

Everything You Wanted to Know About P2

(<http://peakstoprairies.org/topic/hub/>)

Public Lands managers face many challenges in the process of protecting natural resources while also providing visitors with pristine recreational areas. Employees are often quite motivated to protect and preserve the lands they represent, and particularly to educate visitors to reduce pollution both within park boundaries and beyond.

The new *Public Lands* topic hub features success stories describing how pollution prevention has helped agencies save money and accomplish their goals. It suggests ways that pollution prevention professionals can help public land agencies and specifically addresses the unique educational role of public lands. Various pollution prevention tools are included in the hub to encourage cross-agency idea sharing and aid in implementation of new best management practices or in training. The collection of hub resources also helps identify possible information gaps, and will be used by Region 8 P2 programs to focus public land outreach efforts. (Developed by Peaks to Prairies and EPA Region 8.)

P2 and Environmental Security, a new topic hub, describes how national and environmental security relates to pollution prevention and how pollution prevention projects within a facility add value to national and local security efforts.

The hub provides resources to help educate typical businesses and manufacturing companies about environmentally-related security risks; suggests practical actions, tools and systems to help reduce risks (including plant-specific P2 opportunities); and offers links to guidance documents on assessing risk and vulnerabilities and other relevant information (Produced through a collaboration of the Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable and the Pacific Northwest Pollution Prevention Resource Center.)

Find P2 Programs Nationwide

Peaks to Prairies maintains a current database of P2 programs in EPA Region 8 on its web site. This *Programs Directory* provides a central place to locate P2 business assistance and services in the region. Twice a year our information is combined with that of other regions and used to update a *National Directory of P2 Programs* published at the P2Rx web site (<http://www.p2rx.org>). Together the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable (NPPR) and P2Rx recently made the national directory available at the NPPR web site as well (<http://www.p2.org/inforesources/p2rxpd.cfm>). This sharing makes the information more accessible and prevents duplication of effort. The P2Rx Centers are currently developing a form that organizations can use to update their own information on-line. Stay tuned for details.

The Region 8 P2 programs adopted "public lands" as a regional initiative in 2004. Efforts proposed to date are: scaling and adapting federal resources for use by state and local agencies, documenting opportunities for P2 programs and public lands to work together, and suggesting ways to measure success of various types of efforts.

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Also In This Issue...

- ★ **Services from P2Rx**
- ★ **Region 8 P2 Roundtable**
- ★ **WasteWise Challenges**
- ★ **State P2 Network News:**
 - Colorado:** COMPASS Project
 - Montana:** Successful Housing, Integrated Solid Waste Management, and Lewis & Clark P2 Cards
 - North Dakota:** Ashes to Green Products
 - South Dakota:** New P2 Program Manager
 - Utah:** Water Quality on the Wasatch Front
 - Wyoming:** A Long-Range Air Quality Plan
- ★ **P2 and Communities**
- ★ **Enforcement in the Construction Industry**
- ★ **Cleaning Up Winter Travel in Yellowstone**
- ★ **Education & Outreach to Vo-Tech Schools**
- ★ **National Environmental Assistance Summit**

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Providing P2 Information and a Network for Technical Assistance

Services from P2Rx:

P2 Programs Directory:

Find assistance programs around the region or around the country

P2 Libraries:

Peaks to Prairies Web Library -

Regional publications available on the web

P2InfoHouse -

Publications from around the U.S.

P2 Help Desk

Rapid response to P2 questions with the advantage of network expertise

P2 News and Events:

Current P2-related news and events

Homes Across America

Showcase of resource efficient homes and technical assistance

Request for Proposals Clearinghouse:

Information on current and pending RFPs related to pollution prevention

Mercury Reduction Programs Database:

State, local, and federal mercury reduction activities and information

Service Highlight: *Homes Across America*

HomeWORD, in Missoula, Montana, and the Mid American Housing Partnership (MAHP) of Cedar Rapids, Iowa both work to develop affordable housing. Both also have projects on the P2Rx *Homes Across America* web site. *Homes Across America* staff noticed the similar issues faced by each organization: housing density, transportation, and infill development; and put them in contact with each other. Their conversations pointed out a shared interest in multi-family developments and resource efficient building practices.

An MAHP representative flew to Missoula in October 2003 to tour the Gold Dust, an 18 unit affordable housing complex in Missoula's historic district profiled in *Homes Across America*. The tour included an in-depth review of how homeWORD involved the community in what became, over time, a very popular project. HomeWORD shared many of their successful resource efficient building ideas with MAHP so they could consider incorporating similar techniques into their projects. *Homes Across America* staff facilitated the meeting.

During the tour, HomeWORD expressed a need for community planning help. The P2Rx Community Growth Hub was offered as a resource and they used the hub to help prepare group presentations sometimes given to those who are critical of "smart growth" concepts. Information in the Residential Construction topic hub has also been used in these presentations to highlight green building ideas.

MAHP intends to use the Residential Construction and the Community Growth hub, as well as other homes listed in HAA, to promote and build affordable housing. Through such efforts, Peaks to Prairies is learning how to maximize service by using resources to compliment each other.

Find links to all of these services at the Peaks to Prairies web site
<http://peakstoprairies.org>.

The beginning of knowledge is the discovery of something we do not understand. —Frank Herbert

WasteWise Challenges

This program helps partners expand existing waste reduction programs focused on a specific material or product type. By pledging to the Challenge, WasteWise partners can receive assistance to implement waste reduction activities and potentially earn recognition as environmental leaders.

Take the Green Building Challenge:

<http://www.epa.gov/wastewise/wrr/cbuild.htm>

Take the Electronics Challenge:

<http://www.epa.gov/wastewise/wrr/celect.htm>

Region 8 P2 Roundtable

Jackson, Wyoming and the Wyoming P2 Program hosted the 2003 Roundtable September 29 - October 1, 2003. The peak fall colors and warm weather were an inspiring setting for sharing ideas and making plans.

Special guests spoke on a variety of issues:

- Sadie Hoskie, Director, EPA Region 8 Pollution Prevention, Pesticides and Toxics Program: "*Introduction to EPA's Resource Conservation Challenge*"
- Julie Klein, Safety Officer at Grand Teton Lodge Company: "*Success Implementing an Environmental Management System by a National Park Concessionaire*"
- Lori Fussell, Institute of Science, Ecology and the Environment: "*SAE Clean Snowmobile Challenge: History and Future Plans*"
- Jim Evanoff, Yellowstone National Park: "*Current Pollution Prevention and Greening Activities in Yellowstone Operations*"
- Jay Anderson, U.S. Forest Service: "*Resource Conservation: An Overview of U.S. Forest Service P2 Projects*"
- Vic Lundeburg, Grand Teton National Park: "*Fleet Maintenance Facility P2 in Grand Teton National Park*"

The roundtable also discussed internal issues like EPA's measurement initiative, the feasibility and benefits of small P2 programs offering EMS assistance, and program planning. The roundtable voted to adopt *P2 on Public Lands* as a regional area of emphasis for the coming year. The last day of the roundtable, participants attended a ceremony and operations tour in recognition of the Grand Teton Lodge Company's receipt of the Environmental Achievement Award from EPA. Proceedings from the roundtable are available on the Peaks to Prairies web site under *Network* (click on *Roundtable*).

Preventing Pollution as Communities Grow

The *Community Growth* topic hub was recently revised to focus more on pollution prevention and trends in sustainable community growth. The hub now includes additional resources on transportation issues, sustaining economic and environmental health, and how to measure progress. Examples highlighting consensus building within communities and multi-jurisdictional areas have also been added. Communities that address growth from a pollution prevention perspective (P3!) are leaders in the cost-efficient pursuit of sustainability. Case studies in the hub exemplify this.

The hub is being reviewed by two expert sources: The National Association of Counties (NACo) and the Urban Land Institute. Our thanks also go to Paul Cartwright, a land use and energy specialist of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, for his professional comments.

Enforcement in the Construction Industry

For help finding state and federal Construction Industry Compliance Assistance (CICA), industry professionals are encouraged to visit the on-line CICA Center at <http://www.cicacenter.org/>. There you will find plain language explanations of environmental rules for the construction industry and links to state regulations and other resources. The site was developed by EPA's office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) Construction Workgroup in conjunction with trade associations and other stakeholders. The workgroup is also developing an *Owner/Contractor Environmental Guide*. The guide will lead those responsible for construction projects through the federal government's permit system and provide a list of important questions to ask state regulators. The site and guide are still in development. The site developer, National Center for Manufacturing Sciences, welcomes the addition of state specific information. Offer comments online at the above web site.

Cleaning Up Winter Travel in Yellowstone

If the new winter use plan is implemented, impacts from travel will be reduced in Yellowstone National Park. The National Park Service (NPS) winter use rule for 2003-2004 sets vehicle, noise, and emission levels so that impacts are no greater than if all winter visitors used mass transit (snowcoaches)—the environmentally preferred alternative. To achieve these reductions, the rule limits the number of snowmobiles to historical averages, or about half of peak use.

Snowmobiles and snowcoaches will also be cleaner and quieter than the baseline fleet of 1997. For example, 80% of all snowmobiles this winter (and 100% next year) will sound half as loud as in 1995 (from 78 to 73 decibels or less). Engine test data from these same vehicles show hydrocarbon and carbon monoxide reductions of 73 to 97%, and particulate matter reductions of 95.9%.

To reduce snowcoach emissions and noise, NPS and private companies developed a new "Yellow Bus" unveiled last August at the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Roosevelt Arch. The new bus, modeled after 1930s touring buses, will swap tires for winter tracks in December, and take its maiden over-snow voyage from West Yellowstone into the Park. The vehicle is designed to be quieter, more fuel efficient, and cleaner than current snowcoaches. Alternate fuel versions will also be introduced, including natural gas, E-85 (85% ethanol), and bio-diesel. The use of ethanol blend and biodiesel fuels by NPS and contractors in other service vehicles will reduce emissions even further. Bio-based lube and hydraulic fluids will also be used in trail groomers and plows.

Field monitoring of environmental, geotectonic, flora, and fauna impacts will continue to determine future management strategies. For example, Montana Department of Environmental Quality and NPS are monitoring carbon monoxide and fine particulate matter year-round at Yellowstone's West Entrance. NPS will compare results to their action thresholds to develop future changes. Plan implementation depends on the outcome of a court hearing in late 2003 in Washington, D.C. For more information, contact Howard Haines at hhaines@state.mt.us or Kevin Schnieder at Kevin.Schneider@nps.gov.

Education & Outreach to Vocational-Technical Schools

A goal of vocational-technical schools is to help students become valuable employees to trade industries. Consequently, Peaks to Prairies is forming new partnerships with schools, teachers, and trade associations to assure the *Residential Construction* topic hub and the *Homes Across America* website contribute to these students' education. By highlighting green construction and products, these sites are on the cutting edge of bringing resource efficient building to mainstream America.

Our goals are to create a focus group that will 1) provide feedback on ways to make these sites more beneficial to students and teachers, and 2) give Peaks to Prairies ideas on how to promote these resources to vo-tech schools. If you or someone you know would like to contribute to this work, please contact Peaks to Prairies.

One Environment One Conference

<http://www.p2.org/summit2004/>

The National Environmental Assistance Summit: An Alliance to Prevent Pollution, Achieve Compliance, and Innovate for Environmental Results

Hosted as a joint effort of the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable (NPPR) and the EPA National Compliance Assistance Providers Forum, the conference will be held:

April 19-22, 2004

Wyndham Baltimore Inner Harbor Hotel
Baltimore, Maryland

This event will bring together all members of the environmental assistance community (those who create, fund, deliver and receive environmental assistance) to learn from each other how to provide more effective environmental assistance. Workshops, field trips, presentations and dialog on important issues will be offered. A special Earth Day celebration, with Lester Brown (author and Founder of Worldwatch Institute) as keynote speaker, and an optional hands-on community service project are included in the activities.

Conference planners include NPPR, EPA, P2Rx and the local hosting team - Ecco Verde and the State of Maryland.

The next *Greater Yellowstone Clean Cities Coalition* meeting will be January 14th in West Yellowstone. All interested parties are invited. For more information on Clean Cities see <http://www.cities.doe.gov/> or contact Fran Van Houten at 307/733-8191.

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About the Peaks to Prairies Center

The Center is operated by 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. Its major function is to serve as a networking tool for state and local governmental agencies, trade associations, educational institutions, consultants, and non-governmental organizations who serve small businesses.

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Peaks to Prairies is a member of the Pollution Prevention Resource Exchange (P2Rx), a national network 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.



Colorado: Hot Mix Asphalt Industry Compliance Assistance (COMPASS) Project

COMPASS addressed critical and non-critical compliance issues in the asphalt industry in air, stormwater, hazardous waste and pollution prevention (P2). The goal was to provide compliance assistance to participating industry members in "a non-confrontational and consultative" way in an effort to measure and compare the effectiveness of this approach with more traditional enforcement activities. Environmental results were developed and quantified for each area.

In the first year of the project, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) created guidance documents including a facility

environmental footprint, a comprehensive checklist with regulatory requirements and P2 opportunities, and instructions on how to perform a site visit. Using these tools, compliance baselines were developed for each facility in the project. Both individual facility reports and a data summary were generated from the data collected.

In the second year, facilities were reassessed using the same tools. Increases and decreases in effectiveness in each category were statistically analyzed. P2 results showed both increases and decreases in performance by plant and by delineated indicators. Overall the analysis showed the project's positive impact on compliance. View a copy of the full final report at:

http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/el/cross_media/compass/compassfinalreport.pdf.

A follow-up project with the same asphalt companies, called COMET, is currently underway. It will develop a template EMS for the asphalt industry and assist companies in adapting the template to their business. In summer 2004, CDPHE will go out to the participating companies and, using the same COMPASS inspection guidance, again check on their compliance. The project is based on a partnership between CDPHE and the Colorado Asphalt Pavement Association. For more information contact Kirsten King at kirsten.king@state.co.us.

Montana: Successful Housing Adventures

Montana Housing Solutions--Designing for Comfort & Quality has just been published to provide those thinking of building a new house with the financial and technical information they need to create a pleasant and efficient home. It also features architectural plans designed for affordability and energy efficiency in Montana's climate.

The plan section was created through an open invitation to Montana AIA members to submit housing plans meeting certain size and energy efficiency criteria. Seventeen plans were selected and five received the Governor's Award for Affordable Housing Design. Plans include features such as sun-tempered orientation, structural insulated panels (SIPs), labor and material efficient designs, and frost-protected shallow foundation systems. The book also includes a comprehensive discussion of energy efficient design and housing success stories from around the state.

The 100-page book is free upon request, and plans appearing in the book can be ordered through the Montana Building Industry Association. Direct requests to Montana DEQ at 406/444-6697. For more information contact Brian Green, bgreen@state.mt.us. (The project was sponsored by Montana DEQ, the Department of Commerce Board of Housing, Montana Building Industry Association, AIA Montana, and Fannie Mae.)

Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has established a Task Force to assist with updating the state Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan (IWMP). The Montana Integrated Waste Management Act requires involvement of local officials, citizens, solid waste and recycling industries, environmental organizations, and others involved in the management of solid waste. The Montana P2 Program at MSU is a

member of the Task Force. DEQ has already updated sections of the plan that provide background on solid waste disposal, current recycling, and ongoing issues.

Task Force recommendations for updating the plan will be directed toward reducing solid waste disposal by 25%, as established in the Act. The recommendations will include policies, legislation, education, technical assistance and other suggestions for source reduction, reuse, recycling, and market development. These

Lewis and Clark P2 Cards

To celebrate the Lewis and Clark bi-centennial anniversary, the Montana Pollution Prevention Program has created a set of 18 educational collectors cards (like baseball cards). Content is geared toward kids ages seven to 14 with details of life on the Expedition connected to preventing pollution in today's home or when on vacation. The MT P2 Program web site also has tips from teachers on how to incorporate the cards into classroom activities. See <http://www.mtp2.org/youthp2.shtml> for more information, and for prices, or contact Cali Morrison at cmorrison@montana.edu.

recommendations will include long and short-term goals but will focus primarily on what can be accomplished in a five-year timeframe.

The Task Force will meet three to five times between December 2003 and July 2004. Please contact Brian Spangler at 406-444-5307 or via email at bspangler@state.mt.us, if you have questions concerning the revision to the IWMP or the Task Force.

Utah: Protecting Water Quality on the Wasatch Front

The *Keep It Pure* campaign, launched by Salt Lake City (SLC) in late September, educates local residents and visitors on how to preserve the area's pristine water supplies by acting responsibly in nearby watershed canyons. The protected canyons include four of the seven major canyons along the Wasatch Front Mountains, and provide water for over 400,000 people.

These are also some of the most heavily used recreational areas in the nation, with millions of visitors annually. Many visitors don't realize the impact that their activities can have on the quality and safety of local drinking water.

The *Keep It Pure* campaign provides information via signs placed in the canyons, newspaper ads, and bumper stickers. A new watershed protection curriculum has also

been adopted by local schools for their science classes. The U.S. Forest Service is partnering with SLC on the campaign by providing matching and in-kind funding to install new toilets at trailhead areas.

The *Keep It Pure* web site at <http://www.ci.slc.ut.us/utilities/watershed/> has more information about the campaign, and is developing sections with interesting information about water, a mountain recreation guide, facts about watershed regulations and permits, and Frequently Asked Questions. SLC is willing to issue a no-fee use agreement for other interested watershed managers to utilize the *Keep It Pure* slogans and artwork. Contact Tom Ward of the SLC Department of Public Utilities at Thomas.Ward@slc.gov.com, for more info.

North Dakota: Ashes to Green Products

One-hundred million tons of coal byproducts are produced each year by burning coal to generate electricity. This waste is becoming a valuable resource as raw material for an array of products and industries. Researchers with the Energy & Environmental Research Center (EERC) Coal Ash Resources Research Consortium (CARRC) created an on-line *Buyer's Guide to Coal Ash-Containing Products* to showcase the many uses of coal ash in products at <http://www.undeerc.org/carrc>.

Several products featured in the *Buyer's Guide* were used in the construction of the Fort Mandan Visitor's Center in Washburn, North Dakota, which serves as a national showcase of ash-containing products. Flexcrete (TM), a "cellular" concrete used to build the Center, is 30% less expensive than traditional wood framing, is easy to use (also reducing labor costs), is extremely fire resistant and not susceptible to pests, and provides superior heat and acoustic insulation because it contains billions of microscopic air pockets. It is manufactured primarily with fly ash, a 100% recycled resource (see: <http://www.isgresources.com/>). The carpet, ceiling tile, stucco, cultured stone and mortar, and concrete floors in the center also have ash components.

A *Coal Ash Professionals Training Course* will be offered by EERC on May 10-13, 2004 in Minneapolis, Minnesota (see EERC website). For more information about the Fort Mandan Visitor Center, contact Kevin Kirkey, 701-462-3430, kkirkey@fortmandan.org.

South Dakota: New P2 Program Manager

Barry McLaury is the new P2 Coordinator in South Dakota, taking over from Dennis Clarke who managed the program for ten years (and is now the Coordinator for the South Dakota 319 Water Program, and watershed implementation project team leader). Barry has been working for the Water Resources Assistance Program for two years. His prior experience includes four years with DENR's Waste Management Program where he conducted solid and hazardous waste inspections, and five years in DENR's Water Rights Program. In addition to his duties as P2 Coordinator, Barry will remain active in conducting watershed assessments, writing Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) reports, and implementing best management practices in watersheds. His plans for the P2 Program include continuing the current emphasis on rural communities and agriculture, and exploring expanding program partnerships with other DENR media programs and the business sector. He can be reached at barry.mclaury@state.sd.us or 605/773-5859.

INFORM's Tips
for a Cleaner, "Greener" Holiday
http://www.informinc.org/greener_holiday.php

Wyoming: Developing A Long-Range Air Quality Plan

The state of Wyoming is developing a long-range plan to improve visibility and related air quality in the state. Staff from the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) have been working with the Western Regional Air Partnership (WRAP) for several years to address issues first identified by the Grand Canyon Visibility Transport Commission in 1996. WRAP includes representatives from 13 Western state governments, more than two dozen tribes and a collection of federal agencies, as well as representatives of industry, academia, environmental groups, and the public (<http://www.wrapair.org>). It supports efforts to improve overall air quality in the entire Western region, as well

as visibility in the more than 156 Mandatory Federal Class I areas (such as Yellowstone National Park).

The Wyoming air quality plan is being developed following guidelines in Section 309 of the federal Regional Haze Rule, which, according to Governor Dave Freudenthal, "provides both certainty and flexibility for the state's industries while simultaneously ensuring we'll be on a path toward improving Wyoming's air quality." The plan utilizes templates for dealing with regional haze developed by WRAP over the past several years. Planning considerations such as emission inventories, details of the operative atmospheric chemistry, meteorology,

pollution dispersion modeling and smoke management from forest and agricultural fires, etc., have been determined. EPA has already approved both the WRAP proposal on how to reduce emissions of sulfur dioxide, and the set of actions proposed by the WRAP for states to make reasonable progress in reducing regional haze over the long term.

DEQ is conducting stakeholder meetings to inform the public and solicit public comment on the plan. The planning process will be completed by 12/31/03. For more information contact Steve Roseberry at SRSEB@state.wy.us.