

Creating raving fans  
by delivering world  
class service.



We're online!!!

[www.gptx.org/](http://www.gptx.org/)

Environmental Services/  
WaterQuality/default.aspx

**Inside this issue:**

- Stormwater BMPs 2
- Congrats to Park and Rec! 2
- Enforcement 3
- Texas Tier Two Report 3
- WaterSense 3
- Texas Stream Team 4
- Don't Bug Me 4

**MayFest 2009**



Each year the City of Grand Prairie co-hosts an educational event with the GPISD and GP Arts Council that focuses on water quality issues. Last year's event brought in over 1,000 children. If your organization is interested in donating materials to this great event, please contact Echo Rexroad at 972.237.8082.

# H<sub>2</sub>O Line

City of Grand Prairie  
Environmental Services Department  
P.O. Box 534045  
Grand Prairie, TX 75053-4045

Volume 3, Issue 1

Winter 2009

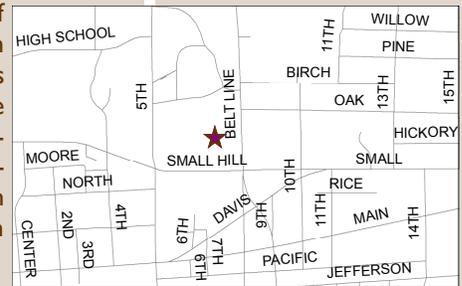
## Environmental Compliance Workshop

On January 21, 2009 Environmental Quality staff will be hosting an environmental compliance workshop. Cindy Mendez, Environmental Quality Manager, will be giving a presentation on *Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Industrial Pretreatment*.

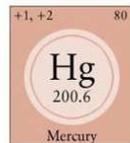
The January meeting will be held at the Public Works Training Center, located at

317 N Beltline. The meeting is scheduled from 9:30 am to 11:00 am and will include a continental breakfast.

If you or your staff is interested in attending this meeting, please contact Cheri Hebison at 972- 237-8070 or fax in your registration to 972-237-8228.



## Hg Export Ban



Senator Obama, a bill co-sponsor, received support from Congress on Sept 29 when his bill received congress's support on the export ban of mercury

from the United States in 2013. This bill, if signed by the President, will prohibit the commercial export of elemental mercury, prohibit the commercial sale or transfer of federal mercury stockpiles for any purpose other than transfer into per-

manent storage, and provide for the permanent storage of mercury by the Energy Department. The EPA has embarked upon a two year study to understand the impact of mercury trade and pollution.

## Hazardous Waste or Recyclable?

On October 7, 2008, the EPA reformed solid waste laws to encourage the recycling of secondary hazardous materials. Sludge and spent catalyst containing metals or chemical solvents are the secondary hazardous materials that will be affected by this rulemaking at an approximate 5,600 facilities in 280 industries that currently



generate these types of wastes. In order to qualify for the exemption from the hazardous waste rule, the waste must be generated and

reclaimed under the control of the generator and transferred to another company for reclamation. Not so fast, though, individual states must adopt the policy for it to become effective. For more information, visit [www.epa.gov/epawaste/hazard/dsw/rulemaking.htm#2008](http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/hazard/dsw/rulemaking.htm#2008).

## Stormwater BMPs



Areas where loading and unloading of final product or waste products must be covered .

**“Washing or pressure washing is to be done with water without any detergents or chemicals.”**



During routine industrial inspections, inspectors commonly find some of the same general areas of storm water related concerns **especially** in industries claiming no exposure. The recommended current Best Management Practices (BMP's) to address these concerns are tabulated below.

Area of Concern	Recommended BMP
Not being aware of the primary Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes for the particular industry to determine storm water permit requirements.	The SIC coding system administered by the Federal Office of Management and Budget is conveniently listed in Osha.gov site at <a href="http://www.osha.gov/pls/imis/sicsearch.html">http://www.osha.gov/pls/imis/sicsearch.html</a>
Storage of drums / other containers outside.	Drums and other containers may be stored outside as long as they are in good condition (not dented or rusted), tightly sealed, do not leak, and do not have operational valves or taps. Keep in mind that you cannot add to or take out materials out of the drums while they are outdoors.
Outside Dumpsters, collection bins, or garbage can lids are open.	Outside dumpsters, collection bins, or garbage can lids must be covered (except when depositing or removing waste) and be free of leaks.
The area where truck delivers materials is not covered.	All activities including loading, unloading, transportation of final product, or waste products must be covered or protected from storm water and storm water run off.
Scrap material and old equipment are stored outside on the ground.	Scrap material and old equipment must be covered and / or elevated to prevent storm water contact.
Vehicle / concrete floor washing.	Washing / pressure washing is to be done with water without any detergents or chemicals.
Assuming that a No Exposure Certification (NEC) is automatically transferred from a previous operator.	The new operator must complete a new NEC form and abide by the requirements to claim a no exposure certification.



Dumpsters, collection bins or garbage can lids must be covered (except when depositing or removing waste) and be free of leaks.

## Congratulations to Grand Prairie Parks and Rec!



The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) bestowed its highest national award, the Gold Medal Award, to the Grand Prairie Parks and Recreation Department Oct. 15 at NRPA's Congress and Exposition in Baltimore, Maryland. Grand Prairie competed with Columbia, South Carolina; Centennial, Colorado and Peoria, Illinois, to win the award in the population group of 100,000-250,000.

## Enforcement



A natural gas drilling operator in Tarrant County was assessed \$350 by impounding, diverting, or

using state water without a required permit.

A commercial printing business in Tarrant County was assessed \$6,290 for failing to use cleaning solutions with a volatile organic compound content less than 70% and store waste ink, solvents, printing oil, and clean-up cloths in closed con-

tainers.

An asphalt and coatings manufacturer in Dallas County was assessed \$50,925 for air violations including failure to conduct stack testing.

A metal recycling plant in Harris County was assessed \$11,550 for failing to include the type of contaminant released and the estimated quantity released in the final record for each event and by failing to pay general permits storm water fees.

A small steel manufacturer in Harris County was assessed for

failing to obtain proper authorization prior to conducting outdoor dry abrasive blasting activities.

A bulk material handling plant in Harris County was assessed \$5,000 for failing to obtain air authorization prior to operating a plant.

A barge cleaning and oil storage facility in Harris County was assessed \$689,750 for failing to conduct adequate tank closure, failing to dispose of industrial hazardous waste at an authorized facility, and failing to perform hazardous waste determinations.

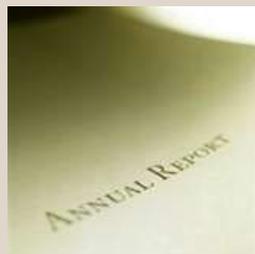
**“A barge  
cleaning and oil  
storage facility  
in Harris  
County was  
assessed  
\$689,750 ...”**

## Texas Tier Two Report

**What is it?** The Tier Two Report is a hazardous chemical inventory used to assist emergency responders and local emergency planning committees. It is also a source of information required by federal and state Community Right-to-Know laws.

**Is my facility required to file?** You are required to file if: (1) you stored over 10,000 pounds of any hazardous chemical at any time during 2008 or (2) if you stored a reportable quantity (known as “threshold planning quantity” or TPQ) of any extremely hazardous substance (EHS). The TPQ is 500 pounds for many EHSs, but lower for some. The complete list of EHSs with TPQs can be found on the DSHS website.

**What is a hazardous chemical?** A hazardous chemical is defined as “any chemical which is a physical hazard or a health hazard”. Therefore, a chemical with an HMIS or NFPA rating of 1 or



higher is considered hazardous. Hazard information can usually be found on the MSDS in the Regulatory Information, the Hazardous Chemical Ingredients, or the Control and Protective Measures section. Due to the vast number of existing chemicals and continual development of new ones, there is no comprehensive listing for hazardous chemicals.

**When and how do I file?** Reports must be submitted electronically to the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) by March 1, 2009. *Tier 2 Submit*, a program for creating the Tier 2 report, is available for download at no charge from the DSHS website ([www.texastiertwo.com](http://www.texastiertwo.com)) Re-

ports must also be submitted to the local Fire Department and Local Emergency Planning Committee(s). For businesses located near county lines, this often requires filing with two or more counties. Following are the Tier Two submission locations for Grand Prairie industries:

Texas Department of State Health Services - submit electronically following instructions included with *Tier 2 Submit*.

Dallas LEPC - email to Christine Jacobs at [cj-jacobs@dallascounty.org](mailto:cj-jacobs@dallascounty.org).

Tarrant LEPC - email to [oem@fortworthgov.org](mailto:oem@fortworthgov.org).

Grand Prairie Fire Department - submit hard copies to 201 NW 2nd St, Suite 200, Grand Prairie, TX 75050.

For additional information, see [www.texastiertwo.com](http://www.texastiertwo.com) or call 1-800-452-2791.



### WaterSense

WaterSense, a partnership program sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, makes it easy for Americans to save water and protect the environment. Look for the WaterSense label to choose quality, water-efficient products. You'll find the label on a variety of plumbing equipment scheduled to roll out this year and next. Visit <http://www.epa.gov/watersense/> for more information.

**Environmental Services  
Department,  
Environmental Quality  
Division**

201 NW 2nd St, Ste 100  
Grand Prairie, TX 75050  
Phone: 972.237.8055  
Fax: 972.237.8228

**City of  
Grand Prairie**

This newsletter is a publication of:

**Environmental Services  
Department,  
Environmental Quality  
Division**

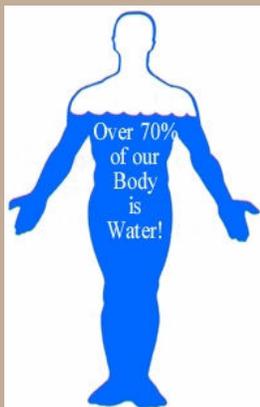
Submit your comments and suggestions to:

**Editor: Cindy Mendez**

Phone: 972.237.8225

Fax: 972.237.8228

Email: [cmendez@gptx.org](mailto:cmendez@gptx.org)



**Our Mission**

*The Environmental Quality Division advocates and ensures responsible environmental practices for the protection of human and environmental health through monitoring, oversight, and education.*



## Become a Member of Texas Stream Team

Join the City of Grand Prairie in preserving water quality. Discover how you or your organization can become a Texas Stream Team volunteer monitor today! Partners collect critical information about water quality that supports local and state resource managers in scientifically sound decision making. Once trained, volunteers need to dedicate only one hour a month to monitor a stream of their choice.



Benefits to becoming a Texas Stream Team Monitor:

- Your organization will be on the way to becoming a "Green" company!
- Being a monitor is an excellent public relations opportunity.

cellent public relations opportunity.

- Monitoring is a great team building exercise.
- You will contribute to real science that is used by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, while simultaneously learning about your watershed.

For more information, please contact Echo Rexroad at [ERexroad@gptx.org](mailto:ERexroad@gptx.org) or call 972.237.8082.

## Don't Bug Me: Tips to Keep the Flu Bug Out of the Workplace

- Wash your hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds.
- Encourage employees to stay home when they are ill (Flu can remain in the system for up to a week of feeling better)
- If you have excessive sneezing, coughing, or a runny nose, do not return to work.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or your elbow ... not your hands.
- Keep anti-bacterial hand sanitizers readily available around the office.
- Clean your desktop and office door handles with disinfectant.
- Use an alcohol wipe for phones that are used by more than one person.
- Wash your hands after touching elevator buttons, stair rails, or escalator arms.
- Use tissue or the edge of your sleeve or shirt to open doors.

**Registration Form  
Environmental Services Department  
City of Grand Prairie  
Environmental Compliance Workshop  
Everything you ever wanted to know about Industrial Pretreatment  
Public Works Training Center  
317 N Beltline  
January 21, 2009  
9:30 am to 11:00 am  
(Continental Breakfast Provided)**

**Company Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Attendees:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN BY MAIL OR FAX TO:  
Environmental Services Department  
P.O. Box 534045  
Grand Prairie, TX 75053-4045  
Fax to: 972.237.8228**