



Peaks to Prairies

Pollution Prevention Information Center

Region 8 Pollution Prevention in Review - 1999

Networking P2 Programs in EPA Region 8

EPA Region 8 is composed of six states — Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming. In 1999 all states except North Dakota had comprehensive pollution prevention programs funded by Pollution Prevention Incentives for States (PPIS) grants.

In 1997 the *Peaks to Prairies Pollution Prevention Center* was established to help state and local programs promote pollution prevention and environmental management to businesses. The Center is a networking tool:

- offering access to current information and contacts
- encouraging collaboration and leveraging of resources
- facilitating communication about activities and projects

The Center also supports pollution prevention efforts at the national level through a coalition of nine regional centers known as the Pollution Prevention Resource Exchange (P2Rx). Ongoing activities of the Center include:

PEER PARTNERING - Encouraging businesses and agencies who are interested in or have incorporated pollution prevention principles into their operation to share information and resources with each other.

SECTOR SPECIALIZATION - Collecting, reviewing and making available resources on pollution prevention in the construction and autobody sectors.

P2 RESOURCE LIBRARY - Collecting, cataloging and lending business- and material-specific P2 information including Region 8 publications.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION - Networking with other assistance providers to promote youth and community pollution prevention education and maintaining a library of youth and community resources.

REGIONAL COMMUNICATION - Facilitating dialog and facilitation between regional providers through a list serve, monthly conference calls, an annual roundtable and the Peaks to Prairies web site.

SPECIAL PROJECTS - Taking the coordinator's role for special regional interests such as trainings or conferences. In 1999 a feasibility study for creation of a National ReSource Center for Green Building Technology was also conducted.

P2 MINI-GRANTS - Administering a "mini-grants" program to develop and enhance state pollution prevention projects that have regional benefit and contribute to the mission of the Center.

ACTIVITY MEASUREMENT AND REPORTING - Recording center contacts and activities in a database for end of year reporting. In 1999, the Center successfully negotiated with the computing center to make web site log files available. These will be analyzed when received to tailor the web site to specific needs.

P2Rx PARTICIPATION - Working together with eight other regional centers to standardize aspects of information organization and presentation with the vision of providing businesses and TAPs with a national system of high quality P2 information.

Pollution prevention (P2) — avoiding or reducing pollutants at the source — is an economically viable and sustainable means to a healthful environment and a strong economy.

FY 99 Project Tasks

1. Build partnerships around common issues among businesses and agencies
2. Identify Region 8 P2 providers and create a directory
3. Coordinate regional communications
4. Support P2Rx communication and marketing
5. Enhance links and services
6. Explore complimentary funding opportunities
7. Report progress and activity

- Contents:
- Regional Roundtable
 - Web Site
 - National ReSource Center
 - EnviroRangers Web Club
 - P2 PSAs
 - Sector Work
 - Future Plans

1999 Mini-Grant Awards

[http://www.montana.edu/
wwwpeaks/minigrants.htm](http://www.montana.edu/wwwpeaks/minigrants.htm)

- Construction Waste Resource Guide
- EnviroRangers Web Club
- P2 PSAs

P2 Resource Library

[http://www.montana.edu/
wwwpeaks/resources](http://www.montana.edu/wwwpeaks/resources)

- 4000 books, videos, pamphlets, training modules
- Region 8 Publications
- Links to Region 8 Libraries
- Links to National Virtual Library
- Research Service



Higher Education Survey

[http://www.montana.edu/
wwwpeaks/higheredsurvey.htm](http://www.montana.edu/wwwpeaks/higheredsurvey.htm)

Profiling Region 8:

1. Curriculum
 2. Research
 3. Technical Assistance
 4. Internship Opportunities
 5. Green Campus Initiatives
- Add or update data on-line

1999 Regional Roundtable

Utah hosted the August 11-13, 1999, Region 8 Roundtable with accommodations in Park City near the 2002 Olympic Park. Day one focused on updates from EPA and state programs. Day two included discussions of Peaks to Prairies and P2Rx activities and the three-year plan followed by a virtual tour of the Peaks to Prairies web site and a live tour of the Olympic ski jump, luge and bobsled runs under construction. At the Olympic site, the group met with Diane Conrad, Director of Environmental Programs for the Salt Lake Organizing Committee (SLOC) and learned of P2-oriented activities underway in connection with the games.

Special project reports included the mini-grant funded construction waste resources study from Utah (results now on-line at: [http://www.montana.edu/
wwwpeaks/Construction%20Waste/construction_waste.html](http://www.montana.edu/wwwpeaks/Construction%20Waste/construction_waste.html)), the P2 EnviroRangers Club (see article in this issue), autobody and construction sector work to date, and production of public service announcements with a pollution prevention theme. Tellus presented a shortened version of the SPRINT (State Pollution Prevention Regulatory Integration Initiative) training. The complete training was subsequently presented in both Colorado and Montana. The meeting closed with agreement on the 3-year plan and directives for Peaks to Prairies to coordinate monthly conference calls, a regional technical training, and initiate information sharing on Colorado's ski industry assessment project. Full minutes of the meeting with photos are on the web at [http://www.montana.edu/wwwpeaks/
roundtable.htm](http://www.montana.edu/wwwpeaks/roundtable.htm)

Peaks to Prairies Web Site

<http://www.montana.edu/wwwpeaks>

More than 800 visits were made to the web site in its first year on-line. With a little experience under our belt, new and exciting changes are in store to provide access to more resources with the click of a mouse!

National ReSource Center for Sustainable Building

Natural resources are continually being expended by the construction, refurbishing, and demolition of buildings. From the materials that are being manufactured to the building site being developed, the environment is affected in many ways. Greening is the application of environmentally safe products, materials, technologies and practices. Applied to construction, greening involves design with nature, environmentally sensitive design, and holistic resource management. Sustainability supports integrated systems and practices that are self-sustaining and embrace inter-dependence, environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and economic viability.

Sustainable design and green building must use alternative approaches in traditional practices that incorporate changes in mind-set. The new "whole systems approach" must recognize the impacts of every design and building choice on the natural and cultural resources available.

In a feasibility study conducted by the Peaks to Prairies Center in partnership with the MSU Colleges of Architecture and Engineering and the MSU NIST-funded EpiCenter project, creation of a National ReSource Center for Sustainable Building was proposed to merge the concepts of greening and sustainability in commercial, institutional and residential construction. An organizational structure was developed based on research results and existing web resources were collected and cataloged. This project is pending review and approval.

Web Club Offers Rewards For Pollution Prevention

MSU News Service, 9/29/99 - BOZEMAN

A new web-based club for kids features activities, games, links, and prizes that help kids learn how to help their communities through pollution prevention. Membership in the club, called the **P2 EnviroRangers**, is free to all kids age 18 and under in Montana, Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

P2 EnviroRangers (P2ER) members can choose from a variety of P2-related activities, and by registering and completing activities, kids can earn iron-on patches, frisbees, sports bottles, and insulated lunch bags. The club also offers the opportunity for members to meet other P2ER members on-line.

Teachers, youth leaders, and other adults who would like to promote the club to youth may receive free bookmarks and other publicity materials through Lara Dando with the Montana State University Extension Service. Call (406) 994-3451 or e-mail uedld@montana.edu. Club registration and information is on the web at:

<http://www.montana.edu/wwwp2er>



Pollution Prevention PSAs

With funding from the mini-grants program and participation from state programs, pollution prevention public service announcements were created for the region. The 30-second spot includes a standard script, state-specific footage and a written bi-line with phone number referring to each state's pollution prevention program. Unique PSAs were produced for four states for under \$3,000 including production and Beta Cam Sp media copies. A DAT (cassette) recording of the script was also produced to use as a radio announcement. With an "Airing Tips Fact Sheet" produced by Peaks to Prairies and the South Dakota program, each state is arranging their own air time and marketing strategy.

Construction and Autobody Sector Work

Peaks to Prairies spent 1999 collecting information as the first step to creating a first-stop-shopping collection of pertinent resources in these two areas. Hard-copy resources are included in the lending library and available for loan. Other types of resources including web sites, contact people, etc. are also being collected. A task for the upcoming year is to better define construction and autobody as it pertains to our collection.

Approximately 200 hard-copy resources have been collected, about 70% dealing with construction issues. Sixteen states have contributed. All hard-copy resources in the collection are currently listed on the Peaks to Prairies web site.

Autobody: http://www.montana.edu/wwwpeaks/autobody_sector_resources.htm

Construction: http://www.montana.edu/wwwpeaks/construction_sector_resources.htm

Potential and in-process partners for the construction sector project are the National Resource Center for Sustainable Building, the National Association of Homebuilders, 2002 Olympics, and state P2 programs. Potential and in-process partners for the autobody sector project are: Iowa Waste Reduction Center/STAR Program, CCAR-Greenlink. Peaks to Prairies will hire a coordinator for these projects in 2000.

P2Rx Contributions

- Sector Hub Project
- National Contacts Database
- P2Rx Marketing
- Operational Standard Setting
- Bi-annual Group Meetings
- Monthly Administrative Conference Calls
- Monthly Web Development Conference Calls
- Coordinate P2Rx Presentation at National 2000 SBA Meeting in Montana



Region 8 State Programs and Center Advisory Committee

Colorado

Parry Burnap
Colorado Department of Public
Health and Environment -
Pollution Prevention Unit
email: parry.burnap@state.co.us

Montana

Mike Vogel
Montana State University
Extension Service - Pollution
Prevention Program
email: mvogel@montana.edu

Lou Moore

Montana Department of
Environmental Quality - Pollution
Prevention Bureau
email: lmoore@state.mt.us

North Dakota

Robert Tubbs
North Dakota Department of
Health - Pollution Prevention
email: rtubbs@state.nd.us

South Dakota

Dennis Clarke
South Dakota Department of
Environment and Natural
Resources - Pollution Prevention
Program
email: dennis.clarke@state.sd.us

Utah

Sonja Wallace
Utah Department of
Environmental Quality - Pollution
Prevention Program
email: swallace@deq.state.ut.us

Wyoming

Steve Roseberry
Wyoming Department of
Environmental Quality - Office of
Outreach and Environmental
Assistance
email: sroseb@state.wy.us

Year 2000 Activities Underway

STATE VISITS - The Center is making plans to meet with various small business assistance providers in each state by identifying regularly scheduled meetings or helping to organize one. We will listen to state successes and/or problems, evaluate how to better focus Center services, and collect inter-state collaboration opportunities. We are scheduled to attend the Colorado P2 Partnership meeting in September, North Dakota Environmental Professionals meeting in October and a Montana meeting in May being planned jointly with the state SBDC, MEP and SCORE offices.

NEW WEB SITE DESIGN & DOMAIN - Efforts are underway to secure www.peakstoprairies.edu. A redesign of the web site including a new look and incorporating database elements is also in process.

VIRTUAL LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT - What makes a library of resources most useful in this age of the world-wide web? We will try to answer this question with input from the region. Some planned improvements are web accessibility to regionally published resources, expanded referral to web-based resources and improving bibliographic search capabilities.

REGIONAL ROUNDTABLE - September 6-8, 2000 in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Focus of the meeting will be "what makes Region 8 tick" and a half-day mini-training probably on P2 measurement will be offered.

AND MORE...

SECTOR LEAD RESOURCES ON THE WEB

CONTACTS DATABASE ON THE WEB

CCAR-GREENLINK / AUTOBODY SECTOR LEAD PARTNERSHIP

P2 IN HIGH SCHOOL AG TEACHING LABS MINI-GRANT

BEST PRACTICES TO MINIMIZE WESTERN SPRAWL MINI-GRANT

INTERACTIVE VIDEO PBT TRAINING

About the Peaks to Prairies Center

The Center is operated by the Montana Pollution Prevention Program of the Montana State University Extension Service and serves EPA Region 8 states — Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming. As part of a non-regulatory, educational entity, the Center draws on resources of the land-grant system. The Center's goal is to protect the environment through pollution prevention and its major function is to serve as a networking tool for state and local government agencies, trade associations, educational institutions, consultants, and non-governmental organizations who serve small businesses.

Address:

Montana State University
PO Box 173580
Bozeman, MT 59717

Telephone/Fax:

406-994-6948 / 406-994-5417

Executive Director:

Michael Vogel
email: mvogel@montana.edu

Program Coordinator:

Laura Estes
email: laurae@montana.edu

Find us on the web at <http://www.montana.edu/wwwpeaks>



Peaks to Prairies is a member of the Pollution Prevention Resource Exchange (P2Rx), a national coalition of pollution prevention information centers representing all ten EPA regions. Through P2Rx, centers bring regional networking to a national level, exchange information and build on each others ideas. Support for Peaks to Prairies is provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the state programs listed on the left.