

September 2013



## Philadelphia Section AIHA Newsletter

# September 2013 Meeting: "Sustainable Waste Management- Renewable Energy and Recycling Facility Tours"

Please plan on joining us on **Friday, September 27th** for our September meeting, "Sustainable Waste Management- Renewable Energy and Recycling Facility Tours".

Learn how a landfill-free commitment can positively impact your business... and the environment. This all-day bus touring event will be hosted by industry leaders who specialize in providing zero-landfill waste solutions to industry. Participants will tour several state-of-the-art waste handling facilities in the area, and learn about developing and implementing a landfill-free waste management program for industrial waste.

This event will be a guided bus tour, and will require all attendees to participate for the full day, and to travel from site to site on the bus (i.e., you will not be able to visit any of the sites "on your own"). All attendees should plan their travel to ensure arrival at our host's location (Sustainable Waste Solutions (SWS) in Souderton, PA) in time to be on the bus for departure at the scheduled time.

Spaces on the busses for these tours are going to fill fast; seats not used by Philadelphia Section AIHA members will be filled, from a waiting list, by our host. Philadelphia AIHA members who pre-register for a seat, and who do not show, will deprive our hosts of using that seat for one of their attendees. We ask for your consideration, when registering, to ensure that you will be able to attend, and to notify us with as much advance notice as possible if you register and then find that you will be unable to attend.

Attendees will be split into two groups, with both groups visiting all four sites during the day (please see the following pages for additional information).

# Philadelphia Section AIHA

September 2013 Meeting:  
**"Sustainable Waste Management-  
Renewable Energy and Recycling Facility Tours"**

Friday, September 27th, 2013

Meet at Sustainable Waste Solutions  
(684 Forman Road, Souderton, PA: 215-723-7723)

[Click here for directions](#)

## Agenda

(All times, other than registration and bus departures, are subject to change)

- 8:00 AM Registration/ Networking/Continental Breakfast (at Sustainable Waste Solutions (SWS) in Souderton, PA)
- 8:30 AM Welcome; Program Introductions; Bus Departure from SWS
- 12:00 Noon Lunch
- 5:00 PM Return to SWS in Souderton, PA

Cost\*: Local Section Members: \$65                      Cost includes continental breakfast,  
Non-Members: \$85    lunch and transportation

\*- to take advantage of the discounted local section member rate, you must be a current dues-paying member of the Local Section at the time of pre-registration.

Payment for this meeting **MUST** be made at the door on the day of the event. No advance payments will be accepted. Payment must be made via cash or check **ONLY**, payable to "Philadelphia Section AIHA" (no credit cards or PO's will be accepted, and we cannot invoice for the meeting).

To pre-register, please send an email with your name and company affiliation to [register@philaaiha.com](mailto:register@philaaiha.com) before 5 PM on **Tuesday, September 17th**. We expect this event to fill quickly, so early pre-registration is strongly recommended.

Please notify us, when registering, of any dietary restrictions, and we will do our best to accommodate you.

ABIH CM Points: This event may be eligible for ABIH CM credit.  
Please see the ABIH web site ([www.abih.org](http://www.abih.org)) for CM credit criteria.

# "Sustainable Waste Management- Renewable Energy and Recycling Facility Tours"

This event will be a guided bus tour, and will require all attendees to participate for the full day, and to travel from site to site on the bus (i.e., you will not be able to visit any of the sites "on your own"). All attendees should plan their travel to ensure arrival at our host's location (Sustainable Waste Solutions (SWS) in Souderton, PA) in time to be on the bus for departure at the scheduled time.

Spaces on the busses for these tours are going to fill fast; seats not used by Philadelphia Section AIHA members will be filled, from a waiting list, by our host. PhilaAIHA members who pre-register for a seat, and who do not show, will deprive our hosts of using that seat for one of their attendees. We ask for your consideration, when registering, to ensure that you will be able to attend, and to notify us with as much advance notice as possible if you register and then find that you will be unable to attend.

Attendees will be split into two groups, with both groups visiting all four sites at different times during the day.

## AGENDA

(All times, other than registration and bus departures, are subject to change)

- 8:00 AM Registration/ Networking/Continental Breakfast  
(at Sustainable Waste Solutions (SWS) in Souderton, PA)
- 8:30 AM Welcome; Program Introductions; Bus Departure from SWS
- Morning Tours
- Group A: Covanta-Conshohocken and ECOvanta- West Philadelphia
- Group B: ReCommunity-Wilmington and Wilmington Organic Recycling Center
- 12:00 Noon Lunch (time approximate) (lunch will take place "on the road; busses will not be returning to SWS for lunch)
- Afternoon Tours
- Group A: ReCommunity-Wilmington and Wilmington Organic Recycling Center
- Group B: Covanta-Conshohocken and ECOvanta- West Philadelphia
- 5:00 PM Return to SWS in Souderton, PA

**Attire:** Business "comfortable". Jeans are acceptable- we will be touring waste facilities. Sturdy shoes (no open toes) are required; safety shoes are not required but can be worn. Safety glasses, and hard hats will be provided (participants are encouraged to bring safety glasses to make it easier for our hosts)

## Tour Sites

### Covanta Plymouth Renewable Energy (CPRE): Conshohocken, PA

CPRE is a 1,200 ton per day Energy-from-Waste (EfW) facility located in Conshohocken, PA. Covanta Plymouth utilizes solid waste as fuel to generate clean, reliable energy-generating 34 megawatts, enough to power 30,000 homes in the region. This is a sensible and proven solution to some of our most pressing concerns: securing sources of renewable energy, reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and sustainably managing the disposal of locally-generated solid waste. The facility is equipped with a water-cooled turbine-generator condenser used to convert steam to water for continuous cycling of water through the boilers. This was the first EfW facility to earn both OSHA VPP Star status and ISO 14001.

### ECOvanta Electronic Waste Recycling Facility: West Philadelphia

According to the EPA, electronic waste is the source of up to 70 percent of the heavy metal in America's landfills; the environmental issue is only part of the problem. Electronic media poses a real security risk due to the presence of important proprietary data. ECOvanta Philadelphia is a state of the art R2, ISO 14001 and e-Stewards Certified electronic waste recycling facility. We will tour the recycling facility and learn how ECOvanta's services keep pollutants out of landfills, and data out of the hands of those who might exploit it. We will also discuss the newly- implemented PA electronic recycling law.

### ReCommunity Wilmington (DE)

The nation's newest Single Stream Recycling (SSR) sorting facility opened in July of 2013. This \$15 million, 64,000 sq. ft. project is designed to handle all Single Stream Recyclables from the State of Delaware.

### Wilmington Organic Recycling Center

WORC is the most state-of-the-art, large-scale commercial food and yard waste composting facility in North America. Accepting more than 160,000 tons per year of food and yard waste, this facility turns that waste into a rich soil amendment. WORC handles food waste from NY, NJ, PA, DE and MD. Composting is a natural process that turns organic material into a nutrient-rich soil amendment (compost) that is valuable to industries and the environment. Composting diverts materials away from landfills, which are costly and are an unsustainable method of waste disposal. According to the EPA, buried waste is the #1 source of human-caused methane gas. When organic material like food and yard waste decomposes in an anaerobic, or oxygen-free, environment like a landfill, methane gas is produced. Since composting diverts these materials from landfills, it thereby reduces the amount of methane gas that ends up in our atmosphere.

## Philadelphia Section AIHA Scholarship

The Philadelphia Section AIHA has recently endowed the "Philadelphia Section AIHA Scholarship", through the American Industrial Hygiene Foundation (AIHF), to help to further the Foundation's mission to advance the profession by awarding scholarships for students in industrial hygiene and related disciplines.



The Philadelphia Section AIHA is committed to supporting the continued advancement of its members through education and professional development. As a profession, this journey often begins with a degree, either undergraduate or graduate, in one or more of the environmental, occupational health, industrial hygiene and/or safety disciplines. The Philadelphia Section's Executive Board believes that higher education, specializing in these subjects, is essential to strengthen the quality of EHS practitioners and to support the sustained growth of the profession.

The Philadelphia Section AIHA Scholarship will be awarded annually, beginning in 2014, and will be preferentially awarded to students from or studying in the Philadelphia area. The amount of the annual scholarship is expected to be \$1500.

Since 1982, AIHF has distributed \$1,469,776 to 509 students studying industrial hygiene and related disciplines at 53 different schools and universities. These scholarships have enabled talented students to complete their education and have encouraged the most promising scholars to enter or remain in the industrial hygiene profession.

Members of the Philadelphia Section are welcome to contribute to this AIHF scholarship fund. For more information, please visit the AIHF web site at <http://www.aiha.org/about-aiha/AIHFoundation> (when donating, clearly indicate that you wish to apply the funds to the Philadelphia Section AIHA Scholarship Fund).



## Philadelphia Section AIHA on Facebook and LinkedIn



You can now follow the Philadelphia Section AIHA on Facebook and LinkedIn! Search for "Philadelphia Section AIHA", and click the "Like" button to receive Facebook updates on meetings, employment and other Local Section information. Search on "American Industrial Hygiene Association, Philadelphia Local Section", to receive information and to connect with other Section members.

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