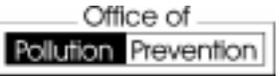




PREVENTION

quarterly



SUMMER 1999

Ohio EPA Launching Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) Project

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) means buying products or services that have a lesser or reduced effect on human health and the environment when compared to competing products or services. Recently, federal, state, and local governments have shown growing interest in EPP, which is attractive because EPP products may contain recycled content, minimize waste, be energy efficient, and/or have less toxic content. At the same time, they can help save money. In the workplace, EPP improves the company's ability to meet environmental goals, improves worker safety and health, and reduces liabilities, health and disposal costs. The Ohio EPA's Office of Pollution Prevention (OPP) has identified EPP as an area for pollution prevention implementation and is working with other State of Ohio agencies to advance more of this type of purchasing in Ohio.

Many local and state government agencies have initiated EPP programs. The city of Cincinnati converted from solvent-based paints to waterborne paints for highway line striping which eliminated the use of harmful cleaning solutions, hazardous waste, and reduced air pollutants. Project savings totaled almost \$11,000 per year.

The village of South Charleston, OH installed an ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system in their wastewater treatment plant. The new system reduced unwanted chlorine amounts in the treated sewage discharge, required less maintenance, saved money, and reduced the risks to village workers, the community, and the environment.



Currently, OPP is launching an EPP project for the state of Ohio. Although some programs already exist within Ohio government which encourage and track procurement of recycled content and energy efficient products, these and other programs could be enhanced through further development of an expanded State of Ohio EPP program. OPP is seeking a contractor to review current EPP activities within State of Ohio agencies and to make recommendations on how EPP can be extended and institutionalized throughout state purchasing.

Many other organizations are involved in EPP programs. Some related programs are:

Ohio's Buy-Recycled Program: www.dnr.state.oh.us/odnr/recycling/
National Association of Counties (NACo): www.naco.org/programs/environ/purchase.cfm

For additional information pertaining to EPP, try OPP's website at www.epa.state.oh.us/opp/eppmain.html, or contact Dave Foulkes at (614) 644-3469.

Environmental Education Mini Grants

A potential source of funding exists for educational projects to help businesses learn about and comply with environmental regulations. Importantly, this funding can support a pollution prevention approach to environmental compliance and beyond. The **Ohio Environmental Education Fund (OEEF)** has provided funding for workshops, compliance manuals, and videos to help businesses such as print shops, automotive repair shops, and the aggregates industry. Trade associations have developed successful grant projects, with technical support and compliance assistance from OPP and Ohio EPA's Small Business Assistance Office.

The OEEF's General Grant Program gives out approximately \$1 million each year in funding for environmental education projects targeting K-university, general public, and regulated community audiences. Grants are given for projects lasting up to two years and costing up to \$50,000. Applications may be submitted to Ohio EPA by January 15 and July 15 each year.

The OEEF has just created a new **Mini Grant Program**, beginning with the July 15, 1999 application



Printed on recycled and recyclable paper.

deadline. Mini grants will be available for projects requesting a minimum of \$500 and a maximum of \$5,000, with a project period up to 12 months. The program will address proposals requesting funding for specific classroom or workshop projects, conference speakers, and other items/activities that are eligible under the General Grant Program. Application forms, reviews, and reporting requirements are streamlined, compared to the General Grant Program. Ohio EPA's Office of Environmental Education will set aside up to \$50,000 each grant round to fund projects submitted under the new program. As with all funding requests, the final decision will be made by the Ohio EPA director.

If you have an idea for a grant project, please contact Ohio EPA's Office of Environmental Education for recently revised application guidelines. More information is also available on Ohio EPA's web site, www.epa.state.oh.us/opp
Ohio EPA
Office of Environmental Education
Lazarus Government Center
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, OH 43216-1049
Phone: (614) 644-2873
Fax: (614) 728-1275

The Pollution Prevention Alliance (PPA) announces, Green Car: A Guide to Cleaner Vehicle Production, Use, and Disposal

(available at <http://www.edf.org/greencar/>)

This Environmental Defense Fund document provides consumers with a truckload of information on the environmental impacts of motor vehicles from the cradle to the grave. While helping consumers make informed choices about the environmental impact of the type of car they choose, this guide also gives detailed information on working with auto plants to reduce

pollution from the manufacturing process. The production and use of motor vehicles has an enormous environmental impact, and Ohio is one of the leading states for automobile manufacturing and use. This guide highlights some potential solutions.

Manufacturing Processes and Pollution Prevention Options: Within *Green Car*, choose "Vehicle Manufacturing" for important information on the industry's processes and pollution prevention strategies that advocacy groups and activists can use to pressure manufacturers to reduce pollution in neighboring communities.



Auto Facility Rankings: The *Green Car* site includes pollution prevention rankings of the country's 54 auto manufacturing facilities which local communities can use to see how the pollution prevention performance of their neighboring facilities compares to facilities across the country.

Consumer Choice: Choose "Vehicle Use" for recommendations on choosing and using your vehicle to minimize its impacts on the environment. The site offers a "Tailpipe Tally," which calculates the pounds of pollutants your make and model of vehicle sends into the air each year.

EDF also plans additional industry sector community guides for the Iron & Steel, and Petroleum Refining facilities.

For More Information, contact: Benjamin Smith Outreach Coordinator
Environmental Defense Fund's Pollution Prevention Alliance
1875 Connecticut Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20009
202/387-3500 ext. 116

202/234-6049 fax
benjamin_smith@edf.org
<http://www.edf.org>

Climate Wise Energy Efficiency/Pollution Prevention Conference



(E2/P2) Conference. August 12, 1999, at Owens Community College. Sponsored by the Northwest Ohio Pollution Prevention Team and Toledo Environmental Services. Primarily for industrial facilities. Contact Tim Murphy, Climate Wise Coordinator, at (419) 936-3768 for more information. See <http://www.bgsu.edu/recycle/> for more information.

Need a Speaker?



The Office of Pollution is available to give a presentation to your organization. Examples of previous pollution prevention presentations include resources on the internet, planning, ISO 14000, laboratory, process mapping, printing, and metal finishing. To request a pollution prevention presentation call us at 614-644-3469.

Painting and Coating Technologies, September 17, 1999.

Sponsored by The Institute of Advanced Manufacturing Sciences (IAMS) in Cincinnati. This session is the third in a four part series. To register contact Rene Wierzbinski of IAMS at 800-345-4482. See <http://www.iams.org> for more information.

1999 Energy Star Partner of the Year Awards Announced

On April 14, the 1999 Energy Star Partner of the Year Awards were presented to over 30 companies and organizations by the U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy. The awards are presented to Energy Star Partners and Allies who have made outstanding contributions to the development, implementation and marketing of energy efficient technologies. The State of Ohio was among the award winners for the Green Lights Government Partner of the Year. The State of Ohio upgraded the lighting in nearly 12 million square feet of its facilities. These upgrades occurred despite significant financial barriers. The State used performance contracting combined with air quality bond financing to pay for the upgrades, removing the burden from the limited capital budget. As a result of these energy-efficiency upgrades, the State reduced its annual energy use by almost 32 million kilowatt hours. In addition, the State prevents the annual release of more than 68 million pounds of carbon dioxide. The State promotes these Green Lights accomplishments to the business community, civic organizations, and the general public through presentation, fact sheets, Earth Day events and training programs. For more information please visit the Energy Star web site at <http://www.epa.gov/energystar/>.

National Pollution Prevention Week, September 20-24, 1999



Pollution prevention (reduction of waste at the source) is the best way to reduce both point and non-point sources of pollution. Point source pollution includes industrial and manufacturing wastes; non-point source pollution originates from automobiles, construction, agricultural runoff, and so forth.

National Pollution Prevention Week is celebrated every year by scores of

government agencies, private businesses, non-governmental organizations and communities organizing various events and activities to put prevention first. President Clinton has proclaimed National P2 Week integral to the nation's environmental protection efforts.

Since 1985, the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable (NPPR) has promoted and coordinated pollution prevention (P2) activities across the U.S. NPPR also recognizes innovative P2 programs and events through its annual MVP2 awards.

For more information about NPPR, National Pollution Prevention Week and to find out how you can participate, call the official National Pollution Prevention Week Toll-free Hotline 1-888-Pik-P2P2 or check out the NPPR web site at www.p2.org.

Environmental Fair '99

The 1999 Environmental Fair in Columbus at the State House was a big success. Adults and children of all ages turned out in 90 degree heat and were treated to environmental displays and education programs courtesy of Ohio state agencies and local companies. Music and free ice cream were also provided.

In keeping with the themes and ideas inherent in pollution prevention, the fair emphasized important concepts like waste minimization and closed-loop recycling. Energy savings as pollution prevention was also emphasized.

Visitors were treated to free pollution prevention items, most of which were manufactured from recycled materials such as pencils manufactured with recycled money. Other educational aids included P2 Coloring Books, watering gauges to reduce waste when watering lawns, water wheels with helpful advice on reducing water consumption, but-

tons and stickers, energy saving demonstrations, and many other environmental treats provided by local companies and agencies.

Visitors were even able to compare the relative energy costs of different household items including different types of light bulbs by experiencing energy consumption firsthand. Participants were encouraged to power the various electric appliances and lights with a bicycle-powered generator.

Honda of America Manufacturing, Inc. and Ohio EPA displayed the natural gas production Accords. Ohio EPA's CNG Accord is in regular use as part of its automobile fleet. ABN and Soy Ohio provided information on Biofuels and displayed the Biodiesel powered Dodge Ram. These displays emphasized the importance of alternative and renewable energy sources in transportation. At the Office of Pollution Prevention, we believe that pollution prevention starts with new ways of thinking about the way that we use and dispose of resources. In the 1970s and 80s educational organizations were very successful in promoting ideas of recycling and conservation that are still an integral part of our culture today. The next step in this process is pollution prevention. We must not forget the continued importance of educating our communities about the importance of saving energy, reducing waste at the source, buying recycled products to "close the loop", and moving towards sustainable energy sources.

If you would like more information on pollution prevention, please visit the Office of Pollution Prevention Home Page <http://www.epa.state.oh.us/opp> and also check out OPP's Consumer Pollution Prevention Page, with helpful pollution prevention tips that you can apply to your everyday life.

Ohio Award for Excellence: Helping your organization soar to a new level

It's a world economy out there. To succeed, Ohio organizations will need to focus on continuous improvement. To honor those organizations at the forefront of the continuous improvement effort, the Ohio Award for Excellence is now open to competition.

The Ohio Award for Excellence is not a government program, but the creation of Ohio organizations and businesses that support process improvement and outstanding customer service.

The Ohio Award for Excellence is open to all Ohio organizations: business, education, health care, government and not-for-profit. It will

recognize achievements in leadership, strategic planning, customer focus, information and analysis, workforce development, process management and business results. Whole organizations, or any division of an organization can apply.

Winners of the award will get high profile recognition; but participation in the awards process itself will have rewards for all that participate. The award criteria comprises an effective assessment of a high performance workplace, and can help organizations map out future efforts with minimal cost.

Participating organizations fund the award through tax deductible contributions to a not-for-profit foundation. Payback will come through increased

competitiveness of Ohio businesses, and a renewed dedication to continuous improvement of customer-focused performance excellence. Because P2 quality and excellence are closely related, your organization's P2 achievements could help make you eligible for this award. OPP looks forward to seeing successful applicants with strong P2 programs.

For more information contact:
Janet Hill
Dana Commercial Credit
P.O. Box 906, Toledo, OH 43697
Tel: (419) 322-7500
Fax: (419) 322-7580
<http://www.oae.org/>

OHIO EPA
Office of Pollution Prevention
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049

Bob Taft, Governor
Maureen O'Connor, Lt. Governor
Christopher Jones, Director

*Published by the Ohio EPA
Office of Pollution Prevention
Michael Kelley, Chief
Ellen Miller Editor*

Please direct your comments
and address changes to:

Ellen Miller
Office of Pollution Prevention

Ohio EPA
P.O. Box 1049

Columbus, OH 43216-1049

(614) 728-1262

ellen.miller@epa.state.oh.us

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