



# PREVENTION *quarterly*

**OhioEPA**

Office of  
Pollution Prevention

Summer 2001

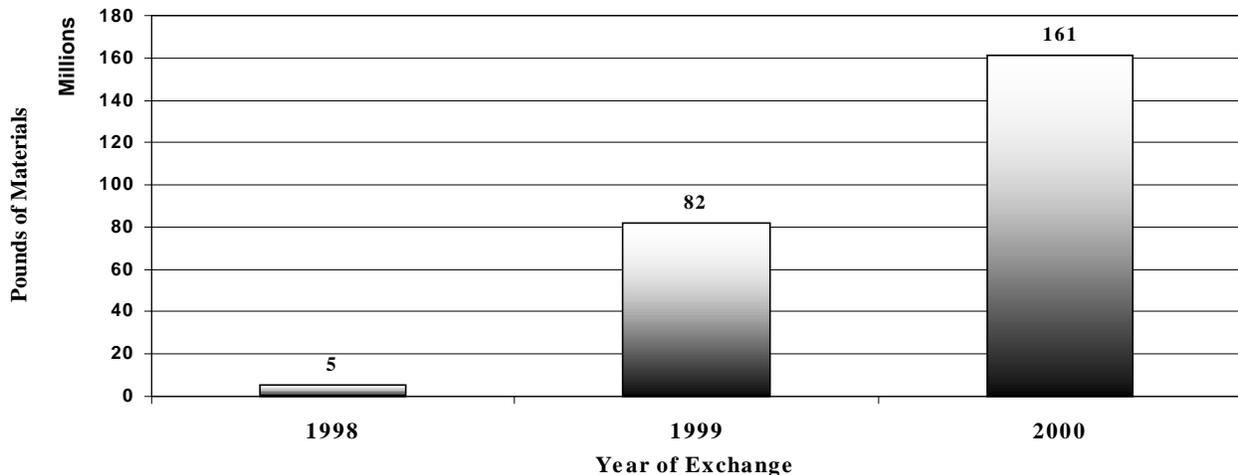
Ohio's Materials Exchange (OMEx) Third Year Accomplishments:  
*Numbers Have Nearly Doubled!!*

- ☑ Exchanged 80,546 tons of waste
- ☑ Saved businesses \$3,221,840 in disposal costs
- ☑ Fielded 1,540 calls



On the heels of the successful first two years of operation, OMEx exchanges continue to climb during the third year.

**OMEx: Pounds of Materials Exchanged in 1998-2000**



During 2000, 80,546 tons (161,091,465 pounds) were exchanged through OMEx. That nearly doubles reported, successful exchanges during 1999! During 2000, over 1,540 calls were fielded through the fax-on-demand retrieval system. This system can access OMEx listings and provide contact information.

OMEx carried 602 listings: 435 for *materials available* and 167 for *materials wanted*. These listings were placed by 283 companies, so most OMEx users list more than one material.

OMEx continued on page 2



Printed on recycled and recyclable paper.

OMEx continued from page 1

### Most Exchanged Categories

The construction and demolition category continues this year as the largest exchange material. Asphalt was the material most often exchanged within this category. Highly successful categories were:

- ⇒ 50,024,000 pounds Construction & Demolition
- ⇒ 5,200,000 pounds Alkalis
- ⇒ 3,748,870 pounds Rubber
- ⇒ 3,655,682 pounds Miscellaneous
- ⇒ 1,200,000 pounds Refractory Material

### History of OMEx

Ohio's Materials Exchange began operations in March 1998 (through a grant from the Ohio Environmental Education Fund) as a cooperative effort between the Association of Ohio Recyclers, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA), the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, the Ohio Department of Development and Waste Alternatives, Inc. to provide a statewide reuse and recycling service to businesses and industry in Ohio. Unlike many materials exchange services, OMEx is a cooperative effort between state agencies, a non-profit group and a private business. This non-mandated, collaborative spirit is the core of the program's success.

The hard-copy catalog of OMEx has been distributed bimonthly to over 12,000 businesses, government agencies and individuals. The catalog—funded the past two years by Ohio EPA's Division of Solid & Infectious Waste Management (DSIWM)—offers no-cost *materials wanted* and *materials available* ads that run the gamut from acetic acid to wood scrap. OMEx serves as a "meeting place" for listers and respondents, who then work out the details of payment, transportation and storage.

To facilitate exchanges, OMEx offers a fax-on-demand system and a Web site (managed by OPP) at [www.epa.state.oh.us/opp/recyc/omex.html](http://www.epa.state.oh.us/opp/recyc/omex.html). During a recent survey, however, over 70 percent of participants preferred the published bimonthly catalog over the Web site.

OMEx plays an important role assisting waste generators in identifying and implementing recycling, waste-use and reuse opportunities. These efforts result in lower operating costs, diminished demand for landfill space and incinerator capacity, and, ultimately, a cleaner environment. However, due to recent state budget cuts, DSIWM can no longer provide funding for OMEx, which seriously threatens its continuation. Every effort is being made to secure funding for continued operation of this successful program.

For more information, contact Nancy Moore at (614) 644-2928 or [nancy.moore@epa.state.oh.us](mailto:nancy.moore@epa.state.oh.us).

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### Our Waste, Our Responsibility

*Understanding Hazardous Waste Management in Healthcare*

**August 8th — 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**  
**OHA Board Room—14th Floor**  
**155 East Broad Street**  
**Columbus, Ohio**



**Diagnosis:** *Hazardous materials are key to providing care; hazardous by-products result*

**Prognosis:** *Pollution prevention strategies minimize dangers and risks*

This workshop will provide an overview of current practices in healthcare settings that use hazardous materials, creating pollution and health hazards. Participants will gain insights into processes, practices and products that minimize pollution outputs and reduce other risks. Learn how to create a stellar pollution prevention team at your facility.

### Who uses and manages hazardous materials at your facility?

The answer is almost everyone. Lead shields and silver wastes in radiology, solvents and preservatives in labs, degreasers in kitchens, disinfectants, mercury-containing products and devices in patient care areas, cytotoxic drugs administered in oncology units and more—these are examples of just a few hazardous materials we rely on in healthcare.

**Healthcare Workshop** continued from page 2

### Who Should Attend?

Teams! Bring a team from your facility.

**Ideal team members:** safety manager, pharmacy director, lab manager, facilities director, radiology manager, risk manager, oncology nurse manager, nurse managers, infection control practitioners

### What will you get out of this workshop?

Participants will become familiar with hazardous materials used in healthcare delivery and the regulatory requirements associated with management of hazardous wastes. This knowledge is particularly useful for meeting the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations Standard for the Environment of Care which addresses hazardous materials and wastes. Other industries have used pollution prevention as a strategy to reduce risks to workers and reduce operating costs. Pollution prevention initiatives help decrease hazardous waste generation and meet regulatory requirements. Healthcare's complex and diverse setting is ripe with opportunities to reduce pollution. This workshop reviews specific tools and approaches to implement in your facility.

For more information and to register for this program, please contact Stacey Walton of the Ohio Hospital Association at (614) 221-7614 or [staceyw@ohanet.org](mailto:staceyw@ohanet.org).

### ODOD has a new Renewable Energy Specialist

For the first time in more than twenty years, there is a state staffer dedicated to renewable energy. Tom Maves, formerly of the Ohio EPA Office of Pollution Prevention, now works for the Ohio Department of Development Office of Energy Efficiency as the Renewable Energy Specialist.



For more information regarding renewable energy in Ohio, contact Tom Maves at [tmaves@odod.state.oh.us](mailto:tmaves@odod.state.oh.us) or (614) 466-8425. The Office of Energy Efficiency Web site is [www.odod.state.oh.us/cdd/oeef/](http://www.odod.state.oh.us/cdd/oeef/).



### Workshop on Incorporation of Persistent, Bioaccumulative, and Toxic (PBT) Chemicals in Pollution Prevention Assessments

The Ohio Statewide Environmental Network and the University of Toledo will host a workshop on incorporation of PBTs in pollution prevention assessments on September 21, 2001. The workshop will be held at the Edison Welding Institute near the Ohio State University in Columbus. Dr. Ihab H. Farag will discuss the changing regulatory landscape for PBTs, regulatory criteria and the near-term and long-term implications for facilities, and the PBT Profiler tool. The PBT Profiler tool is an easy-to-use, no cost, Web-based computerized tool that helps you understand if chemicals you use meet the PBT regulatory criteria. The speaker will demonstrate the PBT Profiler and discuss how you can use this tool to forecast potential regulatory liability, and compare product alternatives for PBT characteristics.

If you plan to attend or would like more information, send an e-mail to Dr. Ashok Kumar (University of Toledo) at [akumar@utnet.utoledo.edu](mailto:akumar@utnet.utoledo.edu).



### OPP can help your Company!

The Office of Pollution Prevention (OPP) can help your company by conducting an on-site survey of its operations to identify and evaluate opportunities to reduce wastes and pollution. This, a Pollution Prevention (P2) assessment, can identify ways to reduce costs associated with waste generation and disposal and improve your company's compliance with environmental requirements.

Recently, OPP conducted a P2 assessment at an electroplating company and identified the following pollution prevention opportunities:



#### ⇒ **Conserving Water and Reducing Wastewater on Nickel-Chrome Electroplating Line**

Conserving water and/or reducing the amount of wastewater generated by 15 percent may result in a reduction of 1,446,000 gallons of wastewater and 9,828 pounds of hazardous waste per year, and save over \$26,000 in wastewater management costs annually.

**P2 Assessments** continued from page 3

⇒ **Conserving Water and Reducing Wastewater on Zinc Electroplating Line**

Conserving water and/or reducing the amount of wastewater generated by 15 percent may result in a reduction of 849,000 gallons of wastewater and 5,772 pounds of hazardous waste per year, and save over \$15,000 in wastewater management costs annually.

⇒ **Specific P2 Recommendations**

Recommendations included: use of spray rinsing, flow restrictors, conductivity controls and the investigation of drag-out recovery technologies like ion exchange and evaporation.

OPP is a non-regulatory office at Ohio EPA and has been conducting P2 Assessments for Ohio businesses since 1994. OPP is committed to help your company use P2 to tackle those tough issues resulting from wastes and pollution.

For more information, contact Jeff Lewis at [jeff.lewis@epa.state.oh.us](mailto:jeff.lewis@epa.state.oh.us) or (614) 644-2812. Also, information regarding P2 assessments is available at [www.epa.state.oh.us/opp/assst/p2assmnt.html](http://www.epa.state.oh.us/opp/assst/p2assmnt.html).

### How You Can Make a Difference

You can make the publication of Prevention Quarterly more environmentally friendly. Interested? Good. E-mail the Office of Pollution Prevention at [p2mail@epa.state.oh.us](mailto:p2mail@epa.state.oh.us), and request that we send you an electronic copy, an Adobe Acrobat PDF file, or a message indicating the newest version is now available on our Web page with the appropriate Web address. It's that easy to make a difference.

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