January 2014

A Note from the Director

Time flies on in all of our lives and hopefully this reality is one we look forward to and benefit from. The Iowa Waste Reduction Center is optimistic and excited as we enter 2014. We will continue to offer the following waste reduction/pollution prevention programs with one more year of experience and, more importantly, the corresponding expertise that comes with this experience:

- Client-site visits for pollution prevention and regulatory compliance assistance (approaching 6,000 clients served state-wide).
- On-site and off-site military and industrial painter training and related technical assistance.
- Development of virtual reality painter training tools and curriculum.
- Support of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources’ Iowa Waste Exchange program.
- Maintenance of extensive on-line pollution prevention resources, regulatory summaries and vendor listings.

New endeavors are also in the picture. After a successful 2013 campaign to provide workshops and other educational outreach to encourage food waste reduction and composting, we seek additional resources to expand this program into an implementation phase. This will allow the initial-phase efforts to transform into actual waste reduction projects at major food waste producing and landfill diversion entities. We trust this work will become a model for practical and efficient food management and a new standard for a broad range of businesses.

We are also beginning a joint project to promote waste reduction and increase material reuse/recycling practices related to construction and demolition projects. Hastily conducted construction and demolition can produce a great deal of materials that significantly contribute to the amount of waste being landfilled. Often times this “waste” can be directly reused in other construction projects and/or cost-effectively recycled into alternatives to new products. Successful efforts in construction and demolition waste reduction also encourage development of new businesses/agencies that redirect the here-to-fore wastes to other uses and/or process them into value-added products.

We continue to search other needs and opportunities to further Iowa Waste Reduction Center capabilities and services. Any comments or suggestions you might have regarding our services are encouraged and greatly appreciated.

The staff and students at the Iowa Waste Reduction Center wish you a happy new year and look forward to our paths crossing down the road.

Jim Olson
Director - Iowa Waste Reduction Center
IWRC News
2014/2015 Calendars

Compliance calendars for dry cleaning facilities, small bulk gasoline plants and large bulk gasoline plants are now available for download by clicking here.

IWRC Awarded Grant from Iowa Economic Development Authority
The IWRC has been awarded a grant from the Iowa Economic Development Authority to demonstrate energy savings from the diagnosis and repair of compressed air leaks. The six-month project will include audits of 25 Iowa businesses as well as the development of educational materials. If your business is interested in having an audit, please call the IWRC at 319-273-8905.

Iowa News

Housing could sprout around organic farm
A Des Moines-area developer is betting Iowans not only want to know the farmer who grows their food, they also will want to live next door to him. Read More
Source: Des Moines Register

Applications Now Being Accepted for the Iowa Environmental Excellence Awards
DES MOINES - Iowa businesses, organizations and citizens are invited to apply for the Governor’s Iowa Environmental Excellence Awards. Read More
Source: Iowa DNR

National News

Three State Capitals to Receive Green Design Assistance from EPA
WASHINGTON – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) today announced design assistance to help the capital cities of Michigan, Wisconsin and Washington develop designs for greener, healthier, more vibrant neighborhoods. Read More
Source: US EPA

EPA’s New Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standards Now Open for Public Comment
Published in the Federal Register and open for public comment for 60 days, the proposed caps on GHG emissions would establish separate, "new standards of performance for new affected fossil fuel-fired electric utility steam generating units and stationary combustion turbines." Read More
Source: Environmental News Network
TBA
Food Waste in the Health Care Industry Webinar

January 23-25
Practical Farmers of Iowa Conference
Ames, IA

February 24
UNI Day at the Capitol
Des Moines, IA

January 14
The Iowa Waste Exchange: How They are Impacting Iowa

January 7
Three Questions - Jim Olson

December 31
Biggest Accomplishments of 25 Years

December 17
2014 Recordkeeping Compliance Calendars Available

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