

Small Business Environmental Home Page Newsletter

www.smallbiz-enviroweb.org

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What is this Newsletter?

And why am I receiving it?

This is the first edition of the newsletter for the Small Business Environmental Home Page (Home Page). The purpose of this newsletter is to inform you about what's new on the web site, what's coming up, and how you can help and share information with other technical assistance programs.

You are receiving the newsletter because you represent a state Small Business Ombudsman (SBO), state Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP), national or state Compliance Advisory Panel (CAP), or you work at EPA, a trade association, an educational institution, or other entity who has been identified as being interested in small business environmental assistance issues.

This newsletter will be sent out periodically, at a maximum one time per month (but probably less). However, if you would like to unsubscribe from receiving the newsletter, please send an email to zelanko@smallbiz-enviroweb.org and write "Unsubscribe Newsletter" in the subject line. In the body of the email, please provide your name, organization, phone number, and email address.

Please feel free to forward this newsletter to your peers and colleagues as well. If this newsletter was not directly sent to you and you wish to subscribe, please send an email to zelanko@smallbiz-enviroweb.org and write "Subscribe Newsletter" in the subject line. In the body of the email, please provide your name, organization, address, phone number, and email address.

What's New?

- You can find out information about the SBO/SBEAP National Conference on June 1-5, 2009 in Louisville, Kentucky by visiting the newly designed conference web site: www.sbeapconference.com.
- Presentations from the 2008 SBO/SBEAP National Conference in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania have been posted for downloading: www.smallbiz-enviroweb.org/sba/conf2008.html.
- The 2008 Awards press release has been posted: www.smallbiz-enviroweb.org/sba/awardsfiles/2008_Awards_PressRelease.pdf. Congratulations to Frances Hartwell (member of Oregon Small Business CAP) for accepting the Small Business Environmental Program Award and Alan Sparkman for accepting the Trade Association Environmental Leadership Award for the Tennessee Concrete Association. Rudy Cartier, former New Hampshire SBO, was the recipient of the Karen V. Brown Environmental Leadership Award.
- The Multimedia Peer Center is currently being updated. To find out more about the 10 participating programs, go to: www.smallbiz-enviroweb.org/sba/mpc_programs.html. The following programs have updated their responses in 2008: Idaho SBEAP, Indiana Compliance and Technical Assistance Program, Michigan Environmental Assistance Program, Kansas SBEAP, Texas Small Business and Local Government Assistance Program, and Vermont Small Business Compliance Assistance Program.

Highlighted Feature: Promotional Success Stories Database

The Promotional Success Stories Database was developed by the SBO/SBEAP National Steering Committee's (NSC's) Promotional Subcommittee to help state programs share what works. It has been designed to accommodate a variety of initiatives including national, state, or industry initiatives, and individual case studies. Please help by contributing your successes. Just go to www.smallbiz-enviroweb.org/sba/promotional_successstoryform.asp to enter your stories and case studies.

Dave Fiedler of Michigan DEQ's Environmental Assistance Program and the NSC Multimedia Subcommittee need your help in identifying some short, concise, and powerful multimedia environmental compliance assistance success stories. These stories will be included in a background document for EPA assistant administrators to help guide their discussions on expanding compliance assistance programs to cover all environmental regulations. The write ups need to drive home the point that state programs need to offer assistance on all the environmental issues. The success story can be as simple as a specific consultation you had with a business to projects that involved creating outreach for an entire business sector as part of an environmental results program. The effort needs to sell the fact that multimedia compliance assistance is needed and should be conducted by SBEAPs because of established contacts with the business community and effective communication with small business.

Please help by adding multimedia environmental compliance assistance or other success stories (by October 20 for Dave, anytime for general use).

EXTRA NOTE

FIND OUT ABOUT THE SBA REGULATORY REVIEW AND REFORM INITIATIVE (WWW.SBA.GOV/ADVO/R3/) AND CONTACT RENEE BASHEL (RENEE.BASHEL@WISCONSIN.GOV) OF THE NSC TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE IF YOU CAN HELP IDENTIFY RULES AS CANDIDATES FOR REFORM. ALSO GO TO THE NEW RULES PAGE (WWW.SMALLBIZ-ENVIROWEB.ORG/SBA/NEWRULEINFO.HTML) FOR UP TO DATE INFORMATION ON THE AREA SOURCE RULES. CONTACT RENEE IF YOU HAVE IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS TO SHARE.

What's Coming Soon?

New Design

A completely redesigned and reorganized Home Page is coming soon. Thanks to the NSC Promotional Subcommittee for ongoing feedback and suggestions. The new design will have a button for small businesses who find the site, and will have many of the features for sharing information between the programs brought up to the top page for easy access. The Home Page will also have a new look and feel!

Message Board

Also coming soon is a new message board for interaction between the SBOs, SBEAPs, CAPs, etc. beyond the Listserve. The bulletin board system will include different forums for general discussion, individual subcommittees, and timely topics.

PLEASE SEND...

- Updated contact information
- Promotional success stories
- Performance measurement tools
- Publications and fact sheets
- Video availability (without fees)
- Upcoming events
- Updated compliance calendars
- Presentations from the 2008 conference
- State CAP bylaws and guidelines
- Area source implementation tools (see Extra Note)

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EPA SBO Hotline: 800.368.5888

