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EnvironmentalQuality

Grand  
Prairie  
T E X A S

Creating raving fans by  
delivering world class  
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Volume 7, Issue 2

Spring 2013

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

City of Grand Prairie

## Environmental Compliance Meeting

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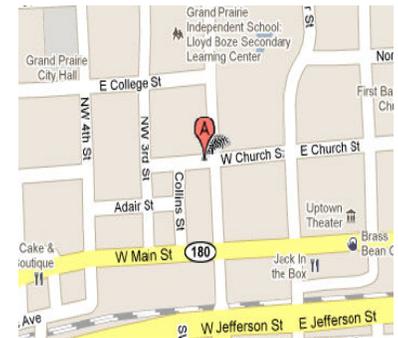
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Please join us on Wednesday, April 24, 2013 for the next Environmental Compliance meeting. The meeting will be held from 9:30 - 11:00 am at the Environmental Service Department office located in the Development Center at 206 W. Church Street. The Development Center is located across from City Hall at the intersection of Church and NW 2nd St. Take either of the outside staircases located on the east side of the building to the second floor. An elevator is also available.

Tom Caldwell, Environmental Manager with American Eurocopter, will

be sharing his experiences with ISO 14001 certification. ISO 14000 is a family of standards to facilitate environmental compliance by industries and ISO 14001 is the standard which establishes Environmental Management System (EMS) requirements. Mr. Caldwell is a registered professional engineer and a registered ISO 14001 Lead Auditor with over 30 years of industrial environmental compliance experience. He was instrumental in American Eurocopter Grand Prairie becoming certified as compliant with ISO 14001 in 2012.

This is a great opportunity if you are considering ISO 14001 certification or would just like more information about the process and the advantages of certification. To register, or for more information, contact Cheri Hebison at (972) 237-8070 or [chebison@gptx.org](mailto:chebison@gptx.org), or fax your registration form to (972) 237-8228.



## Tips for Business and Industry in Preventing Ozone: Small Steps, Big Solutions

- Shift work schedules to allow employees to avoid morning rush-hour traffic.
- Allow employees to work at home (telecommuting).
- Offer bus passes.
- For employees who rideshare or use public transportation, provide a guaranteed emergency ride home.
- Carpool to lunch and

- meetings.
- Schedule meetings that don't require driving (meet on site or make conference calls).
- Offer free drinks at your cafeteria to encourage employees to eat at work.
- Postpone fueling fleet vehicles until after 6 p.m.
- Postpone working with mowers, bulldozers,

- backhoes, tractors, and other two-cycle engine activities.
- Delay painting, degreasing, tank cleaning, ground maintenance, and road repair.
- Postpone routine flaring or venting of hydrocarbons.
- Postpone the loading and hauling of volatile organic compounds (VOC).
- Postpone VOC-

- producing activities such as chemical treatment and catalyst preparation.
- Switch loads to heaters or boilers with low nitrogen oxide burners.



## Electronics Recycling in Texas Reaches Record High

In 2012, computer manufacturers reported collecting more than 43.8 million pounds of electronics. 24 million pounds consisted of computer equipment, of which 20 million pounds were recycled and 3.7 million pounds were reused. This is the highest amount collected in any given reporting year.



ment a new program that will require television manufacturers that sell in Texas to collect and recycle televisions soon.

Regulations governing the disposal of electronics vary depending on generator status and whether the material has been declared as waste. Certain electronics have the potential to be classified as hazardous waste if discarded due to the toxicity of their metal content.

Ninety manufacturers representing 133 brands are currently participating in the computer recycling program, The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is working to imple-

Businesses can reuse or recycle their

unwanted electronics without impact on their hazardous waste generator status. Manufacturers selling new computer equipment in the State of Texas are required by The Texas Computer Recycling Program to provide a program for collecting and recycling used computer equipment free of charge from households and home businesses. Manufacturers may accept computers from businesses, but they are not required to do so.

For more information, visit:

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

and

[www.epa.gov/osw/consERVE/materials/](http://www.epa.gov/osw/consERVE/materials/)

## Compressed Natural Gas as a Transportation Fuel

Compressed natural gas (CNG) is a fossil fuel that is clear, odorless, and non-corrosive. CNG is used as a substitute for gasoline, diesel fuel, and propane. Although its combustion does produce greenhouse gases, natural gas vehicles show an average reduction in ozone-forming emissions of 80 percent compared to gasoline vehicles. CNG may also be mixed with biogas, produced from landfills or wastewater, which doesn't increase the concentration of carbon in the atmosphere.

CNG is used in traditional gasoline internal combustion engine vehicles that have been converted into bi-fuel vehicles (gasoline/CNG). Natural gas vehicles are increasingly used in Iran, the Asia-Pacific, Latin America, Eu-

rope, and North America due to rising gasoline prices. In response to high fuel prices and environmental concerns, CNG is starting to be used in a wide variety of commercial applications, from light duty trucks, and sedans to medium-duty trucks like delivery vans, and transit buses to heavy duty vehicles like semi-trucks.

Currently CNG prices at fueling stations in the Dallas Fort Worth area are far cheaper than gasoline or diesel, ranging from \$2.05 to \$2.55 per gallon. Vehicles that run on CNG have equal or slightly better miles per gallon average dependent on vehicle make and model. Therefore, the clean-



er burning and cheaper cost of CNG is driving many states to create grant programs for converting vehicles to use the CNG fuel. Here in Texas, the Texas Commission on Environmental

Quality (TCEQ) is providing grants to businesses, governmental entities, school districts, and individuals to convert medium-duty to heavy-duty gasoline or diesel vehicles to natural gas vehicles or repower the vehicles with natural gas engines.

For more information, visit <http://m.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/terp>.

## Renewal of Storm Water Construction General Permit

TCEQ has amended and renewed the Construction General Permit (CGP) effective March 5, 2013. Any new construction project in your facility commencing after this date will be covered under the provisions of the new permit.

TCEQ has allowed for a 90 day transition period, which will end by June 3, 2013. If you anticipate your project to extend beyond that date, you must submit the necessary documents to TCEQ and the City and pay any applicable fees. If your project is completed by June 3, 2013, you must sub-

mit a Notice of Termination (NOT) by that date.

For more details:

[http://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/stormwater/wq\\_construction.html](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/stormwater/wq_construction.html)

## Texas Trouble



An industrial waste transporter in Harris County was assessed \$3,700 for failing to prevent

the disposal of industrial hazardous waste at an unauthorized facility and by failing to update the facility's Notice of Registration.

A powder coating operation in Hutchinson County was assessed \$1,000 for failing to obtain authorization for outdoor sandblasting operations.

A biodiesel production facility in Waller County was assessed \$6,516 for failing to prevent a nuisance condition, failing to maintain a copy of the applicable Permits by Rule, failure to

maintain 12 consecutive months of records containing sufficient information to demonstrate compliance with all applicable PBR conditions, failing to install a totalizing fuel flow meter on a boiler and to keep annual fuel usage records for the boiler, and by failing to obtain authorization for the parts washer.

A pallet construction and grinding company in Bell County was assessed \$1,050 for failing to prevent nuisance dust emissions from impacting off property receptors.

A scrap metal recycler in Tarrant County was assessed \$2,100 for failing to obtain authorization to discharge storm water associated with industrial activities.

A ceramic tile manufacturing plant in Dallas County was assessed \$9,576 for failing to submit a permit compliance certificate within 30 days after the end of the certification period, by failing to submit a deviation report within 30 days after the reporting period and by failing to report all instances of deviations from their federal air operating permit.

A chemical manufacturing and blending plant in Montgomery County was assessed \$1,362 for failing to obtain air authorization for their chemical manufacturing blending operations.

**"A ceramic tile manufacturing plant in Dallas County was assessed \$9,576 for failing to submit a permit compliance certificate within 30 days ..."**

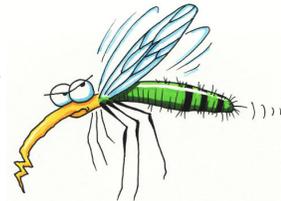
## Don't Be a Mosquito Breeder

Mosquitoes live part of their lives in aquatic environments and breed in almost any body of water. By eliminating sites with stagnant water, the potential for mosquito breeding and disease transmission is significantly reduced.

What you can do to help:

- Clean rain gutters free of debris and leaves
- Employees working outside should use an insect repellent containing DEET

- Repair leaky pipes, outdoor faucets, and ensure proper operation of sprinklers
- Cover or turn upside down any container that may collect water
- Old tires must be properly discarded or covered
- Fill in or drain any low places (puddles, ruts) around your facility
- Cover trash containers to keep out rain water



- Keep drains, ditches, and culverts clean of weeds and trash, so water will drain properly

- Fill in any tree rot holes and hollow stumps that hold water with

sand or concrete

- Keep grass cut short and shrubbery well trimmed around the facility, so adult mosquitoes don't have a place to hide

For additional information visit us online at [www.gptx.org/fightthebite](http://www.gptx.org/fightthebite)



## Environmental Trade Fair & Conference

April 30 - May 1, 2013 at the Austin Convention Center featuring topics such as the drought crisis, oil & gas, air quality, waste management, and many more. Conference cost is \$99 UNTIL March 29th and \$215 after. Get more information on-line at: [www.tceq.texas.gov/p2/events/etfc/etf.html](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/p2/events/etfc/etf.html).

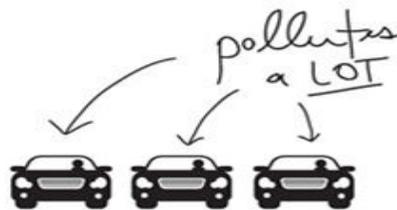
## City of Grand Prairie

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This newsletter is a publication of:

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suggestions to:

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pollutes LESS!  
(also saves gas  
and reduces traffic)



know your impact.  
[www.airnorthtexas.org](http://www.airnorthtexas.org)

Air North Texas is a public awareness campaign that encourages residents of North Texas to make clean air choices. Join the campaign and learn about the positive impacts you can make.



### Registration Form

**Environmental Compliance Meeting**  
**Environmental Services Department**  
**City of Grand Prairie Development Center**

**206 W. Church, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

**ISO 14001**

**April 24, 2013**

**9:30 to 11:00 a.m.**

**(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**

### Clean Air Action Day

On Friday 6.21.13 between 7 am and 7 pm, do something extra for clean air. Whether you change how you get to work, adjust Friday night plans or start the weekend early with a trip to the lake, there is something to do to reduce your ozone-causing pollution.

SAVE THE DATE  
**CLEAN AIR  
ACTION DAY**  
**6.21.13**

### EPA Leadership in Transition



The EPA's top job was vacated by Administrator Lisa Jackson in January 2013 after four years. During her tenure, Administrator Jackson instituted greenhouse gas emission regulations, the Carbon Pollution Standard, and the highest vehi-

cle fuel economy standards to date. EPA Deputy Administrator, Bob Perciasepe, has been named Acting Administrator. He was appointed by President Obama in 2009. Prior to being appointed in 2009 to the EPA, he was the Chief Operating Officer at the National Audubon Society.