

EPA Announces 2014 Toxics Release Inventory Report

In 2014, 84% of the 25 billion pounds of toxic chemical waste managed at the nation's industrial facilities was not released into the environment due to the use of preferred waste management practices like recycling, energy recovery and treatment, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) annual Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) report. The remaining 16% was released to the air, water or placed in some type of land disposal. Most of these releases are subject to a variety of regulatory requirements designed to limit human and environmental harm.

The 2014 TRI data show a 6 percent decrease in total disposal or other releases to the environment from 2013 to 2014. Notably, air releases from industrial facilities decreased by 4 percent during this period, mainly due to decreases from chemical manufacturing facilities and electric utilities. Air releases have decreased 55% since 2003.

"2016 marks the 30th anniversary of the Toxics Release Inventory, a program that has given people unprecedented access to information about what toxic chemicals are being used and released in their neighborhoods, and what companies are doing to prevent pollution," said Ann Dunkin, EPA's Chief Information Officer. "TRI data continue to be an essential part of informed decision-making by citizens, communities, industries, and local governments." Read more at:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/bd4379a92ceceac8525735900400c27/20106ad49784a05b85257f41006ef14b!OpenDocument>

To access the 2014 TRI National Analysis, including local data and analyses, visit www.epa.gov/trinationalanalysis

**DO YOU HAVE ARTICLES FOR THE
SMALLBIZ@EPA NEWSLETTER?
FORWARD TO: LILLIAN HARRIS AT:
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Ohio EPA Improves Free Help for Small Businesses

Small businesses in Ohio have access to a new tool from Ohio EPA that can help identify whether environmental permits, licenses or registrations are needed. The Agency's improved and updated Permit Wizard is now available to help new businesses get started on the right track with proper permits; existing businesses also may use the Permit Wizard anonymously as a way to check on whether they still have the right permits for their operations. The Permit Wizard guides users through a series of general questions about their operations. Users are not required to share the identity or location of their specific business. Once users finish answering the questions posed by the Permit Wizard, they receive a summary, identifying permits, licenses or registrations that will likely be needed, along with contacts and links to helpful resources. The Permit Wizard can be accessed at <http://ohioepa.custhelp.com/app/opa>. Read more at:

<http://epa.ohio.gov/News/OnlineNewsRoom/NewsReleases/TabId/6596/ArticleId/817/language/en-US/month/9/year/2015/ohio-epa-improves-free-help-for-small-businesses.aspx>

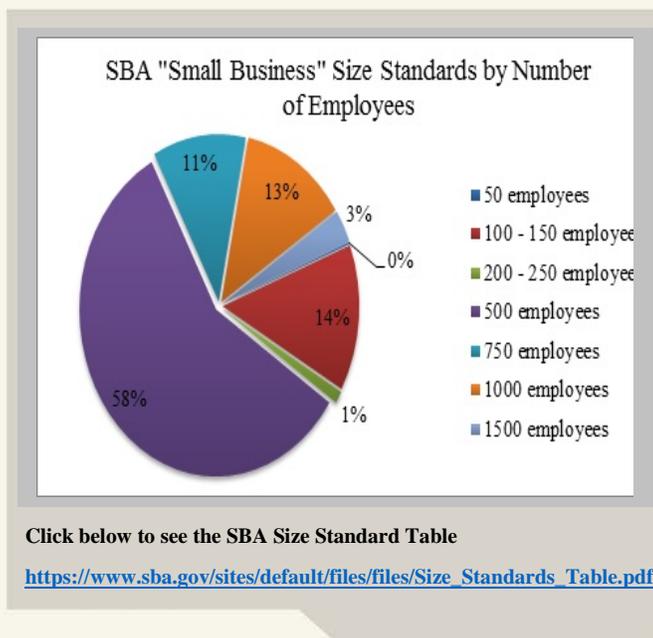
What's New with Size Standards?

The United States Small Business Administration (SBA) Increases Small Business Size Standards

On January 25th and 26th, SBA finalized four rules that will become effective on February 26th and modified many of the SBA small business size standards. Most of the modifications are increases to the size standard, meaning that more entities will be considered small than under the previous rules. A summary of the four rules can be found at <https://www.sba.gov/content/what%27s-new-with-size-standards>.

In brief:

- **Employee based size standards will increase for the 209 industries in the manufacturing sector (NAICS 31-33).** SBA estimates that about 1,250 additional firms will become small because of revised size standards for the 209 industries in NAICS Sector 31-33.
- **Employee based size standards will increase for the 46 industries in the wholesale and retail trade sectors (NAICS 42 and 44-45).** Nearly 4,000 more firms in Sectors 42 and 44-45 will become small and, therefore, eligible for financial assistance under the revised employee based size standards. These revisions do not affect federal procurement programs. Newly eligible small businesses will generally benefit from a variety of Federal regulatory and other programs that use SBA's size standards. Such benefits may include, but are not limited to, reduced fees, less paperwork, or exemption from compliance or other regulatory requirements.
- **Employee based size standards will increase for 30 industries, and decrease for 3 mining industries in other sectors that are not manufacturing, wholesale trade, or retail trade.** SBA estimates that about 375 additional firms may become small because of increased size standards for the 30 industries and three "exceptions" covered by this rule.
- **All monetary based size standards have been adjusted for inflation and, therefore, will increase.**



EPA FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICES

SUBJECT: Greenhouse Gas Reporting Rule: Leak Detection Methodology Revisions and Confidentiality Determinations for Petroleum and Natural Gas Systems

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-01-29/pdf/2016-01669.pdf>

Federal Register: Vol. 81, No. 19, Friday, January 29, 2016/
Rules and Regulations

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency

ACTION: Proposed Rules

SUMMARY: The EPA is proposing revisions and confidentiality determinations for the petroleum and natural gas systems source category of the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program (GHGRP). In particular, the EPA is proposing to add new monitoring methods for detecting leaks from oil and gas equipment in the petroleum and natural gas systems source category consistent with the leak detection methods in the recently proposed new source performance standards (NSPS) for the oil and gas industry

SUBJECT: Announcement of Final Regulatory Determinations for Contaminants on the Third Drinking Water Contaminant Candidate List

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-01-04/pdf/2015-32760.pdf>

Federal Register: Vol. 81, No. 1/Monday, January 4, 2016/
/Rules and Regulations

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency

ACTION: Proposed Rule

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is announcing final regulatory determinations not to issue national primary drinking water regulations for four of the 116 contaminants listed on the Third Contaminant Candidate List. The Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended in 1996, requires the EPA to make regulatory determinations every five years on at least five unregulated contaminants. A regulatory determination is a decision about whether or not to begin the process to propose and promulgate a national primary drinking water regulation for an unregulated contaminant.



Repurposing Decommissioned Office Furniture & Equipment

Some nine million tons of used or out-of-fashion office furniture and equipment are dumped into America's landfills each year, according to the EPA. Yet, much of that "waste" can be diverted and repurposed, according to Green Standards, a Toronto-based company that specializes in the responsible and cost-effective redistribution of surplus and obsolete office furniture, fixtures, supplies and IT equipment.

Since its inception in 2009, [Green Standards](http://www.greenstandards.com) has worked on more than 1,000 projects, resulting in nearly \$20 million worth of in-kind donations to non-profit organizations, offsetting 60,000 tons of greenhouse gases and diverting 20,000 tons of material from landfills — nearly 99 percent of the surplus equipment it repurposed. Read more at:

http://www.sustainablecitynetwork.com/topic_channels/public_works/article_da75c420-ba3d-11e5-8d0d-070fed3798bf.html

Samsung and Pattern Development Start Operations at 180 MW Armow Wind Power Facility

The Armow Wind power facility in Ontario is now up and running. [Samsung Renewable Energy, Inc.](#), and Pattern Energy Group LP announced their 180 MW Armow Wind Power facility has completed construction and is fully operational.

"Samsung is proud to complete our fourth wind project under our Green Energy Investment Agreement with the government of Ontario," said Steve Cho, Vice President, Samsung C&T. "Armow Wind created more than 350 jobs during peak construction and supported over 750 workers from our Ontario manufacturing facilities. Samsung and its partners are creating jobs and investing in the community which is benefiting real people in Kincardine and across the province."

Constructed utilizing Ontario-made products, Armow Wind provided jobs for more than 350 Ontario workers during peak construction activity with an average of 200 workers on-site throughout the construction process. Towers for the 91 Siemens 2.3 MW wind turbines were made in Windsor and the 273 blades were manufactured in Tillsonburg by more than 750 Ontario workers. For additional information on this project, go to:

http://www.sustainablecitynetwork.com/topic_channels/energy/article_67b7280e-ca0d-11e5-8ff8-f32741f417c7.html



SAMSUNG RENEWABLE ENERGY

<http://www2.epa.gov/resources-small-businesses>

26th Annual Government Procurement Conference

The Government Procurement Conference is a national conference fostering business partnerships between the Federal Government, its prime contractors, and small, minority, service-disabled veteran-owned, veteran-owned, HUBZone, and women-owned businesses. Now in its 26th year, the Government Procurement Conference has become the premier event for small businesses throughout the United States.

The conference will include educational conference sessions, procurement matchmaking and a dynamic exhibitor showcase.



**Wednesday, April 6, 2016
Walter E. Washington Convention Center
801 Mt. Vernon Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001**

Register at:

www.FBCINC.com/procurement