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The Newsletter of the Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable (GLRPPR)

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## A Note from the Executive Director

**Mark Your Calendars: The 2004  
GLRPPR Summer Conference will  
be September 22–24**

**GLRPPR Summer Conference—During P2  
Week**

National Pollution Prevention Week (P2  
Week) is a great opportunity to highlight P2  
and sustainability activities and  
achievements. P2 Week is the third full week  
of September each year. This year, the

GLRPPR Summer Conference will be held  
during P2 Week, giving us all the perfect  
opportunity to learn about and celebrate P2  
efforts throughout the Great Lakes region.

Specifically, the GLRPPR conference will be  
held **September 22–24 in Columbus, OH**.  
The GLRPPR Steering Committee will meet  
on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, and plenary sessions will take  
place on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. **Topics covered  
at this year's conference will include:**

- # GLRPPR Services and Resources
- # P2 & Environmental Security
- # Department of Defense P2 Programs
- # Energy Efficiency
- # Green Buildings
- # Water Pollution Prevention
- # Industry Case Studies—Successes Using  
PPIS Grant Funds
- # P2 in Transportation

Conference organizers have arranged with  
Honda Corporation to host a tour at their  
Gold Wing Motorcycle Manufacturing plant  
just outside of Columbus.

GLRPPR will provide information exchange  
tables at the conference, so plan to bring  
your latest documents and project  
information to share. A limited amount of  
space is expected to be available for  
tabletop displays. Please contact me at  
[djacobso@wmrc.uiuc.edu](mailto:djacobso@wmrc.uiuc.edu) or 630-474-5019  
if you are interested.

Check the conference page on the GLRPPR  
Web site ([http://www.glrppr.org/  
columbus2004/](http://www.glrppr.org/columbus2004/)) for more information as it  
becomes available and watch your e-mail  
for further announcements and reminders.

**Debra Jacobson,  
GLRPPR Executive Director**

## Featured Articles

### Wisconsin's First "Green" State Office Building

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is building Wisconsin's first "green" state office building for its Northeast Regional Headquarters in Green Bay, with anticipated occupancy by the end of 2004. The 34,560 square foot building will house up to 156 people and will re-unite employees who have been scattered in four office buildings over the last 13 years.

The building is built on a slope and consists of three levels to minimize its footprint on the site. Materials used in the building envelope will be highly insulated and efficient. The building will include a high-reflectance and high emissivity roof. The predominant exposure of the windows is north and south, with just a few small windows on the east and west sides. On the two-story south side, light shelves and overhangs will be constructed to reduce glare and heat gain. Nearly continuous open banks of windows are present on the three-story north side. The building will have extensive natural daylighting of offices, which means more than 90% of all regularly occupied spaces will be daylit. This in turn, will minimize the need for artificial lighting and subsequently results in reduced cooling loads.

Initial upfront costs of improved design and systems optimization were an additional \$70,000. However, annual expected utility costs of \$25,000 will be 56% less than a typical code compliant building of that size. An approximate payback of only 2.8 years as been calculated for this initial investment, but over a 20 year period, this is a savings of over \$500,000.

High quality indoor air will be provided using high efficiency air filtration and a carbon monoxide monitoring system. Landscaping will consist of native grasses, plants, and trees that will require no additional irrigation while rain gardens will handle excess rooftop runoff.

Construction specifications require:

- # A minimum of 75% construction waste recycling or reuse
- # A record of all sustainable building materials used on the project
- # Use of local materials and information regarding the location, city, and state
- # The identification of recycled content of the materials
- # The total weight of post-consumer and post-industrial recycled content for each product

- # Low Volatile Organic Compounds paints and coatings

- # Recycled or recyclable interior furnishings

The new facility will be LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified when completed with a goal of achieving at least a silver rating. LEED Certification distinguishes building projects that have demonstrated a commitment to sustainability by meeting the highest performance standards.

The LEED system emphasizes state of the art strategies for sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection, and indoor environmental quality. LEED is a voluntary, consensus-based national standard for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings. More information about LEED and green building can be found at the U.S. Green Building Council at <https://www.usgbc.org>. Among many other attributes, LEED was created to:

- # Define "green building" by establishing a common standard of measurement

- # Promote integrated, whole-building design practices

- # Recognize environmental leadership in the building industry

- # Raise consumer awareness of green building benefits

For more information, contact Annette Weissbach, WDNR-NER Green Building Spokesperson at [Annette.weissbach@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:Annette.weissbach@dnr.state.wi.us) or 920-492-5865.

### Habitat for Humanity Offers Alternative for C&D Waste

There are a variety of options for construction and demolition (C&D) waste, but few options offer the opportunity for reuse. Habitat for Humanity ReStores accept used building material in reusable condition that would otherwise be C&D waste, or surplus building materials. These materials are then sold to the general public in order to generate revenue to fund the construction of Habitat for Humanity houses in the local community.

Habitat for Humanity (Habitat) is a non-profit Christian housing ministry seeking to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness from the world, and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action. Habitat invites people of all backgrounds, races, and religions to build houses together in partnership with families in need. Habitat houses are sold to partner families at no profit, financed with affordable, no-interest loans. The homeowner's monthly mortgage payments are used to build more

Habitat houses.

A Habitat ReStore is a building material reuse center (salvage store). A ReStore accepts donations of reusable building-related materials from suppliers, contractors, remodelers, property managers, and individuals. ReStores market the products to the general public to purchase at low prices. The ReStore concept meets two objectives: 1) it establishes revenue for future home building to further the Habitat mission, and 2) it practices good environmental citizenship by diverting waste from landfills.

Products generally donated and available at your local ReStore include doors; windows; trim; flooring including carpet, tile, wood, and vinyl; cabinets; lumber; roofing shingles; hardware; tools; and more. Each ReStore sets its own policies on acceptable items due to space, customer preference, and waste costs. If you have other items in good condition, discuss the possibility of a donation with your local ReStore.

Many Habitat for Humanity affiliates operate ReStores throughout the U.S. and Canada. For a directory of Habitat ReStores to make a donation or purchase, visit <http://www.habitat.org/env/restores.html>.

## Peaks to Prairies Offers Online Resources for Residential Green Building

The Peaks to Prairies Pollution Prevention Information Center at Montana State University in U.S. EPA Region 8 is working with construction science educators throughout the country to adapt its “green” [Residential Construction topic hub](#) for classroom use. The hub will feature lesson plans on green home building that will lead teachers and students through principles of sustainable design and construction. It will also showcase student built projects and link to another Peaks construction-related Web site: [Homes Across America](#). The [Residential Construction topic hub](#) is also an excellent resource for anyone looking for in-depth information on how to design, build, finance, furnish, and equip a high performance home. Information is presented in a format usable for both professionals and lay people.

[Homes Across America](#) (HAA) profiles span the full gamut of residential construction possibilities. They highlight resource efficient and waste reduction features based on site, a “whole system” design, climate, costs, and goals of the house. Some homes are off the grid. Others are high performance manufactured homes. Some are demonstration homes. A few are examples of choices available in “eco-villages,” while others are built by non-profit organizations concerned with both sustainability and affordability. HAA features a searchable homes database and a list of green home assistance providers throughout the country.

New and upcoming profiles involve a variety of partners.

They include: the National Association of Home Builders; the Nebraska Energy Office; the Arkansas Energy Office; Habitat for Humanity; Bismarck State College; the Texas Department of Environmental Quality; the University of Southeast Alaska and the Cold Climate Research Center; Green Home Building; Green Built Home; and Louisiana State University.

Homes Across America is continually looking for new homes to include in its database. For information about how to qualify a home for submission, please contact Steve Guettermann at [sguettermann@montana.edu](mailto:sguettermann@montana.edu), or call 406-994-4292.

*Like the Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable (GLRPPR), the Peaks to Prairies Pollution Prevention Information Center is a regional Pollution Prevention Resource Exchange (P2Rx) center. P2Rx is a consortium of eight regional pollution prevention (P2) information centers funded in part by the U.S. EPA that provide P2 information, networking opportunities, and other services to States, local governments, and technical assistance providers in their region. For more information about P2Rx, visit [www.p2rx.org](http://www.p2rx.org).*

## Unique Partnership Launches Affordable “Green” Housing Project in Michigan

A unique alliance between a well-known housing provider and a group of environmentally conscious businesses is providing affordable “green” housing opportunities to low- and moderate-income families in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

In the Spring of 2003, two agencies began working together to develop and build a model for affordable and environmentally responsible housing. The Inner City Christian Federation (ICCF), a non-profit housing corporation committed to providing long-term affordability for the low-income homeowner, partnered with the West Michigan Environmental Action Council-Sustainable Business Forum (WMSBF), a group of industry leaders committed to the principles of environmentally, economically, and socially sustainable commerce.

The building partnership expects to break ground in the summer of 2004 on a multi-family dwelling, located in one of Grand Rapids’ center city neighborhoods. The building will be attractive, environmentally healthy, energy efficient, and easy to maintain through many years of use. It is the partnership’s intention to take what they learn to create a blueprint for future building projects and serve as an inspiration to other social and business alliances across the country to construct affordable, environmentally responsible housing. For more information contact: David de Velder, [DdeVelder@iccf.org](mailto:DdeVelder@iccf.org) Inner City Christian Federation, 616-336-9333.

## Draft *Federal Guide for Green Construction Specs* Nearing Release

A draft of *Federal Guide for Green Construction Specs* will soon be released for public comment. The draft is from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program, in partnership with the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive and the multi-agency sponsored Whole Building Design Guide. Covering over 60 green building materials and methods, the online tool was developed to allow building professionals to "cut and paste" their way to greener office, residential, laboratory, and other buildings.

The draft *Guide* will be released for public comment this summer. Your feedback is critical to the tool's quality and success! Keep an eye on the Whole Building Design Guide homepage, <http://www.wbdg.org>, over the next few weeks for an announcement of the 60-day public review period.

For additional information on the draft *Federal Guide for Green Construction Specs*, contact Alison Kinn Bennett, 202-564-8859 or [kinn.alison@epa.gov](mailto:kinn.alison@epa.gov).

## Setting the "Standard" for Sustainable Building

Over the past few years, the building design and construction communities have made substantial efforts to incorporate sustainability into their practices to reduce the environmental impact of development. In December 2003, an ASTM International (formerly the American Society for Testing and Materials) committee demonstrated a commitment to green building by finalizing revisions to Standard E2129—"Standard Practice for Data Collection for Sustainability Assessment of Building Products." The revised standard is intended to facilitate the dialogue on sustainability issues among a variety of building professionals, including:

- # Planners
- # Developers
- # Architects
- # Engineers
- # Interior designers
- # Contractors
- # Building materials and product manufacturers

EPA hopes the revised standard will enable the building industry to push sustainable building design and construction to new limits. "This standard and others demonstrate ASTM's tremendous contribution to the advancement of sustainable building. ASTM is developing invaluable resources for Federal agencies as they strive to meet mandates under the Greening the Government Executive Orders and the National Technology Transfer

and Advancement Act," said Alison Kinn Bennett, sustainable building project manager for EPA's EPP Program, who chaired the Data Collection Task Group that developed this standard.

Additional efforts by ASTM's Subcommittee on Sustainability include a standard on environmentally preferable product specifications and a guide that identifies the general principles of sustainability relative to buildings. To learn more about these ASTM Standards, contact Alison Kinn Bennett at [kinn.alison@epa.gov](mailto:kinn.alison@epa.gov) or 202-564-8859. To learn more about ASTM and standards development, visit their web site at [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org).

## C2P2 Highlights Construction Projects in Canada

In an attempt to provide a broad perspective on the resource efficient housing and building schemes that have been happening in Canada, several innovative and dynamic projects have been summarized below by the Canadian Centre for Pollution Prevention (C2P2). Also included are some of the resources that are available online for individuals and communities.

### Hospital for Sick Children—Toronto, Ontario

The hospital reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 938,896 kilograms (kg) of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) through the installation of three new chilled water systems in the Annex area. The Hospital for Sick Children also retrofitted all of its medical air pumps. Originally these pumps were water sealed; they now have been replaced with air-cooled units. This change has reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 428,267kg of CO<sub>2</sub>. Through projects such as the chiller replacement, medical and plant air replacement, and the installation of new cooling towers for the chilled water, the hospital has reduced its annual energy use by approximately 1,434,588 kilowatt hours (kWh). As a result of the medical and plant air replacement the hospital now realizes a reduction in water usage of approximately 67,000 cubic meters per year. For more information contact Tom Meevis, [tom.meevis@sickkids.ca](mailto:tom.meevis@sickkids.ca), 416-813-7654 x 2293.

### Beach Solar Laundromat—Toronto, Ontario

The sole proprietor and operator of this innovative small laundromat designed and implemented a major building retrofit. To efficiently heat the building, a heat exchanger was installed which draws heat energy off a 200 gallon water tank, heated by natural gas. The roof and the windows were all insulated, so waste heat from the clothes dryers in the Laundromat is sufficient to heat the entire building up to an external temperature of minus 5 degrees Celsius. Eight solar panels installed on the top of the building capture 20,000 kWh of heat annually. They are used to preheat laundromat and building water. A unique air conditioning system cools the air while pre-warming water for the washers by using fans to draw air across cold water circulating through coils mounted at

ceiling height. Finally a major lighting retrofit and product upgrade has reduced energy consumption by 65%. These changes have reduced gas and electricity costs by 30% per load, and reduced emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> by 23, 000 kg in the first year. For more information contact Alex Winch, [a.winch@sympatico.ca](mailto:a.winch@sympatico.ca), 416-712-1488.

### Vancouver Island Technology Park—Victoria, British Columbia

Vancouver Island Technology Park is Canada's first refurbished LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design)-Gold building. The design team set objectives to improve the 35-acre site while accommodating 165,000 square feet of renovated, high tech office buildings and 235,000 square feet of new office buildings. The original building was an abandoned hospital facility and required the removal of asbestos and underground storage tanks. The landscaping design includes 100% stormwater treatment and infiltration onsite, restoration of 97% of the degraded habitat, and native species plantings requiring no irrigation. In order to encourage alternative transportation, several bus routes to the site were extended, showers and bicycle storage facilities were provided, and parking requirements were reduced. Materials used in the project were carefully selected to emit low or no Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) in order to maintain good indoor air quality and occupant comfort. The use of recycled and reused materials represents respectively 33 and 8 percent of the total material costs for the project. For more information visit [www.cagbc.org](http://www.cagbc.org).

### Live/work residential complex—Calgary, Alberta

The Walker Court Condominium complex has a 60/30 Mariah Heat PlusPower system on-site, which provides the base heating and electrical load for the 12 live/work units in the building. This project was Mariah's first project. The Heat PlusPower system incorporates microturbine technology that generates electricity and a heat recovery unit that captures the waste heat from the electrical generation and converts it to domestic hot water or other heating uses. The 60/30 system produces 60kW of thermal and 30kW of electrical energy on-site. For more information visit [www.mariahpower.com](http://www.mariahpower.com) or [www.suncurrent.ab.ca/sustainableConstruction.html](http://www.suncurrent.ab.ca/sustainableConstruction.html).

### House of Straw—Montreal, Quebec

In the Spring of 1999 Julia Bourke, with the help of a research grant and a team of consultants and volunteers, began to build a two and a half story, single family home using straw bales on a small urban lot in a Central South area of downtown Montreal. The goal was to promote the general use of straw bale in an urban context, and revitalize older neighborhoods with a housing type sympathetic to the historic architecture of the area. The low-cost permit and simplicity of installation of straw bale infill with stucco exterior and plaster interior have building cost savings of 15-20% as compared to conventional construction methods. By using locally

available raw or non-processed material, straw bale construction reduces air pollution in several significant ways. The increased insulation (R-40) that straw bale construction provides reduces heating costs and associated emissions. As well, bales used for construction prevents the pollution produced when bales are burned as waste. Indoor air quality of the house is improved in several ways, the first being the non-toxic nature of the material itself. All products used in the house construction are non-toxic including strawboard, wood, concrete, finished with linseed oil, milk paint, and tree resin. The principle of dynamic wall construction—strawbale coated with lime stucco on either side—allows moisture to move through walls without condensation, balancing indoor humidity levels. For more information on Julia's straw bale home, visit: [www.mchg.mcgill.ca/straw](http://www.mchg.mcgill.ca/straw) or contact Layla MacLeod at Fiset Miller Bourke Architects, Phone: 514-931-7501, or e-mail: [fmbarch@bellnet.ca](mailto:fmbarch@bellnet.ca).

### Resources:

- # Sustainable Building Design for Healthcare: <http://www.c2p2online.com/healthcare>; click on "areas of concern"
- # *at the source* newsletter fall 2003 Green Buildings and Design issue: [http://www.c2p2online.com/main.php3?section=34&doc\\_id=15&session=](http://www.c2p2online.com/main.php3?section=34&doc_id=15&session=); click on "available issues"
- # Canadian Green Building Council: <http://www.cagbc.ca/>
- # Green Building Information Council: <http://greenbuilding.ca/GBIC.htm>
- # Toronto Healthy Homes: <http://healthyhousesystem.com/index.html>
- # Canadian Housing and Mortgage Council—Improving quality and affordability/Healthy housing and sustainability: <http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/imquaf/hehosu/index.cfm>

### Cradle to Cradle Housing Competition Announced

Architects, designers, and students are invited to compete in the first international Cradle to Cradle (C2C) Housing Design and Construction Competition. Participants will develop affordable, sustainable house designs based upon the principals outlined in the book *Cradle to Cradle: Remaking the Way We Make Things* by William McDonough and Michael Braungart. Houses will be designed for one of five building sites in the city of Roanoke, Virginia, and the winning entries will actually be built.

A team of expert "jurors," including William McDonough, will judge entries. Awards of up to \$5000 will be presented in the professional and student categories. For university teams, first place prize is seven internships (including room and board) to participate in building their designs in Roanoke, VA, during the summer of 2005. Professional registration is \$85 before July 15 and \$150 after July 15. Student registration is \$35 before September 15 and \$50

after. Teams representing universities from around the world may compete with no registration fee. Registration closes November 15, 2004, with entries due December 15, 2004. For more information on the competition, visit <http://www.c2c-home.org/> or contact [info@c2c-home.org](mailto:info@c2c-home.org).

## WMRC Offers Green Building/Sustainable Building Reference Guide

The Illinois Waste Management and Research Center (WMRC) library offers an online reference guide focused on green and sustainable building practices. Compiled by WMRC Librarian (and [GLRPPR Help Desk](#) Librarian) Laura Barnes, the guide provides lists of books; periodicals; directories; associations and organizations; conferences; newsgroups and email lists; community initiatives; and web sites related to the design and construction of buildings that have a minimal impact on the environment. Both popular and technical information is included. The lists are not meant to be exhaustive, and information is included that will help you continue your research at your local library. The reference guide is available online at [http://www.wmrc.uiuc.edu/main\\_sections/info\\_services/library\\_reference\\_green\\_building.cfm](http://www.wmrc.uiuc.edu/main_sections/info_services/library_reference_green_building.cfm).

Please send any comments or questions to [library@wmrc.uiuc.edu](mailto:library@wmrc.uiuc.edu). If you have further questions related to resource efficient construction, remember that the [GLRPPR Help Desk](#) is available for one free hour of Internet or literature searching on your pollution prevention related questions.

## Items of Interest

### MnTAP Demonstrates P2 at Healthcare Facilities Using H2E Products

Hospitals for a Healthy Environment (H2E) was developed as the result of a Memorandum of Understanding between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and American Hospital Association (AHA). Its goals are for hospitals to eliminate mercury from the waste stream by 2005, to reduce the total volume of waste generated by healthcare facilities by 50 percent by 2010, and to minimize PBT chemicals.

H2E provides useful tools and good publicity to encourage pollution prevention in the health care sector. MnTAP worked with H2E to develop some of its products, including the Chemical and Solid Waste Minimization Plans. Working under a grant from U.S. EPA Region 5, MnTAP used H2E tools to demonstrate the effectiveness of pollution prevention at health care facilities.

As a result of MnTAP's work through this project, at least 34 Minnesota healthcare facilities (22 percent of Minnesota hospitals) are engaged in documented pollution

prevention efforts at some level. Thirteen facilities have signed on as H2E "Partners" and 29 have either eliminated 75 percent of their mercury or are working toward that goal. These facilities have eliminated 394 pounds of mercury, 851 gallons of hazardous chemicals, and 250,000 pounds of solid waste. They saved \$152,600. This number does not fully reflect savings due to decreased spill clean up costs, hazardous waste disposal, decreased liability, or compliance costs.

A number of outreach efforts and communication techniques were used to reach the healthcare audiences. Working through the University of Minnesota's Academic Health Center and the healthcare trade associations proved most effective.

The full report to the U.S. EPA on this project will be available on the MnTAP Web site in July 2004 at <http://www.mntap.umn.edu/health/hospitals/EPAreport7-04.htm>.

### Technology Diffusion for FRP and Wood Finishing Industries

MnTAP recently hosted technology diffusion stakeholder focus groups for the fiber reinforced plastics (FRP) and wood finishing industries. These meetings were the first steps in a process that will hopefully improve the adoption of pollution prevention technologies within the marketplace.

These small groups of stakeholders were asked to help identify the best pollution prevention manufacturing practices for their industry, and identify opinion leaders that the majority of individual businesses look to for innovation advice.

Information gained from the focus groups will be used to recruit mentors, establish technology demonstration sites, and conduct equipment pilot trials with the goal of several companies adopting the pollution prevention technology for their facilities. Several of the focus group members volunteered to test and demonstrate the identified technologies. Working with these companies, MnTAP will evaluate the performance, cost, environmental impacts, regulatory requirements, and worker health and safety impacts of the various pollution prevention practices under consideration.

Tim Lindsey of the Illinois Waste Management and Research Center (WMRC) led the focus groups. The work is being sponsored by U.S. EPA and will continue through December 2005.

### CFPA Awards Cascades Tissue Group Exceptional SMMI PCF Rankings

The Chlorine Free Products Association is proud of the continuing success of the Sustainable Manufacturing &

Marketing Initiative Total Free Chlorine-Process Chlorine Free (SMMI TCF-PCF) Certification and its ability to create a Sustainability Index (SI). This is the first time in the pulp and paper industry that consumers can compare and rank a paper mill's performance on a multiple of economic, social, and environmentally preferred attributes. No longer will the consumer have to guess and balance out what product to purchase based on: recycled, post consumer, chlorine free, forestry, water and energy use, social responsibility, etc. All of these factors are accounted for under the SMMI TCF-PCF auditing principles.

The SMMI Advisory Council, specialists in forestry, pulp and paper chemistry, industry, academic sciences, and environmentally preferred purchasing experts, spent two years writing, peer reviewing, and testing the validity of the TCF-PCF Auditors Checklist. The checklist provides mills a measuring stick and full audited transparent report for guidance where improvement is necessary.

"With over 40 years of experience in recycling technology, our goal is to minimize the impact of paper production on the environment," said Suzanne Blanchet, CEO of Cascades Tissue Group. 'Reduce, recycle, re-use, recover—these are the major avenues that Cascades intends to continue promoting through the innovation and commitment of all its members. This way we will be able to fully assume our role as a responsible corporate citizen in order to improve our quality of life and to preserve the resources which will enable us to support the needs of both today's population and tomorrow's."

Cascades Tissue Group, the fourth largest tissue and towel producer in North America, is the only major tissue and towel producer that has been able to comply with the various and stringent requirements of the SMMI Audit.

SMMI TCF-PCF certification brings accountability to the pulp and paper making community. The following explains the categories considered in calculating a Sustainability Index, with the maximum number of points in each category noted:

- 50 points Environmental Policy +
  - 100 points Environmental Management +
  - 750 points Mill Process + Forestry Certification +
  - 100 points Environmental Risk Management +
  - 50 points Product Stewardship +
  - 50 points Public Information +
  - 100 points Environmental Compliance +
  - 50 points Research & Development +
  - 50 points Employee Recognition
- = 1350 maximum points Sustainability Index

When ranking companies' manufacturing sites, the bigger the SI number, the better. The various manufacturing sites of Cascades Tissue Group achieved notable rankings in 2003, with a SI of up to 1162 points.

For more information on the Chlorine Free Products Association, visit [www.chlorinefreeproducts.org](http://www.chlorinefreeproducts.org). For more information on CFPA's Sustainability Index, see the article "Sustainability by the Numbers" by CFPA founder Archie Beaton featured on GreenBiz.com at [http://www.greenbiz.com/news/columns\\_third.cfm?NewsID=26761](http://www.greenbiz.com/news/columns_third.cfm?NewsID=26761).

## GLBTS Annual Report Available Online

The Great Lakes Binational Toxics Strategy (GLBTS) Annual Progress Report for 2003 is available online at <http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/bns/reports/2003progress/index.html>. 2003 saw continued use and emissions reductions of key level I persistent toxic substances.

- Of seventeen GLBTS reduction goals set forth for the 12 level I persistent toxic substances in April 1997,
- # Nine have been met,
- # Four will be met by the target timeline date of 2006, and
- # The remaining four will be well advanced toward meeting their targets by 2006.

For more information, contact Ted Smith, EPA, at 312-353-6571 or Alan Waffle, Environment Canada, at 416-739-5854.

## DoD Recognizes WMRC for Pollution Prevention Efforts

The Department of Defense (DoD) recently presented the Illinois Waste Management and Research Center (WMRC) with an award of appreciation. The award recognizes the pollution prevention (P2) and waste reduction efforts of WMRC through its participation with the Illinois/DoD Environmental Partnership. The DoD specifically cited WMRC for its development of a weapons and parts



cleaning system that uses water based cleaning systems, replacing the traditional hydrocarbon based cleaning systems. WMRC also conducted pollution prevention opportunity

assessments at DoD facilities, including one that reduced mercury use at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center's medical and dental facilities. DoD also recognized WMRC for the ongoing research services it provides to the Illinois/DoD Environmental Partnership, and for WMRC's operation of the DoD's environmental issue listserv (an e-mail discussion group). The Illinois/DoD Environmental Partnership was founded in 1997 to implement pollution prevention measures, conserve resources, foster community well being, and enhance mission readiness at

DoD facilities. DoD Regional Environmental Coordinator James Hartman and Army Regional Environmental Coordinator Tony Nesky presented the award to WMRC Director George Vander Velde and Mike Springman, a WMRC technical assistance specialist and co-chairman of the Illinois/DoD Environmental Partnership.

### Coming Soon... Fall 2004 Edition

The Fall 2004 Edition of the LINK newsletter will focus on **transportation pollution prevention**. We'd love to hear about projects related to alternative fuel vehicles, vehicle retrofits, smart growth related to transportation, innovative transportation programs, alternative materials for vehicles, clean marina projects, technical assistance resources or programs, or any other relevant project in your part of the Great Lakes region. The LINK Fall 2004 article solicitation will be sent to GLRPPR members via e-mail on or about September 2, 2004; articles will be due September 30. Send article ideas or questions to Wayne Duke at [wduke@wmrc.uiuc.edu](mailto:wduke@wmrc.uiuc.edu).

### P4P2 Hosts Seventh Annual P2 Conference

Mark your calendars for the Seventh Annual Indiana Pollution Prevention Conference and Trade Show, sponsored by Indiana's Partners for Pollution Prevention (P4P2). This will be P4P2's biggest conference and trade show ever, with a whole new track added just for wastewater and drinking water sessions where technical credit hours can be earned.

This year's conference will be September 20<sup>th</sup> at the Horizon Convention Center in Muncie, Indiana. Companies such as Toyota, Uniseal, United Technologies Carrier, Nishikawa, and Utilimaster will discuss successful P2 projects implemented in Indiana. Attendees will learn more about:

- # New and different pollution prevention (P2) opportunities
- # Energy efficiency technologies
- # Options for successful and profitable material substitutions
- # P2 and homeland security
- # Successfully "selling" P2 projects to management
- # Regulator's perspective on P2 opportunities for Hoosier businesses
- # Updates on IDEM regulations and initiatives

Also new this year, join the conference exhibitors and P4P2 for a Sunday evening reception with exhibitor presentations, informal mingling, and free hors d'oeuvres.

For more information about the conference or P4P2, visit the Indiana Department of Environmental Management's

Web site at <http://www.in.gov/idem/oppta/p2/partners/conference/> or contact Bobbi Steiff at 800/988-7901 or [rsteiff@dem.state.in.us](mailto:rsteiff@dem.state.in.us).

### 2002 TRI Report Shows Carcinogenic Releases Decline in Indiana for Fifth Consecutive Year

For five years in a row, Hoosier industries have reduced the amount of known and potential carcinogens their operations released into Indiana's air, land, and water according to the annual Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) report.

This reporting year's decline of 5.5 percent follows declines of 15 percent in reporting year 2001 and 4.5 percent in reporting year 2000. Since 1998, carcinogenic releases in Indiana have decreased by 25 percent.

"This is good news for all Hoosiers," said Lori F. Kaplan, Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). "This report reflects the fact that many of Indiana's business leaders are working to reduce the release of toxics that most adversely affect us, and that their efforts are paying off."

IDEM offers technical assistance and information to Indiana's business community to help minimize the adverse impacts their operations have on Indiana's environment. IDEM also works with the Indiana Partners for Pollution Prevention and the Indiana Clean Manufacturing Technology and Safe Materials Institute to encourage best environmental management practices in the workplace.

Based on the most recent TRI, the 2002 totals of industrial known and potential carcinogenic releases in Indiana were 13.8 million pounds, compared to 14.6 million pounds in 2001 and 16.6 million pounds in 2000. In addition, total toxic releases to the air and land fell 1.7 million pounds. Only releases to water increased in 2002 in Indiana.

The reduction in carcinogenic releases is partially attributed to three Elkhart County manufacturers that eliminated dichloromethane from their operations.

In Indiana, dichloromethane releases have been reduced by about 3.8 million pounds, representing an 83 percent reduction from 1998 levels and a 92% reduction at the all time high release in 1992. Much of these reductions were in response to the flexible polyurethane foam NESHAP.

Most of the control requirements outlined in the regulation are based on cost-effective pollution prevention techniques. EPA's rule eliminated the use of dichloromethane from foam production, while providing a variety of options for meeting the regulation's requirements.

Total toxic releases from electric utilities increased by 1.4 percent—from 57.1 million pounds in 2001 to 57.9 million pounds in 2002.

Since the first national TRI in 1988 that mandated the reporting of approximately 300 toxic chemicals, EPA has increased the number of chemicals to be reported, as well as the types of industrial sectors that must report. Currently, more than 650 chemicals are now reported nationwide. Indiana businesses this year reported the release of 197 of the chemicals on that list.

For additional TRI information, see <http://www.IN.gov/idem/oppta/tri/2002trifactsheet.html>. To learn more about the Indiana Partners for Pollution Prevention or the Indiana Clean Manufacturing Technology and Safe Materials Institute, see <http://www.in.gov/idem/oppta>.

## Location Announced for National EHS Conference

The National Environmental, Health & Safety (NEHS) Conference for the Graphic Communications Industries will be held March 6-8, 2005 at the Tampa Renaissance Hotel International Plaza in Tampa, FL.

The NEHS Conference provides safety, health, and environmental solutions for flexography, gravure, lithography, screen-printing, and associated industries. The conference brings together printers, suppliers, state and federal government representatives, and others who serve the graphic communications industries as innovators, decision-makers, and holders of experience.

Keep an eye on the conference Web site, [www.nehsconference.org](http://www.nehsconference.org), for further information as it becomes available.

### Fine Print

LINK is a free quarterly publication of the Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable. For subscription information, please contact the editor or see our Web site at [www.glrppr.org](http://www.glrppr.org).

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