NW Chapter Newsletter

February 4, 2025

Welcome to the quarterly edition of the Northwest NAHMMA Chapter newsletter! We are thrilled to connect with all of you through this newsletter, where we will share updates, events, and valuable insights about hazardous materials management in our region.

Our current leadership team is:
President: Lauren Scher (PaintCare)
Vice-President: Lisa Cox (Oregon DEQ)
Treasurer: Chad Ficek (Lane County)
Secretary: Tessa Nania (Washington Department of Ecology)
At-Large: Dave Nightingale (Special Waste Associates, Washington)

Registration for NW NAHMMA Conference April 8th - 10th

Registration for the Northwest NAHMMA Conference is now open! The conference will now be held **April 8th - 10th, 2025 in Troutdale, Oregon** at McMenamins Edgefield. Join us for a keynote speech from Dave Galvin, two days of technical sessions, training opportunities, a HHW facilities tour, and an evening reception and dinner with live music.

Trainings on April 8th include:

- Chemistry for Non-chemists
- Disaster Preparedness and Resilience for HHW and Solid Waste Operations
- Understanding Communication Styles to Enhance Team Effectiveness

Technical session topics on April 9th and 10th include:

- Preventing & fighting Lithium battery fires
- Managing skyrocketing HHW program costs
- New HHW facilities around the Northwest
- Outreach to underserved communities
- Investigating metal cookware as a source of lead exposure
- Producer responsibility programs for HHW
- Using data to enhance behavior change

We have a block of rooms available at McMenamins Edgefield until **MARCH 7, 2025** (previously February 7th**) 2025**. You can book on the Edgefield website using code 2410NAHMMA or call them at (503) 669-8610 and let them know you are with the conference.

There are virtual and in-person registration options available for members and nonmembers. See attached flyer for more information. Information on available scholarships is coming soon.

Washington and Oregon are seeking businesses to host summer interns; join us in spreading the word. Applications are due February 21, 2025.

We are looking for 14 businesses to host free, summer interns to work on pollution prevention projects at their facilities. This is a win-win program that's been connecting students and businesses for eight years! Can you help us recruit businesses by sending the details below to businesses OR send us contacts and we will reach out .

The following sectors will be given priority review (others are eligible but please contact us for details): Food and Beverage Manufacturing and Processing, Chemical Manufacturing, Processing and Formulation, Automotive Manufacturing and Maintenance, Aerospace Product and Parts Manufacturing and Maintenance and Metal Manufacturing and Fabrication.

Washington Contact: Jenny Yoo JYOO461@ECY.WA.GOV
Oregon Contact: Lisa Cox lisa.cox@deq.state.or.us

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Host a FREE summer sustainability intern

The future of efficiency and sustainability is within reach—apply today and watch your operations transform with OASIS! Applications due **February 21, 2025**.

Are you ready to make a positive environmental impact while improving your business operations? The Oregon Applied Sustainability Internships and Washington Applied Sustainability Internship programs are your opportunity to do just that—at no cost to you!

Here's how it works: During this 10-week internship, college students are matched with Washington or Oregon-based businesses to develop sustainability solutions that help reduce waste, improve efficiency, and save money. The best part? The program is FREE —and your business will receive innovative, cost-effective solutions tailored to your specific sustainability challenges.

What your business gains:

- Pollution prevention: Interns help your business reduce waste and use resources more efficiently.
- Cost savings: You could save thousands annually in operating costs, all while improving your sustainability practices.
- Innovative solutions: Fresh, creative ideas for addressing sustainability challenges you might not have the resources or time to tackle otherwise.

The impact is real: In fact, interns helped businesses achieve impressive results, including:

- $12.8 million in savings annually
- Preventing 953 tons of solid waste
- Cutting 251 million gallons of water usage
- Reducing 86,000 metric tons of CO2 emissions

Real-world experience for students, real-world impact for your business: Not only will your business benefit, but you'll also be helping students gain hands-on experience in applying sustainability principles in a practical setting. They'll build resumes, strengthen their professional networks, and make concrete contributions to protecting the environment and public health.

Ready to get started? Contact us today for details and make a lasting impact on both your business and the environment!

Washington Contact: Jenny Yoo JYOO461@ECY.WA.GOV https://wsg.washington.edu/students-teachers/fellowships/wa-applied-sustainability-internship/

Oregon Contact: Lisa Cox lisa.cox@deq.state.or.us
https://seagrant.oregonstate.edu/oase



Jobs

Hydrogeologist 4 (in-Training) (2 positions), **Washington Department of Ecology**
Richland, WA
The WA Department of Ecology is hiring for two positions: Waste Management Hydrogeologist (Hydrogeologist 4) (In-Training) and Senior Hydrogeologist and Well Coordinator (Hydrogeologist 4) (In-Training) working on hydrogeologic evaluation at the Hanford Site. Candidates will be considered at the Hydrogeologist 3 and Hydrogeologist 4 levels, depending on their qualifications

Hazardous Materials Technician Floater, **Clean Harbors**
Oregon
Clean Harbors is hiring a technician to prepare manifests and land disposal restriction notifications, perform inspections, package waste chemicals for disposal, and sample new waste streams. Hazardous waste experience preferred. This position may be located in Clackamas, Beaverton, Portland, or Tualatin, OR.

Transfer Station Attendant and Driver, **Alaska Waste**
Stika, AK
Alaska Waste is hiring for a transfer station attendant and driver to monitor the site during operating hours, interact with and educate customers, monitor and screen waste loads, and clean up hazardous or prohibited material. Must be able to obtain Class B CDL Permit within 90 days of employment.

Have a job to share with NAHMMA NW Chapter Members? Email it to Tessa Nania, p2tnania@gmail.com, and she will include it in the next newsletter.

NW Chapter Newsletter

June 3rd, 2025

Welcome to the quarterly edition of the Northwest NAHMMA Chapter newsletter! We are thrilled to connect with all of you through this newsletter, where we will share updates, events, and valuable insights about hazardous materials management in our region.

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Chair: Lauren Scher (PaintCare)
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Northwest Chapter Conference Recap



Our Chapter conference this past April was by all accounts a rousing success. It was our largest chapter event ever, with 93 in-person attendees and 43 joining us virtually. Beyond the numbers, it was great to get together in person for the first time in 7 years, at the fabulous McMenamins Edgefield, a longtime chapter favorite gathering spot. You can access the presentations, and a video of the Keynote session, here.

One of the special moments of the conference was a posthumous award to Dave Waddell's family. Dave was a longtime chapter member, a national expert on



school chemical cleanouts, a great storyteller, and an all around nice guy. You can peruse his in-depth powerpoint presentations on a number of topics here.

Scholarship Application for 2025 National Conference

The 2025 NAHMMA 40th Annual Conference is September 21st-25th in Naperville, Illinois. The Northwest Chapter is offering scholarships for 2-4 NAHMMA members to cover costs including registration and travel. Members may apply for scholarships using this Google Form. Deadline for scholarship applications is June 30th, 2025.

For any questions, please contact Chad Ficek at chad.ficek@lanecountyor.gov.

Jobs

Nuclear Waste Program Coordinator, **Washington Department of Ecology**
Richland, WA
The WA Department of Ecology is hiring for a Nuclear Waste Program Coordinator to partner with the US Department of Energy out of the Richland Field Office. This position will also coordinate training, fleet reservations, and other administrative tasks.

CDL Driver/Hazardous Waste Technician, **Environmental Compliance Consultants**
Portland, OR
Environmental Compliance Consultants is hiring for an entry- to mid-level Technician with CDL out of their Portland, Oregon service center. This position's duties include operating commercial vehicles and equipment, inspecting and handling hazardous and pharmaceutical waste, and performing daily vehicle and equipment inspections.

Customer Service Representative, **Alaska Waste**
Anchorage, AK
Alaska Waste, a Waste Connections company, is hiring for a Customer Service Representative to field customer questions and complaints, receive orders for waste inquiries, and administrative tasks.

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NW Chapter Newsletter

December, 2025

Welcome to the quarterly edition of the Northwest NAHMMA Chapter newsletter! We are thrilled to connect with all of you through this newsletter, where we will share updates, events, and valuable insights about hazardous materials management in our region.

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Save the Date for the 2026 Northwest NAHMMA Conference!

The Northwest Chapter has tentatively scheduled our conference for March 31st - April 2nd, 2026, in Tacoma, Washington. We plan to have speakers, tours of local household hazardous waste facilities, and an 8-hour HAZWOPER refresher. Stay tuned for more details on registration and agendas.

Upcoming Northwest NAHMMA Elections

The Northwest Chapter's election for our Executive Committee is fast approaching. Virtual ballots will be sent to members on Monday, December 1st, 2025. Please keep an eye out for this email, and please VOTE! We have several open positions to fill this year.

2025 Northwest Highlights



Our chapter accomplished a lot over the past year! Here are some highlights:

- Over 100 NW members and non-members joined our first in-person event in five years at the beautiful McMenamins Edgefield in Troutdale, Oregon. We heard from hazardous waste experts on community outreach, extended producer responsibility, and innovative programs in the Pacific Northwest. In addition, groups attended tours of local household hazardous waste facilities, and Oregon Metro hosted a Chemistry for Non-Chemists training. Thank you all for attending, and we hope to see you in 2026!
- A successful 24-hour training was held in Wenatchee, Washington, led by Dave Nightingale, Ethan Bean, Martyn Quinn, and Daryl Hillyer.
- Several members represented the Northwest Chapter at the National NAHMMA Conference in Naperville, Illinois this September. Attendees learned information about vape waste, community engagement, and technology advancements in hazardous waste sorting.

Jobs

Hazardous Waste Technician, **Helion Energy**
Everett, WA
Helion Energy, a fusion power company, is hiring a Hazardous Waste Technician to ensure safe, compliant, and environmentally responsible management of hazardous waste materials generated at Helion Energy's facilities. Experience in hazardous waste handling, knowledge of RCRA and other regulations, and HAZWOPER 40-hour certification are required.

Senior Manager Environmental Engineer, **Ryder**
Boise, ID
The Senior Manager Environmental Engineering is responsible for ensuring that Ryder environmental projects are managed in compliance with all regulatory and Ryder requirements; and that both remediation and capital projects associated with Ryder's FMS fueling locations are managed to reduce risks, control costs and support business operation needs and growth initiatives.

Operations Manager, **Waste Management**
Portland, OR
The Operations Manager identifies improvement opportunities, delivers effective coaching, and leads by example to reinforce safety practices and operational standards in alignment with the WM Way. Additionally,

the role manages compliance through documentation, root cause investigations, and audits, while addressing service and safety issues through customer site visits and proactive resolution strategies.

Environmental Field Chemist, **Clean Harbors**
Anchorage, AK
Clean Harbors in Anchorage, AK is seeking an Environmental Field Chemist (CleanPack Chemist) to handle, segregate, pack, and inspect chemical waste in accordance with Federal/State/Local regulations and our company policies and procedures. This position will work both indoors and outdoors at plants, labs, customer sites and are responsible for assisting with lab packs within customer facilities, household hazardous waste (HHW) collections and lab moves.

Have a job to share with NAHMMA NW Chapter Members? Email it to Tessa Nania, p2tnania@gmail.com, and she will include it in the next newsletter.