
Matthew Sonnenberg, M.Sc., CHMM | National Program Manager

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Professional Summary:

Mr. Sonnenberg is the national program manager for transportation spill response services, working as a professional consultant since 2010. Mr. Sonnenberg has worked directly with clients and regulatory bodies to assess environmental conditions, develop plans by which to resolve such conditions, and carry out the planned approach to resolution. Mr. Sonnenberg's experience includes all stages of environmental projects including Phase I Environmental Site Assessments, soil, soil vapor, and groundwater testing (Phase II), site characterization, Human Health Risk Assessments (HHRAs), remediation, removal of underground storage tanks (USTs) and other regulated subsurface structures, emergency spill response management, and regularly provides third party consulting services on behalf of private parties and public agencies.

Areas of Expertise:

- Emergency Spill Response
- Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments
- Site Characterization
- Design, installation, and oversight of in-situ mitigation and remediation systems
- Brownfield redevelopment
- Environmental compliance
- Review of peer and third-party reports, data, and invoices
- Environmental Claims Management

Licenses and Certifications:

USEPA Environmental Professional
OSHA 40-Hour Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response
OSHA 30-Hour Construction Safety
OSHA 29 CFR 1910.1200 Hazardous Communications Standard
IHMM Certified Hazardous Materials Manager

Project Experience:

Numerous Properties Nationally Environmental Spill Response

Mr. Sonnenberg has completed numerous environmental spill response projects, nationally, where a significant release of industrial solvents, petroleum hydrocarbons, proprietary chemical products, and/or heavy metals has occurred along major transportation corridors. Response activities routinely include directing on-site emergency response activities, planning and execution of long-term remediation and monitoring, communication with clients and State/Federal regulatory agencies, preparation of technical documents, and restoration of incident areas following remediation in order to achieve closure with primary regulatory oversight agencies.

Numerous Commercial and Industrial Properties Nationally Environmental Due Diligence

Mr. Sonnenberg has completed numerous Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments of commercial and industrial properties, nationally, that have been impacted by former use of industrial solvents, petroleum hydrocarbons, agricultural pesticides, and/or heavy metals. Assessment activities routinely include historical records research and documentation review, oversight of geophysical surveys to identify underground storage tanks and other subsurface features, and subsurface sampling (soil, soil vapor, and groundwater) to determine if former property uses represent a potential environmental risk for current or future uses.

Former Rainbow Cleaners, Santa Maria, CA Soil and Soil Vapor Remediation

An environmental assessment of a multi-tenant commercial property found the subsurface had been impacted with chlorinated volatile organic compounds associated with the former Rainbow Cleaners that occupied the property. Mr. Sonnenberg oversaw the design and installation of a soil vapor extraction system to remediate the subsurface of the property and mitigate the vapor intrusion risk to building occupants. Mr. Sonnenberg also directed the operation and maintenance of the soil vapor extraction system and managed permitting and regulatory correspondence.

Ontario Village, Ontario, CA Soil and Soil Vapor Remediation

An environmental assessment of a multi-tenant commercial property found the subsurface had been impacted with chlorinated volatile organic compounds associated with the Dry Clean Express that occupies the property. Mr. Sonnenberg oversaw the design and installation of a soil vapor extraction system to remediate the subsurface of the property. Mr. Sonnenberg also directed the operation and maintenance of the soil vapor extraction system and managed permitting and regulatory correspondence.

Liberty Village, Richmond, CA Site Characterization and Soil Remediation

An environmental assessment of a multi-tenant residential property found that shallow soil had been impacted with lead associated with former railroad activities on an adjacent property. Mr. Sonnenberg developed, planned, and executed the site characterization and removal of lead impacted soil to levels that are acceptable for residential property use. Mr. Sonnenberg also managed permitting and regulatory correspondence.

Former Burton Plating Facility, Los Angeles, CA Groundwater Remediation

The Former Burton Plating Facility was used as a silver and gold plating facility from the early 1960s to approximately 1980. During closure of an on-site clarifier, it was found that groundwater beneath the property had been impacted with chlorinated volatile organic compounds. Mr. Sonnenberg designed and installed a groundwater pump and treat system and in-situ chemical injection at the property to attempt to contain and remediate impacted groundwater in the subsurface. Mr. Sonnenberg also managed groundwater monitoring activities, permitting, and regulatory correspondence of this project.

Former Dry Clean Plus, San Jose, CA Soil and Soil Vapor Remediation

An environmental assessment of a multi-tenant commercial property found the subsurface had been impacted with chlorinated volatile organic compounds associated with the former Dry Clean Plus that occupied the property. Mr. Sonnenberg oversaw the design and installation of a soil

vapor extraction system to remediate the subsurface of the property and conducted human health risk evaluations to obtain closure from regulatory agencies providing oversight. Mr. Sonnenberg also directed the operation and maintenance of the soil vapor extraction system and managed permitting and regulatory correspondence.

San Francisco International Airport, San Francisco, CA
Emergency Spill Response

An accidental release of diesel fuel from an airport facility to an adjacent protected wetland with known populations of endangered amphibian species initiated an emergency spill response that included spill containment, site characterization, remedial excavation, and site restoration. Mr. Sonnenberg directed the emergency spill response, remedial excavation, and restoration to project completion while working with the client and State agencies that provided regulatory oversight.

Yellowstone National Park, West Yellowstone, MT
Emergency Spill Response

A commercial vehicle traveling within the boundaries of Yellowstone National Park was involved in a single vehicle accident that resulted in the release of diesel fuel that impacted soil and surface water of a creek adjacent to the spill site. Mr. Sonnenberg directed the emergency spill response, remedial excavation, site restoration, and developed and implemented a long-term surface water monitoring plan to project completion while working with the client, contractors, National Park Service, and State agencies that provided regulatory oversight.

Professional Experience:

EFI Global, National Program Manager, 2022 – Present

Senior Project Manager, 2015 – 2022

Andersen Environmental, Project Manager, 2011 – 2015

Ecocion, Inc., Analyst, 2010 – 2011

Education:

Master of Science, Environmental Engineering, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO

Bachelor of Science, Biochemistry and Physics, Beloit College, Beloit, WI

Affiliations:

Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC)

Environmental Bankers Association (EBA)

Spill Control Association of America (SCAA)

National Emergency Management Association (NEMA)

Indoor Air Quality Association