Action-Case Studies," "Emergency Preparedness, Response and Homeland Security," "EHS Management Systems and Principle," and "NESHTA." Between sessions, conference goers were able to browse the Exhibitor Hall, with over fifty (50) Exhibitor booths offering a full range of EHS&S services.

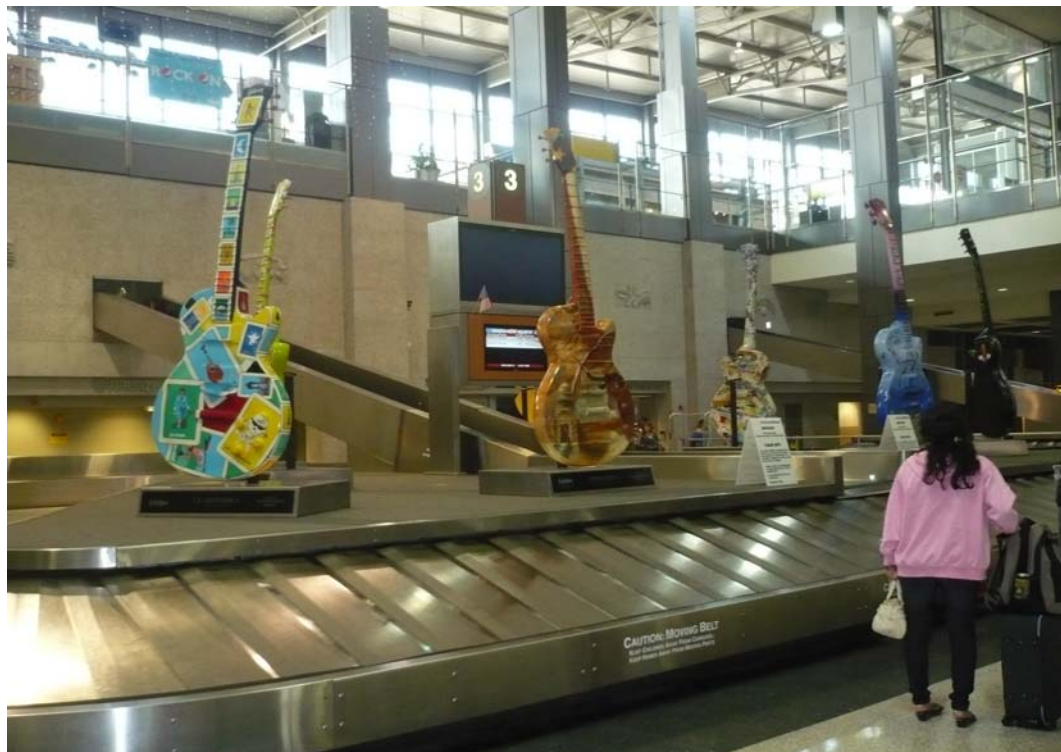
A highlight of the conference was the AHMP luncheon speaker Stephen Laughlin, CET/CHMM, whose always entertaining style proved popular with the crowd. Tales of EPA and OSHA woes set to the music of well-known songs were particularly enjoyed, as were Stephen's recounting of his early days in the environmental and safety field.

Several tours of local attractions were available, including the nearby University of Texas Reactor, as was an Emergency Response Table Top Exercise. A tour of Barton Springs was a welcome relief from the triple digit temperatures in Austin.

The City of Austin provided numerous options for local Tex-Mex and barbecue dining, shopping, tourist destinations such as the Texas State Capital, University of Texas campus and Tower, the "Bat Bridge," as well as live music and nightlife.

The Chapter would like to thank Gene Metti, CHMM, Immediate Past President, for volunteering to be our Chapter delegate for this conference, due to a storm-related cancellation. As Chapter delegate, Gene was required to attend a full day of AHMP chapter outreach sessions on the conference's first Sunday, attend moderator training, and moderate technical sessions through the conference. Thanks to Gene!

Attendance at AHMP's 2011 conference provides 20 recertification points, a full year's worth of points towards the 100 hours over five years requirement. Information exchange, networking, and insights gained at the conference make attending each year's conference invaluable. In contrast to this year's warm climate Austin conference, the 2012 AHMP conference will be in Anchorage, Alaska.



Austin Airport, Welcome to the Live Music Capital of the World



CTACHMM Chapter Member Jean McInnis, CHMM, Environmental Protection Administrator, Mohegan Sun Tribal Nation, at this year's National Conference



Barton Springs provided welcome relief from Austin's heat



CTACHMM members are joined by Central Florida attendees for some local barbecue



Whyndam Abrams, Jean McInnis, and Gene Metti enjoy the luncheon speaker Stephen Laughlin

NEW YORK CITY WORKS TO IMPLEMENT GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

New York City is well-known for its towering skyscrapers, busy streets, and sprawling metropolis, all leading to large volumes of stormwater run-off, much to historical combined (sanitary and stormwater) sewers. During periods of heavy rainfall, these combined sewers overwhelm the system, leading to combined sewer overflows (CSO). CSOs are the main cause of pollution to NYC harbors and water ways.

Less recognized is NYC's system of parks, greenways, and their new GreenStreets program. However, these "green" systems all now are working to combat the CSO problem. NYC has identified fourteen "sewer sheds" within the five boroughs, and is using green infrastructure methods to treat and reduce stormwater. Mayor Bloomberg, NYC DEP, and the Parks Department have set an ambitious

goal of reducing impervious surfaces throughout the city by 10% over the next two decades. By reducing impervious surfaces, reducing peak flows, and increasing stormwater capture and infiltration, CSOs and pollution discharges will be reduced.

Green infrastructures, including bioretention areas, green roofs, installation of pervious pavement, addressing overpass downspouts, planting of street trees, and “daylighting” streams (uncovering historical waterways) are in place throughout the city. The City has also installed sensitive measurement equipment to track stormwater volumes, pollutant removal efficiencies, and evapotranspiration rates. They have also addressed design, economics, societal and maintenance issues within their “High Performance Landscape Guidelines.”



Stormwater bioretention area in Queens.



Signage gets the message out

Upcoming CTACHMM News

The next CTACHMM Chapter meeting is tentatively scheduled for late October, 2011. Expect a meeting announcement shortly.

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WRITE ABOUT A TRIP OR SPECIAL EVENT YOU ATTENDED, INTERVIEW A COLLEAGUE, CRITIQUE A PRODUCT. SEND NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS TO WHYNDAM ABRAMS AT CONTACTUS@CTACHMM.ORG