

Toxic Substance Control Act Reform: A Bipartisan Milestone to Protect Our Health from Dangerous Chemicals

President Obama signed a bipartisan bill to reform the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), the first major update to an environmental statute in 20 years. That's great news for the environment and for the health of all Americans. TSCA was first passed in 1976 to help keep dangerous chemicals off the market and avoid making people sick. Back then, health experts already knew that certain chemicals could cause very serious health impacts, including cancer, birth defects, and reproductive harm. While the intent of the original TSCA law was spot-on, it fell far short of giving EPA the authority we needed to get the job done. It became clear that without major changes to the law, EPA couldn't take the actions necessary to protect people from toxic chemicals. Diverse stakeholders, including industry, retailers, and public health and environmental expert recognized these deficiencies and began to demand major reforms to the law.

This bipartisan bill is a major step forward to protect Americans' health and EPA is excited to get to work putting it into action. The Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act (H.R. 2576) was made possible by years of hard work by both Democrats and Republicans in the House and the Senate as well as EPA staff who have provided significant technical assistance. EPA's Administrator, Gina McCarthy, stated, "I applaud everyone who stepped up and made it happen. It's historic, and it'll make Americans' lives better." Read more on Gina McCarthy's blog at:

<https://blog.epa.gov/blog/2016/06/tsca-reform-a-bipartisan-milestone-to-protect-our-health-from-dangerous-chemicals/>

**DO YOU HAVE ARTICLES FOR THE
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President Obama and Members of Congress

Partnering Agreement Improves Coordination for Large Texas Water Supply Projects

Representatives from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Southwestern Division (USACE), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) met in July for a Partnering Agreement signing that will improve interagency coordination related to large water supply projects in the state of Texas. The agreement will assist applicants for these types of projects by providing guidelines and methods for producing some of the data required as part of the permit evaluation process under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, according to Brigadier General David C. Hill, SWD Commander. The three agencies entered into a dialogue in 2015 focused on improving interagency coordination related to large water supply projects in Texas. Generally, large or major water supply projects are those projects which have predictable impacts significant enough to warrant the development of an environmental impact statement, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act. Read more at:

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/partnering-agreement-improves-coordination-large-texas-water-supply-projects>

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Provides Auto Body Shop Technical Assistance Program

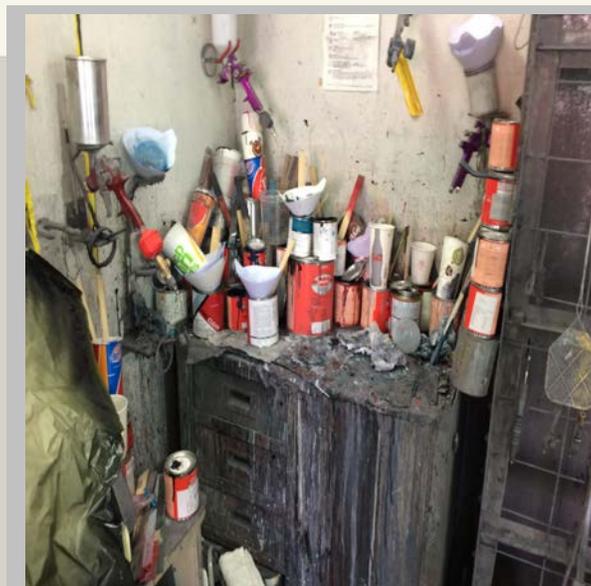
In the spring and summer of 2016, the small business assistance program of the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality provided technical assistance to auto body shops in the greater Portland metropolitan area. The DEQ performed this project with its partner, the Pacific Northwest Pollution Prevention Resource Center (PPRC). PPRC is a non-profit organization that works collaboratively with businesses, government, non-government organizations, and other sectors to promote environmental protection through pollution prevention.

Staff provided assistance during unannounced visits to shops exempt from the surface coating requirements of the National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) at Area Sources, 40 CFR 63 subpart HHHHHH. These shops had certified they will **not** apply coatings that contain chromium, lead, manganese, nickel and cadmium in quantities greater than 0.1% by mass (or 1.0% by mass for manganese). Twenty-one different shops were visited and it was discovered that they were largely complying with their commitment to refrain from using paints with these target hazardous air pollutants (HAPs). A few shops had containers of old HAP-containing paint and were provided instructions on proper disposal. Other shops were washing vehicles where the wash water was entering stormwater drains and they were given instructions on how to modify operations so that wash water could instead discharge to sanitary sewer systems.

Shops were also informed about solid and hazardous waste regulations, especially the need to properly label and store such wastes. DEQ and PPRC discussed the pros and cons of switching from solvent-based to water-based paint, and encouraged them to consider changing to water-based paint. The information gathered and distributed during these visits will help shops to consider the transition to water-based paint in the future. Read more about the DEQ and PPRC here:

<http://www.deq.state.or.us/aq/bap/index.htm>

<http://pprc.org/>



Unused Paint Cause Environmental Hazards if not Properly Disposed



State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality

EPA FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICES

SUBJECT: Participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in Procurements Under EPA Financial Assistance Agreements

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-07-28/pdf/2016-17510.pdf>

Federal Register: Vol. 81, No. 125, Thursday, July 28, 2016/Rules and Regulations

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency

ACTION: Direct Final Rule

SUMMARY: Environmental Protection Agency is taking direct final action on revisions to the EPA's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program. EPA is approving the revisions to the DBE program to improve the practical utility of the program, minimize burden and clarify the requirements that have been the subject of questions from recipients of EPA's financial assistance and from disadvantaged business enterprises. These revisions are in accordance with requirements of Federal laws that govern the EPA DBE Program.

SUBJECT: Etoxazole; Pesticide Tolerance

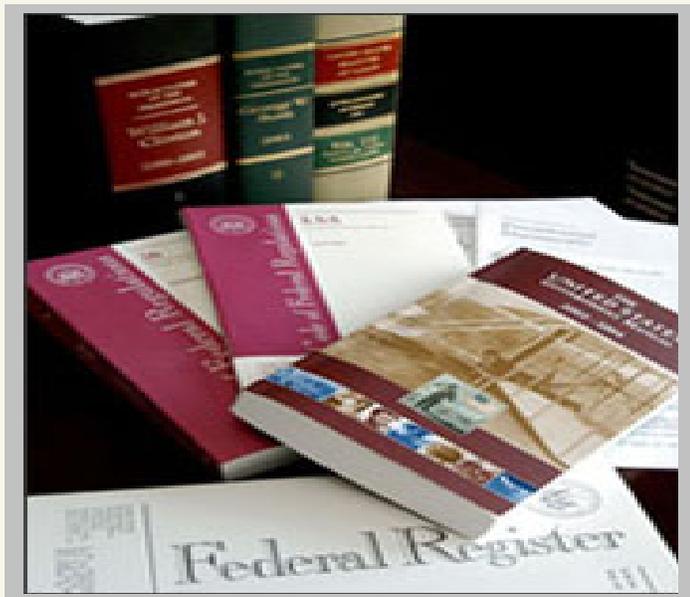
<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-07-27/pdf/2016-17786.pdf>

Federal Register: Vol. 81, No. 144, Wednesday, July 27, 2016//Rules and Regulations

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency

ACTION: Final Rule

SUMMARY: This regulation establishes a tolerance for residues of etoxazole in or on soybean seed. Valent U.S.A. Corporation requested this tolerance under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA).



Department of Justice and EPA Announce \$29 Million Settlement for Cleanup Work at Coastal Georgia Superfund Site

The Department of Justice (DOJ) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced that Honeywell International Inc. and Georgia Power Company have agreed to clean up the 760-acre saltwater marsh at the LCP Chemicals Superfund Site in Brunswick, Georgia. The settlement requires the companies to spend an estimated \$28.6 million to remove and isolate contaminated sediments in the marsh and to monitor the long-term effectiveness of the work. "We appreciate that these companies have stepped forward to remedy the contamination to which they and others have contributed," said Assistant Attorney General John C. Cruden of the Justice Department's Environment and Natural Resources Division. "This settlement makes critical progress toward the remediation of the LCP Chemicals Superfund Site and will minimize risk to people and the environment posed by contamination in the marsh." Read more at:

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/department-justice-and-epa-announce-29-million-settlement-cleanup-work-coastal-georgia>

Wisconsin's Small Business Environmental Assistance Program Rolls out New Resources on Environmental Issues for Property Transactions

Environmental issues involving property transactions often span multiple environmental programs at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). With a goal of providing good information for customers, the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP) partnered with several other WDNR programs to provide a new cross-program resource for anyone involved with a property transaction.

The new "What to look for when purchasing property" web page:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/SmallBusiness/PurchaseProperty.html> offers an overview of a wide range of environmental considerations, for varying types of property transactions, all in one place. Whether purchasing green space for recreation or development, water front property, an

existing building, or purchasing an entire business, following proper due diligence can help ensure that a property meets the purchaser's needs, expectations and future intended uses. SBEAP is housed in the WDNR Office of Business Support and External Services. They offer free, non-regulatory assistance to small businesses to help them understand their state and federal environmental responsibilities.

The program provides "plain language" resources, answers compliance questions and directs businesses to other appropriate assistance providers and relevant DNR staff. Learn more about the program at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/SmallBusiness/>. You can reach the SBEAP office at 855-887-3021 or DNRSmallBusiness@wisconsin.gov.

<http://www2.epa.gov/resources-small-businesses>

Building Small Business Community Awareness of Environmental Regulations

A business owner will consider many things prior to opening its doors. Do I have my finances in place? Is there a market for my services? Do I have a strong business model? With a strong focus on business issues, owners can lose sight of environmental regulatory compliance. What the Idaho Small Business Development Center's (SBDC) Environmental Assistance Program doesn't want to see, but, unfortunately, does all too often are businesses coming in for assistance having already being identified as out of compliance with regulations.

While the onus is on business owners to address their environmental regulatory needs, the good news is they are not alone. Organizations engaged with small businesses, such as economic development programs and chambers of commerce throughout Idaho can educate owners on their

regulatory responsibilities and the resources available to help them comply. Idaho Small Business Development Center's Environmental Assistance Program has been diligently working for the past year to bring awareness of the environmental regulatory responsibilities to these and other partners throughout the state. Developing a checks and balances system for small businesses will ensure that compliance gets its proper attention. By working together to support small businesses, we can strengthen their contribution to a robust economy and preserve Idaho's unique and pristine natural resources. For more information on the Idaho SBDC, contact:

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