

## PROFILE OF THE MONTH

For the second time this year we feel compelled to highlight Ray Morgan. His first employee profile in March saluted his work ethic, which continues to be exemplary. This month we salute his heroism. While on a clean-up project in North Carolina he rescued a man, his 87 year old mother, and her dog.

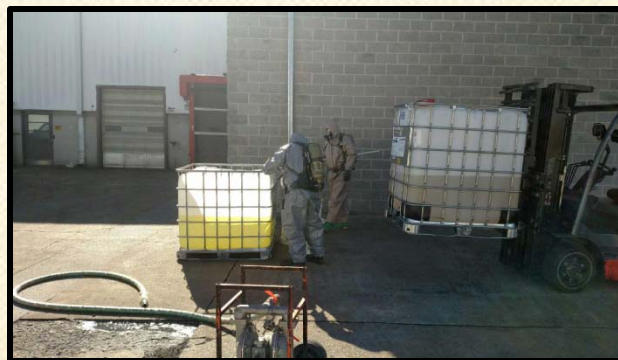
After a day of hauling waste and product, Ray was driving back to the motel. The route was slow and meandering, with many roads impassable due to the rising water. His window was down when he heard the first cry for help. He stopped and listened closely, hearing it again. "Help." A man's car was submerged in a torrent of rushing water. Standing on the roof and calling for help, the man was trapped: his mother and her dog were in the car, which was quickly filling with water. Ray acted quickly, driving the truck as close as he could and helping the three flood victims escape. The water had risen another two feet by the time he drove them to safety.

It was so lucky that Ray came along. But he was not alone. Five other MEI drivers were part of the Carolina clean-up: Garry, Jack, Chris, Anthony, and Kris. They all did a great job and, like Ray, they all helped wherever they could. Everyone was struck by the devastation, the homes that were lost, the lives thrown in upheaval. It was a sobering look at the havoc natural disasters can wreak.

Marion Environmental Inc. is one of the leading providers of environmental consulting, remediation, and emergency response in the southeast. Our goal is to provide cost effective solutions to environmental problems.  
Making *our* standard, industry standard.

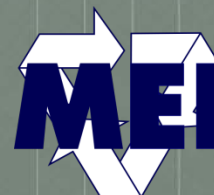
## RECENT CHEMICAL INCIDENT

Marion was called to a chemical incident, where a tote containing chlorite solution reacted and the tote ruptured. Marion transferred the remaining chlorite solution into a new tote, and cleaned up the area. Marion worked with local authorities and the plant's management during the aftermath of the spill. Randall Woodlee, Marion's Senior Chemist, was on hand to help assess the cause or causes for the chemical reaction in the tote.



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## SAFETY TIP

The dangers of mixing these common cleaning products:

### Mixing bleach and ammonia

When bleach is mixed with ammonia, toxic gases called chloramines are produced. Exposure to chloramine gases can cause:

- coughing
- shortness of breath
- chest pain
- wheezing
- nausea
- watery eyes
- irritation to the throat, nose and eyes
- pneumonia and fluid in the lungs

### Mixing bleach and acids:

When chlorine bleach is mixed with an acid, chlorine gas is released. Chlorine gas and water combine to make hydrochloric and hypochlorous acids. Chlorine gas exposure, even at low levels, almost always irritates the mucous membranes (eyes, throat, and nose), and causes coughing and respiratory problems, burning and watery eyes, and a runny nose. Higher levels of exposure can cause chest pain, more severe breathing difficulties, vomiting, pneumonia, and fluid in the lungs. Very high levels can cause death.

Chlorine can be absorbed through the skin, resulting in pain, inflammation, swelling, and blistering. Hydrochloric acid also causes burns to the skin, eyes, nose, throat, mouth, and lungs.

## Happenings

October 4 – TDEC Training Fundamentals of Erosion Prevention and sediment Control – Chattanooga, TN

October 8 – Marion Family Day at Knoxville Zoo

October 18  
Tennessee Association of Manufacturers Annual Meeting – Chattanooga, TN

November 1-2  
Illinois Railroad Environmental Conference – Urbana, IL

November 9  
Tennessee Association of Manufacturers Environmental, Health & Safety Summit – Chattanooga, TN

U.S. DOT Proposes Speed Limiters For Large Commercial Vehicles

August 2016

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) are evaluating a federal proposal to equip heavy-duty vehicles with devices that limit their speeds on U.S. roadways, and requiring those devices be set to a maximum speed. The public is encouraged to submit their comments on the proposed rule at [FederalRegister.gov](http://FederalRegister.gov).

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