



Partnering
for the
Future

NORTHEAST WASTE MANAGEMENT OFFICIALS' ASSOCIATION

Annual Report 2003

The Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association (NEWMOA)

is a non-profit, non-partisan interstate association established by the governors of the New England states as an official interstate regional organization, in accordance with Section 1005 of the Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), to coordinate interstate hazardous and solid waste activities. The organization was formally recognized by the US EPA in 1986. NEWMOA's membership is composed of the state environmental agency directors of the hazardous waste, solid waste, waste site cleanup, emergency response, pollution prevention, and underground storage tank programs in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

NEWMOA's mission is to develop and sustain an effective partnership of states to explore, develop, promote, and implement environmentally sound solutions for the reduction and management of materials and waste, and for the remediation of contaminated sites, in order to achieve a clean and healthy environment. The group fulfills this mission by providing a variety of support services that:

- facilitate communication and cooperation among member states and between the states and the US EPA, and
- support the efficient sharing of state and federal program resources to help avoid duplication of effort and to facilitate development of regional approaches to solving critical environmental problems in the Northeast.

Promoting the States' Environmental Partnership



Mark Hyland

*Acting Director, Bureau of Remediation
& Waste Management
Maine Department of Environmental Protection*

From the Chair

For most state government programs, 2003 was a particularly rough year. While Maine was relatively fortunate, several NEWMOA member states experienced layoffs and accelerated retirement programs that stripped away experienced staff along with their institutional knowledge. Reorganizations, changed priorities, and damage control measures sapped time and energy from our states' environmental agencies.

These circumstances could easily have driven NEWMOA's members inward, to work in isolation on their individual problems. Fortunately, that did not happen. Instead, the strategic planning process NEWMOA just completed has affirmed that the best ways to improve our state environmental programs come from working together and sharing resources. NEWMOA's updated mission statement, which emphasizes "an effective partnership of states," captures that consensus. I for one think we should celebrate our states' renewed commitment to this partnership.

As a prime example of working together to provide practical solutions, I am especially proud of NEWMOA's success in supporting state-legislated programs to eliminate sources of anthropogenic mercury in the waste stream. Through its Interstate Mercury Education and Reduction Clearinghouse (IMERC), the Association has become an integral part of mercury-reduction activities by processing product notification reports and managing the data they provide. This effort has saved both state and private resources at the same time that it has improved overall results. Indeed, the IMERC may be a model of efficiency and effectiveness for other interstate activities.

At the same time, the states' budget crises have forced changes in such traditional NEWMOA activities as training. Since state staff could neither be spared nor funded to travel, the Association had to create new opportunities for information exchange. For example, NEWMOA organized advanced training sessions for state hazardous waste inspectors in two centralized locations, greatly reducing travel costs for participants. NEWMOA staff also conducted five web conferences during the year and learned much about using this forum successfully. Finally, NEWMOA made greater use of conference calls, email exchanges, and its website to increase the states' interaction on the many environmental issues of mutual concern.

This report presents a brief summary of these and the many additional services NEWMOA performs on behalf of member-states' environmental programs. I believe you will be favorably impressed and perhaps surprised by the breadth and depth of these valuable activities. Going forward, our new strategic plan will enable the Association to move ahead with confidence that its member states concur with and strongly support its priorities.

In closing, I offer many thanks to NEWMOA's directors and staff for supporting David Lennett and me as we shared chair responsibilities in fiscal 2003. I also gratefully acknowledge the support of our state environmental commissioners who wrote to their congressional delegations on NEWMOA's behalf, persuading Congress to provide line-item funding for a third consecutive year. We are truly honored that our US Senators and Representatives continue to support NEWMOA in the face of difficult budget conditions.

Highlights of Fiscal 2003

NEWMOA's New Strategic Plan

Much had changed in the seven years since NEWMOA had last examined its mission and strategic directions. NEWMOA's directors quickly agreed that a structured, deliberate process would sharpen their vision of what in NEWMOA should be kept and improved, and what should be changed, to ensure the Association's effectiveness. The strategic planning process was designed to encourage member states to articulate current and future environmental program needs and priorities; provide a forum for assessing NEWMOA's existing and potential capabilities for assisting state agency efforts; build consensus on the Association's priorities for serving its members; and identify ways and means to deliver this support. A draft of the new strategic plan was completed at the end of fiscal 2003, with adoption expected early in fiscal 2004.

Greening the Government Conference

Working with the Federal Facilities programs in EPA Regions 1, 2, and 3, NEWMOA organized a major three-day Greening the Government conference. The event, held at a Green Seal-certified hotel in Philadelphia in June 2003, brought together over 125 representatives of federal, tribal, state, and local governments throughout the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic. Among the many topics covered in the panels and breakout sessions were building green, buying green, and setting up the green Infrastructure. A major highlight of the conference was the keynote address by leading environmental thinker and architect, William McDonough.

Mercury-added Product Labeling, Phase-out and Collection

The Northeast states collaborate on reducing mercury in the waste stream through NEWMOA's Interstate Mercury Education and Reduction Clearinghouse (IMERC). This year, IMERC focused on providing guidance to companies and the public on compliance with mercury-added product labeling, phase-outs, and collection plan laws.

NEWMOA facilitated development of materials to help companies comply with the product labeling requirements of Maine, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington State (the newest IMERC member whose mercury reduction legislation went into effect in 2003). IMERC also coordinated development of product phase-out and collection plan guidance for companies selling their products in Maine, Connecticut, and Rhode Island.

Advanced Hazardous Waste Inspector Training

Changes in EPA's rules and guidance, recent court decisions, new state compliance assistance programs, and questions of interpretation are all priority topics for state hazardous waste inspectors. To address these training needs more efficiently, NEWMOA staff worked with hazardous waste program managers and staff to establish goals, priorities, and workshop agendas in fiscal 2003. NEWMOA's solution to travel and budget constraints was to hold two one-day hazardous waste training workshops for a total of about 135 state staff at central locations in New York and Massachusetts. The speakers and trainers were recruited from member states, EPA Headquarters and Regional Offices, and the private sector.

Waste Site Characterization

In its ongoing efforts to help member states improve waste site characterizations, NEWMOA initiated a vital new project to educate responsible parties on the importance of demanding quality work from their consultants. Funded by EPA's Technology Innovation Office (TIO), the project has three main tasks—developing and consulting a stakeholder advisory group, producing outreach documents, and holding a major outreach event. In fiscal 2003, NEWMOA also developed a workplan for a project to help state program managers share information as they implement brownfields and other voluntary site cleanup programs.

Coordinating Dioxin Reduction

EPA has identified backyard burning of municipal waste as a significant ongoing source of uncontrolled dioxin emissions. This was also the conclusion of a study by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services on dioxin sources in that state.

Potentially toxic at very low levels of exposure, dioxin is a class of persistent chemicals frequently associated with combustion sources of air pollution. The potential public health risks of dioxin compounds—including cancer and other effects—are the subject of a major forthcoming EPA report, called the Dioxin Reassessment.

In the draft version of the dioxin report, EPA concludes that anthropogenic emissions of dioxin dominate current releases in the US, but also acknowledges the need for more data on natural sources. Dioxins can be formed as household trash is burned and during such natural processes as forest fires. Cigarette smoke also contains small amounts of dioxins. Chlorine bleaching of pulp and paper, certain types of chemical manufacturing and processing, and other industrial uses are all additional sources of dioxins.

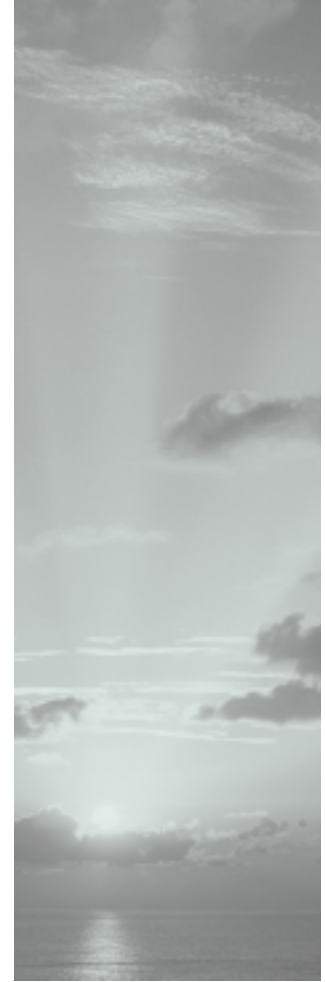
Although improved controls on and reductions in man-made sources have helped to lower dioxin levels in the US over the last 30 years, its compounds are extremely persistent. They break down so slowly that some of the dioxins from past releases will still be in the environment many years from now.

Residential Trash Burning

EPA has identified backyard burning of municipal waste as a significant ongoing source of uncontrolled dioxin emissions. This was also the conclusion of a study by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services on dioxin sources in that state.

In anticipation of the release of EPA's Dioxin Reassessment report, NEWMOA joined with its sister organization, Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM), to address open burning of trash in the region. In fiscal 2003, NEWMOA and NESCAUM obtained the necessary funding from the US EPA to begin to work together to explore effective ways to reduce this source of dioxin and other air pollution emissions. The project's goals are to:

- Understand the scope and nature of residential open trash burning in the region
- Assess solid waste capacity and costs associated with alternatives to residential waste burning



- Develop consistent assistance and enforcement actions to promote compliance with regulations
- Develop and implement effective public outreach campaigns
- Coordinate with EPA regional offices to develop and distribute education and outreach materials.

Near the end of the year, the two interstate associations formed a Dioxin-Burn Barrel Workgroup made up of representatives of their air quality and solid waste programs. The joint workgroup is examining state outreach and assistance efforts as well as enforcement of restrictions on residential burning of municipal waste. NEWMOA and NESCAUM are working closely with EPA Region 1-New England on this project.

Related Resource

The NEWMOA member states have been developing and promoting their restrictions on backyard open burning of trash through distribution of brochures like this one by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services and other outreach materials and activities. The states believe that public education is critical to the success of their efforts to reduce this practice. The states are particularly interested in targeting areas where they suspect a substantial amount of open burning of trash is still occurring. NEWMOA and NESCAUM are providing coordination support to the states' outreach and assistance efforts.



Pollution Prevention and Air Quality Management

In an effort to promote more innovation, EPA has proposed eliminating the "once in, always in" provision of the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP). Under NESHAP, once a facility is subject to any subpart of the general provisions, it remains subject to the rules of that subpart even if it eliminates emissions of hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) or reduces emissions of HAPs below regulatory thresholds. This represents a great disincentive to innovation.

In a joint letter to EPA, NEWMOA and NESCAUM expressed support for the basic premise of the proposed amendments, which attempt to remove regulatory burdens and establish incentives for implementing pollution prevention (P2) measures. The use of P2 strategies to reduce the production, transportation, handling, and release of hazardous air pollutants provides environmental, health, safety, and site security benefits that pollution control technologies alone cannot achieve.

In the letter, the Northeast states urged EPA to strengthen the language of the proposed amendments. For this approach to succeed, the NEWMOA states believe the amendments must insure that the P2 strategies being considered result in a net decrease in hazards to public health and the environment, rather than a shift of pollution from one environmental medium to another. The states believe that facilities, state and local permitting authorities, and EPA should all share the burden of overcoming the learning curve associated with the use of alternative technologies. In addition, NEWMOA and NESCAUM have asked EPA to consider how the proposed amendments would affect current air operating permit and air toxics programs.

Promoting Product Stewardship

Product stewardship is a principle that directs all actors involved in the life cycle of a product — typically manufacturers, retailers, consumers, and government—to take responsibility for the impacts to human health and the natural environment that result from the production, use, and disposal of the product.

– Product Stewardship Institute

The idea that producers, sellers, and consumers should share responsibility for the proper use and management of products at end of life continues to gain ground throughout the United States and Europe. This concept—sometimes referred to as product stewardship, product responsibility, or producer responsibility—highlights the need for industry, government, and consumers to promote development and use of consumer products that pose fewer health and environmental impacts.

The Product Stewardship Institute (PSI) is a nonprofit organization affiliated with the University of Massachusetts-Lowell, which was established to facilitate state and local participation in national efforts to foster stewardship for a variety of product types. The objective is to encourage manufacturers to redesign products with fewer toxics and more recycled materials, and to make them more durable, reusable, and recyclable. While waste disposal impacts and associated costs have been the initial basis for engaging manufacturers in product stewardship initiatives, the challenge now is to move beyond management solutions toward “zero waste” and sustainable production.

NEWMOA has been involved in several product stewardship programs in the past few years—most notably, ongoing efforts to help states limit use of mercury in products. NEWMOA has also been a stakeholder in the National Electronics Product Stewardship Initiative (NEPSI), a multi-year process to forge agreement among government, manufacturers, retailers, and environmental groups on a national system for managing electronics, such as computers and televisions, at end of life.

Mercury-added Products

Many everyday products contain mercury, including thermometers, thermostats, blood pressure measuring devices, and fluorescent lighting. When these products are broken or disposed of, mercury can be released into the air and eventually make its way into water supplies, where it accumulates in the food chain and can be taken up by fish and wildlife.

Pregnant women, women of childbearing age, and young children are especially at risk of exposure to mercury, which can damage brain, liver, and kidney function, as well as cause developmental disorders. To counter these serious environmental and health problems, more than 40 states—including all those in the Northeast



region—have issued advisories warning people to avoid or limit their consumption of certain types of fish due to mercury contamination.

In 2001, the NEWMOA Board of Directors launched the Interstate Mercury Education and Reduction Clearinghouse (IMERC) to help member states implement laws and programs aimed at getting mercury out of consumer products, the waste stream, and the environment. IMERC provides:

- ongoing technical and programmatic assistance to states that have enacted mercury education and reduction legislation, and
- a single point of contact for industry and the public for information on mercury-added products, as well as mercury education and reduction programs.

NEWMOA's staff provides logistical, facilitation, and technical support for IMERC's activities.

In fiscal 2003, IMERC was actively involved in helping member states implement their mercury-added product reporting, labeling, phase-out, and collection plan requirements.

Specifically, IMERC assisted the states of Connecticut, Maine, and Rhode Island in efforts to restrict the sale or distribution of certain mercury-added products. The table below outlines the categories of products subject to these requirements in the next three years and examples of products that might come under the limits.

In fiscal 2003, IMERC facilitated development of documents to help companies comply with the phase-out requirements and to specify criteria for applying for exemptions, including a plan for properly managing a product at end of life. This document is available on NEWMOA's website at www.newmoa.org/prevention/mercury/imerc/phaseoutinfo.cfm. In fiscal 2004, IMERC will continue to support member-states' efforts to review exemption applications and collection plans.

Connecticut, Maine, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington State all have specific requirements for labeling mercury-added products and their packaging. In fiscal 2003, IMERC developed guidance materials for complying with these requirements. To obtain a copy of this document, visit www.newmoa.org/prevention/mercury/imerc/labelinginfo.cfm

Limits on Products Based on Mercury Content in 2004-6

Effective Dates	Products	Limit on Mercury Content	Examples of Products in Categories
July 1, 2004 in CT July 1, 2005 in RI	Formulated Mercury-added Products	>250 parts per million (ppm)	Laboratory reagents, laboratory solutions, test solutions, laboratory chemicals
July 1, 2004 in CT July 1, 2005 in RI	Fabricated Mercury-added Products	>1 gram or 1000 milligrams (mg)	Switches, flame sensors, float switches, tilt switches, relay switches, electricity meters, wetted and other relays, thermometers, thermostats, sphygmomanometers (blood pressure cuffs), barometers, manometers, mercury vapor lamps
January 1, 2006 in ME	Mercury-added Thermostats (Non-manufacturing)	N/A. (State law targets certain types of products)	
July 1, 2006 in ME	Specified Mercury-added Instruments, Measuring Devices, Switches and Relays	N/A. (State law targets certain types of products).	
July 1, 2006 in CT	Fabricated Mercury-added Products	<1000 to 100 milligrams (mg)	Switches, reed switches, wetted relays, pressure transducers, sensor electrodes, xenon lamps
July 1, 2006 in CT	Formulated Mercury-added Products	<250 to 50 parts per million (ppm)	Laboratory reagents, laboratory solutions, test solutions, laboratory chemicals

Note: Limits apply to each component part or parts and not to the sum of the product's components.



Related Resources on the NEWMOA Website

To access any of the resources listed below, visit www.newmoa.org/prevention/mercury

Instructions for Cleaning up “Small” Liquid Mercury Spills in Households. Provides guidance for state and local environmental, public health, and poison control officials on advising the public on proper cleanup procedures.

Summary of Research on Mercury Emissions from Municipal Landfills. Reviews the available research on mercury emissions at landfills, as well as solid waste transportation and transfer stations.

Summary of Research on Indoor Air Mercury. Reviews available research on mercury levels in households.

Mercury Source Reduction Legislation—2003, Overview of Progress. Summarizes mercury education and reduction legislation that has been proposed and enacted in the Northeast.

IMERC also expanded its Mercury-added Product Database, an online resource providing access to information collected from manufacturers and distributors who sell their products in Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island (available at www.newmoa.org/prevention/mercury/imerc/notification/). This is the only public source of data on the mercury content of products, the names and contact information for their manufacturers, and the total amount of mercury used in all

products sold in a year (starting with calendar year 2001). This information is particularly important because it:

- Demonstrates how much mercury is in commerce and in what products
- Assists policy makers in assessing other possible requirements and programs
- Helps recyclers, solid waste officials, and the environmental community understand the relative amounts of mercury in various products
- Provides the data necessary for implementing other state requirements, particularly labeling, phase-out, and collection plans, and
- Creates incentives for manufacturers to eliminate or lower mercury content of products because of the burdens of reporting and potential public pressure.

In 2003 IMERC streamlined the product reporting process for manufacturers, distributors, and trade organizations by consolidating two forms into one. To help ensure that these groups stay informed about new and ongoing state requirements, IMERC launched IMERC Alert—periodic compliance updates distributed primarily by e-mail. IMERC Alert is also posted on the IMERC web page.

Related Resource

The Interstate Mercury Education & Reduction Clearinghouse (IMERC) initiated “IMERC Alert” in 2003 as a way of communicating critical information to manufacturers, distributors, and importers of mercury-added products and trade organizations that represent those companies. The Alert is designed to provide quick and easy updates on the regulatory requirements of IMERC-member states concerning mercury-added products. IMERC Alert is distributed primarily through an e-mail list of companies and organizations, and it is posted on the IMERC web page at www.newmoa.org/prevention/mercury/imerc.



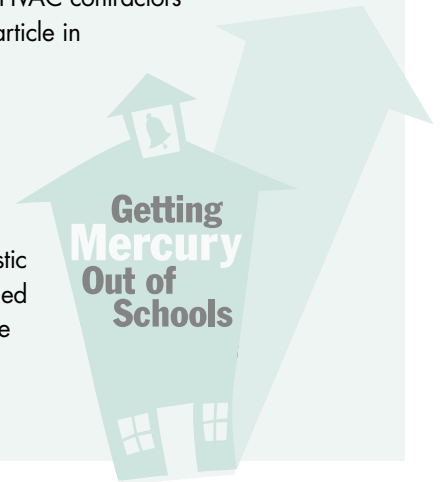
Mercury Reduction in Schools and Communities

Over the past three years, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs have funded NEWMOA's mercury-reduction projects in Massachusetts schools and communities. In fiscal 2003, NEWMOA worked with 32 schools (16 high, 12 middle and K-8, and 4 elementary) to identify, collect, and recycle elemental mercury and mercury-containing products. A total of 139 pounds of mercury was collected from schools, with about 70 percent in bulk elemental form and the rest in products. NEWMOA found that the school community is increasingly aware of mercury's risks and that some school districts have already begun to eliminate mercury on their own or through other programs.

NEWMOA also assisted nine Massachusetts communities in managing mercury wastes by training a total of 96 municipal workers on universal waste requirements, fluorescent lamp recycling, and proper handling and collection of mercury products. In addition, NEWMOA helped three of these communities run thermometer swaps.

In a related effort, NEWMOA surveyed Massachusetts electrical wholesalers participating in the Thermostat Recycling Corporation's (TRC) program, visiting or calling 39 (about 80 percent of participants) to determine whether they needed assistance. NEWMOA then provided assistance by helping many of the wholesalers return bins filled with mercury thermostats to the TRC, explaining basic requirements, and providing flyers to educate HVAC contractors about the program. To encourage other wholesalers to join, NEWMOA published an article in the popular *Supply House Times* highlighting a participating Massachusetts company.

NEWMOA also conducted research on studies evaluating test results for waste dental amalgam using the Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP). TCLP is one of the key tests for determining whether a waste product is hazardous. The purpose of NEWMOA's paper was to assess whether available data support a determination that waste amalgam is hazardous. Results of the few studies evaluating the TCLP characteristic of dental amalgam vary widely. In all but one study, however, the amalgam wastes failed the TCLP test at least 20 percent of the time, indicating that the waste material would be classified as hazardous in many circumstances.



Electronic Products

Prompted by member-state concerns about rising disposal costs and environmental threats from discarded electronics, NEWMOA joined in a national dialogue established by the National Electronics Product Stewardship Initiative (NEPSI) in 2001. NEPSI's goal is to develop a plan to fund and provide for the collection, reuse, and recycling of used electronics nationwide and to encourage environmentally friendly product design. The group has enlisted representatives of manufacturers, retailers, environmental organizations, and state and local governments to participate in a series of meetings to accomplish these goals.

NEWMOA coordinates its participation in NEPSI with state and local agencies in other parts of the country through the Product Stewardship Institute. New Jersey and Massachusetts are full members of NEPSI and PSI, while Connecticut,

Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, and New York have asked NEWMOA to act as their representative.

During fiscal 2003, NEWMOA presented member-states' views in numerous conference calls and participated in two meetings with representatives of electronics manufacturers and retailers, government, nongovernmental organizations, and other stakeholders involved in electronics waste management issues. NEWMOA also prepared a paper describing the positions of the principal stakeholders in the dialogue, to be used by NEWMOA's Board of Directors in briefing senior management. By the end of the fiscal year, manufacturers remained divided over the acceptability of a fee on new electronics that would support collection and recovery of old products. The parties did, however, continue their dialogue in the hope of finding a solution early in 2004.

Improving Characterization of Hazardous Waste Sites

Responsible parties and their representatives need to know why a high-quality site characterization is important and what the process should include. They should also understand why a low bid does not always offer the best overall value.

The characterization of a hazardous waste site is a critical step in the cleanup process because it lays the foundation for all future decisions. If this preliminary assessment is not done carefully, state environmental programs may require the responsible party to collect more information about the site, causing project delays and increasing overall costs.

Over the years, NEWMOA states have expressed significant concerns about the quality of the site characterizations performed by many consultants. Generally, state concerns center on two main areas:

- the data collected is insufficient to adequately determine
 - nature and extent of contamination
 - potential exposures
- the project reports submitted to the state are poorly done
 - do not explain what was done and why
 - need more visual aids, especially maps

In fiscal 2002, NEWMOA began to address this issue by establishing an “Improving the Quality of Site Characterization” Workgroup, which brought together senior-level program managers from each of the Northeast states and from various EPA Regions 1 and 2 programs.

Up until 2003, the Workgroup’s activities focused primarily on the consulting community. To effect true change, however, outreach efforts must target those who hire the consultants and have the greatest interest in obtaining quality work. In legal terms, these are the “responsible parties” (i.e., industrial and commercial property owners and operators) as well as their representatives (including real estate developers and the legal, financing, and insurance communities).

Responsible parties and their representatives need to know why a high-quality site characterization is important and what the process should include. They should also understand why a low bid does not always offer the best overall value. In fiscal 2003, NEWMOA initiated a project funded by EPA’s Technology Innovation Office to direct educational efforts by performing three major tasks: (1) develop and use a stakeholder advisory group, (2) produce outreach documents, and (3) hold a major outreach event. During fiscal 2003, NEWMOA concentrated on the first two activities.

Stakeholder Advisory Group

The stakeholder advisory group is charged with developing a strategy for EPA and the states to promote better site characterization. The group’s recommendations



will address needs for training, policies, and guidance documents, as well as regulatory changes. For example, one element of the strategy could be a voluntary certification program that would serve to highlight quality consultants.

The advisory group currently consists of three environmental lawyers, three consultants, an environmental insurance underwriter, a representative of the Environmental Bankers Association, a representative of the City of Boston's Neighborhood Development program, and three representatives from large corporations that own many contaminated sites. The group plans to meet several times before publishing its recommendations in 2004.

Outreach Documents

NEWMOA is currently helping to develop a comprehensive set of fact sheets to promote the need for quality site characterizations to responsible parties. To this end, NEWMOA is working directly with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RI DEM) to create a prototype document that each of the other states can then adapt. The draft currently contains the following fact sheets:

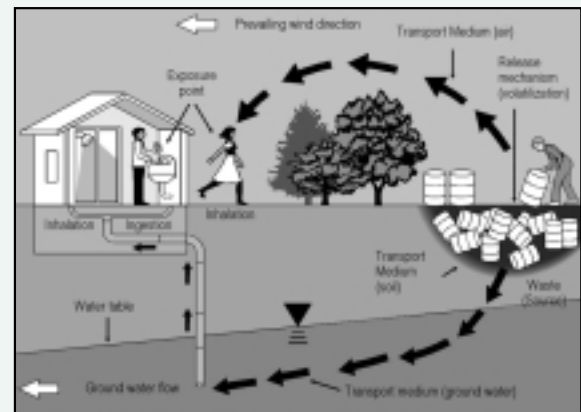
- *Site Characterization—Why Does It Matter?* Emphasizes potential liability, including time and cost impacts, and outlines common deficiencies states encounter in consultants' reports.
- *Quality Site Characterization in Rhode Island.* Includes RI DEM-specific requirements and information.
- *Hiring a Consultant That Can Provide a Quality Site Characterization.* Outlines important considerations and questions to ask before engaging a consultant. The entire Site Characterization Workgroup and the stakeholder advisory group will review the prototype document before its publication.

The Brownfields Connection

On Brownfields projects, decisions about whether to go ahead with a project or not often need to be made quickly. Characterization of the contamination present at a site is a key piece of information that affects the financial viability of a project. However, financial resources for site characterization are often limited. Because the site owner is often not aware of what a quality site characterization involves, the desire for

low cost can lead to hiring a firm that will produce a poor quality result.

If the poor quality characterization indicates more contamination than actually exists a viable redevelopment opportunity may be lost. Conversely, if the poor quality characterization indicates less contamination than actually exists, the project might go ahead, but then face large cost increases and project delays when the additional contamination is found later during the site development work. Therefore, it is critical for Brownfields redevelopment that all parties relying on site characterization information are aware of the importance of obtaining quality work.



Conceptual Site Model (CSM)

Developing and refining the Conceptual Site Model (CSM) is the key to a quality site characterization. A CSM organizes the information known about the site to help the project team identify areas of uncertainty and the additional information needed to make decisions. A CSM estimates:

- what type of contamination is present, where it is located and how much is there
- what is happening to contaminants – their fate and migration – and who might be exposed
- what might be done to mitigate exposure

As additional information is collected the CSM is continuously updated to incorporate the new information.

Sharing Program and Technical Information

NEWMOA is part of the Pollution Prevention Resource Exchange (P2Rx), a national network of eight regional information centers. The P2Rx mission is to improve the dissemination of P2 information in the service provider community.

One of NEWMOA's primary roles is to facilitate information exchange among the Northeast states. The Association uses a number of mechanisms to achieve this, including face-to-face meetings, conference calls, and listservs. In 2003, NEWMOA also added several new resources to its website to assist the state programs in fulfilling their missions. Highlighted below are just a few of NEWMOA's recent information-sharing accomplishments. To access any of NEWMOA's online resources, visit www.newmoa.org.

P2Rx National Network

NEWMOA is part of the Pollution Prevention Resource Exchange (P2Rx), a national network of eight regional information centers funded through grants from EPA and in-kind support from the states. The P2Rx mission is to improve the dissemination of P2 information in the service provider community.

In 2003, NEWMOA and the other P2Rx centers worked on a number of initiatives, most notably the Topic Hub Project. This resource offers quick access to topical, peer-reviewed collections of pollution prevention-related resources. The collections, known as topic hubs, provide users with an overview of the topics before they browse the list of online publications. The P2Rx centers have published 40 topic hubs covering a number of sectors and issues, ranging from machining and metal fabrication to environmental management accounting. In 2003, NEWMOA published a topic hub on mercury in automobiles and began hubs on dioxin, lead, wood finishing, and auto recycling. To access any of the topic hubs, visit www.newmoa.org/prevention/topichub.

Regional P2 Virtual Library

In this time of diminishing resources for outreach and assistance, states increasingly build on each other's work. To facilitate this process in fiscal 2003, NEWMOA launched the Regional P2 Virtual Library—a bibliographic database of online resources published by state assistance programs in the region. To access the Regional P2 Virtual Library, visit www.newmoa.org/publications/statepubs.cfm.

P2 Innovative Technology Profiles

Innovative pollution prevention technologies can improve the environmental performance of companies, often while saving money and resources. Credible



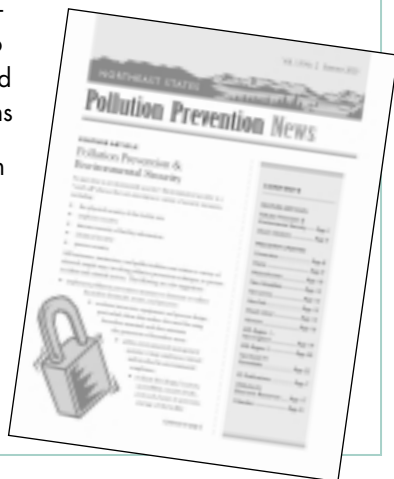
information about innovative technologies, however, is often unavailable. NEWMOA's P2 Technology Workgroup, made up of staff from each of the Northeast states, attempts to remedy this by putting together useful information that advances adoption of innovative technologies.

To date, NEWMOA and the Workgroup have written briefs on closed-loop vapor degreasing, closed-loop aqueous cleaning, and trivalent chromium replacements for hexavalent chromium plating. These profiles highlight the benefits and limitations of the particular technologies and include case studies when possible. To access the P2 Innovative Technology Profiles, visit www.newmoa.org/prevention/p2tech.

Related Resources

NEWMOA publishes a free newsletter, *Northeast States Pollution Prevention News*, three times a year to update its members, EPA, and others on pollution prevention and other assistance activities underway in the region. The newsletter is available in print and electronic formats and can be accessed through the NEWMOA website at www.newmoa.org/prevention/newsletter.cfm. In fiscal 2003, the newsletter featured articles on:

- Environmentally preferable alternatives to mercury-added products
- Best management practices for ski areas
- Environmental management systems (EMS)
- Integration of pollution prevention into state regulatory and permitting programs
- Pollution prevention and environmental security
- State dioxin reduction initiatives



Solid Waste Trends in the Northeast

For the fourth year, NEWMOA facilitated collection and analysis of interstate flows of municipal solid wastes (MSW) in the region. This information is vital to state efforts to validate the information they collect from waste management facilities and to use in developing waste management regulations and policies. Through NEWMOA, states can access and analyze data from other states much more efficiently.

In fiscal 2003, NEWMOA completed analysis of data from 2001 and published numerous charts and tables for use by the states. NEWMOA also started to collect MSW data for calendar year 2002. Analysis of this information will culminate in publication of a comprehensive report in early 2004, identifying trends in interstate flows over the four years of the project, as well as highlighting data inconsistencies. With this annual effort, the states have an efficient forum to reconcile data, monitor trends, and discuss new or anticipated developments that could affect MSW interstate flows in the region. To review past NEWMOA reports on municipal solid waste flow, visit www.newmoa.org/solidwaste/flow.cfm.

Management of Pressure-Treated Wood

NEWMOA has managed a Construction and Demolition Debris (C&D) Workgroup since 2002 to serve as a forum for discussing C&D management and policy issues associated with toxics in the waste stream. In 2003, the workgroup focused on management of wood treated with copper, chromium, and arsenic (CCA), commonly used by homeowners and construction contractors for outdoor projects such as decks, fencing, and play structures. NEWMOA developed a research brief to inform state officials about the environmental concerns related to CCA-treated wood and a matrix showing how each of the NEWMOA states currently manages CCA-treated wood waste.

Finding New Ways to Deliver Training

NEWMOA is continually working to innovate and improve its ability to deliver alternative training experiences that approximate the effectiveness of live, face-to-face training.

Financial pressures have led states and EPA to curtail out-of-state travel for staff and managers. Nonetheless, the NEWMOA states continue to have tremendous needs for ongoing professional training. In response, two-day training events have been abandoned in favor of single-day events at central locations, greatly reducing travel costs for participants. In addition, NEWMOA is continually working to innovate and improve its ability to deliver alternative training experiences that approximate the effectiveness of live, face-to-face training.

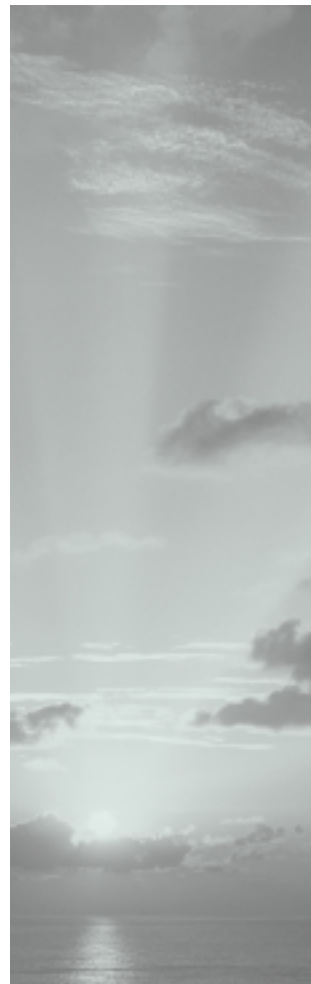
Advanced RCRA Training

In cooperation with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, NEWMOA organized an Advanced Hazardous Waste Inspector Training Workshop in Albany, New York that was attended by 62 state hazardous waste inspectors. The agenda included presentations and discussions on a wide range of regulatory compliance assistance and enforcement issues selected by a panel of state and EPA program managers. The topics included best management practices for pharmaceutical waste; programs in NY and CT to improve compliance by marinas and boatyards; programs in NY and NH to improve compliance by auto recyclers/ junkyards; and, a briefing and discussion led by an EPA Headquarters representative about possible regulatory changes arising from recent court decisions. The EPA representative spoke about EPA's guidance on incidental processing of hazardous waste materials during manufacturing operations, drawing distinctions between legitimate recycling operations and unacceptable/sham recycling. Also covered were acceptable management practices for contaminated industrial wipes and the classification of and acceptable practices for managing aerosol cans and lead paint removal wastes.

Later in the year, NEWMOA held another Advanced Hazardous Waste Inspector Training Workshop in Central Massachusetts, which brought together 72 hazardous waste inspectors from all of the NEWMOA member states. While the agenda focused on many of the same topics covered in the earlier training, at this session an EPA representative described regulations governing hazardous waste transportation and related activities that the US Department of Transportation is soon to adopt.

Web Conferencing

As one way to address its training challenge, NEWMOA has used web conferencing—essentially a conference call enhanced with a visual presentation available



through the internet—as an alternative to some face-to-face meetings. In fiscal 2003, NEWMOA conducted web conferences on environmentally preferable purchasing, best management practices for ski areas, green building design, environmental management systems, and persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic pollutants. The web conferences were well attended and received, and the NEWMOA member states have shown growing interest in using this format for training and information sharing in the future. To view compendia of presentations from past web conference, visit www.newmoa.org/prevention/webconferences/

Greening the Government Conference

NEWMOA organized and co-sponsored a major three-day Greening the Government conference with the Federal Facilities Programs in EPA Regions 1, 2, and 3. The Federal Facilities Programs promote environmental compliance and leadership for every federal facility in the country, from the US Postal Service to the Department of Defense. The conference targeted federal, tribal, state, and local government officials from Maine to Virginia, including staff from environmental, health and safety; procurement; and facilities management departments. The event was hosted at the Sheraton in Philadelphia, the only hotel in the region with a Green Seal of approval for its environmental practices. To minimize paper use and waste, speaker presentations were distributed on CD-ROM and posted on the NEWMOA website at www.newmoa.org/prevention/greengovconf/.

The first two days of the conference presented numerous educational opportunities, including panels on building green, buying green, and setting up the green infrastructure at facilities. NEWMOA also organized several breakout sessions on such topics as green cleaning, water conservation, and alternative fuels/vehicles. The final day was devoted to discussion of the challenges government facilities face in becoming green and the possible methods of overcoming these obstacles. A major highlight of the event was the keynote address by William McDonough, an internationally recognized designer who practices ecologically, socially, and economically intelligent architecture and planning in the US and abroad.



Kathleen Malone, U.S. EPA Region 2 Federal Facilities Coordinator welcomes participants to the Greening the Government Conference.



Chris Long, Director of Health, Safety, and Sustainable Development at U.S. EPA's Research Triangle Park, NC facility presents during the Building Green Plenary Panel.

NEWMOA Workgroups

Workgroups and committees are groups of state officials actively engaged in a particular project or task focused on a specific topic or environmental problem.

- Brownfields Workgroup
- Construction and Demolition Debris Workgroup
- Dioxin-Burn Barrel Workgroup
- Electronics Waste Workgroup
- Hazardous Materials Transportation Uniform Safety Act Workgroup
- Improving the Quality of Site Characterization Workgroup
- Interstate Mercury Education and Reduction Clearinghouse (IMERC)
- Junkyard Workgroup
- Lamp Recycling Outreach Workgroup
- Mercury Workgroup
- Northeast States Pollution Prevention Roundtable Steering Committee
- Pollution Prevention Information Dissemination Committee
- Pollution Prevention Innovative Technology Workgroup
- Pollution Prevention and Compliance Assistance Metrics Workgroup
- Pollution Prevention in Permitting (P4) Workgroup
- RCRA Program Performance Measures Workgroup
- RCRA Regulations and Policy Workgroup
- Solid Waste Metrics Workgroup

NEWMOA Networking Groups

Although they do not focus on a particular task or project, networking groups share information and ideas on several general topics through e-mails, listservs, conference calls and occasional meetings.

- Beneficial Use Determinations
- Contaminated Sediments
- Emergency Response
- Marina Outreach & Assistance

- Solid Waste Issues
- Technology Review Committee (TRC)
- Waste Tires

NEWMOA Listservs

Listservs are lists of e-mail subscribers interested in having a forum to share information and ideas on a particular topic. The participants in the listserv post messages to the list and all of the participants can respond and see each others comments or information. To join any of the following listservs, contact Hannah Sarnow at hsarnow@newmoa.org.

- Air Policy (available to federal, state, local, and tribal government officials only)
- Auto Recycling (available to federal, state, local, and tribal government officials only)
- Environmental Accounting (open to anyone interested in this topic)
- Environmental Management Accounting Network for the Americas Listserv (open to anyone in North, South, and Central America interested in the topic)
- Marina Outreach and Assistance Workgroup (available to federal, state, local, and tribal government officials only)
- Mercury Policy and Legislation (available to federal, state, local, and tribal government officials only)
- Northeast Assistance and Pollution Prevention Roundtable (available to federal, state, local, and tribal government officials only)
- Pollution Prevention and Compliance Assistance Measurement Listserv (available to federal, state, local, and tribal government officials only)

In the coming year, NEWMOA will also launch a Green Building Listserv.

NEWMOA FUNDING

NEWMOA relies on three principal sources of funding. The first and original source is state dues. The New England states request that EPA Region 1-New England make a portion of their RCRA state hazardous waste program assistance funds available as dues and general support, in the form of a grant to NEWMOA. The NEWMOA Board of Directors determines the specific amount each year in consultation with EPA Region 1-New England. New York and New Jersey elect to pay their annual dues directly to NEWMOA.

EPA grants support general solid waste activities, pollution prevention projects, the dioxin project, the mercury project, the improving the quality of site characterization project, and participation in federal regulations development. Grants for these activities are awarded by a combination of EPA Region 1-New England, EPA Region 2, and EPA Headquarters, and occasionally by other agencies and institutions. A portion of these grants resulted from a federal budget line item supported by US senators and representatives from the NEWMOA states.

Contributions from member states in the form of grants and contracts make up the third source of funding. Several states contribute directly to fund projects of particular interest, as well as to support NEWMOA's solid waste, pollution prevention, and waste site cleanup programs.

NEWMOA's Balance Sheet

October 1, 2002 to September 30, 2003

Revenue

State Dues, Contracts, Fees, Contributions and In-Kind Services/Match	\$ 120,042
Federal Grants*	766,720
Miscellaneous	1,596
Total	\$ 888,358

Expenditures

Staff Salaries & Expenses	\$ 541,110
Travel & Meetings	58,204
Office Expenses	208,971
In-kind Expenses	54,845
Total	\$ 863,130

Net Assets

Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$ 240,711
Net Assets at End of Year	265,939
Net Change in Assets	\$ 25,228

**Grants include \$147,000 in state funds reallocated to NEWMOA at the request of the New England states. In addition, \$178,000 results from a line item in the federal budget.*



Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association

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