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H₂O LINE NEWSLETTER

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Join the City of Grand Prairie's Environmental Quality staff on Thursday, October 21, in recognizing Grand Prairie industries for excellence in environmental compliance and pollution prevention. Awards will also be given to our Stream Team Partners, Clean Prairie Partner, and Clean Air Action Day Challenge winners. 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 complete the attached registration form and return it by fax to 972-237-8228 or email to jcason@gptx.org.



Environmental AWARDS

Congratulations to the following Grand Prairie industries for achieving 100% compliance during the 2020-2021 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!

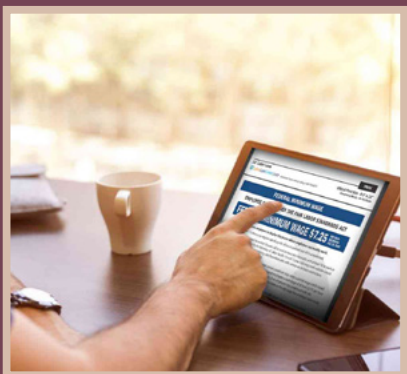
- A. Zahner Company
- ABC Compounding
- Airbus Helicopters
- American Animal Health
- Aytu BioPharma
- Bell Helicopter
- Gemini Coatings
- International Paper – Bag Plant
- International Paper – Box Plant
- Lockheed Martin Missiles & Fire Control - Marshall Street Facility
- Lockheed Martin Missiles & Fire Control - Shook Facility
- Lockheed Martin Missiles & Fire Control - SW 14th Street Facility
- PepsiCo Global Concentrate Solutions - Arlington, TX
- Triumph Accessory Services – Grand Prairie
- Win-Holt Equipment
- Poly-America
- Pratt & Whitney Services, Inc. – 1174
- Pratt & Whitney Services, Inc. – 1177
- TPW Metal Finishing

NEW DOL RULES FOR ELECTRONIC POSTERS

The government-mandated posters that hang on breakroom bulletin boards in workplaces across the country don't do much good when employees are working from home. That's why the Department of Labor (DOL) issued new field guidance on how employers should inform employees about their rights under the Fair Labor Standards Act, the FMLA and other federal labor laws.

A new DOL field assistance bulletin clarifies how employers should post required notices in an environment where many employees no longer work in an area where they would usually be able to read official posters. The bulletin states:

- Employers should continue to post hard copies at work, ensuring all workers have access to the notices. This helps satisfy a requirement to keep notices posted at all times.
- Strictly electronic posting is only allowed if all employees work remotely all the time, all communication is electronic and all employees have ready access to the electronic posting at all times.
- If an employer has some employees on-site and others working remotely on a full-time basis, the employer may supplement a hard-copy posting with an electronic posting.
- For an electronic posting to meet access requirements, employees must be able to view a file without requesting permission.
- Employers must make sure they let employees know where and how to access the electronic notice. Just as with paper postings, the electronic version must be somewhere obvious, not in the electronic equivalent of a basement storage closet.



It should be noted that employers will not fulfill their notice obligations by simply issuing a one-time direct mailing or other single notice to employees.

METHANE REGULATIONS FOR OIL AND GAS

EPA Administrator, Michael Regan, stated last week that his agency intends to propose new methane regulations for the oil and gas sector by the end of September. The regulations are expected to be more strict than previous legislation: Regan stated that methane reduction has "never been done as aggressively as we plan to do it."

The oil and gas sector contributes to 30% of methane emissions in the U.S, according to the EPA's Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks. Additionally, in an April report, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) warned that methane is currently responsible for 30% of ongoing global heating; over the next 20 years, average global temperatures are expected to rise an additional 0.9°F without further methane mitigation. However, the EPA is focused on mitigating methane emissions. Regan recently spoke at a conference for Resources for the Future saying, "we're going to focus on the oil and gas industry and really look for deep cuts in emissions of methane."

Apply to Become a Grand Prairie Certified Partner!

- ✓ Keep property litter clutter free
- ✓ Keep litter receptacles clean
- ✓ Maintain landscaping & keep grass cut



MULTI SECTOR PERMIT UPDATES

The new 2021 Multi-Sector General Permit for industrial facilities has been issued by the TCEQ with an effective date of August 14, 2021. Using STEERS, existing permittees have until November 12, 2021 to renew their authorizations by submitting a renewal Notice of Intent or No Exposure Certification. Paper NOIs and NECs are no longer allowed based on federal electronic reporting rules in 40 CFR Part 127 unless the applicant requests and obtains a waiver from electronic reporting. Changes from the existing general permit include:

Part II C.5: Added that the following items also are needed on the NOI: location of outfall(s), industrial activities subject to federal effluent limitation guidelines, discharging pollutant(s) of concern, and waiver criteria from monitoring hazardous metals.

Part III.A.3.(d): Added that the Drainage Area Site Map needs to include latitude and longitude on outfalls.

Part III.A.3.(d): Added that the SWPPP's list of spills and leaks must include those "that could contribute pollutants to stormwater discharges."

Part III.B.4.(e): Added that reporting for the pollutant of concern must be completed electronically using the online Network Discharge Monitoring Report system (NetDMR), unless the permittee requests and obtains an electronic reporting waiver.

Part III.E.6.(a).(2): Added that DMRs for hazardous metals are only submitted to TCEQ when results exceed permit limits.

Part V.Section T.5: Revised the benchmark value for BOD₅ from 20 mg/L to 15 mg/L.

Part V. Section U.4: Revised the benchmark value for TSS from 100 mg/L to 50 mg/L.

For a full list of updates please look here: <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/permitting/stormwater/2021-msgp-fact-sheet.pdf>.

NORTH TEXAS COMMUNITY CLEANUP CHALLENGE

The North Texas Community Cleanup Challenge (NTCCC) is a friendly competition among North Texas communities to see who can clean up the most litter between September 1, 2021, and October 31, 2021. Mayor Ron Jensen was challenged by Mansfield Mayor, Michael Evans, to see which city can pick up the most amount of litter. Mayor Jensen has accepted the challenge but needs your help to make Grand Prairie the Winner.

Benefits of participating in NTCCC:

- Great team building exercise.
- Opportunity to promote pollution prevention efforts.
- Excellent public relations opportunity.
- Cleaning up your local environment helps protect your watershed.



Participating is as easy as 1-2-3!

1. Join an existing litter cleanup event or organize a cleanup on your own.
2. Log your litter loot each time you pick up litter during the months of September and October.
3. Share your cleanup results and pictures online at www.gptx.org/mayorschallenge.



If you want to volunteer for an existing cleanup event or need tools for your next cleanup event, please email Amanda Maron, amaron@gptx.org or visit www.gptx.org/kgpb. To learn more about the NTCCC, please visit <http://www.communitycleanupchallenge.com/>.

WATER CONSERVATION FOR INDUSTRIES, BUSINESSES, AND INSTITUTIONS

Water costs account for 1-2 percent of a business' overhead, and prices for water are expected to rise in the future. Water conservation efforts in Texas have already shown both financial and environmental benefits.

Various tax benefits that can be given in Texas for water conservation:

- Rainwater harvesting systems
- Water recycling and reuse systems
- Desalinization systems
- Wastewater systems certified by TCEQ
- Brush control equipment designed to increase water availability

The first step to reducing water usage is performing a water audit of the entire property, and the biggest area to explore is potential leaks. For more information about water conservation, visit the Texas Water Development Board's Water Conservation site: <https://www.twdb.texas.gov/conservation/>.



★ TEXAS TROUBLE ★

A wood products manufacturer in Newton County was assessed \$15,584 for failing to comply with permitted effluent limits and failing to collect and analyze effluent samples at the intervals specified in the permit.

A medical waste transporter facility in Dallas County was assessed \$102,333 for failing to permit the collection, storage, transportation, and/or disposal of solid waste in a such a manner that causes the endangerment of human health and the environment, failing to maintain manifests, failing to accept medical waste that was not properly packaged by the generator.

An industrial wastewater treatment facility in Williamson County was assessed \$5,541 for failing to comply with permitted effluent limits and failing to collect and analyze effluent samples at the intervals specified in the permit.

A facility with a tank battery in Reeves County was assessed \$6,563 for failing to maintain all emissions control equipment in good condition and operated properly during operation of the site and for failing to obtain authorization prior to constructing or modifying a source of air contaminants.

A small aircraft manufacturer in Young County with a direct discharge pretreatment permit with the TCEQ was assessed \$71,925 for failing to submit periodic compliance reports, failing to collect and analyze pretreatment samples, failing to notify the TCEQ within 24 hours of a violation, failing to conduct the re-sampling within 30 days, failing to conduct required monitoring to measure compliance with the TTO effluent standard, and failing to comply with categorical pretreatment standards.

Public Health &
Environmental Quality
Registration Form

"Annual Awards Luncheon"

Ruthe Jackson Center
3113 S. Carrier Parkway
Thursday, Oct. 21 2021
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Lunch

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Attendees: _____

PLEASE RETURN TO:
Public Health & Environmental
Quality
P.O. Box 534045
Grand Prairie, TX 75053
Fax to: 972-237-8228
Email to: jcason@gptx.org

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Submit your comments and suggestions to:

Editor: Cindy Mendez
Phone: 972-237-8225
Fax: 972-237-8228
Email: Cmendez@gptx.org

Public Health &
Environmental Quality
300 West Main St., 2nd Floor
Grand Prairie, TX 75050