



P2 Bulletin

the newsletter of the New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (NYSP2I)

JUNE 2010

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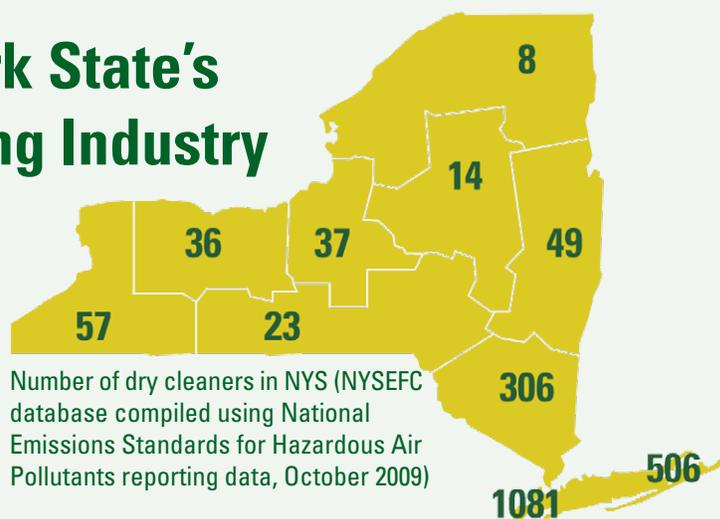
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What's happening in P2

Welcome, readers, to the next edition of the NYSP2I Bulletin! In this edition, you will learn about our initiatives with the dry cleaning industry and efforts in developing Green Chemistry modules for high school students. Be sure to read about our 2009-2010 Community Grants recipients and the exciting work each organization is pursuing. Also featured are Cool Rochester, a non-profit group working to reduce carbon dioxide emissions in Rochester, NY, and NYSP2I's two upcoming workshops to be held in late June. I look forward to seeing you this summer. Enjoy the sunshine, Anahita Williamson, Director, NYSP2I

Reduction of Perc in New York State's Professional Garment Cleaning Industry

Perchloroethylene (perc) is a commonly used dry cleaning chemical that has been linked to serious health effects and environmental contamination throughout the country. Since many dry cleaners in NYS are located on the bottom floor of high rise apartment buildings or in strip malls, the health implications of perc are not only a concern for dry cleaning workers, but also for residents of apartments and businesses located above or adjacent to dry cleaners.

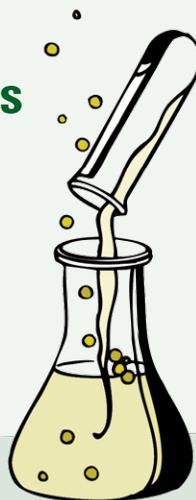


NYSP2I is addressing the use of perc in dry cleaning operations to reduce the number of dry cleaners in the state that use this chemical as their garment cleaning solvent. Our efforts are specifically focused on professional wet cleaning, an environmentally friendly alternative technology. As part of this project, NYSP2I will benchmark the current state of garment cleaning in New York State, convert perc based cleaners to wet cleaning, and conduct demonstrations of wet cleaning technology at dedicated wet cleaners.

Dry Cleaners interested in learning more or participating in this program should contact Kate Winnebeck at 585-475-5390.

Green Chemistry for NYS High Schools

NYSP2I is working with SUNY Brockport and SUNY Potsdam to develop 8 Green Chemistry modules for use in Regents Chemistry classes at NYS high schools to introduce sophomore/junior students to green chemistry principles and increase awareness of less toxic lab materials. Each module will consist of a lab exercise, teacher's curriculum and lesson plan, teacher's guide, identification of the NYSED learning standards addressed by the curriculum materials, safe lab practices, and information on green chemistry. The modules are currently being pilot tested and the final products will be available online for open use.



Module topics include:

- ◆ Composition Of A Hydrate
- ◆ Types Of Reaction: The Chemistry of Copper
- ◆ Spices And Perfumes: Isolation of Cinnamaldehyde from Cinnamon
- ◆ Functional Groups in Organic Chemistry
- ◆ Creating Bioplastics from Cornstarch
- ◆ Solubility of a Sparingly Soluble Salt
- ◆ Biodiesel Generated from Used Grease
- ◆ Bioethanol Synthesis and Use

2009-2010 Community Grants Program Recipient Updates

Our 2009-2010 Community Grant Program recipients are off and running! Second-year awardees and projects include:

Preventing Pills from Becoming Waste, *Center for Environmental Information* will develop and field test techniques to prevent over-dispensing medications. CEI will educate pharmacies about risks with improper management of medications and preventing them from entering waterways.

Greening Food Services, *Sullivan County Community College* will develop and deliver a training program to help food service companies measure environmental performance, set environmental goals, and introduce effective P2 practices. SCCC will develop e-tools and a workbook and establish a "sustainability in food services" network.

Healthy Homes DVD, *WXXI Public Broadcasting Council* is developing and distributing a free DVD to the Rochester community with techniques to find and eliminate health hazards caused by pollutants at home. The University of Rochester Center for Environmental Health Services Center and the Rochester Healthy Home project organizations have partnered with WXXI to develop the DVD.

Business Pollution Prevention Project, *Clean & Healthy New York* is educating businesses on consumer and industry trends, toxics in consumer products regulations, and the business case

for safer materials and production. Businesses will also be recruited to participate in the NY Business NGO Workgroup, facilitating dialogue to move toward safer chemicals and reduced pollution.

Public Educational Stormwater Exhibit at the Seneca Park Zoo, *Water Education Collaborative* will install a stormwater exhibit featuring the H2O Hero at Monroe County's Seneca Park Zoo. The exhibit raises awareness and understanding of stormwater pollution prevention practices at home. WEC is a coalition of nonprofit organizations working to increase water quality education in the Lake Ontario and Genesee River watersheds.

Spec It Green: The Local Advantage, *New York Industrial Retention Network* is holding workshops on Life Cycle Assessment for Building Products and Sustainable Textiles: Opportunities for the NYC market. A networking event for building product manufacturers is planned.

Please check our website at www.nysp2i.rit.edu/community_grants.html for further updates.



SULLIVAN
COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
S • U • N • Y



Direct Assistance Projects



Victor Insulators of Victor, NY, manufactures large ceramic high-voltage insulators for power transmission lines.

PROBLEM: Baseline analysis found that Victor Insulators' primary electric power usage was in their clay and slip mixing motors, which were left on for extended periods of time.

SOLUTION: NYSP2I determined a low-cost improvement. Victor implemented timing systems

on 7 motors and expects to change an additional 10 motors to better control mixer use.

EXPECTED RESULTS:

- ◆ Electricity savings: \$75,000/year
- ◆ Potential savings: additional \$30,000/year when a new high-efficiency dust collector replaces an older, larger motor

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Coating Technology Wins Environmental Leadership Symposium Award

The New York State Pollution Prevention Institute nominated Coating Technology, Inc. for a resource reduction award from the *Rochester Business Journal* for their initiatives to reduce acid purchases and acid waste in their plating operation. Coating Technology won one of two resource reduction awards presented at the symposium on April 13, 2010.

Coating Technology is a plating shop that has reduced their costs by adopting methods of conserving plating chemicals. By implementing a relatively new material called PRO-pHx™ as an additive to their hydrochloric acid etch tanks, Coating Technology has been able to extend the life of their acid tanks. Prior to their use of PRO-pHx™, the company disposed of their acid baths every 2–3 months. The addition of PRO-pHx™ allowed the acid to continue to react properly even at elevated concentrations of dissolved metal, allowing the acid tanks to run indefinitely. Typical acid and treatment savings have been \$21,000 per year.

NYSP2I to Aid Cool Rochester

Cool Rochester, a non-profit group of volunteers working to engage the Rochester community in significantly reducing carbon dioxide emissions, will receive assistance from NYSP2I on joint marketing and publicity initiatives during 2010-2011.

Cool Rochester wants to shrink the Rochester region's CO₂ footprint by one billion pounds in three years. Recognizing a common interest in greenhouse gas reduction, NYSP2I will help get the word out at both local and state levels about the Cool Rochester carbon emissions reduction campaign.

Cool Rochester aims to help residents, businesses and municipalities in the Greater Rochester area reduce their collective CO₂ emissions by promoting dialog on choices, distributing detailed action information, providing practical tools and raising community awareness of a sustainable future. The group plans a marketing campaign to take the Cool Rochester Challenge to Rochester-area residents, inviting prospective participants, volunteers and partners to join this community-wide effort.

For more information about Cool Rochester, visit their website: <http://coolrochester.org/>



Upcoming Workshops

NYSP2I has a diverse list of upcoming workshops tailored for specific audiences. Please visit our website for more information on these and other events:

Creating a Safe Environment: Toxics in Consumer Products

June 28, 2010, in Suffolk County

The media has recently highlighted the fact that toxic materials such as BPA, phthalates, and cadmium, have been found in consumer products. This workshop will educate consumers about products that typically contain the toxic materials and ways to identify if a product contains them. Alternatives to toxic materials will be reviewed and attendees will leave with an understanding of the potential health and environmental effects resulting from exposure.

Green Offices, Green Purchasing

June 29, 2010, in Yonkers, NY

This day-long workshop provides guidance on engaging in environmentally preferable practices and purchasing habits in the office environment, and is targeted for purchasing & building/facility personnel in the **Banking, Insurance, Real Estate, and Legal Service industries**. Assessment tools and methods used to reduce office costs and environmental impacts along with examples and case studies of successful initiatives will be presented. Green cleaning, green purchasing guidelines and "greenwashing" will also be among the topics discussed by a broad range of speakers. **There is no cost to attend this workshop; limited space is available.** Please register by calling (585) 475-2512 or emailing nysp2i@rit.edu.



On March 4, NYSP2I held a Metal Finishing Workshop at RIT on plating line pollution prevention for platers and metal finishers. Topics covered included rinse water volume reduction methods, proper acid bath maintenance and life extension methods, cost of plating line ventilation and reduction methods, and ultrafiltration of alkaline cleaning solutions. Of great interest to the participants was a demonstration of cleaning solution filtration technology by Arbortech Corporation.

Are you interested in holding a workshop focused on toxics in your area? We can develop a session for your audience. Topics can include: identifying toxic chemicals found in consumer products or children's toys, methods to avoid toxic chemicals, understanding the Consumer Product Safety Commission and Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act and how it relates to toys and consumer products, and sources of recall and product safety information. Audiences may include parents, childcare providers, teachers, schools, non-profit groups, and the general public. Contact NYSP2I at www.nysp2i.rit.edu, or call (585) 475-2512 for more information.



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