

H₂O Line

Winter 2014

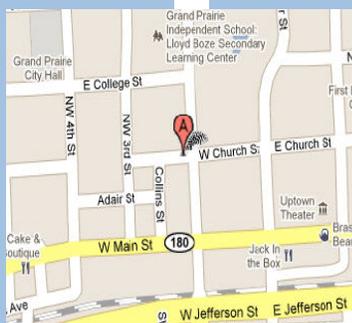
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Environmental Compliance Meeting

Please join us on **Wednesday, January 22, 2014** for the next Environmental Compliance meeting. The meeting will be held from 9:30 - 11:00 am at the Environmental Service Department office located in the Development Center at 206 W. Church Street. The Development Center is located across from City Hall at the intersection of Church and NW 2nd St. Take either of the outside staircases located on the east side of the building to the second floor. An elevator is also available.



Sally Longroy, Attorney at Law with Guida Slavich & Flores, P.C., will be speaking on the Texas Environmental, Health, and Safety Audit Privilege Act. The Act provides incentives for conducting voluntary audits and for implementing prompt corrective action.

The act was passed in 1995, and most recently updated in August 2013.

To register, or for more information, contact Cheri Cuellar at (972) 237-8070 or ccuellar@gptx.org, or fax your registration form to (972) 237-8228.

City of Grand Prairie Launches Get Fit Program

In January 2014, the City of Grand Prairie will launch a new wellness initiative called Get Fit Grand Prairie. This program features a website with tools, tips and local resources for residents to get up, get out, and get



fit. The program also highlights monthly health related topics and encourages residents to participate in activities hosted by the City and its partners. Go to www.gptx.org/getfitgp to learn more and take

the pledge to live a healthier lifestyle. Those who pledge will automatically get entered into a monthly drawing to win a prize. Please share this website with your employees so they too can benefit from this great program!

Annual Awards Luncheon



Congratulations to RockTenn who, along with 11 other permitted Grand Prairie industries, achieved 100% compliance with pretreatment and envi-

ronmental requirements. Awards were also presented to Pratt & Whitney for their work on Texas Stream Team, American Eurocopter and Pepsi Cola for their pollution prevention projects, and to Lockheed Martin, Bell

Helicopter, and Pratt & Whitney, the top three participants in the 2013 Clean Air Challenge.



We're online!!!

[www.gptx.org/
EnvironmentalQuality](http://www.gptx.org/EnvironmentalQuality)

Grand Prairie
T E X A S

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Don't Mess with Machine Guards!

Adams Thermal Systems Inc. has entered into a deferred prosecution agreement with the U.S. Attorney's Office and the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration to pay more than \$1.33 million to resolve criminal penalties and OSHA fines levied as a result of the death of a worker on Nov. 7, 2011, in the company's Canton plant. The U.S. Attorney's Office filed the Deferred Prosecution Agreement on Sept. 5, 2013, and has asked that it be approved by the U.S. District Court for the District of South Dakota.

Under the terms of the agreement, the company will pay the worker's surviving spouse \$450,000, a criminal fine of \$450,000 and the full OSHA fine of \$435,000 stemming from the regulatory violations that caused the fatality and additional violations discovered in subsequent in-

spections.

Adams Thermal Systems manufactures engine cooling systems for off-highway and on-highway vehicle applications. OSHA's investigation found the worker was fatally crushed in a machine used to make radiator cores, after management instructed and authorized workers to bypass the manufacturer's barrier guard in order to adjust the machine to keep it running. OSHA also conducted two concurrent safety and health investigations at the company in February 2012, which resulted in 66 violations.

Hazard Communication Gone Wrong

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration has cited Rucker Environmental Services LLC, doing business as All Type Environmental Cleaning &



Repair, for 33 safety and health violations with a proposed penalty of \$83,300. A complaint inspection began in March at the Pasadena facility on Bay Area Boulevard, where tanks are cleaned with a variety of chemicals.

Some of the 21 serious violations cited include failing to properly contain, segregate and store chemicals; test confined spaces and provide a rescue plan; train workers and provide information on hazard communications; train and certify powered industrial trucks; correct various electrical hazards; provide emergency eyewash and shower stations; provide personal protective equipment, such as respirators; and properly test air quality and provide fall protection for workers performing cleaning tasks at elevations more than 4 feet above a lower level. A se-

rious violation occurs when there is substantial probability that death or serious physical harm could result from a hazard about which the employer knew or should have known.

Some of the 12 other-than-serious violations include failing to provide an inhalation exposure assessment for respirators; conduct noise exposure assessments; provide training on hazardous waste operations and emergency response standards; properly calibrate confined space test equipment; provide first aid training and equipment; train and assess workers on benzene exposure; and properly label hazardous chemical containers. An other-than-serious violation is one that has a direct relationship to job safety and health, but probably would not cause death or serious physical harm.

New Training Requirement under OSHA Hazard Communication Standard



OSHA has revised the Hazard Communication Standard to bring it into alignment with the UN Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS). Changes include: new pictograms and labeling requirements and a standardized 16-section format for Safety Data Sheets (formerly Material Safety Data Sheets). Chemical manufacturers, importers, and distributors are required to comply with the new format by June 1, 2015. However, all employers subject to OSHA regulations are required to train their employees on the new label elements and safety data sheet format by December 1, 2013.

Resources for achieving compliance with the revised standard may be found on the OSHA website, www.osha.gov/dsg/hazcom/index.html. The site contains links to specific information including a Fact Sheet summarizing the new requirements, QuickCards displaying the new pictograms and labeling requirements, and a Brief explaining each section of the Safety Data Sheet format.

Texas Trouble



An aircraft manufacturing and assembly plant in Tarrant County was assessed \$4,875 for failing to store solvent laden cloth and cleaning solvent used in aerospace cleaning operations in closed containers.

A mulching and composting facility in Collin County was assessed \$6,650 for failing to obtain a permit prior to conducting storage, processing, or disposal of municipal solid waste, failing to maintain a setback distance of at least 50 feet from all property boundaries, failing to apply for a Notice of Intent to operate a recycling facility prior to the commencement of new operations, failing to label containers used to stored used oil, and failing to comply with the record keeping requirements for recycling.

A powder coating operation in Erath County was assessed \$6,250 for failing to maintain authorization under the No Exposure Certification for exclusion from the permit requirements of the TPDES Multi-Sector General Permit.

A fiberglass tank and structures manufacturing facility in Bell County was assessed \$21,750 for failing to transfer accumulated hazardous waste at a satellite accumulation area within the allotted accumulation time of 90 days without a permit or interim status, filing to prevent the unauthorized disposal of universal waste and failing to obtain authorization for storm water discharges under the Multi-Sector Industrial General Permit.

Common Questions on Empty Waste Containers

Per Title 30 Texas Administrative Code, a container is any portable device in which material is stored, transported, processed, or disposed of, or otherwise handled. A container is considered RCRA (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act) empty if, after you have removed the contents using common practices (pouring, pumping and aspirating)

and it can't be emptied any further, the container holds less than one inch of residue. Containers that stored hazardous waste but do not meet the RCRA-empty definition are considered hazardous waste.

As a best-management practice, you should mark or label the containers as "empty", keep the lids



closed, and protect them from inclement weather conditions in a manner that does not create a nuisance. Depending on how the empty containers are classified, there are different management and disposal options including the following:

Send them to a person who reclaims the containers'

scrap value.

Send them to someone who reconditions or re-manufactures them.

Send them to an approved disposal facility.

Need answers to more common questions on empty waste containers, go to www.tceq.texas.gov/publications/rg/rg-480.html.

Is Geothermal Energy Coming to Texas?



Traditionally, geothermal energy has been associated with regions of intense volcanic or hydrothermal activity, like Iceland. At such sites, the resource (hot, fluid-filled rock) and the plumbing (highly permeable, pressurized system with a path to the surface) are already in place which allows for low exploration costs. For decades, however, scientists have wondered if Texas could provide economically viable locations for geothermal power, as there are many of the same benefits of conventional hydrothermal resources in Texas as in the aforementioned regions.

In this scenario, oil and gas companies coproduce geothermal energy from the same wells as oil and gas. Because the wells are already drilled, there is a path to the surface and no need for additional drilling. Since Texas has many wells producing quantities of heated water along with fossil fuels, geothermal energy could have a significant impact on the state's economy, not just by providing power, but also by building a new industry on the

City of Grand Prairie

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This newsletter is a publication of:
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Geothermal Energy

(Continued from page 3)

base of an existing one.

Geothermal production would require permits for drilling; as with oil and gas fields, the Railroad Commission of Texas would issue these permits and enforce applicable state and federal environmental laws. In all, the outlook for a Texas geothermal industry is promising, but it will require considerable investment to achieve its potential.

Registration Form

Environmental Compliance Meeting

Environmental Services Department

City of Grand Prairie Development Center

206 W. Church, 2nd Floor

Texas Environmental, Health, and Safety Audit Privilege Act

Wednesday, January 22, 2014

9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

(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

Email: ccuellar@gptx.org

**breathe clear
in the
new year**



make go green. breathe clean. your resolution

Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) – New Electronic Submission Requirement

Effective January 21, 2014, facilities submitting non-trade-secret TRI reporting forms must report electronically. Revisions to previously submitted TRI reporting forms must also be submitted electronically after this date. Facilities submitting trade secret TRI reports will continue to submit these



reports, past revisions, and supporting documentation in hard copy. More information can be found on the EPA website: <http://www2.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program/electronic-reporting-toxics-release-inventory-data-final-rule>.