



July 2010  
Newsletter

## Gabriel Gazette

*July 2010*

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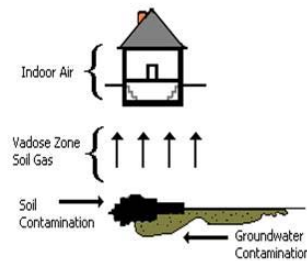
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### Gabriel Uses Recycled Biosolids to Help Garden Flourish



Gabriel is proud to use recycled sludge pellets to fertilize our award-winning gardens.

### New Vapor Encroachment Standards



On June 14th, 2010, ASTM released new standards for Vapor Encroachment (previously referred to as "Vapor Intrusion" or "VI").

The new standards are E 2600-10, Standard Guide for Vapor Encroachment Screening on Property Involved in Real Estate transactions. These standards replace those published in 2008 under E 2600-08. It is anticipated that the

updated standards will eventually be mandatory in all AAI-compliant Phase I site assessments.

Vapor encroachment (VE) problems can lead to serious health issues such as eye irritation, headaches, and respiratory problems. Certain VE chemicals have been linked to increasing one's risk of cancer.

If you or your company have questions about how Vapor Encroachment may affect you, contact [Natalie Neuman](#) at (773) 486-2123.

### You're Invited!

Come one, come all, to Gabriel's annual Open House! You are cordially invited to join us as we celebrate a return of **Oktoberfest** to Elston Avenue on **September 16th!** This year's Open House will mark the 10-year anniversary of our last Oktoberfest celebration, and feature German-inspired food, drinks, and entertainment!



Sludge pellets, or "biosolids" are a resourceful way to dispose of human and industrial waste products while also decreasing odor at traditional sewage treatment plants.



Chicago currently produces these pellets at a sewage-cooking machine in Stickney, and then provides it at no cost to parks, golf courses, farmers, and businesses. More information about the biosolids program can be found on the [MWRD website](#).

Our gardens have won several awards over the past decade, and every day we're trying to find more sustainable ways in which to keep them beautiful and healthy.

For more photos of Gabriel's gardens in bloom, visit our Picasa site ([click here](#))



**Environmental Links**

As always, Gabriel's Open House will include tours of our lab, **geothermal systems and solar array**, and raffles and giveaways. This year there will also be a Gabriel-themed scavenger hunt!

**When:** Thursday, September 16th, 4pm - 8:30pm

**Where:** 1421 N. Elston Ave, Chicago IL 60642

**Why:** To enjoy good food and drinks, win prizes, and have fun!

Look for more information coming soon, and mark it on your calendar and RSVP to [Sara Scardina](#) today!

### Get to know Gabriel: Steve Sawyer



Steve with his daughters Kait and Alex

Steve Sawyer is Gabriel's Executive Vice President and has worked for Gabriel for nearly 30 years. He has vast experience in nearly all areas of the environmental industry and is a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM).

Outside of work, Steve definitely stays active. Last year Steve achieved his goal of running 50 marathons in 50 states, running his final in Marathon, Iowa. All in all, Steve has run more than 70 marathons and ultra-marathons over the years.

Steve also is an avid cyclist. Every year, Steve rides thousands of miles a year around Illinois, including riding from his house in Arlington Heights to Gabriel's Mt. Prospect office. Steve is currently completing his annual [Ragbrai ride](#) - a 7 day bicycle ride across Iowa. He says you never realize how hilly Iowa can be until you ride across it on a bike.

If you'd like to congratulate Steve, or if you have any questions, please feel free to email him at [ssawyer@gabrielenvironmental.com](mailto:ssawyer@gabrielenvironmental.com).



## IEPA Cracks Down on Asbestos Violations

The Illinois EPA recently ordered an Algonquin-based company to pay the state \$43,000 for violations for improper removal of asbestos. In 2007, the apartment building owned by AI-Algonquin Apartments had tiles removed which were asbestos-containing. While removing these, the floor tiles were not wet down or properly handled, there was no foreman present, and no notice was given to

[Environmental  
Protection Agency](#)

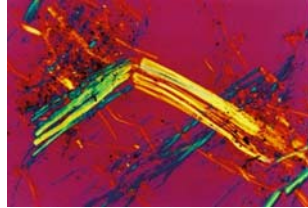
[Illinois Environmental  
Protection Agency](#)

[Metropolitan Water  
Reclamation District](#)

[Asbestos Regulations  
and Information - State  
of Illinois](#)

[Vapor Encroachment  
Standard - ASTM](#)

the IEPA prior to commencing renovation.



A downstate company, Next Generation Ministries, was also recently found to be in violation of NESHAP regulations, and ordered to pay a criminal penalty for felony in the amount of \$75,000 for knowingly renovating without properly removing or abating asbestos.

Asbestos, when intact, is not an issue. However, if it's disturbed, asbestos fibers can be inhaled and lead to serious health problems, including mesothelioma, a form of cancer. Today, asbestos is banned in most buildings and building materials and is highly regulated by OSHA and the EPA.

Gabriel can perform complete onsite sampling and monitoring for asbestos, and conduct laboratory analysis following EPA protocol. If you or your company has questions about how asbestos might affect you, contact [Steve Sawyer](#) at (773) 486-2123.

1421 N. Elston Ave.

**GABRIEL Environmental Services**

Chicago, IL 60642      773-486-2123 ph      773-486-0004 fax

[www.gabrielenvironmental.com](http://www.gabrielenvironmental.com)