

CleanConnections

Auto Repair Best Management Practices (BMP)

Many of our Industrial Users (IU) have vehicle and equipment repair shops on property to support their operations. These facilities produce wastes, some hazardous, some not, but still potentially damaging to the environment if not handled properly. Waste streams from repair operations can have detrimental effects on the sanitary sewer system.

To help prevent hazardous discharges from these facilities, JEA has developed a Best Management Practices (BMP) for Auto Repair Facilities. The BMP addresses proper storage, cleaning and treatment of repair facility waste as well as practical pollution prevention methods to avoid generating the waste from the start. Along with the BMP, JEA has developed a placard that can be displayed in shop areas as a simple reminder for employees to follow these practices.

Implementation of the BMP can help industries better comply with the JEA Industrial Pretreatment discharge standards and assist JEA in protecting Northeast Florida waterways. If you would like a copy of the BMP and a placard, please contact your compliance inspector. You can also find this BMP along with others at our website: www.jea.com/business/services/industrialpre/

Local Uniform Company Makes Big Switch

Cintas Corporation, a uniform and laundering company with a facility in Duval County, had made a major change that will clean up its laundering process by switching to a new detergent.

The new detergent uses biodegradable surfactants and plant oil derivatives endorsed by the Environmental Protection Agency and will replace Cintas' current cleaning agent that contains NPE or nonylphenol ethoxylates. NPE is part of a group of pollutants known as Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products (PPCP). Trace levels of PPCPs, including NPE, may be found in waters downstream of wastewater treatment plants and have been associated with altering the endocrine systems in aquatic organisms. Specifically, NPE has been shown to interfere with sex hormones during embryonic development in these organisms.

By switching to a formulation with positive environmental characteristics, Cintas has adopted an effective pollution prevention strategy. The switch will occur at all Cintas North American facilities by the end of the year.

If you are looking for pollution prevention strategies for your business, you have a couple of options. Locally, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's P2 Program provides resources (see the article Getting Green Out of Going Green this issue). Or, try EPA's Design for the Environment program. This program works in partnership with a broad range of stakeholders to reduce risk to people and the environment by preventing pollution. For more information on the EPA program, please visit <http://www.epa.gov/oppt/dfe/>

Compliance Tip Avoiding Self-Monitoring Report Violations

So you are filling out your self-monitoring report (SMR) and you think you have finished it and are ready to send it to JEA. Are you sure you are done? Have you checked to make sure it's complete? Let's go over one of the most common issues that we see causing reporting violations.

Lately, many of our industries have experienced non-compliances for failing to report self monitoring violations. Upon receiving analytical data from your laboratory, review the parameter results against your permit limits. Any violations must be self reported to Industrial Pretreatment within 24 hours of detection. Just use the handy 24 Hour Fax Notification form that came with your permit to report the violation. If you need another form, visit our web site at: <http://www.jea.com/business/services/industrialpre/compliance.asp>.

Since you are already going over the lab report take a look at the reporting units. Did the lab report the results in mg/L or µg/L? JEA industrial user discharge permit limits are typically reported in mg/L units. If the units do not match, you will need to convert them to your permit units.

Always check the information you are reporting. Labs often change how they report data to their customers and by thoroughly reviewing your lab report you can avoid non-compliance. If you have questions about completing your SMR, call your JEA compliance inspector. We are happy to assist.

Getting Green By Going Green

by Sheena Chin, FDEP

Waste is an area many businesses miss when searching for cost-saving opportunities. However, the term "waste" refers to more than contents emptied from garbage cans. It is any material, such as energy or water, that may be lost through inefficient procedures or equipment. Waste impacts companies in both explicit costs, such as the replacement of aging air filtration components, and implicit costs, such as operating the same system to keep employees cool. In addition, the expense of proper disposal of materials also affects the bottom line.

By identifying problem areas and implementing measures to reduce waste, businesses are also practicing "green" strategies. Going green is more than a popular trend, it is financially sound policy. Waste reduction can lower costs associated with cleanup, treatment and disposal while decreasing exposure to long-term liability and risk. Such strategies allow smart companies to move ahead of the regulatory curve and protect employee health and safety.

So how does a company go green without losing green? With the cost of every product and service on the rise, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's non-regulatory Pollution Prevention Program, also known as P2, offers free technical assistance to help businesses protect the environment and increase profits. P2 offers businesses of all sizes numerous options – from simple changes to complex overhauls – for reducing waste and increasing revenues.

In the past 10 years, the program's professional engineers have helped more than 500 Florida companies reduce waste and lower costs through individual consultations, on-site assessments and specific recommendations tailored to each facility's needs.

For more information, visit www.dep.state.fl.us or www.FloridaP2.org or call DEP's Northeast District Pollution Prevention Program Coordinator at (904) 807-3208.

Treatment Plant Update

JEA's Water Reclamation Facilities (WRF) have performed well. So far, in 2008, there have been only two recorded incidents of non-domestic wastewater impacting the treatment facilities. In June, the Southwest WRF experienced high levels of surfactant foam throughout the plant.

While bubbles in the bath tub can be a treat, at the wastewater treatment plant they interfere with operations.



The Buckman WRF experienced very high loading of an oxygen demanding material in July. The load was so great that plant operations could not supply enough air to meet the demand. The incident lasted only a few hours and the JEA crew responded to minimize the effects of the slug load and no permit violations were experienced. A spectrum of organic substances, including corn syrup, starches, and propylene glycol (used in coolants), would cause a high oxygen demand at the wastewater treatment facility.

If you ever have questions concerning the potential impact an industrial discharge may have at the treatment facility, please contact your pretreatment inspector for guidance.

Industrial Pretreatment Awards

In May, JEA celebrated its Third Annual Environmental Stewardship Luncheon with 53 awards presented to industries with outstanding environmental performance. The Industrial Pretreatment program continues to see big gains in overall industry compliance. Over the past decade, industrial user compliance has increased by 92 percent!

Aside from the potential negative impact on our environment, permit violations pull valuable resources away from normal production activities in order to address, correct and document these non-compliances. It takes far less effort to avoid violations than it does to deal with a violation and its aftermath.

Our community, your business, and JEA all benefit from the exceptional work you have done to maintain environment compliance.

2007 JEA Industrial Pretreatment Award Recipients

Environmental Stewardship Award:

AlSCO, Inc.	Kraft - Maxwell House
Anheuser - Busch, Inc.	Mayo Clinic
Aramark Uniform Services	Metal Container Corporation
Bacardi Bottling Corporation	Millennium Specialty Chemical
Baptist Medical Center	Owens Corning Fiberglass
Baptist Medical Center South	Pan-Glo
Biomet Microfixation	Publix Super Markets
Chevron Products Company	Reichhold, Inc
Cintas Corporation	Shands Jacksonville
Clearview Products Southeast	Siemens Water Technologies Corp.
Colomer USA	Smurfit Stone Container - Tradeport Drive
Crown Plating	Smurfit-Stone Container - E 18th
CSX Transportation - West Yard	Southern Tank Services, Inc.
CSX Transportation, Inc. - Intermodal Terminal	St. Luke's Hospital
Dura Automotive	Swisher International, Inc.
Florida East Coast Railway Co. - Bowden Yard	The Florida Times Union
Flower's Baking Company	Trend Offset Printing
GA Southern and Florida Railway	Vistakon
GE Service Center	Water Recovery, Inc.
H.J. Heinz & Co.	Whitewave
Henry's Hickory House	
Jacksonville Coca Cola Bottling Company	
JEA Northside Generating Station	
JM Family	
K&G Box	
Kaman Aerospace Corp.	

Pollution Prevention:

Colomer USA
Technical Painting of Jacksonville

Gold Award: GE Service Center

Platinum Award: Millennium Specialty Chemicals

Clean Connections is published semi-annually by the JEA Industrial Pretreatment Program, 21 West Church Street Jacksonville, FL 32202. (904) 665-4796.

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For more information about our program, forms, and past issues, please visit our site at <http://www.jea.com/business/services/industrialpre/>