

# NEWS

you can use

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ♦ MC-113 ♦ PO Box 13087 ♦ Austin TX 78711-3087

MARCH 2006

## Premier Texas Environmental Conference Scheduled

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's Environmental Trade Fair and Conference will be held in the **Austin Convention Center from May 9 to 11**. This annual event is **Texas' premier environmental educational forum**, considered by many to be one of the best in the country.

The TCEQ proudly offers for 2006:

- A reduced registration fee
- A total of 13 concurrent educational tracks, featuring detailed instruction on how to comply with state and federal environmental rules and regulations on all aspects of air, water, and waste management
- More than 400 exhibits
- Proceedings available on CD
- Up to 11 hours of continuing education credits, including credits for:
  - professional engineers
  - MSW technicians and supervisors
  - wastewater and water operators
  - LPST corrective action project managers

For more information, contact the Event Coordination and Education Section at 512/239-3150, or e-mail your name, address, and interest (exhibitor and/or attendee), to [etfc@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:etfc@tceq.state.tx.us). You also may visit our Web site at [www.tceq.state.tx.us/assistance/events/etfc/etf.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assistance/events/etfc/etf.html).



## CLEAN TEXAS, CLEANER WORLD Will Offer Pollution Prevention Track at TCEQ Environmental Trade Fair and Conference

The Clean Texas, Cleaner World program will highlight two speakers guaranteed to get people thinking and talking about exciting environmental issues.

**Track:** Pollution Prevention

**Presentation:** The After-Market House

**Speaker:** Dan Phillips, The Phoenix Commotion

**Time:** 4:00–5:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 9, 2006

Dan Phillips of "The Phoenix Commotion" is not your average architect. A true innovator in the field of homebuilding, Dan transforms discarded, free, and recycled materials into houses that are nothing short of works of art. Not only are the homes beautiful, Dan constructs the homes by hiring and training unskilled laborers. Dan's mission is to help low-income families own a home without breaking their budgets. He works on the premise that anyone can build and own an inspiring home. Dan's housing projects have been featured in magazines such as *Fine Homebuilding*, *People*, and *Reason*. He has also been featured on CNN, TNN, CBS, and HGTV. A documentary highlighting The Phoenix Commotion has recently been filmed by the Discovery Channel. Learn more about Dan Phillips and The Phoenix Commotion at [www.phoenixcommotion.com](http://www.phoenixcommotion.com).

**Track:** Environmental Innovations & Performance

**Presentation:** Go Green, Go Global

**Speaker:** Harvey Stone, The Goodbye Chain Group

**Time:** 10:30–11:30 a.m., Wednesday, May 10, 2006

Harvey Stone has not conducted a seance lately; however, he is very familiar with the concept of "end-of-life." Harvey specializes in helping businesses understand how international environmental laws affect the way that American manufacturers compete in the global marketplace, including laws that establish a manufacturer's responsibility to manage a product from its production to its disposal or reuse. As a result of these international environmental laws, any manufactured product with a battery or a plug that is shipped overseas may be affected. Through his work with

### It \$\$\$ Pays \$\$\$ to be a Clean Texas, Cleaner World Member!

If your facility is a Clean Texas, Cleaner World member you can receive a discount on the 3-day pass to the TCEQ Environmental Trade Fair and Conference on May 9–11, 2006.

**Clean Texas, Cleaner World Members:** Be on the lookout for a letter containing information on how to claim your discount.

For more information, contact Kelly Coleman at 512/239-5171.



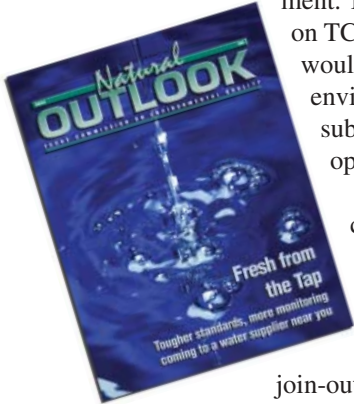
An environmental message brought to you by the Small Business and Environmental Assistance Division.

the Goodbye Chain Group, Harvey assists American manufacturers in meeting the challenge of compliance with complex international manufacturing standards. This presentation will help businesses to rethink production practices and say goodbye to non-product outputs such as waste. Learn more about Harvey Stone and The Goodbye Chain Group at [www.goodbyechain.com](http://www.goodbyechain.com).

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## Sign Up for The Natural Outlook

The TCEQ's quarterly newsletter, *The Natural Outlook*, reports on important issues affecting Texas and the environment. The newsletter also provides updates on TCEQ programs and initiatives. If you would like to stay informed on the latest environmental issues of Texas, you can subscribe at no charge. You have two options:



To subscribe to the free hard copy edition, e-mail your name and address to [ac@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:ac@tceq.state.tx.us). To receive an e-mail alerting you when a new issue is posted on our Web site, send a blank e-mail to:

[join-outlook@listserv.tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:join-outlook@listserv.tceq.state.tx.us). You

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Please contact us at [ac@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:ac@tceq.state.tx.us) for more information.

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## Stay Informed on Environmental Rules

Do you own a small business? Are you an official of a small local government? Would you be interested in learning more information about the rules and compliance requirements that affect these two entities? If so, then *The Advocate* is right for you!

*The Advocate*, produced by TCEQ's Small Business and Local Government Assistance staff, features updates on rules. This free newsletter contains technical details about compliance issues and regulatory concerns that affect small businesses and local governments. Issued quarterly, it addresses folks that own small businesses such as:

- Auto Body Shops
- Auto Repair Shops
- Dry Cleaners
- Foundries
- Metal Finishers
- Printers



- Public Water Systems
- Sawmill Operations
- Surface Coating Facilities
- Wood Products Manufacturers
- And many more!

*The Advocate* also addresses issues of concern to local government officials, including:

- Managing municipal facilities
- Implementing environmental management systems
- Handling storm water
- Managing solid waste
- Responding to environmental complaints
- And many more!

If you would like to subscribe to *The Advocate* and stay updated on these environmental compliance concerns, you can receive the free hard-copy edition each quarter by e-mailing your name and address to [sbap@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:sbap@tceq.state.tx.us), or call us at 1-800-447-2827. To receive an e-mail alerting you when a new issue is posted on our Web site, send a blank e-mail to [join-advocate@listserv.tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:join-advocate@listserv.tceq.state.tx.us). To view current and past issues, visit [www.tceq.state.tx.us/comm\\_exec/forms\\_pubs/pubs/pd/pd-006.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/comm_exec/forms_pubs/pubs/pd/pd-006.html).

For more information about this publication or TCEQ's Small Business and Local Government Assistance, please call the hotline at 1-800-447-2827.

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## Volunteer for the EnviroMentor Program

EnviroMentors are qualified professionals with technical or legal expertise on environmental issues who *volunteer* to help small businesses and local governments comply with state environmental rules, either through one-on-one contact or in a teaching situation. The EnviroMentor program is managed by TCEQ's Small Business and Local Government Assistance group, which is entirely separate from the agency's enforcement program. Therefore, the EnviroMentor assistance is *confidential* and does not lead to inspections, citations, or fines.



If you are a small business or local government, take advantage now!

- Get free and confidential environmental advice.
- Reduce the time and cost it takes to comply with TCEQ rules.
- Avoid potential violations.
- Prevent and reduce pollution.

If you are an environmental engineer or consultant, we can use your help!

- Earn free admission to TCEQ training and seminars.
- Receive updates on TCEQ rule changes.
- Promote increased visibility for your company.
- Enjoy the satisfaction of providing community service and helping the environment.

For more info:

- Call the hotline at 1-800-447-2827 and ask about the EnviroMentor program.
- Visit the Web site at [www.tceq.state.tx.us/assistance/sblga/envimntr.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assistance/sblga/envimntr.html).

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## New TCEQ Publication

### ~~030~~ Environmental Rules for Car Washes (RG-434)

summarizes the environmental requirements that apply to car washes and the actions you need to take to operate your

car wash in compliance with state and federal laws. You should also ask your local environmental and health authorities about any local requirements. This document is not a substitute for knowing the actual rules of the TCEQ or applicable federal laws and regulations. For free and confidential assistance, contact the TCEQ's Small Business and Local Government Assistance section at 1-800-447-2827. To view a copy before ordering, visit [www.tceq.state.tx.us/comm\\_exec/forms\\_pubs/pubs/rg/rg-434.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/comm_exec/forms_pubs/pubs/rg/rg-434.html). To order a copy, visit [www.tceq.state.tx.us/comm\\_exec/forms\\_pubs/order.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/comm_exec/forms_pubs/order.html).

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