

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Air, Waste, and Remediation &
Redevelopment Division
Annual Report - Fiscal Year 2014



Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Vision:

We excel at protecting and managing natural resources while supporting the economy and the well-being of our citizenry.

Air, Waste, and Remediation & Redevelopment Division Goals:

Protect Human Health and the Environment

Provide Excellent Customer Service

Promote Economic Vitality

Support Conservation of Resources

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From the Administrator

From responding to emergency spills, to handling emerging issues, to implementing new regulations, we continue to strive to provide the citizens of Wisconsin with excellent service.

On behalf of the dedicated staff of the Air, Waste, and Remediation & Redevelopment (AWaRe) Division, I am pleased to present this Annual Report for FY2014. Following in the path we established in FY2013, we have continued employing four major “themes” to present the AWaRe Division’s accomplishments and successes: customer service excellence; improving integration; new laws and regulations; and emerging & ongoing issues.

As you read through this report, I encourage you to note the many important environmental outcomes, as well as the improvements our programs have made to bring our customers the best possible service. Some of the highlights from the year included:

- Improving air quality. For the first time since testing began, Wisconsin has no fine particulate matter (PM2.5) nonattainment areas.
- Starting the Ashland Superfund Site clean-up located on the shore of Lake Superior.
- Enhancing collaboration efforts at contaminated waterfronts to help prepare these important properties for development opportunities.
- Increasing the amount and type of materials recycled in the state - reusing valuable resources while providing new jobs.

This report also contains the results relating to a few of the AWaRe Division’s performance measures. I am proud to say that our employees, once again, did an excellent job working to achieve these challenging measures! For a full report on how the Division did on all of its performance measures, visit the wi.dnr.gov web page and search for “AWaRe Division Performance Measures.”

As we look ahead at FY2015, I am excited by the areas where our staff will focus their time:

- Collaborating to address national and state priority air issues including permit streamlining, EPA’s proposed greenhouse gas regulations for utilities and National Ambient Air Quality standards.
- Cleaning up our major contamination sites while working with others to provide important redevelopment opportunities.
- Partnering with the public and industry to protect public health and the environment by encouraging recycling and reuse of materials, and proper/adequate management of solid and hazardous waste.
- Increasing the use of technology to assist our customers and streamline our processes.

I look forward to working with you all as we strive to achieve the Division’s 2015 goals!



Pat Stevens, Administrator

FY2014 - By The Numbers

During DNR's 2014 Fiscal Year (July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014), Wisconsin air was cleaner than it had been in decades, but that is not the only thing the AWaRe Division improved on in the past year. Check out some of our division's best accomplishments:

Overall, a total of 94% of customers who took the Division's customer service survey were very satisfied (87%) or satisfied (7%) with the service they received.

We issued 91 individual air construction permits, which ensure industries can grow and contribute to economic vitality while maintaining Wisconsin's improving air quality.

On average, air construction permits were issued in 64 days from receipt of a complete application. The time period includes a 30 day public comment period.

We satisfied more than 160 requests for redevelopment assistance and helped prepare 1,832 acres for redevelopment. To date, the state has closed out approximately 23,601 formerly contaminated properties.

Recycling processing facilities recycled roughly 800,000 tons of materials from residential and commercial sources.

Local governments recycled about 415,000 tons of paper, cardboard and containers.

Just under 62,000 tons of hazardous waste were recycled - over 1/3 of the 170,285 tons of hazardous wastes that are generated annually.

Public and private collection facilities have taken in more than 150 million pounds of household and school electronics for recycling under the E-Cycle Wisconsin program from its inception on January 1, 2010 through the end of June, 2014.

Staff performed more than 550 inspections at solid waste landfills, waste handling facilities and recycling processors; 12 hazardous waste treatment, storage and disposal inspections; 238 hazardous waste generator inspections; 140 electronics collection, processing and retail facilities inspections; and 259 air facility inspections of Wisconsin's largest sources of emissions.

Fiscal Year 2014 Highlights

Throughout FY2014, our staff went the extra mile to ensure the public health and economic well-being of our communities and to protect our state's natural resources. The following stories exemplify some of the successful accomplishments.

Ashland Superfund site clean-up begins

The Ashland/Northern States Power Lakefront site is a contaminated property that sits on the shore of Chequamegon Bay, Lake Superior, in northern Wisconsin. The site is made up of several properties including those owned by Northern States Power, Canadian National Railroad and the City of Ashland.

An additional 16 acres of contaminated lake sediment just off shore of the property is also part of the Superfund site. Upland-groundwater under the site and an adjacent residential area is contaminated, as is soil at the site. Contamination in this area is consistent with common industrial activities used at the turn of the 20th century.

After years of investigation and planning, cleanup at the Ashland Superfund site is now underway. The first phase of the upland cleanup to address soil and groundwater contamination started in the spring of 2014 and is expected to continue through 2015.

Wisconsin DNR coordinated with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, the local health department, Northern States Power and a Citizens Advisory Group to address remediation and community concerns and will continue to do so as the clean-up moves forward in 2015.



Workers install a slurry wall to help control groundwater on the Ashland Superfund property.

New home, improved process for PECFA

In the past, the Petroleum Environmental Cleanup Fund Authority (PECFA) program was split between two different agencies, DNR and the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS). DSPS handled low and medium contaminated sites, as well as cost reimbursement. DNR handled high priority sites. The 2014 fiscal year saw the successful transition of the entire PECFA program to DNR. The transfer to DNR saved Wisconsin \$1 million and reduced administrative costs. The integration of DNR staff has also streamlined the technical management of PECFA sites. As of July 1, the PECFA transition has been fully implemented.

In addition, the Remediation & Redevelopment (RR) Program has streamlined the PECFA claim review process. Outcomes from this streamlining project include:

- a 32% reduction in delivery time for customers to receive cost reimbursement; and
- a 23% reduction in number of steps needed to process reimbursement requests.

DNR supports efforts to grow plastics recycling

DNR partnered with recycling professionals, businesses and trade associations to establish the Wisconsin Recycling Action Program (WRAP). The focus of WRAP is to increase plastics recycling and reduce the large amount of plastic waste that is landfilled in Wisconsin.

The program focuses on recycling outreach by enlisting retailers, manufacturers and local governments to collect recyclable plastic film from both the public and their own operations.

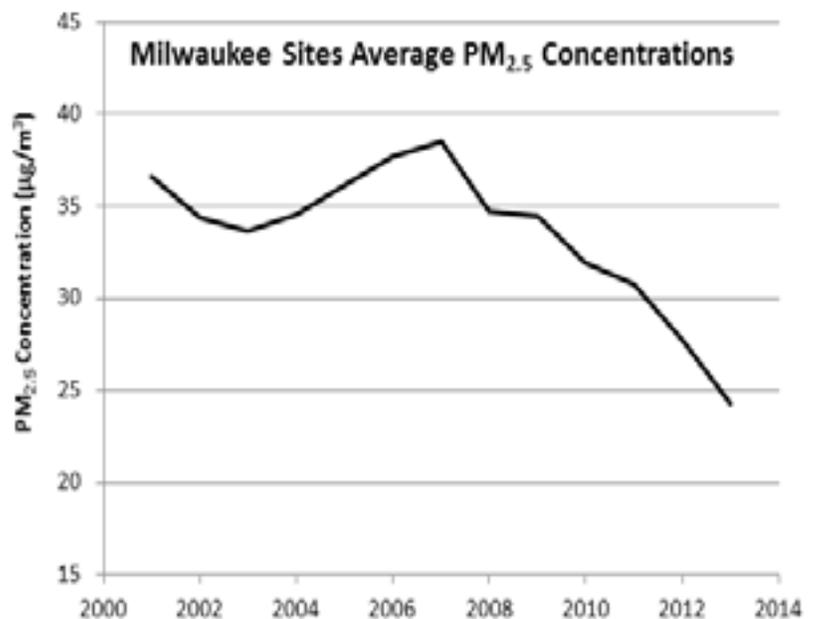
An example of what can be achieved is illustrated by the WRAP initiative pilot for a rural area in Dunn County. The pilot program involves rural drop-off locations, a consolidation point within an industrial park and a collection program run by a vocational center. At present, county residents are recycling approximately 400 pounds of plastic bags and wraps every two weeks, at seven rural collection depots.

A second project is piloting a distribution network to provide low-cost recycling bins to high school sports venues and special events. The Wisconsin Beverage Association, Associated Recyclers of Wisconsin, Council on Recycling and DNR are collaborating on this initiative. The partnership group provided the barrels and lids, signs, transportation and educational and promotional materials for the project.

Milwaukee meets EPA fine particulate matter standard

In April 2014, the US EPA re-designated Milwaukee, Racine and Waukesha counties as attaining the 2006 24-hour standard for fine particulate matter, also known as PM_{2.5}. As a result, all counties in Wisconsin now meet the federal standard (National Ambient Air Quality Standards or NAAQS) for particle pollution.

Sustained efforts by manufacturers, utilities and the transportation industry resulted in the reduction of emissions of nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide and fine particles. US EPA's approval represents an important public health achievement. This also means larger facilities will now follow the same permitting processes required in the rest of the state, creating more economic competitiveness.



Wisconsin has been trending downward since late 2006; currently at an all-time low for fine particulate matter.

E-Cycle Wisconsin

The E-Cycle Wisconsin program continued to maintain its close engagement with stakeholders by hosting a workshop for electronics collectors and recyclers in May 2014. The discussion focused on the data and policy recommendations included in DNR's 2013 report to the legislature and governor on implementation of the electronics recycling law. The workshop analyzed how Wisconsin's electronics recycling law affects collectors and recyclers, as well as the successes and challenges they face in daily operations.

Participants suggested possible changes to the program, including adjusting manufacturer poundage targets to adjust to changing products, removing the incentives for rural constituents and finding ways to incentivize municipal collectors and smaller recyclers. Despite some challenges, attendees agreed that the E-Cycle Wisconsin program has increased opportunities for electronics recycling, supported business growth and kept valuable materials out of landfills.

With DNR help, Chrysler engine plant receives \$10 million towards cleanup

In February of 2014, the City of Kenosha took ownership of the 107 acre, former Chrysler Engine Plant from a bankruptcy trust holding the property. This milestone enables the city, in partnership with DNR and US EPA, to begin efforts to clean up and prepare the historic plant for redevelopment.



Steel and sheet metal ready to be recycled as demolition of Kenosha Engine Plant buildings begins.

The breakthrough came when the State was awarded \$10 million in bankruptcy funds from the federal government. This funding, along with several other funds from the state and city will help with the massive cleanup planned over the next several years. That multi-million dollar award comes in the wake of Chrysler's 2009 bankruptcy filing and formal abandonment of the property. Wisconsin DNR and the Department of Justice (DOJ) filed a proof of claim in 2009 when the bankruptcy was first announced, securing funding for site cleanup costs.

Though some site investigation work has been conducted, including treatment of contaminated groundwater, significant remediation is still needed to eliminate chlorinated solvents, petroleum compounds, metals and other contamination.

Customer Service Excellence

Measuring and improving how our programs deliver customer service to the regulated community and external partners is a priority within the department and the AWaRe Division. During the year, all staff included the department's customer survey link in their signature block, allowing for real-time feedback on how we are serving our customers - **94 percent of customers were very satisfied or satisfied with the customer service they received.** The following section outlines some of the division's best specific customer service efforts from 2014.

Positive trends in air quality

Improving air quality

Wisconsin's air quality is improving. DNR operates a statewide network of ozone and fine particulate monitors to ensure our state remains in compliance with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards

(NAAQS). The updated FY2014 trends report continues to show improving air quality. The report included sulfur dioxide (SO₂) data, in addition to ozone and fine particulate data from around the state. The trends Web page allows a user to click on any county in the state that has a monitor and view the different trends plots for that county.

User friendly air quality data

Citizens of Wisconsin can view current air quality while on the go, thanks to improvements to the air quality mapping Web pages that allow users to view the page on a mobile device. Good air quality is important for human health, especially for those with cardiac and respiratory disease. The new mapping pages are intuitive and user-friendly, and allow users to access monitoring data at any time of day or night. It also includes a graphing feature that allows users to plot data from the past 24 hours.

Industrial sand mine air monitoring

In FY2014, the Air Management Program launched a new Web page that allows the public to access particulate matter (PM₁₀) monitoring data from industrial sand facilities around the state. The public can view the interactive map of industrial sand sites on-line or download monitoring data, which is updated quarterly.

Streamlining hazardous waste inspections

Last year, DNR's hazardous waste program undertook a streamlining effort for large quantity generator (LQG) compliance evaluation inspections. Wisconsin has several thousand hazardous waste generators; including about 450 LQGs. DNR conducts detailed inspections at more than 20% of these LQGs annually. The goals of this streamlining project included:

- reducing time on inspection preparation, conducting inspections, and inspection follow-up with the customers; and
- reducing the time to inform hazardous waste facility of inspection results.

DNR's recommendations resulting from this effort will be implemented in FY2015.

Better access and information on contaminated sites

More information was made available to the public in 2014, due to an improved Sites Map identifying



RR Sites Map image of GIS Registry activities.

remediation sites (RR Sites Map) and the improved Bureau of Remediation & Redevelopment tracking system (BOTW). The updates will make both tools more user friendly, saving time and money for customers and DNR officials alike.

The RR Sites Map is an interactive, web mapping application. It provides information about contaminated properties and other activities related to the investigation and cleanup of contaminated soil or groundwater in Wisconsin.

BOTW is a program the public can use to view RR documents on contaminated

sites. Over 20,000 documents and images can now be downloaded to any computer or mobile device, saving customers time and saving taxpayers money.

Documents include closure letters, redevelopment assistance letters, department site audits, spill documentation and even entire files. Since mid-March 2014, customers have downloaded 2,917 documents and images.

Local government recycling programs earn recognition

In 2013, the DNR Recycling Program piloted a recognition program to commend local government recycling responsible units (RUs) that are engaged in improving recycling rates and access for Wisconsin residents. The pilot program was launched in the west central and northern areas of the state in October and certificates were delivered in November. In 2014, the recognition program was expanded to the whole state. In mid-July, RUs received a call for nominations for three awards to recognize an overall recycling program, a specific project or a new initiative and a special event recycling effort. DNR staff will designate an additional seven awards using data from the most recent RU annual reports.

Each award recipient receives a printed certificate, a press release template so they can easily publicize their achievement, and recognition on the DNR's website. Large, medium and small RUs receive separate awards to ensure that even the smallest recycling programs are recognized for the work they do. DNR received enthusiastic and positive feedback about the pilot phase of the program last year.

Electronic filing system pilot

To better meet the business needs of regulated customers, consulting firms and department staff, the Air Management Program conducted a streamlining project aimed to develop and implement an electronic filing system for compliance documents. The project began in the fall of 2013, with the goals of:

- enabling facilities to directly upload documents, reducing their transaction costs;
- reducing the amount of paper handled and filed by Air Program staff; and
- giving Air Program staff the ability to review compliance documents via a web-based portal.

Extensive information from regulated facilities and businesses, consulting firms and Air Management Program staff was collected to assure the system focused on the needs of all. This pilot should be available in early 2015.

Air permit streamlining rule

Working with the Air Management Study Group, the DNR developed a proposed air permits streamlining rule. Four work-groups including Study Group members and other stakeholders provided input on rule language. The proposed air permit streamlining rule will speed up permitting times, offer flexibility on site preparation before receiving a minor source construction permit, and will allow DNR standards to align with federal requirements. The proposed rule is in the final stages of review. The next step is requesting approval from the Natural Resources Board to schedule public hearings.

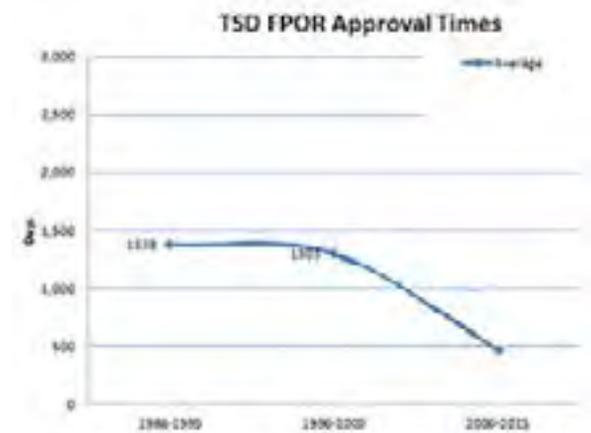
Date	Code	Name	Comment
1993-04-03	1	Notification	
1993-06-20	2	RFP Letter Sent	
1993-06-27	2	RFP Letter Sent	R.F. LETTER SEND
1993-06-21	36	Miscellaneous	REQUEST MSC INFO
1993-06-22	38	Miscellaneous	REQUEST MSC INFO
1993-07-26	38	Miscellaneous	REQUEST MSC INFO
1993-10-27	38	Miscellaneous	REQUEST MSC INFO
1995-08-18	179	Closure Review Request Received (as we required)	
1995-08-29	80	Closure Not Approved	
1996-11-13	17	SI Report Received (and Fee)	
1996-11-13	179	Closure Review Request Received (as we required)	
1996-12-04	11	Activity Closed	
1996-12-04	83	Closure-out Under RCRA/SLI	

Category	File Name	Size/Bytes	Type
RFA Letters	1117000011 RFA Lett	125035	pdf
Closure Letters	0148000053 Encl. Closure Lett	118895	pdf

Documents & images are accessible to the public.

Hazardous waste facility relicensing

Wisconsin has 12 licensed hazardous waste treatment and storage facilities. The hazardous waste program has steadily decreased the average review time to approve the complex, multi-faceted Feasibility and Plan of Operation Report (FPOR) for hazardous waste treatment and storage facilities by 66 percent, while maintaining a high quality review process (see graph). This has allowed DNR to review and approve three additional facilities in FY2014, with three more applications under review in FY2015. This decrease in approval times is a result of the receipt of electronic submissions, better FPORs from TSD facilities and staff familiar with the plan review process.



Average time for TSD review has seen a 66% decrease since the program started.

WMM expands availability of on-line data

The Waste & Materials Management (WMM) Program continues to make it easier for their customers to submit and access data electronically. Over the last year, four new fillable application forms were developed and posted on the Web for easy public access.

Having the documents on-line makes it easier for customers to find forms, clarifies what is needed for specific application packages and informs facilities about what to expect during inspections. The forms can be found at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Waste/SWForms.html>.

WMM also worked on several data management projects to streamline current processes and provide customers with vital information more efficiently. Some of the projects included:

- improved Groundwater Environmental Monitoring System (GEMS) on the Web to allow customers to better search for environmental monitoring data;
- a new system to track complaints, inspections and other compliance work, which simplifies data entry and improves the reporting capabilities;
- on-line reporting capabilities for Beneficial Use Annual Reports and Infectious Waste Annual Reports; and
- automated transfer of required information to US EPA, thereby reducing costs.

Improving Integration

Integration among the AWaRe division's three programs and across agency divisions is a priority for the AWaRe leadership team. Effective integration helps assure timely, accurate, consistent and complete decisions for the department's customers. Below are summaries of some of the many effective division integration projects.

Redeveloping our waterfronts

Wisconsin is home to thousands of rivers and lakes. For 150 years, these waterways have served as transportation, water and food supply, waste assimilation, hydro-power and recreation. In many cases, historic uses left a legacy of blighted, ignored and abandoned waterfronts.

In more recent times, Wisconsin communities have turned attention back to the water with the understanding that successful waterfront revitalization promises economic, recreational and environmental benefits. Strategic public support, leveraged by private investment, spurs environmental cleanup, generates employment, increases tax base, creates recreational amenities and supports tourism.

In partnership with eight other state agencies, DNR began developing how best to provide coordinated and timely technical assistance, consistent with the application of policies and law, to help ensure the success of these waterfront projects.

DNR and partners recognize the tremendous opportunities that exist to support efforts to revitalize our waterfronts. Watch for more information on the waterfront initiative in FY2015.

Gogebic Taconite project

Exploration drilling, bulk sampling and baseline environmental data collection activities commenced at the Gogebic Taconite project site in Iron and Ashland counties in FY2014. The company completed fifteen bedrock core holes, five additional deep holes that will be equipped as groundwater monitoring wells and expedited bulk sampling activities at three locations.

The bulk sampling sites underwent reclamation activities, including re-grading to establish internal drainage, mulching and stabilization of slopes and the reintroduction of native plants.

DNR staff from multiple divisions conducted frequent site inspections, collected independent baseline monitoring data, made jurisdictional determinations and verified data collection efforts by Gogebic Taconite. DNR staff collaborated with the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC), the Bad River Tribal Natural Resources Department, EPA, Army Corps of Engineers, Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey and the US Geological Survey.



The cold winter allowed Gogebic Taconite to get an early jump on the exploration drilling, the reclamation of which is shown above.

Dredge material disposal

The Waste & Materials Management Program partnered with stakeholders, including the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, local governments and other DNR programs, to develop simplified processes and practices for managing dredged materials. One example is the Erie Pier dredged material disposal facility in Duluth, MN. Erie Pier disposes of and processes material dredged from the navigational channels in Duluth/Superior. This dredging is necessary for the approximately 1,000 vessels each year that access the largest port in the Great Lakes (based on tonnage) and the 11,000 jobs that go with it.

With over 100,000 cubic yards (cy) of material dredged from the Duluth/Superior channels each year, it is important to find safe ways to use dredge material, rather than relying on expensive landfilling. Through integrated collaboration efforts, DNR was able to develop an approach which set testing parameters and approved uses for materials meeting predetermined standards. Since issuing the approval in 2011, the volume of material from Erie Pier used in Wisconsin has grown steadily from 46 cy in 2011 to 18,731 cy in 2013.



Dredged materials are sluiced to separate the higher value sand from the finer grained silt and clay.

The importance of finding alternative ways to use or dispose of dredged material led the DNR to create an Integrated Sediment Team. The team will revise and create guidance to help our customers through the permitting and approval process, relying in part on staff ideas on how to best manage sediment and meet economic, environmental and social needs.

New Regulations

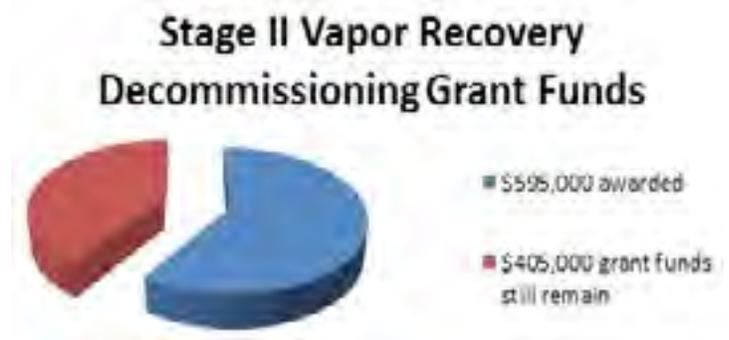
Often, the AWaRe Division is charged with implementing new laws. Taking public input into account, the division strives to fully clarify the laws and implement them efficiently. Here are some of the key laws in FY14 that affected the Division's programs.

Stage II vapor recovery grant program underway

Stage II vapor recovery equipment captures and controls volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in gasoline vapors while a vehicle is fueling. In the early 1990s, gasoline stations in southeast Wisconsin were required to install Stage II vapor recovery systems to reduce the release of VOCs.

Since the late 1990s, newer vehicles have been equipped with their own vapor recovery systems rendering stage II vapor recovery systems obsolete. To encourage station owners to voluntarily remove or decommission their Stage II vapor recovery systems, the legislature authorized a \$1 million grant program that reimburses gas station owners 50% of the cost of decommissioning Stage II systems.

DNR worked to get this new program up and running as quickly as possible. DNR spread the word about the availability of the grant by issuing a news release when the grant was signed into law, sending direct mailings to station owners in eligible counties and sending an announcement of the grants to contractors performing decommissioning work and trade associations to share with their clients and members.



The following are statistics on the grant program as of July 1, 2014:

- 402 total applicants, with new applications being received;
- 391 applicants have been sent reimbursement checks; and
- approximately \$595,000 in grant funding has been awarded.

2013 Wisconsin Act 198 clears way for household drug collections

In April 2014, Wisconsin adopted a drug disposal law, which allows smaller communities to set up drug collection programs. The law will not go into effect until July 2015, to allow time for the United States Drug Enforcement Agency (US DEA) to release its final rules on the disposal of controlled substances. US DEA rules greatly shape local drug collection programs. The law requires drug collectors to notify DNR of their locations, which the WMM program will publish on the DNR website.

Act 198 also provides for the state Department of Justice (DOJ) to approve policies for those collecting drugs from households, allows for mail-back and multi-jurisdictional collection programs and allows individuals - other than the person who receives a prescription for controlled substances - to legally possess controlled substances for purposes of disposal. As part of a suite of bills related to heroin abuse, the law seeks to enable households to remove drugs that might be misused or abused from their homes in an environmentally safe manner.

\$10 lead acid battery deposit starts in 2014

2013 Wisconsin Act 305 eliminated the \$5 maximum deposit a retailer could charge on a lead acid battery, the type of battery commonly used in cars and other motor vehicles. It was replaced with a uniform deposit of \$10. The deposit increases the incentive for consumers to return spent batteries to a retailer from whom a replacement battery is purchased. This law enables retailers to pay a deposit amount closer to the actual value of the materials in a battery.

Rule revisions clarify clean up requirements

The NR 700, Wis. Adm. Code, rule series provides a comprehensive, consistent and uniform set of requirements related to the investigation and cleanup of contaminated properties. On November 1, 2013, the RR Program initiated the implementation of the revised rule series, the culmination of a multi-year effort to overhaul the rules with input from the Brownfields Study Group, the Technical Focus Group and a number of external stakeholders.

The revised rule series incorporates numerous statutory, policy and technical changes that have occurred since they were originally promulgated nearly 20 years ago. The changes streamline and consolidate the rule language so that out-of-date provisions are removed and the current regulatory requirements are easier to comply with and understand.

Mining rules update

Over the past year, WMM staff led efforts to revise numerous Wisconsin Administrative Codes related to 2013 Wisconsin Act 1, also known as the Ferrous Mining Law. This act modified existing laws relating to metallic mining and created new provisions for the regulation of ferrous metallic mining. Part of the new law directed the department to revise certain rules so the rules are consistent with the new law.

The Natural Resources Board approved the rule changes at its May 28, 2014 meeting, and the changes are now awaiting review by the legislature.

State mercury rule changed to eliminate redundancy, match federal requirements

Wisconsin's air mercury rule was modified to eliminate regulatory redundancy with federal requirements. Under the state rule, coal-fired power plants were required to reduce mercury air emissions in two phases starting in 2010. US EPA subsequently released two federal mercury control rules (the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards [MATS] rule and Industrial, Commercial and Institutional [ICI] Boiler rule) regulating the same plants subject to the state mercury rule.

The modified rule delays the compliance date of the state rule mercury emission control requirements from January 1, 2015 to April 16, 2016. This latter date is after the federal mercury requirements are established. Consistent with state law, this modification allows electric utilities to focus planning and compliance efforts towards meeting mercury air emission standards under the federal rules instead of complying with both state and federal emission standards. This action will prevent undue compliance burden and costs, while still achieving equivalent mercury emission reductions in the future.

New power plant regulation in Wisconsin

The US EPA currently has two proposed regulations for power plants; one for new plants and one for existing plants. The goal of these regulations is to reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions nationwide. Wisconsin DNR provided US EPA with comments on the proposed rule for new power plants, and is working closely with stakeholders on the proposed rule for existing power plants.

The US EPA proposal for existing plants aims to achieve emission reductions via rate-based targets (pounds of CO₂ per megawatt-hour of electricity produced) developed for each state. It would require Wisconsin's power plant statewide CO₂ emission rate to be reduced by 34% by 2030. DNR worked closely with stakeholders in 2013 and submitted comments in December 2013 to US EPA during a pre-proposal outreach phase.

Together with the Wisconsin Public Service Commission, DNR is currently engaging stakeholders – including utilities, industry, and environmental groups to review the proposed regulation of existing power plants, under section 111(d) of the CAA.

New near road monitoring site for southeast Wisconsin

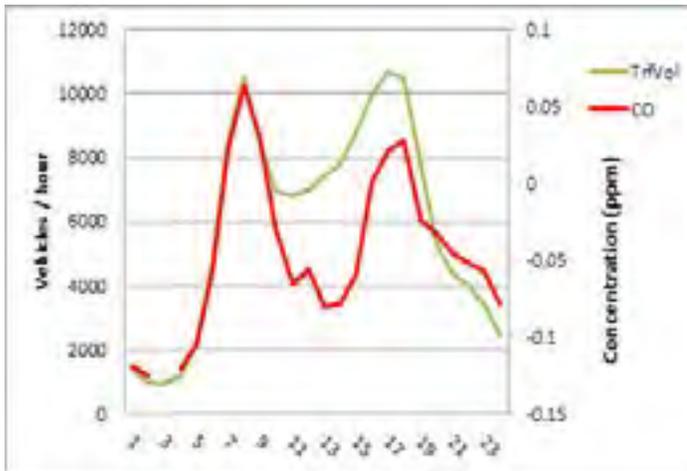
The Air Management program successfully implemented a federal mandate that required air monitoring in near road environments. Wisconsin's first near road air monitoring station began operating on January 1, 2014. This new monitoring station is required by the US EPA in large urban areas to support changes in the federal one-hour nitrogen dioxide air quality standard. Located within 20 meters of the highway, the near road monitoring station measures the air quality impacts of vehicle traffic. The station is housed along Interstate 94 in Milwaukee,



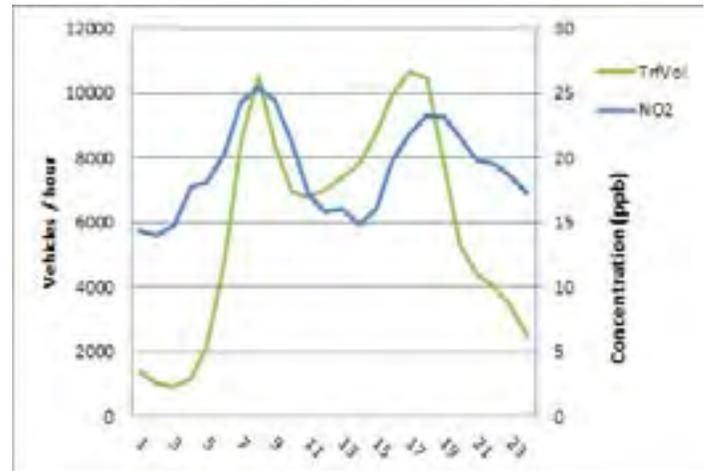
One of DNR's monitoring sites in the Milwaukee area collecting data.

south of the General Mitchell International Airport (displayed on the right).

The near road monitor is required to measure one-hour nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and carbon monoxide (CO) concentrations. It is a test site for several new analyzers measuring concentrations of volatile organic compounds, fine carbon particulate and very fine particle matter (less than 1 micrometer). Measurements to date predictably show pollutant concentrations peak with morning and evening drive times. The maximum reported individual one-hour NO₂ reading was 60 parts per billion (ppb), well below the new one hour standard of 100 ppb.



Weekday hourly CO averaged over the 24 hour day compares well with the average traffic volume during January 2014.



Weekday hourly NO₂ readings averaged over the 24 hour day. The two peaks in travel volume (TrfVol) are the morning and afternoon drive times.

Emerging & Ongoing Issues

The biggest and most important projects take time to develop and implement. With that in mind, here are some of the important issues that programs in the AWaRe Division will be addressing in FY2015. Each program has already taken action to get out ahead of these key issues, and the next key step is implementation.

Clean-Up programs

Kenosha Chrysler Plant

DNR helped secure a \$10 million bankruptcy settlement last fall and awarded a \$1.8M Ready for Reuse loan to the city to help pay for environmental cleanup work at the storied 107-acre site in the heart of the community. Kenosha accepted title to the property in early 2014, beginning interim action and site investigation work with DNR oversight, while also working on redevelopment plans that will continue through 2015.

Waterfront Initiative

Current work with partners and stakeholders will continue in 2015 to bring Wisconsin's waterfronts back to work.

Ashland Superfund Site

Cleanup work will continue at the former manufactured gas plant in Ashland. A wet-dredging pilot project to address contaminated sediment is planned for 2015 and with DNR assistance, the US EPA will evaluate the results and determine whether this remedial method is capable of reaching clean-up objectives for the site.

Recycling programs

Plastics Recycling

Current work with partners and stakeholders will extend through 2015, with a continued emphasis on plastic bag and wrap recycling, and increased attention to the recycling of rigid non-bottle plastics.

Electronics Recycling

Maintaining a high rate of household and school electronics recycling in Wisconsin will be a focal point for the E-Cycle Wisconsin program in 2015. A particular challenge will be ensuring the safe management of leaded glass from the last large wave of older televisions and computer monitors, and ensuring that the increasing cost of managing this material does not diminish the convenience of electronics recycling for residents in all parts of the state.

Streamlining and Customer Service

The Division Programs will continue work on their streamlining projects started in 2014, and look for other processes to streamline to provide better customer service, while accomplishing the mission and vision of the Department.

IT continuing to move division forward

Throughout the 2014 Fiscal year, the AWaRE Division's IT team has continued working on improvements to our databases and IT systems. The Division is implementing a "Master Data Layer" (MDL) of information about the facilities and parties that fall under the different federal and state regulatory programs at DNR (i.e. Air Emissions Inventory, Air Permitting, Spill Law, etc.). The project will improve the quality and integrity of this data by defining and enforcing a consistent set of data and business rules. The MDL will also increase our capability to interconnect data from each of the regulatory programs within the division for each facility or party that we regulate. These advancements reduce transactional costs for customers and allow us to respond to customer questions more efficiently.

In addition to the MDL, work is being done to improve the management of e-documents in our existing systems. RR Program staff in the Northeast Region have been streamlining our filing systems to consolidate all the closed RR files from 1988 through 2009. This massive project has served as a pilot program to create e-documents for portions of the files.



NER staff identified key documents to scan before sending files to long term storage.

These advances will lead to less taxpayer dollars going into data retention, by eliminating duplication of information and reducing transactional costs for people that enter information.

In FY15, we will continue with the development and implementation of the proposed system and the integration with existing applications. A future phase of the project will include a user interface for external customers to provide and update their own information.

Vapor intrusion prevention partnership initiative

The division continues its partnership with Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) to develop a comprehensive, voluntary approach to assess and address vapor intrusion concerns in communities across the state. The approach involves a comprehensive toolkit appropriate for multiple stakeholder groups, including municipalities, developers, property owners, contractors, consultants and community member groups in the coming year. The toolkit will include best management practices and advice, including:

- a site inventory tool to identify and triage sites for future assessment and mitigation;
- guidance on the use of radon and vapor resistant construction techniques for existing and new structures; and
- a list of available financial and technical resources.



A 'summa' canister is used to collect an air sample from beneath a building's foundation to detect the presence of chemical vapors

Brownfields study group

One of DNR's most successful partnerships is the Wisconsin Brownfields Study Group. This committee has worked with the division since 1998 to help steer the agency and state's brownfield redevelopment policy efforts. With its help, Wisconsin is a national brownfields leader.

In December of 2013, the group began a review of what it considered to be some of the most pressing issues facing developers and associated brownfields professionals. Subgroups are developing reports and recommendations on financial, liability, technical, local government, economic and waterfront issues. A formal report is expected in late 2014. The Study Group is comprised of representatives from local government, education and the private sector.

Waste and Materials Management study group

To help address major issues that are important to its customers, the Waste & Materials Management Program will create and support a materials management stakeholder group similar to the Brownfields Study Group and the new Air Management Study Group. This group will work through a variety of policy and technical issues in FY2015.

Air Management

Air management will continue to develop, monitor and comment on state and federal regulations in FY2015, especially in regards to the state air permit streamlining rule and federal air rules, including carbon dioxide emissions from existing power plants, and sulfur dioxide emissions from sources.

Performance Metrics

The following measures are some of the key indicators of the AWaRe Division's performance in FY2014. These are the fourth installment in the five-year performance measures plan started in FY2010.

Provide excellent customer service

Air Operation Permits

Goals: By April 1, 2014, implement plan to automate annual notification of facilities of possible permit exemptions. Reduce the Non-Title V permit backlog by 20% by the end of FY2014. Reduce the number of renewal applications older than 18 months to less than 60. Reissue, or otherwise address, 85 Title V Operation permit renewals.

Assessment: Automation of annual notification to facilities was completed in April. Non-Title V permit backlog reduced by 27% during FY2014. We reduced the renewal applications older than 18 months to only 48, 12 more than the goal.



Regulating Solid & Hazardous Waste

Goals: Complete solid waste plan reviews and approvals within the time frames specified in code and statute 90% of the time.

Assessment: Solid waste staff issued 290 plan review decisions in FY14; 94% were issued on time. This is the best on-time rate in program history. The hazardous waste program issued 28 decisions, 100% of which were issued on time.



Air Construction Permits

Goals: For construction permits, maintain a 12-month rolling average permit issuance time, from the time of complete application to permit issuance, of 58 days or less. Initiate streamlining projects, upon direction of the Air and Waste Management Team, including the development of at least two new tools.

Assessment: During FY2014, we issued 91 individual permits for an average of 63 days. In FY2014, we continued implementation of the construction permit streamlining project, with three new tools developed during the year.



Protect human health and the environment

Waste Facility Financial Assurance Compliance

Goals: Maintain 100% financial assurance compliance rate for the large landfills, hazardous waste treatment, storage and disposal facilities, metallic mines and E-Cycle facilities. By 2016 achieve a 100% compliance rate for construction and demolition landfills and all non-landfill solid waste facilities.

Assessment: 100% of all large and medium landfills, hazardous waste treatment, storage and disposal facilities, metallic mines and E-Cycle facilities are in compliance with financial assurance requirements. 96% of small landfills, 89% of construction & demolition landfills and 92% of non-landfill facilities are in compliance with financial assurance requirements. We are on target to meet our goal of 100% compliance for all facilities by 2016.



Promote economic vitality

Productive Remediation of Wisconsin Brownfields

Goals: Issue 15 exemption and assurance letters during FY2014. Add at least 800 acres of property during the year for productive reuse. Review all non-personal bankruptcy filings within 60 days of receipt from legal to determine if a claim should be filed. Submit 100% of notice of claims to DOJ on time.

Assessment: In FY2014, our RR staff went above and beyond, completing 128 exemption and assurance letters and making 1,832 acres available for reuse, well over the goals of 15 exemptions and 800 respectively. Of the 31 bankruptcy filings, 28 were processed within 60 days, and 100% of the claims were filed with DOJ on time.



Recycling in Wisconsin's Communities

Goals: Establish at least one new private-sector partnership to increase recycling of an industrial material used by Wisconsin industries. Improve yield of recyclable materials at one major public venue.

Assessment: In FY2014, the WMM program further developed the Wisconsin Recycling Action Project (WRAP) partnership within the plastics industry. Achievements include the establishment of a local plastic film aggregation center in Dunn County and six communities have signed on as WRAP partners. The recycling program is working directly with 3 major events (EAA, State Fair and Farm Tech Days) to increase recycling efforts, as well as at 6 county fairs and 4 local high schools. Much of this has been aided by the efforts of non-profit organizations, including the Wisconsin Beverage Association and Indianhead Enterprises.

