

P2 Links

1998 P2 CONFERENCE/
P2 WEEK SUMMARIES

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Vol. 2, No. 2 November 1998

The P2 Program, Leon County and Tallahassee: P2 Week PARTNERSHIP for a Green and Profitable Florida

Last month, the Governor and Cabinet of the State of Florida signed a resolution recognizing the week of September 21 -27 as Pollution Prevention Week 1998. This Resolution, introduced by Commissioner Frank Brogan, and accepted by DEP Secretary Virginia Wetherell, Waste Management Division Director John Ruddell, and Pollution Prevention Manager Julie Abcarian, recognized P2 as the most environmentally sound method of protecting Florida's natural resources while increasing industrial efficiency and saving businesses time and money.

In an effort to expand this message to the general public, the P2 Program, in conjunction with the City of Tallahassee and Leon County, planned several activities locally before and during P2 Week. A special City of Tallahassee cable television production, with representatives from the City, County and State, spotlighted the hazardous and recyclable wastes that tend to accumulate in everyone's garage. The broadcast reminded residents that everyone can prevent pollution by substituting toxic household cleaners, pesticides, and lawn chemicals with environmentally friendly alternatives. When these are not available, reducing, reusing, or recycling, with proper disposal as a last resort, are steps that individuals can take to prevent pollution. This same message was conveyed by representatives of all three levels of government during a radio interview on WBZE 98.9 *The Breeze*, and events were featured in the *Tallahassee Democrat's* News Briefs column and in the City's *Insight* publication, distributed with approximately 80,000 utility bills. Television coverage was provided by WCTV 6 and WTXL 27.

A special P2 Partnership Ceremony, held in the Courtyard

between the Old and New Capitols, also promoted the partnership. Speakers included Mr. Estus Whitfield, Environmental Advisor to the Governor, DEP Deputy Secretary Kirby Green, Leon County Commissioner Cliff Thael, and City of Tallahassee Mayor Scott Maddox. Introductions were given by Julie Abcarian of the P2 Program. A Brown Bag Lunch at City Hall followed, with a pollution prevention success story presented by speaker Peter Briggs of United States Sugar Corporation.

Educational presentations were also given throughout the week. At FAMU-FSU College of Engineering, topics included pollution prevention in product design and process manufacturing. At Tallahassee Community College, auto repair P2 was addressed.

Three toxic waste roundups were followed up by an open house for the new Hazardous Waste Facility at the Leon County Landfill. Small businesses may dispose of their wastes at this location for a fee. Citizens may take their wastes to the center six days a week, free of

charge. The county provides neighborhood hazardous waste roundups on request, and is starting a Usable Products Exchange for products such as paints, aerosols, and lawn chemicals.

The City and County maintain a cooperative Aquifer Protection Program that inspects local businesses to ensure that hazardous chemicals are handled in ways that do not contaminate ground water supplies. In addition, the City's Small Quantity Generator Program provides educational information to small businesses. The City's Energy Efficiency and Solid Waste Recycling Programs also contribute to pollution prevention.

P2 Week '98 was a great success, laying the foundation for an even better partnership for '99! Turn the page for more P2 Week successes...

Presenting the State's Pollution Prevention Resolution are the Governor's Cabinet (left to right): Comptroller Robert Milligan, Secretary of State Sandra Mortham, Commissioner of Agriculture Bob Crawford, Commissioner of Education Frank Brogan, Attorney General Bob Butterworth, and Treasurer Bill Nelson. Accepting for DEP are: Waste Management Division Director John Ruddell, Pollution Prevention Program Manager Julie Abcarian, and Secretary Virginia Wetherell.

Earth-Man, T-Days head the bill at MIAMI -

Earth Man, a jazz musician who focuses his creative energy on environmental protection and personal empowerment, provided a special performance at the Miami Lakes Jazz Festival to kick off Pollution Prevention Week. His performance addressed Dade County's water resources and the importance of protecting them.

In an effort to reduce automobile emissions and decrease pollution, Miami-Dade DERM teamed up with the Gold Coast Commuter Services again this year to host *Transportation Days (T-Days)*, to encourage commuters to carpool and utilize alternative transportation methods. Miami-Dade County Departments and five participating private businesses in Miami-Dade County were targeted.

A special thanks was given to commuters using mass transit, via a poster displayed on the commuter trains throughout the week. This poster highlighted the environmental impacts of vehicles and the benefits of using alternative transportation.

Presentations were given daily at local elementary schools in the Hispanic community of Hialeah. This area was chosen in order to support the goal of an *Environmental Justice Through Pollution Prevention* grant, which is to provide pollution prevention education in Spanish. Pollution prevention and waste reduction tips for home, school and work were discussed and a pamphlet in Spanish was distributed.

Several radio spots were also broadcast. WEDR radio station interviewed the Pollution Prevention Program Manager, and public service announcements (PSAs) by Earth Man ran throughout the week, in both English (WEDR) and Spanish (WCMQ). In addition, Gold Coast Commuter Services also broadcast PSAs on a third local English radio station, promoting National Pollution Prevention Week and carpooling. Listeners were encouraged to call a special hotline number to receive more information.

Many government activities were also planned. A letter sent to the Miami-Dade

County Mayor, Commissioners, and Department Directors, as well as to the mayors and managers of all municipalities, encouraged them to display a P2 Week poster and distribute a P2 tips page to employees and constituents. At the Miami-Dade Government Center, a display and literature remained in the lobby for the entire week. Each day a new e-mail pollution prevention tip was distributed, encouraging all employees to actively participate in P2 Week.

ALACHUA

The Alachua County Board of County Commissioners held a ceremony on September 22 to recognize Pollution Prevention Week. A P2 Week Proclamation was issued, and recognition was given to facilities with an outstanding compliance record with the requirements of the Alachua County Hazardous Materials Management Code. One hundred and thirteen facilities, ranging from dentists to auto salvage yards, received awards certificates by mail. These businesses, which have had no violations in the last two county hazardous materials inspections (roughly 3 years), represent about 10% of the regulated community. County code regulates the storage, handling, management, and disposal of hazardous materials, and depending on the type of facility, they are inspected annually or biannually. Alachua County plans to make these awards an annual event and in the future may have a separate awards event for businesses going beyond the code requirements.

A special edition of the Alachua County Environmental Protection Pollution Prevention News focused on P2 tips for different types of industries. Information on an upcoming hazardous waste roundup and pollution prevention were distributed to all regulated facilities in Alachua County. A P2 display at the Alachua County Environmental Protection's office highlighted information to county employees and visitors.

BROWARD'S P2 Contest

Broward County led by example when the commission issued a P2 Week Proclamation. A letter was sent to each of the 29 municipalities requesting them to also issue a similar proclamation. Proclamations were received from Ft Lauderdale, Hollywood, Pembroke Pines, Davie, Margate, Cooper City, Tamarac, and Wilton Manors.

The Department of Natural Resource Protection purchased 550 non-mercury thermometers for exchanges throughout the county. These contained a non-toxic mixture of gallium, indium and tin. The non-mercury thermometers demonstrated how the public can prevent pollution by making simple adjustments in their own behavior.

County employees competed for a GRAND PRIZE of a day's pay when they entered the P2 Week Contest sponsored by the P2 Program. Forty-three employees from almost every division submitted a total of seventy ideas. These were reviewed by three judges for criteria including originality, understanding of P2, applicability to multiple

situations, feasibility of implementation, and the degree to which the idea would reduce waste toxicity or quantity.

A concert at Sawgrass Springs Middle School brought the concept of P2 to 800 students. Another 600 students were able to view the concert via closed circuit television. Performance artist Lanny Smith (Earth Man) performed with the two piece Planet Earth Project. His song, *You've Got The Power*, encouraged children to shut off the faucet when they brush their teeth and to turn off light switches when not in a room. Two concerts featured students who danced, read poetry, or performed skits to music with environmental themes.

A poster contest was held for sixth graders and a kindergarten class. Each child was given a certificate of participation and the top three winners received prizes. A pollution prevention display in the Governmental Center Lobby included recipes for non-toxic cleaners to replace common household chemicals.

ESCAMBI A'S P2 Conference

By Tammy Allen, Sr. Environmental Spec.,
Pinellas County Dept of Environmental Mgt.

Pollution Prevention Week began in 1992 in California with the third week of September designated for the annual event. In 1995, the event moved to the national level. This year at the local level, the Board of County Commissioners issued a P2 Week Proclamation to recognize the importance of this annual event.

P2 Week provides an opportunity for government, businesses, and community organizations to work together to highlight the importance of preventing pollution before its creation, hence the concept of *Pollution Prevention*. Pollution is simply a resource in the wrong place and this year's P2 Week was the perfect time for each individual in Pinellas County to identify changes in daily activities that can put resources back where they belong.



COLLIER and The P3 Partners

The Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners issued a Proclamation recognizing the importance of pollution prevention. In addition, the booklet *POLLUTION PREVENTION: What Can You Do?* was distributed to the public and to businesses. This pamphlet urges consumers to be more conscious of what they buy, to reuse items, to reduce waste and pollution, and to conserve energy. It contains tips on household chemical and pesticide substitutes, water conservation, and septic tank maintenance, and contact information on ongoing county projects. The Rookery Bay National Estuarine Reserve, one of 23 federally designated throughout the United States and Puerto Rico, and managed by the DEP, is also referenced in this document by the Environmental Pollution Prevention Partnership. This organization is composed of city, county and state representatives, private businesses, environmental organizations and private citizens.

The County's Department of Environmental Management kicked off the week with a display at Tyrone Mall. Information was available on automobile maintenance, water conservation, environ-shopping, lawn care, natural pest management, and alternative household cleaners. Later in the week, the Cooperative Extension and several Energy program partners offered the seminar, *Buy Green & Save: Anatomy of a New Home* at the St. Petersburg Sun-coast Association of Realtors. The seminar focused on energy efficient homes and provided attendees with home-buying knowledge regarding Energy Efficient Mortgages and EPA's Energy Star Program.

During P2 Week, Environmental Management's Pollution Prevention and Resource Recovery (P2R2) staff gave away posters, provided individual recognition to local businesses reducing their wastes, and worked with other departments to recognize the event. A local manufacturer received a *Keep Pinellas County Beautiful* award for corporate waste reduction and resource recovery.

VOLUSIA

The County hosted a forum for the Volusia Manufacturers Association titled *Partnerships for Pollution Prevention Forum*. Topics included home heating, responsible pesticides/herbicides and xeriscaping, and household hazardous waste. The "Toxic Taxi", a van painted like a taxi that will be picking up hazardous waste in Volusia County neighborhoods, was displayed. An area business owner displayed a recycled car constructed from various motor vehicle and other parts. David Babb of the DEP Pollution Prevention Program answered questions. All program areas in the Environmental Management Department set up displays.

Information was publicized on the County's web site, and in other local publications.

The Neighborhood & Environmental Services Dept. (NESD) sponsored the Northwest Florida Pollution Prevention Conference at the Pensacola Civic Center. Speakers discuss pollution prevention and hazardous waste regulations. The NESD also issued a P2 Week Proclamation jointly with the Escambia County Utilities Authority, and participated in the *Panhandle Industries Pollution Prevention Meeting*.

Local author and talk show host Don Parker moderated Tuesday evening shows on UWF TV, Cox Cable Channel 4. Topics presented on the show, *Pollution Prevention, Building Partnerships for a Green and Profitable Florida*, were: P2 4 All, P2 4 Clean Water, P2 4 Clean Air, P2 4 the Marine Environment, and P2 & You, Everyday 4 Everyone.

A grant funded a poster drawing contest for grades 6-8. T-shirts were given as prizes. The grand prize winner's design will be used on 1999 Earth Day T-shirts and P2 Week posters. Last year's winning design, by Ferry Pass Middle School student Zachary Holcomb, showed a dancer in a red and black unitard holding the earth above her head leaping across a field of purple. Zachary, a dancer who appeared in Pensacola Little Theatre's production of *West Side Story* last fall, said, "I thought it would be neat to portray mother earth as a dancer."



LAKE COUNTY

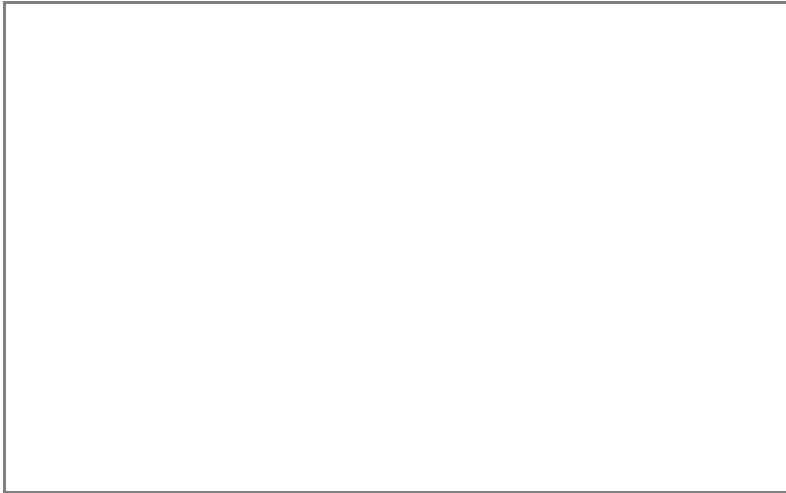
- Pollution prevention display at Lake Square Mall
- Two wildlife education programs

HILLSBOROUGH

- P2 tips via Intranet to 4,000 employees.
- P2 display in lobby of County Center.
- P2 tips in two newsletter

P2 CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

June 2-5, 1998



Tour of MacDill Airforce Base

A tour of vehicle maintenance was well planned and executed with personnel doing an exceptional job.

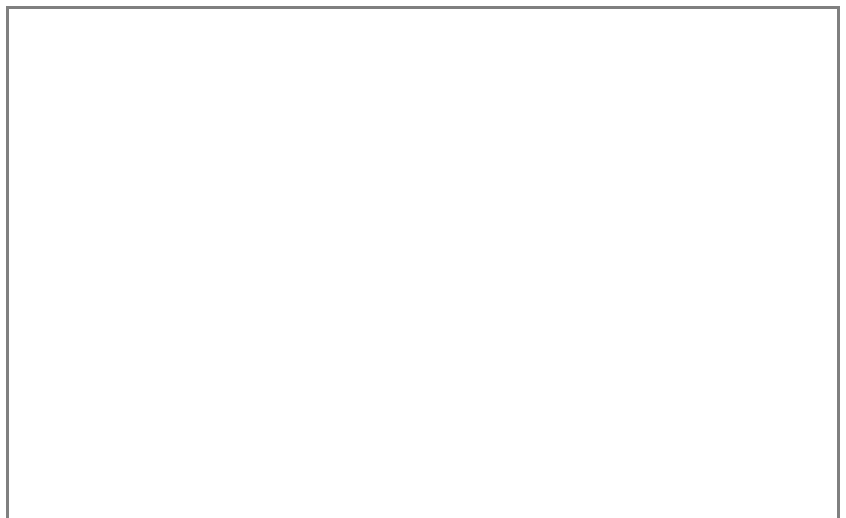
Sixty-seven speakers from government agencies, institutions and industries were lined-up to inform approximately 100 attendees on the status and future of, as well as concerns for, the subject of pollution prevention.

- Dr. Ken Geysler, Director of the Lowell Toxic Use Reduction Institute (UMass) provided a comprehensive look at P2 in America. The "low hanging fruit" which initially made P2 an easy task has been picked. He indicated that more visionary goals should be set and suggested both moderate and extreme long-term tactics for the future.
- The closing session on impediments to P2, consisted of panelists from USEPA, DEP, United Tech-

Building Partnerships

for a Green and Profitable Florida

- Laura Buchanan reported on the U of Tenn program which performs P2 assessments for Knoxville's small businesses.
- Dr. Eric Snyder from GeoSyn-tec Consultants focused on an electronics manufacturer which formed effective strategies and exceeded all project target dates, reducing waste and achieving non-regulated status for a number of processes.
- David Boon from the Partnership for Environmental Technology Education (PETE), discussed the auto curriculum which is now available.
- Randall Rushing of HP Reed described the meticulous process used by his company in finding an alternative to trichloroethylene for wire cleaning.



Speakers' Sessions

Attendees were able to choose from 22 sessions presented during three concurrent tracks

SECOND ANNUAL Pollution Prevention Conference

Greetings;

I just attended the Second Annual Pollution Prevention Conference and it was excellent. More top management people are getting involved and this program must be driven by management to be successful. The attendees were a mixture of State and local government agencies, industrial leaders, engineering consultants, college professors, students and vendors. Not only were we updated on the new technology offered by the vendors in the P2 field but we were given insight on many successful programs started by other states as well as real world examples of P2 operations practiced nationally and overseas.



Here are a few diverse examples shown us on the many ways to practice P2:

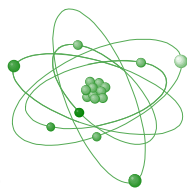
Dry Cleaning: To address the pollution situation of the dry cleaning operations using perchloroethylene and the resulting chemical disposal problem and groundwater threat, the teachings of Dr. Malcolm Sparrow were followed, that is, to get to the real cause of the problem. To that end P2 personnel went to clothing manufactures and designers and kept asking "why do you always work with fabrics that must be dry cleaned"? This approach gets to the very root of the problem and eliminates worrying about the disposal of the dry cleaning chemicals and the chance of a spill entering the groundwater. This approach was successful and caused the people to take a closer look at the newer fabrics that do not require dry cleaning and incorporate the fabrics into the fall line of clothes.

Auto Body Paints: A major utility company in Florida had all of their vehicles and equipment painted yellow as a matter of company policy but the yellow paint contained a lot of metals needed to formulate that color which created disposal problems. They reviewed the MSDS sheets of other spray paint colors and chose white as a non problem paint for all of their vehicles and equipment thereby eliminating a handling and disposal problem.

Patternmaking: A team consisting of college

students headed by a Professor and funded by a P2 grant, approached several industries in an effort to introduce P2 and outline the benefits of a more efficient operation and reduced costs that often follow such a study. The team shared the story of two of the companies they studied. Their investigation of a cloth pattern cutting shop and a sheet steel pattern cutting shop revealed that there was a lot of material waste even though the pattern cutters had been cutting the patterns for over 20 years. Management assumed that with this amount of experience, there couldn't be any way that more patterns could be cut from the material thereby eliminating waste and reducing costs. The college project team developed computer software that would lay out the ideal cutting sequence and pattern placement to achieve additional cuttings. The payback period for this equipment purchase and installation was only .7 of a year.

Industrial Chemicals: Industry and school purchasing department personnel are being told to be extremely careful in ordering large quantities of chemicals just to secure a lower unit price. History has taught us that after a while the labels come off some containers and that others have a short shelf life, all of which means testing and hazardous waste disposal costs which are many times more costly than the initial savings.



Science

Every year DEP's Hazardous Waste Section and the Emergency Response Team receive calls from school officials who have found chemistry laboratory materials that have become unstable due to an exceeded shelf life. These and now require professional handling and normally are required to be exploded by the police at a landfill. As a result of P2 teaching, chemical use and waste disposal costs are reduced in school chemistry labs not only by scaling down the experiments and chemical substitution, but by designing the experiments so that the end product of one experiment is the feed stock for the next experiment.

Food Industry: Pickle processors practice

P2 by replacing their leaking wooden pickle barrels with ones made from plastic material.

Chrome Plating: Chrome use was reduced at the MEMC Spartanburg Plant when unnecessary process steps using chromic acid were eliminated. Installation of a new water based process technology eliminated all manufacturing use of chlorinated organic solvents including ozone depleting chemicals.



Roads: In Germany, many government agencies are practicing P2 by the waste minimization route. They are insisting on an increased useful lifetime for all materials and services they purchase. They do this by making the vendors take more responsibility for the quality of their work and insisting that a 5 to 10 year service contract be included in their bid. Patching and disposal problems have thus been greatly reduced.

Painting guns: Personnel from FDEP met with the space industry at Cape Canaveral for one week to partner with industry to examine ways to practice P2. The results included, but were not limited to: the purchase of an automatic, enclosed paint gun cleaning tank that replaced the practice of running solvents through the guns to the open air for cleaning, the reuse of waste solvents for gun cleaning instead of new solvents, the replacement of high pressure low volume spray guns with low pressure high volume guns that drastically reduced overspray and air emissions, the reuse of acids that were disposed of while still having a useful life, and many other process changes that reduced pollution and costs.

In closing I would like to say that you can't attend one of these annual conferences without developing a tremendous appreciation of what everyone is doing in the real world practice of Pollution Prevention.

See you at the third Annual Pollution Prevention Conference.

Charles M. Collins, P.E.
Central District, Waste Management

DEP DISTRICTS' P2 WEEK ACTIVITIES

SOUTHWEST

- Partnered with local TV, print and radio media to produce public service announcements.
- Actively coordinated more than five bay area locations for International Coastal Cleanup Day. One goal of participation will be to determine point source contributors to the waste stream.
- Displayed educational posters throughout the District Office.
- Set up and staffed educational P2 display during the Save Our Waters Community Fair.
- Distributed educational materials to local high school students.

CENTRAL

- Displayed posters and materials in public libraries.

SOUTHEAST

- Held four brown bag lunches: An introduction to P2 with a case study of an aircraft stripper; a recycling and waste minimization presentation by the Palm Beach County Solid Waste Authority; a summary of P2 successes by Pratt and Whitney; and a P2 presentation complete with electric car by Florida Power and Light.
- Ten employees carpooled and continue to do so on Thursdays.
- Set up P2 display in reception area.
- Displayed P2 posters in all DEP offices in the area.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

The Pollution Prevention Program has begun mapping out the format for the Third Annual Statewide Pollution Prevention Conference, **June 9-11, 1999**. Preliminary topics include:

- Introduction to Basic P2
- How to Conduct a P2 Assessment
- Environmental Leadership
- Industrial Ecology
- P2 Projects in Enforcement
- Impediments To P2 (panel discussion)
- P2 Tools "Pollution Solutions"

Industries include heavy maintenance, the military, energy generation, and pulp and paper.

If you know of a potential speaker, or are interested in presenting information to the Conference, please contact Julie Abcarian before **JANUARY 30, 1999**. Finalized plans must be made by this time to ensure that the 1999 Conference will be our best yet!

The next issue of P2 Links will contain pollution prevention initiatives for industry. If you would like to see a specific industry addressed, or have information which you would like to contribute to the next issue, please contact Betsy Galocy before November 24, 1998.

Your comments are always welcome. They may be submitted to our mailing or web site address (see return label), or electronically to P2 Links editor galocy_b@dep.state.fl.us.