

On Our Website

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October Luncheon Meeting at the Manning House

Speaker: Marc Romito, TEP Renewable Resource Coordinator

Join us at the **Wednesday, October 29th monthly luncheon meeting** Marc Romito, Tucson Electric Power's new Renewable Resource Coordinator will talk with us about what is on the horizon for TEP. The Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) requires that by the year 2025, Arizona utilities generate a percentage of energy using renewable resources. Marc will talk with us about TEP developments.

11:30 a.m. – Luncheon Check-in/Registration

11:45 a.m. – Luncheon Begins

Please contact Craig Boudle CBoudle@eurofresh.com by **Wednesday, October 22nd** if you plan to attend the luncheon. Registrations received on or before the 22nd receive the reduced luncheon rate. See our website for more speaker and luncheon details.

www.saems.org

Community Involvement Corner: Mark Your Calendar!

October 25th Make-A-Difference Day – Call for SAEMS Volunteers

November 8th 8am SAEMS Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup

[More information on page 2 of newsletter](#)

Upcoming Tucson Environmental Seminars/Events

November 12th and 13th: Apache Nitrogen Hosts Fiesta De Las Cienegas (see page 2 for more information)

November 13th - Greater Tucson Leadership and Cox Host a Sustainability Luncheon, "Building a Green Business", Tucson Convention Center <http://www.tucsonleadership.org>

A Nod to UMC for Sustainability Efforts!

Syndee Wundrock of SAEMS P2 seminar fame, and UMC were recently featured in the news by Jeffrey Beamish of the KVOA Green Team for having her own "green team" of hospital volunteers. Beamish reported, "This Green Team is a group of hospital workers prescribing a daily dose of environmental awareness."

Workers can recycle cardboard, shred and recycle confidential papers, and even the kitchen grease gets recycled. Every floor at UMC has bins to properly dispose of used batteries, which is right next to a newspaper recycling bin for patients. "They found out that the newspapers got recycled, they started bringing their newspapers from home", says Wundrock.

What they can't recycle, they attempt to re-use. Solvents used on specimen slides are recaptured. Since 2003, almost 4,000 gallons have been recovered. Beamish added, "Not bad for a place giving a clean bill of health to mothers, and Mother Nature alike."

Adopt-A-Highway: Applauding A Quarterly Effort

A special thank you goes out to Barb Ricca and her team of dedicated advocates for keeping our own stretch of road clean. In the midst of a busy SAEMS month, Barb rounded up a troop of SAEMS volunteers to make a difference.

Barb reports, "On a warm sunny day 5 dedicated SAEMS members (Pamela Beilke, Jeff Christensen and his 2 children, Ken Asch, Heather Shoemaker and Barb Ricca) cleaned up the SAEMS adopted mile of I-10. We collected 23 bags of trash. In addition, Ken cleaned the gravel pull-off on Sonoita Highway. Pamela won the prize for the most interesting "find" - a set of new baby clothes still on the hangers. We all enjoyed lunch at TTT truck stop and shared a deep dish apple pie for dessert. Plan to join us on Nov. 8th for our next highway cleanup!"

Please thank our SAEMS team for keeping our organization's stretch of road clean. Under Barb's leadership, we do this clean-up on a quarterly basis. The next event is November 8th. Come join us!! It's a great way to connect to SAEMS members and help the environment.

Good Job Adopt-A-Highway!

The Bottle Jam: Another Success Under Our Belt



On Saturday September 20, 2008, the Southern Arizona Environmental Management Society coordinated another fun cleanup along the beautiful Santa Cruz River with the National Park Service. Cleanup efforts started at the Santa Gertrudis Lane river crossing and continued on the west river bank along the edge of Tumacácori National Historical Park. After the project, participants enjoyed a hearty lunch at Wisdoms Cafe - compliments of SAEMS - including cheese crisps, fresh chips, guacamole & salsa, and the famous fruit chimichangas with ice cream!

Two special prizes (Starbucks gift card and a mystery bag filled with great stuff including containing a 92.9 The Mountain Volume 2 Studio C CD, a spatula from Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department, and a CFL light bulb) were awarded to the Global Community Communications Alliance volunteers for most exciting items found. Global folks found so many fun items that there was no competition for the prizes - two toy tanks, a pink purse, a neon yellow ping-pong ball, a compass - the list goes on and on! Young volunteers helped to haul out a freezer that was found several hundred yards in. Approximately 25 trash bags were

filled with various littered items including a lot of plastic bottles, styrofoam, and 5 tires. Various wood wastes were also rolled and carried out to the pile. Just as we were wrapping up the morning's project, we stumbled upon the remnants of another bottle jam, so, we'll just have to plan to go back soon! 14 people worked hard on this cleanup effort, including: - 3 SAEMS members - B.J. Cordova, Barbara Ricca, Ken Asch. Visit our website for more info! **GO BOTTLE JAM TEAM!**

Electronics Recycling Opportunity: Bring Recyclables and Win Two Ways!

SAEMS is co-sponsoring the Tucson Clean & Beautiful Make-a-Difference Day electronics recycling, on Saturday October 25, 2008 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at Reid Park, Therapeutics Center - 1000 N. Randolph Way, just north of 22nd St. Tucsonans are encouraged to bring unwanted electronics (working and non-working) for donation to nonprofit organizations for reuse, or proper recycling. Televisions, computers & accessories, cell phones, printer cartridges, cameras, copy machines, VCR/DVD players, software, compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) and many other types of electronic devices are accepted. Win two ways - help the environment and those who bring electronics for recycling can enter a drawing to win a brand new laptop computer! Recycling information will be available at booths too!

Community Involvement Opportunities: A Few Hours Can Make a Difference

One day or a few hours of time can make a difference to your community. There is power in leaving something better than you found it. Here are a few options where you can make a difference:

November 8th 8am SAEMS Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup

Mark your calendars for the Adopt-a-Highway clean-ups scheduled for September 13th and November 8th. Clean-ups start at 8 am. Join us and invite friends and family. On September 13th we will meet at 8 am at the Sonoita exit of I-10. Park in the dirt lot just south of I-10. The SAEMS mile of highway is east of the Sonoita exit. We will leave the parking area by 8:10, so please be on time. Volunteers must be 12 years of age or older and if under 18, accompanied by a parent or guardian. Come dressed for the fun with long pants, long sleeves, closed toe shoes, hat and plenty of sunscreen. SAEMS will provide safety vests, leather gloves, litter tongs, and collection bags. We will also provide bottled water, soda and snacks and host a breakfast at the Triple T afterwards. A prize will be given for the most interesting treasure found during the clean-up. Please RSVP to Barb Ricca at barbicca@yahoo.com. Thank you Barb for organizing these events. They make a difference in our visual landscape!!! For a few hours of time, you TOO can make a difference.

Date To Be Announced SAEMS Undocumented Migrant Site Clean-up

This was quite an eye opening event last spring. In less than 3 hours and with less than 30 people SAEMS filled a 30-cubic yard roll off bin with litter from undocumented migrants. The site was located just south of I-10 and Rita Road. This event cleared about a ¼ section of land of litter and debris. What a difference the time of volunteers can make. Lets get together and do it again.

Local Environmental Seminar/Event Details

October 25th – National Make A Difference Day

SAEMS is calling for members to volunteer and provide support to Tucson's Make-A-Difference Day! Contact Frank Bonillas before October 17th. SAEMS Volunteers are needed for:

- Traffic Control – 10 people
- Greeting – 6 people
- Equipment Loading/Unloading – 5 people

Other Volunteers are needed: Contact TEP Directly via there website, www.tep.com

- Planting Trees – Same Day at Different Location
- Painting – Same Day at Different Location

Hundreds of volunteers will gather on Saturday, Oct. 25, 2008 to help keep Tucson clean and beautiful, as part of "Make A Difference Day", a special project created by USA Weekend magazine and the Paul Newman Foundation to encourage volunteer service. Complete details and an online sign-up form are available at Tucson Electric Power's Web site, tep.com. Sponsors include TEP, Tucson Clean & Beautiful, Citi, Cox Communications, Arizona Daily Star, Home Depot, City of Tucson Parks & Recreation Department, **Southern Arizona Environmental Management Society (SAEMS)** and 94.9 Mix FM. SAEMS leaders will be taking an active role in this event, but we need more help! To volunteer for the event contact, SAEMS committee member Frank Bonillas at 520-690-5749, or at frank.bonillas@tucsonaz.gov.

November 12 & 13th – Apache Nitrogen Hosts Fiesta De Las Cienegas!

Apache Nitrogen is celebrating wetlands remediation success and is hosting a one day free seminar followed by a celebration at the facility in Benson the next day. The free seminar is on wetlands and riparian ecology and will be held at the Manning House on Wednesday, November 12th. The celebration continues on Thursday, November 13, 2008 in Benson at the wetlands site with presentations by EPA Region IX and ADEQ, and includes a cookout. To register for the free seminar or the wetland celebration and cookout, please contact Pamela Beilke at 520-720-2114 or by email pbeilke@apachenitro.com

The Word "Environment"

When I first started out in this business, years ago, it was a time of addressing the nation's first Superfund sites like Love Canal and was a formulating new environmental laws like the Arizona Environmental Quality Act (EQA). In 1978, a New York mother worried about the health of her son and turned activist, giving birth to what we know today as "Superfund". We were reacting then – to the sins of our past. Easy forms of disposal and lack of awareness resulted in expensive and broad reaching clean-up efforts. In 2004, it was monumental that the New York times headlines proclaimed, "Love Canal Declared Clean, Ending Toxic Horror". I date myself, but does anyone else recall the dubbing of the Cuyahoga River in Ohio as "the river that burned" after photographs recorded it a-blaze from toxic chemicals in 1969? I was born not far from that Cuyahoga River. Maybe that explains why my professional early roots were in Superfund and waste management. A passion for making a difference gave me energy and inspiration.

From the dawning of environmental awareness in the 1970's and the start of my career in the 1980's, it became clear that *protecting* rather than cleaning up was and is much more cost effective and efficient approach. The Arizona Aquifer Protection Permit program modeled the way as a regulatory form of prevention - a unique program dedicated to protecting our groundwater as a future source of drinking water through requiring use of control technology.

Recently I co-chaired Environmental Issue Day for Greater Tucson Leadership. While working with co-chairs Sr, Aide Monique Martin of Ward 6 Council Office and Colleen Crowninshield of Pima Association of Governments (PAG) and lining up speakers, I was reminded of how vast the term "environment" has become today. My co-chairs and their speakers challenged my beliefs, broadened my awareness, and caused me to grow up professionally.

While developing the GTL day and listening to class members, I truly came to appreciate that "environment" means different things to different people: the work environment or ergonomics; sustainable or renewable forms of energy; recycling which I am either ashamed or proud to say I first started after GTL training; hazardous waste management, transportation and disposal; natural resource conservation; water resource management and "every drop counts"; reducing carbon footprints and emissions through carbon sequestration, emissions controls or searching for clean fuels; and, reducing our dependence on foreign oil and fossil fuels, to name a few. How can it be covered in one day? Listening to the GTL speakers and then also the really top notch speakers at the SAEMS Pollution Prevention (P2) seminar, it was clear that the field of environmental management has evolved tremendously. Today, as our nation's laws have brought us to a higher level, our emphasis can and must switch to sustainability. We have reached a stage where at least some of the worst sins of the past have been put to rest, and we can begin to move beyond the past and into our future.

How wonderful that we can come together through an organization that is focused on broadening the awareness of its members and attracting diverse members so we can learn from one another and look forward together! **Kristie Kilgore, SAEMS Communication Coordinator**
EEC Sr. Project Manager, Environmental Regulatory Services

Membership Renewal Reminder: Its never too late!

SAEMS Annual Memberships expired on September 30th - To continue receiving newsletters, community announcements, information updates, and notices regarding seminars – submit a renewal application. SAEMS Visit www.saems.org for application forms.

Hyperlinks: Follow hyperlink emails and web pages addresses by hitting CTRL while left clicking on your mouse