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# H2O LINE NEWSLETTER

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# HAPPY EARTH DAY

## MEETING NOTICE

Please join us on Thursday, April 28, 2022 for the next Environmental Compliance meeting to hear City of Grand Prairie staff discuss Spills and Spill Rules. The meeting will be held from 9:30 - 11:00 am at the City's Main Library located at 901 Conover Dr.

To register, or for more information, contact Eric Straw at (972) 237-8277 or [estraw@gptx.org](mailto:estraw@gptx.org), or fax your registration form to (972) 237-8228.

# #INVESTINOURPLANET

***ALL TOGETHER now!***

Earth Day 2022 is focused on accelerating solutions to combat our greatest threat, climate change, and to activate everyone – governments, citizens, and businesses – to do their part. This is the moment to change it all. Now is the time for the unstoppable courage to preserve and protect our health, our families, our livelihoods... together, we must Invest In Our Planet.

Because a green future is a prosperous future.

It's going to take all of us. All in. Businesses, governments, and citizens – everyone accounted for, and everyone accountable. A partnership for the planet.

For Earth Day 2022, together, for everyone, everything, every day...

Learn more at [www.earthday.org/earth-day-2022](http://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2022).

# EARTH DAY AT THE OFFICE

We all know that the environment needs protecting, now more than ever. Taking environmental action can have positive effects for a business too.

## 1. Organize Employee Events

One of the simplest ways to celebrate Earth Day in the office is to organize an employee event like a screening of a movie like "A Plastic Ocean".

## 2. Raise Awareness

You can also raise awareness of Earth Day and what it's about in other ways. Write about it on your company intranet. Write a blog post or article on the company website.

## 3. Start a Competition

Sometimes, the best Earth Day events are those that extend beyond the day itself and encourage meaningful changes over a longer period of time.

## 4. Volunteer in the Community

You can harness the power of your company and its employees to improve your local environment in simple ways. Volunteer for a clean up or plant trees.



## 5. Experience Nature

What better way to celebrate Earth Day and raise employees' appreciation for it than by being in nature? Organize an employee outing.

## 6. Be an Eco Planner

Become more energy efficient. Reduce your carbon footprint. Offer incentives for your employees to use eco-friendly transport for their commute.

# TEXAS STREAM TEAM



Join the City of Grand Prairie in the fight to preserve water quality this Earth Day. Discover how you or your organization can become a Texas Stream Team volunteer monitor today! Partners collect critical information about water quality that supports local and state resource managers in scientifically sound decision making. Once trained, volunteers need to dedicate only one hour a month to monitor a stream of their choice.

Benefits to becoming a Texas Stream Team Monitor:

- Monitoring is a great team building exercise

- Your organization will be on the way to becoming "Green"!

- Being a monitor is an excellent public relations opportunity

- You will contribute to real science that is used by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, while simultaneously learning about your environment.

For more information, please contact Brianna Nisi at [bnisi@gptx.org](mailto:bnisi@gptx.org).

# DISCHARGE MONITORING REPORT UPDATE

If you are covered under the Multi-Sector General Permit (TXR050000). You are required to record analytical data for effluent monitoring kept onsite. Use the appropriate Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) form. Keep these monitoring results on-site with the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). Some dischargers will also need to submit monitoring results electronically to TCEQ via NetDMR.

DMRs are to be submitted to TCEQ electronically by March 31 of each year in the following cases:

1. Any non-compliance with an effluent limit for any of the hazardous metals required in Part III.C.1 of this permit, shall be recorded on a DMR and reported in NetDMR at a frequency of once per year.
2. All results of sampling for effluent limits in accordance with Part V of the permit (Sector-specific requirements in Sectors A, C, D, E, J, or O) must be reported in NetDMR regardless of if there was an exceedance or not.

Discharge monitoring report forms in PDF format can be found at [www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/stormwater/industrial/TXR05\\_dmr.html](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/stormwater/industrial/TXR05_dmr.html).

Please notice that there has been some updates to NetDMR.

Effective August 14, 2021, all analytical results for determining compliance with effluent limitations and benchmark monitoring for MSGP permittees shall be submitted online using the online NetDMR reporting system. The NetDMR reporting system is not yet ready to accept data from MSGP permittees. The TCEQ is implementing an Episodic Waiver from electronic reporting in NetDMR for all MSGP permittees.



## EPA TO REVIEW ETHYLENE OXIDE RISKS

EPA has agreed to requests from state, industry, and environmental groups to reconsider the 2020 regulation of ethylene oxide (EtO) by chemical plants that fall under the Miscellaneous Organic Chemical Manufacturing source category. The EPA Administrator received and granted petitions for reconsideration on two issues, specifically, on (1) the use of EPA's 2016 Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) unit risk estimate for ethylene oxide in assessing cancer risk for the source category, and (2) the use of the TCEQ risk value for ethylene oxide as an alternative risk value to EPA's 2016 IRIS value. EPA is seeking comment only on the two identified petition issues. EPA utilizes the IRIS to identify and characterize the health hazards of chemicals like EtO found in the environment. The 2016 IRIS risk assessment for EtO characterized the chemical as a more potent "carcinogenic to humans" by the inhalation exposure route than previously understood. Critics, including

industry and certain states, claim that EPA used unconventional statistical modeling to issue an assessment that overestimated the risk of EtO exposure. After the publication of the 2016 IRIS assessment, TCEQ conducted an in-depth review of the 2016 assessment and claimed scientific deficiencies. As a result, TCEQ issued its own EtO Dose Response Assessment in May 2020. This found EtO is a less potent carcinogen than EPA's 2016 report. In the letter announcing the decision, EPA notes it is "continuing to review all issues raised in the petitions for reconsideration and may choose to initiate reconsideration of additional issues in the future." Industry and environmental groups see the reconsideration of this rule as a possible signal of the tightening of the NESHAP for the commercial sterilization source category.

# GET YOUR FACILITY READY FOR SPRING MOSQUITOES – DON'T BE A BREEDER

By taking steps ahead of spring mosquito season, commercial facilities can do their part to help stop breeding while protecting their employees and the community. Mosquitoes lay eggs in any area or containers that hold water for more than 5 days around buildings and work yards.

Tip it, Fill it, Store it, Throw it, or Report it!

**Tip** anything that can hold water after it rains for more than 5 days such as plastic containers, buckets, wheel barrows, front loaders, etc..

**Fill** in and/or drain any low places (puddles, ruts) around your facility that holds water and keep drains, ditches, and culverts clean of weeds and trash to allow proper drainage.

**Store** anything that holds water undercover or in dry places including work equipment, surplus materials, bins, tires, etc.

**Throw** out trash or debris that can hold water, empty containers, bottles, cans, etc.

**Report** to the Environmental Quality Division any area that holds water that may require treatment to eliminate mosquitoes at 972-237-8055.

Keeping grass cut short and shrubbery well-trimmed around your facility will also help to eliminate hiding places for adult mosquitoes. Don't forget to check and repair leaky pipes, outdoor faucets, and ensure proper operation of sprinklers.

For more information visit: <http://www.gptx.org/FighttheBite>.



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