

FALL-WINTER 2008 NEWSLETTER

A&WMA

Upper Midwest Section



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR ...

Chris Nelson (Christopher.Nelson@state.mn.us)

It's hard to believe the holiday season came and went so quickly and that we are already in the first week of January 2009! Your A&WMA-UMS had another terrific year! We were able to successfully host numerous events that were a direct result of member input; the information was both timely and accurate.

As we look ahead to the new year, there are several regulatory trends that we continue to track. Federal Courts first vacated, and then remanded to EPA, the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR), which has collateral impacts to Minnesota's Regional Haze planning efforts. In addition, the Clean Air Mercury Rule (CAMR) was also vacated early in 2008. We can therefore expect further discussions on air quality rule development in 2009. Finally, with the change in administration in Washington D.C., we anticipate a push for some form of federal climate change legislation. EPA recently released an advanced notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPR), which is always the first step in the regulatory process. With these and other regulatory trends in mind, we are already preparing some workshops and seminars in early 2009. We hope that you have found value in your A&WMA membership and we promise even more value in the New Year.

Thank you for continuing to support the A&WMA's Upper Midwest Section.

We hope you and your family enjoyed a nice holiday and we wish you a healthy and prosperous New Year!

INFORMATIONAL "FACTS" ...

- ❖ A&WMA Scholarships available – visit: <http://www.awma.org/awards/index.html>
- ❖ A&WMA offers Organizational Memberships that may benefit you and your organization – visit: http://www.awma.org/join/member_categories/index.html

A&WMA PAST EVENTS ...

PM 2.5 New Source Review Webinar –

A&WMA-UMS hosted a PM2.5 workshop in late August. Almost 40 people packed our conference host's (American Engineering Testing, Inc. / AET), conference room for the webinar and panel discussion. Based on attendee comments, the workshop was very beneficial. Workshop presentations can be found on our website, in case you could not attend or seek a quick refresher.

- ❖ Please visit <http://www.awma-ums.org/mtg082708.htm>

Conference on the Environment –

The 23rd Annual Conference on the Environment was a resounding success. The keynote address by Brad Moore, MPCA Commissioner, set the tone for the day, by describing the 'state of the environment' in Minnesota. It was clear that current environmental issues are technically complex and involve multiple stakeholders. Break-out sessions then dove deeper into specific issues. A&WMA wants to thank all of the presenters, panelists and volunteers who made this event so successful!

MEMBERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS ...

The A&WMA-UMS is proud to report that we have over 200 members! In 2008, we added over 40 new members. Welcome to A&WMA! Several organizations took advantage of our organizational membership. There are currently 9 organizational memberships. The MPCA had the biggest organizational membership increase. We also welcomed several students by offering them free membership if they attended the COE.

EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS ...

The Education Committee participated in 3M's Visiting Wizards Teachers Exhibition in October. They displayed samples of A&WMA's Environmental Education Resource Guides (EERGs) and Workshop Activities and also discussed the workshops with prospective teacher participants.

HOT REGULATORY TOPIC – EPA ISSUES GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) ADVANCED NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE (ANPR) MAKING ...

On July 30, 2008, the EPA issued the Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for Greenhouse Gases (GHG) in the Federal Register. The ANRP is a result of the EPA versus Massachusetts Supreme Court Decision, which involved mobile source emissions. The court held that EPA must make a 'reasoned decision' on whether GHG emissions from mobile sources 'endanger human health or the environment.' An endangerment finding would obligate EPA to regulate tailpipe emission of mobile sources and would cause a cascade effect of regulating GHG emissions from stationary sources under other sections of the Clean Air Act. The ANPR presents relevant information and seeks public comment on options to regulate GHG. It includes roughly 400 open-ended policy and legal questions. Although the public comment period closed on November 28, 2008, we expect this complex policy discussion to continue into 2009 and beyond. Please consider attending one or both of our carbon related programs in early 2009.

A&WMA-UMS 2009 TENTATIVE PROGRAM SCHEDULE ...

Your Upper Midwest Section is considering new topics for 2009. These programs topics are tentatively under review and may change based on input. As always, we welcome your program suggestions. If you, or your organization, are interested in hosting an event, please let us know. Additional details will follow via emails.

MONTH	TOPIC
January 14	Carbon Sequestration
March	Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Program – NSR Implications
April	Risk Management Plans (RMP)
June	
July	Liquid Biofuels? plant tour or presentations
August	
September	Monitoring and CAM?
October	
November	Annual Conference on the Environment
December	

The *Mission* of A&WMA is to assist in the professional development and critical environmental decision-making of our members to benefit society

The *Purpose* of A&WMA is to promote better understanding of the problems of air and water pollution and waste management

AIR & WASTE MANAGEMENT ASSN. – UMS WEBSITE

Visit our website for the latest information at: <http://www.awma-ums.org>

KRISTIE BULTHUIS

ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR

KBCANDYIVY@BALDWIN-TELECOM.NET