



Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
Small Business Environmental Assistance Program
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CLEAN Air Clips

Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Small Business Environmental Assistance Program

Rod Blagojevich • GOVERNOR

US EPA Updates

JACK LAVIN • DIRECTOR
WINTER 2005

MOLD and MILDEW

(from the Illinois Department of Public Health)

UPDATE ON TITLE 5 PERMITTING DEFERRAL

Under the Urban Air Toxics Strategy, EPA is developing standards to control toxic air pollutants from area sources. "Area" sources are those sources that emit less than 10 tons annually of a single hazardous air pollutant or less than 25 tons or more annually of a combination of hazardous air pollutants.

Six area source categories, perchloroethylene dry cleaners, hard and decorative chromium electroplaters, commercial ethylene oxide sterilizers, halogenated solvent, secondary aluminum production sources, and secondary lead smelters are subject to post-1992 NESHAP (Part 63) that were subject to deferrals from Title V permitting (part 70 and 71) that expired on December 9, 2004.

The fact that the deferrals ended on December 9, 2004 means these 6 categories of area sources are now subject to Title V permitting, until such time as the US EPA does a rulemaking to exempt them or decides that exemptions are not warranted.

Most of these area sources will be subject to the Title V permit programs administered by the state of Illinois. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) may call for permit applications from these sources prior to the publication of any exemptions US EPA may finalize. The Title V regulations establish a one-year deadline (December 9, 2005) for the submittal of permit applications for these sources. The US EPA intends to finalize this issue through rulemaking action before the December 9, 2005 deadline for applications.

For the most current information and status of the pending deferrals, visit the US EPA's Web site at: www.epa.gov/ttn/atw

New Recordkeeping Tool for Stage I/II Vapor Recovery for Gasoline Dispensing Facilities Now Available!

Do you know that one of the most cited violations at gasoline facilities is failure to keep proper records? The Illinois Small Business Environmental Assistance Program and Illinois EPA have developed an easy-to-understand tool to assist gasoline dispensing facilities meet their recordkeeping requirements under the Stage I & II Vapor Recovery rules. The calendar offers a convenient way to track daily inspections, worker training, and repairs involving the vapor recovery system. The Illinois EPA, City of Chicago, and Cook County Environmental Control will all recognize the use of the calendar as a good way to track compliance with the rule. To order your free copy, please call the Small Business Environmental helpline at 800/252-3998 (TDD: 800/785-6055).

Molds are small organisms found almost everywhere, inside and outside, including on plants, foods and dry leaves. They can be nearly any color – white, orange, green or black. Molds are beneficial to the environment and are needed to break down dead material. Very tiny and lightweight, mold spores travel easily through the air. Most building surfaces can provide adequate nutrients to support the growth of mold. When mold spores land on material that is damp – for example, walls, floors, appliances (such as humidifiers or air conditioners), carpet or furniture – they can begin to multiply. When molds are present in large numbers, they may cause allergic symptoms similar to those caused by plant pollen. Also, when airborne mold spores are present in large numbers, they can cause skin irritation, allergic reactions, asthma episodes, infections and other respiratory problems for people. Exposure to high spore levels can cause the development of an allergy to the mold. Mold also can cause structural damage to your home.

Can my home be tested for mold?

Testing for molds is very difficult and expensive. Homeowners must hire a contractor to test their homes. Even if testing is done, no standards exist to judge what are acceptable amounts of mold.

Testing cannot determine whether health effects will occur. Mold is normally found outdoors and counts fluctuate from day to day depending on the season. Due to the uncertainties associated with testing for molds, Illinois Department Public Health does not recommend it in most cases. If you can see or smell mold, testing is usually not necessary. It needs to be cleaned up.

How can I clean moldy surfaces?

It is important to make sure that the source of moisture is stopped before the mold is cleaned up. If this is not done, the mold will grow again. How you clean up areas contaminated with mold depends on the surface where the mold is growing. A professional should be consulted if large areas (more than 30 square feet) are contaminated with mold. If the surface is non-porous (varnished wood, tile, etc.), you can take the following steps.

1. The surfaces first need to be cleaned with soap.

Use a non-ammonia soap or detergent in hot water and scrub the entire area affected by the mold. **Never mix bleach with ammonia; the fumes are toxic.** Use a stiff brush or cleaning pad on block walls or uneven surfaces. Rinse clean with water.

2. The next step is to disinfect the surfaces to help prevent mold from coming back.

Disinfect the area with a solution of water and bleach (1/2 cup of bleach per gallon of water). Straight bleach will *not* be more effective. When mixing or using the solution, make sure the windows are open. For spraying large exterior areas, a garden hose and nozzle can be used. Let disinfecting areas dry naturally. This extended time is important to kill all the mold.

For more information, contact the Illinois Department of Public Health at 217/782-5830 or visit their Web site at: www.idph.state.il.us or visit the US EPA's Web site at: www.epa.gov/mold/moldresources.html

Waste Management Research Center Finds a Technology Breakthrough in Parts Cleaning

Over one million small parts washers consisting of a sink mounted on a drum are currently in operation at various manufacturing and maintenance operations throughout the U.S. By far the most popular cleaning solution used in parts washers today is mineral spirits solvent. Mineral spirits are good for dissolving oil-based debris from dirty parts with a minimum of effort. However, mineral spirits present safety concerns, are not extremely efficient and contain volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that contribute to smog and greenhouse gas problems.

Engineers at the Illinois Waste Management and Research Center (WMRC) have developed an aqueous parts washing system that offers cost effective solutions to these problems. The system (called the "Grease Gator") combines innovations from aqueous chemistry development with separation technology to create a technology that cleans better than mineral spirits, is relatively safe to use and generates very little waste. It is now commercially available from Solvent Systems, Inc. of Elk Grove Village, Illinois. To learn more about the solvent, visit the Web site at: www.solvent-systems.com/GreaseGatorHome.htm

GREASE GATOR'S INNOVATIONS

Extensive testing performed by WMRC confirms that the grease gator chemistry outperforms mineral spirits on most major soils encountered in maintenance applications. The Grease Gator parts washing equipment includes a standard steel or stainless steel sink mounted on a 30-gallon vessel. A patented separator system is placed in the vessel that continuously splits oil from the solution as it is being used to wash parts. The oil is collected in a separate chamber and can be regularly purged from the system and can be managed with other waste oil sources. The cleaning solution will stay clean for many months, needing only occasional additions of water and chemical to replace evaporation and drag-out losses.

Dynamic Manufacturing, a company that specializes in the remanufacture of all makes and models of torque converters and transmissions, successfully implemented this technology on its production line to clean a large volume of parts. According to Pedro Caraballo, Director of Environmental Health and Safety at Dynamic, the Grease Gator has been an improvement over solvent. It reduces chemical and maintenance costs, and improves employee morale because it cleans so well and so easily. Every other day, a five-gallon bucket of oil was decanted from the system's oil separation mechanism. A simple turn of a valve allows the used oil to be drained from the machine keeping the solution clean.

The system has been tested in a wide range of applications including university garages, transmission re-builders, national laboratories, railroad maintenance facilities and automotive dealerships. Users of the system have identified a variety of advantages of the Grease Gator over traditional small parts washing systems, including:

- Reduced cost through less chemical usage and reduced waste
- In-process purification – the fluid is purified as it is being used without additional process steps
- Improved safety and compliance – the fluid is relatively safer to employees and the environment
- Simple to implement

For more information about the Grease Gator System, contact Dr. Tim Lindsey at the Illinois Waste Management and Research Center via e-mail at tlindsey@wmrc.uiuc.edu or at 217/333.8955.

DO YOU HAVE AN AIR PERMIT? IF SO, YOUR ANNUAL EMISSION REPORT MUST BE FILED BY MAY 1, 2005! If you have an air permit, your 2004 Annual Emission Report is due to the Illinois EPA by May 1, 2005. If you have questions, contact either the Illinois EPA at 217/524-0948 or the Small Business Environmental Assistance Helpline at 800/252-3998 (TDD: 800/785-6055). Also, the Illinois EPA's Web site has added some helpful emission calculations to their Web site at <www.epa.state.il.us/air/aer>, then go to "Calculate Emissions".

April 1, 2005 Homeland Security - Procurement Opportunities

On April 1, 2005, the Holiday Inn City Centre in Peoria, Illinois will be the location for an exciting event entitled the "Homeland Security Conference". The purpose of this all-day event is to inform Illinois small businesses how to access the many government procurement opportunities available with the Department of Homeland Security, Illinois Department of Central Management Services (CMS), and several large government prime contractors. A dedicated planning committee has created an agenda that will provide valuable information small businesses need to secure government contracts.

Kicking off the event will be Congressman Ray Lahood, who will provide current information regarding homeland security issues from a Washington, D.C. perspective. The Illinois Dept. of CMS will conclude the morning session discussing opportunities to sell products and services to the state. After lunch, there will be three concurrent breakout sessions covering the specific topics of interest. Throughout the day, an exhibitor area will feature representatives from many federal, state, and local business assistance agencies as well as large prime contractors of the Department of Homeland Security.

The cost for the event is \$30. For more information, please contact the 309/495-5972 or contact Dick Alton at DCEO at 217/557-7808.

DRY CLEANERS – Are you using DF2000? If so, you are required to get a permit from the Illinois EPA. For more information, contact the IL EPA Bureau of Air at 217/782-2113 or the Small Business Environmental Assistance Helpline at 800/252-3998.

Auto Salvage Yards, Need Help Understanding Your Environmental Requirements?

Plan on attending one of the environmental workshops designed specifically for you! On March 18, 2005 at Wright College in Chicago and on April 8, 2005 at the Hampton Inn in Peoria, the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program is offering comprehensive, environmental workshops for only \$20 - \$30 per workshop. Topics to be discussed include how to properly dispose of tires, storm water plans, lead and machining regulations, mercury disposal, and much more. For registration information, contact the Small Business Environmental Assistance helpline at 800/252-3998, e-mail at: sbeap@illinoisbiz.biz or visit the Web site at: www.illinoisbiz.biz/bus/sba.html

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

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| March 8 | 2 nd Annual Illinois Radon Networking Day, Bloomington, IL
For additional information, contact Ruth Ann Lipic at 309/438-5295. |
| March 18 | Environmental Workshop for Auto Salvage Yards, Chicago, IL |
| April 8 | Environmental Workshop for Auto Salvage Yards, Peoria, IL
For additional information contact the Small Business Environment Assistance Program at 800/252-3998 or via e-mail at sbeap@illinoisbiz.biz |
| April 11 - 14 | Environmental Partnership Summit Chicago, Illinois
For additional information, visit Web site at: www.environmentalsummit.org |
| May 1 | Annual Emission Reports due to the IL EPA. |
| June 14 & 15 | Illinois Brownfield's Conference Peoria, IL
For additional information, visit the Web site at: www.epa.state.il.us/land/brownfields/ |

WOULD YOU PREFER TO RECEIVE CLEAN AIR CLIPS QUARTERLY PUBLICATION VIA E-MAIL? If so, contact the Small Business Environmental Assistance Helpline at 800/252-3998 or e-mail us at sbeap@illinoisbiz.biz and asked to be included on the e-mail list.

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