

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Additional Information

To further assist you as you work with small business owners and operators, we have supplied additional information. These include resources for small businesses, information about state local pollution prevention offices, pollution prevention programs within the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and independent pollution prevention offices.

Small Business Assistance Program

As a result of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (the Act), all States must develop a program to assist small businesses in meeting the requirements of the Act. Since then, these programs have expanded to provide assistance in other environmental areas, including water and waste issues. See Table 1 in the Contacts section for a listing of small business programs by state. You can also find a listing at www.smallbiz-enviroweb.org/sba/sbap.html.

Likewise, EPA has established its own Small Business Assistance Program (SBAP) to provide technical assistance to these State small business programs. Information about the SBAP can be found at www.epa.gov/ttn/sbap. This site contains information small businesses need to know related to general compliance issues from the Act (i.e., environmental audit protocols, small business compliance policies, EPA audit policy) as well as information pertaining to specific types of businesses. Examples include a compliance guide for the auto body repair industry, architectural coatings guide, and guides on wood finishing and furniture rules and regulations. This information is available directly from the internet or in downloadable form.

Small Business Gateway

The EPA maintains a small business gateway website (www.epa.gov/smallbusiness) that has a list of several types of resources. These resources are briefly described below.

- **General Small Business and Environmental Information** – Offers links both within the EPA and other Federal government agencies where information related to how small businesses and can comply with air quality regulations is available.
- **Environmental Assistance and Technical Help** – Contains a listing of websites and downloadable material available through the EPA.
- **Contacts and Environmental Experts** – Lists contacts within the EPA as well as State and local environmental agencies or departments, and local Small Business Administration sources. It also provides links to industrial sector representatives who specialize in compliance and pollution prevention techniques for their industry.

- **Environmental Regulations and Laws** – Serves as a collection point linking to the Federal Register, the Code of Federal Regulations, the United States Code, and other types of environmental regulations and laws that might impact small businesses.
- **The Bottom Line: Saving and Finding Money** – Presents information and links related to Federal assistance, business financing, doing business with the EPA, and financial models.
- **Frequently Answered Questions** – Lists questions and answers that small business owners and operators may have about air quality requirements and business assistance.

State and Local Pollution Prevention Offices

State and local pollution prevention offices also offer further information regarding pollution prevention methods and training for small businesses interested in pollution prevention. Tables 2 and 3 in the Contacts section list state and local pollution prevention programs. This listing may also be found on the internet at www.epa.gov/epahome/whereyoulive.htm.

EPA Programs

The EPA has implemented several pollution prevention programs aimed at preventing pollution across the board. These include the Design for the Environment, Enviro\$en\$, pollution prevention, and compliance assistance centers. These programs will be discussed in more detail in the following sections. Links to these programs and other pollution prevention programs may be found at www.epa.gov/epahome/p2pgram.htm.

EPA Pollution Prevention Offices

Within its ten Regions, the EPA has established pollution prevention offices. Personnel within these offices offer technical assistance and information specifically tailored to their Region. Moreover, they can provide contacts for further pollution prevention information. Table 4 in the Contacts section lists the EPA Regional Pollution Prevention contacts.

EPA's Design for the Environment

The Design for the Environment (DfE) program is one of EPA's premier partnership programs. The purpose of the DfE is to work with individual industry sectors to compare and improve the performance, and reduce the human health and environmental risks, and costs of existing and alternative products, processes, and practices. These partnership projects promote integrating cleaner, cheaper, and smarter solutions into everyday business practices. The following briefly describe each partnership project. Also, more information is available at www.epa.gov/oppt/dfe.

- **Automotive Refinishing** – Works with the automotive repair industry and individual shops both to raise awareness of the health and environmental concerns related to refinishing activities and to encourage the use of safer, cleaner, and more efficient practices and technologies. For pollution prevention information related to air toxics from auto body shops, please see the auto body information sheets.
- **Adhesives** – Formed an Adhesives Technologies Partnership that works with members of the adhesives industry, Federal, state, and local governments, and public interest groups to develop alternative solvents and processes for adhesive technologies. Currently, the Partnership is focusing on creating safer substitutes for methylene chloride-based fabricated foam adhesives used in the fabricated foam furniture and sleep products industry.
- **Computer Display** – This partnership is investigating the life-cycle states, processes, and/or materials that contribute to environmental impacts from the products. The information collected will be used to identify opportunities for product improvement and will reduce potentially adverse environmental impacts and costs.
- **Garment and Textile Care** – This partnership is committed to promoting environmentally benign technologies for garment and textile care through a systems approach to the development, manufacture, distribution, and care of garments and textile products. For pollution prevention information related to air toxics from dry cleaners, please see the Dry Cleaning Operations information sheets.
- **Flexographic Printing** – This partnership provides technical information and pollution prevention tips to printers doing flexographic printing to help them perform as efficiently and environmentally responsible as possible. For pollution prevention information related to air toxics from the printing industry, please see the Printing Operations information sheets.
- **Formulator** – DfE created the Formulator Initiative to encourage and assist formulators in designing products with more positive environmental and health profiles than conventional products. Through this initiative, the DfE can supply formulators with information on chemical characteristics and toxicities of raw materials or additives as well as recognize DfE Formulator Initiative partners.
- **Gravure Printing** – This partnership's goals are to (1) Identify common environmental issues for small- and medium-sized printers in the packaging and product sectors; and (2) encourage printers and product sectors to address these issues by reducing risk and preventing pollution. For information related to pollution prevention, please see the Printing Operations information sheets.

- **Industrial and Institutional Laundry** – This partnership was formed to develop products with improved environmental and human health characteristics. This partnership works to remove polluting chemicals from formulations, increase environmental and health benefits through using reformulated products, and advance energy and water efficiency, resource conservation, and innovative technologies.
- **Integrated Environmental Management Systems** – An Environmental Management System is a set of management tools and principles that allows companies to systematically manage environmental health and safety matters. This partnership takes the ISO 14001 framework several steps further by incorporating redesign, chemical risk management, use of cleaner technologies, and pollution prevention.
- **Lead-Free Solder Partnership** – This is a voluntary partnership with members of the electronics industry and other interested parties. They are evaluating the environmental impacts of tin-lead, tin-copper, tin-silver-copper, and tin-silver-copper, bismuth solders by using a life-cycle assessment approach.
- **Lithographic Printing** – This partnership's goals are to incorporate environmental considerations into business decisions and to switch to blanket washes that contain fewer VOC, lower vapor pressure and fewer hazardous chemicals, where appropriate. For pollution prevention information related to the lithographic printing industry, please see the Printing Operations information sheets.
- **Printed Wiring Board (PWB)** – This partnership was formed to foster open and active participation in addressing environmental challenges faced by the PWB industry. Moreover, it has identified, evaluated, and disseminated information on viable pollution prevention opportunities within the industry.
- **Screen Printing** – This partnership is focusing on two projects. First, they are developing an industry-wide IEMS to identify and reduce chemical risk. Second, they are developing a Cleaner Technologies Substitutes Assessment (CTSA) and have completed a comparison of the environmental and human health risks. For more information on pollution prevention in the screen printing sector, please see the Printing Operations information sheets.

Enviro\$en\$e is a free, public environmental information system found on the internet. This website provides users with pollution prevention/cleaner production solutions, compliance and enforcement assistance information, and innovative technology and policy options. In particular, it includes information on solvent substitution materials. The following briefly describe the information found in Enviro\$en\$e.

- **Integrated Solvent Substitution Database (ISSDS)** – The ISSDS provides access to information from multiple data systems related to solvent alternatives.
- **Solvent Alternatives Guide (SAGE)** – Evaluates the user's current operating scenario and then identifies possible surface cleaning alternative solvent chemistries and processes that best suits the defined operating and materials requirements.
- **Hazardous Solvent Substitution Data System (HSSDS)** – The HSSDS is a comprehensive system of information on the alternatives to hazardous solvents as well as related substances. It lists product information, material safety data sheets, and other related information.
- **Joint Service Pollution Prevention Technical Library** – The Joint Service Pollution Prevention Technical Library is maintained by the Naval Facilities Engineering Service Center and is available by direct access or by search facilities to foster technology transfer with other organizations.
- **Department of Defense Ozone Depleting Chemical/Substance Information** – Offers information and databases related to ozone-depleting chemicals and substances used by the Department of Defense.
- **Solvent Handbook Database System (SHDS)** – Provides access to environmental and safety information related to solvents used in maintenance facilities and paint strippers.
- **Solvents Database (SOLV-DB)** – Provides an easily accessed gateway to a wide variety of data on solvents.
- **Materials Compatibility Database (MATCOMPAT)** – Gives laboratory test data to assist in the implementation of ODC-free alternative solvents that are compatible with materials used in electronic assemblies.
- **Related Documents** – Other related documents are also linked on this website. See the Enviro\$en\$e website, www.es.epa.gov for more information.

Compliance Assistance Centers

EPA partners with industry representatives and others on sector-specific Compliance Assistance Centers. These centers support various industries providing tools such as checklists, plain language guides, and technical information to help small businesses understand their regulatory requirements. The following is a list of sectors and their websites:

- Agriculture: www.epa.gov/agriculture/
- Auto Recyclers: www.ecarcenter.org
- Chemicals: www.chemalliance.org
- Construction: www.ciccenter.org
- Federal Facilities: www.epa.gov/fedsite
- Local Government: www.lgean.org/
- Metal Finishing: www.nmfrc.org/
- Paints and Coatings: www.paintcenter.org/
- Printed Wiring Boards: www.pwbrc.org/
- Transportation: www.transource.org

National Agriculture Compliance Assistance Center. This center serves as a “first stop” for information related to environmental requirements that impact the agriculture community. It offers comprehensive, easy-to-understand information about compliance which are commonsense, flexible approaches that are both environmentally protective and agriculturally sound. It includes information on pollution reduction and prevention technologies.

Environmental Compliance for Automotive Recyclers (ECAR). Funded by the EPA, ECAR serves as a central clearinghouse to answer questions regarding preparing for environmental inspections, complying with regulations, and saving money by incorporating necessary changes.

Coordinating Committee for Automotive Repair (CCAR). The CCAR is a compliance assistance center that aids those involved in the automotive repair industry to better understand their environmental responsibilities.

ChemAlliance. This organization provides regulatory information for the chemical process industries. It also lists over 350 pollution prevention case studies and 200 good management practices that are linked to specific process operations and site locations where they can be applied.

Construction Industry Compliance Assistance Center. Funded by the EPA, this site offers a plain language explanation of environmental rules for the construction industry. It also provides links to detailed information, including State regulations and other resources.

FedSite. This site serves as a virtual compliance assistance center containing environmental regulations, pollution prevention, and policies affecting Federal agencies. It offers a virtual tour of a Federal facility and provides links to other Federal agencies as well as State environmental programs.

Local Government Environmental Assistance Network (LGEAN). LGEAN offers a “first stop shop” for a local government’s elected and appointed officials related to environmental management, planning, funding, and regulatory information.

National Metal Finishing Resources Center (NMFRC). This organization provides a clearinghouse for all types of metal finishing compliance and pollution prevention information. It features experts who can answer various questions metal finishers may have about compliance and pollution prevention.

Paints and Coatings Resource Center (PCRC). This center’s main goal is to deliver regulatory and pollution prevention information either directly to businesses or indirectly through state and local agencies and consultants. Also, PCRC has pertinent information related to paints and coatings in the home.

Printed Wiring Board Resource Center (PWBRC). The PWBRC provides easy-to-use, in-depth technical information on pollution prevention and regulatory compliance for the printed wiring board industry.

Printers’ National Environmental Assistance Center (PNEAC). The PNEAC is a partnership between industry, government, and university technical assistance providers serving the printing industry. It assists regulatory agencies and technical assistance providers by delivering current, reliable environmental compliance and pollution prevention information to printers, publishers, and packagers.

Transportation Environmental Resource Center (TransSource). This organization identifies up-to-date information on environmental compliance requirements and to make that information available to transportation professionals and the public.

Pollution Prevention

EPA maintains a pollution prevention website that serves as a clearinghouse for information related to pollution prevention. EPA sees pollution prevention as

a vehicle for ‘reinventing’ traditional Agency programs and devising innovative alternative strategies to protect public health and the environment. It is a key element of new EPA initiatives to focus attention on reducing risks from persistent, bioaccumulative toxic pollutants in the air, in water, and on land; to promote environmental justice and urban environmental quality; to empower state and tribal programs; to lower the incidence of climate change; and to demonstrate the results and benefits of our labors.¹

In essence, pollution prevention plays a primary role in environmental performance and sustainability within the private sector. The pollution prevention homepage provides the following links:

- EJP2 (Environmental Justice Pollution Prevention) – EPA has provided funding to help minority and low-income communities address environmental concerns through pollution prevention. This website provides information related to these projects.
- EPP (Environmentally Preferable Purchasing) – The EPP program is a program for Federal agencies that encourages them to purchase environmentally preferable products and services. These products or services should have a reduced effect on human health and the environment when compared to competing products and services that serve the same purpose.
- PBT (Persistent Bioaccumulative and Toxic) Program – EPA is working on a new approach to reduce exposure to and risk from PBT chemicals. They are accomplishing this through increase coordination among EPA national and Regional programs by creating an enduring cross-office system that will address cross-media issues associated with priority PBT pollutants. This link provides more information related to EPA’s PBT Chemical Program.
- Green Chemistry – Green chemistry promotes the design of chemical products and processes that reduce or eliminate the generation of hazardous materials. This web page provides links to EPA’s Green Chemistry Program.
- Green Meetings – This web page provides information and links to show meeting planners how to effectively plan a meeting and minimize the negative impact that meetings can have on the environment.
- Environmental Labeling – Environmental Labeling, also known as environmentally preferable purchasing (EPP) covers a broad range of activities ranging from business-to-

¹U.S. EPA, www.epa.gov/opptintr/p2home.

business transfers of product-specific environmental information to environmental labeling in the marketplace. This web page contains links to EPP guidance, Federal efforts, tools, documents, and other links.

- Design for the Environment – See the above section related to Design for the Environment.
- Environmental Accounting – This web page links to the Environmental Management and Accounting (EMA) international website.

Other Pollution Prevention Programs

Several organizations outside EPA have developed websites that serve as a clearinghouse for information related to pollution prevention. Many of these organizations are regionally based, but they contain information that may apply to your area. Below is a listing of these sites. Table 5 in the Contact system lists those organizations with specific contacts.

- Northeast States Pollution Prevention Roundtable/P2 Information Center:
www.newmoa.org
- Waste Reduction Resource Center/P2 Information Center: www.wrrc.p2pays.org
- Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable/P2 Information Center:
www.glrppr.org
- Southwest Pollution Prevention Information Center/P2 Information Center:
www.p2.utep.edu
- Region 7 Pollution Prevention Regional Information Center/P2 Information Center:
www.p2ric.org
- Peaks to Prairies Center/P2 Information Center: www.peakstoprairies.org
- Western Regional Pollution Prevention Network/P2 Information Center: www.wrppn.org
- Pacific Northwest Pollution Prevention Resource Center: www.pprc.org
- P2 Gems: www.p2gems.org
- P2Rx: www.p2rx.org