

The Advocate



For and about small businesses and local governments affected by environmental regulations

PD-006/14-03

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Calendar Items Reports Due and Other Reminders

August

- 1 • Dry cleaners: annual renewal registration form

September

- 1 • Liquid waste transporter fee
- MSGP and Phase II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4): annual water-quality fees assessed
- 30 • Wastewater irrigation soil analyses and effluent analyses
- Sludge DMRs

October

- 10 • Groundwater or purchased water systems: DLQOR
- 20 • Quarterly/Semiannual Biomonitoring DMR and tables
- 30 • Dry cleaners: quarterly registration fee ■

Transfer of Water and Wastewater Utility Regulation to the Public Utility Commission Will Occur in September

On Sept. 1, 2014, the water utility rate and CCN programs will transfer from the TCEQ to the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC). The TCEQ will continue under its statutory authority to perform duties related to these two programs until Aug. 31, 2014. The TCEQ continues to have responsibility over public drinking water systems, including temporary management and receiverships for those systems.

By Aug. 1, 2014, a Memorandum of Understanding between the TCEQ and the PUC will be signed by the two agencies' executive directors. The MOU provides details on the coordination between the two agencies to execute the transfer of the two programs in an efficient manner, with a minimum of disruption to the regulated community and the public.

For more details contact the TCEQ Water Supply Division, 512-239-4691 or the PUC, 512-936-7000. ■

Funds Still Available for 2014 State Revolving Fund Programs

Loan funds are still available for financial assistance in both the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (CWSRF and DWSRF), administered by the Texas Water Development Board. Additionally, there is limited loan forgiveness remaining for very small system projects in the DWSRF and for disadvantaged projects under both the CWSRF and DWSRF programs. *(continued on next page)*

New Publications Available

Order our new FREE bill stuffer to encourage water conservation during the Texas drought! Communities across Texas have already distributed over 200,000 Take Care of Texas bill stuffers to help residents learn how to save water. To order, please e-mail <educate@tceq.texas.gov> and request publication

GI-436. Visit <TakeCareOfTexas.org> to learn more and discover other water conservation bill stuffers and publications.

Other new publications that may interest small businesses are:

- *Recycle Your Used Oil and Filters* (GI-170)
- *Get Help from TCEQ* (GI-202)

- *Transporting Waste in Texas—A Guide to Regulation* (RG-086)
- *Commercial Management Facilities for Hazardous and Industrial Solid Waste* (GI-225)

View these and other recent publications by visiting <tceq.texas.gov/publications>. ■

Learn About Managing Small Public Water Systems

Is your water system operating at its greatest potential? Knowing what you have, maintaining it regularly, and knowing how long it will last is key to a self-sustaining water system.

The TCEQ's Small Business and Local Government Assistance section has developed an easy-to-use guide, *Managing Small Public Water Systems* (RG-501), which may be used by the smallest of water systems. The guide provides simple instructions and worksheets to complete and maintain an asset management plan with or without the use of a computer! An electronic version of the worksheets is

also available that will automatically project a five-year budget, including an easy-to-follow projection of capital expenditures. This allows systems to plan for future needs—including allowances for population growth or decline, and inflation.

To view or download the complete series go to the Small Business and Local Government Assistance Public Water Supply Compliance Tools Web page at <www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/help4pws>. If you do not have Internet access, call the SBLGA's hotline number 800-447-2827 for a paper copy. ■

Annual Reporting Requirements for Phase II (Small) MS₄ Operators

Under the new general permit TXR040000, regulated Phase II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS₄s) must submit an annual report to the TCEQ within 90 days after the end of the permit year.

The permit holder has the option to make their permit reporting year concurrent with:

- the permit issuance dates (effective date through expiration date)
- the organization's fiscal year (for example, Sept—Aug.)
- the calendar year (Jan—Dec)

The selection remains effective throughout the 5-year permit period, and the reporting period must be defined in the application (Notice of Intent) submittal. The annual report must include a summary of activities conducted during the previous reporting year and status of the implementation of the Stormwater Management Program (SWMP).

The MS₄ operator must annually review its SWMP in conjunction with the preparation of the annual report.

If MS₄ operators participate in a shared SWMP, then each operator or

permit holder must contribute to a system-wide annual report. Each must sign the report, but only one report must be submitted to the agency.

Permit holders must retain a copy of the annual report on site and submit the original report to the TCEQ Stormwater & Pretreatment Team. A copy of the report must also be submitted to the appropriate TCEQ regional office. Please note: an annual report must be submitted even if the SWMP has not yet been approved by the TCEQ.

You may find more information about due dates in our Q&A document located at <www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/stormwater/WQ_ms4_small_TXR04.html> and under "Annual Reports" at the same link.

You may find the Annual Report Template at: <www.tceq.texas.gov/assistance/water/sw-ms4.html>.

For help understanding the requirements, contact the Small Business & Local Government Assistance Section's compliance hotline at 1-800-447-2827. ■

Funds Still Available for 2014 State Revolving Fund Programs (continued)

The CWSRF and DWSRF programs currently offer loans with an interest rate lower than the current market rate.

For more information on these funding programs, please contact the following Texas Water Development Board staff:

CWSRF Program Coordinator:
Mark Evans
512-463-8510

DWSRF Program Coordinator:
Matthew Schmidt 512-463-8321
www.twdb.texas.gov ■



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Toll Free & Confidential:

1-800-447-2827

Get free, confidential help with questions on air, water, waste, or pollution prevention issues from this special section of the TCEQ. SBLGA works for you by:

- providing local environmental assistance when and where it's needed;
- communicating technical information in plain language; and
- giving small business and local government a voice in TCEQ rule and policy-making.

On the Web at:

TexasEnviroHelp.org

SBLGA is entirely separate from TCEQ's enforcement program.

Small Business Awarded for Innovative Technology

This year, the Texas Environmental Excellence Awards recognized Glass-Craft Door Company, a small business with fewer than 100 employees. Under the leadership of founder and president John Plummer, GlassCraft Door Company has been successfully making hardwood entry doors for more than 30 years. In 2010, they researched producing composite doors using a fiberglass skin. Traditional finishing processes involve a solvent-based gel

stain that releases approximately 4.6 lbs of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) per gallon of product, which can impact air quality and become a health and safety issue for workers. GlassCraft, wanting to maintain a safer work environment and a cleaner, more environmentally conscious industrial operation, decided to create a water-based finishing process that would have less VOC emissions, and ensure a better product in terms of du-

rability and aesthetics. They reduced their VOC emissions by 75 percent. Read more about GlassCraft at <teaa.org/winners/2014/innovative-operations-management/glasscraft-door-company>.

The Texas Environmental Excellence Awards will start taking applications in August 2014 for the 2015 awards.

More information is available at <teaa.org/apply >. ■

Local Compliance Assistance Specialists are Ready to Help You!

You have free, confidential help right in your backyard.

Region 1 - Amarillo

Patty Avery,
806-468-0505

Region 2 - Lubbock

Celeste Hoehne,
806-796-7642

Region 3 - Abilene

Diana Steele,
325-481-8061
Shannon Chambers,
325-481-8054

Region 4 - Dallas-Ft. Worth

Kathryn Bazan,
817-588-5827
Morgan Jansing,
817-588-5868
Danielle Cochran,
817-588-5927

Region 5 - Tyler

Jack Holsomback,
903-535-5158

Region 6 - El Paso

Pamela Aguirre,
915-834-4974

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Shannon Chambers,
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Region 8 - San Angelo

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Shannon Chambers,
325-481-8054

Region 9 - Waco

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254-761-3039

Region 10 - Beaumont

Charlie Adams,
409-899-8788
Lori Palmer,
409-899-8789

Region 11 - Austin

Colin Barth,
512-239-7015

Region 12 - Houston

Stephen Scalise,
713-767-3726
Rebecca Costigan,
713-767-3693

Region 13 - San Antonio

Asma Vahora,
210-403-4039
Nathan Weiss,
210-403-4092

Region 14 - Corpus Christi

Daphne McCann,
361-825-3387

Region 15 - Harlingen

Imelda Peña,
956-389-7427

Region 16 - Laredo

Carmen Ramirez,
956-721-8457

Rule Updates

Find out the status of current TCEQ rule projects including public comment period, adoption dates, effective dates, and rule project managers and contact information from our website at <www5.tceq.texas.gov/rules>.

- HB 1079: Class III UIC Area Permits – Project No: 2013-058-331-WS
- HB 738, HB 1050, HB 1461, HB 2704, and SB 902: Utilities and Districts – Project No: 2013-054-293-OW
- SB 1756: Expedited Permitting Program – Project No: 2013-042.101-AI ■

UPCOMING EVENTS

Find registration information for all events at <www.tceq.texas.gov/p2/events>.

Dam Safety Workshop

July 17, 2014
Lone Star Convention Center
9055 Airport Road
Conroe, TX 77303

For questions about the workshop, contact Joe Briseño at 512-239-6781 or Warren Samuelson at 512-239-5195 or by e-mail at <events@tceq.texas.gov>.

Water Quality-Stormwater Seminar

September 16-17, 2014
DoubleTree Hotel
6505 IH-35 North
Austin, TX 78752

Learn about updates to permitting rules and regulations. Topics will include technical aspects of municipal and industrial stormwater as well as sludge permits. For more information call 512-239-3143 or e-mail <events@tceq.texas.gov> .



SMALL BUSINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL
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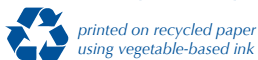
How is our customer service? Fill out our online customer-satisfaction survey at <www.tceq.texas.gov/customersurvey>.

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If you would prefer e-mail instead of the printed copy, please e-mail us at <sbap@tceq.texas.gov>. Be sure to let us know the name your subscription is under and the e-mail address you would prefer us to send to, if different from the one you use to contact us.

Disclaimer: This regulatory guidance publication does not take the place of the full, official TCEQ rules. It is intended only as a general explanation about selected parts of the rules. If you have questions about any information contained in this periodical, contact us at 800-447-2827.

The Advocate is published quarterly by the Small Business and Local Government Assistance (SBLGA) Program of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).



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