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Join the Small Business Environmental Council at an open discussion

Small businesses in Wisconsin have a voice that speaks on their behalf at the DNR: the Small Business Environmental Council. The Council provides advice and input to DNR on the impact of rules on Wisconsin small businesses and reviews materials and guidance documents to make them easier to understand. To help them be as effective as possible, Council members want to hear directly from businesses about their concerns with DNR rules and understanding how to comply.

The Small Business Environmental Council invites local businesses to an open forum to share their ideas and hear from the DNR Secretary, Dan Meyer. Join the Council on September 11 from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. at the Portage County Business Council, 5501 Vern Holmes Dr., Stevens Point. Please register with the Portage County Business Council through their website: http://business.portagecountybiz.com/events/details/a-voice-for-small-business-7778. There is no cost to attend.

Does your business have 100 employees or less? Have you attempted to apply for permits such as wetlands, wastewater discharge, air pollution, or drinking water, and struggled to find the information you needed to complete the process? The Council wants to hear from you!

New web resource addresses environmental performance during business lending

Improving environmental performance makes good business sense. Considering these issues early in the planning process prevents surprises that could delay a project or require expensive changes later on. Lenders are in a unique position to talk to new or expanding businesses during these early stages and guide them to consider how they will manage their environmental performance.

The Small Business Environmental Assistance Program’s (SBEAP) new web page, Business lending and environmental performance: https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/SmallBusiness/LenderInfo.html, offers a resource to the lending community to help them get their clients thinking about and planning for environmental regulations and sustainable practices. This can positively impact the lender’s investment, the business’ bottom line and the health of the environment.
Draft guidance on satellite accumulation requirements available for public comment

Hazardous wastes that are routinely accumulated in containers from activities such as process lines or laboratories may be subject to reduced requirements when these containers are maintained in accordance with applicable regulatory provisions. The containers must be kept in satellite accumulation areas (SAA) that are at or near the point of generation of the waste and kept under the control of the operator of the process that is generating the waste. No more than 55 gallons of non-acute hazardous waste or 1 quart of acute hazardous waste can be amassed in a satellite accumulation area.

This new guidance document provides definitions, general requirements and common scenarios pertaining to hazardous waste SAAs regulated by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources hazardous waste program. It applies to large and small quantity hazardous waste generators (LQG and SQG), along with treatment, storage and disposal facilities (TSD) that are also hazardous waste generators.

Note: Generators must count hazardous waste accumulated in SAAs toward their monthly quantity totals for reporting purposes, and for accurately establishing their generator status.

This draft guidance is available for public comment until September 8.

Proposed DNR program guidance page: Review the draft guidance and subscribe to notification of the final documents, response to comments and future guidance.

For questions related to the draft guidance, contact Amy Walden at 608-266-0272.

Is your company SHARP?

Are you familiar with the Safety and Health Recognition Program (SHARP)? This is a recognition program for small employers run by each state’s Onsite Consultation Program. Information about the program is here, https://www.osha.gov/dcsp/smallbusiness/sharp.html. The SHARP has its own criteria for evaluating employers’ safety programs and you need to contact your state for that information. SHARP is ideally suited to small employers, defined as those with fewer than 500 employees corporate-wide and no more than 250 at any one location.

The OSHA Onsite Consultation (WisCon) Program is for small employers (no more than 250 employees at one location or 500 employees state-wide.)

♦ There is no charge for consultation services to private sector employers.
♦ The program is voluntary.
♦ There are no penalties or enforcement action.
♦ The consultation staff is skilled and knowledgeable.

Call toll-free at 800-947-0553.
Save the Date! The 2018 Wisconsin Asbestos Conference takes place December 7 in Wisconsin Dells

This conference is for anyone whose work involves asbestos-containing materials, whether you are an asbestos remediation firm, a construction contractor or consultant, or involved in building management (including schools). **This is a great value!**

$50 for attendees who register before November 15, 2018 ($70 after)
$170 for exhibitors who register before November 15, 2018 ($220 after)

**There are five sponsorship opportunities this year.**

**Lunch is included in the cost.**

The popular two-hour **Asbestos Awareness Course** will be held – get your certificate onsite at the end of the session at no extra cost. Also included is the **School Asbestos Designated Person** (SADP) session. (This is an overview of what the SADP duties entail.)

Go to the conference website for more information and easy online registration: [http://wisconsinasbestosconference.org/index.php](http://wisconsinasbestosconference.org/index.php)

Contact the conference’s new host, Environmental Information Association (EIA), with any questions by calling 301-961-4999 or send an email at [http://wisconsinasbestosconference.org/form.php?form_id=13](http://wisconsinasbestosconference.org/form.php?form_id=13).