

September 2019 Newsletter



Each month you'll receive insights, stories, and more exploring our work to cultivate a more sustainable New York. It's a simple and to-the-point way to stay connected with the breakthrough ideas and emerging challenges that drive our partnerships with businesses and communities across the Empire State.

#### News

# Available funding to support school districts with removing hazardous chemicals used

Through this funding, NYSP2I will collaborate with school districts on removing hazardous chemicals used in science labs, and provide the district with access to state certified, green chemistry curriculums that can be implemented for the 2019-20 school year.



<u>Learn more</u> on how your school district may be able to benefit from this opportunity.

### Food Waste: A Q&A Guide for New York State Businesses, Municipalities, and Communities



NYSP2I created a resource with answers to the most common questions we have been asked in our work with over 75 clients since launching our food waste program in 2016. This resource is intended to be a great starting point for anyone considering a strategy for managing food waste.

View resource

#### Be Sharp Smart!

Safety is on the line when it comes to disposing of sharps! Household medical sharps like syringes, needles, and lancets should not be disposed of in any household recycling bin. Persons handling your household recyclables can incur hundreds of injuries. Each year, it is estimated that 45% of all facility worker injuries at recycling facilities result from used needles that ended up in the recycling stream.

Recycling facility workers must quickly sort through recyclables and non-recyclables as conveyor belts turn, where they can come into contact with used sharps. Used sharps have the potential to infect facility workers with a variety of blood-borne infections, including HIV, Hep B, and Hep C.

You have the power to prevent future injury, bloodborne infections, and death by implementing simple household strategies and tips that can help prevent household sharps from causing injury or harm to staff in the recycling field and in your community. Read More

# **Client Spotlight**

# Plug Power Evaluates Energy Efficiency of Membrane Electrode Assemblies

Plug Power is engaged in design and manufacturing of hydrogen fuel cell systems that replace conventional batteries in equipment and vehicles powered by electricity.



Plug Power wanted a comparative performance evaluation of the energy conversion efficiency of their latest membrane electrode assemblies (MEA) to confirm the performance of their manufacturing process.

NYSP2I and Alfred State College worked with Plug Power to validate control limits for their high-volume manufacturing process for MEA. Read More

## Announcements

- Funding Available: <u>Food Waste Reduction & Diversion Reimbursement</u>
- Workshop: <u>New York Regulations & Low-GWP Technologies (Sept. 27)</u>
  Workshop: <u>Benefits of ISO 14001 Environmental Management (Nov. 12)</u>

The NYS Pollution Prevention Institute is sponsored by the New York State Department of Environmental

Conservation through the Environmental Protection Fund, the New York State Pollution Prevention Institute is led by the Golisano Institute for Sustainability at Rochester Institute of Technology, and is a partnership between RIT, Binghamton University, Clarkson University, Cornell University and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. NYSP2I also works with the New York Manufacturing Extension Partnership to help disseminate data and strategy.









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