



Take Care of Texas NEWS you can use

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ♦ MC-113 ♦ P.O. BOX 13087 ♦ AUSTIN, TX 78711-3087

Same Newsletter...New Look

Have you noticed the new look of the **Environmental News You Can Use**? The newsletter's look may have changed but we will continue to provide you the latest in TCEQ programs, information, and assistance. Environmental News You Can Use now comes under the new Take Care of Texas program, a personal responsibility campaign that encourages individuals to make a personal commitment to do their part to protect the Texas environment, and save money at the same time.

It's Time to Nominate Your Homegrown Environmental Hero

All too often homegrown heroes go unrecognized. Yet their efforts to protect natural resources in Texas are increasingly critical to the well-being of this beautiful state we all cherish. That's why the Texas Environmental Excellence

Awards program has continued for 14 years—to honor Texans who take environmental responsibility personally and work tirelessly to tackle environmental challenges.

Presented every spring, the awards are given in 10 diverse categories across the public and private sectors.

By honoring these winners, the TCEQ hopes to encourage other citizens to initiate like-minded projects and reinforce a spirit of environmental stewardship.

If you have been a part of an effort that deserves to be recognized, apply now for a 2008

Texas Environmental Excellence Award. The deadline

to submit your project is October 19. To find out more about the awards and to enter your project, visit www.teea.org or e-mail awards@tceq.state.tx.us.



Texas Recycles Day and Recycling Alliance of Texas Team for Recycling Synergy

The TCEQ is pleased to announce that the **Recycling Alliance of Texas** will take over the Texas Recycles Day program. Recognized as a premier nonprofit statewide recycling organization, the Alliance has played a major role in Texas Recycles Day since the program's inception. The Alliance's mission of advancing the message of conserving natural resources and recycling to ensure environmental quality and economic sustainability in Texas makes it a natural fit for Texas Recycles Day. With its networking capabilities among councils, sponsors, and members, the organization will continue to make Texas Recycles Day a leading statewide education and outreach program for recycling, reducing, and reusing. And not just on November 15, but all year long!



For more information about the Alliance and Texas Recycles day, visit its Web site at www.recycletx.com.

The TCEQ Announces Fall Workshops

Pollution Prevention (P2) Workshops

The Waste Reduction Policy Act (WRPA) requires that specific facilities develop a pollution prevention plan. This requirement includes facilities that fall under the category of large quantity generators of hazardous waste, and facilities that report on the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Form R. This workshop, presented by TCEQ staff, will help your company comply with Texas Pollution Prevention (P2) Planning requirements. It will offer you strategies for improving efficiency while decreasing or eliminating pollution. It also will give you an opportunity to save money and reduce your regulatory burden. Presenters include experts in pollution prevention, environmental management systems, environmental regulations, and energy efficiency. Plan to attend one of the following workshops:

October 18-19, Houston
November 1-2, Fort Worth
November 8-9, Beaumont

For more information and how to register, visit www.P2Plan.org.



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

printed on recycled paper
PD-025/07-09-10

Advanced Air Permitting Seminar

The TCEQ's Air Permits staff will present a two-day seminar that updates participants on current air permit issues, recent rule changes, and recent legislative action. Make plans to attend this seminar October 15–16 in Austin at the Hilton Austin Hotel.

Presentations will focus on the authorization of emissions from Maintenance, Startup, and Shutdown (MSS) activities as well as the following topics:

Estimating MSS emissions
MSS Best Available Control Technology
Incorporating MSS emissions information on permits
MSS modeling

This seminar will benefit engineers, environmental staff or managers of permitted facilities, consultants, or owners of businesses, including professionals who are knowledgeable in air quality permitting, rules, and regulations.

For more information and how to register, visit www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/assistance/events/seminars/10-07-airpermitting.pdf.

Mark Your Calendar for a Texas Waterway Cleanup

Keep Texas Beautiful (KTB) and the TCEQ have teamed up to coordinate activities for the Texas Waterway Cleanup



Program (formerly known as the Lake and River Cleanup program). The Cleanup Program helps communities and organizations start their own waterway

cleanups and litter prevention activities, which help improve and maintain the quality of surface water in their local areas.

To find out how to organize a cleanup and how to receive supplies and support, visit www.ktb.org/programs/twc/index.htm. To find scheduled fall cleanups in your area, visit www.ktb.org/programs/twc/fall07events.htm.

Updated Pubs

A Guide to Developing an Environmental Management System for a Small Business (GI-304)

gives small businesses information on how to develop an environmental management system (EMS)—a voluntary way to handle environmental matters.

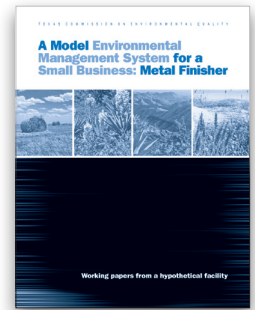
It outlines the basic EMS components and gives examples of how to implement them. To view

the guide before ordering, visit www.tceq.state.tx.us and enter “GI-304” in the site search box.



A companion guide to this publication is **A Model Environmental Management System for a Small Business: Metal Finisher**, (GI-304a). This guide uses a small business that offers zinc plating on plumbing fittings as an example.

Any type of business can use this manual as it explains the steps in starting and maintaining an EMS. To view this publication, visit www.tceq.state.tx.us and enter “GI-304a” in the site search box.



Take Care of Texas Tips

Upgrade Your Home Cooling and Heating System



In Texas, cooling and heating account for about 45 percent of annual home energy expenses. By using a properly sized Energy Star cooling and heating system, you can reduce your home energy consumption and help improve air quality.

Weatherize Your House

Using proper insulation in your home and sealing off air leaks will help maintain a comfortable indoor temperature, while reducing energy consumption and saving money.



Trade Up to Energy Star Appliances

Installing a more efficient dishwasher will reduce both water and energy consumption in your home. An Energy Star dishwasher is about 25% more efficient than a conventional dishwasher, and will save about 800 gallons of water per year.



www.takecareoftexas.org

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