



Profile of Month – Eddie Womac

Nine years ago, Eddie Womac started out at Marion as a mechanic. He is gifted with all manner of vehicle repair, and this gift has since morphed into broader responsibilities. Now, he maintains our water blasters and leads the blaster team in all of our most challenging projects.

He never objects to traveling, and regularly volunteers for long hours even in the dead heat of summer. Eddie's safety awareness, coupled with his technical skills, make him the gatekeeper for our water blasting equipment. His conscientious approach to our blasting programs transforms inherently dangerous jobs into routine projects.

Eddie works with each of MEI's satellite offices and is well liked and respected by all. In fact, several have wanted him to relocate, but Chattanooga refuses to let go of this great guy and valuable team member.

Marion Environmental Inc. is one of the leading providers of environmental consulting, remediation, and emergency response in the southeast. Our goal is to provide cost effective solutions to environmental problems.
Making *our* standard, industry standard.

Plant Closures

When a manufacturing plant is closing, there is a large checklist that the company must follow in order to shut down operations safely and economically. Marion is brought into the equation to perform remedial investigations, feasibility studies, and to remove and dispose of waste.

Remedial Investigation—Describes the nature and extent of contamination. Before cleanup can begin, it must be determined what contamination remains on site and how far it extends.

Feasibility Study—Compares possible cleanup options.

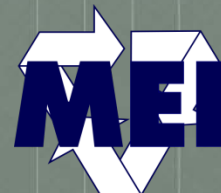
Cleanup Action Plan—Describes in regulatory detail the proposed cleanup actions for the site.

A sample of the cleanup may include:

- Clean floor areas of plant with scrubber units and high pressure attachments (Recover wastewater for disposal)
- Waterblast and vacuum containment areas; complete dust and residue removal from plant ceiling, I-beams, and infrastructure
- Clean concrete off-loading areas on exterior of plant
- Remediate stained areas around down spouts and stormwater runoff areas
- Characterize and prepare old totes and drums for offsite shipment/disposal
- Transport waste generated during the cleanup process to a certified facility

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Instruction & Training

Gary Shelton was an instructor in Pueblo, Colorado last month for the Norfolk Southern tank car specialist training. He instructed the liquid transfer portion of the class, which required completing a liquid transfer using site props. He also instructed the “hands on” section addressing acid tank car valves and rail car dome hinges. Marion had technicians, as well, in attendance for the training in Colorado.

Gary will also be assisting in instructions during the CSX safety training this summer and the Norfolk Southern whistle stop tour. He will be covering the hands on section of rail car valves and mitigation tactics.

Recently Marion held a waterway training exercise. Training is always at the core of Marion’s safety agenda. Fortunately, we have a staff of experienced instructors. Cross-training technicians allows flexibility in times of crisis, and with the convenience of in-house training, we have overlapping preparedness for all of our divisions.



Safety Tip – Heat Hazard

When a person works in a hot environment, the body must get rid of excess heat to maintain a stable internal temperature. It does this mainly through circulating blood to the skin and through sweating.

When the air temperature is close to or warmer than normal body temperature, cooling of the body becomes more difficult. Blood circulated to the skin cannot lose its heat. Sweating then becomes the main way the body cools off, but sweating is effective only if the humidity level is low enough to allow evaporation - and if the fluids and salts that are lost are adequately replaced.

If the body cannot get rid of excess heat, it will store it. When this happens, the body's core temperature rises and the heart rate increases. As the body continues to store heat, the person begins to lose concentration and has difficulty focusing on a task, may become irritable or sick, and often loses the desire to drink. The next stage is most often fainting and even death if the person is not cooled down.

Excessive exposure to heat can cause a range of heat-related illnesses, from heat rash and heat cramps to heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Heat stroke can result in death and requires **immediate medical attention**.

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