



# COMPLIANCE & PREVENTION

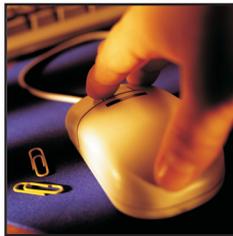
## *quarterly*

Winter 2012

A Publication of Ohio EPA, Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention

### Answer Place Expands Information Sharing

Ohio EPA's *Answer Place* is a "knowledge base" that manages responses to questions posed to the Agency across media programs (air, water and waste). From questions about how to comply with a particular environmental regulation to where to find environmental related information, *Answer Place* allows you to search the list of questions and answers to see if an answer is already available. You can also use *Answer Place* to ask a specific question. Your question will be directed to the appropriate Ohio EPA staff person to answer. To search and view questions and responses go to <http://ohioepa.custhelp.com/app/home>.



Some divisions at Ohio EPA are also using *Answer Place* to electronically communicate with customers on various issues. You can subscribe to electronic notifications from several divisions on the subscription page at <http://ohioepa.custhelp.com/ci/documents/detail/2/subscriptionpage>.

OCAPP's current electronic subscribers receive a monthly e-mail including: links to new publications (like our quarterly OCAPP newsletter); training opportunities; rule updates; and other information that may be of help to businesses. Once subscribed, you can check your subscription status by logging into *Answer Place* and reviewing your "Profile" information. If you've not used *Answer Place* before, you can log in using your e-mail address only - a password is not required initially. You are free to add additional information to your profile as you like (company name, phone number, etc.) and subscribe to additional groups or unsubscribe.

We will continue to mail our newsletter to you unless you request only the electronic version. Please contact Dave Foulkes at [dave.foulkes@epa.ohio.gov](mailto:dave.foulkes@epa.ohio.gov) or (614) 644-3469 with questions about the *Answer Place* or your subscription to OCAPP's newsletter.

### Upcoming Reporting Deadlines

**March 1 - Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know (EPCRA) Annual Reports**

You may be required to complete reports under the EPCRA regulations if your company is subject to OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard and you use, produce or store the following substances:

- 10,000 pounds or more of a hazardous chemical;
- or
- the reportable threshold (one to 500 pounds, depending on the substance) or more of an extremely hazardous substance.

A hazardous chemical is any chemical covered by OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard. While there isn't a specific listing of hazardous chemicals, the list includes any chemical or chemical mixture that exhibits hazardous characteristics. Hazardous characteristics include health, fire or reactivity hazards or the potential for a sudden release of pressure. Hazardous chemicals include gasoline, diesel fuel, paints, solvents and other chemicals.

An extremely hazardous substance is any one of 359 chemicals on a specific list in U.S. EPA's regulations. Examples of extremely hazardous substances include chlorine, ammonia and nitric acid. View the list at

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[www.epa.ohio.gov/portals/27/serc/EHS.pdf](http://www.epa.ohio.gov/portals/27/serc/EHS.pdf). If your company handles either hazardous chemicals or extremely hazardous substances in greater than threshold quantities, you must file a report to the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), your county's local emergency planning committee and your local fire department by March 1. For more information about this reporting requirement, contact Ohio EPA's Right-to-Know Office at (614) 644-2260, or visit [www.epa.ohio.gov/dapc/serc/index.aspx](http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dapc/serc/index.aspx).

#### April 16 - Synthetic Minor Title V Fee Emission Report and Emissions Inventory



All facilities that have synthetic minor permits must submit the annual Fee Emission Report (FER) by April 16. (**Note:** Facilities choose to have synthetic minor permits to avoid more complex Title V requirements. Facilities with Title V permits must also submit the annual FER by April 16.) The report covers emissions during the 2011 calendar year. If the facility completed a report last year, but did not fully develop the facility profile (i.e., a stack or fugitive release point (egress) for each emissions unit), the profile must be updated with egress information to complete the emissions inventory portion of the report.

The report must be submitted electronically through Ohio EPA's eBusiness Center Air Services application. For instructions and more information about completing the report, go to [www.epa.ohio.gov](http://www.epa.ohio.gov), click on the *Answer Place* link in the top banner, and enter keyword "**2011 FER/EIS**."

For more information on the synthetic minor fee program, visit [www.epa.ohio.gov/dapc/synmin.aspx](http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dapc/synmin.aspx).

#### April 16 - Non-Title V Air Emissions Report

If your facility received a blue 2010/2011 Non-Title V Air Emissions Report in the mail, your emission report is due to Ohio EPA by April 16, 2012. This report requires you to self-report your total facility emissions from calendar years 2010 and 2011.

You may submit the report in hard copy form or electronically through Ohio EPA's eBusiness Center Air Services application. To find instructions on how to complete the report electronically, go to [www.epa.ohio.gov](http://www.epa.ohio.gov), click on the *Answer Place* link in the top banner, and enter keyword "**2118**."

Do not send a check with the report. After receiving your completed report, Ohio EPA will send you an invoice based on your annual reported emissions level. If you need assistance completing the report, contact the Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention (OCAPP) at (800) 329-7518 or visit [www.epa.ohio.gov/dapc/nontvfee.aspx](http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dapc/nontvfee.aspx). The *Answer Place* also provides more information about fees, helpful resources and program background.

## Ohio Launches Energy Loan Fund

The Ohio Department of Development launched the Energy Loan Fund in December 2011. The fund provides low-cost financing to manufacturers, small businesses, public entities and nonprofit organizations for energy-saving projects. The program is administered through the Department's Office of Energy and will utilize more than \$7 million in state funding through the Advanced Energy Fund, as well as federal funds from the State Energy Program.



The Energy Loan Fund is structured to invest in energy retrofits and onsite distributed energy generation projects that allow customers to manage their energy costs. Projects must realize a minimum of 15 percent reduction in energy usage, achieve economic benefits and improve environmental quality.

A new online tool has been established to increase efficiency and create a user-friendly application process. Interested applicants should read the program guidelines to determine their project's eligibility and complete a pre-application form. All pre-applications will be reviewed and evaluated to determine eligibility according to state and federal program requirements. Those selected to submit a full application for consideration of financial assistance will be provided written instructions.

To learn more about the guidelines and application process for the Energy Loan Fund, visit [www.development.ohio.gov/Energy/Incentives/EnergyLoanFund.htm](http://www.development.ohio.gov/Energy/Incentives/EnergyLoanFund.htm).

## The Cleveland Green Venues Initiative

Venues where large numbers of people gather such as stadiums, arenas, convention centers, museums, zoos, college and hospital campuses generate enormous quantities of waste and use an extensive amount of energy and water. The high public profile of venues positions them to play a leadership role in shaping communitywide efforts to become better stewards of the

environment. Venues provide opportunities to measure environmental improvement and cost savings through the adoption of sustainable practices, while exposing significant volumes and diverse demographics of the public to those benefits.

*The Cleveland Green Venues Initiative* is a collaborative effort involving venues and government agencies designed to support and enhance environmental sustainability. Since 2009, more than a dozen of Cleveland's largest venues have met quarterly at workshops hosted by sponsoring government agencies including Ohio EPA, U.S. EPA Region 5, Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District and the City of Cleveland. These workshops provide opportunities for peer-based learning and guest speakers who share information related to sustainable practices and technologies that can ultimately be implemented at the venues.

Thus far, workshops have covered topics including: materials management (recycling and food scraps composting); water efficiency and storm water management; energy efficiency; environmentally preferable purchasing; green construction and rehab; and local food sourcing. In many cases, venue partners have recommended actions to their organizations as a result of these workshops. For example, virtually every entertainment venue in Cleveland now collects and sends food scraps to area composting facilities.

*The Cleveland Green Venues Initiative* sponsors have created guidelines and a performance partnership pledge providing a framework for participating venues to measure baselines, develop and implement environmental objectives associated with various sustainability principles, and benchmark results. The agreement encourages venues to participate in voluntary U.S. EPA programs such as WasteWise, EnergyStar and WaterSense, and requires participating venues to assist with local environmental initiatives and fan/patron outreach. In addition to the environmental benefits that will result from adopting sustainable practices, this partnership is designed to share venue successes with the public to increase awareness. The sharing of these successes with the public and other businesses will promote environmental stewardship, result in overall business sustainability and lead to increased ecotourism.

Due to the success of this initiative, the state and federal sponsors plan to implement the program in other large Ohio cities. Watch for upcoming announcements and initiative success stories in future issues of this newsletter. For more information about the initiative, please contact Angel Arroyo-Rodriguez of the Ohio EPA's Division of Materials and Waste Management at (614) 644-2621 or [angel.arroyo-rodriguez@epa.ohio.gov](mailto:angel.arroyo-rodriguez@epa.ohio.gov).

## Safer Chemistry Challenge Program

The 2025 Safer Chemistry Challenge Program (SCCP) is a new voluntary initiative of the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable. The SCCP is designed to motivate, challenge and reward facilities to reduce the use of chemicals, especially hazardous chemicals, through source reduction measures. These measures include the following approaches:



- making changes in production processes and adopting new technologies;
- moving toward cleaner processes that avoid the use and generation of toxic chemicals;
- changing raw materials to include benign or low toxicity materials that degrade into innocuous substances in the environment;
- using tools and design options in support of green chemistry; and
- selecting and using safe alternatives.

Companies are focused on achieving high levels of environmental performance through sustainable business practices. Moving toward safer chemistries in the products they manufacture and consume is a key part of sustainable business practices. The SCCP is designed to be customized for every company that participates. The aim of the program is for each company to reduce the use of at least five chemicals of concern to the environment and human health. These chemicals are selected by each company based on their own internal priorities, industry sector needs, or federal and state identified concerns.

Using 2007 as a baseline year, program reduction goals are 10 percent by 2015, 20 percent by 2020 and 25 percent by 2025. The SCCP will recognize and reward facilities that reduce the use of hazardous and toxic chemicals of concern to the environment and human health through pollution prevention and green chemistry measures. As part of this program, companies are encouraged to partner with state and local technical assistance programs. The Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention (OCAPP) has signed on as a SCCP Alliance Member to encourage Ohio businesses to participate in the program and provide assistance for their efforts. For more information and to join the SCCP, visit [www.p2.org/category/challenge/about/](http://www.p2.org/category/challenge/about/).

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](mailto:dave.foulkes@epa.ohio.gov) or call (800) 329-7518.

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

## 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](http://www.epa.ohio.gov/ocapp).

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