

## Small Business and Local Government Assistance







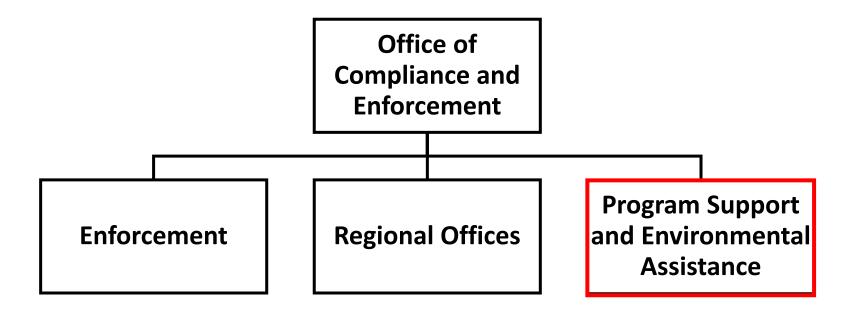
#### What does SBLGA do?

The Small Business and Local Government Assistance (SBLGA) team provides compliance help to small businesses and local governments. Our **free** and **confidential** help includes:

- Technical Assistance with understanding the rules and meeting requirements
- One-on-one help
- Compliance tools and guidance



#### Is SBLGA Part of OCE?





### SBLGA in Austin Headquarters

Stephanie Lindgren – Central

Stephanie.Lindgren@tceq.texas.gov

Celeste Walker - Central

Celeste.Walker@tceq.texas.gov



#### **SBLGA Customers**



Help For Smaller Entities





#### **Small Business**

Any independently owned and operated company with **100 or fewer** employees across all locations.









#### Small Local Government

City of 50,000 or fewer



ISD with 100,000 or fewer students



## Where Can We Help?

Air

Water

Waste

**De Minimis** 

Permits by Rule

**Standard Permits** 

**NSR Permitting** 

Title V Permitting NESHAPS

Non-attainment

Oil & Gas

Public Water Supply

**Storm Water Permitting** 

Wastewater Permitting

OSSF

Water Rights

**Industrial Waste** 

Hazardous Waste

**Municipal Waste** 

**Special Waste** 

Waste Transporters

Petroleum Storage Tanks



### Where We Can't Help:



Financial help – we do not have money for business loans, nor do we manage grants.



Non-responsive, hostile, or unwilling entities - we can't help those who won't work with us.



**Health & Safety –** we do not provide compliance assistance for health and safety rules.



**Unlocking STEERS accounts** 



## SBLGA Programs

Hotline

EnviroMentor

Regional Staff

The Advocate Electronic Newsletter

GovDelivery Groups

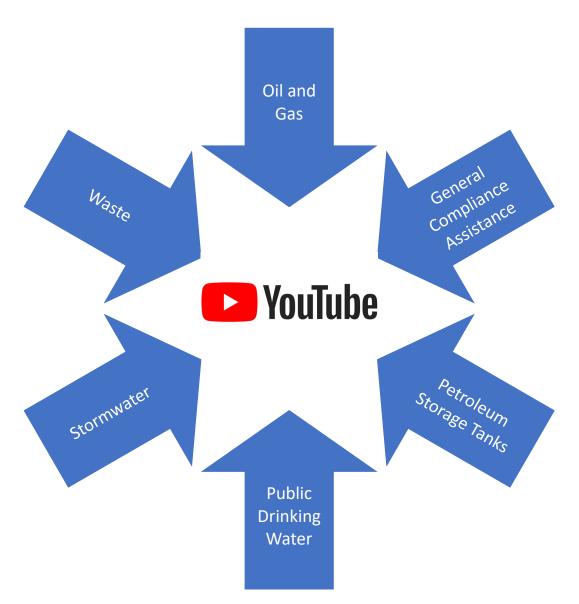


## Getting Help

- Hotline 1-800-447-2827
  - Monday-Friday 8am-5pm
- TexasEnviroHelp@tceq.texas.gov
- www.TexasEnviroHelp.org
- Office and Site Visits







## Compliance Assistance Videos

Visit <u>TCEQNews</u> & TexasEnviroHelp.org



### **EnviroMentor Program**

The EnviroMentor Program is a **volunteer** program offering technical assistance at no cost. Our EM volunteers consist of:

- Consultants
- Engineers

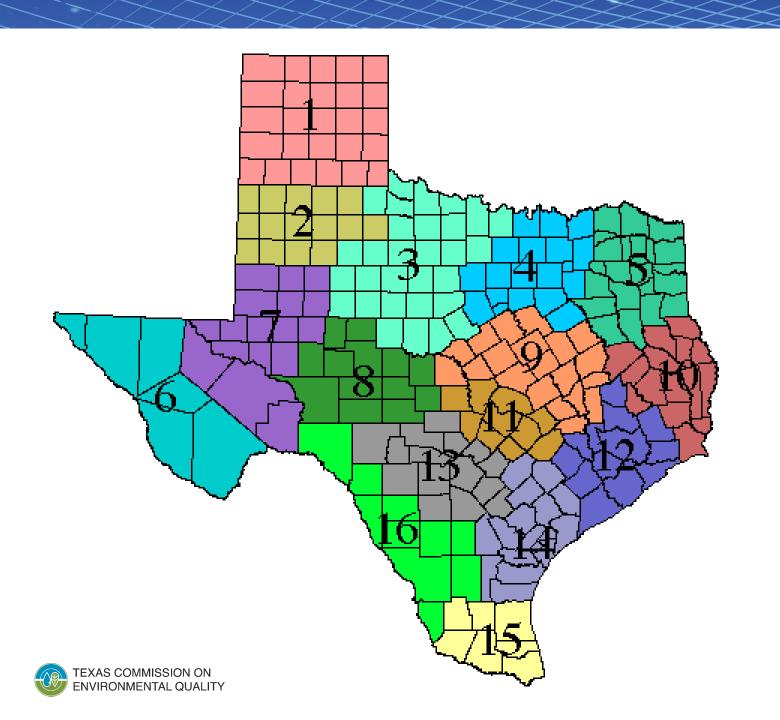
- Operators
- Lawyers











# SBLGA Local Staff Available

SBLGA Team
Members by Region

#### Rural Ombudsman



Liaison between TCEQ and Local Governments



Outreach and education



Partnership development



Provides Local
Government
perspective on
TCEQ rules and
policy



Jason Robinson, 512-239-6710

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### The Advocate

Sign Up

Sign Up!

Receive e-mail or text alerts when each new article is available Search

Online archive of past topics

View

Articles by media:

Air

Water

Waste



Stormwater

Municipal Solid Waste

Petroleum Storage Tank

**Public Water Systems** 

On-Site Sewage Facilities

Wastewater

Landscape Irrigator

Oil & Gas Activity

## GovDelivery Groups

Sign up here!



## **Examples of Assistance**





# Environmental Trade Fair and Conference





When: May 14-15, 2024

Where: Austin Convention Center in Austin, TX





Creating an account

Filling out forms or permits

Step-by-step walkthroughs

Video tutorials





Drought Contingency Plans (DCPs)





Preparing for Extreme Cold Weather Conditions for PWSs



Guidance for WWTPs
Responding to Disasters



Managing Debris from Tornadoes, Wildfires, etc.



#### Waste Designation Decision Matrix - Solid Waste Determination

This is the waste designation decision matrix provided by the Small Business and Local Government Assistance Program to aid businesses in deciding how certain wastes must be handled.

This matrix is provided as an assistance tool. It cannot be used as a substitute for following applicable city, state, and federal laws.

Is your waste a solid waste? 40 CFR 261.2 [7]



#### **Definition of a Solid Waste**

Solid waste includes garbage, rubbish, refuse, sludge from a wastewater treatment plant, water supply treatment plant, or air pollution control facility, and other discarded material, including solid, liquid, semi-solid, or contained gaseous material resulting from industrial, municipal, commercial, mining, and agricultural operations, and from community and institutional activities result from (or are incidental to) operations of industry, manufacturing, mining, or agriculture — for example, wastes from power generation plants, manufacturing facilities, and laboratories serving an industry.

Solid waste does not include any of the following:

- Domestic sewage or a mixture of domestic sewage and other wastes that pass through a sewer system to a POTW;
- · Industrial wastewater discharges subject to an NPDES permit;
- · Irrigation return flows;
- Soil, dirt, rock, sand, and other natural or man-made inert solid materials used to fill land if the object of the fill is to make the land suitable for the construction of surface improvements;
- and more. See 40 CFR 261.4(a)(1)-(22) ☐ for a complete listing.

# Waste Determination Matrix



#### A Closer Look: EnviroMentor

#### What can our EMs help with?

- Sawmill with a nuisance complaint that progressed to enforcement
- PWS needing a licensed Professional Engineer to review their system
- Manufacturer needing a Permit-By-Rule application
- Abandoned leaking PST cleanup
- Customer converting a garage into a slaughterhouse

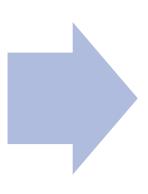


## Sharing Your Expertise: EnviroMentor

#### If you have...

- Environmental experience
- An environmental degree
- A water or wastewater operator license
- A law degree

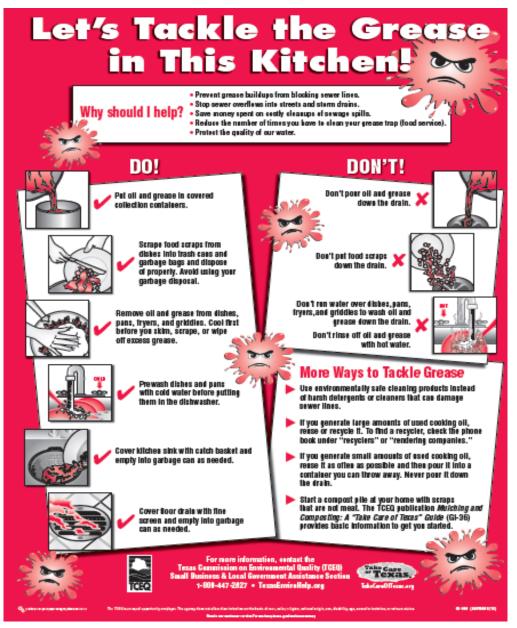




You can be an EnviroMentor!







#### **Publications**

GI-290: Do's and Don'ts with Fats, Oils, and Grease

**Electronic Version Available** 



## FREE Outreach Resources

#### Clean Pipes are Green Pipes Information Card

- M-99
- What should and shouldn't go down the drain
- www.takecareoftexas.org



#### **CLEAN PIPES ARE GREEN PIPES** Simple steps to keep our water clean, protect public health, and avoid expensive plumbing repairs. **NEVER POUR DOWN THE DRAIN OR TOILET:**





Wipes, even "flushable" ones, which can cloq municipal and septic wastewater systems since they don't break down like toilet paper.

Fats, oils, and grease (FOG), including cooking oil, pan drippings, gravy, bacon grease, lard, shortening, butter, margarine, salad dressings, mayonnaise, creams, and sauces.

#### INSTEAD, RECYCLE USED COOKING OIL WHEN POSSIBLE—

contact a local cooking oil recycler for locations.



If you must dispose of cooking oil or grease, contact your local household waste program to find out how. As a last resort, seal in a container in the trash.



Use a paper towel to scrape arease from dishes and cookware into the trash (the grease from cloth towels ends up in the wastewater system when you wash them).



Use a sink strainer to catch small pieces of food and compost your food waste whenever possible.



Use environmentally safe cleaning products, such as those with the FPA Safer Choice label.

#### HOW IS OUR CUSTOMER SERVICE? tceq.texas.gov/customersurvey

The TCEQ is an equal opportunity employer. The agency does not allow discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation or veteran status.





#### **RG-530**

#### Managing Small Domestic Wastewater Systems



# Managing Small Domestic Wastewater Systems

- Plain language guidance
- Easy-to-use worksheets
- Simple, no-computer-needed toolkit
- Online spreadsheet available



## Asset Management Program for Small Systems

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) is providing a funding opportunity for small water or wastewater systems.

Up to \$100k per system

No financial match required

Minimum of 80 hours of staff time required



Applications available Sept. 18, 2023 – Nov. 2, 2023!



## Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan **Templates**



Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan Template for the Construction General Permit

**Available for Construction** General Permit and Multisector General Permit



Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan Template for MSGP Facilities



## Hotline Example

Customer is investigated, told they need a stormwater permit

Calls SBLGA Hotline for assistance

Which permit – MSGP or CGP?

Determined a Conditional No Exposure Stormwater Permit was needed

Sent customer checklist for the permit



## Hotline Example



Information request for building new evaporation pond



Identify what permits and documents are needed





CGP, construction notice, Wastewater Evaporation General Permit

Provide links and resources for additional guidance





## Hotline Example

Want to start pressure washing business, is a water reclamation system needed?

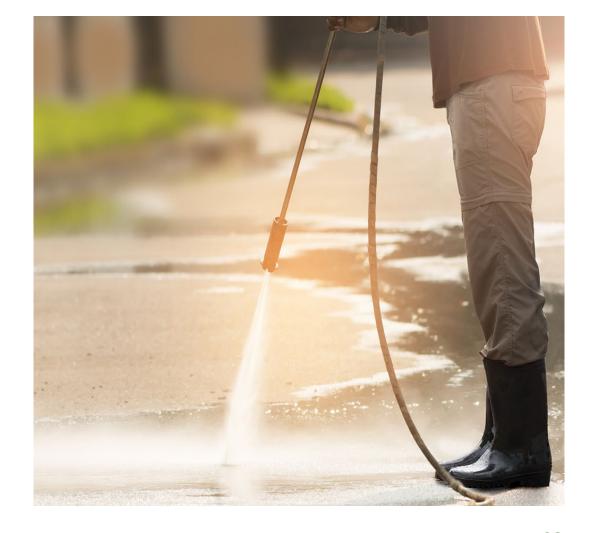
Direct them to Texas Water Code 26.121

Requirement applies for businesses and homeowners

Discuss options with the customer

Capture wastewater and take it to WWTP for disposal

Capture wastewater and reuse based on 30 TAC 210 Subchapter E





#### Information Resources

#### **SBLGA Hotline**

1-800-447-2827

www.TexasEnviroHelp.org





#### Questions?

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