



PREVENTION

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OPP Joins a New Office

On October 1, 2004, the new Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention (OCAPP) opened with combined staff from the Office of Pollution Prevention (OPP), the Small Business Assistance Office at Central District Office and the Division of Air Pollution Control's Small Business Assistance Program.

OCAPP will still provide advice and on-site assessments to help businesses prevent pollution. Preventing pollution saves raw materials, avoids disposal costs and increases competitiveness. In some cases, reducing the amount of pollution or waste may eliminate a company's need to be regulated by Ohio EPA. In addition, non-regulatory staff members will make site visits to evaluate plant-specific conditions and recommend cost-saving strategies.

This office will also provide free and confidential multimedia compliance assistance. Services include a toll-free hotline, Web site, environmental workshops and publications that explain environmental requirements in plain English. Businesses with fewer than 100 employees are eligible for on-site compliance assessments. For more information about OCAPP, visit their Web site at www.epa.state.oh.us/opp/ocapp.html or call (800) 329-7518.

Cleveland's RTA Opens "Green" Rapid Station

Cleveland's Regional Transit Authority (RTA) opened the new West 65th/Lorain/EcoVillage Rapid Station on Sept. 21, 2004. This station will be the hub of Cleveland's EcoVillage community, and a showcase for EcoVillage principles of ecological design, green building and transit-oriented development.

RTA had considered permanently closing the old W. 65th St. station, which was decrepit and inaccessible. But neighborhood interest prompted the transit authority to build a new station that would attract riders. Then the presence of the EcoVillage project in the neighborhood inspired RTA to explore a green design and additional development opportunities adjacent to the station.

Rapid Station continued on page 3

IN THIS ISSUE

OCAPP	1
RTA Opens "Green" Rapid Station	1
2004 MVP2 Award Winners	2



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8th Annual Most Valuable Pollution Prevention Award Winners



The 2004 recipients of the National Pollution Prevention Round Table's (NPPR) Most Valuable Pollution Prevention (MVP2) awards reduced pollution by three billion

pounds, conserved 80 million kWh of electricity, all while cutting costs by \$30 million. Their collective efforts are the equivalent of taking three million cars off the road.

"These organizations demonstrate the fact that pollution prevention is beneficial to both the environment and the economy," stated Jeffrey Burke, Executive Director of NPPR.

Award winners represent federal, state and local government agencies, as well as non-profits, industry and individuals who have demonstrated significant accomplishments in pollution prevention (P2). These awards were presented September 23 at a ceremony at the Rayburn House Office Building in Washington D.C. Congressional representatives from each winner's state or district were invited to attend and present the awards.

The 2004 MVP2 recipients are: CenterPoint Energy (TX); City of Austin (TX); City of St. Cloud Wastewater Treatment Facility (MN); City of Superior (WI); Mannington Mills Inc. (NJ); Minnesota Technical Assistance Program; Mohegan Sun Resort (CT); New Hampshire Pollution Prevention Internship Program; Pfizer (PA); Sud-Chemie (KY); Washington State Department of Ecology; West Des Moines Community School District (IA); and **Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (OH)**. This year's

writing and publications award goes to the Harbor Consortium of the New York Academy of Sciences for its report on mercury in the NY/NJ harbor.



Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (WPAFB) was honored for their work to reduce solid wastes generated from construction and demolition projects. In addition to the financial benefit from a total disposal cost avoidance of more than \$260,000, WPAFB also achieved an unprecedented solid waste diversion rate of almost 82 percent. Those items that were not reused at the base were donated to local Habitat for Humanity projects and other charitable organizations. Five hundred pounds of batteries were recovered, 325 tons of debris in waste streams were avoided and 400 doorknobs and locksets were reused on base. The remaining materials were shipped to New York and Kentucky for re-milling.

The MVP2 awards are just one aspect of National P2 Week, held every third full week in September. Since becoming a national event in 1995, NPPR has been advancing pollution prevention awareness through its efforts to encourage and promote widespread participation during that week and beyond. P2 Week is a time when businesses, environmental groups and citizens can join forces in a common cause and share information. It is also a time when organizations can become more competitive, realize cost savings and enhance environmental quality.

For more information about the MVP2 awards, visit NPPR's Web site at www.p2.org/p2week/2004Winners.cfm.

Rapid Station continued from page 1

RTA architect John Goodworth was inspired by former EcoVillage director David Cornicelli to design a station with many high-performance features. RTA has also discovered that being eco-friendly doesn't have to cost more money, as the project is coming in under budget.

Here are some of the project's green highlights:

- *Site selection and land use* — The land on which the former stop stood was reused, and site disturbance was further minimized by building most of the station over a ravine. The site promotes intermodal transportation by providing direct access to bus stops, bike paths and sidewalks. Parking spaces have been minimized (20 vs. 250 on typical sites) to encourage access by car pooling and alternative forms of transportation. During construction, care was taken to use filter fabrics to prevent soil erosion. After construction, the site was re-vegetated with native plants to restore habitat and reduce storm water runoff.
- *Design process* — Community design charrettes were part of the building and site design process. Local residents gave their input on how they thought the station should fit into and augment their neighborhood. As a result, the station's architecture reflects that of St. Coleman's church nearby (for example, the station roof's light green color mimics the patina of the church's steeples). Ideas about how the building could function as a community gathering place were also included.
- *Construction process* — Reuse of existing foundations, retaining walls, pedestrian walkway, handrails and drainage system saved money and prevented construction waste from going to a landfill. Unavoidable concrete and masonry demolition waste was pulverized and sold. More than 50 percent of building materials were purchased from companies within a 500-mile radius of Cleveland to reduce transportation expense and environmental impacts. A female-owned and operated construction company did the job.
- *High-performance features* — The station takes advantage of passive solar design with large, south-facing, glass windows to capture as much daylight as possible. Deciduous trees were planted in front of these windows to reduce the heat gain in the summer, but still capture sunlight in the winter. Energy consumption is further reduced using radiant heating, thicker and more insulated walls and roof, and flooring materials that retain heat in the winter. Building system sensors ensure that the building is operating as it is intended. High-efficiency toilets and fixtures conserve water. Air quality is improved by using paints, sealants, adhesives, floor coverings and wall surfaces that do not emit harmful chemicals. In addition, many of the building materials contain recycled content, including the recycled steel for the roof and portions of the building structure and recycled gypsum for walls.
- *Innovative design* — Bicycles are welcome at the station, and storage will be provided. The station is handicapped accessible and has elevator access to the rapid platform below. A timing clock posted on the train platform lets riders know when the next train will arrive. Exterior lighting is focused downward to provide greater safety and reduce neighborhood disturbance and light pollution of the night sky. The project team also came up with an innovative way to make creative use of old tires lying around the neighborhood. Inspired by the concept of straw-bale construction, they stacked the old tires to form the infrastructure of a bench and poured concrete around them to give the benches solidity.

- *Community connection* — This rapid transit station is meant to be more than a location to catch the next train. Its design invites neighbors to gather, “hang out” and connect. The station’s large, heated interior includes seating designed to encourage friendly conversation, a community message board, a large mosaic mural created by a local artist and space for a small restaurant. A footbridge over the tracks connects the stop to the EcoVillage neighborhood north and south. RTA plans to build a public plaza that will connect the station with Lorain Avenue and the Michael Zone Recreation Center, as well as give the station greater visibility and serve as an outdoor gathering space.

For more information about this RTA station and Cleveland’s EcoVillage community, visit EcoCity Cleveland’s Web site at www.ecocitycleveland.org/ecologicaldesign/ecovillage/rapid/rta.html.

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Published by Ohio EPA’s
Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention
Michael Kelley, Chief
Ellen Miller, Editor

Please direct your comments and address changes to:

Ellen Miller
Ohio EPA
Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, OH 43216-1049
(614) 644-3469
ellen.miller@epa.state.oh.us
www.epa.state.oh.us/opp/pq/pq.html

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PREVENTION quarterly

Bob Taft, Governor
Jennette Bradley, Lt. Governor
Christopher Jones, Director

Ohio EPA-OCAPP
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, OH 43216-1049