

Portland Area EcoBiz Shops

What is EcoBiz?

The Eco-Logical Business (or EcoBiz) Program recognizes businesses that reach the highest standards in minimizing their environmental impact. Businesses must meet all environmental regulations and take extra voluntary steps to reduce water, energy, and material consumption, prevent water and air pollution, and reduce the generation of hazardous and solid wastes.

EcoBiz was developed by members of the Portland Area Pollution prevention Outreach (P2O) team. The P2O Team is a regional multi-agency group of air, water, wastewater, energy, hazardous waste and solid waste professionals. Their goal is to coordinate educational messages from environmental professionals.

Why Auto Repair Shops?

Cars and trucks contain many toxic substances. Gasoline, oil and antifreeze can be toxic. Some switches, like hood lights, contain mercury. Some brake pads contain asbestos.

Auto repair shops also perform many activities that use toxic substances. Solvents to degrease engine parts and clean brakes, spray paints, adhesives, and fiberglass for body work can be toxic.

All of these materials and wastes must be handled very carefully to ensure that they are not released into the environment. If not properly disposed, they can contaminate the air, soil, and nearby water bodies, including drinking water sources, and harm the people, plants, and animals exposed to them.

What is special about an EcoBiz Auto Repair Shop?

EcoBiz shops receive a site visit to ensure compliance with regulations. EcoBiz shops also implement best management practices for unregulated activities. Some adopt regulations usually reserved for only large industrial sources, while others incorporate aspects of sustainability. Examples of voluntary steps that EcoBiz shops have undertaken include: switching to non-toxic cleaners; participating in recycling programs for spent batteries, scrap metal, mercury switches, used oil, and used antifreeze; and forming training and awareness programs for employees on the environmental impacts of their actions.

What can you do?

You can choose an EcoBiz shop the next time you need to get your car fixed. Or, if you are comfortable with your own auto repair shop and they are not EcoBiz-certified, you can ask them to become EcoBiz-certified.

How can you find an EcoBiz Shop?

New companies are continually being certified. For the most current list, go to www.ecobiz.org.

How can you become EcoBiz-Certified?

Go on-line to www.ecobiz.org or call 503-823-7807 to obtain an application packet. Technical assistance is available to walk you through the process. Once the checklist is completed, a site visit will verify the shop meets the certification requirements.

Alternative formats

Alternative formats (Braille, large type) of this document can be made available. Contact DEQ's Office of Communications & Outreach, Portland, at (503) 229-5696, or toll-free in Oregon at 1-800-452-4011, ext. 5696.



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DEQ is a leader in restoring, maintaining and enhancing the quality of Oregon's air, land and water.