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VOLUME 14 ISSUE NO. 3 SUMMER 2021

H₂O LINE NEWSLETTER

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formed largely from emissions. This negatively affects our environment, economic development, and human health. High ozone is particularly harmful to young children and people with respiratory conditions.

As an individual, you can take a pledge to do multiple things to help reduce our ground level ozone (combining errands in your vehicle, riding a bike, cutting down on electricity, etc.) As an industry, you and your coworkers can combine forces by taking the pledge, educating and competing in our Industry Challenge. Our department recognizes all participants in the challenge and will award the winners that go above and beyond.

Please contact Eric Straw at estraw@gptx.org (972) 237-8277 for more ideas for education and initiatives if your industry would like to take part. The deadline to submit the application is the big day, August 4th! Please, pledge, participate in the challenge, and help us create cleaner air for all North Texans! Pledge at www.airnorthtexas.org/cleanairactionday.

MEETING NOTICE

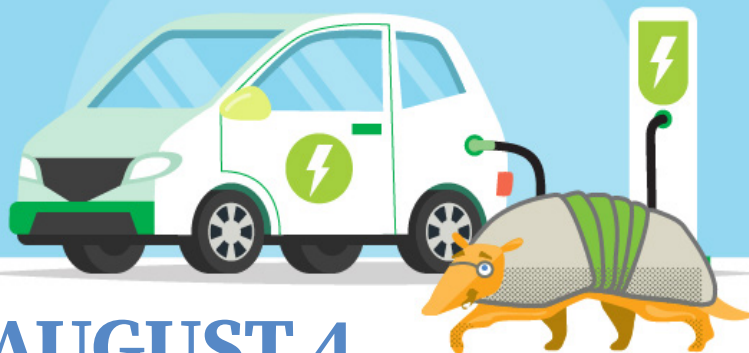
Please join us on Thursday, July 22, 2021 for the next Environmental Compliance meeting, EnSafe will discuss industrial compliance audits and the Texas Environmental, Health, and Safety Audit Privilege Act. The meeting will be held from 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. at the Ruthe Jackson Center located at 3113 S. Carrier Parkway. Coffee and danishes will be served.

To RSVP, please complete the registration form on page 4 and return it by fax to 972-237-8070 or email to jcason@gptx.org.

CLEAN AIR ACTION DAY CHALLENGE 2021

Clean Air Action Day arrives on August 4, 2021. This lands in the heart of ozone season. From spring through early fall, 10 North Texas counties suffer from high levels of ground level ozone -

CLEAN AIR ACTION DAY



AUGUST 4

CLIMATE CHANGE FUNDING 2022

The White House recently proposed \$14 billion in spending on initiatives to fight climate change. This budget proposal consists of increasing the EPA's budget by 21.3% which would bring the total budget to \$11.1 billion. Also included in the proposal is a 20% boost to National Science Foundation budget bringing the total to \$10.2 billion. \$500 million would be used for climate and clean energy research.



To help communities battle pollution, \$1.4 billion will be used to move towards renewable energy. This includes \$936 million toward a new Accelerating Environmental and Economic Justice initiative at the EPA and \$100 million to develop a new community air quality monitoring and notification program. The program to remediate abandoned oil and gas wells would see \$550 million invested, which could help create 250,000 jobs. The administration has a goal of decarbonizing the electricity sector by 2035. To help with this goal, the proposal includes increasing the Energy Department's budget by 10.2%, bringing the total to \$46 billion. The 2022 budget also includes climate aid overseas.

The Obama administration promised \$3 billion to support the fund that assists developing countries reduce emissions and adapt to climate change. This proposal includes a request for \$1.2 billion for the Green Climate Fund as a down payment of the \$2 billion still owed.

CLEAN
Prairie

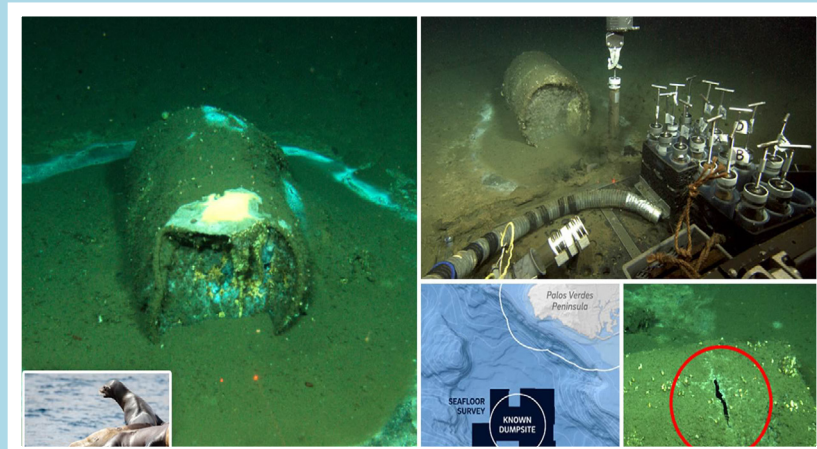


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DDT DUMP SITE

Dumping industrial chemicals near Catalina Island, just 12 miles from the Los Angeles shore, was an accepted practice for decades. One of the most problematic chemicals still remains on the seafloor: DDT. Up to 25,000 barrels of DDT, is now polluting the Pacific Ocean and its inhabitants. In marine environments, DDT is absorbed by aquatic organisms, leaving little DDT in the water. The insecticide accumulates in the tissues of animals in greater concentrations as it moves up the food chain. Scientists have found dangerously high levels of DDT in local marine mammals, birds, fish, and the chemical has been linked to cancer in sea lions.



In the 1980s, scientist Allan Chartrand reached out to the Montrose Chemical Corporation, the largest producer of DDT in the U.S. to research the dumping and was given access to the company's shipping logs. Chartrand and a team of scientists searched through the shipping logs and discovered that between 1947 and 1961, the company had legally dumped 2,000 barrels of DDT per month - up to 1,534,000 pounds of DDT that may have gone into the ocean.

The shipping logs also show that many industrial companies dumped waste into the area from the 1930s until 1972, when the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA) act was signed into law by President Richard Nixon and outlawed the practice.

In 1996, the dumping site was declared a Superfund cleanup site by the EPA. Remediation experiments took place in 2000, when the EPA capped a test area by covering it in silt and sand, with mixed results. In 2009, the capping remedy was postponed by the EPA and efforts have not yet resumed. The EPA is currently supporting monitored natural recovery at the Superfund site. The EPA continues to implement an aggressive outreach and education program to limit human exposure to contaminated fish.

SIX STRATEGIES FOR INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION PREVENTION

The benefits of industrial pollution prevention are many, including economic advantages, liability reduction, efficiency improvement, reduction in multi-media transfers of pollutants, resource and energy conservation, and improved image of the industry. Here are six key strategies for industrial pollution prevention:



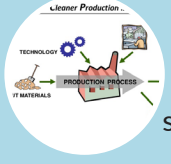
Good Housekeeping Measures: This includes improving the way in which materials are handled, reducing leakage and spillage, carrying out regular maintenance of all materials processing equipment, and instituting better inventory controls.



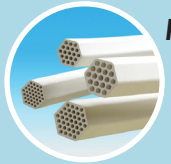
Waste Reduction Audits: A prerequisite for good housekeeping is to implement regular waste reduction audits. A waste reduction audit is a systematic, periodic, internal review of a company's processes and operations to identify opportunities to reduce wastes.



Internal Recycling: This will reduce the need for a continued supply of raw material inputs and material emission from the process. Examples of this kind of measure include the reuse of solvents and the recovery of metals from treatment sludge.



Cleaner Process Technologies: Cleaner process technologies generally possess better material efficiencies and reduce reliance on hazardous materials. Examples of such technologies include the development of membrane technology to replace electrolysis in the chlorine production industry and the employment of electrolytic smelting technologies.



Process Modifications: Some of these modifications are simple and some are more complex. Examples include the use of electronic process controls to moderate and optimize material flows, the addition of minor capital investments (such as membranes and filters), and the segregation of waste streams to aid recovery and recycling.



Material Substitution: Hazardous raw material is replaced with less hazardous material. An example of this is the development of non-CFC-based aerosol sprays. This change means not only that CFCs are eliminated from the manufacturing process, but also that the product itself is less liable to harm the environment. Quite generally, reformulating the product can lead to multiple advantages like reduced material input requirements, fewer emissions from the industrial process, and safer products.

SPCC PLAN FIVE YEAR REVIEWS

Pursuant to the 40 CFR 112 Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) rule, facilities subject to the rule must conduct a review of their written SPCC plans at least once every five years. If there has been any technical changes such as addition or modification of containers and secondary containments, changes in maintenance practices and responsible personnel, recurrent spill patterns, or changes in products stored at the facility, those amendments must be incorporated into the written plans and certified within six months of the review.



Amendments to SPCC plans at Tier I and Tier II qualified facilities may continue to be self-certified. However, amendments to plans that originally required certification by a Professional Engineer (P.E.) must be re-certified and sealed unless the reviews find no technical changes.

Additional information may be found at: [SPCC Plan 5-Year Reviews](#)

EPA PHASE DOWN HFCs

The EPA proposed its first rule under the American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act of 2020. The AIM Act was enacted at the end of 2020 to address hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), and it is very significant to environmental policy laws in the United States because of its bipartisan support. This first rule will phase down the production and consumption of HFCs. HFCs are greenhouse gases commonly used in refrigerators and air conditioners. This phasedown will decrease the production and import of HFCs in the United States by 85% over the next 15 years. The expected global HFC phasedown is predicted to avoid up to 0.5 °C of global warming by 2100. There has been a strong support for this rule by the business community and it is also expected to stimulate the economy by creating jobs while improving the environment. This rule will reduce production and consumption of HFCs by using an allowance allocation and trading program. The EPA will start issuing allowances for 2022 by October 1, 2021.

MOSQUITO PREVENTION AT COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

Commercial facilities can do their part to help stop mosquito breeding while protecting their employees and the community.

Mosquitoes lay eggs in any area or containers that hold water for more than five days around buildings and work yards. Some workplace areas can be perfect breeding grounds for mosquitoes, potentially putting personnel at risk of catching mosquito-borne diseases like West Nile virus.

When at work, look around and identify areas that can hold water and breed mosquitoes and **Tip it, Store it, Throw it, or Report it!**

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

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



★ TEXAS TROUBLE ★

An oil field vehicle and machinery maintenance facility in Frio County was assessed \$34,287 for allowing the disposal of industrial solid waste at an unauthorized facility and by failing to notify the TCEQ of the generation and disposal of waste at least 90 days prior to engaging in such activities.

An unauthorized recycling business in Tarrant County was assessed \$14,097 for failing to submit a Notice of Intent prior to the commencement of recycling activities and failing to provide financial assurance for closure of the facility and by failing to maintain a setback distance of 50 feet from all property boundaries.

An aircraft fleet refueling facility in Bexar County was assessed \$21,052 for failing to report a suspected release to the TCEQ within 24 hours of discovery and failing to investigate and confirm all suspected releases of regulated substances requiring reporting under 30 TAC 334.72 within 30 days.

A sealant production facility in Dallas County was assessed \$3,937 for failing to not allow the unauthorized disposal of industrial hazardous waste.

A firearms manufacturer in Williamson County was assessed \$11,813 for failing to obtain stormwater authorization, failing to immediately abate a spill, failing to allow the unauthorized disposal of industrial hazardous waste into and adjacent stream, and failing to submit a written notice to the TCEQ to include types of hazardous wastes stored and recycled prior to engaging in such activities.

Environmental Quality Division Registration Form "Environmental Compliance Meeting"

Ruthe Jackson Center
3113 S. Carrier Parkway
Thursday, July 22, 2021
9:30 a.m.
(Continental Breakfast Provided)

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Attendees: _____

PLEASE RETURN TO:
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