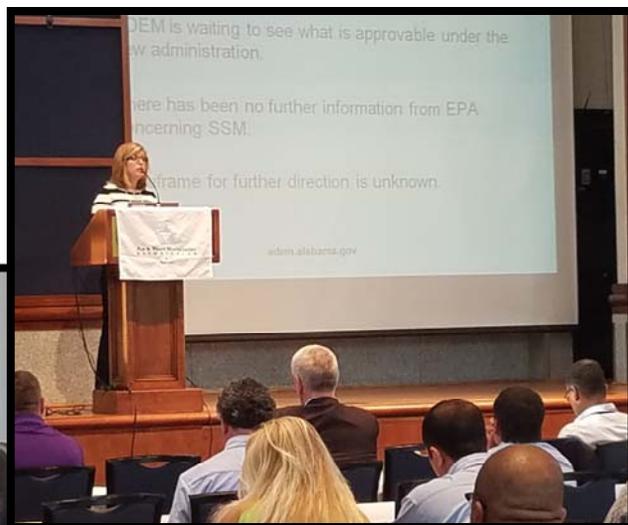


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2017 Alabama Air & Waste Regulatory Update

On April 12th, the Alabama Chapter of A&WMA, in conjunction with ADEM, hosted the 2017 Air & Waste Regulatory Update, held at the RSA Activity Center in downtown Montgomery. The conference focused on regulatory updates in both air and waste programs, and budgetary issues within ADEM. ADEM Director Lance LeFleur kicked off the event by welcoming everyone and providing an ADEM program overview. Representatives from both ADEM's Air and Land Divisions presented on topics such as permitting, compliance and enforcement issues, and newly implemented regulations. The conference also highlighted success stories at sites across the state.



AIR & WASTE MANAGEMENT
ASSOCIATION



A&WMA Hosts First Annual Career Fair

This year the Alabama Chapter stepped out on a limb and tried something new, a Career Fair! The student chapter wanted an opportunity to interact with the membership and share resumes with interested companies. After talking with the student chapter chair, Will Kennedy, we came up with the idea of having the career fair. We had seven companies participate in the career fair and about 20 students attend. While this was a small turn out, some of the companies came away with interviewees, new interns, and a couple of new graduates gained employment. Many of the students were able to have more one-on-one time with potential employers. We hope to add more companies associated with our chapter, as well as students, to the event in future years. With YOUR help we hope to make this a bigger and better event next year. Please stay tuned for information on how to get involved with this event for next year. Thank you for your interest and support!!!



1st Quarter Dinner Meeting

On March 23rd, the Alabama Chapter had its first dinner meeting of the year at the Arrowhead Landfill in Uniontown, AL. Upon arrival, Mike Smith of the law firm Smith & Staggs, LLP, gave the group an overview of facility operations. This included discussion on the coal ash that was transported by rail from Tennessee to the Arrowhead Landfill. Next, the group was given a tour of the landfill, which included driving to the

top of the landfill where the coal ash has been capped for several years. While standing on the closed portion of the landfill, the group discussed the process of capping the landfill, as well as maintaining the unit after capping. We next toured the area where the coal ash was received by rail. After a tour of the grounds, we returned to the office for a discussion on the basics of preparing an area to receive waste. The Arrowhead Landfill tour was very informative and provided an opportunity for attendees to understand how a landfill is operated, from preparing a landfill to receive waste through the closure process and post-closure care period. Thank you to Mike Smith, John Sikes, and all the staff at Arrowhead for hosting the Alabama Chapter for this event.



From Jasmine Bernabe

Current Chair

I would first like to thank all those who helped and participated in the first career fair held by the student chapter this semester. The career fair provided students an opportunity to discuss possible career plans and to network with a variety of companies. As a result, some students were hired for internships and full time positions. Overall, the career fair went well, however, it showed that we still have room for improvement. Using what we learned, coupled with the companies' helpful suggestions, we know what steps should be taken for upcoming career fairs.

The A&WMA mission is to assist students in professional development and critical environmental decision-making. With the help of our guest speakers, who participate in our monthly meetings, students learn about different scenarios encountered in the environmental industry. This semester, students participated in a site tour of the Arrowhead Landfill while learning about the history of the landfill. During dinner, students had the opportunity to interact with other industry members after the tour. The student chapter is interested in scheduling future tours for the upcoming school year to provide increased exposure for students in the industry. Students also participated in a river clean up at Warrior River this past semester.

As a student chapter of the A&WMA, we hope to not only promote environmental awareness and assist in creating networking opportunities for students in the industry, but to set a good example for others. We hope that students will find the A&WMA a great learning experience and apply information or skills learned into their life. Thank you again for everyone's time and involvement. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.



From Will Kennedy Past Chair

The University of Alabama Student Chapter of the Air and Waste Management Association held the first ever career fair this year in the Ferguson Student Center in the heart of the Alabama campus. This was an excellent opportunity for students to participate in an event in hopes of advancing their careers with the help of AWMA. We originally came up with this idea as a way to provide some benefit to the students who have joined the association and as a way to recruit potential new members. The career fair was an awesome way for students to get quality one-on-one time with professionals in comparison to the larger school career fairs. I would highly recommend hosting the career fair again next year with all of the tools and knowledge we now possess.

Throughout the school year, we love getting involved with the students, industry professionals, and service events on campus. The AWMA student chapter hosts meetings each month where a professional comes to speak to the students on topics including: environmental law, resume boosters, daily career duties, and much more. This is such a great way for students to gain real world exposure in the life that they are pursuing in the classrooms. We also encourage students to participate in service events as often as possible. This past spring students participated in their second river clean up on the beautiful Warrior River that borders the University of Alabama campus. This has a huge impact on the area itself, as well as many communities which are downstream from Tuscaloosa. Students also go on tours of large manufacturing facilities and other various professional industry tours at least once a semester. This past spring, some of our student members went on a tour of the Arrowhead Landfill where they were able to tour the landfill and hear stories on the history involved with this particular landfill. After the tour, they all sat down with other members of the Air and Waste Management Association and had a nice catfish dinner to close out the event.

One of the major goals for this year has been integrating student chapter involvement with our associating Alabama state chapter. As a relatively new chapter, this has become a great push and hopefully a great learning experience for new members and other schools to begin their own student chapters with AWMA. Another big goal is to increase involvement in the student chapter and to go all in with our role as members of the organization so that we are able to reach our full potential and gather as much practical experience as possible. It has been a great year with the student chapter and there is a lot to look forward to as a group as they move forward with their careers as students and members of the Air and Waste Management Association.





Upcoming Events

June 9

A&WMA Coastal Plains Joint FL/AL Technical Conference
Pensacola, FL
www.flawma.org/chapters/coastal-plains/events

June 14

17th Annual ADEM Groundwater Conference
Montgomery, AL
www.adem.alabama.gov

August 9

Quarterly Dinner Meeting
Pratt Mill Brownfield walking tour-dinner to follow
Prattville, AL
www.ss-awma.org/alabama

August 10-11

2017 Annual Brownfields Conference
Prattville, AL
www.adembrownfieldconference.com

Sept 20-22

Southern Section Technical Conference
Nashville, TN
www.ss-awma.org/2017-annual-meeting

*Early bird rate ends 6/30

Tidbits

For a limited time only, you can pay your A&WMA Alabama Chapter membership dues (\$25.00) online using Pay-Pal. Instead of filling out a membership form, making out a check, and dropping the entire package in the mail, you can now take advantage of an online e-pay system. With just a few clicks you can complete the membership form, pay, and be finished with the process in minutes. The Pay-Pal system will be available for use until **June 30, 2017**. After that date, the only way to pay your dues is the old fashion way - by check only. Visit our website to renew your dues before time runs out!



A&WMA Environmental Scholarship

We are extending the deadline for scholarship applications to June 30th. If you know of a college student pursuing a career in an environmentally related science, please have them contact Heather Jones at 334-271-7849 or hjones@adem.alabama.gov.



Please visit our website for the latest information on dinner meetings, upcoming events, dues and helpful links.

www.ss-awma.org/alabama

