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> Michelle Lechner Executive Director, ATRI PO Box 9424 Springfield, IL 62791 illautorecyclers@aol.com

Articles may be edited for length and format.

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### **President's Perspective**

#### By Eric Gallay, ATRI President

As I sit here after work writing the ATRI newsletter, I first want to say to all of my fellow recyclers, is the importance of "FAMILY". During this holiday season. I feel that I also have another family, all the members of the ATRI. We are a unique group of individuals



that we all share the same common interests and goals to help our families grow and prosper.

I would also like to give many thanks to Mr. Andy Zalon for being on the board of ATRI. Andy, you have done a wonder-

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ful job as the Treasure and board member. Also, Jack Reichel has resigned from his long term as a board member. You will both be greatly missed. I am also pleased to announce the two new additions to the ATRI board. Mr. Brian Collins of Collins Truck Parts Inc, Tamaroa, IL and Mr. Frank Mistretta, Aero Auto Parts and New Cats Auto Parts, Chicago, IL. I think this is a first to have such representation from all parts of IL. As we all know, we all face problems and obstacle's in this business but the problems differ from the North and the South. I think with this mix we will be able to address so much more having our eyes open to the state as a whole.

I, as the President, am looking forward to going on tour with Michelle and meeting our member's face to face and getting to know you better. I will be proactive in meeting with our state Legislators and working on problems we all face in this industry as recyclers. Also, I'm looking forward to our 2018 Illinois convention and trade show that will be held in East St. Louis at the St. Louis Pic-A-Part yard. Great plans are in the works for that one!

I am located in Cottage Hills, IL. I am pretty close to St. Louis and the Alton area. Lots to do and see around these parts so if you are even in the neighborhood please give me a shout and come on by.

Everyone get your membership paid to date, remember to send your logo and 50- word blurb into the ATRI office so we can add it to the website membership directory. This is a great member benefit we should all take advantage of!

In closing, may everyone be safe and have a wonderful New Year. Remember, be green and recycle.

Thank You.

Eric Gallay, ARTI President Reds Auto Parts, Cottage Hills, IL

### **Executive's Viewpoint**

#### By Michelle Lechner, Executive Director

Happy New Year! It's hard to believe another year is gone and even harder to believe it is 2018! It's kind of a slow time for the Auto & Truck Recycling Association, but that is a good thing because it gives us time to prepare for the upcoming year. Seems that many Bills are introduced in December and January so we will be watching them closely to see if any target our industry. I can tell you that the Mercury Switch collection bill has been extended. The plan for the auto makers was to extend it for 5 years, however, after talking with them, and the sponsor of the bill, it was decided it would only be extended for 2 ½ more years. At that time, we will review to see how many of those cars are still registered and out on the street that have switches. At last count a year ago, there were about 3000 according to the Secretary of States office.

One of the issues ATRI is concentrating on is the inspection station problem. We all know that it is an issue and holding up a lot of you from getting titles and/ or selling cars. We are being told it's a manpower issue, which is not our problem, but yet you have to suffer because of it. We have said that is not acceptable answer and we are still encouraging the several options that have been discussed at our many many meetings with them. We are staying on top of this and encouraging such changes, but unfortunately a timely manner never happens where government is concerned. The mes-



sage here is for you all too know ATRI is keeping the lines of communication open. We know it's frustrating, I encourage you to all call your representative and Senator in your area and express your concern. If this is done enough it will make a difference

With all of that being said, we are asking you all to be prepared for the very first "Lobby Day" in Springfield, IL. This

will take place in the Springtime. You will all be invited to participate and I hope you do so. We have got to get out and meet our legislators. There are lots of new ones too. Over 30 have left office so it will be a good time for us to get in there and meet the new ones. ARA has provided a "Lobby Day kit" to all of the Affiliate Chapters. We will use this tool when we are ready to host our own Lobby Day.

ARA is also doing an awareness campaign to promote used auto parts. I have said many times I think we should do this by adding a consumer video to our website, and do press releases throughout the state. These are just some of the goals ATRI has discussed for 2018. Public awareness is so highly needed.

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Next years convention & trade show will be at the St. Louis Pic-A-Part yard. This facility is also quite a place! We are so excited and grateful to the Heckenast family for agreeing to host yet another event at their yard in East St. Louis, IL. One of the features will be a round table for "Young Guns" instead of old timers. It's time to switch it up! If

you are interested in participating in the round table event please let me know. We don't have all of the details, including date, so stay tuned! There is lots in the works for this one.

We welcome Frank Mistretta, Aero Auto Parts/New Cats Auto Parts, Chicago, IL., and Brian Collins from Collins Truck Parts, Tamaroa, IL., to the ATRI Board of Directors. The ATRI Board is made up of members from both the north and South of IL., a very good balance. Thank you to those who have left, your hard work and dedication does not go unnoticed!

Lastly, the 2018 dues notices have been emailed. If you did not get one please let me know. Your quick attention to get them paid in a timely manner is much appreciated. Remember, if you are an IL Green Car Member you must be in good standings with the association to maintain that status.

Keep Recycling,

Michelle Lechner
Executive Director



Association

### No Such Thing as a Free Sample

By Grace Miller - Environmental Scientist. Jamie McCrocklin - Environmental Manager. VET Environmental Engineering, LLC

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of remediation." – The Iron Butterfly

The new general storm water permit for Illinois (passed by the IEPA on April 5, 2017 with a mandatory compliance date of October 5, 2017) requires permitted industrial facilities to collect storm water samples and send them to a lab for analysis. Since a facility's permit quarters are based on their permit (rather than calendar quarters), some facilities updated their Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) early to meet new requirements and have already completed their second quarter of sampling. As the results come in and people have questions, VET is here to answer them and offer guidance.

#### What are benchmarks?

There are two kinds of sampling mandated by the IEPA under the new permit: benchmark sampling and impairment sampling. Every industrial facility with a general storm water permit is required to sample for industry-specific pollutants and meet specific benchmarks (limits) mandated by the IEPA. For auto recycling facilities, these pollutants and benchmarks include total suspended solids (TSS), total aluminum (Al), total iron (Fe), and total lead (Pb). In order to be compliant with Illinois storm water regulations, the average results from your first four sampling quarters must be below the state-mandated benchmarks. It is possible to request exemption from future sampling for the remainder of your permit once your 4-quarter average meets the benchmarks.

#### Do I need to sample for impairments?

In addition to benchmark sampling, facilities whose storm water runoff discharges to an impaired (polluted) waterbody may be required to conduct annual impairment sampling

to ensure additional pollutants aren't discharged to the impaired waterbody. Illinois provides a list of waterbodies that are impaired and the contaminants of concern. Facilities are only required to sample for the pollutants they could reasonably be discharging. For example: if the river that receives your storm water is polluted by fecal coliform bacteria, you aren't expected to sample for fecal coliform bacteria because you don't handle or process sewage at an auto salvage yard (no matter how much crap you take at work!). However, if your river is polluted by oil and grease, you're required to sample for oil and grease because an auto salvage yard is reasonably expected to discharge some oil and grease in its storm water runoff.

Facilities discharging to impaired waters must sample applicable impairment pollutants once per year for the duration of their permit. If a benchmark pollutant is also an impairment pollutant (for example, if your river is impaired for total iron), you must continue to sample for total iron annually even after your 4-quarter average meets the total iron benchmark. For those of you who are VET clients, VET has determined if you are required to sample for impairments and included appropriate bottles in your sample kits.

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## Why were my Total Suspended Solids high?

TSS is a measurement of how much sediment is in your storm water sample. TSS tends to be high for several reasons:

- Low-flow events: not enough rain falls, resulting in sluggish flows, making it difficult to sample without disturbing sediment.
- High-flow events: too much rain falls, resulting in fast, heavy flows that stir up lots of sediment.
- Not enough ground cover: exposed dirt on your site gets picked up by runoff.
- Excessive dust: runoff collects dust generated from roads and unpaved surfaces.
- Poor sampling procedure: accidently scraping the ground, sampling from a stagnant puddle, or walking upstream of your outfall prior to sampling can increase sediment in your sample.

#### Why were my metals high?

Well...auto recycling yards have metal! More specifically, metals (Al, Fe, Pb) tend to be high for the following reasons:

- Exposure: metal parts, metal vehicles, metal buildings, metal racks – rainwater exposed to these items picks up trace amounts of metal.
- Excessive dust: runoff collects metal dust, especially if you have processes that generate metal dust from cutting vehicles or parts.
- Poor sampling procedure: same deal as TSS.



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Metals are often correlated with high TSS. This is because fast-flowing water or water that has been disturbed picks up lots of sediment, including metals. Stagnant water can also have high TSS and metals because no-flow conditions allow pollutants to collect and build up over time.

## Aw man, I exceeded a benchmark. Now what?

When you exceed a benchmark for one quarter, you should consider implementing control measures to try to lower your numbers and reevaluate your sampling methodology. While a 1-quarter exceedance is not necessarily a permit violation, it does mean it will be harder to keep your 4-quarter average under the benchmark for that pollutant. Get those numbers down before it becomes a bigger problem!

When your 4-quarter average exceeds a benchmark, you must implement control measures to try to lower pollutants, document the exceedance and new control measures in your SWPPP, and restart your quarterly sampling to test your control measures' effectiveness. Failure to do these things constitutes a permit violation. For some yards, a 4-quarter exceedance occurs after only one or two sampling events: if you get a TSS result of 1,000 on your first sampling event and the TSS benchmark is 100, there's no way your 4-quarter TSS average will be 100 or less – you've already exceeded your benchmark. If you are a VET client, we are tracking your storm water results and will keep you informed of how you are doing each time you sample.

## What can I do to get my numbers down?

General things everyone can do to lower TSS, Al, Fe, and Pb include:

- Best Management Practices and inspections, Good Housekeeping inspections, and regular yard clean-ups.
- Move parts and processes indoors where possible.
- Minimize storm water exposure to fluids keep 'em covered and contained, and clean up spills right away.
- Reduce dust as much as possible on your site.
- Ensure your sampling procedure is sound.

Some common control measures you may consider installing to slow down storm water and trap pollutants include straw bales, green buffers (planting grass in bare areas), filter bags/socks/booms, and structural improvements (swales, berms, etc.). The best control measures to try will depend on your site and the location of your outfall(s). VET can help you decide what will work best for your site.

#### Any sampling tips for newbies?

- Try to sample medium-flow events.
- Do not sample from stagnant water.
- Sample early the sooner the better, especially before it gets dry in the summer!
- Fill ALL your sample bottles! For VET clients, this includes the unpreserved 1-liter plastic bottle you use to fill the preserved bottles it's not just a fill bottle, it must go to the lab!
- If needed, use the cap from the unpreserved 1-liter plastic bottle to scoop water into the other sample bottles.
- Pack as much ice as possible in your cooler with your samples – samples must be 4°C or colder when they get to the lab.
- Make sure your cooler is clean and dry when you stick the shipping label on – we had a cooler detour to Memphis for a few days because the label came off!

#### **Got Compliance?**





### Auto & Truck Recyclers of Illinois

## Application for Membership Please print or type

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# Discover the Benefits of Being an ATRI Member!

#### Illinois Green Car Program (Illinois Certified Automotive Recyclers)

Illinois Green Car recognizes and certifies that the member meets certain criteria in terms of environmental impact, safety, licensing and other regulatory standards as well as general business practices. This program is endorsed by the Illinois EPA and is cost effective. For just \$50 a year, you can become CAR certified through the National Association. ATRI has an established a working relationship with the Illinois EPA so if you have questions for them but don't want to call, ATRI will be glad to make the call and provide you the answers.

**ATRI Executive Director** is a lobbyist for the association and engages legislative issues pertaining to Illinois auto recyclers. Through the Executive Director, ATRI engages in lobbying efforts and has established relationships with government agencies including the Secretary of State of Illinois.

#### **Education and Training Opportunities**

ATRI provides training throughout the year. Additionally, ATRI provides educational programs, social events, yard tours, and networking with fellow recyclers.

Opportunities to network, share and learn from other recyclers. See what works and what does not.

#### ATRI Newsletter is published 6 times a year

The newsletter is currently mailed to all recyclers in Illinois. The newsletter includes industry news, a complete listing of the membership, updates on legislative and environmental issues and lots of other interesting information I am sure you will find useful in your day-to-day business operations.

#### Auto & Truck Recyclers Convention and Trade Show held annually

This event rotates around Illinois. This event is designed to bring recyclers and vendors together from all over to network, educate, and provide and encourage camaraderie. We invite our fellow recyclers from surrounding states to attend our convention and trade show, which clearly makes our convention a regional show like none other.

#### Website and staff accessibility, www.illinoisautorecyclers.com

- All members are listed on the website with all of your information, including a link to your website, if available.
- Newsletter archives
- · Calendar of Events, as they are scheduled.
- Parts Search, an opportunity for each member to sell parts.
- Suppliers list, a complete list of suppliers, associate members of ATRI.
- All contact information for the ATRI Board of Directors and Staff.
- Staff accessible to answer all your questions, or find the answer for you.
- Information friendly, ask ATRI to email the membership with an article or question you may have.

**ATRI is a member of the Automotive Recyclers Association**, the National association for auto recyclers. ATRI is active by participating at the ARA conventions and sharing that information with ATRI Members.

All Illinois recyclers encouraged to join ATRI and make a difference by getting involved. Support your state association and reap the great benefits of the membership.

# In Memory of Alberta L. (Heidemann) Gallay

Alberta L. (Heidemann) Gallay, 90, passed away peacefully in her sleep, Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017 at Rosewood Care Center in Alton.

Born on Dec. 27, 1926, in East Alton, one of four children born of the late Albert and Amelia (Kanter) Heidemann.

She married Alfred "Red" Gallay in 1949, and together they shared 61 years of marriage before his death on Dec. 9, 2010.

Alberta was a homemaker and also worked for the family business, Wood River Used Auto Parts in Cottage Hills.

Alberta loved to cook and garden and spending time with her family.

Surviving are three children, Samuel Gallay of Jerseyville; Rochelle Gallay of Alton; and Eric and Carmen Gallay of Jerseyville; a granddaughter, Maci Gallay; as well as a brother, Harold Heidemann of Fosterburg.

In addition to her parents and her husband, she was preceded in death by a sister, Helen (Heidemann) Newman, and a brother, George Heidemann.

Visitation and funeral services were held at the Crawford Funeral Home in Jerseyville. Alberta was laid to rest at the Oak Grove Cemetery in Jerseyville.

Memorials may be given to Shriner's Hospital in care of the Crawford Funeral Home in Jerseyville.



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### The Coming Flood of Flood Cars

#### By Jay Svendsen

Recent months have seen one extreme event after another, each seeming to trump the previous. When the next natural disaster occurs, the media moves on, and we hear little about the aftermath of the previous events. In late August hurricane Harvey lingered over south Texas, resulting in over 40" of rain in some areas, causing massive flooding. Two weeks later, hurricane Irma came right up the Florida peninsula causing a historic exodus of people fleeing the coming storm, with about 6 million people evacuating their homes. Puerto Rico was devastated, half of the Florida Keys were severely damaged, and parts of Florida experienced 15 hours of hurricane force winds and rain.

I wanted to share what we know is happening as a result of the aftermath of these devastating hurricanes. In Texas, most of the attention is on Houston, where parts of the city were greatly affected by storm waters. Tow companies and insurance companies have made arrangements store all the flooded vehicles. Dozens of vast fields, airports, and raceways have been setup as holding lots for the estimated 1 million vehicles flooded as a result of Hurricane Harvey. Insurance companies and the Texas DMV are being diligent in making sure that flooded vehicles are properly branded, but because of the large volume of vehicles involved, it may take until the end of February 2018 for all the vehicles to be processed. At the ARA Convention in Dallas, it was mentioned that Insurance Auto Auctions will be selling 1,500 flood ve-

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hicles from Houston every day, including Sundays, until all the vehicles are sold. It is important to note that most of the Texas flood vehicles will be freshwater floods, but that many vehicles were in the water for several days, or even weeks.

In Florida, Hurricane Irma created the largest flight of residents in recorded history with an estimated 6 million people leaving their homes to avoid the storm. Hurricane Irma was stronger in force than Harvey, but it moved more quickly. It is estimated that insurance companies will process about 250,000 flood vehicles in Florida. Many of the Florida flood vehicles will be saltwater floods, which are the least desirable vehicles for recyclers. This storm created a unique event in that when residents evacuated, many only took their "good" car when they left, leaving the older cars, motorcycles, and other "toys" behind. In many cases, the other vehicles might not be covered by insurance (only having liability insurance), leaving the owners to deal with any damage that occurred to vehicle. Since the storm created more damage to homes and businesses in Florida, even though the number is smaller, it will likely be February before all the flood vehicles are processed in Florida as well.

According to recyclers I have spoken with, most don't want anything to do with flood vehicles. For those who operate in the metal recycling/processing space, there will be many vehicles available at greatly reduced pricing since metal values are currently low and have been decreasing for the last few months. On the upside, as people are paid for their insurance claims, there has been a spike in auto sales and there will likely be a corresponding increase in parts sales as people repair their owner-retained flood vehicles.

From what I can see, many of the Texas and Florida Flood vehicles will be reported to NMVTIS, as both the state DMVs and insurance companies are being diligent in reporting them correctly. There will still be issues with vehicles that are not processed through insurance companies, but

recyclers can use NMVTIS inquiry reports to help identify potential flooddamaged vehicles. The major salvage auctions are really good at reporting vehicles to NMVTIS and they generally report daily, so the data is timely. A NMVTIS inquiry will show last state of title plus previous states of title. Both Florida and Texas are real-time with NMVTIS, meaning recyclers can use the reports to identify vehicles that were previously titled in either Florida or Texas before September 10th, then were re-titled in another state at a later date. If this is the case, there is a high likelihood that the vehicle was involved in the flooding and should be physically inspected or priced accordingly. Verifying a vehicle's NMVTIS title record can be a very good investment when looking at higher dollar vehicles.

Jay Svendsen
Auto Data Direct Inc.
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"Nothing can stop
the man with
the right mental
attitude
from achieving his
goal; nothing on
earth can help the
man
with the wrong
mental attitude.
Thomas Jefferson

# EPA Restrictions on Purchase and Wholesale Sale of Refrigerants

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) regulations regarding the purchase and/or wholesale sale of ozone-depleting substances (ODS) used as refrigerants go into effect on January 1, 2018. This will include R-134a and other substitute refrigerants. The new restrictions cover the purchase of large containers of refrigerants and the requirement for self-sealing valves on small containers after January 1. It also requires, in some instances, the need for technician certification.

The details as they apply to motor vehicle air conditioner (MVAC) refrigerants are as follows:

- The EPA sales restriction "covers refrigerants contained in cylinders, cans, or drums, except for the sale of small cans of substitute refrigerants (e.g., R-134a) for use in motor vehicle air conditioners."
- The requirement covers containers greater than 2 pounds. Purchasers of under that quantity do not need a certified technician.
- The sales restriction provides that to qualify to purchase "any type of ozone-depleting refrigerant" there must be employed a technician who has earned the Section 609 Technician Certification.

- To purchase these refrigerants, employers must provide written evidence that they employ at least one "properly certified technician".
- Wholesalers of ODS or substitute refrigerants "must retain invoices that indicate the name of the purchaser, the date of sale, and the quantity of refrigerant purchases."
- EPA recommends (but does not specify or require) that wholesalers "obtain a signed statement from the purchaser indicating that he or she is purchasing the refrigerant only for eventual resale to certified technicians."

ARA University has a course on Section 609 certification. It is provided by MAC (Mobile Air Conditioning Society) and here is the link to the study manual: https://www.macsw.org/WEB/images/Macs\_Docs/Certification/2018\_609CertTrainManual.pdf

The full text of the EPA rule can be found at this link: https://www.epa.gov/section608/refrigerant-sales-restriction.

Source: ARA

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