

# SWANA of the South



## WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE

- Membership Update
- JSU Places in Student Design Competition
- Big Safety News
- 2022 Fall Conference Recap
- Scholarships

## WELCOME TO OUR CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Jennifer Jackson, Board President

My name is Jennifer Jackson, and I am the President of SWANA Magnolia Chapter in Mississippi. I am honored and grateful to serve as President of this great organization and so appreciative to follow in the footsteps of those that served before me. I would like to welcome everyone to our first newsletter. Twice a year we will be sending out a newsletter with chapter updates, information about scholarships, conferences, safety updates, and membership. As a membership organization, we are driven by the needs of you, the members.



**What would you like to see SWANA doing? How can we get more people in your organization involved? How can we make an impact with operational staff? Please reach out with suggestions. The board is looking for new ways to provide membership value.**

The Magnolia Chapter of SWANA Board of Directors currently consists of 14 dedicated professionals that represent a cross-section of our industry. Our newest member Tim Eaves serves as our Young Professional (YP) Liaison who will help us better engage with our YP members (35 years of age and younger). I encourage you to seek ways to become more involved as we are always looking for individuals willing to become involved in a larger role in our industry and organization. For more information about SWANA please go to our website at <https://www.msswana.org>.

It was great seeing everyone in Natchez at our Fall Conference. It was a huge success and we could not do it without the participation of our members, sponsors, and exhibitors. Please let us know topics you would like presented at our future conferences. Mark your calendars for our Spring Conference at the IP Casino in Biloxi April 4th, 5th, and 6th, 2023. I look forward to working with you in 2023.

# 2023 SPRING CONFERENCE

The MS Chapter Spring Conference is set for April 4-6, 2023  
at the IP Casino Resort Spa in Biloxi. Draft agenda  
soon to come, but registration is open!

Check out the conference page for agenda,  
registration, and other information:

<http://www.msswana.org/event/2023springconference/>

THE MISSISSIPPI "MAGNOLIA" CHAPTER  
OF SWANA PRESENTS THE  
**2023 Spring Conference**  
APRIL 4-6, 2023



FOR MORE VISIT: [www.msswana.org](http://www.msswana.org)



# Membership Update



The Mississippi Chapter was the 33rd chapter to form in the organization's history. The chapter received its charter at SWANA's 29th Annual Business Meeting on August 15, 1991 in Cincinnati, OH.

The Chapter has seen significant growth particularly in the last several years and includes members representing waste management companies, state and local government, trucking companies, engineering/environmental firms, machinery/equipment companies, law firms, and even student members from MS universities.

In 2022, the chapter added 46 new members, and we're currently sitting at 144 members in total. We're encouraged to see growth at our conferences and to see that translate to chapter growth, and we look forward to meeting and engaging with prospective members. If you know of anyone that may be interested in joining, they can find out more about the benefits and join online [here...](#)



## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### Tim Eaves, MS Chapter YP Liaison

Tim works as a civil engineer with Promus Engineering, LLC in TN. He's got over 8 years of experience in engineering as well as 11 in the U.S. Air Force. Tim is proud of his girls being father to Reagan and husband to April, who's company Scout Designs is thriving and has even been featured on HGTV's Home Town.

The Board is excited to have his input and is thrilled to have him serve in the YP Liaison role in order to help us better engage with the younger individuals in the industry and encourage their involvement.

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# Newsworthy



## JSU PLACES IN SWANA 2022 SWDC

Jackson State University entered for the first time in SWANA's International Solid Waste Design Competition. They finished in 3rd place with their proposal for an alternative landfill gas emission estimation program. Read more [here...](#)

## SWANA SAFETY CAMPAIGN SHOWING SIGNS OF SUCCESS

Refuse and recycling collection fatalities has continued to drop over the past few years. SWANA has really been pushing safety in the industry with goals to get collection out of the top 5 most deadly occupations. In 2020, it was ranked 6th, and as of the end of 2022, it's ranking has dropped to 7th. Read more [here...](#)



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## SAFETY MATTERS

### PREVENTING SLIPS, TRIPS, & FALLS

Slips, trips, and falls are a leading cause of serious injury for all solid waste workers. The following tips can help prevent these incidents.

**DON'T RUSH**

Do not run or hurry when performing any part of your job. Every step counts.

**MAINTAIN 3 POINTS OF CONTACT**

Always maintain 3 POINTS OF CONTACT when climbing up or down. This means using two hands and a foot, or two feet and a hand, to maximize stability.

**CLIMB IN AND OUT OF VEHICLES CAREFULLY**

Use equipment provided when entering and exiting a vehicle or equipment. This includes steps, railings, and handles.

**NEVER JUMP**

Never jump from a height, even small distances. This includes the riding step.

**AVOID WALKING BACKWARDS**

Minimize walking backwards whenever possible. This is especially important when

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### PREVENTING BACK INJURY

Back injuries and other muscle strains are a serious risk for waste and recycling workers. Repeatedly lifting the wrong way can cause long-term

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## SAFETY MATTERS

### TRANSFER STATION SAFETY

Transfer stations can be a dangerous place for both employees and customers. The following tips can help protect yourself and others who come to the facility.

**BE AT ALL TIMES**

Wear hard hats, sturdy protection, and high-visibility clothes.

**OUR DANGER ZONES**

Never get within 10 feet of the edge without fall protection.

**GOOD HOUSEKEEPING IS ESSENTIAL**

Keeping things stored properly helps prevent accidents (slips, trips, and falls) and increases productivity.

**LOCK OUT/TAG OUT ALWAYS**

No matter how quick or seemingly

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## SAFETY MATTERS

### HANDLING HOT LOADS

Pool chemicals, hot coals from barbecues, and fireworks are just a few of the items that can cause a hot load in your collection vehicle. Combine that with dry conditions and the danger increases for the fire to spread. Review your agency's and company's policies for handling hot loads and consider the following:

- Signs of a hot load include smoke, harsh odors, blistering paint, or hot spots on the body of the truck.
- If a hot load is suspected, move the truck to an isolated area with a flat, paved surface if possible.
- Avoid locations with overhead wires or anything overhanging.
- Immediately call the fire department, and if it's a natural gas truck, let them know.
- If you smell smoke but see no flames, you may "pack the load" to deprive it of oxygen.
- A dry chemical fire extinguisher can be used if you are properly trained and safe to do so.
- If it can be done safely, eject the load and move the truck away from the waste.
- Take into account high winds and wildfire risk in the area when considering whether to eject the load.
- If it is not safe to eject the load, move away from the truck and wait for the fire department.

Photo by Chris Rhoads on Unsplash

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## SAFETY MATTERS

### COLLECTING WASTE & RECYCLING = 7TH DEADLIEST

Job	Deaths (2011-2020)
Logging workers	~150
Fishing and hunting workers	~100
Miners	~80
Aircraft pilots and flight engineers	~70
Structural iron and steel workers	~60
Construction workers and laborers	~50
Relay and telephone line installers and repairers	~40
Unemployment insurance workers	~30
Collecting waste and recycling	~25

Chart from US Bureau of Labor Statistics

Collecting waste and recycling was the seventh deadliest job in the United States in 2021, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. That's ahead of even first responders like police and firefighters. This is why we spend so much time talking about safety.

The safety tips shared every week through *Safety Matters*, along with other training and tagline talks, are meant to save lives. Slow down, don't cut corners, and follow all your organization's policies and procedures. Let's make 2023 the safest year yet and get the industry off of the top 10 list of deadliest jobs.

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For more #SWANAsafety info and resources visit [SWANA.org/safety](https://swana.org/safety)

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## SAFETY MATTERS

### MACHINE SAFETY

Machinery incorrectly in the recycling industry can cause injury or even death. It has its own safety rules and provides some general tips to keep you safe.

**USE PROPER GUARDING**

Guards protect both you and the machinery. They can prevent things like crushed fingers, lacerations, burns, or worse. Make sure these parts are never removed that are in place.

**WEAR PROPER PPE**

When wearing PPE when working on or around machinery. Safety glasses, hard hats, safety shoes, and earplugs can protect you from injury.

**TAGOUT (LOTO)**

Lockout/tagout can be seriously injured or killed if lockout/tagout is not properly followed. Injuries may include electrocution, burns, crushing, amputating, or fracturing body parts. Follow LOTO procedures.

**TRAIN WITHOUT PROPER TRAINING**

Only trained for safe operations. If you haven't been trained to work on a particular piece of equipment, don't do it. Period.

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## SAFETY MATTERS

### SAFETY TIPS FOR LANDFILL EMPLOYEES

SWANA wants you to go home to your family every day, safely. Following these rules at the landfill will help keep you safe:

- Wear appropriate PPE and respiratory protection.
- Maintain situational awareness. Be vigilant of mobile equipment and changing site conditions.
- Do not perform tasks, operate tools, or use equipment you have not been trained for.
- Heavy equipment has the right of way. Make yourself visible and stay clear of equipment on the move.
- Landfill workers and customers should never scavenge materials from the landfill.
- Never use your cell phone or text while operating machinery or moving around a landfill facility.

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## SAFETY MATTERS

### HAULER SAFETY AT LANDFILLS

When accidents happen at landfills, it's often the haulers dumping the loads who are the victims. Haulers should be aware of and follow all onsite rules and directions when at the landfill. Safety doesn't end when the route does.

- Obey posted speed limits and follow all traffic signs.
- Always drive in a safe and appropriate manner at the landfill working face.
- If the landfill uses a spotter, be sure to follow their directions and keep them in sight.
- Use caution when maneuvering around other vehicles. Maintain a safe distance between yourself and others.
- Use caution when exiting and entering your vehicle to prevent slips and falls. Always have three points of contact.
- Prior to unloading, securely latch open tailgates to prevent swinging while the load is being dumped.

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## SAFETY MATTERS

### LANDFILL SPOTTER SAFETY

It is the spotter's job to control the flow of traffic and keep drivers safe at the landfill. However, they face serious safety risks at the working face from trucks and landfill equipment. The following tips can help spotters stay safe.

- Spotters must follow all safety procedures and stay alert.
- Consider directing traffic from inside a "safe" zone. Examples might include concrete barricades or a small structure such as a shed.
- High-visibility safety vests should always be worn when spotting, and if dark, flashlights should be used.
- Communication is vital. Where possible, radios are the best way to communicate. Otherwise, develop clear and consistent hand signals for communicating with operators.
- Spotters should make certain signs and barricades are located properly. The signs should be clean, well-maintained, and easy to read.
- No scavenging! It poses a serious risk of injury or death and sets a poor example for landfill customers.

Adapted from SWANA's *Landfill Operations Basics Training*

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See more about why Safety Matters to SWANA at <https://swana.org/initiatives/safety>



# 2022 Fall Conference Recaps



140+ attendees this year.  
Great crowd and some  
great speakers.

A lot of work goes into  
these conferences, and the  
Board does all they can to  
ensure all of our attendees  
enjoy them.



THE MS "MAGNOLIA" CHAPTER  
OF SWANA PRESENTS THE

**2022 FALL  
CONFERENCE**

OCTOBER 11-13, 2022

**Special Thanks to Our  
Conference Sponsors**

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So thankful for our  
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how they make these  
conferences happen.

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# 2022 Fall Conference Recaps



After the sessions ended on Day 2, attendees had the chance to take part in several networking events. Clay shooting has long been a favorite at the Fall Conference and provides a great chance to catch up with old friends and make some new ones over some friendly competition.

Those opting for the weapon of useless knowledge over guns came out to the Natchez Brewing Company for some gourmet pizza, craft beer, and a pretty close trivia game. MS Chapter Board Vice-President Doug Wiggins was able to donate the uneaten food to some hungry local first responders.



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# 2022 Fall Conference Recaps

Our friends at Pickett Industries cooked up a storm for our Yellowstone River Social, and somehow the real storms miraculously held off. A great night of good food and fellowship.



FOR MORE VISIT: [www.msswana.org](http://www.msswana.org)

# MS SWANA Chapter Scholarships

Congratulations to our 2022 Doug Wilson Memorial Scholarship winners. Our Chapter Board is thrilled to be supporting...

**MALLORY CLAIRE WILLIAMS**  
STUDYING BIOCHEMISTRY/PRE-MED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

**KELSIE MALLEY**  
STUDYING BIOCHEMISTRY/PRE-PHARMACY AT MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

**ASHLEY GONCE**  
STUDYING HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

**ROBERT GAGE PARKMAN**  
STUDYING ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING AT MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

**DAYTON EUBANK**  
PLANNING TO STUDY CHEMICAL ENGINEERING AT MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

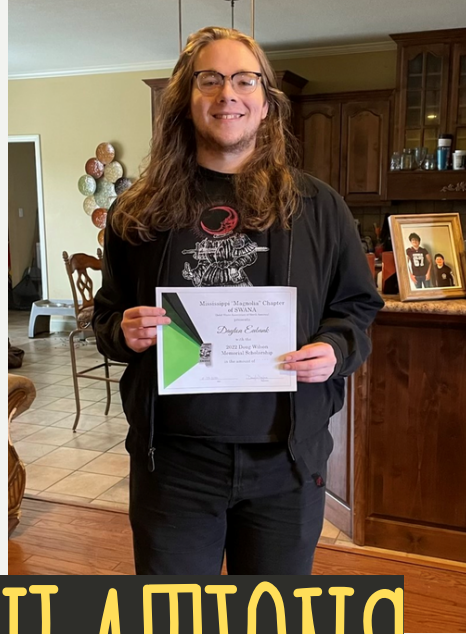
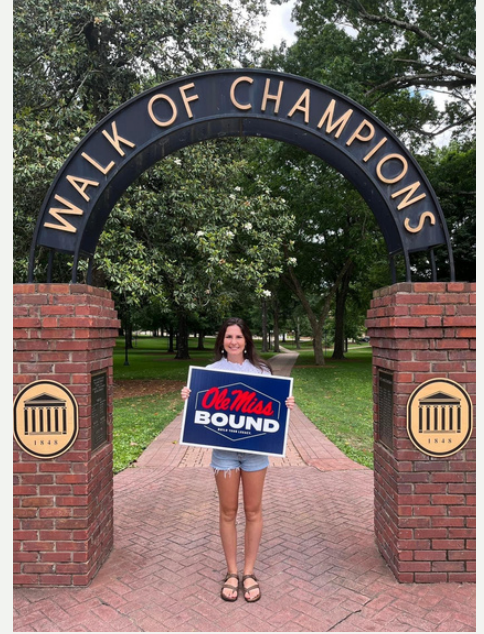
Each year, the MS Chapter accepts applications for two sets of scholarships, the Michael Caples Memorial Scholarship and the Doug Wilson Memorial Scholarship. The deadline for applications for the Michael Caples Memorial Scholarship is March 31, 2023. Scholarships are available to seniors in high school and those full enrolled at a college or university. Students must be a child or grandchild of a MS Chapter member or sponsored by one. Scholarships are also available to student members, and students should remember that these memberships are FREE! Applications as well as more information available at

[www.msswana.org/scholarships](http://www.msswana.org/scholarships).

FOR MORE VISIT: [www.msswana.org](http://www.msswana.org)



# 2022 Doug Wilson Memorial Scholarship Winners



CONGRATULATIONS

FOR MORE VISIT: [www.msswana.org](http://www.msswana.org)



# Stay Tuned for...

In future issues, you can expect:

- Chapter News/Announcements
- Safety Information
- Member Highlights
- and more...



If you have any thoughts on information you'd like to see in future newsletters, feel free to contact one of your Board members or reach out at [info@msswana.org](mailto:info@msswana.org). We look forward to keeping in better communication with our greatly appreciated membership.

FOR MORE VISIT: [www.msswana.org](http://www.msswana.org)