



Solid Waste Facilities & Waste Diversion Summit **July 8, 2010 ; 10:00 am**

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

Ronald J. Mills, Executive Director **Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio**

Ronald J. Mills is Executive Director of the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO), a local solid waste district with over one hundred full time employees. Mr. Mills has been involved with solid waste and environmental activities for nearly forty years and brings a unique mix of public sector and private sector experience to SWACO. Mr. Mills began his career as a Field Enforcement Officer for the United States Environmental Protection Agency. He also worked for the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency as a Compliance Officer. Mills then began to work for Malcolm Pirnie Engineers as a solid waste consultant in metropolitan New York. During his twenty three year career at Malcolm Pirnie, Mr. Mills provided consulting services related to landfills and waste to energy plants nationwide. Mr. Mills also provided solid waste planning services for local governments and solid waste districts across the country.

Mr. Mills joined SWACO as its Assistant Executive Director in 2001. In that capacity he oversaw SWACO's landfill, transfer stations, and recycling activities, including the complex geo-technical issues associated with a modern landfill. In 2007, Mr. Mills became SWACO's Executive Director. During this time he has overseen the expansion of SWACO's drop-box recycling program, the establishment of a permanent household hazardous waste collection facility, the opening of the Green Energy Centre, and the groundbreaking for an innovative food waste digestion project.

Michael L. Greenberg, President **GT Environmental, Inc.**

Michael Greenberg is President of GT Environmental, Inc. (GT) with twenty-eight years of experience with environmental issues in the state of Ohio. GT was founded in 1995. Michael has been an environmental consultant for nineteen years and has successfully performed a variety of assignments for industries, utilities, and government agencies in Ohio and throughout the country. Michael's recent experience has focused on assisting clients with environmental planning, permitting and strategic plan facilitation. Michael has assisted many private sector facilities with waste assessments and audits. He is a graduate of The Ohio State University with a Masters in City and Regional Planning.

Michael began his career as an environmental scientist with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency in 1981. His nine years with the Ohio EPA included three years as Manager of the Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste, Solid Waste Planning Section, and three years as Manager of the Public Interest Center, Public Involvement Section. As Manager of the Solid Waste Planning Section, he managed the development of the State Solid Waste Management Plan and developed solid waste regulations.

Michael was President of the Buckeye Chapter of the Solid Waste Association of North America from 2004 - 2006. He currently serves as the International Board Representative for the Buckeye Chapter of SWANA and is a Board member of the Organics Recycling Association of Ohio.

**Dirk Plessner, Member
Eastman & Smith, Ltd.**

Dirk Plessner joined Eastman & Smith Ltd. in 1987 after receiving his law and M.B.A. degrees from the University of Toledo and is a past chair of the Firm's Executive Committee. Mr. Plessner is a member in the Firm's Environmental and Public Law Section and concentrates his practice on environmental issues affecting the redevelopment of environmentally contaminated property, solid waste planning, municipal contracts for solid waste and recycling services, water and sewer district services and related legislative and lobbying needs of the Firm's governmental clients. Mr. Plessner is counsel to the Organization of Solid Waste Management Districts of Ohio and many of Ohio's solid waste management districts. He is a frequent speaker on the impact of the commerce clause on the governmental regulation of solid waste and the scope of local government authority in regulating and procuring solid waste services.

Mr. Plessner has been instrumental in creating consortiums among the Firm's county, municipal and township clients to obtain improved and affordable solid waste and recycling services, and as an advocate on legislative issues affecting solid waste and water and sewer district services. Mr. Plessner has structured contracting solutions to employ the combined purchasing power of those consortiums when purchasing and providing those services to their customers and constituents.

**Joseph R. Durham, Member
Eastman & Smith, Ltd.**

Joseph R. Durham is a member of Eastman & Smith Ltd. with a practice concentrating on environmental law, public law, and litigation. Mr. Durham is a former Assistant Prosecuting Attorney with the Franklin County Prosecuting Attorneys Office in Columbus, Ohio, appointed as the first Environmental Prosecutor, and a Special Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio. Prior to coming to private practice, he prosecuted environmental crimes at the local, state and federal levels.

Mr. Durham is the author of the Environmental Investigation Resource Guide and developed an environmental investigation course taught throughout the State of Ohio. Mr. Durham currently represents local health departments, municipalities, and solid waste districts, litigating environmental, code enforcement, and land use issues.

Mr. Durham is a graduate of Lewis and Clark's Northwestern School of Law in Portland, Oregon, where he received a J.D. and Certificate in Natural Resources and Environmental Law.