

## Small Business Advisor | April 2013

- In this issue:**
- **Kristin Hart is New Air Permits & Modeling Section Chief**
  - **DNR Welcomes New Small Business Ombudsman**
  - **New Factsheet Available for Local Water Plants**
  - **How is the Online Registration Permit Application Working?**
  - **“It All Adds Up” theme highlights DNR’s Clean Air Month this May**
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### Kristin Hart is New Air Permits & Modeling Section Chief



Kristin Hart has accepted the position of chief of the Permits and Stationary Source Modeling Section in the Bureau of Air Management. On April 8, she began transitioning from her duties in South Central Region to DNR’s Central Office.

Hart graduated with a degree in chemical engineering from the University of Iowa in 1987. After serving a two-year assignment with the U.S. Peace Corps as a fisheries extensionist in Guatemala, she landed a job with the Air Management Program in the former Southeast District writing mandatory operation permits at the district headquarters in Milwaukee. She continued working on the federal operation permit program after transferring to DNR’s then-Southern District in 1992.

Over the next 20 years, Hart wrote construction and operation permits, participated in permit streamlining initiatives, helped write workbooks, procedures, and factsheets, and spent some time working on environmental management systems and Green Tier Permits. In 2007, she volunteered to head up the registration permit program <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/airpermits/options.html> for the state. She is very excited about taking on a new challenge as Chief of the Permits and Stationary Source Modeling Section. Kristin Hart can be reached at [Kristin.Hart@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Kristin.Hart@wisconsin.gov), phone 608-266-6876.

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### DNR Welcomes New Small Business Ombudsman



Kimberly Ake joined the DNR in February as a member of the Cooperative Environmental Assistance team, where she will focus on innovative and collaborative efforts that aim to improve environmental performance while providing genuine business value for small businesses. Kimberly’s background includes an academic foundation in sustainability planning, practical experience supporting the small business community in reducing its environmental impact, and six years of marketing experience in the private sector.

As part of the DNR’s continued commitment to support small businesses in Wisconsin, Kimberly will also assume the role of Small Business Ombudsman. The ombudsman acts as a liaison between small businesses and DNR staff, advocates for small business, and provides compliance assistance. She will also work to develop the Small



Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP) - currently known as the Small Business Clean Air Assistance Program. The SBEAP is envisioned to serve as a credible resource and partner for small businesses, helping to demonstrate that identifying, measuring, and managing environmental impacts can bring tangible business value to companies of all sizes. The program also aspires to facilitate networking opportunities for businesses to learn from each other's innovations; provide recognition for superior environmental performance; and work with industry sectors to develop best management practices.

The Small Business Environmental Assistance Program hopes to provide guidance and resources that help put small businesses on a level playing field with larger companies that have greater resources to devote to sustainability opportunities and management of environmental impacts.

As the SBEAP evolves, input and feedback will be solicited from the Small Business Environmental Council, the small business community at large, and other parties currently playing a role in supporting a sustainable economy in Wisconsin.

For more information, visit the Wisconsin Small Business Clean Air Assistance website at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/CompAssist/sb/> and click on the "ombudsman" tab. You can also contact Kimberly by email at [Kimberly.Ake@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:Kimberly.Ake@Wisconsin.gov) or by phone at (608) 267-6743 or you can call the small business hotline at 855-889-3021.

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## New Factsheet Available for Local Water Plants

Depending on the type of equipment they use and the air pollutants emitted from that equipment, some local wastewater treatment plants and water supply systems in Wisconsin may be required to get an air pollution control permit from Wisconsin DNR. A new factsheet -- **WWTP and Water Supply Systems – Do I Need an Air Pollution Permit?** -- has been developed to help operators of wastewater treatment plants and water supply systems determine whether they need to get an air pollution permit, as well as the requirements for emergency engines or generators used at these facilities.

To download this factsheet, publication AM-506, visit the DNR's small business web page at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/CompAssist/sb/AirRegs.html> and click on the "industry specific" tab. The factsheet can be found under the "wastewater treatment plants" section of the page. For more information on this topic, contact Rick Wulk, DNR Northeast Region, at 920-662-5181 or email [Richard.Wulk@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Richard.Wulk@wisconsin.gov).

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## How is the Online Registration Permit Application Working?

The Wisconsin DNR's Air Management Program is continually working to improve our customer service. To help with this, we are asking applicants for our Registration Permits to complete a customer satisfaction survey. We developed the survey to learn what is working well, identify any problem areas and help us improve customer satisfaction with the process. The survey takes about 5-10 minutes. We have sent an email with a survey link to all 2012 Registration Permit recipients. Each 2013 Registration Permit recipient will receive a link by email shortly after receiving their permit coverage decision.

If you received a Registration Permit in 2012 or earlier this year, please take a few minutes to fill out your survey. Your input is essential in helping us make online permit applications as easy a process as possible.

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## “It All Adds Up” theme highlights DNR’s Clean Air Month this May

As winter finally gives way to warmer temperatures in Wisconsin, sunny May skies tell us that DNR’s Clean Air Month is once again upon us.

“It All Adds Up To Cleaner Air” is the agency’s theme for the annual spring event, which includes a new Clean Air Month web page <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/airquality/cleanairmonth.html> listing tips for reducing air emissions, a place for the public to sign up for air quality notices and a poetry contest hosted by the department for third, fourth and fifth graders.

“With May as Clean Air Month and 2013 The Year of Well Being throughout our state, there’s no better time to learn about how important clean air is to our health and quality of life,” said DNR Secretary Cathy Stepp. “At your DNR, we’ll continue to work hard so Wisconsin citizens can enjoy some of the cleanest air in the nation.”

Stepp noted that the agency’s recent Wisconsin Air Quality Trends Report 2013 <http://dnr.wi.gov/files/PDF/pubs/am/AM517.pdf> revealed a positive trend toward cleaner air since 2002. Overall, trends show improved air quality since the 1980’s.

Other successes from the past year include:

- Wisconsin has its lowest number of counties in “non-attainment” since the enactment of the Clean Air Act amendments of 1990;
- The southeast region of the state is meeting the current 2008 federal air quality standards for ground level ozone pollution;
- EPA redesignated much of the southeast region of WI from ozone non-attainment into the “ozone attainment” classification for the 1997 standard; and
- Fine particle pollution redesignation is currently under review at EPA. The department is hopeful to receive redesignation into attainment for the counties currently listed as non-attainment.

“Clean Air Month is a great time to celebrate our state’s achievements in air quality. We are breathing healthier air and continuing to see positive air quality trends,” said DNR Air Management Program Director Bart Sponseller.

The “Air Air Everywhere” poetry contest runs until May 17. Winners will have their poems featured on the DNR’s Environmental Education for Kids-EEK! website <http://dnr.wi.gov/eeek/>. You can also check out the DNR’s “Do a Little, Save A Lot” videos <http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=UUXxmfKh4WwJuw0eCEC6LQ9w> to learn about more ways to help improve Wisconsin’s air quality.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Lindsay Haas, 262-574-2113



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- To contact the Small Business Clean Air Assistance Program staff, call 1-855-889-3021 (toll free) or send an email to [DNRCleanAir@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DNRCleanAir@wisconsin.gov).
  - To subscribe to the Small Business Advisor, visit <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/AirQuality/News.html#tabx2> and click to select it from the Subscriptions list.