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GREEN YOUR HOLIDAYS!

With the holidays upon us, there are signs of parties and gatherings galore. As you are planning your festivities and/or attending them, please take time to think of the resulting environmental impact. A common sight during the holiday season is over-flowed garbage cans. Too often items are mindlessly stuffed into them--cans, glass and plastic bottles, lunch boxes, etc. When planning your holiday gathering, remember to reduce, reuse and recycle. For holiday waste generated at home, locate and use your community recycling program. Find one by going to www.michigan.gov/deqreswastecontacts. Also visit earth911 for a wealth of earth-friendly ideas for the holidays and year 'round at <http://earth911.com/seasonal/green-your-holidays/>.

Please consider a commitment to keep your holidays and every day green. The efforts of each person, multiplied by the masses, really does make a difference.



Thank You!

As 2008 ends and 2009 begins, we would like to express our gratitude for your continued support with the Environmental Science and Services Division programs and your continued efforts in preventing pollution in the State of Michigan. Have a safe and happy holiday.

Darlene Harris, editor

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HEALTHY SCHOOLS GUIDE



With Grant funding from the U.S. EPA, the Environmental Science and Services Division has launched the Healthy Schools Guide (Guide) for 2008. The Guide contains information, tools, and outreach materials to integrate a Pollution Prevention (P2) ethic within K-12 schools, helping to create a safer and healthier learning environment for students and staff.

The Guide provides the information and tools needed to eliminate and/or minimize the use of toxic chemicals in both the classroom and school facility operations.

Additionally, information on high performance schools, energy efficiency, small-scale chemistry, green building/renovation, school bus idling reduction, pest management, and radon awareness is included.

The Healthy Schools Guide is divided into sections directed toward:

- Administrators
- Facility Managers
- Transportation Managers
- Teachers
- Students

Under the grant funding, the Guide was downloaded to CD's and has been distributed to every school district in Michigan. Future updates of the guide will be available from the web in PDF format only. CD's are still available for distribution. For a copy of the Healthy Schools Guide on CD, send your request to WierengaA@michigan.gov. To download a printed copy, visit www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/deq-ess-p2-healthyschoolsguide_248605_7.pdf.

REVOLVING LOAN SECTION TENDERS MILLIONS IN LOANS AND WILL CONTINUE IN 2009!

During 2008 fiscal year (FY) the Revolving Loan and Operator Certification Section tendered over \$416 million dollars in low interest loans to Michigan communities between three programs. The Drinking Water Revolving Fund (DWRF) saw a little over \$46 million in new loans, with the Strategic Water Quality Initiatives Fund (SWQIF) adding \$900,000 to the total. The State Revolving Fund (SRF), our heavy hitter for the year, providing nearly \$370 million in new loans. The SRF will continue to be the largest funder this coming fiscal year as well; with estimated \$574 million dollars being targeted to 27 different communities in 41 separate loans. The DWRF in FY 2009 is seeking to provide another \$60 million planned in loans to 13 communities. The SWQIF will grow to 3 loans for the year with a total of over \$5 million planned.



This last fiscal year had the SRF tendering 23 loans to Michigan communities big and small across the state; Wayne County received a little over \$32 million for improvements to the Downriver Wastewater Treatment Plant. The West Iron County Sewer Authority received \$395,000 for wastewater treatment plant improvements as well. The city of Detroit remains our largest borrower and received \$161 million in loan assistance in FY 2008 for combined sewer overflow control.

The DWRP in FY 2008 tendered 14 loans to Michigan communities for public drinking water system improvements, including 2 loans to West Bloomfield Township for replacing deteriorated water mains and improving the efficiency of the township's water system. The DWRP also tendered loans to a number of other communities to help replace aging water mains that are a continuing issue for Michigan.

The SWQIF tendered only one loan this past fiscal year, an ongoing project for the city of Ann Arbor to remove footing drain connections from the city's system. Removing these connections helps Ann Arbor control the backup of wastewater during wet weather events into private homes.

This coming fiscal year's loans, although significant, do not begin to cover all of the state's needs. As wastewater and drinking water systems continue to age, additional needs will become evident. The revolving funds will continue to be the primary source of funding assistance for Michigan communities.

For more information, please contact DEQ's Revolving Loan Section at **517-373-2161**

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING NEWS FROM THE U.S. EPA: RESPONSIBLE RECYCLING (R2) PRACTICES

The U.S. EPA, working with stakeholders for over two years, published its Responsible Recycling (R2) Practices for electronics recyclers on October 30, 2008. This publication, available at <http://www.epa.gov/osw/consERVE/materials/eycling/r2practices.htm> provides guidelines for accredited certification programs to assess electronics recyclers' environmental, worker health and safety, and security practices.

For many years, generators have been looking for ways to ensure that their waste electronics recycled legally and safely. Recyclers have been looking for ways to manage materials safely and yet not be underbid by others not being as diligent in their management practices. These R2 Practices are a step in providing this information.

Electronics recycling is much more complicated than recycling traditional materials such as corrugated cardboard or scrap metal. Not only do electronics contain a variety of plastics, metals and glass requiring dismantling and sorting, they contain toxic materials such as mercury, lead and polybrominated flame retardants requiring special handling. On top of the material issues, many electronics store sensitive data that generators need to make sure is destroyed in compliance with legal and business requirements.

Safe and efficient electronics recycling is a global concern. The CRT Rule changes and Responsible Recycling Practices are two steps the U.S. EPA is taking to provide safer recycling options for waste electronics generated in the U.S.

For more information about safely managing waste electronics in Michigan, visit www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3585_4130_18096---,00.html or contact [Lucy Doroshko](#), MDEQ Recycling Specialist at **517-373-1322**.

RETAP HELPS SUSPA SAVE OVER \$50,000 ANNUALLY

SUSPA Inc. has been manufacturing and assembling an array of suspension elements, actuators and dampers in Grand Rapids since 1976. With production costs increasing, SUSPA requested a Retired Engineer Technical Assistance Program (RETAP) assessment to help identify pollution prevention and energy efficiency opportunities at their facility.



RETAP completed an on-site pollution prevention assessment in May 2005, making over 30 recommendations specific to SUSPA's manufacturing operations and building systems. To date, SUSPA has been able to act on most of RETAP's recommendations, most significantly:

- Began a recycling program that reduced 8,000 pounds going to landfill and saved \$4,000 in disposal costs and rebates obtained.
- Adjusted overflow water usage on the parts cleaning line saving nearly 1,000,000 gallons and \$1,600 annually.
- Replaced 400-watt metal halides and T12 fluorescent lamps with T8 fluorescents and saving 182,000 kWh and \$12,700 per year.
- Installed an Intelliflow meter to control air compressor operation and repaired air leaks, saving 130,000 kWh and \$9,000 per year.
- Vented the hot exhaust air from the air compressor into the plant during the heating season and programmed the 7-day programmable thermostats to set back during non production hours, saving at least 16,000 ccf and \$16,000 in use of natural gas per year.
- Used occupancy detectors and removed lights from vending machines saving 10,000 kWh and \$700 per year.
- Changed waste haulers and went from a \$1,620 liquid waste disposal cost to a paid rebate of \$670, a net gain of \$2,290.

Overall, SUSPA has implemented 25 RETAP recommendations, with total cost savings of over \$50,000 per year. Tom TePastte, Maintenance Supervisor at SUSPA was quite pleased with their assessment, stating "RETAP was the visine in my eyes, helping me to see clearly that simple changes can provide great cost savings by reducing energy costs, and helping the environment through recycling of waste. Cost savings are not only achieved by improving productivity and all money saved helps the bottom end."

RETAP provides onsite pollution prevention assessments to businesses with 500 or fewer full-time employees in Michigan. RETAP assessments are free, confidential, and non-regulatory. For additional information or to request a RETAP assessment, contact **David Herb**, ESSD, at **517-241-8176** or herbd@michigan.gov.

COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE CORNER

Question: Do you need an air permit for a fluorescent bulb crusher?

Answer: Facilities need to apply for and receive an approved state air permit prior to installing a device that crushes fluorescent light bulbs. The Permit to Install application is found at www.deq.state.mi.us/aps/appinforev.shtml. In addition to completing the application form, the following information needs to be included in the application submittal:

- The bulb crusher specifications.
- An estimate of the number of bulbs crushed per day and per year.
- A plan for disposal of the crushed material. Disposal of the material in solid waste dumpster is not an available option.
- Details on where the crusher will be located. The approved Permit to Install will contain a condition requiring that the temperature of the room where the crusher is located be kept at below 68 deg F.

If you would like more details on what to include with the application, you can contact **Mr. Mark Mitchell**, Permit Engineer, Air Quality Division Permit Section, at **517-373-7077**.

You should also contact a Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Hazardous Waste Inspector to verify the proper disposal of the crushed material. You can locate the appropriate inspector by first finding the correct district office by going to www.michigan.gov/deq and selecting "Inside DEQ," "Contacting DEQ" and click on "District Office Locations." Ask to speak to a hazardous waste inspector. If you need any additional assistance, contact the **Environmental Assistance Program** at **800-662-9278**.

Compliance assistance staff are experienced department personnel in ESSD that specialize in another environmental program division. Staff provide one-on-one and referral assistance on calls received by the Environmental Assistance Center. If you have any environmental question on which you need assistance, call 1-800-662-9278.

JOINT EXPO AND OPERATORS DAY

The Eighteenth Annual Michigan Section, AWWA and Michigan Water Environment Association Joint Exposition in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Environmental Science & Services Division, is being offered February 3-4, 2009, at the Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan.

Joint Expo (Free Admission)

Joint Expo is one of the largest expositions in the Midwest for utility personnel by equipment suppliers, manufacturers, and consulting engineers who want an effective method to exhibit their products and services to water and wastewater professionals. Joint Expo provides the opportunity to research problems experienced on a day-to-day basis with manufacturers and industry professionals and to explore solutions to those problems and draws an attendance in excess of 1,500 people annually. There is no charge to attend Joint Expo.



Joint Expo is a day to collect product information, see and evaluate new equipment, collect business cards from new contacts, see old friends, learn, share, network, shop, compare, and evaluate where your facility or your business is now compared to where you need be to be in the future. Joint Expo offers a buffet lunch (nominal charge), and complimentary soft beverages, available in the exhibit area, and space for over 300 booths. Exhibitors with large equipment can be accommodated in multiple booths.

Operators' Day Seminar

Each morning during Joint Expo, a three-hour technical session featuring topics unique to the interests of water and wastewater works professionals will be conducted. Attendees may register for either or both days. Participation at Operators' Day allows communities to send employees to a training session as well as attend Joint Expo. Seminar participants will be given a ticket for the exhibit area lunch buffet. Operators' Day programs end before noon so there will be ample time for attendees to view the exhibits. There is a \$65.00 registration fee for each day's training session to help defray the costs of lunch and the program. The seminar program information and registration form is available at <http://www.mi-water.org>

Infrastructure Project Financing Options Seminar

Finding the most appropriate and available means to pay for Infrastructure expansion and improvement is one of today's greatest challenges facing Municipalities. Fortunately, there are many financing options to consider and often, one or more of them provide a suitable means to get projects started. This seminar has been developed to provide Municipalities important information that deals with getting the money to pay for several project financing options that are supported by current State and Federal Legislation. Elected Officials, City Managers, Utility Directors/Managers, DPW Directors/Managers, Superintendents, Consultants will benefit from this seminar. There will be a \$50.00 fee (including Lunch) for this event which will be Tuesday, February 3rd, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at the Lansing Center in conjunction with Joint Expo.

Registration Information

Complete brochures for Exhibiting at Joint Expo and day seminar registration information can be obtained at www.mi-water.org. For additional information, contact either: **Eric Way** at 517-241-4752 or waye@michigan.gov, or **Matt Tomlinson** at 517-241-8913 or tomlinsonm@michigan.gov.

ITRC NO-COST TRAINING COURSES

The Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council (ITRC) offers a wide variety of guidance documents and training courses on innovative environmental technologies and approaches specific to the areas of site characterization, monitoring and remediation as well as other environmental topics. ITRC is a state-led coalition working together with industry and stakeholders to achieve regulatory acceptance of environmental technologies. ITRC is a program of the Environmental Research Institute of the States (ERIS), a nonprofit corporation operating in support of the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS). Michigan is a member state.

Summarized below is the December 2008 schedule of upcoming no-cost Internet-based training courses provided by the ITRC. A complete list of course offerings can be found at www.itrcweb.org.

Upcoming Course: An Overview of Direct Push Well Technology for Long-term Groundwater Monitoring,

December 11, 11:00 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. Eastern Time. Note: All dates/times are subject to change - check www.itrcweb.org for the most up-to-date information.

Registration: <http://clu-in-org/studio/seminar.cfm> or www.itrcweb.org. Select "Internet-based Training." Course registration opens 4-6 weeks prior to each course offering.

Associated Guidance Documents: Available from <http://www.itrcweb.org>. You can download the ITRC guidance documents that are the basis for the training materials - click on "Guidance Documents".

Archived Training Events: Archives of previous ITRC Internet training events are available for your convenience. Seminars are available for download at: <http://cluinorg/live/archiv.cfm?sort-title#itrc>. Courses are listed alphabetically (you may need to scroll down to find the class of interest.)

For additional information, please contact Michigan's State Point of Contact (POC) **Joe Rogers** at: rogersj5@michigan.gov or 517-373-9897.

EVENTS

DECEMBER 2008-JANUARY 2009

DEVELOPING A SUSTAINABLE SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN, various locations, Michigan. The theme for the next series of Southeast Michigan Sustainable Businesses Forum (SMSBF) meetings will focus on local entrepreneurial innovations and economic development initiatives that promote sustainable business practices. SMSBF will explore the latest developments, meet new business leaders and learn how these activities are helping to create new value and wealth leading to a new economy in Southeast Michigan. Guest speakers will show how using the principles of sustainable development is adding vitality and innovation to the region. Topics include social innovation, economic growth, and sustainable implementation. The DEQ is a cosponsor of these events. For more information, visit www.smsbf.org.



JANUARY 6, 2009

CERTIFIED FLOODPLAIN MANAGER (CFM®) EXAM, Bay City, Michigan. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is pleased to offer the CFM® Examination. The CFM® Program is administered by the Association of State Floodplain Managers, Inc. (ASFPM). The application form and information about the exam can be found at www.floods.org. The application and fee must be received by ASFPM by December 23, 2008. The DEQ will proctor this event at the Saginaw Bay District Office. For additional information, please contact **Joy Brooks, P.E.**, CFM, Land and Water Management Division, 989-686-8025, extension 8364.

JANUARY 12-14, 2009

19th ANNUAL NORTHERN MICHIGAN WATERWAYS HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SPILL (NOSPILLS) CONFERENCE, Holiday Inn, Traverse City, Michigan. Guest speakers have been invited from federal, state and local agencies to present a wide range of environmental issues. This year's conference will have a focus on issues pertaining to the Great Lakes. Vendors will be available to display their products and services; a hospitality evening is planned; and as always, there is plenty of time for

questions, answers, and for networking. Seating is limited and we will accept registrations on a first come basis. DEQ will have speakers at this event.

For additional information, go to www.no-spills.org or contact **Ann Gasperich**, NOSPILL Committee Secretary/Treasurer, **906-281-2009** or **Ryan Blazic**, NOSPILL Committee Chair, **989-705-3420**.

JANUARY 2009

SARA TITLE III TIER TWO WORKSHOPS, various locations, Michigan. Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA Title III), also known as the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act, requires facilities to report information that can be vital to the community's safety. Over 6,000 facilities in Michigan annually submit Tier Two hazardous chemical inventory reports required by SARA Title III to the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs), and local fire departments. Learn how to complete and submit the online Tier Two report at the 2009 SARA Title III Tier Two Workshops, presented by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's Environmental Science and Services Division. SARA Title III emergency planning notification requirements and chemical release reporting requirements in Michigan will also be addressed. This half-day workshop is recommended for owners, operators, and environmental and safety personnel of facilities that have hazardous materials (material safety data sheets required by OSHA) on site. Environmental consultants, LEPCs, and fire department personnel can also benefit from this workshop and are encouraged to attend. A full brochure and online registration are available on the Web at www.michigan.gov/deqworkshops, click on "Upcoming DEQ Workshops." Registration fee is \$75.

Registration Information Contact: **Environmental Assistance Center**, **800-662-9278**, or Email at deq-ead-env-assist@michigan.gov.

Information Contact: **Susan Parker**, Environmental Science and Services Division, **517-335-4650**, or parkers5@michigan.gov.

Date	Location
1/22/09	Prince Conference Center, Grand Rapids
1/27/09	Lansing Community College - West Campus, Lansing
1/28/09	VisTaTech Center Schoolcraft College, Livonia

FEBRUARY 2009

1:00 p.m. -4:30 p.m.

2009 INTRODUCTION TO MAERS (MICHIGAN AIR EMISSIONS REPORTING SYSTEMS)

WORKSHOP, various locations, Michigan. The 2009 Introduction to MAERS Workshop takes participants step by step through the new MAERS version 2008.0.0 software on computers. This hands-on training is designed for those who are new to MAERS or those who need more comprehensive training on the concepts and software. Workshop participants will learn MAERS software basics, how to complete the electronic forms and submit your report to DEQ, and how to avoid common mistakes encountered when completing and submitting your MAERS report. Workshop attendees will receive the "MAERS Workbook" and other guidance materials.

Registration fee: \$75. A full brochure and online registration form will soon be available on the Web at www.michigan.gov/deqworkshops, click on "Upcoming Workshops."

Information Contact: **Jim Ostrowski**, Environmental Science and Services Division, **517-241-8057**, or Email at ostrowskij2@michigan.gov.

Registration Information: **Environmental Assistance Center**, **800-662-9278**, or Email at deq-ead-env-assist@michigan.gov.

Date	Location
2/5/09	University Center at Gaylord
2/10/09	MTEC at Kalamazoo Valley Community College
2/12/09	VisTaTech at Schoolcraft College, Livonia
2/19/09	Lansing Community College, West Campus, Lansing

FEBRUARY 11, APRIL 8, JUNE 10, SEPTEMBER 9, NOVEMBER 4, 2009

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

MONTHLY AIR PERMIT APPLICATION WORKSHOP FOR FIRST-TIME APPLICANTS, Constitution Hall, Lansing, Michigan. For most first-time applicants, completing the Permit to Install application is a daunting task. However, submitting a complete and timely application can be more manageable if you know what's expected. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality is offering this workshop designed to give information on how to submit a complete permit application. Since this workshop is geared to first-time applicants, a significant portion of the session is devoted to your specific application. Air Quality Division permit engineers will be available to discuss your permit application with you one-on-one. To take full advantage of this time with the permit engineer, it is recommended you bring detailed information about your project with you to the session. This training is designed for first-time air permit applicants who need help completing their permit application; however, those who have applied before and need a refresher are welcome to attend as well.

Online registration is available on the Web at www.michigan.gov/deqworkshops, select "Upcoming DEQ Workshops".

Registration Fee: \$25, which includes parking in the Ellis Parking Lot on the east side of Constitution Hall and training manual.

Information Contact: **James Ostrowski**, Environmental Science and Services Division, 517-241-8057 or ostrowskj2@michigan.gov.

Registration Information: **Environmental Assistance Center**, 800-662-9278, or deq-ead-env-assist@michigan.gov.

FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2009

COTTAGE & LAKEFRONT LIVING SHOWS, Novi and Grand Rapids, Michigan. These shows highlight lakefront living in Western Michigan with exhibits and speakers on topics related to owning and enjoying lakefront property. The DEQ will have a booth at these events promoting shoreline preservation. Tickets are available online.

Fee: \$9.00 for adults, \$4.00 for children aged six to fourteen years, and free for children under five years.

For information on the Detroit event visit: www.showspan.com/CLD/Home.aspx.

For information on the Grand Rapids event visit: www.showspan.com/CLG/Home.aspx.

Dates	Topic	Location
2/26/09-3/1/09	Cottage & Lake - Detroit	Rock Financial Showplace, Novi
3/27/09-3/29/09	Cottage & Lake - Grand Rapids	DeVos Place, Grand Rapids

*If you are interested in participating in the development of any Environmental Science and Services Division event, please call **Mary Goodhall** at 517-241-7968 or email at goodhallm@michigan.gov.*