

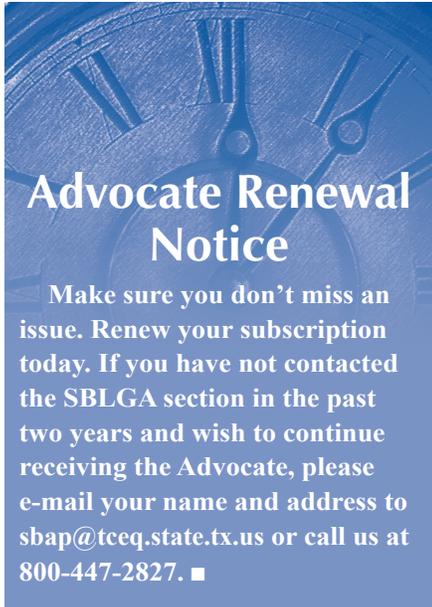
# The Advocate



For and about small businesses and local governments affected by environmental regulations

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## Advocate Renewal Notice

Make sure you don't miss an issue. Renew your subscription today. If you have not contacted the SBLGA section in the past two years and wish to continue receiving the Advocate, please e-mail your name and address to [sbap@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:sbap@tceq.state.tx.us) or call us at 800-447-2827. ■

## New Stationary Engine Rules in North Texas Counties

Do you operate a stationary internal combustion engine in Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, or Tarrant County? If so, your facility is in the Dallas–Fort Worth Eight-Hour Ozone Nonattainment Area and may be subject to an environmental rule that requires certain emission specifications, record keeping, monitoring, testing, and reporting (Title 30, Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 117) to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). The rule applies to any

stationary internal combustion engine located at a minor source of nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), including backup generators. A stationary engine is one that remains at a location for more than 12 consecutive months. Rich burn gas-fired, diesel-fired, and dual-fueled engines were required to be in compliance with the rule requirements on March 1, 2009. Lean burn gas-fired engines must be in compliance by March 1, 2010. For more information, please visit the TCEQ Web site at [www.tceq.state.tx.us/goto/nox](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/goto/nox). ■



## Join Us for the Environmental Trade Fair and Conference!

Make plans now to attend the TCEQ's 2009 Environmental Trade Fair and Conference May 12–14, at the Austin Convention Center (Austin, Texas). This annual event is Texas' premier environmental educational forum, considered by many to be one of the best in the country.

At this event, you can view the latest products and services of exhibitors, earn continuing

education credits, and learn about sustainable practices for communities and businesses. You can also attend educational sessions on topics such as:

- ◆ permitting
- ◆ remediation
- ◆ waste management
- ◆ current air issues

- ◆ water quality and drinking water management
- ◆ pollution prevention
- ◆ compliance assistance and enforcement
- ◆ laboratory practices and data reporting
- ◆ environmental quality along the Texas-Mexico border

For more information, visit our Web site at: [www.tceq.state.tx.us/assistance/events/etfc/etf.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assistance/events/etfc/etf.html)

# The Texas Small Water System Training Program Offers Free Water System and Operator Training, Reimbursement of Licensing Fees

The Texas Small Public Water System Training Program (TSWSTP), an EPA-funded program of the TCEQ, is accepting applications from water systems and water operators that request enrollment in the program.

Enrollment is FREE. Water systems qualify for this program if they are a community or non-transient, non-community public water system serving 3,300 persons or fewer. This program offers FREE water operator

training throughout the state of Texas, as well as reimbursement of the licensing fees.

Water operators enrolled in the TSWSTP receive a student identification card and training vouchers to use when registering for approved, classroom water courses. This student identification card also allows water operators to enroll in cluster (hands-on) training events.

## New Federal Air Regulations to Watch

The EPA is developing standards to control toxic air pollutants from area sources. "Area" sources are those sources that emit less than 10 tons annually of a single hazardous air pollutant or less than 25 tons annually of a combination of hazardous air pollutants. The standards being developed are referred to as National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP).

The EPA expects to finalize the Chemical Manufacturing Area Source NESHAP in May 2009. You can find the proposed rule at [www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/area/fr06oc08.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/area/fr06oc08.pdf).

**The following industries are expected to have Area Source NESHAPs proposed in 2009:**

- ◆ Cyclic Crude and Intermediate Production
- ◆ Pharmaceutical Production
- ◆ Plastic Materials and Resins Manufacturing
- ◆ Inorganic Pigment Manufacturing
- ◆ Synthetic Rubber
- ◆ Aluminum Foundries
- ◆ Nonferrous Foundries
- ◆ Copper Foundries
- ◆ Brick and Structural Clay Products
- ◆ Chemical Preparation
- ◆ Paint and Allied Products
- ◆ Prepared Feeds Materials

You can find a list of completed and proposed Area Source NESHAPs on the EPA Web site: [www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/area/compilation.html](http://www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/area/compilation.html). Additionally, the TCEQ Small Business and Local Government Assistance Section maintains a Web page for many NESHAPs that affect small businesses. Go to [www.sblga.info](http://www.sblga.info) and click on "NESHAP assistance tools." ■

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*This program offers FREE water operator training throughout the state of Texas, as well as reimbursement of the licensing fees.*

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Participants can earn continuing education units (CEUs) toward obtaining, maintaining, or upgrading a water license by taking classroom training courses. CEUs also will be granted to water operators who complete a cluster-training course. Water operators can use the student identification card to pay licensing fees.

The following licensing fees are covered by the grant: Water Operator, Customer Service Inspector, and Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester. Get enrollment forms and a list of the classes by calling program staff toll-free at 877-822-5349 or online at [www.txsmallwater.org](http://www.txsmallwater.org). ■

## Annual Municipal Storm Water Conference

The 11th Annual EPA MS4 Operators Conference is scheduled for June 22–25 in Houston. This conference is recommended for storm water managers and staff of Phase I and Phase II municipalities, federal facility staff, regulatory officials, and environmental professionals. A registration fee of \$250 includes all four days—educational sessions, lunches, field trips, and the awards banquet. A one-day registration is also available for \$175. Download registration forms and additional information at [www.houstonbeautiful.org](http://www.houstonbeautiful.org) or [www.epa.gov/region6/6wq/npdes/sw/ms4](http://www.epa.gov/region6/6wq/npdes/sw/ms4). ■

# How to Make an Environmental Complaint

The TCEQ has developed several ways for individuals to make environmental complaints; however, not all problems fall under its jurisdiction. The TCEQ can help with complaints about surface- and drinking-water pollution, unpleasant sights or smells in the outdoor air, land contamination, and companies that are regulated by the TCEQ. The TCEQ also can help if an individual needs more information on possible pollution sources,

## Discharge Monitoring Reports— New Electronic Reporting System Coming Summer 2009

Facilities covered under a Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) permit currently submit discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) to the TCEQ through an electronic system that will be decommissioned and replaced with a new, nationally recognized system called NetDMR. The functionality of this new system will be similar to the State of Texas Environmental Electronic Reporting System (STEERS) through which electronic Discharge Monitoring Reports (eDMRs) are currently submitted. In addition, NetDMR will offer expanded features. Current eDMR users and new, electronic-reporting users will need to sign up for a NetDMR account to begin submitting reports electronically. NetDMR is scheduled to be released in summer 2009\*. Updates on NetDMR developments leading up to the release date will be posted on the TCEQ Web site at <[www.tceq.state.tx.us/nav/main/reporting.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/nav/main/reporting.html)>. For more information on NetDMR, please call 512-239-eDMR (3367) or e-mail <[netdmr@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:netdmr@tceq.state.tx.us)>. ■

\*A proposed date based on EPA and TCEQ readiness

including permitting status, compliance histories of a source, or if other complaints may have been filed against a source.

There are three ways to make an environmental complaint. The first is by calling the statewide complaint line at 888-777-3186. It is answered 24 hours every day. You may also visit the TCEQ Web site, <[www.tceq.state.tx.us](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us)>, where you can find a link to make a complaint on the home page or under the “For the Public” tab. The third way is to send an e-mail to <[complaint@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:complaint@tceq.state.tx.us)>. All of these methods will lead to an investigation that begins at the regional office nearest to the individual making the complaint.

When a person decides to make a complaint, he or she can make it anonymously or can offer a name and

contact information. The advantage of providing contact information is that the TCEQ can follow up with

*There are three ways to make an environmental complaint.*

additional information about the complaint, report the status of the complaint, and offer



results of the investigation to the complainant. For more information on making an environmental complaint, please see our general information document titled, Do You

Want to Make an Environmental Complaint (GI-278)? ■

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Small Business Advisory Committee (SBAC)

May 27, 2 p.m.–4 p.m., Diamond Oaks Country Club, 5821 Diamond Oaks Drive North, Fort Worth

May 27, 10 a.m.–noon, North Dallas Chamber of Commerce  
10707 Preston Road, Dallas

June 16, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission  
2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont

June 17, 10 a.m. –noon, Houston Galveston Area Council, Conference Room C  
3555 Timmons Lane, Houston

For more information, visit <[www.tceq.state.tx.us/assistance/sblga/sbac.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assistance/sblga/sbac.html)>.

### Outdoor Burning Workshops

April 28, 1:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m., University of Texas Pan American  
2412 S. Closner, Edinburg, 956-381-3690

April 29, 9 a.m.–noon, TCEQ Harlingen Regional Office  
1804 West Jefferson Ave., Harlingen, 956-425-6010

June 23, noon –3 p.m., Dr. Ralph R. Chase State of Texas Service Center, Room 114  
622 S. Oakes, San Angelo, 325-698-6104

June 26, 1:00 p.m.–4 p.m., West Central Texas Council of Governments  
3702 Loop 322, Abilene, 325-698-6104



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Get free, confidential help with questions on air, water, waste, or pollution prevention issues from this special section of the TCEQ. SBLGA works for you by:

- providing local environmental assistance when and where it's needed;
- communicating technical information in plain language; and
- giving small business and local government a voice in TCEQ rule and policy making.

**On the Web at: [www.sblga.info](http://www.sblga.info)**

SBLGA is entirely separate from TCEQ's enforcement program.

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**Disclaimer:** This regulatory guidance publication does not take the place of the full, official TCEQ rules. It is intended only as a general explanation about selected parts of the rules. If you have questions about any information contained in this periodical, contact us at 800-447-2827.

*The Advocate is published quarterly by the Small Business and Local Government Assistance (SBLGA) Program of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).*



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