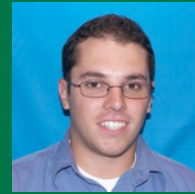


Wildlife Conservation Society
New York Aquarium | Coney Island, NY



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Case Study:

Disaster Response



Highlights:

- Triumvirate quickly countered Hurricane Sandy with resources and trained responders
- 650 gallons of hypochlorite and 35 damaged chemical products removed & disposed of
- Aquarium animals prevented from chemical exposure
- 40 WCS employees fit-tested with full-face respirators for re-entering the contaminated areas
- Project completed within 3 days, maintaining the schedule for rebuild-construction to follow

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Situation

As a result of Hurricane Sandy's east coast onslaught in late October of 2012, the New York Aquarium in the Coney Island region of Brooklyn, NY was left flooded and in dire need of disaster response services. A damaged hypochlorite tank located under the boardwalk and near the walrus arena needed to be pumped, its connection repaired and hazardous debris throughout the area removed. The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) hired Triumvirate Environmental to protect the health of WCS employees and aquarium animals by removing the hazardous waste and taking health and safety measures.

Action

The Triumvirate team arrived onsite with a vacuum truck and pumped out the storage tanks and secondary containment structures, removing compromised bulk hypochlorite within one day's time. Triumvirate personnel fit-tested forty WCS employees, allowing for these workers to re-enter the contaminated areas with full-face respirators. In addition to preparing the WCS for remediation work, Triumvirate contributed to this effort, too, by performing a lab pack and providing drum disposal for damaged chemical products. Triumvirate removed all chemical waste stored in the flooded main accumulation area (MAA) chemical shed, all within a two-day period.

Result

Triumvirate developed a plan and completed all necessary hazardous-waste-related projects in a timely manner, allowing for both the Wildlife Conservation Society and construction contractors to begin restoration of the property. Triumvirate maintained on-site safety for WCS employees and protected the animals in the aquarium from the risk of hazardous chemical exposure. Any human or animal contact with hypochlorite could have resulted in skin burns, severe eye irritation and even blindness. Triumvirate pumped out 650 gallons of this chemical, as well as removing 35 pieces of damaged chemical products and disposing of spilled flammables, broken mercury bulbs, lead acid batteries, propane cylinders, and other hazardous chemicals from the MAA.

Testimonials

*"I want to express my appreciation for the great work that Dan and Ryan did at the New York Aquarium last week. They were able to figure out how to pump the waste from our storage tank located under the boardwalk with **wonderful ingenuity and determination.**"*

~Environmental Compliance and Sustainability staff member | Wildlife Conservation Society

"On behalf of the New York City Department of Environmental Protection, I wish to express my gratitude for the outstanding work of your team in the hours and days following Hurricane Sandy."

~NYC DEP Commissioner