



The Dispatch

An Official Publication of

TOWING & RECOVERY
ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON

**Make your
Reservations NOW!!!**

TRAW

**Christmas Celebration
December 12th & 13th**

December 12

7:00pm
Social Hosted by
TRAW Executive Board

December 13

8:30am - 2:00pm – Board
Meeting - Fuji 3-4 Room
6:00pm - Social
7:00pm – Dinner

For reservation call the

**Coast Wenatchee
Center Hotel
509.662.1234**

Ask for the
TRAW Room Block
Rates are:

\$92.00 single/double + tax
\$102.00 triple + tax
\$112.00 quad + tax

Check in is 3:00pm
Check out is Noon

President Kurt's "Korner"

TRAW's Christmas Party is fast approaching. Have you registered yet? I just reserved my room today and they're already down to 30 rooms in the block. Reserve your room now and get your registration form in to Vicky's office.

I want to welcome Mike and JoAnne Walcker as the new Association Directors. The transition takes place in December. As you know, all transitions take time so I'm asking for your patience during this process. We're looking for great things to happen with this change.

I'd also like to encourage all members to take the time to give Vicky and all of 501 Consultants a big thank you for all their hard work and dedication. We could not have made it this far without them.

I will introduce you to the new Directors at the Christmas banquet. Mike says his office in Cashmere will always be open and he'll have the coffee on. (And maybe if you talk real nice, JoAnne might even have some warm cookies, but I'd give them a call in advance, just to make sure!)

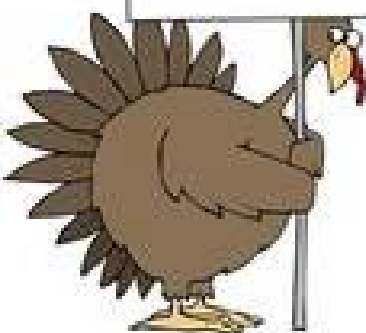
Items are still needed for the silent and live auctions. Contact your district chair person with any items you'd like to donate.

See you at the banquet.

Take care and be safe,

Kurt

EAT BEEF



Thanksgiving Day comes, by statute, once a year;
to the honest man it comes as frequently
as the heart of gratitude will allow.

~Edward Sandford Martin

**Happy Thanksgiving To
One & All**

Worker Visibility

On November 24th, 2008, a new law will take effect that Federal Highway is implementing regarding High Visibility apparel. The Code of Federal Regulations 634.3- states:

Worker Visibility Rule: Content

All workers within the right-of-way of a Federal-aid highway who are exposed either to traffic (vehicles using the highway for purposes of travel) or to construction equipment within the work area shall wear high-visibility safety apparel.23 CFR Part 634.3

What does this mean for all responders? You are going to be required to wear safety apparel that falls in one or three categories and is based on Risk:

Variables to consider:

- Speed of Traffic through the Workzone
- Amount of Traffic through the Workzone
- Time of Day
- Background Clutter in the Workzone
- Amount of Activity in the Workzone
- Other Construction vehicles, etc...
- Type of Activity the Worker is Performing
- Where is the worker's attention?
- Towards on-coming traffic or the task at hand?
- Location of Work
- Proximity to traffic or other vehicle

Garment Selection should focus on Risk Exposure Assessment:

- Task Load
- Nature of Work
- Color and complexity of the work
- Environment
- Lighting

Overview of Garment Classes:

- Class 3 – Use in severe environments
- Class 2 – Use in moderately severe environments
- Class 1 – For low risk environments

Class 3 examples:

Roadway construction personnel flaggers, utility workers, survey crews, and Emergency Response Personnel, Vehicle assistance, anyone who has a high task load and is in close proximity to moving equipment or Traffic at high speeds, Highest speed, Work Occurs at Night.

- Worker's attention is diverted from oncoming traffic and surrounding environment
- "Cluttered" Work Zone with High Levels of activity
- Worker must be visible from all angles and identifiable as a person
- Worker has no separation between them and traffic

Use of Class 2 Garments:

- Greater Visibility needed due to Inclement Weather Conditions
- Complex and Cluttered Backgrounds
- Most Work is performed during daytime hours
Worker's attention is diverted from On Coming traffic and surrounding environments

Examples of Class 2:

- Forestry Operations
 - Ship Cargo loading operations
 - Roadway construction workers
 - Utility workers survey crews
 - Railway workers
 - School crossing guards in traffic
- Emergency responders
Everyone needs to understand that if you are out there you need to have this protection! It is LAW now, where before it was a guideline.

You have a choice to which one you wear, level 2 or 3. This law applies to everyone, even police, fire and EMS. There is only one exception – police are only required to wear apparel during traffic related incidents, traffic control, and investigation. Everyone must comply!

Please note:

The regulation does not say safety VEST it says Safety Apparel, but be warned, the apparel must meet all the required standards.

For more information you may visit www.Workzonesafety.org or read this article (PDF 2mb) presented by the ATSSA.

This information was received from:
Janice Bradley – Technical Director – ISEA
Hari Kalla – MUTCD Team Leader
Based on Webinar on Work Zone Safety. Com.

**TRAA article contributed by Angela Roper,
Chair TRAA Safety Committee.**

New ANSI Standards For Safety Vests

ANSI stands for *American National Standards Institute*, which is the organization that sets the minimum requirements for work-place safety. There are new standards that take effect nationally this month on November 24th, and have also been adopted in to the Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act (WISHA). WAC 296-305.

There is no simple way to interpret the new requirements, because they are based on many variables including how close you are to traffic, how fast the traffic is moving by you, whether or not it is during the hours of darkness, and/or inclement weather.

I have tried, with little success to get a clear definition; ... do we need ANSI 2 or ANSI 3 garments to comply with the new regulations. The difference between the two is amount (percentage) of reflective material, the placement of the reflective material, and whether or not it includes reflective material on the pants as well.

Washington DOT has adopted a new standard for their Incident Response workers that includes ANSI 3 safety apparel during the hours of darkness, or inclement weather.

My recommendation has always been to over-compensate on any safety issue, ... when in doubt use the brightest, and safest.

I understand that there is a cost associated with replacing the vest you are using today with a newer, and probably more expensive vest. At what amount of dollars does it become cost effective? What price do you put on your roadside safety?

Of course all of this is a mute point if you buy the safety apparel and don't use it. **Make it a habit to wear your vest as a part of your uniform, ... put it on when you start your day, and don't take it off till you get home.**

For more information on this issue see the TRAA video on *Roadside Safety: Dress For Success*, or visit the ANSI web-site @ <http://www.ansi.org/>



The Driver Safety Corner

by Ken Nikko

Fall is here and winter is not far behind. The rain and snow are on the way. This is the time of the year we put the most strain on our equipment and bodies.

Some of the items we should check and make sure they are in our truck, are good rain gear and two pair of gloves in case we get one pair wet, so we always have a dry pair.

This is the time of year when we get most of the winch out and recoveries, so we will need to check all of our recovery chains, and snatch blocks. Make sure they have no bad links, are damaged or stretched, and that the snatch blocks are lubed and that they turn freely. Check the wire rope for kinks and damaged strands, as this is most important as they can break more during a recovery if not inspected.

We also may want to check tire chains to be sure they fit the tires you want to put them on, and that the links do not need to be replaced before you use them.

When you make your daily inspection check your trucks wiper blades are good and that the defroster is working. Remember to wear your safety vest so everyone can see you.

Be very conscious of vehicles around you and pedestrians standing around watching your recovery.

Be safe and please use care and caution.

Remember that good towing operators are not born, they are trained.

WALL OF THE FALLEN

Miniature Replica Statues



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for only \$100.00.



CONTAMINATED/DECONTAMINATED VEHICLE/VESSEL OR MANUFACTURED/MOBILE HOME

The 2008 Legislature adopted changes to RCW 64.44 that requires the Department of Licensing (DOL) to brand vehicles and vessels that have been contaminated by hazardous materials and then declared unfit for habitation and prohibited from use by the local health jurisdiction.

The owner may choose to have the vehicle or vessel decontaminated, demolished, or disposed of as described in the law.

If a vehicle or vessel has been decontaminated, a Release for Reuse document will be issued by the local health jurisdiction and DOL will brand the vehicle and vessel title and record indicating it has been decontaminated.

A person is guilty of a gross misdemeanor if he or she advertises for sale or sells a motor vehicle, vessel, or manufactured home that has been declared unfit and prohibited from use by the local health officer.

What does “contaminated” and “decontaminated” mean?

“Contaminated” or “contamination” means polluted by hazardous chemicals so that the property is unfit for human habitation or use due to immediate or long-term hazards.

“Decontaminated” refers to property that at one time was contaminated but has satisfactorily met the standards established by the state Board of Health for absence of hazardous chemicals is “decontaminated.”

What is the Department of Licensing’s (DOL) role?

DOL will place a brand on the title and record of a vehicle or vessel when it has been declared contaminated by the local health jurisdiction. If a vehicle or vessel has been properly decontaminated the local health jurisdiction will issue a Release for Reuse document. DOL will place an additional brand, “Decontaminated,” on the title and record.

What is a brand?

A brand is a notation shown on a title record that indicates a special condition or circumstance of a vehicle/ vessel or manufactured/mobile home.

What happens once a vehicle or vessel is declared contaminated?

The local health jurisdiction will notify DOL when a vehicle or vessel is declared contaminated (unfit and prohibited from use). Once notified, DOL will cancel the current title and issue a new title showing the “Contaminated” brand. The registered and legal owners of record will be advised of this action.

The new title will be mailed to the registered or legal owner. If Washington did not issue a title to the vehicle or vessel, the record will be branded. If a Washington title is issued at a later date, the appropriate brand(s) will appear on the title.

The vehicle or vessel may already be impounded by local law enforcement, and will remain impounded until it is properly decontaminated. Vehicle or vessel owners would need to contact the local health jurisdiction to determine the status of their vehicle or vessel. When a vehicle or vessel is declared contaminated the local health official mails written notification of the action to the owner. Vehicle and vessel owners should contact the person sending that notification.

What happens once a vehicle or vessel is declared decontaminated?

If the owner chooses to decontaminate their vehicle or vessel, they must develop a decontamination plan with the local health jurisdiction. Once the decontamination plan has been approved and completed, the local health jurisdiction will provide the vehicle or vessel owner with a Release for Reuse document and a DOL Decontamination Form. The owner would take these documents to a vehicle licensing office and apply for a new title. The new title will be branded “Decontaminated.” The vehicle licensing office will collect payment of appropriate fees for the new title.

How will the brand appear on the title?

DOL has developed two new brands for vehicles (including manufactured/mobile homes) and vessels:

Contaminated – This brand means the vehicle or vessel has been declared unfit and prohibited from use by the local health jurisdiction due to contamination by hazardous chemicals.

Decontaminated – This brand means the vehicle or vessel has been determined to be properly decontaminated by the local health jurisdiction after the owner has met the requirement of an approved decontamination plan. The local health jurisdiction will provide the owner with a Release of Reuse and a completed DOL Decontamination Form.

Both “contaminated” and “decontaminated” brands will permanently appear on the vehicle or vessel title and record. However, once properly decontaminated you may legally use or sell the vehicle or vessel.

Is there a fee for adding these brands?

Yes. Once the owner of the vehicle or vessel provides the vehicle licensing office with the DOL Decontamination Form and a Release for Reuse document, appropriate “title” fees will apply to the new title with the Decontamination brand.

Can I use or sell my vehicle or vessel if it has been declared “contaminated”?

No. The law declares it a gross misdemeanor to sell or advertise for sale a vehicle or vessel that has been declared contaminated. Also, it is currently unlawful to enter or remove any property that has been declared contaminated by a local health jurisdiction. You must work with your local health jurisdiction to develop a written plan to decontaminate your vehicle or vessel.

Will I be able to renew the vehicle or vessel registration once the “contaminated” brand has been added?

No. A “departmental hold” will be placed on the vehicle or vessel record which will prevent the renewal of a contaminated vehicle or vessel. Once the decontamination process is completed, the local health officer will send documentation to the owner. The owner will take the documentation to a vehicle licensing office and pay appropriate fees for a new branded title and to renew the registration.

How many vehicles or vessels do you anticipate will receive these brands?

The estimated number of vehicles requiring the “contaminated” brand statewide is 30-50 per year. The estimated number of vehicles requiring the “decontaminated” brand statewide is less than 10 per year.

The estimated number of vessels requiring the “contaminated” brand statewide is 5-7 per year. The estimated number of vessels requiring the “decontaminated” brand statewide is 1-2 per year.

As a buyer, how will I know if a vehicle or vessel has been branded “contaminated” and then “decontaminated?”

You may inquire if a vehicle or vessel has a brand prior to purchase through the Public Disclosure office of Department of Licensing. A Public Disclosure Request form must be submitted. The form can be found on DOL’s website at www.dol.wa.gov/forms/420531.pdf.

Visit the Washington State Department of Health’s website at www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/cdl/ and click on “Contaminated Properties List.”

Ask the seller to show you the current title. If it shows the “Contaminated” brand, but no “Decontaminated” brand, the vehicle or vessel cannot be legally sold. If the title shows both brands, it can be sold and you’ll know the vehicle or vessel was contaminated and later decontaminated.

What should I do if I suspect a vehicle or vessel I have purchased is “contaminated”?

Contact your local health jurisdiction or the Washington State Department of Health:

Visit the Washington State Department of Health’s website at www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/cdl/ and click on “Contaminated Properties List.” This list will identify the vehicle or vessel and the local health jurisdiction, by county, that declared it unfit and prohibited from use.

Once you have identified the county, go to www.doh.wa.gov/LHJMAP/LHJMAP.htm to obtain contact information for the local health jurisdiction’s Environmental Health Division.

If you already received notification, such as an Unfit and Prohibited from Use document from a local health officer, call the contact person identified on that document. If you have not received notification from a local health jurisdiction, visit the Washington State Department of Health’s website at www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/cdl/ and click on “Contaminated Properties List.” This list will identify the vehicle or vessel and the local health jurisdiction, by county, that declared it unfit and prohibited from use. Once you have identified the county, go to www.doh.wa.gov/LHJMAP/LHJMAP.htm to obtain contact information for the local health jurisdiction’s Environmental Health Division.

Who should I contact if I suspect a vehicle or vessel has been polluted by hazardous chemicals (i.e., manufacturing of drugs)?

Contact your local law enforcement agency with the following information:

Vehicle description

Plate number, including state

Detailed description of the suspected illegal activity, to include location(s), if known.

Below is a picture of the newest addition at Johnson’s / Horton’s Towing in Bellingham.

You may view the

US MARINE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

by going to the youtube link below.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z6u7MROBrSw>



May this flag stand for truth and freedom.

May these colors never run,

May God Bless America.

May you have the good sense to not ever, ever try and burn this one.

DATES TO REMEMBER

BOARD MEETINGS:

December 13, 14
Board Meeting &
Christmas Party, Wenatchee

2009 NW Tow Expo:

August 14/15
Silver Reef Hotel,
Casino & Spa Ferndale, WA

REMINDER:

TRAW will process your overweight permits for you. All you need to do is call the TRAW office at 509-782-7170 and you will be faxed a form.

Once you complete the form and fax it back, the TRAW office will process it for you through the Department of Transportation and send you the permit.

TOWING & RECOVERY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON



TOW PAC NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

TRAW is looking for contributions to TOW PAC.

TOW PAC is the Political Action Committee of the Washington towing industry organized by towers, and for towers to support candidates for the legislature that understand the issues facing our industry.

TOW PAC is voluntary, non-profit, non-partisan and non-discriminatory and is political and educational in its purpose and programs.

TRAW – “The Power of a Team”



The Dispatch ADVERTISING RATES

1/4 Page - 4 1/4 x 5 1/8

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\$ 50.00	\$150.00

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Member	Non-Member
\$100.00	\$250.00

Full Page - 8 1/4 x 10 3/4

Member	Non-Member
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Business Card - 2 x 3 1/2

Member	Non-Member
\$ 50.00	\$100.00

Rates are non-commissionable. Camera-ready copy means all artwork and type is in place, the ad is correct size and ready to be printed. If we must typeset or design, an additional setup fee will be charged to cover costs.

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Nominate a 2008 TOW PERSON of the YEAR!

Do you have an OUTSTANDING driver or EMPLOYEE?

In 200 words or less, tell us what this driver / employee did during 2008 to be awarded Tow EMPLOYEE of the Year?

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS DECEMBER 1.

Award will be given Saturday, December 13 at the Christmas party held at the Coast Wenatchee Center in Wenatchee.

The TRAW officers will make the final selection.

A link to the application forms may be found on the front page of:
www.towingandrecovery.org

Please fax to the TRAW office: 509-782-1203

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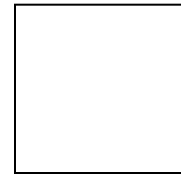
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203 Mission Avenue, Suite 107
Cashmere, WA 98815
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For each new morning with its light,
For rest and shelter of the night,
For health and food,
for love and friends,
For everything Thy goodness sends.
~Ralph Waldo Emerson



We're On the Web!!!

Here are some of the things you will find at:
www.towingandrecovery.org

- Membership – alphabetically & by location
- Current Events
- Education Schools & link to registration forms
- Legislative Updates
- TowPac
- Retro
- District Meetings
- Link to RTTO Manual
- Supplier Partners & Link
- Link to Dispatch Publication



Try It.... You might just be surprised how easy it is!!!