

Spring 2014

Compliance Assistance Conference Coming September 23 and 24

On September 23-24, Ohio EPA is hosting its eighth Compliance Assistance Conference. Through our conference, you will gain valuable information and contacts to help you with your environmental compliance responsibilities.

A large part of the conference is targeted to businesses and others who need to know the basics about environmental compliance. The agenda also includes advanced topics, such as Title V permits and reporting and a special four-hour SPCC session. There also will be a plenary panel session, *Strategies for Success: How Can Your Organization Go Above and Beyond*, on day two. The two-day conference will cover a variety of environmental compliance-related topics, including:

- EPCRA, TRI and RMP Reporting
- Air Permitting Basics and Reporting
- Preparing for an Ohio EPA Inspection
- Hazardous Waste Requirements Overview
- Used Oil and SPCC Requirements
- Reporting When Things Go Wrong
- Solid Waste Basics
- NPDES Permits and Electronic (e-DMR) Reporting
- New Source Review (NSR) and Title V Permitting
- Funding resources and opportunities
- Storm Water and Wetland Requirements for Construction

The complete conference agenda and registration information are available at

www.epa.ohio.gov/compliance_conference/home.aspx

We look forward to seeing you in September!



2013 Toxic Release Inventory Report Due July 1

The deadline to submit the annual Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) report for 2013 is midnight on July 1, 2014. The following is what's new for TRI Reporting Requirements for Reporting Year (RY) 2013:

- A rule finalized in 2013 requires all TRI facilities to submit their TRI reporting forms electronically through the TRI-MEweb reporting application. No paper submissions are accepted.
- TRI facilities must also use TRI-MEweb to revise, withdraw or submit reporting forms for reporting years 1991 through the present reporting year.
- U.S. EPA will no longer accept revisions to, withdrawals or late submissions of TRI reporting forms for reporting years prior to 1991.
- Facilities are now required to use 2012 NAICS codes, as U.S. EPA has updated the list of NAICS codes subject to TRI reporting to reflect the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 2012 NAICS revision.

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- To help improve data quality, TRI-MEweb users may now more easily explain changes to a facility's address when updating the address.
- To assist with Section 8 calculations, TRI-MEweb preloads removal and destruction rates for certain toxic chemicals sent to POTWs. These default percentages are based on experimental and estimated data from U.S. EPA's Risk-Screening Environmental Indicators (RSEI) model. Facilities may override these defaults if they have better information about the final disposition of the chemical readily available.
- U.S. EPA added o-nitrotoluene to the TRI chemical list in November of 2013. Facilities that manufacture, process, or otherwise use o-nitrotoluene should begin collecting release information on the chemical for RY 2014 (forms due July 1, 2015) if TRI chemical use and other thresholds are met.

In Ohio, reporting facilities must submit a filing fee regardless of the manner in which the reports are submitted per OAC rule 3745-100-12. If you reported last year for reporting year 2012, but find your facility does not need to report for 2013, you should complete the "negative form" so Ohio EPA will know why you have not filed a TRI report this year. No filing fee is required with a negative report. All TRI reporting forms, fee worksheets, web links to TRI-MEweb and related contact information can be found at www.epa.ohio.gov/dapc/tri/tri.aspx. For more information, contact Muhammad Elsalahat, Ohio EPA TRI program, at (614) 644-2260 or muhhammad.elsalahat@epa.ohio.gov.

Ohio EPA Accepting Nominations for 2015 Encouraging Environmental Excellence Awards



Ohio EPA is accepting applications for the Encouraging Environmental Excellence program, which recognizes those who reduce waste, improve efficiency and work to continuously improve as an environmental steward. Nominations for the 2015 Silver Level will be accepted through **June 27, 2014**.

Recognition provides Ohio businesses and other organizations with credit for completing environmentally beneficial activities, and an incentive to commit to future environmental stewardship efforts. This annual award program is designed to recognize businesses and others that have a good environmental compliance record and have completed environmental stewardship activities. The silver level recognition includes:

- a flag to hang at applicant's facility;
- Ohio EPA news release highlighting the entity's environmental accomplishments;
- invitation to an awards ceremony and possibly a site visit by the Ohio EPA director; and
- highlight of recipient's efforts in a case study to publicize their proactive approach to environmental stewardship.

The 2014 Silver Level award winners will be recognized at Ohio EPA's Compliance Assistance Conference on September 23-24, 2014. To learn more about applying for recognition under the Silver Level of the program, visit www.epa.ohio.gov/ocapp/ohioe3.aspx or contact Howard Dong at howard.dong@epa.ohio.gov or (800) 329-7518.

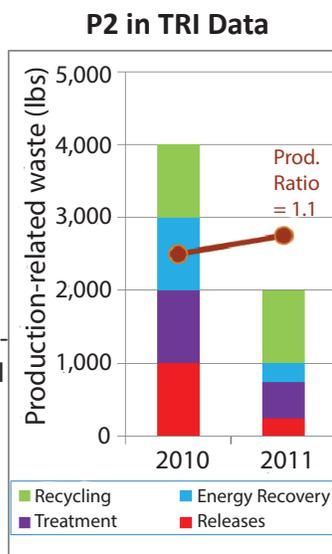
TRI Pollution Prevention Reporting Tips

If you are reducing waste and completing pollution prevention (P2) activities, give yourself some credit by reporting your P2 achievements through U.S. EPA's Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Program. Under the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990 (PPA), TRI collects information to track industry progress in reducing waste generation and moving towards safer waste management alternatives. Section 8.11 of your annual TRI report invites you to describe your P2 activities, as well as recycling, energy recovery or treatment activities related to the chemicals at your facility. Take this opportunity to highlight your company's commitment to reducing

the release of toxic chemicals in your neighborhood.

The TRI can help answer these questions about P2 by identifying effective environmental practices and highlighting successes.

- Have toxic chemical releases at a particular industrial facility gone up or down over time?
- Was this change in releases driven by changes in production, or did P2 practices play a role?
- Which P2 practices have led to the largest reductions in releases of toxic chemicals to the environment, and which companies have implemented these practices?



*Above: A TRI facility reduces waste (even as production rises) and shifts to preferred waste management techniques
Courtesy of U.S. EPA*

TRI includes information that can help find answers to the questions above by providing details about each toxic chemical reported, such as:

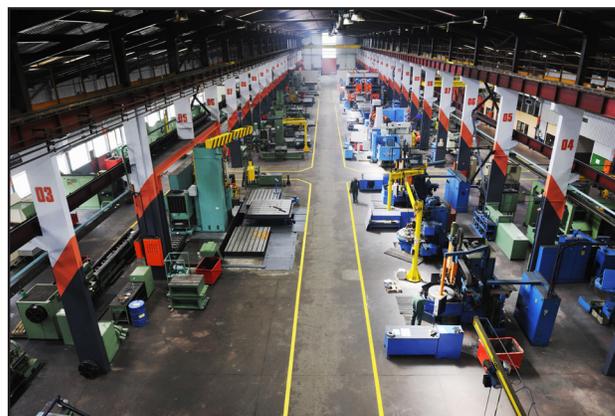
- a breakdown of production-related chemical waste managed
- information about source reduction and other activities that have reduced environmental releases of the chemical; or
- a production ratio or activity index to provide context for reported toxic chemical quantities

To learn more about TRI and P2 and download the TRI Pollution Prevention Reporting Tipsheet, visit www2.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program/pollution-prevention-p2-and-tri.

Ohio EPA's Permitting Guide Update

OCAPP has recently updated the Guide to Environmental Permitting in Ohio. This guide helps businesses determine which environmental permits they need and how to get them. Information that can be found in the guide includes:

- links to permit application forms;
- sector-based permit checklists, such as which permits an auto body shop or restaurant would need;



- an overview of the permitting process and tips for getting through the process;
- a glossary of environmental terms; and
- self-evaluation, which includes a list of questions designed to point the reader toward information about the permits his or her facility may need.

You can find the guide at www.epa.ohio.gov/portals/41/sb/publications/permitguide.pdf.

The Healthier Hospital Initiative

The Healthier Hospitals Initiative (HHI) is a three-year initiative created by Practice Greenhealth, Health Care Without Harm, Center for Health Design, and 13 sponsoring health systems. The purpose is to accelerate the adoption of environmental health and sustainability practices throughout the health care sector in the U.S. and Canada. HHI provides proven strategies, step-by-step guides and a sharing community of hospitals— all at no cost. This initiative helps hospitals:

- reduce energy and waste;
- choose safer and less toxic products; and
- provide healthier food options for purchase.

Following the free enrollment, the facility will be orientated to the various learning opportunities and data submission details. While the initiative is free, enrollment is required to gain access to the How to Guides, Learning Platforms and other resources. Ohio's contact for the Healthier Hospitals Initiative is Lauren Kleinman. She can answer questions, assist with webinar presentations and enrollment. For more information, contact her at lkleinman@healthierhospitals.org or (330) 962-8442.



Compliance and Prevention Quarterly cost saving information — If half of all Quarterly readers received the newsletter electronically, we could save nearly \$1,000 worth of printing costs each quarter. Plus, it's good for the environment! To receive an electronic copy, please send your e-mail address* to Dave Foulkes at dave.foulkes@epa.ohio.gov or call (800) 329-7518.

*Please include 'Compliance and Prevention Quarterly' in the subject line.

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Laurie Stevenson, Chief
Dave Foulkes, Editor

Please direct your comments and address changes to:

Dave Foulkes
Ohio EPA - OCAPP
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, OH 43216-1049
(800) 329-7518

dave.foulkes@epa.ohio.gov
www.epa.ohio.gov/ocapp/CPQ/cpqnewslett.aspx

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Need Help?

Ohio EPA's Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention is a non-regulatory program and one-stop location for information about environmental requirements, compliance concerns and pollution prevention. Services are free. Contact us at (800) 329-7518 or (614) 644-3469. Visit us at www.epa.ohio.gov/ocapp.

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

John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Craig W. Butler, Director

