



# CT ACHMM NEWSLETTER

Volume 6, Issue 2 May 2008

[www.ctachmm.org](http://www.ctachmm.org)

## President's Message

Gene Metti



### CO<sub>2</sub> a Hazardous Material

While not traditionally thought of as a hazardous material, it's time for us to include atmospheric carbon dioxide as well as other global warming pollutants in the spectrum of hazardous materials that we as CHMM's should be talking about more frequently.

IHMM 's definition of a **hazardous material** is "any item or agent (biological, chemical, physical) which has the potential to cause harm to humans, animals, or the environment, either by itself or through interaction with other factors." CO<sub>2</sub> as the major contributor to global warming along with the other greenhouse gasses (GHG) (e.g. methane, nitrous oxide, HFC's, PFC's, SF<sub>6</sub>) clearly have that potential.

### Impacts of Global warming

The November 2007 report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) states that "most of the observed increase in global average temperatures since the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century is very likely due to the observed increase in anthropogenic GHG concentrations." Regional impacts projected by IPCC include sea level rise and flooding in low lying coastal areas, reduction in yields from rain fed agriculture, decrease in freshwater

*continued on page 2...*

### UPDATE: Hillside Environmental Education Park (HEEP)

James Pietrzak

We have been following for many months, the progress of the Remedial Action Plan (RAP) to close the UCONN landfill and former chemical pits, remove leachate-contaminated sediments from wetlands located along the landfill perimeter, and to provide a sustainable solution to the site's current environmental problems. Faculty, staff and students involved in planning HEEP are continuing to focus on determining ecological and educational uses of the landfill site both during and after the landfill closure process. Consideration is being given to using HEEP to study environmental rehabilitation and sustainability, wildlife research, wetlands ecosystem development and research, and invasive species management. UCONN is currently coordinating with the CTDEP in finalizing a legal Conservation Agreement to be signed and filed with the Town of Mansfield land records.

*continued on page 3...*



Governors Rell, Sebelius (KS), Corzine (NJ), Schwarzenegger (CA) sign the Governor's Declaration on Climate Change on April 18 at Yale.

availability, significant risk of biodiversity loss, and reduction in extent and thickness of glaciers, ice sheets and sea ice, to name a few.

**Regulating CO<sub>2</sub> under the CAA**

In 2003, EPA decided that carbon dioxide was not a pollutant under the Clean Air Act reversing the previous administration's position that CO<sub>2</sub> could be regulated as a pollutant. In its April, 2007 decision, the Supreme Court stated that greenhouse gasses fit well within the definition of air pollutants and EPA has the authority to regulate greenhouse gasses under Section 202 of the Clean Air act. The Court ruled that EPA must determine whether GHG's from new motor vehicles contribute to air pollution that endangers public health or welfare.

In May 2007, President Bush directed EPA, DOT, and DOE to take steps toward issuing regulations that would cut vehicular GHG emissions and complete the process by the end of 2008.

Notwithstanding the Supreme Court decision or President Bush's statement a year ago no regulations at the federal level have been proposed to address the issue of global warming to date.

**GHG Reporting**

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2008 (HR 2764) includes a provision that requires

EPA to issue proposed regulations by September 2008 which would mandate GHG reporting for all industries and economic sectors and to finalize the regulations by September 2009. Funding would come from the current FY 2008 budget since President Bush eliminated 2009 funding. It remains to be seen whether EPA will be able to issue proposed and final rules in the very short timeframe given or whether this Act will spur other forms of greenhouse legislation.

**Action at State level**

Most of the action on greenhouse gas regulation has been at the State level. California enacted legislation in late 2006 to reduce emissions by 25% by 2020.

West Virginia, Wisconsin and California have legislation requiring mandatory or voluntary reporting of GHG. Seventeen states including Arizona, Connecticut, Colorado, Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, Maryland and Washington have or are in process of adopting California GHG emission standards for cars and light trucks to cover new vehicles.

**Governor's Conference on Climate Change**

On April 18, 2008 the Governors of Connecticut, California, Kansas and New Jersey met at Yale University in New Haven to sign the Governor's Declaration on Climate Change. The three principles of the declaration include a federal state partnership as the only way to get the job done, continued support of state based climate action plans, and encouragement of mandatory federal and state climate action as the keys to success.



Governor Rell addresses the Climate Change Conference

*DID YOU KNOW?*

*The IHMM Board of Directors voted in March to eliminate "Master" and "Senior" from all new and renewed CHMM certificates. The decision was based on a commitment to achieve accreditation through ANSI which will add value and recognition to the CHMM credential.*

*April 2008 letter to CHMMs Certified (or Last Recertified) During 2002 from John H. Frick, Ph.D, CHMM*

...wetland creation continued from page 1

Of note in February and March, is the start of a vernal pool-monitoring project. In March, a spotted salamander was spotted in the north pool of the created wetland. Let's hope he likes it there.



**Wetland Creation Area A1, Water Level Measurement, March 08, 2008**



**Vernal Pool Creation Area B, March 08, 2008**



**Wetland View South to Landfill, March 08, 2008**

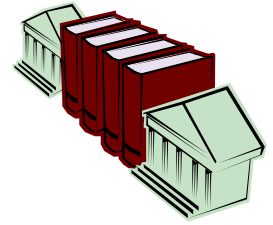


**Wetland Creation Area C1, March 08, 2008**

## Regulatory Update

Matt Twerdy

### TRI: What You Must Report



With the July 1 toxics release inventory (TRI) reporting deadline fast approaching, it's good to review your reporting requirements before the mad rush to meet the deadline sets in.

The community right-to-know provision of EPCRA Section 313 requires certain facilities to annually report data to EPA and the state on its releases and other waste management activities for certain chemicals and make the data available to the public on a database - namely TRI.

EPCRA Section 313 reporting is required if your threshold quantities are exceeded for any EPCRA Section 313 chemical that is manufactured, processed, or otherwise used at your facility.

You are required to report any EPCRA Section 313 chemical, not listed as a PBT chemical, which is manufactured or processed at your facility in excess of 25,000 pounds per chemical or category over the calendar year.

You are required to report any EPCRA Section 313 chemical, not listed as a PBT chemical, which is otherwise used at your facility in excess of 10,000 pounds per chemical or category over the calendar year.

Note: PBT chemicals have their own thresholds.

Manufacture means to produce, prepare, import, or compound one of the chemicals on the list (e.g., if you make dye for clothing by taking raw materials and reacting them, you are manufacturing the dye).

Process means the incorporation of a listed chemical into a product for further distribution into commerce (e.g., adding a solvent as a dilutant when making paint, coating, or mixture is processing).

Otherwise use means the use of any EPCRA Section 313 listed chemical at a covered facility that is not covered by the terms of "manufacture" or "process" and includes uses of a listed chemical contained in a mixture or trade name product (e.g., using trichloroethylene to degrease tools is otherwise use).

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## General Membership Meeting

**Chapter members and guests attended the General membership meeting at the "95 Gathering Place" in Wallingford, CT on February 28, 2008.**

**Gene Metti**, Chapter President, addressed a crowd of 28 members and guests. He provided a chapter briefing summarizing the key accomplishments of 2007. These included increasing chapter membership from 54 to 72 members, receiving incorporation from the state and tax exempt status from the IRS, hosting a display booth at the Emergency Management Symposium, drawing excellent turnouts at the Mohegan Sun, We Recycle! and Yankee Silversmith general meetings, re-confirming the charter with the National office, transitioning to a new a web host and turning out 17 members to the National Meeting in Arlington.

Gene reviewed the chapter's most notable accomplishment, successfully defending the inclusion of CHMM's as certifying agents in several draft general permits in a series of meetings and pre and public hearings.

### Dinner Speaker

**Peter Reinhardt**, Director of EHS at Yale University gave an excellent presentation on the US Department of Homeland Security's new Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards. Peter covered the requirements for facilities to determine whether they have Chemicals of Interest (COI's) in quantities greater than Screening Threshold Quantities (STQ's) and to submit a top-screen by January 18, 2008.

Chemicals that pose a security risk include those that can react to produce gasses or be weaponized (e.g. chlorates, peroxides) or have release hazards (e.g. phosgene and chlorine). Examples of STQ's for some common industrial materials are 10,000 pounds for anhydrous ammonia, 2,500 pounds for chlorine and 60,000 pounds for propane.

Peter reviewed those chemicals that might be theft risks such as nitric acid, aluminum powder, and explosives. He covered several approaches Yale was using to gather information to determine if departments possessed COI's in quantities above the STQ's including sending out survey questionnaires, reviewing purchasing records, manifests and analyzing chemical inventory systems.

Chemicals could be stored in various locations including laboratories, stockrooms, chillers, refrigeration systems, and

power facilities. Facilities that are considered high risk need to prepare and implement security plans. Notwithstanding Peter stressed the importance of routinely monitoring chemical purchases and shipments, implementing a thorough chemical inventory system and having a system for periodically re-surveying your institution.

### Introduction of newly elected 2008 Officers

**Stuart Manley** was in attendance at the meeting as our new Treasurer. He has jumped right in with helping CTACHMM to file our very first IRS documents as an incorporated, non-profit organization. We now have special status. You may not know but Stuart has been an active member since the beginning of CTACHMM and has served as an officer in the past.

**Matt Twerdy** is another active long-time member and chairperson of the Regulatory Committee. He now also becomes Vice President/President Elect of the Chapter. Outside of his professional career, you may not know that Matt is an adventuresome person. You can see what he's been doing this past winter on page 5. He looks so mysterious and much like a super hero in his snowmobile suit.

All in attendance enjoyed the fine dinner and presentations on a cold winter night!



*Matt Twerdy without his super-hero snowmobile suit (see page 5)*

### YOU SHOULD BE AWARE,

CTACHMM is required to make certain IRS documents available by one of two methods: 1. by office visitation and providing copies upon request, or 2. by making them "widely available" (i.e. posted on the website).

Since we don't have an office for the "office visitation," we now have a link on our website for document review.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### CONNECTICUT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM

DATE: MAY 15, 2008

TIME: 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

CROMWELL PLAZA HOTEL, CROMWELL, CT

**WORKSHOPS** — EACH OF THE 5 DEMHS REGIONS WILL HOST COMPREHENSIVE WORKSHOPS THROUGHOUT THE DAY FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE LOCAL AND REGIONAL OFFICIALS.

THIS FORMAT IS AN INVALUABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO NETWORK AND INTERACT WITH OFFICIALS FROM ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT AND ALL JOB DISCIPLINES WITHIN YOUR REGION.

**SAMPLE WORKSHOP TOPICS:** CONTINUITY OF OPERATION PLANS (COOP) • HOMELAND SECURITY CHEMICAL INITIATIVE • LOCAL AND REGIONAL GRANT RESOURCES • OSHA'S HAZWOPER • PANDEMIC UPDATE.

REFRESHMENTS AND LIGHT MEAL WILL BE SERVED

#### EXHIBITION

**REGISTER:** [WWW.CCM-CT.ORG](http://WWW.CCM-CT.ORG)

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, CONTACT BETH SULLIVAN OF CCM AT [ESULLIVAN@CCM-CT.ORG](mailto:ESULLIVAN@CCM-CT.ORG) OR (203) 498-3782

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### ACHMM NATIONAL CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 7-10, 2008

MINNEAPOLIS, MN

FOR MORE INFO: [WWW.ACHMMM.ORG](http://WWW.ACHMMM.ORG)

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GRIFFIN HOSPITAL OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE CENTER PRESENTS

### OSHA WORKSHOP: JOB HAZARD ANALYSIS

FRIDAY, JUNE 6TH 8:30 AM TO 11:30 AM.

GREATER VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OFFICE

900 BRIDGEPORT AVENUE, 2ND FLOOR (WACHOVIA BANK),  
SHELTON

**TO REGISTER,** CONTACT GREATER VALLEY CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE AT 203-925-4981 OR VIA EMAIL:

[INFO@GREATERVALLEYCHAMBER.COM](mailto:INFO@GREATERVALLEYCHAMBER.COM).

FEE \$10

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### 10 HOUR OSHA CONSTRUCTION CLASS

 SPONSORED BY CCIA

MAY 15, 16, 2008.

IT WILL BE HELD IN THEIR OFFICE AT 912 SILAS DEANE HWY,  
WETHERSFIELD, CT.

THIS COURSE IS PART OF THE OSHA ALLIANCE AND WILL BE  
TAUGHT BY FEDERAL OSHA.

FOR MORE INFO/REGISTRATION CONTACT JOHN WILHELM AT 860-  
529-6855. \$50 FOR CCIA MEMBERS, \$65 FOR NON MEMBERS.



*Above are two photos of me snowmobiling in northern Maine. I snowmobile in Caribou, Maine for a week annually in February. The Caribou Snowmobile Club grooms 170 miles of snowmobile trails linking to Presque Isle, Washburn, Fort Fairfield, Limestone, Van Buren, & New Sweden. Caribou is centrally located within the 1600-mile snowmobile system in Aroostook County making it a good starting point for loops around the different trail systems.*

*Matt Twerdy*

YOU TOO CAN GET PUBLISHED IN THIS NEWSLETTER....

WRITE ABOUT A TRIP OR SPECIAL EVENT YOU ATTENDED

INTERVIEW A COLLEAGUE

CRITIQUE A PRODUCT OR NEW

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINES FOR 2008

AUGUST ISSUE: JULY 20

NOVEMBER ISSUE: OCTOBER 20

PLEASE SEND NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS TO  
ELSA PAYNE AT [tpayne@snet.net](mailto:tpayne@snet.net)



## My Winter Vacation

**Elsa Payne**

I traveled to Costa Rica in February. My impressions were mixed. While the Costa Rican people do not have much money, the Government has made it a priority to protect its natural resources designating more than half of the land area protected from development. Costa Rica uses wind to generate electricity and exports it to Nicaragua. A line of wind turbines spans a 5-km ridge (above).

Hot water generated from Miraballes volcano is used to generate electricity (upper right) and to heat water for thermal spas (right).

Arenal volcano (below) is a popular tourist destination to see volcanic activity. Plumes of smoke sometimes accompany perpetual firecracker sounds. The activity is most noticeable at night when the crater emissions glow red against the black mountain and sky. The vegetated (green) side of the volcano is currently dormant while the gray side remains active.

