

# SMALLBIZ@EPA

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE  
SMALL BUSINESS COMMUNITY

EPA'S ASBESTOS AND SMALL BUSINESS OMBUDSMAN

February 2020

Fostering  
Partnerships

Improving Advocacy  
and Accessibility

Small Business Compliance  
Assistance



The EPA Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman (ASBO) Program serves as an advocate and liaison for small businesses in the rule development and compliance assistance process at EPA. ASBO regularly partners with a variety of stakeholders to address small business questions and concerns, including; the state Small Business Ombudsmen and Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs (SBEAPs), small business trade associations, headquarter and regional EPA programs offices, as well as federal agencies like the Small Business Administration.

ASBO's partnerships provide the perspective and collaboration EPA requires to support small businesses in achieving their environmental performance goals. The SmallBiz@EPA Bulletin strives to provide EPA and the small business community access to the necessary environmental news, regulatory updates and resources that may impact or assist small businesses.

## SmallBiz@EPA Bulletin

Welcome your  
Submissions

### Potential

#### Submission Topics:

- Upcoming Events
- Success Stories
- New Assistance Tools
- Technical Updates
- Regulatory Updates
- Stories to Reach the Small Business Community
- Updated Contact Info.

#### Submission Guidelines:

- 150 words or less
- Provide a title for the article
- Include a link to more information on the topic
- Include contact information to be included in the article submission
- Articles should be submitted by the 15th of each month.
- Submit your articles to [shepherd.sheila@epa.gov](mailto:shepherd.sheila@epa.gov) and [thompson.elnora@epa.gov](mailto:thompson.elnora@epa.gov)



# SAVE THE DATE!



## National Small Business Environmental Assistance Program 2020 Annual Training

<b>When:</b>	Conference Dates: <b>May 5-7, 2020</b> (Tuesday – Thursday) (approximately 8:00 am – 5:00 pm each day)
<b>Where:</b>	<b>Yours Truly DC (formally The Wink Hotel)</b> 1143 New Hampshire Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20037 202-775-0800 <b>(lodging and conference)</b>
<b>Register:</b>	<b>Registration for the conference is now open.</b> <a href="#">Please register here!</a>
<b>Reserve:</b>	Reserve your hotel room for the conference at: <b>Yours Truly DC (formally The Wink Hotel)</b> Use the link to reserve online: <a href="#">SBEAP Annual Training</a> You can also call the hotel directly at: <b>1-202-775-0800 and ask for the EPA Meeting.</b> The room rate is \$256 plus 14.95% tax. The cut-off date for hotel reservations at this rate is <b>April 13, 2020.</b>
<b>Getting There:</b>	From Reagan National Washington National Airport The following transportation options are available: Taxi: \$30 Uber/Lyft: \$18-20 Metro (train): Take the yellow line in the direction of Fort Totten, change to the red line in the direction of Shady Grove. Exit at the Dupont Circle Station (located 5 blocks from the hotel)
<b>Contact:</b>	Please call 800-368-5888 <a href="https://nationalsbeap.org/training">https://nationalsbeap.org/training</a>

### Anticipated Topics

While the agenda is still being developed, this conference will provide an opportunity for participants to learn about the following:

**National SBEAP Program** - learn about the accomplishments of the program and individual state programs, tools and tips for successful marketing of these programs and what the national strategic plan is for the next two years

**National Steering Committee** - review accomplishments and works in progress; discuss strategies, new activities and opportunities to strengthen the NSC and state programs

**Technical Topics on Air and Other Media** - presentations from states and discussion with the U.S. EPA about current issues, policies and/or rules (specific topics to be determined)

**Trade Associations (anticipated)** - meet with representatives from various trade associations with small business concerns

## EPA Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) Seeks Grant Applications

EPA OSDBU grant solicitation entitled, “Support and Management of the Nationalsbeap.org Website and 507 Program”, is now open and accepting applications from eligible entities until March 6, 2020. This notice announces the availability of funds and solicits applications from eligible entities to provide support and collaboration services for the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP). The cooperative agreement project is seeking support services to maintain and expand the National Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP) website: <https://nationalsbeap.org/>, communication and collaboration services that assist the nation-wide program, and provide organization and hosting support for the SBEAP annual training event.

To apply for this grant solicitation, please go to [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) to apply for this grant solicitation (RFA #: EPA- OA- OSDBU-20-01). You may view this solicitation’s [Request for Application document here](#).



### February Marks The Second Month of EPA’s Year-Long Celebration of Turning 50 in December 2020! EPA Focus This Month is “Protecting America’s Waters.”

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration, The Agency is kicking off a month-long look at progress in protecting America’s waters. This month the agency will highlight its efforts related to protecting America’s waters, including clean water infrastructure, safe drinking water, surface water protection, and emerging challenges. Since EPA was established in 1970, the agency has worked with its state, local, tribal, and water sector partners to make notable investments in the nation's drinking water and wastewater infrastructure. For example since 1988, EPA has contributed \$45 billion to Clean Water State Revolving Funds, which have provided more than \$138 billion in financial assistance through 41,000 low-cost loans for wastewater and stormwater infrastructure projects. Similarly, since 1997, EPA has contributed \$21 billion to Drinking Water State Revolving Funds, which have provided more than \$41 billion in financial assistance to over 15,000 drinking water projects across the country.

EPA has continued delivering infrastructure investment through new programs, such as its Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) loan program. EPA has issued 14 WIFIA loans since 2017, ranging from \$21 million to \$699 million. Collectively, these loans total more than \$3.5 billion in credit assistance to help finance more than \$8 billion for water infrastructure projects while creating more than 15,000 jobs. Because the WIFIA program offers loans with low interest rates, these 14 WIFIA loans are anticipated to save borrowers up to \$1.2 billion compared to typical bond financing. EPA has also supported infrastructure financing to meet specific needs across the country. For example, since 2012, EPA and its federal partners have provided more than 61,000 American Indian and Alaska Native homes with access safe drinking water and almost 48,000 homes to access to basic sanitation. The agency is committed to continued water infrastructure investment to ensure that our country has the infrastructure needed to support a clean environment, healthy Americans, and a vibrant economy.

For more on EPA’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and how the agency is protecting America’s waters, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/50>.

## **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention: Regional Pollution Prevention Program (P2) Grants**

EPA is announcing a grant competition to fund two-year P2 assistance agreements for projects that provide technical assistance to businesses and their facilities to help them develop and adopt source reduction practices. EPA is emphasizing the importance of grantees documenting and sharing P2 best practices identified and developed through these grants so that others can replicate these practices and outcomes. To achieve this, EPA will require grant recipients to document and report on P2 recommendations that they provide to business facilities as part of the technical assistance and, at a later date report on P2 actions adopted by those facilities.

EPA's National P2 Program will host two informational webinars for potential applicants and interested stakeholders. **The webinars will be held on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 from 2:00 - 3:30 pm (EST) and Tuesday, February 25, 2020 from 2:00 – 3:30 pm (EST).** More information on the webinars and how to register is provided in Section IV.D. **Grant applications are due by Tuesday, March 31, 2020, 11:59 pm.** EPA will receive applications electronically through Grants.gov. Applications will be electronically date and time stamped. Please refer to Section IV of this announcement for full information on the submission process. Applications must be submitted on time in order to be considered for funding. Read more about [P2 and the P2 Grant Program](#). For further information on both articles above contact: Mr. Alex Peck, Pollution Prevention Program, 212-637-3758.



### **EPA's P2 National Emphasis Areas Support EPA's Smart Sectors**

P2 means reducing or eliminating pollutants from entering any waste stream or otherwise being released into the environment prior to recycling, treatment, or disposal. Grant applications for the P2 program should focus on at least one of the following P2 priority areas, also referred to as [National Emphasis Areas \(NEAs\)](#) that support several of the [Agency's Smart Sectors](#).

National Emphasis Areas Include:

1. **NEA #1: Food and Beverage Manufacturing and Processing**
2. **NEA #2: Chemical Manufacturing, Processing and Formulation**
3. **NEA #3: Automotive Manufacturing and Maintenance**
4. **NEA #4: Aerospace Product and Parts Manufacturing and Maintenance**
5. **NEA #5: Metal Manufacturing and Fabrication**

5 For local technical assistance for businesses please visit [P2 Resources for Businesses](#).

# Small Business Environmental Assistance Program

**SBEAP**  
**Q's & A's**



**Question:** When we use brake cleaner in our shop, it can literally take our breath away. Should we look for a different product?

Chuck Cleaner

Dear Chuck:

By choosing safer brake and carb cleaners, automotive repair shops may have opportunities to help keep employees healthy while reducing air pollution. These cleaners are affordable, available and they work!

Conventional products typically contain hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) and/or volatile organic compounds (VOCs) which can be unhealthy for employees. It can be confusing to find better products that still work and aren't expensive. However, safer products are becoming more common. You just need the following keys to success:

- Avoid key HAPs: xylene, toluene, ethyl benzene or methanol.
- Look for key words: non-chlorinated, low VOCs or 50-state compliant.
- Most of the effective, safer alternatives will contain hydrocarbon, acetone and/or heptane. Aqueous surfactants can also be a safe and effective choice.

Check out the [National SBEAP](#) website links to [various sustainability resources](#) and case studies.



## EPA FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICES

### **SUBJECT: Notice of Receipt of Requests To Voluntarily Cancel Certain Pesticide Registrations and Amend Registrations To Terminate Certain Uses**

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/02/04/2020-02040/notice-of-receipt-of-requests-to-voluntarily-cancel-certain-pesticide-registrations-and-amend>

**Federal Register:** Vol. 85, No. 23  
Tuesday, February 04, 2020/Notices  
**AGENCY:** EPA  
**ACTION:** Notice

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), EPA is issuing a notice of receipt of requests by the registrants to voluntarily cancel certain pesticide product registrations and to amend certain product registrations to terminate uses. EPA intends to grant these requests at the close of the comment period for this announcement unless the Agency receives substantive comments within the comment period that would merit its further review of the requests, or unless the registrants withdraw their requests. If these requests are granted, any sale, distribution, or use of products listed in this notice will be permitted after the registrations have been cancelled and uses terminated only if such sale, distribution, or use is consistent with the terms as described in the final order. Comments must be received on or before August 3, 2020

For further information contact: Christopher Green  
(703)347-0367 email at [green.christpher@epa.gov](mailto:green.christpher@epa.gov)

### **SUBJECT: Clean Air Act Operating Permit Program; Petition for Objection to State Operating Permit for Wheelabrator Environmental System Inc., Wheelabrator Concord Company, L.P., Concord, New Hampshire**

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/02/03/2020-02010/clean-air-act-operating-permit-program-petition-for-objection-to-state-operating-permit-for>

**Federal Register:** Vol. 85, No. 22  
Wednesday, February 3, 2020/Notices  
**AGENCY:** EPA  
**ACTION:** Notice of final order on petition to object to state operating permit

**SUMMARY:** The EPA Administrator signed an Order, dated October 30, 2019, denying a petition dated March 14, 2019, filed by Anthony Caplan, Katherine Lajoie, Rebecca MacKenzie, and Janet Ward (the Petitioners). The Petitioners requested that the EPA object to a proposed Clean Air Act title V operating permit (Permit No. TV-0032) issued by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to Wheelabrator Environmental System, Inc., Wheelabrator Concord Company, L.P. (Wheelabrator), a large municipal waste incinerator located in Concord, New Hampshire.

For further information contact: Jessica Kilpatrick,  
(617)918-1652 email at [kilpatrick.jessica@epa.gov](mailto:kilpatrick.jessica@epa.gov).