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H₂O LINE NEWSLETTER

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MEETING NOTICE

Join the City of Grand Prairie's City Manager's Office & Environmental Quality on Wednesday, November 9, in recognizing Grand Prairie industries for excellence in environmental compliance and pollution prevention. Awards will also be given to our Stream Team Partners, Clean Air Action Day Challenge winners, Friends of the Environment Recognition, and Clean Prairie Companies. The luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Ruthe Jackson Center located at 3113 S. Carrier Parkway.

Please email estraw@gptx.org to reserve your seat.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AWARDS



Congratulations to the following Grand Prairie industries for achieving 100% compliance during the 2021-2022 pretreatment year. These companies are recognized for compliance with their wastewater discharge permit effluent limits and reporting requirements, as well as storm water and cross connection device requirements. Your commitment is appreciated!

- A. Zahner Company
- ABC Compounding
- Airbus Helicopters
- Aytu BioPharma
- Gemini Coatings
- International Paper – Bag Plant
- Lockheed Martin Missiles & Fire Control - SW 14th Street Facility
- PepsiCo Global Concentrate Solutions - Arlington, TX
- Pratt & Whitney Services, Inc. – 1174

- Pratt & Whitney Services, Inc. – 1177
- Safran Electronics and Defense Avionics
- Safran Helicopter Engines
- Safran Landing Systems Wheel and Brake Services
- TPW Metal Finishing
- Triumph Accessory Services – Grand Prairie



WHEN DO I NEED AN ASBESTOS SURVEY?

The Texas Asbestos Health Protection Rules were created to reduce workers and public's exposure to asbestos fibers during renovation and demolition of public and commercial buildings.

Many materials that are used to construct buildings, regardless of the age, may still contain asbestos. Building materials containing asbestos are safe if left undisturbed. Repairs, remodeling, or demolitions, however, can cause the release of microscopic asbestos in the air.

Some people think that asbestos is only found in buildings constructed before 1970, but asbestos is still being used in many building materials such as:

- Exterior siding
- Insulation
- Ceiling and floor tile
- Wall board
- Duct work
- Textured paint
- Mastic and other adhesives



Asbestos survey must be completed by a DSHS -licensed asbestos inspector. Only hire licensed professionals to perform asbestos surveys, abatement, or other asbestos related activities.

Building owners must take steps to meet local, state, and federal asbestos regulations. All remodel or demolition permits require that asbestos be addressed. Texas law requires that all public buildings, industrial buildings, and commercial buildings (such as office buildings, shopping centers, apartments, hotels, schools, stores, restaurants, and other business) to be inspected for asbestos before work begins on repairs, remodeling, or demolition.

INFLATION REDUCTION ACT

In August 2022, the Inflation Reduction Act was signed into law. This act will help mitigate the climate crisis by working to improve climate pollution, environmental justice, and air quality. The act set the goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by one gigaton by 2030. To help meet this goal, tax credits are being offered on clean energy and electric vehicles. Those who take advantage of these tax credits have the opportunity to save more than \$1,000 a year. Furthermore, grants, technical assistance, and air monitoring stations will be provided to underserved and low-income communities to fight pollution and improve their overall health and safety. Air pollution will be reduced by replacing older model, heavy-duty vehicles with zero-emission possibilities thus reducing asthma attacks and premature deaths related to poor air quality. For more information visit [epa.gov/perspectives](https://www.epa.gov/perspectives) or [whitehouse.gov](https://www.whitehouse.gov)

Electric vehicles have a net positive impact on air quality and climate change.



Learn more at www.airnorthtexas.org

AMERICAN INNOVATION AND MANUFACTURING ACT

The American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act, enacted by congress in December 2021, directs the EPA to phase down production and consumption of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) to 15% of their baseline levels by 2036 through an allowance program. The EPA issues the permitted allowances for each calendar year and will decrease the number of allowances each year until the 15% baseline goal is met.

According to the EPA, HFCs are greenhouse gases that are accelerating climate change and threaten society with costly health and environmental impacts such as floods, wildfires, drought, and increasingly severe weather events. These gases are commonly used in refrigerators, air conditioners, and other applications. The AIM Act encourages the use of climate-safe products as an alternative.

More information regarding the AIM Act and specific HFC allowance allocations is available on the EPA website.

PFAS – COMMON, HARMFUL, AND IN YOUR FACILITY



Harmful effects of per/poly-fluoroalkyl substances on public health and the environment have come to light over recent years. These compounds can be found in surface waters, groundwater, soil, and air throughout the country. Though we know that PFAS can be detrimental to human health, these synthetically produced compounds are still used in products ranging from firefighting foam to furniture coatings to non-stick pans. They are ubiquitous in everyday life. So how do you find out if they're at your facility?

First, consider the common uses/processes that may utilize PFAS, like water-repellents for textiles, surfactants, degreasers, solvents, fume suppressants (used in metal finishing processes), resins and polymers. Next, check the SDSs of materials of concern, but understand that the compounds may not be listed if they fall below de minimis concentrations. The next step would be contacting the supplier/manufacture. Although it's not simple now, as of August 26, 2022, the EPA issued a proposal to designate two of the most widely used PFASs as hazardous substances. This will hopefully lead to more transparency and awareness of this emerging concern.

EPA POLLUTION PREVENTION GRANT

Every year, EPA awards more than \$4 billion in funding for grants and other assistance agreements. EPA provides an online training course designed to introduce EPA grant applicants and recipients to key aspects of the entire grant life cycle, from preparation of an application through grant closeout.

To begin the process to apply for the P2 Grant, the applicant will need an active System for Award Management (SAM) account (<https://www.sam.gov/SAM/>), to be registered in Grants.gov (<https://www.grants.gov/>), and have a designate an Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) as the individual who will submit the application through [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov/). The applicant's AOR must submit a complete application package electronically to EPA through [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov/). This registration process may take a month or more to complete, so applying early is strongly advised.

Here is a list of forms that need to be completed:

1. Standard Form 424 – Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424).
2. Standard Form 424A, Budget Information – Non-Construction Programs.
3. EPA Form 4700-4, Pre-Award Compliance Review Report for All Applicants Requesting Federal Financial Assistance.
4. EPA Key Contacts Form 5700-54.
5. Project Narrative, including cover page.



Application submission for FY 2022 – FY 2023 has closed, but application information for FY 2024 should appear online at <https://www.epa.gov/p2/grant-programs-pollution-prevention>

2022 GREEN POWER LEADERS

For the last 20 years, the EPA has recognized businesses that lead the charge in green energy innovation. This year's winners are Bimbo Bakery, Google, and T-mobile.

- Bimbo Bakeries have plants throughout the US, including in Grand Prairie. This year they have retrofitted 6 of their facilities to run on 100% renewable energy. These systems are expected to produce more than 490 million Kwh annually.
- Google has increased their solar production by more than 50%, bringing their total solar production to over 9 billion Kwh annually.
- T-Mobile aggressively increased their green energy usage by 400% this year, bringing its total green energy usage to 7.8 billion Kwh annually.

The Green Power Partnership consists of over 700 Partner companies and organizations that have voluntarily agreed to increase their green energy usage and investments. Partnership is diverse, and range from large Fortune 500 companies, small business, schools, and local governments.

If you would like to learn more about the Green Power Partnership and how you can get involved, visit <https://www.epa.gov/greenpower>

TEXAS TROUBLE- FALL 20202

A recycling facility in Williamson County was assessed \$8,494 for failing to establish and maintain financial assurance for closure of the facility that stores combustible materials outdoors, failing to maintain a complete stormwater pollution prevention plan, and failing to have a fire prevention and suppression plan and make it available to the local fire prevention authority.

A recycling facility in San Patricio County was assessed \$5,938 for failing to submit a Notice of Intent prior to the commencement of recycling activities and for failing to maintain the setback distance of at least 50 feet from all property boundaries to the edge of the area receiving, processing, or storing feedstock or finished product.

A wastewater treatment facility in Collin County was assessed \$18,165 for failing to comply with permitted effluent limitations and failing to collect and analyze effluent samples at the intervals specified in the permit. A chlorine chemical company in Brazos County was assessed \$153,000 for failing to prevent an unauthorized discharge of industrial wastewater into or adjacent to any water in the state.

A recycling facility and wind turbine blade storage facility in Nolan County was assessed \$13,200 for failing to permit the unauthorized storage of industrial solid waste and failing to keep records of all hazardous and industrial solid waste activities regarding quantities generated, stored, processed, and disposed of on-site or shipped off-site for disposal.

An oil and gas handling and production facility in Karnes County was assessed \$7,500 for failing to comply with all representations with regard to construction plans, operating procedures, and maximum emission rates in any certified registration.