



## Small Business Advisor - September - 2014

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### Wisconsin DNR brings resources together to help to small businesses

Small Business Environmental Assistance Program helps companies do the right thing for the environment and the economy.

"Wisconsin's small businesses play a critical role in the economy, yet they also face a variety of challenges," said DNR Secretary Cathy Stepp, who participated Wednesday, September 10, 2014, in the fourth annual Governor's Small Business Summit. "The Small Business Environmental Assistance Program has been expanded to work in partnership with small businesses and support their efforts to grow in ways that create new opportunities while preserving our state's environmental assets."

The Small Business Environmental Assistance Program offers a comprehensive set of resources and tools to help small businesses determine their environmental responsibilities with respect to federal and state regulations. The program also helps small businesses identify opportunities to take advantage of innovative practices that may produce cost savings.

Featuring an online [guide to permits](#), as well as resources on air, water, environmental clean-up and waste regulations, the program and its staff members stand ready to help companies do the right thing for the environment and economy. Information on endangered species and wetland regulations and technical and financial assistance with redeveloping brownfields also is available.

Kimberly Ake, small business adviser with DNR, said the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program has been expanded in response to requests from small businesses for tools and guidance to help them remain in compliance. During 2013, some 88 percent of the small businesses contacting DNR through the toll-free hotline and small business program email were seeking information about more than one program or permit requirement.

"Wisconsin's small businesses asked and DNR answered by offering streamlined access to the best advice available," Ake said. "While the program doesn't issue permits or process applications, our specialists are familiar with Wisconsin's leading industries and can connect small businesses with the appropriate resources or people to answer questions involving multiple environmental areas."

The program features a staff of three employees with experience in regulatory programs who have been brought together in one location to share best practices and advocate on behalf of small business. The program serves companies with 100 or fewer employees that are not major sources of air pollution and do not produce large quantities of hazardous waste.



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Examples of small companies that might benefit from the program include auto-body repair shops; dry cleaners; gas stations; health care facilities; metal fabricating and machine shops; and printers, to name a few.

The Small Business Environmental Assistance Program builds on other DNR initiatives to support the economy while protecting and managing the state's natural resources. These efforts include the Green Tier program, which supports companies committed to going beyond environmental compliance and now counts small businesses as 40 percent of the program participants. DNR also has established sector specialists in key industries such as agribusiness, green manufacturing, energy and printing to provide specific guidance.

To learn more about the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program or contact a representative, visit [DNR.wi.gov](http://DNR.wi.gov) and search for "[Small Business](#)." Program representatives also may be reached through the small business hotline at 855-889-3021 or by emailing [DNRSmallbusiness@wi.gov](mailto:DNRSmallbusiness@wi.gov).

## Used Oil Management - Satisfying the Rebuttable Presumption Final Guidance Document Available

"[Used Oil Management - Satisfying the Rebuttable Presumption](#)" was developed to provide guidance for used oil handlers when determining whether their used oil qualifies for recycling or must be handled as a hazardous waste. This document is a summary of state and federal regulations and recommended work practices for handlers managing used oil in Wisconsin. This publication includes the screening process, variables affecting the waste determination, fuel specifications and state and federal references for used oil handler compliance. This publication is an addendum to [WA 233 Used Oil Management](#) document. For more information contact Amy Walden at [amy.walden@wisconsin.gov](mailto:amy.walden@wisconsin.gov) or 608-266-0272.

## RICE (Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines) Reconsideration by EPA

After careful consideration of the public comments received on the September 5, 2013 Notice, EPA has determined that they will not propose any changes to the regulations at this time related to the three petition issues. The petition issues were requests that the EPA determined not to make changes. The RICE (Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines) regulation and amendments will remain as published on January 30, 2013. The notice will be published in the Federal Register and the letters will be posted to the RICE Website at: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/icengines/index.html>

## Sustainable Seminar Series - Facilitating Employee Engagement in Sustainability Initiatives Webinar on September 25, 2014

September 25, 2014, noon to 1:00 PM webinar, presented by Erin Jones - Consultant with sr4 Partners LLC  
Employee engagement in institutional sustainability programs holds multiple benefits to both the organization and the community. Increasing employee awareness and participation in sustainability efforts allows the individual to feel greater ownership; this often increases productivity, innovation, and efficiency. The concepts of project sponsorship, a network mindset and behavioral change will be discussed as a means by which to increase awareness and participation in sustainability efforts.

You may view the webinar live by registering at <https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/662955711>. The webinar will also be archived on our website [www.istc.illinois.edu](http://www.istc.illinois.edu) for later viewing. For additional information, contact: Nancy Holm, Phone: 217-244-3330, E-Mail: [naholm@illinois.edu](mailto:naholm@illinois.edu), URL: <https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/662955711>

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