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AUTO RELATED BUSINESS MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT



Please join us on **Tuesday, September 25, 2018**, for an ARB Compliance Meeting from 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at the Environmental Services Department office, 206 W. Church Street, 2nd floor. During this meeting, City staff will discuss how your facility can remain compliant with Code and Environmental regulations and will answer any questions you may have.

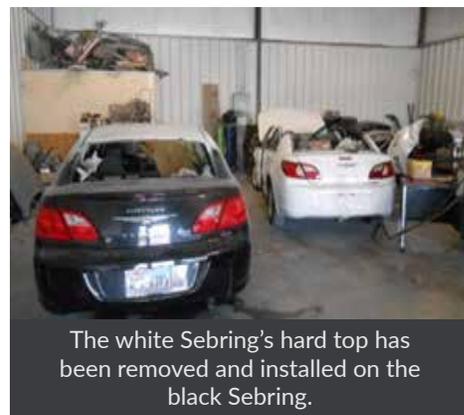
This meeting is **FREE** to attend and is an opportunity for ARBs and City staff to have an open, friendly discussion on compliance issues or obstacles they are experiencing. **A complimentary breakfast will be provided.** For more information, contact Wesley Bacon by phone at (972) 237-7564 or by email at wbacon@gptx.org.

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WHAT IS SALVAGING?

Salvaging is the practice of bringing vehicles to an automotive shop to use the parts, whether it is auto body parts or interior mechanical parts, to repair other vehicles. Auto businesses are allowed to bring in outside auto parts to their shops for repairs or replacements. However, vehicles may not be brought to any automotive related business, other than salvage yards, for the purpose of using them for parts. In addition, parts removed from vehicles may not be stored at businesses for the purpose of re-using them (salvaging).



The white Sebring's hard top has been removed and installed on the black Sebring.



PARKING OR STORING OPERABLE AND INOPERABLE VEHICLES

A junked or inoperable vehicle which is located in any place where it is visible from a public place or public right-of-way is:

1) detrimental to the safety and welfare of the general public, 2) tends to reduce the value of private property, 3) invites vandalism, and 4) creates fire hazards. Vehicles parked or stored in this way, are considered a public nuisance and are in violation of city code. If convicted, violators will be subject to a fine up to two hundred dollars (\$200) and the court shall order the removal and abatement of the nuisance.

In addition, the storage or parking of any vehicle, operable or inoperable, or any portion of such vehicle on the public right-of-way between the improved roadway and the property line is a nuisance and prohibited. Vehicles parked or stored on the right-of-way for a period in excess of forty-eight (48) hours will be towed to the city vehicle impound or another approved vehicle storage facility and charges will be assessed for such expenses.



EPA SUES SALVAGE YARD OPERATOR

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is suing a salvage yard owner over what it says is his refusal to comply with a legal order to protect one of Delaware's oldest Superfund sites. The federal Superfund program directs taxpayers dollars to the cleanup of the country's most polluted areas. The salvage yard in question sits atop a buried and capped off industrial landfill - one that a generation ago took in waste from the state's largest employers, including DuPont, Chrysler, General Motors, Hercules, ICI Americas, and Occidental Chemical Corp.

Regulators say that damage to a protective landfill cap at the site has implications for the safety of the surface water and groundwater - and the thousands of people who live in the area. In its lawsuit, the EPA says the operator's vehicles in the yard today are too heavy for the rocky cap that was constructed. In addition, waste oil from some vehicles is seeping into the ground, which poses an additional risk to water sources.

Vincent DellAversano, 78, the owner, is not complying with an administrative order, issued in 2004, for the Superfund site mandating that he not damage the protective rocky cap, entombing part of the former landfill, and that he submit regular reports to the EPA about its condition. After years of attempting to persuade Mr. DellAversano to comply, the EPA is filing a lawsuit in U.S. federal court.

Certificate of Occupancy and Zoning

All businesses in Grand Prairie are required to obtain a Certificate of Occupancy (CO) prior to using or occupying land, buildings, structures, or suites. The CO states that occupants must comply with the provisions of the Unified Development Code, Auto Related Business Ordinance, and other applicable laws of the City. Once the CO is approved, no change in the existing use or occupancy of the building, structure, or suite within a structure is permitted until an amended application is submitted, reviewed and approved. Some uses are allowed by right, some require a Specific Use Permit, and some may not be allowed at all in certain zoning or overlay districts. Therefore, it is important that verification is obtained through the Planning Department to ensure that a use is allowed for that zoning district prior to leasing or occupying a land, building, or space within the city. For more information please contact Code Compliance at 972-237-8296.



Vehicles in the yard are too heavy for the rocky cap that was constructed.

HOW TO ELIMINATE WASTE AND PROTECT HUMAN HEALTH & THE ENVIRONMENT

Waste, and how we choose to handle it, affects our health and the environment. The environment includes everything around us including the air, water, land, plants, and human made objects. The waste we create has to be carefully controlled to ensure it does not harm the environment and our health. Use the 3 Rs to help manage waste responsibly:



REDUCE

Simply reduce the amount of materials used so that less waste is generated. Use or purchase only as much as necessary for your tasks at hand.



REUSE

Buy reusable water bottles and reuse shop cloths or waste containers. Reusing materials reduces consumption and creates less air and water pollution.



RECYCLE

You can recycle motor oil, anti-freeze, tires, batteries, scrap metal, and other materials like aluminum cans, plastic bottles, paper, and cardboard.

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION FROM VOCs IN THE WORKPLACE

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are common chemical contaminants, some of which can present health hazards to workers. Examples of VOC sources commonly encountered in the workplace include:

- **Paints, varnishes, and stains**
- **Fuels and combustion products**
- **Air fresheners and pesticide**
- **Cleaning agents**
- **Caulks, sealants, and coatings**
- **Fabric materials, furnishings and carpeting**

Reducing exposure to contaminants should first be attempted by use of products which emit low or no VOCs, storing chemicals away from occupied areas, and providing proper ventilation and maintenance of climate control systems. Should these measures prove inadequate to protect the health of workers, the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) requires a written respiratory protection plan be implemented under 29 CFR 1910.134(c) which includes hazard evaluation, proper selection of respirator type(s) based on that evaluation, fit testing of selected respirator(s) and medical monitoring of workers required to wear respirators. Since VOCs can affect eye health, as well as that of the respiratory system, selection of respirators is often limited to full-face piece types which, by their nature, leads to increased stress on workers and thus elevates the importance of a complete respiratory protection plan that includes worker monitoring and training.



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H2KNOW WATER METERS LAUNCH IN JULY

New digital water meters have been installed in every home and business in Grand Prairie. The Grand Prairie system, named H2Know, goes live in July 2018, and is composed of a network of digital meters and communication devices that allow customers to monitor and review water usage through a customer web portal on their computer or mobile device. The new meters record and transmit hourly water usage giving customers the ability to see when they use water and how much they are using in real time.



Useful Contacts

Building Inspections
(972) 237-8230

Code Compliance
(972) 237-8296

Environmental Quality
(972) 237-8055

**HELP MINIMIZE AIR
POLLUTION.**

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BENEFITS INCLUDE:

Data will help the city identify and fix water leaks

View water usage on the computer or smartphone app

Set customized alerts for water usage

Data will help city better manage water conservation programs

The city will not need to access your property to read your water meter

For more information about the H2Know meters, please call 972-237-8200 or email: waterbilling@gptx.org.



Customers will need their water bill account number found on their bill, then go to gptx.org/iH2Know to sign up.

This newsletter is a publication of:

Environmental Quality and Code Compliance
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