

## Introduction

*Understanding Environmental Regulations and Permits* provides background on the permits administered by the Department of Natural Resources, describing what the various permits address. Information on other requirements related to environmental protection, are also provided.

Two other documents prepared by the department, may also be of interest to you.

*Environmental Permits and How To Obtain Them* outlines individual environmental permits, certifications, registrations, and licenses. It indicates the permit length, processing time and renewal, fees, and other specific permit issues. *Environmental Permits and How to Obtain Them* can be found on the web at <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/pubs/pub98.pdf> .

Or if you are selling or buying a facility that has environmental permits, *A Guide to Missouri Department of Natural Resources Permit Transfers* describes the situations where specific permits can be easily transferred from seller to buyer without going through the entire permitting process. For information on permit transfers call the department's Field Services Office at 1-800-361-4827 and ask for the pamphlet called *A Guide to Missouri Department of Natural Resources Permit Transfers* or go online at <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/pubs/pub541.pdf>

## Laws and statutes related to environmental permits

The federal regulations referred to in this document for the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) can be found in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The CFRs are available from the United States Government Printing Office, your local library, or on the Internet at <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/index.html>.

The regulations for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) are found in Title 10 of the Missouri Code of State Regulations (CSR). The CSRs are available from the Secretary of State's Office at:

Kirkpatrick State Information Center  
600 W. Main Street  
P.O. Box 778  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102  
(573) 751-4015

The CSRs can also be found on the Internet at <http://www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/csr.asp>

## A brief description of environmental services

The departments Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) consists of five programs: Air Pollution Control Program (APCP), Hazardous Waste Program (HWP), Land Reclamation Program (LRP), Solid Waste Management Program (SWMP), and Water Protection Program (WPP). Its mission is to help Missourians prevent pollution, protect the public from harmful emissions, discharges and waste disposal practices. More information can be found on the Internet at <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/env/index.html>

The Field Services Division (FSD) delivers services such as compliance assistance, permitting, inspections, and other environmental expertise closest to where Missourians live and work. More information regarding these services can be found on the web at <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/services/index.html>. The Division oversees the department's five regional offices, nine satellite offices, the Environmental Services Program (ESP) and other essential field activities. A map and list of the satellite and regional office can be found on the Internet at <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/regions/regions.htm> or contact the FSD at 1-800-361-4827.

The Environmental Services Program (ESP) supports the other programs in the department that need accurate scientific data for their work. To obtain this data, the Environmental Services Program performs fieldwork, conducts monitoring, collects samples and provides laboratory testing for environmental pollutants. More information can be found on the Internet at <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/env/esp/index.html>

The department offers an Initial Assistance Visit (IAV). This is onsite visit by department staff with appropriate representative(s) of a facility for newly issued permits, or for those facilities that have never had a visit or inspection from the department before. The IAV is intended to improve understanding of the permit and environmental requirements, to enhance environmental compliance with the regulations that apply to the permittee's unique operations, and to provide resources for assistance. More information can be found on the Internet at <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/services/opsmanual-chapter2.pdf>

A list of online services is available to our customers at <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/eservices.htm> . The page will help you to reach online systems for submitting information, querying data and reaching automated forms. Please call the Missouri Department of Natural Resources at 1-800-361-4827 for additional assistance or questions.

## **Pollution prevention**

Pollution prevention is simply not making the waste (or pollutant) in the first place. It means doing what we can to reduce the amount and toxicity of the pollution generated or energy consumed. Preventing pollution may be something as simple as buying products with little or no packaging or something as complex as redesigning your operation to increase efficiency and reduce waste. Simple things like choosing nonhazardous solvents and cleaners can protect the environment and reduce the number of environmental regulations you are faced with. Pollution prevention means thinking about the environmental impact of your actions and trying to limit that impact.

Pollution prevention was established as a national policy through the **Pollution Prevention Act of 1990**. Congress defined pollution prevention as:

Any practice which reduces the amount of a hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant entering any waste stream or otherwise released into the environment (including fugitive emissions) prior to recycling, treatment, or disposal.

Congress established a hierarchy of preferred pollution prevention methods. Source reduction is the preferred method with recycling, treatment, and disposal listed in descending order of preference. Disposal should always be the last resort. To achieve maximum benefits, a

facility's pollution prevention program should have two distinct parts. The first is the general, overall pollution prevention plan, that encompasses the entire facility, and the initial requirements to get a pollution prevention program started. The second portion deals with the details of doing pollution prevention opportunity assessments on specific activities or processes.

When we generate waste or pollution, we must safely and legally manage that waste or pollution. Whether it is household trash or waste from a business, managing wastes costs money. Usually the things we discard are items we bought. A good example is paper towels. We buy them, use them once, and then pay again to have them disposed of. If we reduce the amount of waste we generate, we save money. It's as simple as that. Reducing costs is a major reason to prevent pollution. Here are a few others:

- Improved work environment and worker safety
- Reduced liability
- Increased efficiency
- Fewer regulatory requirements
- Better environmental protection
- Enhanced marketing and public relations opportunities

Pollution prevention makes sense. Pollution prevention techniques not only resolve or reduce environmental quality issues or problems, but also save money. By reducing expenses, pollution prevention improves both the competitiveness and efficiency of business and industry.