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Subject: SWANA Update - February 6, 2019

I hope all of you survived the polar vortex last week and that 2019 is off to a great start for you and your companies/agencies. A brief update on a few key items follows:

1. **SWANApalooza** – Our event in Boston is less than three weeks away and registration continues to run ahead of last year's successful conference in Denver. Please remind your chapters and technical divisions to register and make hotel reservations. EPA Assistant Administrator nominee Peter Wright is just one of the many important speakers who will be at SWANApalooza, which will include Technical Division meetings, our Training Center, an update on China/recycling, lots of technical sessions on landfill gas and landfill management, a strong Road to Zero Waste symposium, two excellent facility tours, and what promises to be an EPIC chapter-hosted networking party.
2. **EC Winter Meeting** – The Executive Committee met in late January to review SWANA's budget and programs, discuss the next steps of the governance transition to a Board of Directors, continue our work on improving WASTECON, and provide guidance on several important issues including the location and timing of several future events:
 - a. I am pleased to announce that 2021 WASTECON in Orlando, originally scheduled in August, has been rescheduled to take place on November 1-4. This change was made to increase attendance, as an August conference competes with summer vacations and back to school. Also, while I suspect some Floridians will disagree, we expect that the Fall will be a more pleasant time of year to be in Florida;
 - b. SWANA staff's recommendation that a stand-alone NAWTEC not be included in the FY 2020 budget was approved, due to the declining revenue and attendance at this conference. We intend to include NAWTEC content at other SWANA conferences in the future (e.g., SWANApalooza), and it is very important for members interested in waste-to-energy to attend NAWTEC 2019 in Reston, Va on April 1-2 so we can get feedback on the appropriate home for this content.
 - c. SWANApalooza will take place in Kansas City, Missouri in April 2021.
 - d. The Nominating Committee's recommendation of Art Mercer for SWANA Secretary was approved. Congratulations to Art! Balloting for all of the officer positions will take place in the Spring.
3. **Recycling** – On the day after the federal government shutdown ended, SWANA staff held a call with key EPA officials to discuss recycling and an EPA meeting regarding recycling taking place at SWANApalooza. This meeting will follow up the America Recycles Day (ARD) summit hosted by EPA in November 2018, and participants will include the companies, associations, and governmental agencies that participated in the ARD event.
4. **Safety** – SWANA continues to raise concerns about the industry's safety record, and issued a press release calling attention to the surge in fatal incidents in January. SWANA continues to receive widespread media attention due to our focus on safety. <https://www.waste360.com/safety/swana-calls-renewed-focus-safety> <https://ohsonline.com/articles/2019/02/01/solid-waste-industry-fatalities-increase-in-january-2019.aspx> The Safety Ambassadors will be meeting on Monday afternoon at SWANApalooza.
5. **Membership** - We added more than 240 new members in January, but we know there are many more people in your states and provinces who would benefit from being part of the biggest and BEST waste association in North America. Please encourage them to check out the SWANA website or contact us at membership@swana.org.

I look forward to seeing many of you at SWANApalooza later this month in Boston! Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

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