Solid Waste News & Notes

A Newsletter from the Solid Waste Unit of the Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division

Vol. 2, No. 3 November 1999

"Gas in the Air"

(Part 3b of a 4-part series on Municipal Solid Waste and Landfill Gas)

Do you realize how fortunate large landfills are these days? In addition to local requirements, state solid waste regulations, storm water permits, discharge permits, APENs and OSHA standards, they have to measure and possibly control even the gases and vapors emanating from the waste pile. Recall from the previous issue that solid waste regulations place limits on explosive gases at property boundaries and in structures. But now, the Clean Air Act is designed to be much more comprehensive – it addresses gaseous emissions through the cover! Now landfill operators need to be aware of Emissions Guidelines and New Source Performance Standards and how they may apply to their landfill.

Most operators are familiar with the APEN – Air Pollutant Emission Notice, which must be filed with the Department=s Air Pollution Control Division (APCD). Each APEN is valid for five years, but a revised notice should be filed whenever a permit limitation must be modified, control equipment is changed, or annually if there is a significant change in emission type or quantity. In 1997, the APCD began requiring more information about landfills through its Supplement to Municipal Landfill APEN form, which was to be submitted with any APEN renewal or revision. Until then, the air pollutant of concern at your landfill was probably fugitive dust.

In early 1996, EPA published additional requirements for landfill emissions reporting under 40 CFR Parts 51, 52, and 60. These are called ANew Source Performance Standards," known as NSPS for landfills. The NSPS apply to all landfills constructed or modified after May 30, 1991. They are called Anew@ because the federal regulations were first proposed in 1991, but litigation and revisions delayed promulgation until March 12, 1996. These regulations require that all landfills file an initial Design Capacity Report with APCD. For Anew@ landfills, the reports were due June 26, 1997. Other landfills should have reported by December 27, 1998.

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

The critical numbers for maximum design capacity are 2.5 million megagrams (2.5 million Mg) or 2.5 million cubic meters. Converting these threshold numbers to more familiar units gives 2.75 million tons and 3.27 million cubic yards. The volume requirement may be met if the landfill averages 100 in feet height (or depth) over an area of about 20 acres, or 50 feet over an area of 40 acres, approximately. You need to use your particular landfill design numbers to make this important calculation to determine if the landfill capacity is above or below the threshold value.

OK, so now you have the maximum design capacity number for your Anew@ landfill, which is any landfill

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Compliance Assistance from the Unit Leader

With the falling leaves comes the annual post-inspection facilities evaluation in the Solid Waste Unit. Our staff members are busy closing out individual inspection reports and tallying the overall status of Colorado=s solid waste facilities. Hopefully, we will start the new year with an exceptional compliance baseline to set the standard for the new millennium!

This installment of *Compliance Assistance from the Unit Leader,* will discuss a number of topical points and will also update the status of the composting and recycling regulations.

First, I wish to publicly thank Chip Wertz of Waste Management, and Mark Clinker of Republic Services, for their willingness to have a solid waste staff member tag along for "a day at the landfill@ as part of new staff training. Doug Ikenberry spent the day with Chip at Waste Management=s facilities near Colorado Springs, and Darrell Dearborn spent a day with Mark at the Front Range Landfill in Weld County. These events help us as regulators observe the business side of landfill operations and have been great learning experiences – especially for new staff. I will be contacting someone else soon to request a similar event for our most recent hire, Julie Cotter. Additionally, I would like to thank Chuck Merritt of BFI Medical, and Bruce Philbrick of the City of Loveland, for hosting Dr. Nguyen Thi Hong at their facilities. She is visiting our Division through May and greatly appreciated

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Gas in the Air

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constructed or modified after May 29, 1991. Here are the consequences: below the threshold capacity, no APCD permit is required; but, over the threshold – congratulations, you qualify for even more work! You are subject to NSPS and Title V, Part 70, operating permit requirements. Further, you must calculate emissions of Non Methane Organic Compounds (NMOC). For this calculation, APCD will provide the forms and equations and a good effort to explain them. If the NMOC calculation results in less than 50 megagrams (50 Mg, or about 55 tons) per year of emissions, you must submit an annual emissions report with a recalculation of NMOC emissions until either the landfill is closed or NMOC emissions exceed 50 Mg per year. These initial emissions reports were due March 30, 1998.

Landfills that emit 50 Mg or more of NMOC per year, after using site-specific calculations, must submit to APCD a control plan that includes a collection and control system. The control plan is due within one year, and the control system is to be operational within 30 months of the date of the NMOC calculation that exceeds the threshold. Only a few of the largest landfills in Colorado are expected to have results greater than 50 Mg NMOC per year.

Requirements for Emissions Guidelines (EG) for older landfills are similar to NSPS, but deadlines are dependent on the timing of state program approval. In Colorado, landfills that accepted waste after November 8, 1987, have design capacity above the threshold value, and have NMOC emissions of 50 Mg or more per year, must submit a Title V application by December 27, 1999. Further information on APCD regulations and requirements concerning landfills is available from APCD at 303-692-3100, or directly from Kirsten King at 303-692-3212.

Recall in the first issue of *Solid Waste News & Notes*, Kirsten mentioned that EPA is also planning more control of landfill emissions. EPA is considering requiring collection and control systems for smaller landfills and closed landfills as well. The new regulation will be called the Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) standard, to be implemented under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act. Looks like the Air folks want more and more to do with our landfills. My thought is that this will provide an incentive to go all the more quickly to landfill bioreactors and address these problems more efficiently.

Gas collection and control systems are most commonly comprised of extraction wells in the refuse, piping to gather the gas from the wells, and a control device to reduce emissions. Currently, in Colorado there are nine landfill sites with gas collection and control systems. Methane flow rates range from 20 scfm to 300 scfm. The gas is burned with a high-efficiency flare. One site, County Line Landfill, until recently used landfill gases to generate electric power. Methane from this closed landfill, which operated from 1965 until 1987, was used to fuel an 800 kW generator from 1986 until early this year. The generator was taken out of service because methane rates had declined. The operation was never a moneymaker, but sales of the electricity did help offset operating costs.

This concludes the third part of the landfill gas series. This part on regulations was split in two because of space and time constraints. Next issue will contain the fourth part: landfill gas mitigation.

C*Pete Laux, Solid Waste Unit, (303) 692-3455*

SAMS CORNER #4

During the last few months, most of our work has been in the field. It has been a long, busy inspection season as described in the cover story of the last edition of *Solid Waste News & Notes*. While we are in the field, and when we return to the office, our work priorities shift away from the technical data analysis that the Site Analysis Management System (SAMS) is designed for, to evaluating the compliance status of the facilities we have visited. Consequently, this edition of SAMS Corner will be very brief.

We have begun the process of adding several new sites to the system. Work has started on the Larimer County Landfill, the Pitkin County Landfill, the Pueblo Southside Landfill and the Tower Landfill in Commerce City. Dedicated data entry personnel carried out most of this work. The project managers will be spending time this winter reviewing the data for quality control prior to it being uploaded to SAMS.

Please take the time to visit SAMS on the Internet: **http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/hm/samsmain.html**.

C*Ron Forlina, Solid Waste Unit, (303) 692-3439*
E-mail: ron.forlina@state.co.us

Petroleum Release Reporting Requires the Correct Form

The Solid Waste Unit (SWU) recently received a number of reports requesting No Further Action (NFA) for sites that have had a petroleum release, but that are not under the jurisdiction of the Oil Inspection Section (OIS) of the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment. Reports using the OIS format are accepted by the SWU, but are not mandatory. The SWU reviews two types of No Further Action reports: 1) contamination was at or below Risk Based Screening Levels (RBSLs); or 2) contamination was above RBSLs, but the contaminated soil was excavated and disposed of at an approved facility.

For the latter type, a report not using the OIS format must include, at a minimum: 1) waste characterization (gasoline, diesel, etc., and volume in cubic yards); 2) waste manifests with corresponding analytical data; 3) confirmatory analyses to document completion of remediation; 4) dimensions of the excavation; 5) site map drawn to scale; 6) all other information which will allow the SWU to assess the type and extent of contamination and whether target cleanup levels were achieved.

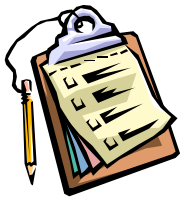
However, a problem identified by unit staff is that numerous reports have been received, using the OIS format that do not follow OIS guidelines for completing the documents. If you wish to use the OIS format, please be aware that the SWU will use the OIS guidelines to determine if the correct report was submitted.

The NFA format can be used only if petroleum contamination levels are below Risk Based Screening Levels (RBSLs). Sites that require soil removal/remediation, due to contaminant concentrations above RBSLs, must use the Site Characterization Report (SCR). This report must include waste characterization, waste manifests, confirmatory analyses, dimensions of the excavation, a site map drawn to scale and all other relevant information that will allow the SWU to assess the type and extent of contamination and whether target cleanup levels were achieved.

To reiterate, if you wish to submit a formatted report, please use the correct form:

1) The OIS – NFA format can be used only if petroleum contamination levels are below Risk Based Screening Levels (RBSLs);

2) For sites that required excavation/ remediation, a non-formatted report, or an OIS – SCR, is acceptable.



If any report lacks information that is necessary in order to make a remedial action determination, additional information will be requested that may delay the SWU=s site closure/no further action response.

C*Julie Cotter, Solid Waste Unit, (303) 692-3417*

Data Requirements Vary for Specific Waste Disposal

(Part 1 of a Series on Characterization of Waste Streams for Landfill Disposal Determinations)

One of the most common questions I am asked as a solid waste landfill regulator is the following: AWhat analytical data are needed to approve the disposal of a >specific waste= at a landfill?@ The simple answer is that "*it depends,*" and the complicated answer is also that "*it depends*."

For all waste streams requiring analytical characterization prior to landfill disposal, the following information is required in a letter requesting disposal:

1) A brief description of the material to be disposed of;
2) The rough volume of material to be disposed of;
3) Which disposal facility is being proposed for receipt of the waste;
4) Supporting analytical data such as a characterization, which supports that the waste is a solid waste, and not a hazardous waste, such that it is appropriate for landfill disposal.

For the purpose of this article, we will consider the characterization of petroleum contaminated soil (PCS). Other waste streams requiring analytical characterization will be considered in future installments.

Petroleum contaminated soil is the most common waste stream requiring a chemical analysis prior to disposal. It is complicated not only because different petroleum products, or wastes, may contain different constituents requiring specific characterization, but also different laws may apply depending on the use or origin of the petroleum.

Petroleum contaminated soil, generated as a result of a release from a regulated underground storage tank system (UST), is exempt from hazardous waste regulations, except for ignitability and TCLP for lead. A paint filter test is required for the purpose of determining the possible presence of free liquids. The landfill may require full characterization, including analysis for benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene and xylene (BTEX), and total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH). The landfill may also require a test for reactivity and corrosivity. Check with the landfill operator to determine the analytical tests that are required.

Petroleum contaminated soil generated as a result of a release from any other petroleum storage tank is NOT exempt from hazardous waste regulations. Landfill requirements for waste characterization include analysis for

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Data Requirements Vary

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benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene, xylene (BTEX), total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH), ignitability, paint filter test, and TCLP for lead. The landfill may also require testing for reactivity and corrosivity. Again, it is best to check with the landfill operator to determine the analytical tests that are required in this instance.

In the case of a waste oil tank release, where the common practice often is to discard a number of different organic wastes, additional analysis may be required. Additional tests may include analysis for volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and a polychlorinated biphenol (PCB) screen, in addition to all the tests listed above.

In the case of a leaking or damaged transformer, the PCB screen may be the only test required.

In the case of a tanker or truck rollover, where the first responder such as a State Trooper or Fire Department personnel confirms the type of release, the MSDS, or material safety data sheet, and/or manifest along with a paint filter and ignitability test may be all that is required. If gasoline is the product released, benzene testing will be required and lead testing may be required.

The outlined guidance may seem confusing at first, and it is, but as I stated at the beginning of this article, the answer to what kind of analytical information is required is that "*it depends*." I hope this information will help inform landfill operators, responsible parties and their consultants of the potentially different answers they may receive when asking what may seem to be a simple question.

C*Donna Stoner, Solid Waste Unit – Grand Junction*
(970) 248-7168

A Note About Financial Assurance: One ZIP Code Adjustment at a Time, Please!

In doing closure cost estimates for Financial Assurance, solid waste facilities are reminded that the standardized Form C-1 contains Unit Costs (column four) from a national publication: *Environmental Remediation Cost Data,* from R. S. Means Company. These numbers are not to be changed on the form, and the ZIP code adjustment factor at the end of the form is to be applied only to the item costs calculated from the published unit costs given in column four. If you have unit cost values based on local vendor cost estimates, they are to be placed in column five (Unit Cost*) and not adjusted for ZIP code. Please provide documentation for costs differing from the published unit costs on Form C-1. The Solid Waste Unit is considering changing Form C-1 to accommodate both cost subtotals in an effort to eliminate confusion.

C*Doug Ikenberry, Solid Waste Unit, (303) 692-3389*

Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Plans for Above Ground Storage Tanks

The June 1999 issue of *Solid Waste News and Notes* mentioned the Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan in reference to above and below ground oil storage tanks. The federal rule requiring this plan may affect some solid waste facilities. I was fortunate enough to attend a one-day workshop in Ft. Collins to get acquainted with the SPCC requirements, and the following information is my interpretation of the federal rule and its requirements. We recommend that any facility, that believes the rule is applicable to their situation, contact EPA directly and ask for that agency's written guidance on the subject.

The workshop was very well done, and participants were given an excellent package of information that we will be glad to share with interested facilities, if requested. The following information will, hopefully, clarify which facilities are required to have an SPCC plan.

The federal requirement to have a Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan applies to any facility that: 1) due to its location, could reasonably be expected to discharge oil into or upon navigable waters, or adjoining shorelines; and 2) has above ground oil storage tanks with a capacity greater than 660 gallons in a single tank, or greater than 1,320 gallons total on the site. The SPCC plan would be in addition to all other plans and permits for the site. At this time, the plan does not have to be reviewed and approved by EPA unless the facility has had a single release over 1000 gallons or two reportable spill events within a 12-month period to navigable waters, as defined by 40 CFR Part 110.1. All plans must be reviewed and signed by a Colorado registered Professional Engineer who is familiar with the site and SPCC requirements.

The SPCC plan requirement comes from the federal Water Pollution Control Act and is described in federal regulations 40 CFR Part 112. It has been in effect since 1974. EPA has the authority to enforce the plan requirement at all sites and facilities that are not directly under U.S. Department of Transportation regulations. The EPA=s Region 8 office is very strict in its interpretation of the plan=s applicability and how to meet the requirements in

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SPCC Plans

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the federal transportation regulations.

Although aimed primarily at large oil transportation systems, the plan=s applicability may catch your facility with the low minimum storage capacity provision. Consequently, any tank or container for any kind of oil, oil product or oil derivative, including vegetable oils, that has the capacity to hold more than 660 gallons (15.7 oilfield barrels) will result in your facility being required to have a plan. Note that even if you never put much oil in the tank or container, the requirement still applies if it can hold more than 660 gallons.

The other aspect to watch is the navigable waters provision. It is easy to assume, mistakenly, that your site is exempt because it appears not to be Areasonably expected to discharge oil in harmful quantities into or upon navigable waters.@ Again, in Region 8's strict interpretation, navigable waters are any stream, creek, or drainage way, and a harmful quantity is just a sheen. Storm sewers are also interpreted to be able to lead to navigable waters. Further, man-made features such as dikes and embankments, that appear to block discharge to water, must be excluded when evaluating whether your oil might be expected to reach water. Unless your site is in an enclosed, naturally low area, it is reasonable to expect that oil could reach water or a waterway.

If you decide that an SPCC plan is needed, be sure to address every sentence and item in Part 112.7 of the regulations. Pay special attention to the section detailing how to calculate the size of the secondary containment necessary to contain the volume of the largest tank, plus freeboard. Do not forget if there is more than one tank inside the berm, the area that the additional tanks occupy must be subtracted from the total volume the berm can contain. Discuss compliance with each item, and for those that do not apply to your site, providing the basis for each. The workshop document includes a listing of the most common deficiencies and may be used as a checklist to help in preparing your plan.

Participants attending the one-day workshop may have noticed that it was sponsored, and paid for, by the City of Fort Collins. That was part of their penalty for not having a satisfactory SPCC in place when EPA inspected their facility!

We hope this information will help you in your determining whether a SPCC is needed for your facility. Please don=t hesitate to call Julie Cotter at 303-692-3417, or Peter Laux at 303- 692-3455, if you have any questions.

C*Pete Laux, Solid Waste Unit*

Compliance Assistance from the Unit Leader

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your time and the information that you shared. Her presentations to a solid waste conference, held in June in Vietnam, were well received.

Second, many of you may be wondering about the current status of the draft recycling and draft composting regulations. Subsequent to our August work session, we have received some input from interested parties. As of this writing, the draft recycling regulation has undergone a major rewrite and is at the Attorney General=s Office for review. I expect there to be additional modifications to this draft prior to release. The composting draft is not as far along, but is in the process of being revised. After the second work session, and depending on the comments received, a formal Board of Health review process will be scheduled. We are looking at another work session in December or January. Remember, comments are always accepted.

Like tires Afloating to the surface of the landfill,@ there are certain subjects within the universe of solid waste that keep popping up as topics of conversation. These include, but are not limited to, alternative final cover, alternative daily cover, beneficial reuse of waste materials, construction and demolition disposal, inert material practices and non-hazardous industrial waste issues. The Solid Waste Unit has been considering the use of single-issue technical bulletins, and/or technical forums, on these and other issues. We have also had some input from certain operators regarding the possibility of conducting a seminar on operational issues. I would like to hear your thoughts on these ideas. Please contact me at (303) 692-3445, or at glenn.mallory@state.co.us with your ideas. If we do conduct technical forums or workshops, we will undoubtedly be asking for some of our readers to participate (no, you don=t need to duck just yet!).

Finally, I have mentioned to some of you, on an individual basis, the potential of writing an article for this newsletter. If any of you are interested in having us include an article of mutual interest in a future edition, please contact me. We will be looking at late March or early April for the next edition.

C*Glenn Mallory, Solid Waste Unit Leader, (303) 692-3445*

THE LIFE AND TIMES . . . STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

Mr. Pete Laux

Our third trip down *biography lane* introduces us to Mr. Pete Laux, a Pennsylvania native (do I detect an East Coast trend here?) who now calls Colorado home. Those closest to Pete describe him as thorough, dedicated and reliable. These adjectives not only define Pete=s approach to life, but to his work as well.

Pete=s path toward solid waste regulation began at Rice University in Houston, Texas, where he obtained a B.A. in geology, with a minor in mathematics. Following service in the Army as a construction engineer officer at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina (Amoving dirt and things@), he acquired a master=s degree, also in geology, at the University of Texas at Austin.

Lila and Pete Laux in Alaska, September 1999

It was during Pete=s final year at Rice that he was introduced by *Rana pipiens* to Lila, his wife of thirty-eight years. Described by Pete as a lovely lady that he had somehow not met prior to his senior year (despite the 3:1 male:female ratio!), Lila completed her studies in psychology the following year, married Pete and accompanied him to Ft. Bragg, the beginning of their many travels together.

Pete=s first glimpse of Colorado came in 1959, when he attended geology field school in the quiet town of Salida. After graduate school he headed south to New Orleans where he worked for Chevron Oil Company for several years until a friend recruited him for an interesting opportunity in Germany with Dow Chemical Company. Pete accepted a six-month assignment to evaluate salt domes and turned it into an eight and a half year career in project management. At Dow, Pete oversaw design, engineering, construction, operator training and startup of salt solution mining wells, brine field pump stations, hydrocarbon storage caverns, ground water well fields, and cross-country pipelines, all part of a large petrochemical plant the company built in Stade, north Germany. He worked oil and gas projects in Germany and Holland as well, and he conducted salt and brine evaluation projects in England, Holland, Denmark and France. In Spain, he drilled several test wells near Palos de la Frontera, the small port from which Columbus set sail in 1492. Of course, during their time in Europe, Pete and Lila managed to travel extensively, and it was there that Pete developed his passion for history and archaeology. Europe was also the setting for the birth of Pete and Lila=s two girls, who have each gone on to become successful in their own right – one as an accountant and the other as an attorney.

Dow led Pete back to the United States in 1977, where the South once again beckoned. He continued oil and gas work in Lafayette, Louisiana, chosen, Pete said, to ease their transition from Europe(!), and where they garnered a taste for Cajun and Creole cuisine.

Two years later, just as the oil industry was beginning to feel the decline of its once booming market, Dow sold its oil and gas division, moving Pete to accept a job in Houston, Texas, with a small independent oil and gas company. Being in management, Pete was able to weather much of the up and down ride that the oil industry provided during the 1980s, and that ultimately lead him back to Colorado, 30 years later, in 1989. Just before coming to Colorado, Pete went to Australia and New Zealand on a “People to People

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THE LIFE AND TIMES...

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Citizen Ambassador" trip.

Unfortunately, two years after his arrival in Denver, Pete was looking for work. Choosing to stay in Colorado, he was able to take advantage of the retraining program under the Trade Readjustment Act that allowed him to attend hazardous waste management training (Aanother 90-day wonder!@) at the Colorado School of Mines. Shortly thereafter, Pete sat for an employment-screening test for the State of Colorado. Luckily, for the facilities which he now oversees, the six-month selection process ultimately landed Pete a position with the Solid Waste Unit in the Spring of 1993.

As a member of the Unit, Pete oversees solid waste activities in the City and County of Denver and the Tri-County area: Adams, Arapahoe and Douglas Counties. The types of regulation in which he finds himself involved include municipal solid waste landfills, numerous industrial waste sites and facilities, infectious waste and many environmental cleanups (Aold dumps to truck crashes!@). He has major projects in Larimer County and also works with Morgan, Logan, Sedgwick, Phillips, Jackson, Grand and Routt Counties.

Pete enjoys the diversity of his job, and he gives particular attention to the landfills under his supervision, priding himself on providing quick responses to all of his regulatory needs. Pete=s wide-ranging knowledge and industry experience, combined with his solid, realistic approach (Aalways a generalist, never a specialist@), allow him to assist each of his facilities toward compliance and to meet the many needs of the regulated community, with whom he has become known as a responsive resource of information. A few years ago, Pete played a major role in the development of the Division=s Petroleum Contaminated Soils Guidance Document and then wrote the revisions for the second edition.

Beyond regulation, Pete=s dedication to whatever projects he may be involved with, and his willingness to share with others, have led to his becoming a well-respected writer and speaker in the areas of archaeology, history and geology. Calling himself an avocational archaeologist, Pete and Lila have camped out near archaeological sites all around Colorado. Always pitching in, he is the past president of the Denver Chapter, Colorado Archaeological Society. Pete also enjoys studying the history of geology, the history of Mexico and mining in Colorado. Earlier this year, at a symposium at Colorado School of Mines, he presented a paper on the development of the concept of extraterrestrial impacts on earth. Long interested in the historical aspects of philately and numismatics, he recently began collecting publications of the early geologic and geographic exploration surveys of the American west.

Ft. Bragg was only the beginning of Lila=s travels with Pete. From Europe to Louisiana, to Texas to Colorado, Pete and Lila have continued their shared passion for learning by traveling. Recent excursions have included a trip to Turkey, rafting through the Grand Canyon and sailing on an Alaskan cruise. Never one to sit still for long, Pete, an avid runner (AI was competitive at sea level!@), still runs 10 to 15 miles each week.

Though one is never sure where Pete=s itch for knowledge will land him next, one thing is for certain, this self described Aold guy who=s been around,@ is sure to continue being a dedicated and dependable member of the Solid Waste Unit – for a few years, anyway. Next Stop Tuscany! Bon Voyage, Pete!

In the next issue we will profile Ms. Donna Stoner.

C*Brenda Lujan, Contributing Columnist, Former Solid Waste Unit Staff Member and Environmental Attorney with the firm of Burns, Figa & Will, P.C.*

Julie Cotter Joins Solid Waste Unit

In August 1999, the Solid Waste Unit welcomed Julie Cotter to the program. Julie has worked for a number of state agencies, coming most recently from the Oil Inspection Section (OIS) of the Department of Labor and Employment. At OIS, Julie worked approximately one year as an oil inspector (calibrating gas pumps) and three and one-half years overseeing Underground Storage Tanks/Above Ground Storage Tanks (UST/AST) remediation projects. Julie also served as an EPA contractor performing Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) inspections for two years.

Julie received her B.S. degree in biology and her M.S. degree in environmental science from the University of Colorado at Denver.

Mesa County to Open Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility

Mesa County is in the process of building a permanent Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility. The facility, being built in Orchard Mesa south of Grand Junction, will be the first of its kind on the Western Slope and should be open by the end of the year.

Any Mesa County household chemical (hazardous or non-hazardous) that should not be placed in a landfill, or disposed of down sewer drains or sinks, will be accepted by the facility. Collected wastes will be reused, recycled or properly disposed of in an environmentally safe manner. The Household Hazardous Waste Facility will not accept radioactive materials, explosives (including ammunition) or bioinfectious wastes. Information regarding the proper disposal of excluded wastes will be available upon request.

Typical household hazardous wastes are often those used in gardening, automotive repair, painting and hobbies. They include gasoline mixtures, diesel, oil, antifreeze, automotive additives and cleaners, herbicides, pesticides, insecticides, household cleaners, drain cleaner, ammonium, paints, thinners and aerosol cans. These common products, when disposed of improperly, can endanger the health of the waste producer as well as the health of others and the environment. Proper disposal of hazardous products reduces the risk of landfill contamination and ground/surface water pollution.

For more information on the proper disposal of household hazardous wastes, and the progress of the facility's construction, located at 3071 State Highway 50 in Orchard Mesa, please contact Eldon Pemberton, Mesa County Hazardous Materials Manager at 970-257-9336.

C*Donna Stoner, Solid Waste Unit – Grand Junction, (970) 248-7168*

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George Carnes, Editor

Glenn Mallory
Solid Waste Unit Leader

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Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

HMWMD-SWIM-B2 3000
Colorado Department of Public Health
and Environment
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South
Denver, CO 80246-1530

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