

CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS



ABOUT NEWMOA

The Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association (NEWMOA) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan interstate association that has a membership composed of the hazardous waste, solid waste, waste site cleanup, and pollution prevention program directors for the environmental agencies in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont. NEWMOA was established by the governors of the New England states as an official regional organization to coordinate interstate hazardous and solid waste, pollution prevention, and waste site cleanup activities, and was formally recognized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 1986.

NEWMOA'S MISSION

NEWMOA's mission is to develop, lead, and sustain an effective partnership of states that helps achieve a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment by exploring, developing, promoting, and implementing environmentally sound solutions for

- Reducing materials use and preventing pollution and waste
- Properly reusing and recycling discarded materials that have value
- Safely managing solid and hazardous wastes
- Remediating contaminated sites

The Association fulfills this mission by providing a variety of support services that

- Facilitate communication and cooperation among member states, between the states and the U.S. EPA, and between the states and other stakeholders
- Provide research on and evaluation of emerging issues, best practices, and data to help state programs maximize efficiency and effectiveness
- Facilitate development of regional approaches to solving critical environmental problems



LETTER FROM NEWMOA'S 2014 CHAIR

CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS



George Desch
Vermont Department
of Environmental
Conservation
2014 NEWMOA Chair

The term *sustainable* has a growing array of meanings and can be confusing and unclear. If you Google it, you will find a number of definitions. The most widely quoted definition of *sustainable development* is from the United Nations: “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” Under the framework of this definition, discussions of sustainability often focus on three essential pillars: economic development, social development, and environmental protection. These pillars serve as the common ground for numerous sustainability standards and programs. The theme of this Annual Report, “Connecting People with Sustainable Solutions”, focuses on how the UN’s definition of sustainability and these pillars inform and influence much of NEWMOA’s work.

In the context of NEWMOA’s programs, we think of sustainable as ensuring that we maximize the efficient use of materials and resources and that we leave our homes and workplaces as clean as, if not cleaner than, they were before we occupied them. There are numerous examples of the ways we have integrated these principles into our work. Several years ago, the NEWMOA Board decided to proactively infuse the concept of sustainability into the Association’s priorities and programs. The most visible manifestation of this was adding the term to the name of two of our program areas, and now they are called “Sustainability and Pollution Prevention” and “Sustainable Materials Management and Solid Waste”.

Zero waste and sustainable materials management are closely related concepts. Zero waste embodies the concept of

sustainability by focusing on reducing, reusing, composting, and recycling waste to the maximum extent that is feasible so as to achieve as close to zero disposal as possible. To advance this concept, NEWMOA launched the Zero Waste Connection in 2014 as a professional social network of zero waste program managers and staff from federal, state, and local programs, as well as independent experts. By the beginning of fiscal year 2015, there were over 200 members in the network, and it was growing. We are looking forward to the Network taking off even more in the next year.

In 2014, NEWMOA supported a Sustainable Grocers Initiative to:

- Increase adoption of sustainable practices to address environmental problems in the grocery store sector;
- Recognize the achievements of those within the sector; and
- Measure the environmental benefits of the initiative.

Throughout the year, the Association’s Sustainable Grocers Workgroup revised a checklist of business practices that would be the basis for recognizing outstanding leadership in sustainability by grocers. All aspects of grocery store operations are addressed in the checklist, including waste, energy, and water use; stormwater management; operations; purchasing; and overall business practices. To support the ability of businesses to apply for recognition and complete the workbook online, NEWMOA spent much of 2014 modifying green business software developed for use in California, in order to adapt it for use by the sector in the Northeast. The modifications to the program should be completed in 2015, at which point state programs, particularly in NH and VT, will adopt it for use with their

grocers. NEWMOA also drafted a compilation of measurement methodologies that can be used to estimate the environmental outcomes and benefits associated with grocers that take sustainable actions. In the coming year, the Workgroup will finalize the list of calculators, engage industry partners, market the program, and move it from the pilot phase to implementation.

Site contamination renders places unusable for future generations and violates the basic concepts of sustainable development. In FY 2014, NEWMOA sponsored a number of waste site cleanup workshops to address this in the region. In the beginning of the year, the Association held “Moving Toward More Sustainable Remediation” Workshops in Connecticut and Massachusetts. The speakers and participants explored ways to reduce the environmental footprint of cleanups, while integrating community interests and supporting economic growth. Presenters described the available resources to aid understanding of green remediation concepts, approaches that help achieve protectiveness at lower cost and environmental footprint.

Efficiency in operations and materials use is critical to the concept of sustainability. This is also at the heart of Lean, which is a process that helps organizations identify and eliminate unnecessary and non-valued added steps and activities that have built up over time. Public-sector interest in Lean is increasing rapidly. Government organizations are using Lean methods to improve their administrative activities. Environmental programs are getting results. About 30 state environmental agencies in the U.S., including almost all of those in the Northeast, are using Lean to dramatically improve permitting, administrative reviews,

and other processes. To help support our members' programs, NEWMOA has formed a Lean Practitioners Workgroup that sponsored a successful Lean Summit in May. The event provided an opportunity for participants to hear from leading Lean experts and exchange success stories, results, tools, and information. Participants shared examples of how Lean and similar efficiency projects are improving performance of agencies and delivering environmental value. The participants also discussed opportunities for coordination and collaboration among state agencies and with EPA.

I invite you to learn more about these and other examples of NEWMOA's efforts to advance sustainability through this Annual Report. For a quick overview of our accomplishments, check out NEWMOA-by-the-Numbers and the Highlights. I am proud of the ways in which the Association continues to address critical environmental challenges in such a resource-constrained era.

And finally, a personal note about my experience working with NEWMOA. I recently retired from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation after 36 years in various capacities; starting with wastewater treatment facility design and eventually transitioning to the waste management arena via the sludge management train. I have been actively involved in NEWMOA for the last 20 years, and, throughout that period, as issues have arisen, NEWMOA has provided the forum and resources necessary for the states in the Northeast region to focus and consistently bring forward solutions that we wouldn't have been able to provide individually. Chairing NEWMOA in 2014 was an honor. I particularly appreciated the support and assistance from my colleagues in other states and EPA Regions 1 and 2, and it only served to bolster my high esteem for NEWMOA's managers and staff. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

George Desch
2014 NEWMOA Chair

NEWMOA BY THE NUMBERS

- **26 NEWMOA-sponsored training events**, including webinars and in-person workshops and conferences, involving **more than 975 participants**
- **11 face-to-face NEWMOA meetings**, involving **approximately 235 people**
- **22 face-to-face meetings** sponsored by other groups in which NEWMOA staff participated
- **109 NEWMOA Workgroup and project conference calls** involving **more than 1,150 participants**
- **23 calls** organized by other groups in which NEWMOA staff participated
- **5 websites** supported by NEWMOA, including NEWMOA.org, TheIC2.org, ERPStates.org, P2Rx.org, and GreenLodgingCalculator.org
- More than **84,870 user sessions on NEWMOA-supported websites** and approximately **704,000 page views** by those visitors
- **3 professional social networks** developed and supported by NEWMOA, including SustainableLodging.org, ZeroWasteConnection.org, GreenChemConnect.org
- **645 members** in SustainableLodging.org; **64 members** in GreenChemConnect.org; and **189 members** in ZeroWasteConnection.org
- **12 NEWMOA listservs**, involving about **1,150 participants**
- **4 issues of the News@NEWMOA** distributed to approximately **1,675 readers each**
- **78 other NEWMOA publications or documents** developed and/or distributed
- **18 online databases and other downloadable tools and resources** developed and/or maintained
- More than **600 companies** reporting on their mercury-added products through the Interstate Mercury Education and Reduction Clearinghouse (IMERC)
- **8 NEWMOA member states**
- **28 Workgroups or Committees** involving approximately **500 participants** and **3 networking groups** involving **approximately 45 participants**
- **15 IMERC member states**
- **13 IC2 Members, including 11 state and 2 local governments; 16 Supporting Members**
- **4 meetings** of the NEWMOA Board of Directors
- **1 working group co-chaired:** National P2 Results Task Force
- **6 NEWMOA staff and 3 interns**

For more information, visit www.newmoa.org

2014 NEWMOA HIGHLIGHTS



Sustainable Remediation Workshop

State agencies and the EPA have been working to integrate sustainable remediation approaches into their waste site cleanup programs, and in 2013 the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) issued a “Standard Guide for Greener Cleanups”. In addition, several Northeast state programs and EPA are promoting the use of contaminated property for renewable energy production, particularly solar panels at closed landfills. To inform participants about these developments, NEWMOA organized a successful December 2013 workshop on “[Moving Toward More Sustainable Remediation](#).”

IC2 Website

NEWMOA developed and launched a new website to support the [Interstate Chemicals Clearinghouse](#). It features IC2’s signature databases, including States Chemicals Policy, States’ Chemicals of Concern, and Chemical Hazard Assessments as well as the [Alternatives Assessment Guide](#).

Save Money & Reduce Trash

NEWMOA initiated a project in partnership with regional waste management authorities in three rural areas in New Hampshire and Vermont to promote [Save Money and Reduce Trash \(SMART\)](#) strategies in their

communities. Traditionally, many towns fund their waste management services using revenue from property taxes and/or a flat fee. SMART programs are different. Under SMART, municipalities charge residents for waste disposal based on the amount they throw away; while most recycling services are free. These programs are known by other names, including unit-based pricing (UBP) and pay-as-you-throw (PAYT).

Zero Waste Connection

Launched late in 2014, [The Zero Waste Connection](#) is a professional social network of zero waste program managers and staff from federal, state, and local programs, as well as independent experts. The site also contains an information clearinghouse. The goals of the Network are to:

- Promote pollution prevention and sustainability as the preferred methods of achieving zero waste goals;
- Provide forums for zero waste professionals to share information on program development and implementation;
- Foster innovation in zero waste programs through the exchange of ideas in real time;
- Increase the adoption of zero waste practices among practitioners; and
- Increase awareness of zero waste opportunities and resources.

Lean Summit

The May [Summit](#) provided a forum for exchanging success stories, results, tools, and information. Participants shared examples of how Lean and similar efficiency projects are improving performance of agencies and delivering environmental value. The Summit identified opportunities for coordination and collaboration among state agencies and with EPA.

Pharmaceutical Waste

NEWMOA supported a [Pharmaceutical Waste Workgroup](#) in 2014 to help address environmental concerns about pharmaceuticals in the environment, particularly since they have been discovered in surface waters, ground water, landfill leachate, and aquatic life. An aging population and the growing number of new drugs that are brought to market exacerbate the problem. The vast majority of unused pharmaceuticals are drain disposed or discarded in the trash, allowing for possible direct releases to the environment. NEWMOA is interested in improving pharmaceutical waste management, in part because many healthcare facilities and pharmacies operate across state lines in the Northeast.

SUSTAINABILITY & POLLUTION PREVENTION



Gary Gulka
Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, 2014 Pollution Prevention & Sustainability Program Area Chair

In 2014, NEWMOA's Sustainability and Pollution Prevention Program focused on a grocery-sector sustainability initiative, the development and expansion of virtual networks of professionals working on zero waste and sustainable lodging, and convening the states through conference calls.

Pollution Prevention Resource Exchange (P2Rx)

NEWMOA supports a regional Pollution Prevention Resource Exchange (P2Rx) Center. The Exchange is a network of eight regional centers that advance P2 as a cornerstone of sustainability. The goals of P2Rx are to build networks, deliver P2 information, and measure P2 program results. In 2014, NEWMOA fulfilled its P2Rx goals through the delivery of services and resources such as:

- [The Zero Waste Connection](#);
- [National Sustainable Lodging Network](#); and
- [Green Lodging Calculator](#).

In addition to supporting the Northeast regional P2Rx center, NEWMOA fills a key infrastructure role by hosting the national [P2Rx website](#). A number of P2Rx web-based services originate from the P2Rx.org website and are broadcast to regional centers' websites.

Zero Waste Connection

In 2014, NEWMOA developed the Zero Waste Connection (ZWC), a professional social network of zero waste program managers and staff from federal, state, and local programs, as well as independent experts. According to Wikipedia, zero waste is a goal that is ethical, economical, efficient, and visionary, to guide people in

changing their lifestyles and practices to emulate sustainable natural cycles, where all discarded materials are designed to become resources for others to use. The process recommended is one similar to the way that resources are reused in nature.

The goals of ZWC are to:

- Promote pollution prevention and sustainability as the preferred methods of achieving zero waste goals;
- Provide forums for zero waste professionals to share information on program development and implementation;
- Foster innovation in zero waste programs through the exchange of ideas in real time;
- Increase the adoption of zero waste practices among practitioners; and
- Increase awareness of zero waste opportunities and resources.

The site contains an information clearinghouse.

Zero Waste Connection focuses on all aspects of zero waste from source

reduction to reuse to composting and recycling. Features of the site include:

- Members – organizations, companies, and communities that are pursuing zero waste;
- Groups – sub-groups to connect individuals interested in a particular zero waste topic;
- Forums – comments, ideas, and questions;
- Events – announcements about upcoming events and activities;
- Sites – links to websites of zero waste groups and useful information sources; and
- Jobs – job announcements.

The site was developed with direction and support from an Advisory Committee of individuals at federal, state, and local programs as well as independent experts in the zero waste field. NEWMOA appreciates the effort and advice provided by the members of the Committee:

- Tom D'Avanzo, US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1
- Kimiko Link, US Environmental



Home page of the [Zero Waste Connection](#) website.

- Protection Agency, Region 2
- Karen Irwin, US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
- Sherill Baldwin, Connecticut Department of Energy and Environment Protection
- Peter Pettit, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- Mia Roethlein, Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation
- David Allaway, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
- Christin Walth, Toward Zero Waste Newburyport
- Leesa Stewart, Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District
- Gary Liss, GrassRoots Recycling Network and Zero Waste USA
- Kate Bailey, EcoCycle International
- Resa Dimino, RADimino and Associates

Green Lodging

NEWMOA continued to manage the National Sustainable Lodging Network, with more than 650 members from lodging properties, state and local programs, as well as independent experts in 2014. The goals of the Network are to:

- Provide forums for sustainable hospitality practitioners to share information;
- Promote sustainable hospitality programs and the facilities that participate in them;
- Increase the adoption of sustainable hospitality practices nationwide; and
- Foster innovation in sustainable lodging through the exchange of ideas.

NEWMOA's Green Lodging Calculator helps state and local sustainable hospitality programs and lodging facilities estimate the financial and environmental benefits from sustainable practices. The Calculator is designed to improve the methodologies used for estimating and communicating the environmental and financial benefits of sustainable lodging practices. It includes over 40 waste-, water-, and energy-related measures covering 18 common practices that lodging facilities can implement. These are only some of the sustainable activities that can result in environmental and financial savings. Many state and local certification and

recognition programs, as well as third-party certification programs, promote sustainable practices that are yet to be built into the Calculator. NEWMOA encourages the development and sharing of measures for these practices with the hope of adding them to the Calculator in the future.

Northeast P2 & Sustainability Roundtable

NEWMOA's Northeast Pollution Prevention and Sustainability Roundtable helps state and local government environmental officials implement effective multimedia source reduction and assistance programs to promote sustainability and improvement in public health and the environment. The Roundtable:

- Manages a regional roundtable of state and local environmental programs;
- Manages a resource center for information;
- Conducts training sessions for state officials;
- Researches innovative and source reduction strategies and techniques;
- Coordinates joint policy and program development.

In 2014 the Roundtable held conference calls of state and federal programs in EPA Regions 1 and 2 to share information and coordinate program development.

Sustainable Grocers Initiative

There is a significant number of opportunities at grocery stores to reduce energy and water use; reduce, reuse, and recycle various materials and wastes; improve management of stormwater; and promote the sale and use of greener products. These measures can help mitigate greenhouse gases, conserve natural resources, create a healthier environment for employees and customers, and save money. To address these opportunities, a number of NEWMOA's members have established or are in the process of creating green business recognition and leadership programs focused on grocery stores. Throughout the year, NEWMOA's Sustainable Grocers Workgroup led a Regional Sustainable Grocery Initiative. The

goals of the Initiative are to:

- Increase adoption of sustainable practices to reduce the environmental footprint of the grocery sector;
- Recognize the achievements of those within the sector; and
- Measure the environmental benefits of the initiative.

To achieve these goals, NEWMOA is pursuing the several strategies:

- Establish a model that can be implemented on a multi-state basis;
- Support state programs that are working with the sector; and
- Develop tools to help estimate environmental outcomes.

In 2014, NEWMOA developed an online application and review system, built on one developed by the California Green Business Program. The system will allow stores to apply online for recognition and allow state programs to review the applications and follow-up with them. The application form follows a checklist that NEWMOA's Workgroup developed in 2013. These kinds of checklists are often the foundation of state green business programs, and NEWMOA aims to use its checklist to increase the adoption of sustainable practices and recognize leading grocers.

In 2014, NEWMOA began development of a measurement methodology that would make it easier for stores to estimate the environmental outcomes from their participation in the Initiative. The methodology uses estimators or calculators that can translate practices, such as installation of energy efficient lighting, into estimates of environmental outcomes, such as reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, energy savings, and cost savings. The methodology covers 14 common practices that can be implemented at grocers, including those related to water and energy use and waste generation.

In the coming year, NEWMOA's Workgroup will finalize the online application system and measurement methodology and roll it out. The Workgroup will continue to market the program, engage industry partners, and grow participation. ■

SUPPORTING WASTE SITE CLEANUP PROGRAMS



Jay Naparstek
Massachusetts
Department of
Environmental
Protection,
2014 NEWMOA
Waste Site Cleanup
Program Chair

Each year new sites are discovered with contamination that could impact human health and the environment. These sites join the thousands of known sites across the region contaminated by past practices or spills that require investigation and cleanup. Each of NEWMOA's members has long-standing programs that oversee the cleanup of these properties. The issues at many waste sites are complex, and complete cleanup is often unattainable due to technical practicalities or expense. In order to overcome these barriers, investigation and remediation techniques and technologies are constantly evolving. Keeping up with all these changes requires ongoing training. To address this need, NEWMOA's Waste Site Cleanup (WSC) Program provides technical and programmatic training for state staff and the consulting community.

NEWMOA's Waste Site Cleanup Steering Committee identifies priorities for training on technical issues and policy approaches. In fiscal year 2014, the workshop topics were "Moving Toward More Sustainable Remediation", "Communicating Risk to the Public", and "Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids (DNAPL) Investigation and Remediation".

Sustainable Remediation

NEWMOA first held a "Greener Cleanups" workshop in April 2009. Since then, some states and EPA have worked to integrate sustainable remediation approaches into their programs and, in 2013, the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) issued a "Standard Guide for Greener Cleanups". In addition, several Northeast state programs and EPA

are promoting the use of contaminated property for renewable energy production, particularly solar panels at closed landfills. To inform participants about these developments, NEWMOA organized a December 2013 workshop called "[Moving Toward More Sustainable Remediation](#)". The workshop was held in Dayville, Connecticut and Westford, Massachusetts and attended by over 110 state and EPA officials and consultants.

Communicating Risk

Regulators and consultants struggle to communicate the human health risks associated with contaminated properties to stakeholders and the general public. NEWMOA teamed up with the Superfund Research Program (SRP) at Brown University to organize a March 2014 "[Communicating Risk to the Public](#)" workshop. Brown's SRP was able to enlist the participation of experts at the Boston University and Dartmouth College SRPs, as well as other risk communication professionals, including a national environmental justice leader. The workshop was held in Providence, Rhode Island and Westford, Massachusetts and was attended by over 150 state and EPA officials and consultants.

DNAPL

Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids (DNAPL) present a particularly difficult challenge to investigate and remediate once they enter the environment. DNAPLs are heavier than water, and when released to the environment they migrate through the soil and continue downward through the

groundwater. Small changes in porosity can cause the contaminant to move laterally, creating a migration path that is difficult to determine. At many sites in the Northeast, DNAPLs enter fractures in the bedrock and are challenging to remove. Many commonly used solvents are DNAPLs, including trichloroethylene (TCE) used to clean metal parts and perchloroethylene (perc) used to dry clean garments. Mismanagement by facilities, both large and small, has led to widespread contamination. NEWMOA organized a September 2014 "[DNAPL Investigation and Remediation: The Evolving State of Practice](#)" workshop to update states and consultants on recent advances. The workshop was held in Danielson, Connecticut and Westford, Massachusetts and was attended by over 150 state officials and consultants.

Vapor Intrusion

Volatile contaminants that are in groundwater or soil can migrate into nearby buildings, creating a potential for human exposure called vapor intrusion (VI). For example, TCE is volatile, and VI is a concern at sites where it is found. NEWMOA has focused on VI for several years and organized a "[Vapor Intrusion Updates](#)" workshop in 2013 to inform members about recent developments. NEWMOA and the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) collaborated to bring this workshop to Vermont in May 2014 so that a significant number of DEC staff and Vermont-based consultants could benefit from the training. Over 55 officials and consultants attended the session.

Permeable Reactive Barriers

In fiscal year 2014, NEWMOA supplemented its in-person workshops with a webinar on “[Permeable Reactive Barriers: Lessons Learned](#)”. A permeable reactive barrier is a permeable wall containing reactive material that is installed below ground to intercept and treat contaminated groundwater. Over 20 state officials attended the July webinar.

Brownfields

In addition to technical training, NEWMOA’s WSC Program helps members and EPA develop strategies to improve the effectiveness of their cleanup programs, including Brownfields redevelopment. Since 2004, NEWMOA has organized at least one meeting of state and EPA Region 1 Brownfields program staff each year to share information and discuss program implementation challenges. A valuable aspect of the meeting is the roundtable where states and EPA Region 1 share their program priorities and “hot” issues. NEWMOA’s May 2014 meeting included a discussion about state and EPA approaches to stormwater management guidelines; requirements for monitoring passive sub-slab vapor intrusion mitigation systems; and updates to the TCE and 1,4-dioxane Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) toxicity values.

NEWMOA’s WSC Program provides vital support, particularly training to help states address the challenges they face. The Association enables its members to learn about emerging issues and develop responses more efficiently than they would if they operated separately. As resources available to state waste site cleanup programs continue to shrink, the efficiencies states gain through NEWMOA are increasingly valuable. ■

URBAN FILL & OTHER MILDLY CONTAMINATED SOILS

Construction and utility projects, particularly in urban areas, can generate soils that cannot be reused at the project site and that can contain contaminants at levels that are detectable but well below the standards for hazardous waste. Providing clear guidance to generators of this excess soil on acceptable management options is a challenge for state agencies because requirements can differ between the waste site cleanup and solid waste programs. Due to strict requirements or the lack of clear guidance, these soils are often transported long distances to a solid waste landfill where they consume valuable space and add significant costs to projects. NEWMOA’s Waste Site Cleanup and Solid Waste Programs initiated a multi-year project in fiscal year 2011 that focuses on improving the management of these mildly contaminated soils.

NEWMOA’s initiative helps state solid waste and waste site cleanup programs develop their frameworks for the management of mildly contaminated soils to:

- Protect human health and the environment;
- Provide clarity to utilities, construction operators, departments of public works (DPWs), and other developers; as well as municipal, county, and state government departments and agencies;
- Preserve landfill capacity by allowing non-landfill uses, as appropriate; and
- Promote cost effective alternatives.

NEWMOA’s [Mildly Contaminated Soil](#) Workgroup manages this effort.

To date, the project has succeeded in improving communication both within state agencies—between the



waste site cleanup and solid waste programs—and among the states’ programs in the region. Participants have learned about the issues and strategies under consideration in other states and have shared ideas for making improvements.

In FY 2014, the Northeast Committee on Environment (NECOE) asked NEWMOA to develop a state-by-state listing of locations where mildly contaminated soils can be used to help inform their deliberations. NECOE involves the Commissioners or Directors of the state environmental agencies in New England and New York and is convened by the Coalition of Northeast Governors.

NEWMOA facilitated three Workgroup conference calls to develop and finalize a presentation of the list of available sites. These calls also provided a forum for states to share information about their programs. Throughout the year, NEWMOA made improvements to the private area on its website that serves as an information repository for contaminated soils-related regulations and policies for each state, as well as presentations that Workgroup participants have made to stakeholders.

PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

State solid waste programs in the Northeast focus on sustainable materials management approaches that build on the concepts of reusing, recycling, and composting and seek to reduce materials use and their associated environmental impacts over their entire life cycle. In FY 2014, NEWMOA's solid waste program focused on:

- Information-sharing opportunities on state program priorities;
- Management of food waste;
- Implementation of state extended producer responsibility (EPR) legislation;
- Adoption of "Save Money and Reduce Trash" (SMART) strategies;
- Reduction, reuse, and recycling of waste paint; and
- Municipal solid waste (MSW) disposal data.

Information Sharing

Each year NEWMOA's Sustainable Materials Management (SMM) and Solid Waste Steering Committee selects topics for technical training webinars. In FY 2014, NEWMOA organized five webinars focused on:

- Mattress recycling logistics and opportunities to increase diversion;
 - Economic factors affecting waste-to-energy facilities;
 - Gypsum wallboard recycling logistics and opportunities to increase diversion;
 - Disaster debris management lessons learned from Hurricane Sandy; and
 - State experiences using Emerge Knowledge's Re-TRAC system for municipal and facility reporting.
- State and federal SMM staff and managers participated actively in these webinars.

In addition to the webinars, NEWMOA facilitated information-sharing conference calls and an annual meeting for EPA Region 2, New Jersey, and New York SMM staff and managers. These meetings provide an opportunity for updates and coordination on such topics as organics management, MSW data, and SMART.

Food Waste

According to EPA, food scraps are about 14–15 percent of the total MSW that is generated in the U.S. There are significant opportunities to promote reduction and increase diversion of these materials from disposal in landfills and incinerators. The technologies for converting these wastes to energy through anaerobic digestion (AD) are rapidly improving, and there is growing interest in expanding composting capacity in the Northeast. State environmental agencies have begun to receive applications for new AD and composting operations. The agencies are also working with local governments and waste haulers to address challenges with food waste and other organic waste collection and storage.

In 2013, NEWMOA formed a Food Waste Workgroup to foster interstate collaboration and information sharing regarding efforts to promote food waste reduction, use of food waste to help feed people and animals, siting and permitting of composting and AD facilities, and other regulatory and policy issues and challenges. The Food Waste Workgroup:

- Supports regional discussions of emerging food waste issues and state regulatory and policy developments;
- Coordinates and holds information-sharing and training events to



Sarah Weinstein
Massachusetts
Department of
Environmental
Protection,
2014 NEWMOA
Solid Waste
Program Chair

address policy, regulatory, and technical challenges;

- Conducts research and analysis;
- Provides support for state program implementation; and
- Helps state programs implement projects.

In FY 2014, NEWMOA's Workgroup held several conference calls that focused on state food waste bans, AD capacity, and methods for estimating food waste generation by commercial and institutional facilities.

Extended Producer Responsibility

During the past decade, all of the states in the Northeast have enacted at least one extended producer responsibility (EPR) law. As a result, there are more than 25 producer responsibility laws covering at least 7 categories of products, including electronics, paint, mattresses, mercury thermostats, mercury auto switches,



fluorescent lamps, and rechargeable batteries. EPR includes, at a minimum, the requirement that the producer's responsibility for its product extends to post-consumer management of that product and its packaging. EPR shifts end-of-life financial and management responsibility, with government oversight, upstream to the producer and away from the public sector; thereby providing incentives to producers to incorporate environmental considerations in the design of their products and packaging.

State environmental agencies are responsible for implementing the requirements of EPR laws, and NEWMOA supports an EPR Implementation Workgroup to provide an information-sharing forum for state officials.

In FY 2014, the Northeast Committee on the Environment (NECOE) asked NEWMOA's EPR Implementation Workgroup to support their discussions by helping them consider regional priorities for EPR approaches. The NECOE includes state environmental agency commissioners and directors, and its efforts are facilitated by the Coalition of Northeast Governors (CONEG). The Workgroup conducted a survey and held numerous conference calls to develop recommendations for NECOE consideration. NEWMOA also compiled data on carpet waste generation and management to inform the members of NECOE. This data provided the basis for a presentation at a national dialogue on carpet product stewardship that was sponsored by and held at the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and organized by the Product Stewardship Institute.

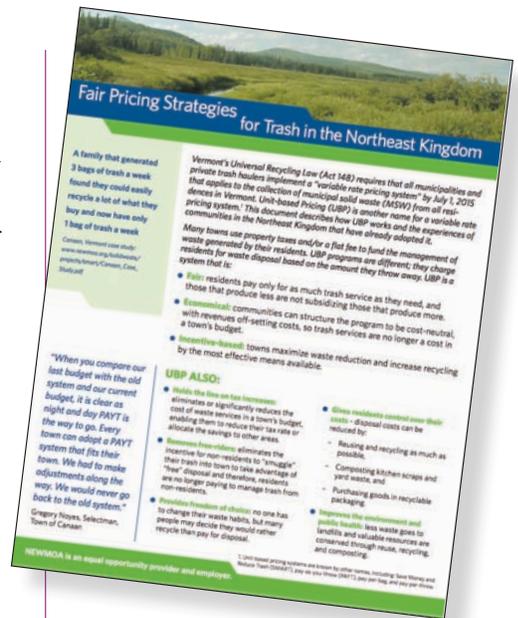
Save Money & Reduce Trash (SMART)

In FY 2014, NEWMOA initiated a project in partnership with regional waste management authorities in three rural areas in New Hampshire and Vermont to promote Save Money and Reduce Trash (SMART) strategies in their communities. Traditionally, many towns fund their waste management services using revenue from property taxes, flat fees,

or a combination of the two. SMART programs are different. Under SMART, municipalities charge residents for waste disposal based on the amount they throw away; while most recycling services are free. These programs are known by other names, including unit-based pricing (UBP) and pay-as-you-throw (PAYT). SMART systems prevent residents that produce less trash from subsidizing those that produce more. Communities that have implemented SMART find that it is an effective incentive program that reduces waste disposal and increases recycling. NEWMOA's project was funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

NEWMOA held meetings with municipal decision makers in two of the project partner areas to present information on SMART programs and discuss benefits and implementation issues. Representatives of local communities that have implemented SMART programs attended each meeting to share their experiences. In collaboration with the project partners, NEWMOA developed several new information resources to support these meetings:

- 10 new case studies of rural communities in MA, NH, and VT that have adopted SMART;



SMART outreach brochure that includes case studies.

- A professionally designed outreach brochure, targeted to each project partner, that includes local case studies and quotes from community representatives; and
- An online SMART Toolkit that compiles the most useful information available on strategies, experience, and resources.



Jennifer Griffith, NEWMOA Project Manager presenting on SMART to a meeting of transfer station operators in the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee region in NH, held on July 10, 2014 at the Lebanon, NH landfill facility.



The case studies demonstrate that rural SMART municipalities have achieved 40–50 percent reductions in the quantity of municipal solid waste disposed of and significant savings. All of the case study communities think that their programs have been successful and have not experienced an increase in illegal dumping. The case studies, outreach brochures, workshop presentations, and SMART Toolkit are available at: www.newmoa.org/solidwaste/projects/smart. The project will continue into FY 2015.

Waste Paint

In FY 2014, NEWMOA wrapped-up a waste paint management project in partnership with waste management authorities and stakeholders in five rural areas in Maine, Vermont, and New York. This project focused on helping communities implement strategies to reduce, reuse, and recycle leftover latex paint. NEWMOA and its partners developed a series of publications, including a guide for municipalities and a handout for consumers. The guide, *Reducing, Reusing, and Recycling Waste Latex Paint in Rural Communities* was completed in FY 2013, as well as consumer handouts for three of the five project partners. In FY 2014, NEWMOA published two more customized handouts.

Guide for consumers to help them reduce waste paint and reuse or recycle what is leftover.

The handouts cover *Tips for Minimizing Latex Paint* and local options for *What to Do with Leftover Latex Paint*. NEWMOA held workshops in two locations and prepared final summary and recommendations reports for each partner area. Lastly, NEWMOA conducted a national webinar that was attended by federal, state, and local waste management and technical assistance programs to share the results of the project with a wider audience. This project was funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The publications, slides, and additional information are available at: www.newmoa.org/solidwaste/projects/paint/publications.cfm.

Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Data

States in the Northeast gather data on MSW disposal from the transfer and disposal facilities they regulate. This data helps them monitor remaining disposal facility capacity and understand the success of SMM approaches. Several NEWMOA states evaluate their waste reduction efforts based on changes in per-capita disposal. NEWMOA has focused on gathering and analyzing state MSW disposal data for over a decade, and in FY 2014 worked on two efforts. In the spring, NEWMOA initiated a biennial analysis of calendar year 2012 MSW disposal data, including information on interstate waste flows. All of the Northeast states export MSW to facilities in other NEWMOA states for disposal, and, with the exception of Rhode Island and Vermont, disposal facilities in all of the NEWMOA states import MSW from other NEWMOA

states. The report covering 2012 data will be published early in FY 2015.

NEWMOA also participated in a national effort facilitated by EPA to develop a “State Data Measurement Sharing Program”. The Program allows states to share a wide range of MSW information, including data on annual waste generation, disposal, recycling, and composting and on state program funding and staffing levels. EPA asked state programs to share their MSW data and information through the Program in FY 2014. After NEWMOA’s members reviewed the data template, they identified a number of concerns about the lack of adequate detail and unclear data definitions in the MSW disposal data collection portion. The solid waste management programs in the Northeast have extensive experience collecting and analyzing MSW disposal data and felt that the original Program would not allow for appropriate aggregation and comparison across states. To share its concerns with EPA, NEWMOA prepared and delivered a presentation for the key EPA staff and submitted written comments. In response to this input, the next iteration of the Program included the changes recommended by NEWMOA. EPA expects to facilitate an annual review of the Program so that it can be continuously improved.

As resources available to state solid waste programs continue to shrink, the efficiencies states gain through NEWMOA become even more valuable. Information-sharing through the Association enables its members to learn about emerging issues and develop responses more efficiently and effectively than they would if each worked separately. ■

IMPROVING HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT



Michael Wimsatt
New Hampshire
Department of
Environmental
Services,
2014 NEWMOA
Hazardous Waste
Program Chair

Training

In 2014, NEWMOA continued its long-standing tradition of providing training for hazardous waste program staff through monthly information-sharing conference calls and training workshops. This year the calls focused on:

- Generators closing with no closure plan or financial assurance;
- Electronic waste regulatory issues;
- The top five most frequent Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) violations;
- Cathode ray tube (CRT) regulations and stockpiles;
- Pharmaceutical waste management;
- Permanent household hazardous waste (HHW) facilities;
- Experience of states that have exercised large quantity generator (LQG) flexibility in their EPA RCRA grants;
- Big supermarkets and box stores as large quantity generators of hazardous waste;
- Regulation of generator treatment in tanks or containers;
- Regulatory issues with evaporators;
- State definitions of used oil and what they include; and
- EPA's Solvent-Contaminated Wipes Rule.

NEWMOA held an advanced hazardous waste inspector workshop in June for state programs in New England. This session focused on:

- Addressing compliance and enforcement for Small Quantity Generators (SQGs) of hazardous waste;
- Conducting inspections for compliance with the Organic Air Emissions Rule;
- Inspecting companies that claim the closed-loop recycling exemption;

- Addressing emerging issues and interesting enforcement cases; and
- Advancing alternatives to perchloroethylene use at dry cleaners.

The workshop evaluations from the 60 participants emphasized how important the workshops are for state RCRA program staff. These sessions and the conference calls are the primary training that they receive.

Comments to EPA

In March, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and Vermont environmental agencies (the participating NEWMOA members) submitted a letter requesting that EPA:

- Revise its position exempting some evaporators (i.e., zero discharge units)

SUSTAINABLE COMPLIANCE RESULTS

NEWMOA has a long history of supporting state efforts to develop and implement innovative approaches to environmental enforcement, compliance assurance, and performance measurement. In fiscal year 2013, NEWMOA sponsored a national meeting focused on "Environmental Compliance Assurance and Performance Measurement Strategies". During that meeting, the participants learned about the results of a project that NEWMOA had supported for approximately three years that was focused on using environmental results program (ERP) methods to address new air regulations at auto-body shops in the Great Lakes states. That project ended in 2013, as did NEWMOA's funding to sponsor the ERP Consortium.

As a result of the discussions during that meeting and the ending of the auto-body project, NEWMOA



decided to form a Workgroup, called the Sustainable Compliance Results Workgroup. The new Workgroup includes state and EPA Regional enforcement, compliance assistance, and pollution prevention staffs and supports state program efforts to develop and use a variety of compliance strategies and performance measurement tools. The group met via conference call regularly in FY 2014 and provided advice and support for a new resolution and workgroup sponsored by the national Environmental Council of the States (ECOS).

ADDRESSING PHARMACIES THAT ARE LARGE GENERATORS

In response to several enforcement actions taken by Northeast states for the improper management of hazardous waste pharmaceuticals, many large retail pharmacy chains and “big box stores” that contain pharmacies are notifying at an unprecedented rate under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) as large quantity generators (LQGs) of hazardous waste. These notifications are being made primarily in response to their “generation” of P-listed (acutely hazardous) pharmaceuticals and over-the-counter consumer products (e.g., warfarin and nicotine) that are non-salable for a variety of reasons (e.g., expired and overstocked) and therefore must be disposed. As a result, the LQG universe in the region has increased significantly over the last couple of years.

Recognizing that retail pharmacies (and other health care-related facilities) are not traditional RCRA generators, EPA began the process of developing less-burdensome regulations for the management of hazardous waste pharmaceuticals by publishing a proposed rule in December 2008 that would have added hazardous waste pharmaceuticals to the Universal Waste Rule. When that proposal did not succeed, EPA began a new rulemaking effort that purportedly will provide alternative and flexible



regulations for the management of hazardous waste pharmaceuticals.

The New England states are concerned that finalizing the current rulemaking and adoption of the resulting regulations by states could take a number of years.

NEWMOA helped to develop an initiative to address this challenge in 2014 and will coordinate state efforts to implement it in FY 2015 and beyond through regular information sharing and collaborative presentation of its results.

under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) wastewater treatment unit (WWTU) exemption;

- Affirm that generators may use on-site evaporators to treat hazardous wastewaters under the “generator treatment in tanks” RCRA permitting exemption; and
- Identify what forms of thermal treatment it considers appropriate for the evaporation of wastewater under the generator treatment RCRA permitting exemption.

Moreover, the participating states urged EPA to support them in taking the lead in implementing programs to effectively regulate evaporators until such time as EPA provides unambiguous guidance or promulgates new rules. The idea for the letter was proposed during a NEWMOA discussion about the use of evaporators by hazardous waste generators and state perspectives on treatment of hazardous waste by generators in containers and tanks.

NEWMOA also wrote to EPA Region 1 requesting their assistance in reviving and strengthening an important area of collaboration between EPA and the New England states. NEWMOA greatly values its partnership with Region 1 and appreciates its support. The participating states requested that the Regional Office reinforce this relationship through greater involvement in the planning and execution of annual training that NEWMOA provides for state hazardous waste inspectors because the training is critical for effective implementation of federal and state laws governing hazardous waste management.

Pharmaceutical Waste Management

In 2014, NEWMOA supported a Pharmaceutical Waste Workgroup to help address environmental concerns about pharmaceuticals, particularly since these compounds are increasingly being detected in surface waters, ground water, landfill leachate, and aquatic life. An aging population and the growing number of

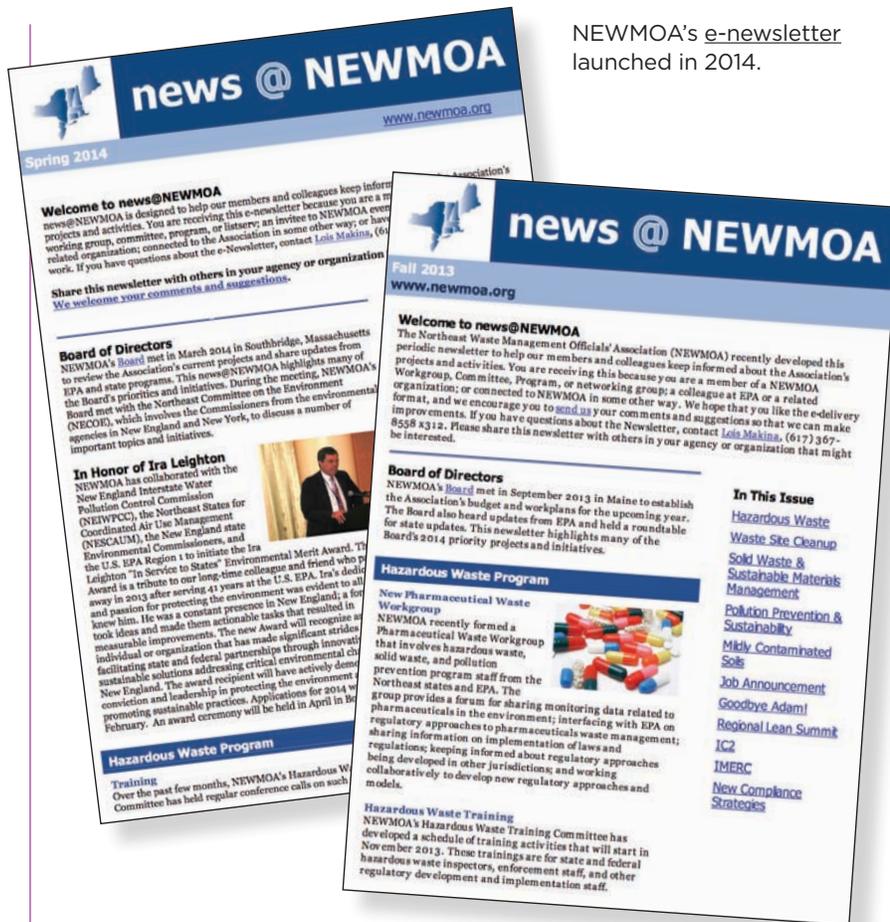
new drugs that are brought to market exacerbate the problem. The vast majority of unused pharmaceuticals are drain disposed or discarded in the trash, allowing for possible releases to the environment.

NEWMOA has an interest in improving pharmaceutical waste management, in part because many healthcare facilities and pharmacies operate across state lines in the Northeast. The organization has advocated for new regulatory approaches and coordination with EPA and other federal agencies to create a holistic, flexible, and environmentally sound approach to pharmaceutical waste management. NEWMOA's Pharmaceutical Waste Workgroup promotes interstate collaboration on:

- Sharing monitoring data related to pharmaceuticals in the environment;
- Communicating and coordinating with EPA on federal regulatory approaches to pharmaceutical waste management;
- Helping members share information on enforcement of existing laws and regulations;
- Keeping informed about regulatory approaches being tested in states and other jurisdictions; and
- Working collaboratively to develop elements of new regulatory approaches and models.

The Workgroup held its first conference call early in the fiscal year. See side bar for more information on an initiative to address pharmaceutical waste management at pharmacies. ■

NEWMOA's e-newsletter launched in 2014.



LEAN & PROCESS IMPROVEMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCIES

A May Training Summit on “Lean and Process Improvement for Environmental Agencies in the Northeast” provided a forum for exchanging success stories, results, tools, and information about Lean efforts in state government. Participants shared examples of how Lean and similar efficiency projects are improving performance of agencies and delivering environmental value. The Summit identified opportunities for coordination and collaboration among state agencies and with EPA.

The invitees included state and federal environmental agency managers and staff involved with and interested in Lean and other approaches to improving the efficiency of various agency activities, including personnel from the New England states, New York, and New Jersey; government environmental laboratories; EPA Regions 1 and 2; interstate organizations; and others.

The invited speakers included state and federal environmental officials that have implemented Lean or other efficiency methods in their agencies and several Lean experts that have extensive experience helping government agencies.



INTERSTATE CHEMICALS CLEARINGHOUSE (IC2)



Beth Meer
New York State
Department of
Environmental
Conservation,
IC2 2014 Chair



Fiscal year 2014 saw many IC2 developments. The IC2 welcomed the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services and the King County (Washington) Local Hazardous Waste Management Authority as new IC2 Members. King County joins Metro Portland, Oregon as the second local government member of the IC2. They joined the IC2 to take advantage of its information-sharing and networking opportunities. The IC2 also welcomed a new Supporting Member, Office Depot, which is the second retailer to join.

Chemical Use Disclosure

At the beginning of the year, IC2 held a national meeting focused on options for chemical use disclosure at Staples Headquarters in Framingham, MA. The meeting provided an opportunity for Members and Supporting Members of the Clearinghouse to hear from members of the BizNGO Working Group, the Green Chemistry and Commerce Council (GC3), and others about growing efforts

to increase transparency concerning chemical ingredients in products. Agenda topics included:

- A [presentation](#) on the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) system for sharing data on the use of high priority chemicals in children's products;
- An [update](#) on the status of New York State's efforts on disclosure of chemical ingredients of cleaning products;
- A [presentation](#) on the Interstate Mercury Education and Reduction Clearinghouse (IMERC) system for reporting on mercury use in products; and
- Discussion and recommendations for the future.

Much of the meeting was devoted to discussion of ideas and recommendations for improving the current availability of information. Some of the [brainstormed ideas](#) for IC2's next steps included:

- Define and clarify the "users" of ingredient disclosure data, what they want to see, and the data that are most useful to them;
- Take some of the analyses of Ecology's data and frame the results in a variety of formats for different end users;
- Find ways to get the analysis of Ecology's data to the business community and demonstrate how it can and is being used;
- Work to harmonize data systems as much as possible and rely on the experiences of other programs that have already addressed similar issues;
- Identify gaps in disclosure to better inform what the state programs should be asking for;

PRIORITY CHEMICALS PROGRAM

Early in the fiscal year, Adam Wienert, who had been the Project Manager for the IMERC and the IC2 resigned for personal reasons. NEWMOA appreciated Adam's dedication and hard work for both Clearinghouses. He helped guide IMERC through a difficult transition from a paper-based reporting process to a full-scale electronic system over several years. At the beginning of the calendar year, Topher Buck joined the NEWMOA staff as the new Project Manager for IC2, and Rachel Smith, longtime NEWMOA employee, took over management of IMERC. IC2 and IMERC are fortunate to have such talented staff to manage their activities.

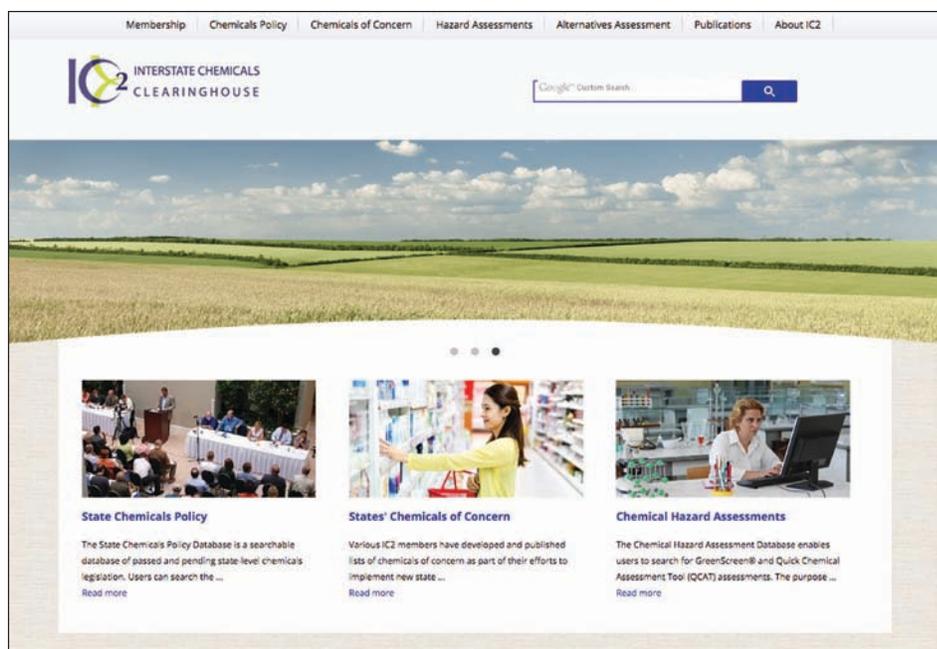
- Identify the types of data needed to answer proposed user scenarios;
- Focus on the fragrance industry to better understand the data that is available and confidentiality issues;
- Develop data-definitions to harmonize across different programs;
- Further define “functional use”, including the end uses of chemical ingredients;
- Examine international efforts and harmonize with the U.N. Environment Program’s (UNEP) Chemicals in Products efforts;
- Engage industry to find out what data they are interested in and how they will use it; and
- Develop a framework and proposal for state-level harmonized chemicals-in-products projects.

IC2 plans to follow-up on these ideas in the future.

Alternatives Assessment

In early January, the IC2 published its *Alternatives Assessment Guide*. An alternatives assessment (AA) is a set of tools that manufacturers, product designers, businesses, governments, and other interested parties can use to make better, more informed decisions about the use of toxic chemicals in their products or processes. The *Guide* had been in development for two years, and many IC2 Members and Supporting Members contributed significant time and effort to bring it to fruition. The *Guide* was designed to be comprehensive and includes three ways in which an AA can be conducted. It quickly became one of the principal references for the alternatives assessment (or alternatives analysis) process and has been widely cited. It was one of ten frameworks and tools evaluated by the National Research Council’s Committee on the Design and Evaluation of Safer Chemical Substitutions in the development of *A Framework to Guide Selection of Chemical Alternatives*, published by the National Academies Press in October 2014.

Along with the *Guide*, the IC2 released two Response-to-Comment (RTC)



Home page of the [IC2 website](#).

documents. The summary [RTC document](#) groups comments received and documents how the *Guide* was either updated or not altered based upon input received. The detailed [RTC document](#) contains a response to each individual comment.

IC2 Website

The IC2 completed and launched a new [website](#). Begun in late 2013 and launched in 2014, the website features an updated appearance and makes it easier for visitors to find information about IC2 members; the Clearinghouse’s online databases, including the States’ Chemicals of Concern Database, Chemical Hazard Assessment Database (CHAD), and State Chemicals Policy Database; and publications like the *IC2 Alternatives Assessment Guide*.

The IC2 added many GreenScreen® assessments to the Chemical Hazard Assessment Database throughout the year. Clean Production Action created the GreenScreen® for Safer Chemicals (GS) to help with evaluating chemicals and their potential degradation products against a range of toxicity, environmental fate, and physical/chemical endpoints. Chemicals

receive a combined “benchmark score” based upon the assessments of 19 hazard endpoints. The GS places each chemical along a continuum of concern and assigns them one of four possible benchmarks. The result of this process enables users to compare priority chemicals and their potential alternatives using a consistent and common template. Thanks to partners like Clean Production Action and funding from the Washington State Department of Ecology, the Database now includes GreenScreens® for 18 halogenated flame retardants; 8 primaries, intermediates, and monomers for polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polypropylene (PP), and polylactic acid (PLA) plastics; and the antimicrobial chemicals triclosan and triclocarban. ■

INTERSTATE MERCURY EDUCATION & REDUCTION CLEARINGHOUSE (IMERC)

Beverly Migliore
Rhode Island
Department of
Environmental
Management,
2014 IMERC Chair

IMERC's major accomplishment during the 2014 fiscal year was development of a Five-Year [Strategic Plan](#). The Strategic Plan presents the goals, strategies, and activities that IMERC will undertake from fiscal years 2015 to 2020. It was approved by the NEWMOA Board of Directors in June 2014. Although IMERC has been in existence since 2001, this was the first time the Clearinghouse has formalized its strategies for continuing to support state programs that address key sources of mercury pollution and protect public health and the environment.

IMERC has [documented](#) that the use of mercury in products has declined by more than 50 percent from 2001 to 2010, and non-mercury alternatives are readily available for these products. More than half of the states in the U.S. have at least some regulations concerning mercury in products. The ultimate purpose and goal of the Clearinghouse is to build upon these successes, and the Strategic Plan describes the priorities, activities, and strategies needed to do so. The Plan also helps address some of IMERC's challenges, including:

- Changes in regulations and legislation;
- Rapid changes in mercury use in products (and resulting waste streams) and increasing public concern about mercury;
- State resource constraints; and
- Loss of institutional capacity as a result of staff retiring and staff turnover.

Over the next fiscal year, IMERC will focus on implementing the Strategic Plan to build on its record of achievement in managing and sharing information, providing training, coordinating interstate activities, conducting research and data analysis,

procuring resources, preparing documents and presentations, and solving problems. By coordinating efforts through IMERC, state programs will continue to experience greater efficiency and effectiveness in implementing their mercury reduction laws.

2013 Notification

IMERC also focused on the 2013 Triennial Notification cycle during FY 2014. In particular, IMERC staff provided extensive technical assistance to manufacturers of mercury-added products to ensure their compliance with the triennial reporting requirements through the online e-filing system.

Notification through the e-filing system enables companies to comply with the mercury-added product notification requirements of Connecticut, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Reporting is required for any firm that sold or distributed mercury-added products into those states during calendar year 2013. This information includes the "total mercury" value for products (i.e., mercury content of a product multiplied by the number of units sold/distributed in the U.S. during the calendar year). The reporting window was January 15 – April 15, 2014, though submissions continue to trickle in. Each submission is reviewed by the IMERC Notification Workgroup.

More than 60 percent of eligible manufacturers have submitted their 2013 reports through the e-filing system. That represents more than 300 companies and thousands of products, including mercury-added lamps, batteries, measuring devices, formulated products, and others. IMERC will continue collecting this data in the coming fiscal year and hopes to begin to analyze it for some product categories by the end of FY 2015.

HISTORIC MOU BETWEEN NEWMOA & NERC

NEWMOA and the Northeast Recycling Council (NERC) signed a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) (MOU) in 2014. This historic document describes the intention of the two organizations to work more closely together and to support each other's initiatives in the areas of sustainable materials management, climate change, and debris management. NEWMOA believes that the Agreement will help improve program and service delivery in the region.

NERC is a multi-state non-profit organization that is committed to environmental and economic sustainability through responsible solid waste management. Its programs emphasize source reduction, reuse, recycling, composting, environmentally preferable purchasing (EPP), and decreasing the toxicity of the solid waste stream in the 10-state region comprised of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Product Notification, Labeling, & Phase-Outs

While IMERC's Steering Committee was focused on developing a five-year Strategic Plan, the Workgroups—Notification, Labeling, Phase-Out, and Education and Outreach—were meeting periodically to support the implementation of legislative requirements that members have enacted.

As noted above, the Notification Workgroup focused mainly on the 2013 Triennial Notification cycle. But they also followed up with non-compliers. IMERC hired a summer intern who was able to contact more than 100 companies and get them to report past notifications into the e-filing system.

IMERC reinvigorated its Labeling Workgroup and facilitated conference calls focused on alternative labeling applications for lamp products. In late FY 2014, the States approved an alternative label that conforms with a new Federal Trade Commission (FTC)-mandated label for screw-based compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs). The Workgroup will continue its review of applications for other lamp types in the coming fiscal year.

The Phase-Out Workgroup corresponded through email to facilitate the review of exemption applications during the year. IMERC's summer intern contacted approximately 20 companies with expired exemptions and provided them with technical assistance. IMERC will convene the Phase-Out Workgroup for calls in FY 2015 to assess the status of this work and prioritize efforts.

The Education and Outreach Workgroup was formalized in January 2014, and its first task was to update the nine Mercury-Added Product Fact Sheets to include the 2010 data analysis for certain product categories. IMERC also prepared a new Mercury Use in Products Fact Sheet that summarizes the use of mercury across all products, including an overall trends analysis of mercury use in all products sold in the U.S. from 2001–2010.

IMERC is funded by dues from its Members. ■

IRA LEIGHTON IN SERVICE TO STATES 2014 AWARD

NEWMOA collaborated with the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC), the Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM), the New England states Environmental Commissioners, and the U.S. EPA Region 1 to initiate an annual Ira Leighton "In Service to States" Environmental Merit Award in 2014. The Award is a tribute to our long-time colleague and friend who passed away in 2013 after serving 41 years at the U.S. EPA. Ira's dedication and passion for protecting the environment was evident to all who knew him. He was a constant presence in New England; a force who took ideas and made them actionable tasks that resulted in measurable improvements. The new Award recognizes an individual or organization that has made significant strides in facilitating state and federal partnerships through innovative sustainable solutions to address critical environmental challenges in New England. The award recipients actively demonstrate conviction and leadership in protecting the environment and in promoting sustainable practices.

On April 22, 2014, Ken Kimmell was awarded the first Ira Leighton in Service to States Award at a ceremony at Faneuil Hall in Boston. During Ken's tenure at the Massachusetts Department of Environment Protection from



Ken Kimmell

January 2011 through March 2014, and his earlier tenure as General Counsel at the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs from 2007 through 2011, he demonstrated a stellar record proactively addressing climate change, promoting innovation, and advancing clean energy technology at the state, regional, and local levels. Ken's efforts and accomplishments include work on air quality and greenhouse gases, compliance/enforcement, access to quality data, as well as work on solid waste, recycling, organics, and water management. Ken made significant strides in improving the management of solid waste in Massachusetts culminating in the issuance of the updated Solid Waste Master Plan in 2013. In New Bedford, MA Ken championed an approach to state involvement in the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site that led to multiple environmental and economic benefits. On Cape Cod, Ken worked on innovative approaches to assuring compliance at commercial and industrial facilities. Congratulations to Ken on this well-deserved award!

NEWMOA FUNDING

NEWMOA relies on dues, grants, contracts, and special contributions for funding. Its original source of funding was state dues. The New England states requested that U.S. EPA Region 1 make a portion of their RCRA 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 in consultation with U.S. EPA Region 1. New York and New Jersey pay their annual dues directly to NEWMOA. IMERC and IC2 members also pay annual dues directly to NEWMOA to fund those activities.

U.S. EPA grants support solid waste activities, assistance and P2 projects, hazardous waste training, and participation in federal regulatory development. Grants for these activities were awarded by a combination of U.S. EPA Region 1 and Headquarters and occasionally by other agencies and institutions. The USDA provided grant support for solid waste projects in rural communities in the Northeast in 2014.

Contributions from member states in the form of contracts make up another important source of funding. Several states contribute directly to fund projects of particular interest, as well as to support NEWMOA's IMERC, IC2, and Brownfields programs. NEWMOA has also received a grant from the John Merck Fund to support IC2 projects.

NEWMOA'S FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

October 1, 2013 to September 30, 2014

Revenues

State Dues, Contracts, Fees, Contributions & In-Kind Services/Match	\$ 315,000
Federal Grants*	369,000
Miscellaneous	1,000
Total Revenue	\$ 685,000

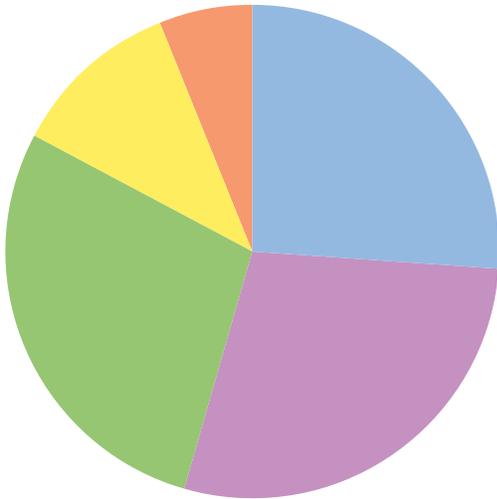
Expenditures

Staff Salaries & Benefits**	\$ 548,000
Travel & Meetings	49,000
Other Direct Program Expenses	15,000
General & Administrative	140,000
Contracts	14,000
Total Expenditures	\$ 766,000

Net Assets

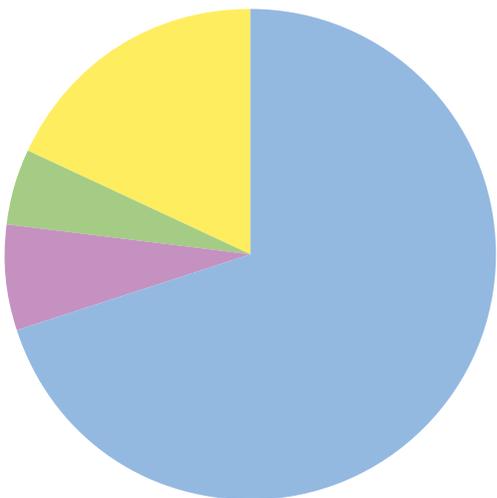
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$ 410,000
Net Assets at End of Year	329,000
Net Change in Assets	\$ [81,000]

* Federal grants include \$138,000 in state assistance allocated to NEWMOA at the request of the New England states



2014 NEWMOA REVENUES

- 26% Competitive Federal Grants
- 28% Other Federal Funding
- 28% IC2, IMERC, & NEWMOA Dues
- 11% State Contracts
- 6% Meeting & Attendance Fees



2014 NEWMOA EXPENSES

- 72% Staff Salaries & Benefits
- 6% Travel & Meetings
- 4% Other Direct Program Expenses
- 18% General & Administrative



NEWMOA 2014 Staff

Terri Goldberg
Executive Director

Andy Bray
Project Manager

Topher Buck
Project Manager

Jennifer Griffith
Project Manager

Lois Makina
Administrative

Rachel Smith
Project Coordinator

Adam Wienert
Project Manager

Giyam Chan
Intern

Guanyu Yang
Intern

Lauren Sadowski
Intern

Emil Melchior Mikkelson
Intern

NEWMOA 2014 Board of Directors & Officers

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Bureau Chief, Bureau of Materials Management & Compliance Assurance, CT DEEP

Robert Kaliszewski
Director/Ombudsman, Planning & Program Development, CT DEEP

Patrick Bowe
Director, Remediation Division, CT DEEP

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(2014 NEWMOA Treasurer)
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Jay Naparstek
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Sarah Weinstein
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Stephanie D'Agostino
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Division of Solid & Hazardous Waste, NJ DEP

Thomas Cozzi
Director, Division of Remediation, NJ DEP

Michael DiGiore
Chief, Office Pollution Prevention & Right to Know, NJ DEP

John Vana
Director, Pollution Prevention Unit, NYS DEC

Peter Pettit
(2014 NEWMOA Vice-Chair)
Director, Bureau of Waste Reduction & Recycling, NYS DEC

Terrance Gray
Assistant Director for Air, Waste, & Compliance, Office of the Director, RI DEM

Ronald Gagnon
Director, Office of Technical & Customer Assistance, RI DEM

Leo Hellested
Chief, Waste Management Division, RI DEM

George Desch
(2014 NEWMOA Chair)
Director, Waste Management Division, VT DEC

Gary Gulka
Director, Environmental Assistance Office, VT DEC



NEWMOA



Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association

129 Portland Street, Suite 602
Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2014
Tel: 617-367-8558
Fax: 617-367-0449
www.newmoa.org



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