

STATEWIDE SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS

The following projects may be able to use your SEP Contribution to perform a Pre-Approved in your community or geographic area.

- Railroad Commission of Texas
- Texas Association of Resource Conservation and Development Areas, Inc. ("RC&D")
- Texas Congress of Parents and Teachers D/B/A Texas PTA

These projects are called "Statewide" projects and may be available upon prior coordination between the SEP Coordinator and the third party administrator. If you are interested in contributing to one of these projects, please contact TCEQ at (512) 239-2223.

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS

Project Title: Alternative Fuels Clean School Bus Replacement Program

Project Description: The Railroad Commission of Texas ("RRC") shall provide SEP Funds for up to 100% of the purchase price of a propane or natural gas powered school bus that is model year 2010 or newer to public school districts and public charter schools to replace a diesel school bus that is model year 2002 or older.

This SEP is designed to reduce nitrogen oxides ("NO_x"), volatile organic compounds ("VOCs"), carbon monoxide ("CO"), and particulate matter ("PM") emissions by replacing older diesel buses with newer buses that meet more stringent emission standards.

The RRC shall give preference to Schools replacing the oldest, most polluting buses that are currently in use. An Older Bus that is not currently in use on a weekly basis is not eligible. Since unnecessary school bus idling wastes fuel and pollutes the air, preference shall also be given to those Schools with a written policy to reduce school bus idling.

The RRC's project area is Statewide; therefore, the RRC may use all SEP Funds for work anywhere in the state. The RRC shall attempt, but is not required, to use SEP Funds in the TCEQ Air Control Regions from which the corresponding penalty originated. More information about the RRC may be found at <http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/index.php>.

Environmental Benefit: This SEP will directly benefit air quality by reducing harmful exhaust emissions which contribute to the formation of ozone and may cause or exacerbate a number of respiratory diseases, including asthma. For example, by replacing a 1989 diesel bus with a new 2010 ultra low emission model, Schools may reduce their students' exposure to NO_x by 98 percent; VOCs by 93 percent; CO by 83 percent; and PM by 99 percent. In addition, by encouraging less school bus idling, this SEP contributes to public awareness of environmental matters.

Eligible Areas and Counties: Statewide

Minimum Contribution Amount: \$1,000

TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT AREAS ("RC&D")

Project 1: Tire Collection Events and Cleanup of Abandoned Tire Sites

Project Description: Coordinate with local city and county government officials and private entities ("Partner Entities") to conduct tire collection events where residents will be able to drop off tires for proper disposal or recycling ("Collection Events"), or to clean sites where tires have been disposed of illegally ("Site Cleanups").

Collected tires, debris, and waste will be properly transported to and disposed of at an authorized disposal site, and only properly licensed haulers will be used for transport and disposal of tires and regulated wastes.

Environmental Benefit: Helps rid communities of the dangers and health threats associated with illegal tire sites.

Eligible Counties: Statewide

Minimum Contribution: \$500

Project 2: Clean Buses Project

Project Description: Provide SEP Funds for up to 100% of the purchase price of a lower-emission bus that is model year 2010 or newer ("Replacement Bus") to public school districts or public charter schools ("Schools"), to replace a diesel bus that is model year 2006 or older ("Older Diesel Bus") or for retrofitting Older Diesel Buses with lower emission or clean fuel technology to reduce air emissions. Each Replacement Bus purchased will have an engine that meets 2010 EPA Standards. All Older Diesel Buses that are replaced will be fully decommissioned.

Environmental Benefit: This SEP will directly benefit air quality by reducing harmful exhaust emissions that contribute to the formation of ozone and may cause or exacerbate a number of respiratory diseases, including asthma. For example, by replacing a 1989 diesel bus with a new 2010 ultra low emission model, passengers' exposure to NO_x may be reduced by 98 percent; VOCs by 93 percent; CO by 83 percent; and PM by 99 percent.

Eligible Counties: Statewide

Minimum Contribution: \$2,500

Project 3: Cleanup of Unauthorized Dumpsites

Project Description Coordinate with city and county government officials and private entities ("Partner Entities") to clean up sites where trash, tires, or other materials have been illegally disposed of. Collected debris and waste will be properly transported to and disposed of at an authorized disposal facility. Only properly licensed haulers are used for transport and disposal of tires and other waste. For more information about illegal dumping see EPA 905B-97-001, Illegal Dumping Prevention Guidebook, http://www.epa.gov/region5/waste/illegal_dumping/downloads/il-dmpng.pdf

Environmental Benefit: Help rid communities of the dangers and health threats associated with non-regulated trash dumps which contaminate air and water and harbor disease carrying animals and insects.

Eligible Counties: Statewide

Minimum Contribution: \$500

Project 4: Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Project Description: Coordinate with city and county government officials and private entities (collectively known as “Partner Entities”) to conduct events for residents to bring in HHW such as paint, thinners, pesticides, oil and gas, corrosive cleaners, and fertilizers for proper disposal (“Collection Event”). Where possible, the Collection Event may also offer electronics collection, disposal, and recycling. Partner Entities will determine exactly which materials will be accepted and how they will be disposed of or recycled.

Examples of wastes that can be considered HHW include but are not limited to:

- fluorescent light bulbs (including compact fluorescent light bulbs)
- oil-based paints
- anti-mildew and exterior latex paints
- wood stains
- fuels (gasoline, propane, diesel)
- corrosive cleaners (such as lye-based oven cleaners)
- drain cleaners
- pool chlorine and acid
- televisions
- computer monitors
- pesticides

Examples of wastes that are not considered HHW but that may be collected and disposed of through Collection Events are:

- motor oil (new or used)
- oil filters
- antifreeze (new or used)
- most latex paints

Individuals qualified to make determinations regarding receiving, handling, and temporarily storing HHW will be present at each event. Only licensed haulers and authorized disposal sites will be used for transport of wastes.

Environmental Benefit: Provides a means of properly disposing of HHW which might otherwise be disposed of in storm drains, the sewerage system, or other means detrimental to the environment.

Eligible Counties: Statewide

Minimum Contribution: \$500

Project 5: Wastewater Treatment Assistance

Project Description: Coordinate with city and county government officials and private entities (“Partner Entities”) to repair or replace failing or inadequately designed on-site wastewater treatment systems such as septic systems for low-income households. Low-income households fall at or below the 80 percent median income level for households in the county where they live.

Environmental Benefit: This SEP will provide a benefit to the environment by preventing the release of sewage into the environment and by protecting human health. Raw sewage can carry bacteria, viruses, protozoa (parasitic organisms), helminthes (intestinal worms), and bioaerosols (inhalable molds and fungi). The diseases they may cause range in severity from mild gastroenteritis to life-threatening ailments such as cholera, dysentery, infectious hepatitis, and severe gastroenteritis. People can be exposed through sewage in drinking water sources, direct contact from water in lawns or streets, and inhalation and skin absorption.

Sewage overflows may cause damage to the environment. Sewage overflows may reach rivers, lakes, streams, or aquifer systems. In addition to potential spread of disease, sewage in the environment contributes excess nutrients, metals, and toxic pollutants that contaminate water quality, cause algae blooms, and kill fish and other organisms in aquatic habitats.

Eligible Counties: Statewide

Minimum Contribution: \$100

TEXAS CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS D/B/A TEXAS PTA

Project Title: Texas PTA Clean School Bus Replacement Program

Project Description: This SEP is designed to reduce nitrogen oxides (“NO_x”), volatile organic compounds (“VOCs”), carbon monoxide (“CO”), and particulate matter (“PM”) emissions by replacing older diesel buses with newer buses that meet more stringent emission standards. Texas PTA shall provide SEP Funds for up to 100% of the purchase price of a model year 2010 or newer bus (“Replacement Bus”) to public school districts and public charter schools (“Schools”) to replace a diesel school bus that is model year 2002 or older (“Older Bus”).

Texas PTA shall give preference to Schools replacing the oldest, most polluting buses that are currently in use. An Older Bus that is not currently in use on a weekly basis is not eligible. Since unnecessary school bus idling wastes fuel and pollutes the air, preference shall also be given to those Schools with a written policy to reduce school bus idling.

Texas PTA shall require that the Older Bus be in regular use, driven on a route to and from school, and owned by the School for the past two years. Texas PTA shall also require that the Older Bus is not already scheduled and budgeted for replacement. All Older Buses shall be fully decommissioned as specifically required in the SEP Vehicle Disposition Form.

Texas PTA shall ensure that each Replacement Bus purchased has an engine that meets 2010 EPA Standards. Each Replacement Bus may be equipped with air conditioning, a camera system, GPS, and a 2-way radio. Additional equipment not included in the items previously listed on the Replacement Bus shall not be paid for with SEP Funds. Texas PTA shall limit reimbursement awards of SEP Funds to five per School.

Texas PTA shall require written certification from each SEP Funds recipient that the recipient intends to own and operate the Replacement Bus for the next five years. Texas PTA shall provide this certification in Texas PTA’s Final Report.

SEP Funds may be used for a percentage of the purchase price of the Replacement Bus as long as the purchase is completed and all other requirements of this SEP are met.

Texas PTA’s project area is Statewide; therefore, Texas PTA may use all SEP Funds for work anywhere in the state. Texas PTA shall attempt, but is not required, to use SEP Funds in the TCEQ Air Control Regions from which the corresponding penalty originated.

Environmental Benefit: This SEP will directly benefit air quality by reducing harmful exhaust emissions which contribute to the formation of ozone and may cause or exacerbate a number of respiratory diseases, including asthma. For example, by replacing a 1989 diesel bus with a newer 2010 ultra low emission model, Schools may reduce their students’ exposure to NO_x and VOCs by 97 percent; CO by 46 percent; and PM by 99 percent. In addition, by encouraging less school bus idling, this SEP contributes to public awareness of environmental matters.

Eligible Areas and Counties: Statewide

Minimum Contribution Amount: \$500