

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FOUNDATION  
AWARDED TRAINING GRANT FOR REDUCING TRANSPORTATION-RELATED  
FATALITIES IN THE SOLID WASTE INDUSTRY**

**Alexandria, Va.** - On September 17, 2003, the Environmental Research and Education Foundation (EREF) was awarded its fourth Susan Harwood Training Grant from the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Susan Harwood Training Grants provide funds to nonprofit organizations to conduct health and safety training in the workplace.

Under the terms of this \$56,260 grant, EREF will conduct the following activities:

- Develop a training video for solid waste employers and employees on how to reduce transportation-related fatalities in the solid waste industry. The program will address workplace transportation activities and the hazards associated with each activity, and will be made available to all solid waste employers and employees via EREF's website and at solid waste industry events;
- Conduct an education session at WasteExpo in May 2004 on the principles of safe driving and the prevention of transportation-related fatalities whereby the training video would be shown and educational materials would be distributed.

"A recent analysis of the Bureau of Labor Statistics' fatality data for the solid waste industry concluded that most deaths to industry employees occur in connection with three workplace activities - on the collection route, at a transfer station/material recovery facility, or at a landfill. Providing training materials and educational events that focus on reducing transportation-related fatalities in the industry is an important initiative for the foundation," said Michael J. Cagney, EREF president.

Under the supervision of EREF, the Environmental Industry Associations (EIA), a Washington, D.C.-based non-profit trade association, will manage the aspects of this training grant. EREF has contracted with EIA for its solid waste industry expertise since receiving its first Susan Harwood grant in October 2000.

The Environmental Research and Education Foundation is an independent public charity; its funding base is derived from donations from corporations and individuals who are committed to EREF's mission to develop environmental solutions for the future. For more complete information on EREF, go to its website [www.erefdn.org](http://www.erefdn.org) or call 703.299.5139.

The Environmental Industry Associations is a trade association dedicated to the advancement of safe and environmentally protective management of waste through the private wastes services industry.