



The Environmental Assistance Network: an Introduction

February 25, 2010

Agenda Item #7

Karl Rimkus,

Environmental Services Dept.



Working Together, Building for the Future



What is EAN?

- The Environmental Assistance Network is a group of city facility supervisors and personnel that utilize Environmental Services Department resources and each other's experience to maximize environmental compliance at city facilities.



Why EAN?

- ESD understands that city personnel in separate city departments historically have been limited in communication and coordination with other departments.
- The EAN seeks to encourage inter-department utilization of environmental knowledge, resources and ESD support.



The EAN Advantage

- During environmental compliance surveys of city facilities by ESD staff, it was determined that establishing a support network would allow facility staff to more easily access environmental rules, forms and guidance documents.
- In addition, the network will allow all participating facilities to learn from the success and need for improvement based on ongoing TCEQ inspections and ESD environmental surveys at city facilities.
- Also, the EAN encourages time and cost saving by utilizing known vendors, minimizing environmental exposure developed from specific facility innovations and experience in planning and developing new city facilities based on knowledge of EPA and TCEQ rules and regulations



Methods of Communication

- The design of the EAN allows for the following forms of member communication:
 - EAN website on city server, accessible only to city personnel
 - EAN e-mail workgroup list, where members can easily communicate with each other for assistance and answers to questions
 - Quarterly e-newsletter, outlining new developments/updates of environmental rules and issues
 - Quarterly face-to-face meetings, allowing for members to participate in a forum-like setting



ESD EAN Support Staff

- Miguel Parra, P.E.
 - 23 Years Experience with: California EPA, Texas Air Control Board/Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission, UTEP Environmental Health and Safety, City of El Paso Public Works, El Paso Electric Co.
- Vernon Greggerson, P.E.
 - 35 Years Experience with: US Navy Seabees, El Paso Natural Gas, Condel Architects and Engineers, International Boundary and Water Commission
- Rick Venegas
 - 19 Years Experience with: City of El Paso Public Works, EP Municipal Airport and City of El Paso Environmental Services
- Karl Rimkus
 - 9 Years Experience with: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and City of El Paso Environmental Services
- Christian Benitez
 - 8 Years Experience with: City of El Paso Solid Waste Management and Environmental Services Dept.
- Eloisa Portillo-Morales, E.I.T.
 - 3 Years Experience with: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and City of El Paso Environmental Services



Thank you for your time...a quick demonstration of the EAN website now follows.



Working Together, Building for the Future