CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE

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City of Grand Prairie
Environmental Services Department
P.O. Box 534045
Grand Prairie, TX 75053-4045
972.237.8055

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ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE WORKSHOP

On April 9, 2009, Kurt Middelkoop with the Texas Manufacturing Assistance Center will discuss *Cost Reductions Through Lean and Clean Integration.* Learn how to achieve an additional 30% cost savings over *Lean* alone.

This quarterly workshop will be held at the Grand Prairie Memorial Library located at 901 Conover Drive. Conover intersects Carrier, one stoplight south of Jefferson Street and is right next to the Police Station.

The meeting is scheduled from 9:30 am to 11:00 am and will include a continental breakfast. If you or your staff would like to attend, please contact Cheri Hebison at 972.237.8070.

WHAT IS IN THE SLUDGE?

The EPA has released its results of a one year study of 74 Publicly Owned Treatment Plants with secondary treatment to characterize what chemicals may be present in sewage sludge. Why is this important? The EPA will use the survey to understand potential pollutants and may further regulate wastewater discharges or treatment plants in the future. Of the 84 samples collected, here is what was found:

- Metals – 26 metals were found in 72 samples.
- Semi-Volatiles – Of the six analytes, 4 were found in 72 samples, 1 in 63, and 1 in 39.
- Pharmaceuticals – Of the 72 compounds, 3 were found in 84, 9 were found in 80.
- Steroids and Hormones – Of the 25 compounds, 3 steroids were found in all 84 samples and 6 steroids were found in at least 80 of the samples. One hormone was not found in any sample and five hormones were found in fewer than 6 samples.
- Flame Retardants – All of the flame retardants except one were found in every sample. The other was found in 56 of the 84.

AIR NORTH TEXAS

In February 2009, the City of Grand Prairie became a partner of Air North Texas.

air northtexas
go green. breathe clean.

Individuals and organizations can be involved:
Commit to one or more of 15 clean air choices.
Sign up to receive air quality information.
Learn how organizations can be involved.

For More information, visit: http://airnorthtexas.org/index.asp

TOXIC RELEASE INVENTORY REPORTING DEADLINE APPROACHING

The July 1st deadline (annual) for submitting Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) reports is approaching.

Who must file TRI reports? Under TRI, an individual facility reports to EPA and State if it meets the following criteria:

- It employs the equivalent of at least 10 full-time workers and both of the following conditions are met:
  - It "manufactures" or "processes" at least 25,000 pounds of a listed chemical or it "otherwise uses" at least 10,000 pounds of a listed chemical;
  - Companies with Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes 20-39 (manufacturing) plus 7 industry groups including solvent recovery services, commercial hazardous waste treatment, chemical distributors, metal mining, coal mining, petroleum bulk stations (wholesale), and electric utilities.

**According to the EPA, approximately 30,000 facilities must file reports.

What are facilities required to report under TRI? For each listed chemical "manufactured," "processed" or "otherwise used" in an amount exceeding the threshold level, a facility must report the following:

- Amount released to the air, water, and land;
- Amount shipped from the facility to other locations for recycling, energy recovery, treatment, or disposal;
- Amount recycled, burned for energy recovery, or treated at the facility;
- Maximum amount present on-site at the facility during the year;
- Types of activities conducted at the facility involving the chemical;
- Source reduction activities;
- Environmental permits held;

Name and telephone number of a contact person.

**TRI covers nearly 667 individual chemicals and chemical categories.

Pollution Prevention (P2) annual progress report: In addition to submitting a TRI report, the pollution prevention (P2) annual progress report is required too, for certain facilities, by the Waste Reduction Policy Act (WRPA).

You must submit a P2 Annual Progress Report (APR) if you are a large quantity generator or report on TRI Form R. The report delineates progress towards pollution prevention goals laid out in your P2 plan. It provides an opportunity to review and update your plan and look for new ways to save money by reducing waste.

COAL SPILL LEADS TO REGULATION?

The coal ash spill at the Tennessee Valley Authority in December has prompted the EPA to re-evaluate the way these facilities are being regulated. More than 1 billion gallons of coal sludge burst through a dike at the site destroying three homes and damaging nine others. The spill covered 275 acres of land. Currently, states regulate fly ash impoundments as industrial nonhazardous waste landfills. Currently, 43% of coal ash is recycled into concrete, road bed, and other applications. The estimated cost to clean up the coal ash spill is between $525 and $825 million.

PROTESTING ACTIVISTS POLICIES

A group of environmental activists staged a protest at the office of the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF). The EDF, a non-profit organization, is also an activist group. The activists accused the EDF of abandoning hard-line climate change policies to aid and abet the world's worst climate criminals. The EDF group was accused of promoting the cap and trade policy which they say has proven ineffective for making significant greenhouse gas reductions and provides huge profits to polluting industries.

ENFORCEMENT

DFW Trouble

A concrete production plant in Tarrant County was assessed $17,876 for failing to collect effluent samples for analysis of the permitted parameters and estimate discharge flows and failing to submit the required toxicity report in accordance with the TPDES General Permit.

Texas Trouble

A steel tower manufacturer in El Paso County was assessed $12,250 for failing to comply with the permit by rule for surface coating and failing to obtain authorization prior to conducting surface coating activities.

A gas well site in Harrison County was assessed $575 for failing to obtain a water rights permit.

A forklift manufacturer in Harris County was assessed $1,625 for failing to submit a Title V compliance certification.

A pipe coating company in Ector County was assessed $1,000 for failing to obtain authorization prior to operating a heat cleaning and surface coating operation.

A surface coating operation in Freestone County was assessed $900 for failing to obtain a permit by rule prior to construction and/or operation of an outdoor surface coating operation.

A wood preserving company in Angelina County was assessed $20, 205 for failing to properly complete manifests, failing to provide records

documenting personnel training, failing to provide sufficient cover for hazardous waste containers, and failing to have authorization prior to using a public water supply system.

National Trouble

A Pennsylvania chemical company was assessed $108,000 by the EPA for hazardous waste violations including operating a hazardous waste storage facility without a permit, failing to comply with hazardous waste container storage requirements, new tank system design/installation and inspection requirements, failing to comply with air emission standards, equipment marking and monitoring requirements, and failing to comply with universal waste lamp storage requirements and universal waste accumulation time limit requirements.

A California industrial laundry was assessed $425,000 for waste and air violations including failure to properly store ignitable hazardous waste, failure to meet air emission standards for equipment leaks, failure to mark and label hazardous storage tanks, failure to conduct and document weekly inspections of hazardous storage tanks, and failure to maintain a contingency plan.

A Connecticut wire manufacturer has agreed to pay $1.5 million in fines and $897,000 in cleanup costs to the state to settle alleged wastewater discharge violations that occurred 21 times during a three year period. The Connecticut Attorney General says that these penalties will send a strong message to industry that environmental negligence will not be tolerated. The company is now in liquidation bankruptcy.

AS YOU SOW REPORT

A report evaluating the US beverage industry's recycling efforts titled the As You Sow Report by a conservation group claims that there is a direct link between beverage container recycling, climate change, and energy security. The report states that only one-third of beverage containers are recycled and that beverage makers are failing to deal with the environmental implications of their packaging. Recycling all of the beverage containers in 2007 would have avoided 15.6 million metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions.

> ***"A Connecticut wire manufacturer has agreed to pay $1.5 million in fines and $897,000 in cleanup costs to the state..."***

NEW EPA ADMINISTRATOR, LISA JACKSON

On January 23, 2009, the new EPA Administrator, Lisa Jackson, was confirmed by the Senate. She is the first African American to serve in that position.

Administrator Jackson lists among her priorities reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving air quality, managing chemical risks, cleaning up hazardous waste sites, and protecting America's water.

Before becoming EPA's Administrator, Jackson served as Chief of Staff to the New Jersey Governor. Prior to that, she was appointed by the Governor to be Commissioner of the state's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in 2006. Jackson joined DEP in 2002,

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Lisa Jackson appointed as the new EPA Administrator

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Environmental Services Department
Environmental Quality Division
201 NW 2nd St., Ste 100
Grand Prairie, TX 75050
Phone: 972.237.8055
Fax: 972.237.8228

This newsletter is a publication of:
Environmental Services Department, Environmental Quality Division
Submit your comments and suggestions to:
Editor: Cindy Mendez
Phone: 972.237.8225
Fax: 972.237.8228
Email: cmendez@gptx.org

Our Mission

The Environmental Quality Division advocates and ensures responsible environmental practices for the protection of human and environmental health through monitoring, oversight, and education.

DFW RECLASSIFIED FOR 1 HOUR OZONE

EPA announced that the DFW area has been reclassified from a Non-attainment area to Attainment for the 1 hour ozone standard based on the 2004-2006 monitoring period. In addition, 2007 and 2008 data shows that DFW continues to meet the 1 hour standard. The DFW area is still classified as Non-attainment for the 8 hour ozone standard.

RECYCLED PLASTICS MARKET PLUMMETS

Market prices for recycled plastics have plummeted around the world. The financial crisis in the US and the world has led to the shut down of many export focused manufacturers and demand for resin is down. Recycled plastics imports in China are being abandoned and warehouses around the world are filling up with the materials. The low price and volume are hurting the industry and endangers the progress of recycling plastics. In order to keep plastics recycling viable, prices have to justify the cost of sorting, baling, and marketing recycled plastics versus sending waste to a landfill.

UST/AST RULE CHANGES

The TCEQ has adopted amendments to the State Underground and Aboveground Storage Tanks Technical and Administration Regulations.

Changes include the requirement of proof of financial assurance to be included with annual tank self-certifications; the cessation of annual facility fees; secondary containment for UST systems in accordance with EPA and Federal Energy Act requirements; and extension of the PST Reimbursement Program for four years.

Lisa Jackson, (Continued from page 3)

serving as Assistant Commissioner for Compliance and Enforcement, then Assistant Commissioner for Land Use Management, before becoming Commissioner. Prior to joining DEP, she worked for 16 years as an employee of the U.S. EPA. During that time, she was involved in directing hazardous waste cleanup operations and helping to direct the region's enforcement division. Jackson is a summa cum laude graduate of Tulane University's School of Chemical Engineering and earned a master's degree in chemical engineering from Princeton University.

Registration Form
Environmental Services Department
City of Grand Prairie
Environmental Compliance Workshop
Cost Reductions Through Lean and Clean Integration
Grand Prairie Memorial Library
901 Conover Drive
April 9, 2009
9:30 am to 11:00 am
(Continental Breakfast Provided)

Company Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____
Attendees: _____

PLEASE RETURN BY MAIL OR FAX TO:
Environmental Services Department
P.O. Box 534045
Grand Prairie, TX 75053-4045
Fax to: 972.237.8228