



## **PALM BEACH COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT: Informing, Developing, Integrating P2**

In 1994, the Palm Beach County Public Health Unit initiated a P2 Program as a component of their 105 Grant Commitment with the USEPA. The program provides pollution prevention services (regulatory & non-regulatory) to Palm Beach County businesses and the residential community. Main components of the program include waste minimization, process changes to increase efficiency and reduce pollution, energy conservation, and identifying recycling opportunities. As of July 1996, the following goals have been met:

### **Technology Transfer**

The Unit maintains an extensive library of information on the latest P2 technologies. This information is available to interested parties upon request. A satellite communications center was installed at the Health Unit's 901 Evernia Street auditorium in West

Palm Beach. Conferences and seminars with P2 themes are routinely downloaded, and members from both the public and private sectors are invited to attend. The local media has also been very cooperative in working with the Unit in disseminating P2 information to the public. The Unit is working with Florida Atlantic University (FAU) in Boca Raton to install a home page on the Internet. The page will be administered by FAU and serve as a non-regulatory resource. The Health Unit has also become very involved with the South Florida Manufacturing Technology Center in making P2 information more accessible to local businesses in Palm Beach County.

The Health Unit is presently assisting the American Lung Association of Southeast Florida in preparing a P2 Environmental Justice Grant application. If successful, the grant will be used to purchase and

renovate a home in a low income/minority area into a "Healthy House." The home will feature energy efficient components and appliances, and will be constructed with sustainable building products. It will be located in an area that is pedestrian friendly and close to alternative modes of travel to reduce generation of air pollutants. The home will serve as a demonstration on the effectiveness of sustainable construction in creating more livable communities. Results of the project will be made available through FAU's home page.

The Health Unit remains current on pollution prevention strategies by working closely with EPA Region IV and the Florida DEP's P2 Program, and by participating in P2 teleconferences and training workshops when available.

*(Continued on page 3)*

### *Editor's Corner*

**WELCOME** to *P2 Links*! This first issue brings news about several local pollution prevention (P2) programs, including articles by Broward, Pinellas and the Palm Beach County Health Unit. Articles by the Dade and Hillsborough P2 Programs will be featured in the next issue.

The main objective of *P2 Links* is to provide a forum for local and state agencies (including those who have not yet started a P2 program) to discuss common issues and to share information. At a later date, the newsletter will target Florida businesses with pollution prevention tips specific to their industry.

Your responses, comments and articles are requested for inclusion in upcoming issues. This is **YOUR** newsletter! We welcome your contributions.

## **Pollution Prevention in Pinellas County - An Overview**

By Robert J. Roman, Environmental Program Manager, Air Quality Division

In 1994 the Pinellas County Air Quality Division began activities towards the development of a Pollution Prevention Program. The purpose of the program was to provide a mechanism to integrate P2 activities into all air program functional areas such as permitting, compliance, mobile sources and other media programs. This included the development of a strategic guidance plan (SGP), P2 projects, training program, public outreach products and coordination with EPA and state contacts and related programs.

The mission was to develop and implement an effective voluntary P2 program to minimize the amount of liquid, solid and gaseous pollution as well as energy and water consumption

within Pinellas County. Program goals included promoting, encouraging and facilitating others in implementing pollution prevention with an emphasis on voluntary participation; preparing staff to be receptive and responsive to P2 proposals and initiatives; promoting interdepartmental coordination to address cross-media transfers of pollution; and facilitating the transmittal of pollution prevention information to business, industry, and other media programs and agencies within Pinellas County.

The P2 Program was developed through the strategic guidance planning process. The SGP served two purposes. First, the plan provided a formal method for

*(Continued on page 3)*

# BROWARD COUNTY DNRP:

## Assisting Businesses with a Non-Regulatory Approach

---

In 1992, the Broward County Department of Natural Resource Protection (DNRP) created the Pollution Prevention (P2) Section with three positions to assist businesses. There were no regulations promulgated for the section. DNRP wanted to establish a better relationship with the regulated community and the general public, and to follow the trend away from regulations and toward voluntary cooperation. It was felt that DNRP could do more at the local level than state or federal environmental agencies could and the Agency was convinced that pollution prevention would succeed because it makes sense. This new attitude has worked out incredibly well.



DNRP is committed to excellence and leadership in implementing the pollution prevention concept into the agency's mainstream activities, such as inspections, permitting, and enforcement. Creation of DNRP's P2 Section is a non-regulatory approach for achieving regulatory compliance and preventing pollution in Broward County. Some of the P2 Section's goals include:

1. Develop and implement a county-wide pollution prevention program, including recommendations for regulatory changes;
2. Develop a technical support program for businesses utilizing hazardous materials and/or creating hazardous wastes;
3. Prepare best management practices for industrial/commercial categories identified as making significant contributions of pollutants to the Broward County environment;
4. Provide source reduction and waste minimization technical assistance to the regulated community, government and private business, including waste reduction assessments, improved operating practices, material and product substitution, technology and process modification, - re-use, recycling, treatment and appropriate

disposal as the last resort, especially for hazardous wastes.

5. Develop educational programs, such as:

- a. Conduct pollution prevention workshops for the community on a variety of topics;
- b. Prepare Technical Bulletins, concise Fact Sheets, and Brochures on Broward;
- c. Prepare county environmental regulations and pollution prevention topics;
- d. Provide technical information on the use of alternative materials, processes and/or waste reduction practices;
- e. Create videos, slide presentations and a newsletter;
- f. Provide presentations on pollution prevention issues for trade associations, schools, and public;
- g. Develop economic incentives to further pollution prevention in Broward County;
- h. Develop positive incentives for voluntary participation in Broward County DNRP P2 Program;
- i. Foster a working relationship between the regulated community and DNRP as a regulator in achieving regulatory compliance and in preventing pollution in Broward County.



The DNRP Pollution Prevention Section has many accomplishments. Among them are the creation of the Pollution Prevention in County Operations (P2CO) program. This program was created to conduct a detailed evaluation of waste generating, handling and disposal practices for all County Departments, Offices and Divisions, as well as to identify recommendations to improve practices in these areas. The agency assumed that the pollution prevention program would be more successful if the county led by example.

The P2CO program was staged in two phases. The first phase was a survey of each county facility using hazardous materials. Inspections were conducted to determine regulatory compliance and hazardous material handling practices. Forty-four county facilities were inspected. A memo was sent to each facility manager responsible for environmental compliance, detailing recommendations for improvements which would bring each facility into compliance. The second phase of this project was a summary report on waste management practices in Broward County government and included recommendations for improvement. This information includes an analysis of purchasing and waste disposal practices.



The P2 Section has also developed Pollution Prevention and Best Management Practices (P2-BMPs) for several industries, including marine facilities, metal finishing facilities, dry cleaners, automobile salvage yards and lithographic printers. P2-BMPs are under development for industrial/commercial categories of business that have been identified as pollution risks. The P2-BMP is intended to serve as a tool to facilitate compliance with applicable environmental regulations, minimize wastes, and foster a pollution prevention attitude within the regulated community.

The pollution prevention approach allows DNRP, as a regulator, and local businesses, as the regulated community, improved relations and forms a basis for reciprocal trust. The P2 staff inform facility managers of the violations noted during non-regulatory and confidential site-visits. Without enforcement action the facility managers are more likely to take immediate actions to correct identified problems. P2 staff follow-up with the facility manager until violations are corrected.

## **P2 in Pinellas** (continued)

management to evaluate and integrate trends and opportunities within the framework of the organization's needs and resources. The plan also served as a valuable management tool to balance the demand for products and services with the budget process. This included an analysis of internal and external factors, a resource utilization plan, factor analysis and the development of an objective strategy. In 1995, the SGP was incorporated into the P2 work plan which is updated annually.

The objective strategy included a general overview of proposed objectives, an employee development strategy, primary target markets and related P2 projects, project status reports, time schedules and work assignments. Program areas for 1994 included hiring an Environmental Specialist; training-the-trainer including completion of EPA inspector training courses; designing an intra-departmental P2 training program; developing a P2 database management system and technical library; and evaluating control measures identified in the P2 strategy. An individual work plan and schedule was developed for each program area. For example, development of the database management program included research, data collection, identification of format and fields, training for Paradox software, development of data input and a filing system and programming and debugging the software.

Using 1994's accomplishments as a foundation, the P2 program was enhanced in 1995 to include field assessment capabilities. Program objectives included the development and dissemination of pollution prevention literature and technical guidance; a compliance initiative; an automotive industry project; development of the intra-departmental P2 training program; and implementation of the P2 database management system. The development of the industrial waste reduction program (compliance effort) included a comprehensive review of the county's 1990 VOC and air toxics emissions inventories to compile information on pollutants of concern as identified in the P2 strategy by emissions in tons per year, facility name, source category and type of production process. This information was used to develop a database of wastestreams by process type and chemical

## **Palm Beach County Health Unit** (continued)

A prominent feature of the Health Unit's P2 Program is its recently created Pollution Prevention Coalition of Palm Beach County. Members on the Coalition include: the PBC Solid Waste Authority's Environmental Programs Director, two process engineers from Pratt and Whitney Aircraft, a PBC building/facility manager, a Florida Power and Light manager, two Florida Atlantic University professors, a hospital environmental engineer, the County's Economic Development Council Director, and Staff from the Health Unit's Division of Environmental Health and Engineering. The Coalition develops policy and directs staff to implement the most appropriate P2 strategies for the County. In November

use, potential P2 measures and the methodologies necessary to quantify emissions reductions. Target areas for 1995 included total styrene and methylene chloride used in the fiberglass manufacturing and aerospace industries. Implementation of the program included the development and distribution of P2 information packets (with industry specific case studies), selected facility audits, assistance with designing self-audit programs, estimating emissions reductions and coordinating inquiries with the state's Small Business Assistance Program.

Program refinements in 1996 included expansion of the compliance effort, training compliance staff in the fundamentals of P2 and the development of public/private partnerships. Forming partnerships with the business sector can be an effective means to leverage a budget to its maximum. For example, the compliance inspector training program included on-site training at several industrial plants. Staff was able to observe pollution prevention measure in real-world situations and discuss with managers and engineers what works or doesn't work for particular applications and processes. In addition the firms shared cost/benefit data and emissions reduction information that will be incorporated in case studies for the P2 program's outreach effort.

Problematic areas included enforcement

of 1995, Coalition conducted a P2 Technical Conference and Exhibition (EXPO). The EXPO provided attendees with the latest in P2 technologies, and included exhibits by vendors, and presentations of successful P2 processes and programs. Industry specific workshops are also available through the Coalition. Their most recent Seminar entitled "Green Printing," held in May, 1996, attracted over 19 attendees from different printing establishments in the county. All attendees received a "certificate of participation," and were offered a copy of the video tape "Green and Profitable Printing" that was downloaded through the Health Unit's satellite prior to the seminar.

related efforts, unfamiliarity with the new role and strong resistance from certain industries. Though initially considered, it was decided that the use of supplemental environmental projects could be construed by the business community as just another regulatory activity and compromise the program's emphasis on voluntary participation. Another area of difficulty was getting staff and management to make the transition from the role as a regulator to that of a salesperson. Business operates under the profit motive and pollution prevention must be "sold" in the same manner as any other commodity or service. If recommended P2 measures cannot provide positive economic benefits, business will not embrace them. Moreover, most managers don't have time to read or listen to a manifesto on the benefits of P2. If you cannot "pitch" your message within a few minutes, which is that you will be able to improve their bottom line, you will lose their interest and attention. The automotive industry in Pinellas County has the capacity to generate a huge wastestream. Initial efforts to penetrate this market area drew little interest from owner/operators, who indicated that they weren't interested if measures weren't mandatory. To overcome this resistance, a local government pilot project was developed to demonstrate economic and environmental benefits. One of the participants, Fleet Management, turned out to be a huge P2 success story.

**For additional information on the enclosed articles, please contact:**

**Florida DEP**

(see return address on newsletter):

Betsy Galocy, *P2 Links*

Internet: galocy\_b@dep.state.fl.us

(904) 487-8852, Suncom 277-8852

Fax: (904) 921-8061

**Broward County DNRP**

218 SW 1st Avenue

Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301

Kay Gervasi, P2 Program Mgr.

Internet: kgervasi@co.broward.fl.us

(954)-519-1421

Fax: (954)519-1468

**Dade Environmental Resource Mgt.**

33 SW 2nd Avenue

Miami, FL 33130-1540

Nichole Hefty, P2 Project Director

(305) 372-6825

Fax: (305)372-6954

**Palm Beach County Public Health Unit**

Div. of Environmental Science & Engineering

901 Evernia Street

West Palm Beach, FL 33402:

Alfred M. Grasso, P2 Coordinator

Jim Stormer, Administrator - Air Section

Selva Selvendran, Permit Eng. - Air Sect.

Don Smith, Q.A. Coordinator - Air Section

(407) 355-3070, Suncom (407) 273-3070

Fax (407) 355-2442

**Pinellas Co. Dept. of Env. Mgt.**

300 S. Garden St.

Clearwater, FL 34616

Robert Roman

Environmental Program. Mgr.

Internet:

rroman@co.pinellas.fl.us

Tammy Allen

P2 Program Coordinator

(813)464-4422, Suncom 570-4422

Fax: (813)464-4420

The P2 Program, MS4570  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
2600 Blair Stone Rd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2400

<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/programs/p2/index.htm>

## NATIONAL POLLUTION PREVENTION WEEK

This year, the week of September 16 - 22 has been designated as National Pollution Prevention Week. This time will provide a valuable opportunity for organizations to highlight the importance of pollution prevention. **DEP Tallahassee** will show pollution prevention videos and will feature guest speaker Bob Mott from NASA at the monthly P2 Brown Bag get-together (scheduled at the Douglas Building at noon on the 18th). Several Florida P2 Programs also have plans:

Topics at the **Broward County** P2 Program's week -long brown bag lunches include intracoastal waterway and pretreatment pollution prevention. Broward is also issuing a press release and will use their web page (<http://www.co.broward.fl.us/dnrp.htm>) and e-mail to advertise P2 Week.

The **Dade County** P2 Program has several events planned, including a display and an appearance on their Community Education Station (Cable Tap, channel 36) program *Environment in Focus* at 8 PM on Monday the 16th. A National P2 Proclamation will be signed by the chairman of the board of county commissioners on Sept. 17th. Dade is also working with the Arise Foundation's EnviroCops Program to provide P2 enviro-mentors to speak at elementary schools.

**Palm Beach County Public Health Unit's** P2 Program is setting up a display at Governmental Center and a local mall which will receive press coverage. They are presenting a P2 Proclamation for signature by the county commission and 32 municipalities.

The *Focus on Pinellas* program, which airs daily on the government access station, will include Envirofacts about reducing household hazardous waste and waste in the workplace. This station attracts between 1000 - 5000 viewers per day