



# Kansas "Sunflower Chapter" Solid Waste Association of North America

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### **From the President:**

I had the opportunity to attend WASTECON 2005 in Austin, Texas. It was a good conference in spite of Katrina, Rita and the high cost of fuel. It offered an excellent opportunity to be exposed to new and developing technology through various presentations and the accompanying tradeshow. It also offered the chance to visit with others from across the nation. These can provide help in growing our job and profession.

We are regulated by federal, state and local entities. Meeting these requirements is just the beginning of our job. If we are to develop in our profession, we must increase our knowledge and skills. We need to know the basics, what technology is available, what our community (our customers) needs, and have a feel for what is possible in the future. Then, we can begin to sell our vision and plans.

SWANA and the Sunflower Chapter can provide help in this process. We are providing a forum in which you can take part in a roundtable discussions and opportunities to network with others facing the same challenges. International SWANA has formal course on recycling operations, transfer station, landfill, etc. They can be as close as the internet right in your office. These courses can lead to a nationwide certification.

Our Chapter annual meeting will be different venue this year as it will not be part of an operator training. Instead it will incorporate a series of roundtables on recycling, landfill and special waste. I am sure there are a number of issues including pending legislation, a new recycling organization, etc. There is a lot of activity in the solid waste arena in the state of Kansas at this time. The roundtable was the most requested activity in our member survey last year.

We listened to your request, now we need your participation for this to be a success. All members or interested parties mark this event on your November calendar today. November 9, 10:00 am Carver Center, Salina, Kansas.

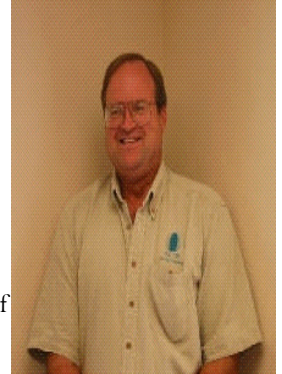
*Bill Ridge*

## City of Olathe, KS Program Highlight

### Citywide implementation of Automated Trash Collection began this Fall

#### Citywide "Roll-Out" of Trash Carts Complete

The City of Olathe's Solid Waste Division provides weekly collection of refuse from all residents within the city limits. "The City's new automated trash collection system, using a "Smart" trash cart (95 gallon) will help keep costs and worker injuries low", says Kent Seyfried, Solid Waste Manager for the City of Olathe. Following a test of an automated trash collection system, citywide distribution of "smart" trash carts (95 gallon capacity) for automated residential solid waste collection began this summer and delivery of carts was completed in September.



Kent Seyfried

#### Pilot Program Gathered Customer Input

The Olathe City Council in April approved citywide implementation of an automated trash collection program. This decision followed a pilot program conducted December 2004 through February 2005. The pilot program involved more than 1,000 households in eight Olathe neighborhoods.

Customer input was a critical part of the program. The pilot program included before and after surveys of participating residents, with eighty-eight percent indicating support for a citywide automated trash collection program. Sixty-eight percent of participants thought the carts were more desirable than using trash bags. Customer satisfaction with trash collection increased after the pilot was conducted.

#### Automated Collection Benefits Everyone

"Automated trash collection will benefit customers by helping to stabilize long-term solid waste rates", states Kent Seyfried. "The automated system can outpace manual trash collection by an average of 300 stops on one trash route. That means as the City continues to grow; trash trucks and drivers will be added at a slower rate than with the manual system, helping to keep customer costs low". A total of 32,600 carts are expected to be delivered to Olathe households. The City conservatively estimates to save \$1.1 million over 5 years.

Automation also will help reduce the high rate of serious worker injuries associated with the current method of trash collection. High injury rates can help drive up the City's cost to provide trash collection service. In addition, smart carts can help keep neighborhoods clean. They are wind resistant and effective in keeping animals out.

#### Equipment Procurement

Explains Kent, "We purchased 35,000 carts and 20 cart lifters from Rehrig Pacific Co. (Bayne lifters) based on their RFP for providing carts/lifters for the pilot project and "if we considered them successful", the implementation of the program city-wide, which they were. Several automated truck manufacturers provided demo trucks during the pilot, which we based our bid specifications from that experience. We initially retrofitted our current fleet of trucks (18 manual sideloaders & 2 rearloaders) with the semi-automated lifters with the city-wide implementation. We run 15 routes, 4 days a week on residential trash. On Mondays we collect yard waste city-wide using these same 60 routes (each truck covering four routes on that Monday). As we replace these trucks, we will be purchasing fully automated sideloaders with the mechanical arms for cart collection. We have bid and ordered our first four "replacement" sideloaders which will be McNeilus M/A compactor bodies on Crane Carrier chassis. We expect delivery of these first four units in February, 2006".



The carts are property of the City and are assigned to an individual address, not to an individual customer. Customers are responsible for taking care of the cart, including cleaning, and for damage from abuse like hot coals, bricks, rocks, etc. The City will replace damaged/broken carts if necessary due to normal use.

## ***Proposed Bill to Improve Landfill Siting Restrictions to Protect Water Resources***

KDHE is proposing to introduce a bill in the legislature that will significantly impact both new and existing landfill facilities. This Bill is in draft form at the present time. This bill has provisions for the siting of landfill cells within certain distances of water resources such as lakes, streams, public water supply wells and wildlife refuges. It also addresses new enhanced standards for landfill construction within those areas.

This Bill will be one of the main topics of discussion at the [SWANA Annual Meeting and Roundtable](#) in Salina on November 9th. Bill Bider from KHDE will be there to explain the provisions of this Bill.

KDHE is seeking input and comment on this bill and this will be an excellent time to ask questions and express your concerns.

## ***2005 Annual Meeting & Waste Issues Roundtables***

*November 9th*

*10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.*

*Carver Center - Salina, Kansas*

\* ***Landfill Issues Roundtable***

Facilitator - Mike Tabor, Landfill Director, Seward County, KS

\* ***Recycling Roundtable***

Facilitator - Kent Seyfreid, Solid Waste Manager, City of Olathe, KS

\* ***Special Wastes Roundtable***

Facilitator - Sandee Stainbrook, HHW Coordinator, City of Salina, KS

Facilitator - Mollie Mangerich, Operations Supervisor, City of Lawrence, KS

**This is our SWANA Annual Meeting and Elections of Officers!!**

**We're on the Web! [www.swanaks.org](http://www.swanaks.org)**

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[www.swanaks.org](http://www.swanaks.org)

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## Upcoming Events!

KDHE Hazardous Waste Generator Workshops  
Register online at [www.kdheks.gov/waste](http://www.kdheks.gov/waste)

November 2005

Independence, KS  
Wichita, KS  
Topeka, KS  
Dodge City, KS

[2005 Annual Meeting & Waste Issues Roundtables November 9, 2005](#)

[Salina, Kansas](#)

SWANA November E-Sessions:

Are Bioreactors really the future of Landfill Technology?

November 2, 2005

WASTECON 2006

September 19-21 2006

Charlotte, NC

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**Did you know? SWANA is 7,000 members strong**