



# PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT FACT SHEET

## Washtenaw County Pollution Prevention Program

### **What is the Pollution Prevention (P2) Program?**

The Washtenaw County Pollution Prevention Program is responsible for inspecting facilities that store, manufacture or use hazardous, toxic, or polluting materials. Inspectors ensure that facilities utilize and dispose of hazardous materials properly, thereby preventing environmental contamination. This program operates in accordance with the Washtenaw County Pollution Prevention Regulation.

Currently, over 1,900 facilities are monitored by the P2 Program. Thousands of gallons of hazardous materials have proper spill control as a result of P2 Regulation stipulations, reporting requirements, and inspections.

It is the purpose and intent of the P2 Program to protect public health and the environment by:

- Identifying facilities that use, produce or store toxic, hazardous or potentially polluting materials
- Maintaining records of chemical inventories
- Preventing the release of toxic, hazardous or polluting substances into the environment
- Providing information to assist emergency response personnel in controlling toxic releases to the environment
- Promoting remediation of environmental contamination throughout Washtenaw County

### **What is the P2 Program's History?**

To protect the community from hazards associated with toxic, hazardous and polluting materials, the County adopted the Community Right-To-Know Regulation in 1985. The Regulation was amended and renamed the Pollution Prevention Regulation in 1992.

### **What is the P2 Program's role in environmental response?**

If an environmental incident or chemical spill were to occur, the P2 Program will assist emergency response personnel by providing information included in the facility's inspection reports and status sheets, such as names and amounts of chemicals in the facility.

### **What are the reporting requirements for the P2 Program?**

Every business in Washtenaw County that stores, uses or produces more than 5 gallons or 40 pounds of hazardous materials must submit a status report to the P2 Program each year. The report must contain the following information:

- Types and quantities of hazardous materials at the facility
- Site plans/storage locations
- Chemical hazards
- Emergency contact information
- Plans for responding to emergency situations

### **What are the inspection requirements for the P2 Program?**

Washtenaw County staff routinely inspects businesses storing 56 gallons or more of hazardous materials. Frequency of inspection depends on the quantity of materials stored and the level of compliance achieved, and varies from once a year to once every four years. However, staff may make site visits as needed to ensure compliance with the P2 Regulation.

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### **What types of facilities are exempt from the P2 Program Regulation?**

The P2 Regulation does not apply to:

- Substances contained in foods, drugs, cosmetics, tobacco products and consumer products held for retail sale
- Agricultural operators
- Boxed or bagged salt

### **What services will P2 Program staff provide?**

The P2 Program staff is committed not only to protecting the environment, but also to working in cooperation with local facilities. Services staff will provide free of charge include:

- Courtesy inspections to exempt facilities
- Expert consultation and education
- Chemical storage plan review
- Workshops/seminars
- Information to assist facilities in county, state and federal regulation compliance

### **Is information regarding P2 facilities made available to the public?**

The public is encouraged to access copies of facilities' P2 inventories and status reports. Contact the Planning and Environment offices for more information on submitting a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to access P2 records.

### **Where can I go for more information on hazardous materials?**

#### **Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)**

Jackson District Office  
(517) 780-7912  
[www.michigan.gov/deq](http://www.michigan.gov/deq)

#### **Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR)**

Waterloo Wildlife Office  
(517) 522-4097  
[www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)

#### **Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 (EPA)**

1-800-621-8431  
[www.epa.gov/region5](http://www.epa.gov/region5)



#### **Washtenaw County Department of Planning & Environment**

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