



In the Works

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In The Works is a monthly newsletter providing Environment, Health and Safety (EH&S) news and regulatory updates. The newsletter is provided by Loureiro Engineering Associates, Inc. of Plainville, Connecticut. In this Issue you will find links to the following articles:

NATIONAL

EPA Launches National Electronic Hazardous Waste Tracking System

On June 30, 2018, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) launched the Hazardous Waste Electronic Manifest System (e-Manifest). The system will improve access to higher quality and more timely hazardous waste shipment data and save industry and states valuable time and resources to the tune of \$90 million annually.

“Creation of the e-Manifest system demonstrates EPA’s commitment to innovation and robust collaboration with states and the private sector,” said EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt. “Through this extensive modernization of the hazardous waste program, the e-Manifest system will significantly reduce regulatory burdens and save businesses and states valuable time and resources, while improving protection of human health and the environment.”

“ASTSWMO is looking forward to the launch of the e-manifest system and continuing to work with EPA to ensure a smooth transition occurs,” said the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials' (ASTSWMO) Hazardous Waste Subcommittee. “The e-manifest system will allow the States to more efficiently review hazardous waste manifest data, thus ensuring better protection of human health and the environment.”

“The e-Manifest system will be beneficial in timely data reporting to regulatory agencies,” said Richard McHale, Austin Resource Recovery Assistant Director. It will also help with the transparency of hazardous waste disposal as it will make data available to the public. It is a well-timed development as Austin is working toward its Zero Waste goals and this is a way not only to be paperless, but a way for entities to easily track their waste reduction.”

Starting June 30, 2018, users must submit all manifests, whether paper or electronic, to EPA’s e-Manifest system. There will be several ways to submit manifests to EPA, ranging from mailing conventional paper to full electronic delivery. Receiving facilities will pay a fee that varies based on how the manifest is submitted.

The e-Manifest system, authorized by the 2012 e-Manifest Act, enables electronic tracking of hazardous wastes and will serve as a national reporting hub and database for all hazardous waste manifests and shipment data. Once electronic practices are widely adopted, EPA estimates e-Manifest will ultimately reduce the burden associated with preparing paper shipping manifests, saving state and industry users, on average, about \$90 million annually. Complete transition to electronic manifests will be phased in. EPA will continue to conduct ongoing outreach to states and industry.

The Agency will also re-evaluate whether additional security measures are necessary for a small subset of manifest data about certain acute hazardous wastes. In the interim, EPA will be working directly with impacted receiving facilities on specific procedures related to those manifests. Additionally, EPA recently announced it would grant receiving facilities extra time to submit paper manifests in the initial months after system launch to further support industry implementation. Facilities that receive manifested waste between June 30, 2018 and September 1, 2018 will now have until September 30, 2018 to send those paper manifests to EPA.

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Governor Malloy Signs Landmark Bills on Climate Change Resiliency and Renewable Energy

Governor Dannel P. Malloy recently held a bill signing ceremony in Hartford to commemorate the final passage of two pieces of legislation he introduced that will further Connecticut's role as a national leader in environmental protection and put the state on a more sustainable path by decreasing statewide greenhouse gas emissions and increasing the usage of renewable energy.

"The time to act is now," Governor Malloy said. "The effects of climate change, which is unquestionably man-made, can be felt in Connecticut and poses a threat to our residents. Rising sea levels are putting our coastal communities in harm's way... These two new laws demonstrate, once again, Connecticut's determination and leadership in combating climate change to keep our planet and residents safe, all while still being economically advantageous."

"I applaud Governor Malloy and Commissioner Klee for their tireless work to better prepare the state for the impacts of a changing climate," Lt. Governor Nancy Wyman said. "National leadership requires continued effort, and these bills will ensure Connecticut's ongoing progress to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and reduce our impact on the climate."

"In his farewell address to the nation, President Obama called for bolder action to address the issue of climate change," Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Commissioner Rob Klee said. "With the passage and signing of these two transformational pieces of legislation, Connecticut is taking that bolder action. While the current federal administration continues to deny human induced climate change as real, it is incumbent upon states to take action. For the sake of future generations to follow, I encourage other states to look at what we have done as a state and follow our lead."

The environmental bill – Public Act 18-82, An Act Concerning Climate Change Planning and Resiliency – contains a number of provisions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare the state for the ongoing effects of climate change and sea level rise, including:

- Implementing an interim target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 45 percent from a 2001 baseline by 2030 as recommended by the Governor’s Council on Climate Change;
- Updating current statutory references to sea level rise to reflect the Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation’s (CIRCA) planning recommendation of nearly two feet by 2050; and
- Requiring all future state projects located in the Coastal Boundary that are either undertaken by a state agency or funded by a state/federal grant or loan to meet CIRCA’s projections.

The energy bill – Public Act 18-50, An Act Concerning Connecticut’s Energy Future, takes bold action in the development and deployment of affordable clean energy by:

- Increasing the Renewable Portfolio Standard to 40 percent to deploy more renewables of all sizes for all customers;
- Creating “successor” programs for commercial, industrial and residential programs to provide sustainable growth of renewables in Connecticut with the expiration of programs such as Low-Emission Renewable Energy Credits, Zero-Emission Renewable Energy Credits, and Solar Home Renewable Credits;
- Expanding opportunities for municipalities, state agencies, and agricultural customers to deploy renewables under an auction structure;
- Revising net metering so Connecticut pays a more affordable rate per kilowatt-hour basis; and
- Creating a statewide shared clean energy program that targets low moderate income customers.

Rhode Island

Summer Is Here and So Are Bugs: Rhode Islanders Advised To Protect Themselves From Mosquito And Tick Bites.

With the start of summer, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM) and the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) are urging residents to guard against mosquito and tick bites when enjoying the outdoors. In May, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a report stating that the number of cases of diseases that are transmitted by ticks, mosquitoes, and other insects more than tripled nationally between 2004 and 2016 (27,388 cases in 2004, versus 96,075 in 2016).

Mosquitoes

Personal protection is the first line of defense against mosquitoes that may carry West Nile Virus (WNV), Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), or other diseases – and the most effective way to avoid infection. With WNV and EEE established throughout the state, DEM and RIDOH remind the public to eliminate mosquito breeding grounds and prevent being bitten, whenever possible. The following precautions are advised:

- Remove anything around your house and yard that collects water; just one cup of water can produce hundreds of mosquitoes.
- Clean gutters and downspouts to ensure proper drainage, and repair holes in window screens.
- Remove any water from unused swimming pools, wading pools, boats, planters, trash and recycling bins, tires, and anything else that collects water, and cover them.
- Change the water in birdbaths at least two times a week, and rinse out birdbaths once a week.
- Use EPA-approved bug spray with one of the following active ingredients: DEET (20-30% strength), picaridin, IR3535, and oil of lemon eucalyptus or para-menthane-diol.
- Minimize outdoor activity at dawn and at dusk when mosquitoes are most active.
- Put insect netting over strollers and playpens.
- Wear long sleeves and long pants whenever possible, particularly if you are outdoors during dawn and dusk.

Horses are particularly susceptible to WNV and EEE. Horse owners are advised to vaccinate their animals early in the season and practice the following:

- Remove or cover areas where standing water can collect.
- Avoid putting animals outside at dawn, dusk, or during the night when mosquitoes are most active.
- Insect-proof facilities where possible and use approved repellants frequently.
- Monitor animals for symptoms of fever and/or neurological signs (such as stumbling, moodiness, loss of appetite) and report all suspicious cases to a veterinarian immediately. If you are unsure if your horse is properly vaccinated you should consult with your veterinarian.

Visit health.ri.gov/mosquito for additional mosquito prevention tips, videos, and local data. DEM and RIDOH also remind Rhode Islanders to take precautions to avoid mosquito bites when traveling to Zika-affected countries. Pregnant women and women who are considering becoming pregnant should not travel to countries with active transmission of Zika.

"Part of DEM's core mission is encouraging people to get outside and enjoy Rhode Island's magnificent parks, beaches, and recreational opportunities, but we realize that this comes with the risk of exposure to mosquitoes, ticks, and other biting insects," said DEM Director Janet Coit. "Fortunately, there are many common-sense ways that Rhode Islanders can protect themselves by preventing bites. With our colleagues at the Department of Health, we're glad to offer these tips to have a safe summer."

"When it comes to mosquito- and tick-borne illnesses, prevention is the best way to keep yourself and your family healthy and safe when out enjoying Rhode Island's parks, forests, and other fabulous outdoor spaces in the coming months," said Director of Health Nicole Alexander-Scott, MD, MPH. "Prevention means protecting yourself from mosquito bites, getting rid of mosquito breeding grounds, reducing exposure to ticks, checking your body for ticks, and removing ticks whenever they are found."

Ticks

Between 2016 and 2017, Rhode Island saw a 22% increase in the number of cases of Lyme disease reported by healthcare providers to RIDOH (927 cases in 2016, versus 1,132 cases in 2017). Rhode Island has the fourth-highest rate of Lyme disease in the nation.

Lyme disease is caused by bacteria that spread through the bite of an infected tick. Symptoms of new onset Lyme disease can include a "bullseye" rash anywhere on the skin, facial or Bell's palsy (loss of muscle tone on one or both sides of the face), severe headaches and neck stiffness due to meningitis (inflammation of the spinal cord), pain and swelling in the large joints (such as knees), shooting pains that may interfere with sleep, and heart palpitations and dizziness due to changes in heartbeat. Anyone with symptoms of Lyme disease should contact their healthcare provider. Other tick-borne diseases in Rhode Island include anaplasmosis, ehrlichiosis, babesiosis, and (rarely) Powassan.

Tick populations are increasing in nearly every area of the state. All Rhode Islanders should take steps to repel, check for, and remove ticks by taking the following steps:

- Repel: Wear long pants and long-sleeve shirts when outdoors. Wear light-colored clothing. Tuck pants into socks so that ticks do not crawl under clothing.
- Consider wearing tick-repellant clothing treated with permethrin when going outside in tick habitat and treating your yard with tick-killing insecticides.
- Use EPA-approved bug spray with one of the following active ingredients: DEET (20-30% strength), picaridin, IR3535, and oil of lemon eucalyptus or para-menthane-diol.
- Check yourself and your family daily for ticks, especially if you spend a lot of time outside in grassy or wooded areas. Don't forget to check your pets, too, and use products that rapidly kill or repel ticks on pets. Deer ticks, the kind that carry Lyme disease, are often small (poppy seed-sized) in their nymphal (immature) stage.

- Remove: If you find a tick, properly remove it with tweezers. Tick removal within 24 hours of attachment can prevent Lyme transmission.

For more information about ticks, how to avoid being bitten, and how to remove a tick, visit the University of Rhode Island's TickEncounter Resource Center at www.tickencounter.org. RIDOH's Tick Free Rhode Island media campaign includes ads on television, radio, and social media, features three new animated Tick Free Rhode Island videos (available in English and Spanish). The videos show how to repel both ticks and mosquitoes, how to check for ticks, and how to properly remove a tick from the skin. To view the videos and get more information on Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases visit www.health.ri.gov/ticks.

For more information about DEM divisions and programs, visit www.dem.ri.gov. Follow it on Twitter (@RhodeIslandDEM) and/or Facebook at www.facebook.com/RhodeIslandDEM for timely updates.