Marion Environmental, Inc. – MEI Monthly

AUGUST 2015



#### **Employee Profile – Michael Herron**

Mike joined Marion 3 years ago and is rapidly becoming a stand out. He has embraced our safety culture and recently stepped into a supervisory role.

On a CSX site this summer, he was tagged twice by senior CSX officials as a safety standout. We want to acknowledge him for his safety awareness and for his leadership.

Mike has an even temperament that lends an air of calm to every situation. He is an outdoorsman who spends many weekends fishing.

Mike is a great E.R. responder, calm and upbeat with a great work ethic. He is a bright part of Marion's future. 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.

## **EVENTS**

### **Tennessee Safety Conference**

In late July, Marion's health & safety team attended the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Tennessee Safety & Health Congress and Expo hosted by TN Dept of Labor & Workforce Development. The Congress Agenda was outstanding and the product of a Joint Venture between TOSHA and The American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE). There were over 800 attendees, 120 exhibitors and 54 workshops. Topics included: Leadership Development, Safety Management, Identifying Training Needs & Developing Programs, OSHA 10hr Construction, OSHA Recordkeeping & Inspections, Medical Surveillance & Respiratory Protection, Driver & Fleet Safety, Supervisor Training, and VPP & Behavior Based Safety Programs It is a premier safety event, with knowledgeable professional presenters. This Nashville convention is highly recommended by our health and safety team.

### **Georgia Environmental Conference**

Most of Marion's consulting department will be attending the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Georgia Environmental Conference from August 26-28 on Jekyll Island, GA. This conference hosts an elite group of environmental professionals seeking to exchange knowledge and share ideas about environmental concerns in Georgia and across the Southeast region. The conference offers 56 unique courses, allowing attendees to design their own personalized curriculum by selecting ten (10) educational breakout sessions while receiving approved Continuing Education credits.

## MARION ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.

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VOLUME #4 ISSUE #

## TDEC STORM WATER MULTI-SECTOR GENERAL PERMIT

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) recently renewed the State's general NPDES permit for Industrial Storm Water discharges. The revised TDEC Storm Water Multi-Sector General Permit for Industrial Activities became effective on April 15, 2015. The recently renewed permit contains a few significant changes from previous versions. A brief list of some of the significant revisions includes:

- Sector Median Values were removed from the permit language to eliminate confusion with listed benchmark values.
- Copies of a facility's Notice of Coverage (NOC) must be kept on site at all times.
- Facilities are required to submit Annual Monitoring Reports to their associated TDEC Field Office instead of the main TDEC office in Nashville.
- Facilities are required to submit their Annual Monitoring Report within 60 days of receiving the analytical results.
- Added Sector AF Borrow Pits, Soil Harvesting Sites, & Spoil Piles; this sector includes facilities that are not associated with a single construction project.
- Requires facilities in Sector L to add specific language associated with Sediment and Erosion Control into their SWPPP plans.
- Requires facilities in Sector N Scrap Recycling and Waste Recycling; to sample for concentrations of PCBs if their Total Suspended Solid concentration exceeds 150 mg/L.

Excluding the changes listed above, most of the language in the state's industrial storm water permit remains unchanged. However, the permit does require that facilities keep their SWPPP plans up to date with any critical information associated with storm water drainage patterns, training, and inspections. MEI's consultants have extensive experience assisting facilities with their industrial storm water permitting and compliance. Our clients include TN industry, as well as industries in surrounding states.

## Safety Tip

## Home Safety

1. Smoke detectors: Are they working properly? Heat in the summer can take their toll on batteries. Take a few minutes to inspect yours, and replace older batteries. A working smoke detector gives you and your family extra time to get out of your house if there is a fire.

2. Fire extinguishers: Do you even have them in your home? You should have a 2-1/2 pound 'ABC' extinguisher in the house which can be used on all types of fires and can be purchased at most hardware stores. You should keep it in a handy location, and know how to use it. 'Easy-to-read' instructions are on the extinguisher.

3. Household escape plan: Do you and your family members know what to do and where the nearest exit is should a fire occur in your home? Regular fire drills are important. Knowing what procedures to follow can save your lives.

4. Fireplaces: Do you use yours, particularly with the cooler weather just around the corner? Have you cleaned the flue, checked for cracks in the chimney, and checked the damper? Checking and cleaning now can prevent a fire from erupting in the chimney potentially spreading to the rest of the house.

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