Montana Pollution Prevention (P2) Program
Montana State University - Extension Service

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS - 2002-03

www.mtp2.org website

Check it out for **ALL** of our activities.

Support efforts of P2Px

1. Sharing Common Ground Conference - Spring 2004?
2. State Parks Pollution Prevention initiative for Montana (with Wyoming?).
3. FOSTTA (Forum on State and Tribal Toxics Action) participation. June 4-5, 2003 meeting at the Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, Connecticut

ALL-New Montana Material Exchange

Find it, or give it away, buy it, sell it, or trade it on the Montana Materials Exchange! Just logon to **www.montana.edu/mme** and place a "wanted" or "available" listing.

Over its nearly eight-year history, this free bulletin board service has proved it's value with hundreds of users posting listings and making successful exchanges. Now the MME website has just been totally redesigned with new, user-friendly features including a searchable database and online listing forms. With these improvements, it just got a whole lot easier for Montana businesses, industries, farms and ranches, government agencies, schools, churches, and other organizations and institutions to connect with each other to exchange materials of all kinds.

But with so many different types of materials potentially listed, how do you find what you're looking for? The new online, searchable database lets you search by Montana community, county, or region. You can also search by material type (construction materials, metal, acids etc.), "wanted" or "available" listings, or keyword.

Maintained by the MSU Extension Service - Pollution Prevention Program, in partnership with the Montana Chamber of Commerce.

More Montana Material Exchange Enhancements in the Works

1. E-recovery. To assist Montana businesses, schools, institutions, and local governments deal with disposal of functional computer hardware equipment, the MTP2 program is creating an on-line database to promote and initiate e-recovery. At this time the database contains 53 national and international sources (and over 300 organizations that facilitate the donation of used equipment) for e-recovery, of which the MTP2 program is currently individually contacting, to determine the reality and cost (if any) of recovering computer hardware from Montana sources. The MTP2 program is also assessing these programs as model-efforts for Montana to initiate.

2. Household Battery Recovery. Household batteries are a waste many households have inquired as how to recover. As a response, and as part of the MME, the MTP2 program is currently exploring a household battery recovery program in partnership with the Montana State University Extension Service. Through the MSU Extension Service, collection boxes would be available to the consumers at 61 supervised locations (county and county Extension offices) in the state.

Lewis and Clark Pollution Prevention Collector Cards

To celebrate the Lewis and Clark bi-centennial anniversary the Montana Pollution Prevention Program has created a set of 18, Montana specific collector cards. The cards have been developed to help kids - ages 7-14 - learn fun but educational trivia about the Lewis & Clark Expedition. Students will also learn how to apply Lewis & Clark's lifestyle to common-day pollution prevention practices around their homes and while traveling. Web site www.mtp2.org provides teachers with tips to use the cards.

Technology Transfer from MSU Extension Service to MSU Billings College of Technology Auto Refinishing Program

In Feb. 2003 the Montana State University Extension Service's Montana Pollution Prevention Program, formed a partnership with MSU Billings College of Technology Auto Collision Repair and Refinishing Program by transferring the location of STAR (Spray Techniques Analysis and Research) equipment and teaching resources to the Billings campus. (http://www.cot.msubillings.edu/cotnews/pr020103.htm)

Bio-Based Product Initiative.

Project to develop promotional materials (brochure and web site) for renewable energy and products (bio-diesel fuel, bar and chain oils, hydraulic fluids, motor oil, form release, wiper-fluid, VOC-free wood sealer, dust suppressant and metal working fluids) in partnership with Sustainable Systems LLC, Missoula in collaboration with Peaks and Prairies Oil Seed Producers Cooperative, Thompson Falls, MT and the Montana Cooperative Development Center of MSU-Northern Montana College..

Landowner Stewardship Project - TIPS on Land and Water Management

Continued partnership with MSU Extension Service, MT DNRC, to offer landowner workshops. Past year activities include:

1. conducting **pollution prevention workshops for homeowner associations** having wells and septic systems
2. conducting **"Environmental Issues in Real Estate" Schools**
3. development of **Septic System Management folder**
4. development of **Drinking Well Management folder**
5. development of template for **homeowner EMS risk assessment simulator**

Tribal Pollution Prevention

1. **Pollution Prevention and Cultural Preservation in Native American Communities** Curriculum for tribal colleges includes lesson plans, transparency masters, worksheets, tests, and a student workbook. Originally developed in 1996, the MTP2 program is visiting with several land-grant tribal colleges to update these resources.
2. **Connected to the Earth**. Earth Chief Seattle said, "All things are connected. Whatever befalls the earth befalls the children of the earth." "Connected to the Earth" is a series of fact sheets designed to address the environmental health concerns of Native American families. Its goal is to provide a simple, step by step process to help people assess-and if necessary, correct-a variety of environmental and health hazards that may exist on their property. The 11 fact sheets cover water quality, watershed protection, waste water treatment, hazardous household products, lead in and around the home, yard and garden care, safe use of fuels, indoor air quality, heating systems and household waste. The packet contains basic details about each topic and offers checklists that invite users to estimate their risk level and prioritize which improvements might be urgent. Each section also contains references that readers can use as a starting point to get further information or make repairs. "Connected to the Earth" packets were distributed throughout the U.S. to tribal colleges, Indian health services, HUD offices, the Office of Native American Programs and Native American housing authorities.

Extension Disaster Education Network - EDEN

An all-hazard and disaster information web site that brings up-to-date, Montana-specific emergency preparedness and response information to the public. In partnership with the Montana Disaster and Emergency Services, the Montana Homeland Security Taskforce, the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services and the Montana Department of Administration the Montana Pollution Prevention Program has created a pollution prevention "tech-team" to enhance information and statewide contacts related to agricultural and small-business pollution prevention. See www.montanahelp.org.

Mercury (Hg) Thermostat Recovery Program

It only takes 3 grams (approximately 1/25 of a teaspoon) of Hg to contaminate a 60-acre lake. Just one mercury thermostat contains about 5 grams of Hg. Through a recycling program the MT Pollution Prevention Program in partnership with the low-income weatherization program has recovered 119 mercury thermostats from the landfill or septic-tank or storm drain where they could break and cause contamination. By recycling these thermostats the program has kept 595 grams of Hg out of the waste stream - that is 198 60-acre lakes. For further pollution prevention the thermostats were replaced with EnergyStar non-mercury programable thermostats.

Electric Vehicle Project.

During the 2002-2003 school year Montana State University-Bozeman students converted an old, worn out gas-powered truck into a new eco-friendly electric pick-up truck. The purpose of this project was to develop a practical electric vehicle that will meet several suburban transportation needs. The vehicle was donated by MSU Facilities Services and the project was funded in part by the MSU Extension Service - Montana Pollution Prevention Program and the Western Transportation Institute headquartered at MSU. The vehicle will be tested by MSU Facility Services, by individuals commuting to work, and for general transportation suitability. An analysis of operational cost with this level of technology will also be completed in order to develop a use/cost profile to determine the expense of operating an electric vehicle in various situations. The vehicle travels at typical speeds of 30 to 35 miles per hour (70-80 miles before needing to refuel) - making it a great candidate for use as an "around campus" vehicle. The production of the vehicle was web-cast via the website http://www.montana.edu/~wwwad/te330home.html where high school students around the state of Montana watched in to learn more about this project. For Phase II funding is being sought to demonstrate the vehicle around the state and to write a "How-To" manual for people wishing to convert a gas-powered vehicle to electric.

More MTP2 Details

www.MTP2.org
Michael Vogel - MTP2 Director
Montana State University Extension Service
Montana Pollution Prevention Program
109 Taylor Hall
Bozeman, Montana 59717
phone 406.994.3451 ● fax 406.994-5417 ● mvogel@montana.edu