



THE CA COMPASS



New Directions in Compliance Assistance



Summer 2007

Volume 3 Number 1



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Coming soon!

Tribal Compliance Assistance Center



- For tribal and facility professionals
- 12 main topic areas
- Comprehensive compliance help
- Contact information

www.epa.gov/tribalcompliance

More details on page 11.



Compliance Assistance: Best Practices in Action

This issue of the COMPASS highlights some of the best practices of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and state, tribal, and local environmental agencies for providing compliance assistance. A particular focus is the strategic use of compliance assistance to address environmental problems.

Compliance assistance (CA) is one of several tools available to

EPA and other environmental agencies for addressing environmental problems. Other tools include compliance incentives, monitoring, and enforcement. Environmental agencies have used these tools in different forms and combinations over many years. This has resulted in evolved thinking and experience about how to most efficiently and effectively solve environmental and compliance problems. The result is what EPA has termed the “**strategic approach**” for achieving improved compliance and better protecting human health and the environment. This approach is detailed in EPA’s new *Guide for Addressing Environmental Problems: Using an Integrated Strategic Approach*. A brief summary of this approach and its nine key elements follows to provide context for some best practice examples.

EPA’s Strategic Approach

EPA’s strategic approach promotes better up-front planning, including better characterization of and priority-setting between environmental problems, and defining of “success.” It advocates consideration of all available compliance and enforcement tools, while retaining flexibility to adjust your strategy for changing conditions or new information. It promotes transparency in decision-making, stresses the importance of effective communication, coordination and collaboration with partners, and leveraging resources, to optimize your efforts. (Continued on page 2)



EPA Region 1 used an integrated strategic approach to address environmental problems at marinas.
EPA Region 1 photo

Compliance Assistance: Best Practices in Action (continued from page 1)

Step One: Characterize and select the environmental problems to address. You will want to consider data and other information on the health and environmental impacts of a problem, the causes, what can be done to address a problem (authorities of Federal, state, and local agencies), and define your problem in a way that can focus your work to achieve success. You will need to establish a baseline of current conditions so you can measure results, consider the role of non-compliance and other causes, define geographic and/or sector boundaries, and consider other factors that will affect your success.

Step two: Establish goals and measures. A goal should reasonably be able to be achieved in the time frame of your strategy and it should be measurable. Measurable means that you can quantify your progress toward meeting your goal. You will need to choose measures that you will monitor and record to document your progress toward your goals.

Measures can be used throughout your project to show progress toward your goals, achievement of goals, and also the effectiveness of each compliance tool you use to address the environmental problem. Goals may be revised or changed as you learn more about your environmental problem. Measures should be developed for each goal and ideally for each type of tool used—CA, compliance incentives, and monitoring and enforcement. As you implement your strategic approach, identify how you will collect and track measurement data, analyze the data, and communicate results. Set aside resources for measuring results and communicating those results so that your work can get the credit it deserves.

“Increase in the number and percentage of healthcare facilities complying with EPCRA Tier II reporting requirements” was used by EPA Region 1 to measure success of their compliance assistance efforts.



The *Strategic Approach* can be viewed as a continually evolving process—each step flows into another.

The *Guide for Measuring Compliance Assistance Outcomes* and other CA measurement tools can be found at

<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/assistance/measures/index.html>.

Step three: Select and sequence tools. You may also want to “segment” tools, i.e., use different tools for different parts of your target audience or to address different needs as part of a comprehensive approach. Tools will help you influence others’ behavior toward good environmental management. It is important to consider all the tools available and which may work best with the audiences and conditions you face. See a list of available tools on page 4.

Step four: Establish roles and assign responsibilities. It is important to assemble a team that has knowledge of the environmental problems being addressed and skills and talents to get the job done right. The team leader should have access to resources and the authority to make decisions. Additional experts may be added to the team to help (Continued on page 4.)

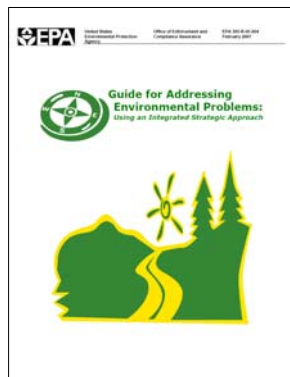
A Word from the Director...

This issue of the *CA COMPASS* focuses on integrating and using CA to effectively address environmental problems. EPA has recently developed a new tool called the *Guide for Addressing Environmental Problems: Using an Integrated Strategic Approach*. The *Guide* provides advice and clear, step-by-step guidelines for proceeding through each of nine steps so you can develop and implement a successful strategy for addressing environmental problems. The *Guide* also includes case studies from EPA Regions, contacts for sector-based strategies, and a framework/template to help you develop your strategy. Find the *Guide* at <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/policies/assistance/strategicguide.pdf>.

The *Guide* is designed for environmental professionals who want to strategically address significant environmental problems.

You can also find examples of how EPA has applied the strategic approach and other best practices in CA in the “National, Regional, and State Activities” section of this newsletter starting on page 5. We would like to hear about your experiences in developing integrated approaches and whether the *Guide* helped in planning and implementing your integrated strategic approach.

Also in this edition of the *CA COMPASS* we are announcing a new web-based Tribal Compliance Assistance Center. Built on the information found in EPA’s *Profile of Tribal Government Operations*, the Tribal Center was developed as part of EPA’s National Indian Country Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Priority. The Tribal Center is



expected to be on-line in September 2007 at <http://www.epa.gov/tribalcompliance>. All of the CA Centers sponsored by EPA can be accessed through the central Centers website at (<http://www.assistancecenters.net>).

In this issue, you will also read about how the CA Centers program has worked with partners to deliver sector-specific CA information over the past 10 years and is continuing to grow, Region 1’s integrated strategies to improve environmental performance at marinas and EPCRA reporting at healthcare facilities, and how environmental problems at one Virginia city led to development of a model for improving the environmental performance of localities statewide. Also read about EPA’s new website to help tribal and local governments find financing for needed environmental infrastructure. And don’t forget to check out the “Hot News” section to learn about EPA’s partnership with the Earth Conservation Corps and other timely news.

We hope you find this newsletter informative and useful for sharing information among the many providers of CA. Our next edition of the *CA COMPASS* will focus on CA at automobile recycling facilities.

We welcome your comments and look forward to receiving feedback from you on this edition and stories to include in our next edition. You can contact Catherine Tunis with your ideas and comments at (202) 564-0476 or by e-mail at tunis.catherine@epa.gov.

Sincerely,
Jim Edward, Director
Compliance Assistance and Sector Programs
Division
Office of Compliance
edward.james@epa.gov



Compliance Assistance: Best Practices in Action (cont. from page 2)

with specific issues. Outside stakeholders from other government agencies, academia, businesses, non-profits, and the community are also important partners to help ensure success.

Step five: Develop an implementation plan with a schedule and milestones. The plan and schedule should consider all aspects affecting the environmental problem, the resources and constraints present, and what needs to be accomplished to meet your goals. If team members participate in plan development and each has “ownership” of specific parts of the plan, they will be motivated to get these tasks done. The plan can serve as a communication tool to keep all team members and stakeholders focused on tasks to be done and how those tasks fit into the overall plan to achieve success. Monitor and revise your plan over time.

Step six: Designate resources and staff. This consists of identifying, leveraging, and managing the necessary human and financial resources to carry out your strategy. You should also consider items such as contract or grant vehicles, the skills and experience of your team members, partners, and stakeholders, contract services, supplies, travel, and training. Be sure to also consider what your partners can contribute.



Step seven: Communicate your strategy. Throughout implementation of your strategy, you will need to communicate with your internal partners, your external partners and stakeholders, and the public. Different level of communication is needed for each of these groups. Communication is key because if your team does not know what others are doing, they cannot work effectively together, and if partners and others do not understand the strategy or their part in it, they cannot participate effectively. This communication can be in the form of one-on-one messages with partners or others, group

messages, requests for feedback, or mass media messages, each serving a different purpose. Check to be sure your message had the intended effect.

Tools to Address Environmental Problems

-*Compliance assistance* helps educate facilities on what they need to do to comply with the law or go beyond compliance.

-*Compliance monitoring* ensures accountability by determining compliance status under the laws.

-*Compliance incentives* encourage facilities to be proactive in monitoring their own compliance and may offer reduced penalties for those that discover, disclose, and correct any violations.

-*Enforcement* is a legal tool that requires the violator to take corrective actions to return to compliance. It may involve penalties and deters the violator and others from breaking the law.

-*Innovations and Sound Business Practice* tools include things such as mentoring and voluntary programs that encourage good environmental management.

Step eight: Monitor and evaluate your strategy. You will want to check each element of your strategy to be sure it is working and if not, why. The measures you established in step two will help with monitoring and reporting your accomplishments. Evaluating this will help you to understand if you are achieving your goals and why. The evaluation can address issues such as the design and process of your strategy, the impacts of various parts of the strategy, and the costs and benefits of each element.



Step nine: Determine when and how to “exit” your strategy. This involves planning when and how to transition your efforts on the selected environmental issue to “core program” or maintenance mode. Each of the components—goals, monitoring, resources, and communication—all should be addressed in your long-term maintenance plan. Whether you exit your strategy because you have achieved your goals or for another reason, an orderly transition will ensure that the lessons you have learned and the gains you have made can be maintained.

Contact: *Joanne Berman*, 202-564-7064, berman.joanne@epa.gov.

Best Practices in Achieving Environmental Compliance

EPA's CA Centers Deliver Targeted Help to the Regulated Community



Unique partnerships between EPA's Office of Compliance (OC) and third party, non-profit organizations have led to the creation of fifteen web-based Compliance Assistance Centers (Centers) over the past ten years. These Centers provide user-friendly "first-stop shops" where businesses, local governments, and federal facilities can find comprehensive, easy-to-understand compliance information pre-packaged to fit their special needs. EPA's Center program demonstrates several best practices, including the: 1) effective use of partnerships to develop and disseminate assistance to a target audience; 2) integration of compliance, pollution prevention, and sector-specific content; and 3) efficient use of Agency resources.

Printers' National Environmental Assistance Center

"We get a lot of use out of this website. It is the only really good source of printing-specific environmental information on the WWW." -*Manager for Dow Jones publishers.*

Building trust and acceptance with the regulated community is a difficult task for a regulating agency. Businesses, local governments, and federal agencies may be hesitant to draw attention to their operations by seeking assistance from agencies that regulate those same operations. EPA recognized that regulated entities are often more accepting of CA delivered by their peers. The Centers were established as a peer-based network to directly communicate CA information to regulated entities. Industry associations, universities, environmental groups, and other partners provide information in language that relates directly to the specific operations of each sector.

The Centers' environmental information is reaching a broad audience of businesses, local governments, and

federal facilities that was unimaginable just a few years ago. Use of the Centers by the regulated community has grown each year, demonstrating the effectiveness of the third-party assistance delivery best practice. In FY 2006, the Centers websites were visited 1,879,000 times by their target audiences and the public, and experienced over 4,182,000 requests for web pages and CA documents. This was an increase of 30% from user activity levels in FY 2005. In fact, since FY99, the average number of user sessions per Center has increased from 28,777 per year to 134,214 in FY06.

Bundling of environmental assistance with related information is another best practice. By integrating pollution prevention, CA, technical, and other information, the Centers provide easy access to resources and programs that help each type of business understand their regulatory requirements and improve their operations. In one place, a business can readily find the information they need to understand their environmental regulatory obligations, implement pollution prevention to save money, locate vendor information, stay current with industry-specific news and events, contact experts to have their questions answered, and much more. In a FY06 survey of Centers' users, 88% of the regulated community respondents agreed that the Centers helped them understand applicable environmental requirements. Most importantly, Center information is being used to help the environment: 82% of respondents improved their environmental management practices and 55% of respondents reduced, treated, or eliminated pollution as a result of Center use.¹

Local Government Environmental Assistance Network

"It is very difficult to put a monetary value on the assistance received, but had the support network not been available, I don't know what I would have done." -*Patrick L. Wilson, Boward County, FL.*

¹ Results are derived from answers of survey respondents, which may not be representative of the regulated community.

Over the past ten years, the Center program has expanded to include 15 Centers even as funding has been reduced 29% from FY 99 to FY07. In other words, in 2007, EPA supported six additional centers and provided start-up funds for two more with less funds than it had in FY 97. Over this same time period, the average annual cost for maintaining each Center has been reduced by 60% per year. OC has done this by routinely looking for and building efficiencies into the development and maintenance of its newer Centers. Continual strategic use of available resources ensures that the Centers can successfully meet the needs of the regulated community. Two Center funding strategies have: 1) created efficiencies in Center maintenance and content development; 2) encouraged Centers to explore alternative revenue sources and reduce reliance on Federal funding; and 3) based Centers funding on performance.

The Agricultural Center

"I am employed by a farmer-owned cooperative (and am frequently asked questions dealing with agriculture and environmental regulations...the Ag Center will be one of my first resources I check for answers."

The sectors currently served by Centers include agriculture, auto repair, auto recycler, chemical, healthcare, printing, transportation, metal finishing, paints and coatings, printed wiring board, and construction industries, and federal facilities, local governments, as well as compliance issues along the US, Mexican, and Canadian borders. There are also locators for state-by-state resources. Two new Centers will become operational in 2007, a Tribal Center (see page 11) and an Education Center in September. EPA is also supporting development of a Center in 2008 to support the food processing sector, including facilities that produce meat products, seafood, dairy, fruits and vegetables, flour, sugar, baked goods, candies, oils, and more. Other countries have adopted the Centers model. Thailand and the Philippines plan to establish

Centers for the swine sector by the end of this year.

The Center program is providing a growing number of regulated entities with information they need to comply and improve environmental management practices. The Centers continually seek to expand their partnership network, so let us know if you would like to participate in this effort. Find all the existing Centers and check for the new Centers at

<http://www.assistancecenters.net>. Contact: Tracy Back, 202-564-7076, back.tracy@epa.gov.

EPA Region 1: Marina Integrated Strategy Helps Boats and Fish Coexist

Marinas can potentially cause significant harm to human health and the environment because they often generate hazardous waste from products such as paint, cleaning products, solvents, heavy metals, oils and fuels. Stormwater runoff from a marina's property can pick up pollutants discharged from marina operations and flow into water bodies from both point and non-point sources. Fuel and oil spills and wash water from cleaning boats and decks can also pollute the water. Many marinas are located in or near marine estuaries that serve as nurseries for broader marine ecosystems.

Region 1 looked at data from EPA, states, the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and other sources, and held focus group meetings to identify: 1) the most significant environmental issues at marinas; 2) opportunities to provide assistance to marinas to improve their environmental performance; and 3) opportunities for partnerships with states and trade groups. This research indicated the most significant environmental issues marinas face are managing storm water, hazardous waste, and oil and fuel. The Region also identified that marina operators needed coordinated/comprehensive

assistance to learn about their environmental requirements and best management practices.

To address these issues, EPA Region 1 implemented an integrated Marina Strategy starting in 2001 using CA, monitoring, and enforcement with the goal of improving marina operations and compliance and significantly reducing the negative environmental impacts of marinas.



Toxic materials in a dumpster are an example of improper waste disposal found at marinas. EPA Region 1 photo.

There are more than 1,200 marinas in Region 1. The Region started by assessing the environmental conditions at a statistically valid sample of 70 marinas, checking each

marina's operations against a checklist of practices that would affect indicators of environmental quality. Because most marinas are small businesses, Region 1 decided to develop and implement CA activities and measure the results of that assistance before considering enforcement. Using what they learned in the assessment visits, Region 1 undertook a number of strategic CA projects, including establishing a regional marina workgroup, and developing workshops, a guidance document, and a marina website (<http://www.epa.gov/region1/topics/water/marinas.html>). As the initiative progressed, the Region produced an *Environmental Management Plan Workbook* to help marina owners plan and track their environmental activity (see <http://www.epa.gov/region1/marinas/pdfs/MarinaEMPJuly05.pdf>). In addition, with assistance from NOAA, Region 1 partnered with states to develop comprehensive Clean Marina guides that

combine information on the requirements and best management practices adapted for each coastal state in New England. States produced other state specific tools such as fact sheets.

A second round of assessment visits to 70 randomly-selected marinas using the checklist of environmental indicators showed that compliance and environmental management at marinas was improved on a number of measures:

- **Hazardous Waste**
 - Stored indoors or covered - up 9%
 - Stored in a dedicated storage area - up 6%
- **Oil and Fuel**
 - 10 Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure plans vs. one in 2001
 - Marinas with fuel spill prevention procedures - up 5%
 - Marinas with fuel spill containment equipment/procedures - up 6%
- **Storm Water**
 - Marinas with a NPDES Storm Water Permit –up from one in 2001 to fifteen in 2004
 - Marinas with BMP's in place to protect water - up 6%
 - Marinas making environmental structural changes - up 12%
- **Other**
 - Marinas using alternative materials to reduce toxicity - up 7%
 - Marinas using Clean Vessel funds to repair/maintain pump out equipment - up 24%

These results are expected to be representative of all marinas in the Region. In 2004, Region 1 also documented an increase in the number of marinas taking advantage of the EPA Audit Policy and an increase in the number of marinas filing required reports under EPRCA. These results showed, however, that there was still room for improvement.

EPA's "Audit Policy" can reduce penalties for businesses that discover, disclose, and correct violations. See

<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/incentives/auditing/index.html>. The Policy specific to small businesses can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/incentives/smallbusiness/index.html>.

As part of verifying the results of this effort, some inspections were conducted which resulted in a few significant enforcement actions. Enforcement actions were announced in 2006, and Region 1 followed up with additional assistance, including letters to clarify specific issues and concerns of marina owners. Region 1 worked with state environmental agencies and marina trade associations to conduct additional workshops on the most significant issues identified by marina industry leaders (managing hazardous waste and controlling pressure wash water). Largely due to a better understanding of the regulations in these areas, many marinas either enhanced their existing policies or wrote new ones for marina customers on best practices and following marina rules related to environmental protection. In addition, many marinas are making substantial investments in technologies such as closed loop water recycle systems to control pressure wash water.

Clean Marine Engine Initiative

In traditional small boat engines, up to 30% of fuel passes through the combustion chamber unburned or partially burned, releasing fuel into the water and air.

The [Clean Marine Engine Initiative](#) began in 2002 with outreach by EPA Regions 1 and 2 and partners throughout the six New England states and New York State to educate boaters about clean engines and participating retailers. These cleaner engines help meet EPA low-pollution requirements by reducing air pollution by 75 percent or more, lowering gasoline discharges to the water, improving fuel efficiency by 35 to 50 percent, and using up to 50 percent less oil.

The results of this integrated strategy included increased compliance, development of best management practices, and a cleaner marine environment. Learn more about the Strategy at <http://www.epa.gov/region1/enforcementandassistance/reports/2006OESreport/marinas.html>.
Contact: Larry Wells, 617-918-1836, wells.larry@epa.gov.

Region 1's Integrated, Strategic Approach to EPCRA Reporting by Healthcare Facilities

EPA Region 1 staff have been working on the Healthcare/Hospitals sector since the late 1990s. Initially focused on mercury elimination in the healthcare setting (under the *Hospitals for a Healthy Environment* program (<http://www.h2e-online.org/>), the Region broadened its scope and created an integrated strategy in 2004, using eight of the nine elements in EPA's *Guide for Addressing Environmental Problems* to plan for and implement their strategy.

In the summer of 2005, Regional staff analyzed state-supplied data submitted by 45 hospitals to the State of Maine over a four-year period to gauge how well healthcare facilities were meeting the annual chemical inventory reporting requirement under the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA), commonly known as Tier II reporting. Their analysis of Maine hospitals data indicated:

- only 37.5% of Maine hospitals reported in 2004;
- not all chemicals were reported; and
- some hospitals did not report annually.

Based on those findings, Region 1 developed a goal to improve Tier II reporting compliance by 25% to 40% by the end of 2007. Staff then developed a strategy to achieve this goal by improving the understanding of healthcare facilities about EPCRA Tier II reporting and changing their practices to improve reporting.

Region 1’s strategy included developing and providing a variety of CA activities and delivering them timed for maximum effectiveness. The Region started with general compliance information sent to healthcare facilities, then moved to more targeted in-person trainings, and a reminder via direct mail. This included:

- An article entitled “Chemical Inventory Reporting in Hospitals: What’s Being Reported & What’s Not” that highlighted 1) Tier II reporting requirements; 2) a list of chemicals typically reported by hospitals; and 3) how hospitals can take advantage of EPA’s audit policy if they are not currently complying with EPCRA Tier II requirements. The article was sent to all hospitals via Region 1’s hospital email group list (more than 1,150 people).
- Presentations on EPCRA and “Tier II Submit” at hospital association meetings that took place in ME, NH and MA from March 2006 through January 2007.
- Inviting hospital regulatory officials to general state EPCRA trainings in 2005-2007.
- Sending a reminder postcard to all Region 1 hospitals in January, 2007 regarding the March 1 EPCRA Tier II reporting deadline.

State	2003 % of universe reporting	2005 % of universe reporting	2003 - 2005 % increase in reporting
ME	31% (15 of 48)	58% (28 of 48) ²	27%
NH	6% (2 of 32)	47% (15 of 32)	41%
CT	49% (21 of 43)	56% (24 of 43)	7%
MA (acute)	23% (17 of 73)	46% (34 of 73) ¹	23%

² 17 hospital audit disclosures new or re-entered as Tier II reporters which are reflected above except three received in 2007 (one-ME and two-MA)

The chart above shows that Region 1 is well on the way of meeting their EPCRA Tier II compliance improvements goal with a 23% average increase in reporting. Preliminary data for 2006 in two states shows continuing improvements—a 28% increase in reporting since 2003. *Contact: Janet Bowen, 617-918-1795, bowen.janet@epa.gov.*

EPA Region 2 has implemented integrated strategies for the healthcare and colleges/universities sectors. Read about the Healthcare Initiative in Attachment D of the *Guide* and the Colleges/universities Initiative (<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/newsletters/assistance/cacompassvol2no2.pdf>).

Virginia’s Local Governments Move From Environmental Problem to Performance

As part of a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) related to its March 2000 settlement of criminal RCRA violations, the City of Roanoke worked with Virginia Polytechnic Institute’s Center for Organizational and Technological Advancement (Virginia Tech), EPA, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), and the Local Government Environmental Assistance Network (LGEAN) to promote training on environmental management systems (EMSs). Funds from Roanoke’s SEP supported Virginia Tech’s work to prepare and deliver a series of four two-day seminars titled “What You Don’t Know *Can* Hurt You.” Presented four times between November 2000 and April 2002, the interactive seminar was attended by four-person teams from 105 Virginia local governments to learn about their environmental responsibilities, the legal consequences of environmental violations, and the importance of developing and implementing an environmental management plan. The sessions also allowed each local government team to begin developing its own EMS with guidance from the trainers.

EPA’s Office of Compliance (OC) helped present the seminars, offered CA help and materials, assisted teams identify environmental issues common in local

government operations, provided information on EPA's self-disclosure policies, and led hands-on computer labs demonstrating the Local Government Environmental Assistance Network. (See <http://www.lgean.org/> for CA information for local governments.)

Supplemental Environmental Projects Can Help the Environment

When EPA takes an enforcement action, the facility can voluntarily agree to undertake a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) that enhances the public health and the environment and is related to the violation. In exchange, a violator may receive mitigation of a portion of the penalty. SEPs can be used to implement many types of environmental improvements. Because SEPs are part of an enforcement settlement, they must meet certain legal requirements. See guidance and other information at <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/civil/seps/>.

Contacts: Melissa Raack, 202-564-7039, raack.melissa@epa.gov, or Beth Cavalier, 202-564-3271, cavalier.beth@epa.gov.

The seminars were just the start of an environmental improvement process for these local governments. Afterwards, the teams worked with Virginia Tech to fully develop their EMSs with guidance, lectures relating to different parts of an EMS, and support groups to help them keep on track. Virginia learned that it is important to have the right number and type of people attending trainings and participating in the groups—people who have the authority to make decisions and implement the EMS, and who are motivated to take action.

These investments really paid off. To date, 47 local government operating departments have a formal EMS based on ISO 14001 standards in place. (ISO 14001, published in November 1996, is the most widely accepted international standard for EMS.) When the Virginia Environmental Excellence Program was established to encourage superior performance through environmental management

systems and pollution prevention (<http://www.deq.state.va.us/veep/about.html>), they found that more than half of their program members were local governments. These governments wanted a way to maintain contact and support each other following the seminars and EMS development process, so they formed the Virginia EMS Association (<http://www.deq.state.va.us/veep/association.html>) and established annual conferences. This year's conference will be October 22-24, 2007 in Roanoke (<http://www.cpe.vt.edu/va-ems/>). The local governments' environmental accomplishments include:

- **Garage:** reduced solvent use 65% in 3 years; went from three to one chemical parts washers (plan to replace last washer with hot water system to eliminate waste); reduced hazardous waste from 10,000 to 1,750 lbs.
- **Wastewater Treatment Plant:** reduced hazardous waste generation 100% (455 lbs.).
- **Golf course:** reduced water use 24% in 2005.
- **Water utility:** reduced chlorine gas use 36% since 2003, plan to eliminate.
- **Office buildings:** reduced energy use 6.3%.

For training and guides to developing your own EMS, see

<http://www.epa.gov/ems/resources/guides.htm>.

The "Implementation Guide for Small and Medium-Sized Organizations" is at

<http://www.epa.gov/OW-OWM.html/iso14001/wm046200.htm>.

In addition, Virginia Tech found that there is a continuing demand for the EMS implementation workshops, and they are busy year-round providing EMS training (see <http://www.cota.vt.edu/vtems/course.html>) and serving as one of eleven EMS technical assistance centers designated by EPA under the Public Entity Environmental Management System Resource (PEER) Center program (www.peercenter.net).
Contact: Sharon Baxter, 804-698-4344, skbaxter@deq.virginia.gov.

Compliance Assistance Tools

Get CA News by Email

EPA's Office of Compliance (OC) has established an email list that will provide compliance-related information to environmental professionals, members of the regulated community, and others. OC's Compliance Assistance and Sector Programs Division sends a *Quarterly Compliance Assistance News Briefs* with information on new CA tools, significant rule changes, workshops around the country, web casts, and other news, all with links to more information. To subscribe to the list yourself, go to <https://lists.epa.gov/read/>, click on "show more," look for "ocorelink Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance information," click on "subscribe," and enter your information. Contact: Catherine Tunis, 202-564-0476, tunis.catherine@epa.gov.

Subscribe to the *Quarterly Compliance Assistance News Briefs*:

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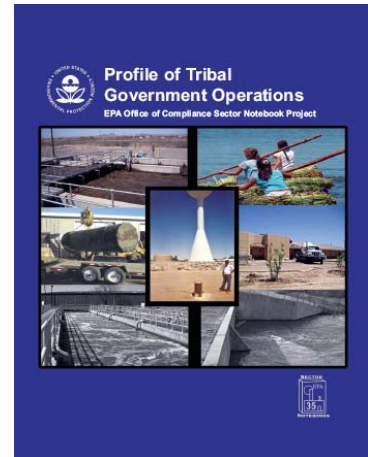
Profile of Tribal Government Operations

The *Profile of Tribal Government Operations (Tribal Profile)* is now available after incorporating comments from many tribal and other reviewers. The *Tribal Profile* presents general information on many aspects of tribal government operations that may affect the environment. It facilitates compliance by giving tribes key information they need to understand the environmental regulations that may apply to their operations. The information in the *Tribal*

Profile can help tribes build their environmental compliance programs, and it presents an array of available EPA technical and CA tools and financial and pollution prevention opportunities. The *Tribal Profile* is designed for tribal governments and other professionals that work with tribal governments. You can find the full document at

<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/publications/assistance/sectors/notebooks/tribal.html>.

The *Tribal Profile* was developed under EPA's Sector Notebook project. All the Sector Notebooks can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/sectornotebooks.html>. Contact: Jonathan Binder, 202-564-2516, binder.jonathan@epa.gov.



Coming Soon: Tribal Compliance Assistance Center (Tribal Center)

EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance's web-based Tribal Compliance Assistance Center provides comprehensive CA and pollution prevention information for regulated activities in Indian country. The Center is designed to help environmental professionals in



More Compliance Assistance Tools and Resources

tribal governments, others who work with tribes, and facility operators understand environmental requirements and other considerations for responsible environmental management in Indian country. The Center is built using information contained in the *Profile of Tribal Government Operations* (see previous page). Center content is accessed through 12 topic area buttons: (1) waste management; (2) pesticides and toxics; (3) buildings and vehicles; (4) water resources; (5) drinking water; (6) wastewater; (7) public safety; (8) health care; (9) tribal enterprises; (10) pollution prevention and green purchasing; (11) roles in Indian country; and (12) air resources.

at both the national and regional level and media-specific level.

The Tribal Center will be available in September, 2007 at <http://www.epa.gov/tribalcompliance>.

Contacts: Jonathan Binder, 202-564-2516, binder.jonathan@epa.gov, or Catherine Tunis, 202-564-0476, tunis.catherine@epa.gov.

Waste Management	Drinking Water	Buildings & Vehicles
Water Resources	Pesticides & Toxics	Wastewater
Public Safety	Healthcare	Tribal Enterprises
Pollution Prevention & Green Purchasing	EPA & Tribal Roles	Air Pollution



EPA's Jonathan Binder demonstrates the new Tribal Compliance Assistance Center for the National Tribal Caucus. *Photo by Catherine Tunis.*

Each topic area contains links to the most-up-to-date compliance and technical assistance information available from EPA. The Center links to EPA's Report an Environmental Violation Webpage, information about environmental activities that may affect air, water, and land in Indian country, compliance and enforcement information for approximately 800,000 EPA-regulated facilities, and comprehensive material on how and when to apply for federal grants. The Center provides instant links to EPA, tribal, and other federal agency environmental contacts who can answer questions about environmental compliance issues



A Good Idea in a New Shape
 Replacing incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent lights can save 75% of the electricity. (Be sure to dispose of properly—these contain mercury! Call the RCRA hotline for requirements 1-800-424-9346.) Light emitting diode (LED) exit signs use 87% less electricity than incandescent exit signs.

Hot News



How to Find Financing for Environmental Compliance

The 2002 U.S. EPA Clean Water and Drinking Water Gap Analysis estimates that cities and tribes will collectively need to find more than \$300 billion dollars over the next twenty years to maintain and improve water infrastructure. These communities will need to spend additional funds to maintain air and waste infrastructure to remain in compliance with environmental laws.



EPA's Office of Compliance has created the Financing for Environmental Compliance website to provide a step-by-step financial planning process that can help communities determine capital asset technical and financial needs and find specific air, waste, and water resources to meet their compliance goals. This website is designed to help municipalities maintain their environmental compliance or return to compliance if they have fallen short.

The website contains EPA and non-EPA media-specific financial and technical resources. It also provides specific resources for small communities and tribes seeking to fund major capital infrastructure projects.

The website will continue to improve based on user feedback. Explore the website at: <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/assistance/financing/index.html>. Contact: Cassandra Rice, 202-564-4057, rice.cassandra@epa.gov.

2008 National Environmental Partnership Summit



May 19-21, 2008, in Baltimore, Maryland
Theme: Environmental Leadership – the Path to Action

Save the date for the 2008 National Environmental Partnership Summit. Hear how a broad array of environmental leaders started their efforts to make a difference. The 2-½ day Summit will include abundant opportunities for business leaders to meet with federal, state and local governmental leaders; 36 breakout sessions focused on practical take-it-home tips and tools on energy efficiency, integrated strategies and approaches to solving environmental problems, policy and legislation, greening your supply chain, success stories in climate change mitigation; and trainings, site visits and volunteer opportunities. Look for the “Call for Content” in the early fall of 2007 and submit your presentation proposals. If you have ideas about the Summit and want to be involved, contact one of the following primary government partners and sponsors for the 2008 Summit: EPA’s Office of Compliance, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, or Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization; or the non-profit sponsors: Performance Track Participants Association and National Pollution Prevention Roundtable.

Hot News cont....



This will be the fifth annual National Environmental Partnership Summit. The Summit is a top annual opportunity for environmental professionals to share ideas, strengthen networks, and encourage multifaceted solutions.

The 2007 Summit in New Orleans included trainings on measuring environmental performance and sessions on the importance of the area wetlands in the regional economy and national ecosystems, EPA's Small Local Governments Compliance Assistance Policy, how to reach citizens with environmental messages, Environmental Management Systems, sector-based environmental performance, and local solutions to climate change. About 29% of attendees came from the federal government; 27% from business/industry; 17% from state government; 9% from non-governmental organizations, 3% from local governments, and 11% were consultants/contractors.

See <http://www.environmentalsummit.org> for more information on the 2007 Summit and, when available, the 2008 Summit. *Contact: Beverly Updike, 202-564-7142, updike.beverly@epa.gov.*

Healthy School Environments Assessment Tool (HealthySEAT) Version 2.0 Beta Coming Soon!



HealthySEAT is a software tool that helps school districts evaluate and manage their school facilities for key environmental, safety and health issues. HealthySEAT is designed to be customized and used by district-level staff to conduct completely voluntary self-assessments

of their school (and other) facilities and to track and manage information on environmental conditions school by school. It includes critical elements of all of EPA's environmental regulatory and voluntary programs for schools, as well as more detailed information. In essence, HealthySEAT is a fully customizable centerpiece for an environmental management system for schools. See

<http://www.epa.gov/schools/healthyseat/index.html>. You can view a one hour demonstration of the HealthySEAT version 1.0 webcast that was recorded in October, 2006. See <http://epa.gov/schools/healthyseat/webconferences.html>.

Version 2 Beta of HealthySEAT is now available for downloading, review, and comment at <http://epa.gov/schools/healthyseat/version2beta.html>. Version 2 Beta includes new functionality to let you create and manage multiple custom checklists and letters, significantly improved reports, easier navigation, and full compatibility with version 1. Version 2 is expected to be available mid to late September. *Contact: Bob Axelrad, 202-343-9315, axelrad.bob@epa.gov.*

Region 4's Prospective Purchaser Inquiry (PPI) Service Receives Award

Region 4's PPI Service helps make land and water revitalization a more routine, frequent, and meaningful consideration of individuals involved with environmental cleanups. The PPI Service recently received the *Planting the Seeds of Land Revitalization Team Award*—an EPA National Notable Achievement. The overall objective of the PPI Service is to support the successful reuse of contaminated property by assembling a site-specific response team to assist the prospective buyer by providing information about a site and about potential Superfund liability.

Hot News cont....

By providing fast, accurate, and comprehensive information about a site's environmental status and other pertinent information, the PPI Service enables prospective purchasers to make timely, informed business decisions about purchasing the sites. For example, part of the PPI Service covers the statutory liability protections and relevant enforcement discretion policies to help the prospective purchaser better understand the requirements for liability limitations under the law (i.e., "all appropriate inquiries"). In addition, by using this PPI process, the Region can help ensure that redevelopment does not interfere with or impede EPA's response actions and that reuse outcomes are consistent with the selected remedies (e.g., compliance with existing institutional controls) and with long-term protection of human health and the environment.

A prospective purchaser of a Superfund site is not required to contact EPA before purchasing the site. However, if they do, PPI is ready to help. Although focused primarily on the revitalization of Superfund sites, the PPI procedures are applicable to all contaminated and formerly-contaminated property where EPA has been involved. *Contacts: Bill Denman, 404-562-8939, denman.bill@epa.gov or Jon Bornholm, 404-562-8820, bornholm.jon@epa.gov.*



Earth Conservation Corps Mentoring

EPA's Office of Compliance (OC), together with other EPA Offices, is partnering with the Earth Conservation Corps (ECC) to establish and foster a Mentoring Program for ECC members. EPA's partnership with ECC is structured to cultivate environmental education and project skills in students, offering both classroom and hands-on training. In addition, individual OC employees have paired with ECC students to assist them in learning both life/professional skills and environmental expertise throughout their year in the ECC.

The ECC is a community-based nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the local environment through cleanup efforts and educating community neighbors on what they can do to restore and rehabilitate their local environment. Located in Southwest Washington, D.C on the shores of the Anacostia River, the ECC has undertaken a number of environmental protection and community projects, such as cleaning up and planting trees along the banks of the Anacostia River, teaching over 3,000 children and community members about the ecology of the Anacostia, and establishing an environmental education program on the Kingman & Heritage Islands birds of prey. The ECC has been featured on several national television programs, including "60 Minutes" and "Bill Moyers Journal."

OC has led this partnership within EPA since the inception of the Mentoring Program. Other OECA and EPA offices have become involved in various aspects of this program over the last few years. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed to formalize the program this past year. Learn more about the ECC at <http://www.ecc1.org/>. *Contact: Sandi Jones, 202-564-7038, jones.sandra@epa.gov.*

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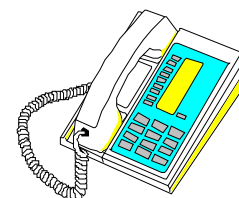
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Need help?



Call!



NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE CLEARINGHOUSE

The Clearinghouse links to comprehensive environmental compliance assistance materials and users can interact with each other. See www.epa.gov/clearinghouse.

COMPLIANCE HELP —JUST A CLICK AWAY

Visit the Compliance Assistance Centers at <http://www.assistancecenters.net>.