



LINK



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

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NEW NPPR CHAIRMAN SELECTED

Gary Miller, Assistant Director of the Illinois Waste Management and Research Center, has been selected as the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable (NPPR). NPPR is the largest membership organization in the United States devoted solely to Pollution Prevention (P2). The Roundtable provides a national forum for promoting the development, implementation, and evaluation of efforts to avoid, eliminate, or reduce pollution at the source. NPPR's members include some of the country's preeminent P2 experts from regional resource centers, state and local government programs, small business assistance networks, non-profit groups, industry associations, and federal agencies.



Dr. Miller has served as the Assistant Director of the Illinois Waste Management and Research Center (WMRC) since 1985. He also is Director of the Printers' National Environmental Assistance Center, which is one of 15 national Compliance Assistance Centers funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Some of Dr.

Miller's main accomplishments are directing the WMRC's involvement in the Greater Chicago Pollution Prevention Alliance, Clean Air Counts program in the Chicago area, Illinois/USEPA Waste Reduction Innovative Technology Evaluation Program, serving on the Illinois Great Printers Project steering committee, developing information resources on pollution prevention, and consulting on environmental issues for various businesses. He is also subject Editor for the Journal of Cleaner Production.

Prior to joining WMRC, Dr. Miller was Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering and Environmental Science at the University of Oklahoma. From 1979 to 1985 he was also Assistant Co-Director of the National Center for Groundwater Research at the University of Oklahoma. Miller received an undergraduate degree in biology from Oral Roberts University, an M.S. degree in Environmental Science and a Ph.D. in Engineering both from the University of Oklahoma. He is the co-author of four books on energy, environmental policy, and groundwater protection; has published over 40 other papers and reports; and has made numerous presentations to businesses, professional organizations, and university classes.

Miller's one year term as Chairman begins immediately. Others elected as NPPR officers are: Greg Copley from the University of Kentucky as Vice Chair, Robert Jackson from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality as Secretary, and Michael DiGiore of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection as Treasurer.

FTA, SGIA AND PIA/GATF JOIN TOGETHER TO CREATE THE SUSTAINABLE GREEN PRINTING PARTNERSHIP

In an effort to assist the printing community in its push for sustainability, Flexographic Technical Association (FTA), the world's leading professional society dedicated to advancing the flexographic print process, and its partners have established the Sustainable Green Printing Partnership (SGP Partnership). The partnership is a result of the request of customers pushing for "environmental friendliness" and sustainability in the printing industry.

The SGP Partnership includes volunteer print leaders and other key players from each of the three associations. Doreen M. Monteleone, FTA's Director of Special Projects and EHS services says "Whether our members print labels, flexible packaging, newspapers, envelopes or corrugated boxes, sustainability for flexo printers has become a top priority. We must offer our members, and the industry as a whole, a way to prove themselves, to demonstrate and document that they have taken the steps to become corporate, social, and environmental stewards."

Sustainability is defined as the method of using a natural resource so that it is not depleted or permanently damaged. When looking at sustainability within the printing industry, there are three key elements to consider-the product, the process, and the support system surrounding them. The first involves the materials used to create the product (ink, paper, adhesives, etc.). The second refers to the manufacturing process, and the third includes the building, energy consumption, employees, and other supporting activities, such as solid waste removal and transportation. All of these elements are important when determining a printer's overall environmental impact.

Mark Cisternino, FTA president adds, "There is no doubt that a sustainable company will increase sales, maintain a strong employee base, and reduce environmental costs and risks. It is our intention to work with our partners to develop a credible program which will assist our industry in learning about the steps toward continual environmental, social, and corporate improvements."

The SGP Partnership plans to establish sustainable printing criteria and guidance documents on how to implement a program to meet them. In addition, the SGP Partnership identifying companies that meet the set criteria will establish a national registry. This registry will allow printing customers the ability to identify "green" printers in their area. The national registry will be housed on the SGP Partnership Web site, www.sgppartnership.org. This site will be the information resource center for both printers and their customers.

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INDIANA'S ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM CONTINUES RAPID GROWTH

On September 4, 2007, Commissioner Thomas Easterly announced the newest members of the Indiana Environmental Stewardship Program (ESP). Similar to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Environmental Performance Track Program, ESP combines the elements of an environmental management system, history of regulatory compliance, and continuous environmental improvement projects to create a solid program that yields environmental benefits.

Indiana recognized ten new members. Indiana's latest companies to be granted the title of environmental stewards include:

Baxter Pharmaceutical Solutions, LLC
Camcar LLC
Cummins Columbus Midrange Engine Plant
DePuy, Inc.
Eaton Clutch Division--Auburn Facility
Eli Lilly and Co., Clinton Laboratories
First Vehicle Services--Fort Wayne
Bert R. Huncilman & Son, Inc.
Madison Precision Products, Inc.
Metaldyne Sintered Components

These new members have committed to continuous improvement during the next three years. Collective efforts during their first year of membership will result in a reduction of energy usage by approximately 25%; water usage by almost 10%; volatile organic compound emissions by 55 tons; and non-hazardous waste by 298 tons.

In an effort to assist facilities with maintaining environmental compliance while striving for optimal operating efficiency, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management is offering complimentary workshops for Indiana entities to develop and implement an environmental management system. For each workshop, a certified ISO 14001 Environmental Management System instructor will guide workshop attendees through all phases of the EMS development process. Companies completing the complimentary workshops become eligible to apply for membership in the Indiana Environmental Stewardship Program.

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IN PARTNERS FOR P2 CELEBRATED P2 WEEK

The Indiana Partners for Pollution Prevention celebrated Pollution Prevention Week by hosting the 10th Annual Pollution Prevention Conference and Trade Show in Elizabeth, Indiana on Monday, September 17th. The conference offered a wide variety of exhibitors and pollution prevention sessions. To view presentations, please visit the following Web site: www.in.gov/idem/prevention/partners/conference/agenda.html.

For additional information about the Partners, please contact Bobbi Steiff at rsteiff@idem.in.gov or 317-233-6662.

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Coming Soon...Winter 2008 Edition

The LINK winter 2008 article solicitation will be sent to GLRPPR members via e-mail on or about December 3; articles will be due January 7. Send article ideas or questions to Wayne Duke at wduke@wmrc.uiuc.edu.

IDEM POLLUTION PREVENTION GRANTS AVAILABLE—MATCHING FUNDS PROGRAM CAN HELP BUSINESSES, COMMUNITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Projects that reduce waste or address product reformulation to reduce or eliminate a potential pollutant are eligible for the Pollution Prevention (P2) grant program.

P2 eligible activities are: manufacturing processes such as switching to powder coating; changing product design to produce less waste; changing a process so less cleaning solvent is required; and implementing green purchasing programs in schools or municipalities.

Application deadlines are Oct. 31 and Dec. 31. Applications and more information are available on the Web at www.idem.IN.gov/prevention/p2grants or by calling 800-988-7901.

Indiana's Pollution Prevention program encourages and helps projects that conserve energy, reduce waste and prevent pollution. Indiana businesses and organizations are encouraged to apply for grants. Most grants require a 50 percent match. Reduced match requirements are available for women and minority business enterprises, small businesses, and members of the Environmental Stewardship Program and the Indiana CLEAN Community Challenge.

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MINNESOTA TAKES HOME THREE MVP2 AWARDS

Three Minnesota winners were among the eleven recipients of the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable's (NPPR) 2007 Most Valuable Pollution Prevention (MVP2) awards presented at a ceremony in Washington on September 20, 2007.



The eleven winners represented federal, state, and local government agencies, industries, non-profits, and individuals that have demonstrated significant accomplishments in pollution prevention (P2).

Green Institute—ReUse Center and DeConstruction Services

Since its inception the Green Institute's ReUse Center and DeConstruction Services has diverted 37,500 tons of construction materials from area landfills—approximately 6,000 tons of material annually. Over 10 years, its customers and donors have saved over \$33 million. Customers who on average receive a 75 percent discount versus an equivalent new product have realized \$29 million in savings. Donors eligible for tax deductions equal to the value of the materials have saved over \$2 million. They have saved another \$2 million by avoiding paying tipping fees of \$30 to \$70 per ton to dispose of these materials in local construction and demolition landfills.

Sappi-Cloquet

This 850-employee paper mill makes high-grade coated paper stock. The facility has reduced fossil fuel consumption, leading to a significant reduction in air emissions annually—approximately 65 tons of criteria air pollutants and 50,250 tons of carbon dioxide emissions. Additionally, through internal water reuse and recycling projects, fresh water savings of approximately 1 million gallons per day, a decrease in effluent flow to the regional publicly owned treatment works of about 1.6 million gallons per day and a decrease in average effluent temperature of 7° Fahrenheit were achieved.



Cindy McComas received Volunteer of the Year award.

These changes have cut costs by \$6.5 million annually.

Cindy McComas

Cindy McComas, director of the Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP), at the University of Minnesota, received the Volunteer of the Year Award. She is a founding member of the Roundtable, has served as Chair of the Board for the past two years, was vice chair the two years prior, and served for six years as co-chair of the Research and Technology Transfer Workgroup. In the past year alone, McComas has worked on the 2007 and 2008 National Environmental Partnership Summit Planning Committee and Content Review teams; participated on the NPPR Board Communications Committee, Membership Committee and Financial Planning Committee; represented NPPR at the Canadian P2 Roundtable, Mexican P2 Roundtable, and Western Regional P2 Network Conference;

and conducted pollution prevention training in Michigan for 50 retired engineers in its Retired Engineers Technical Assistance Program.

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FRP LEADERS STEPPING UP

MnTAP has been working with the fiberglass reinforced plastics (FRP) industry for the past four years as part of a regional pilot to promote pollution prevention using the Technology Diffusion model. Following up on feedback from a focus group of FRP industry representatives in fall 2006, MnTAP has been arranging technology demonstrations and encouraging companies to pilot more-efficient, pollution-preventing technologies.

One key suggestion from the focus group was the desire to form a local or regional trade association. MnTAP researched what is needed to form and run an association. Further discussions with leading FRP shop owners indicated that something less formal was desired; the regional FRP “un-association” was born.

MnTAP agreed to lead educational programming and provide outreach support for the first year, as long as the educational components fit MnTAP’s pollution prevention focus.

In April 2007, MnTAP sponsored a Light Resin Transfer Molding (RTM) Workshop where Purdue University’s Clean Manufacturing Technology & Safe Materials Institute shared its knowledge gained by troubleshooting the closed-mold problems of fabricators in northern Indiana. Thirty people from nine fabrication shops attended.

In September 2007, Jim Carstens owner of Carstens Industries, a custom fiberglass molding shop in Melrose, opened his shop to share its process for vacuum bagging and infusion. Fifty-four attendees observed its processes for vacuum bagging and infusing boat hulls and hatch covers. Raw materials monitoring and making a reusable silicone vacuum bag were also demonstrated.

Both events were followed by an informal happy hour that allowed industry peers to network. These meetings also gave Kyle Bartholomew, MnTAP FRP specialist, the opportunity to discuss potential technology pilots and the assistance needs at individual shops.



Participants observe as red fiberglass resin is pulled across the mold of a boat hull during the vacuum infusion process at Carstens Industries.

The participants in the un-association trade group suggested that gathering twice a year would meet their needs. One meeting could be classroom-based and the other could be a technology demonstration at an FRP shop. Classroom topics of interest included environmental or health and safety regulation updates and overviews. MnTAP has also established a listserv for the group, with plans to begin promoting its use this fall.

More information on pollution prevention for the FRP industry is available at mntap.umn.edu/fiber/index.htm.

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OHIO EPA DIRECTOR ASKS COMPANIES TO VOLUNTARILY REDUCE EMISSIONS

Ohio EPA Director Chris Korleski announced Tox-Minus, a new voluntary program to encourage Ohio facilities to reduce the pollutants they release to the environment. Tox-Minus will initially focus on 100 of the top toxic chemical reporters (based on the most current publicly available 2005 Toxic Release Inventory data), but the program is open to any company that wants to participate.

Item of Interest

Region 5's Source Reduction Grants were wide and varied for this fiscal year. See the [list of what others in Region 5 are working on this year](#). Each project has contact information listed if you are interested in a particular project and have questions.

Ohio continues to rank among the top states nationally for toxic releases to the environment. "Even though these are legal and controlled releases that don't necessarily pose an identifiable public health risk, I think we can and should do better," Korleski said. "I am determined to reduce toxic emissions so that Ohio is no longer at the top of the national rankings and I invite these companies to help me achieve that goal."

When unveiling the new program at today's annual all-agency staff meeting, Korleski outlined a few key aspects of Tox-Minus:

- It is a significant step toward a long-term goal of reducing toxic releases, which will help enhance the state's image as an environmentally proactive yet economically competitive state.
- It demonstrates how companies and Ohio EPA can work cooperatively to improve Ohio's environment.
- Participation is voluntary. There are no penalties or enforcement associated with the program.

Ohio EPA's Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention (OCAPP) will coordinate the Tox-Minus initiative. The office is highly regarded for their pollution reduction work with a variety of statewide initiatives as well as technical assistance they provide to companies and industries.

Companies should notify Ohio EPA by October 15, 2007, of their commitment to participate in Tox-Minus. Ohio EPA is not setting mandatory reduction goals for companies. Each company will be asked to identify its own reduction goals for TRI chemical emissions including waste, air, and/or water emissions. Companies are asked to achieve their reduction goals within a five-year time frame. Participants will provide a brief annual report on their accomplishments.

An important aspect of Tox-Minus is recognizing participants for outstanding environmental projects and their contributions to reducing emissions. Ohio EPA will publicize participant names and summarize success stories and accomplishments through an annual Tox-Minus progress report, media announcements, and a Web site.

The Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention can conduct site visits to help companies identify pollution prevention strategies; assist companies with their reduction goals; and provide guidance on how to prepare annual progress reports.

More information about the Tox-Minus program is available at: www.epa.state.oh.us/ocapp/tox-minus.html or by contacting Mike Kelley of Ohio EPA's Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention at 614-644-2930.

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ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP TO BE RECOGNIZED

Governor Ted Strickland and Ohio EPA Director Chris Korleski announced the creation of a new recognition program on September 24 to honor companies and organizations that are committed to environmental compliance and demonstrate outstanding achievements in reducing pollution. Nominations for the Governor's Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Environmental Stewardship will be accepted through November 15, 2007.

Ohio EPA is seeking applicants who show a commitment to environmental stewardship through:

- A sound track record of environmental compliance and a commitment to go above and beyond regulations to improve environmental performance;
- A mature Environmental Management System (EMS) and integration of the EMS into core business functions;

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- Aggressive environmental performance goals; and,
- A process for communicating with the local community about program activities and progress toward performance goals.

The awards program is open to any business, industry, trade association, professional organization, or local government of Ohio. Applicants may nominate their own organizations. Nominations by second parties are also welcome.

Nominees receiving the highest scores based on the evaluation of written nomination materials will be subject to a site visit by Ohio EPA's Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention. The site visit is intended to provide reviewers with an opportunity to directly evaluate the nominated activities. Information collected during the site visit will be used as one of the criteria for selecting the final award winners.

Nomination instructions are available at: www.epa.state.oh.us/ocapp/stewardship. They may also be requested by e-mailing p2mail@epa.state.oh.us, or by contacting Howard Dong of Ohio EPA's Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention at 800-329-7518 or 614-644-3469.

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UNWANTED/EXPIRED MEDICATION COLLECTION

The Sangamon County Department of Public Health in Illinois recently hosted its first unwanted and expired medications collection in conjunction with its household hazardous waste collection at the Illinois State Fairgrounds in Springfield, Illinois. The event was co-sponsored by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, Illinois Pharmaceutical Association, and the City of Springfield. The annual collection normally focuses on household hazardous waste. However, this year the driving component of the collection was an effort to educate Sangamon County residents of the proper disposal of unwanted medications. There is growing concern over the long-term and recent discoveries of contamination of waterways, aquatic life, and farmland from "flushed" medications. IDPH believes it is important to inform residents of the proper ways to dispose of medications. Each resident that participated in the collection received information on proper medication disposal, hazardous chemical alternatives, non-mercury thermometers, pill boxes, and poison control pamphlets. The media campaign was directed towards senior citizens. Approximately, three thousand residents participated in the collection program. It is estimated that over seven 50-gallon barrels of medication was diverted from waterways and the local landfill. The unwanted/expired medications collected during the event were properly disposed of by incineration.

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NEW GLRPPR SECTOR RESOURCE ON PHARMACEUTICAL WASTES

The Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable (GLRPPR) is pleased to announce the availability of a new collection of resources on [Pharmaceutical & Personal Care Product \(PPCP\) Wastes & Impacts](#). This compendium focuses on the environmental impacts of pharmaceutical and personal care product residues in the environment, as well as on how to properly dispose of such products to avoid environmental contamination. As with any [Sector Resource](#), expert [contact information](#) and lists of relevant [events](#) and [funding opportunities](#) are provided, as well as relevant [Help Desk](#) questions and answers. An [RSS feed](#) is available. This sector resource includes a link to the recently released Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant guide [Disposal of Unwanted Medicines: A Resource for Action in Your Community](#), which was also featured as the [GLRPPR Site of the Month](#) for September 2007.

This new Sector Resource is a work in progress, so subscribe to the RSS feed or check the web site frequently for updates. If you have suggestions for resources to include, please email them to [Joy Scrogum](mailto:Joy.Scrogum).

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NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: COMMENTS WELCOME FOR GLRPPR ORGANIZATIONAL PLAN REVISION

GLRPPR Members,

We need your help in working on a revision of the Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable (GLRPPR) Organizational Plan. The Steering Committee and I invite you to provide suggestions for the revision of GLRPPR's Organizational Plan. The current plan, which was originally intended to be revised in 2006, is available online at www.glrppr.org/OrgPlan/. Click on "Download the entire Organizational Plan" to obtain a PDF version of the complete plan.

GLRPPR Executive Directors and the Steering Committee have discussed plan revisions intermittently over the past few years. However, attention to more immediate grant obligations, conference planning, Steering Committee membership turnover, and changes in the Executive Director position have impeded the smooth and consistent planning process necessary to effectively revise the plan. The Steering Committee has recently decided that a separate meeting or conference call(s) will be necessary, in addition to its regular meetings, to devote attention solely to considering the current status of the pollution prevention (P2) community, various external pressures on the organization, and the needs of GLRPPR members. Also discussed will be how GLRPPR might change its operations to keep in step with the times and more efficiently foster P2 information dissemination and networking in the region.

To ensure that GLRPPR is providing the services that its members need, the organizations needs the input of its members on how GLRPPR could be restructured. Thus, I encourage you to look at the current Organizational Plan and consider how or if it should be changed to make GLRPPR a more effective organization. When considering the current plan, you may want to review notes from the GLRPPR Strategic Planning meeting, which took place in February 2006. Notes and documents related to that meeting are available at www.glrppr.org/meetings/strg_plan_2005/. The following specific questions may also be helpful in structuring your thoughts, although you should not feel obligated to address any or all of these in your comments:

- Is the current membership structure appropriate? Should there be a membership fee? Should some resources and services be available to members only?
- Is GLRPPR meeting its stated goals? If not, what might it do differently to succeed in meeting those goals?
- Are the current GLRPPR activities and services adequate/appropriate? Is there anything new GLRPPR should consider offering? Are there products/services that GLRPPR should consider discontinuing?
- Would you change anything about the Steering Committee structure or function?

If you have thoughts or suggestions related to the revision of the Organizational Plan, or about GLRPPR services, please feel free to contact me via email at biverson@wmrc.uiuc.edu or by phone at 217-333-8946. Those of us involved with the day-to-day operation of GLRPPR are eager to assist you and to ensure that our services reflect your needs. Your feedback is always appreciated.

Sincerely,

Bob Iverson, GLRPPR Executive Director

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FINE PRINT

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