



Pollution prevention programs for businesses

Several different programs help businesses keep Gresham's water and land clean

As part of our responsibility to protect Gresham's water resources, the City is overseeing several different programs to help businesses reduce pollution. These programs range from existing to new, and voluntary to required. Some apply to a few types of businesses; others apply to a wider variety.

Our goal for all these programs is to minimize impacts to businesses by:

- *Designating one phone number to be the main point of contact for all programs.*
- *Providing information in a timely manner.*
- *Coordinating visits to your business to make the best use of your time.*
- *Providing technical assistance.*
- *Offering a limited number of grants and a limited number of free tools.*
- *Enforcing only when absolutely necessary to correct violations.*

State and federal requirements help protect a vital resource

The City is responsible for meeting state and federal requirements regarding pollutants to water as mandated by these laws:

Safe Drinking Water Act

- *Federal law*
- *Protects groundwater and surface water for drinking*
- *Administered by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Oregon Health Authority*

Clean Water Act

- *Federal law*
- *Protects surface waters*
- *Administered by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality*

Primary Contact
Department of
Environmental Services
503-618-2525

Program Contacts

GREAT Businesses and
Business Recycling
Tristan Whitehead
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FOG and Industrial
Pretreatment
Dan Parnell
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Well Field Protection
Clay Walker
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Pollution Prevention for
Stormwater
Laura Dose
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GREAT Businesses

Contact: [Tristan Whitehead](mailto:Tristan.Whitehead@GreshamOregon.gov)

Program goal: Conserve water and energy; prevent pollution in storm and wastewater systems; reduce waste

Geographic focus: Citywide

Pollutants of concern:

- Hazardous materials and waste
- Toxic metals
- Fats, oils and grease

Businesses: All businesses

Regulatory status: Voluntary

What to expect: Site visit to help with environmental performance

Business Recycling

Contact: [Tristan Whitehead](mailto:Tristan.Whitehead@GreshamOregon.gov)

Program goal: Reduce waste being sent to the landfill - especially recyclable paper and containers

Geographic focus: Citywide

Pollutants of concern: N/A

Businesses: All except home-based

Regulatory status: Required by Metro in compliance with State recycling laws

What to expect: Technical assistance in capturing easily recycled items by enhancing a business's waste system

Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG)

Contact: Dan Parnell

Program goal: Prevent sewer backups

Geographic focus: Citywide in Gresham, Fairview and Wood Village

Pollutants of concern:

- Fats, oils and grease

Businesses: Food service establishments

Regulatory status: Required by DEQ

What to expect: Food service establishments are required to maintain their grease removal devices. The City may notify those businesses that have not submitted maintenance reports within the given time frame.

Well Field Protection

Contact: Clay Walker

Program goal: Prevent groundwater contamination

Geographic focus: Columbia South Shore areas in Gresham and Fairview, and Cascade well field protection areas in Gresham

Pollutants of concern:

- Hazardous materials and waste
- Halogenated solvents
- Carcinogenic, toxic or petroleum-based fuel material

Businesses: Businesses, including delivery and loading areas, that use or store these chemicals

Regulatory status: Recommended by State regulatory agencies to protect community drinking water

Columbia South Shore: Required since 2002

- Ongoing

Cascade: Voluntary through June 30, 2013

- Pending Council approval, this program may be required starting July 1, 2013

What to expect:

Letter and survey

Businesses in the Cascade Well Field Protection Area will receive a letter and voluntary survey about using or storing hazardous materials. Businesses with large quantities of these chemicals will be contacted to arrange for a site inspection.

Site inspection

The inspector may be able to suggest non-hazardous alternatives, and provide free spill kits, signage, and containment equipment. The purpose of this visit is to remove the business from 2013 Program regulations.

Industrial Pretreatment

Contact: Dan Parnell

Program goal: Prevent industrial pollutants from entering Gresham's wastewater system piping and Treatment Plant and the Columbia River

Geographic focus: Citywide in Gresham, Fairview and Wood Village

Pollutants of concern:

- Toxic metals
- Organic compounds

Businesses: Businesses that discharge to Gresham's sanitary sewer system

Regulatory status: Required by EPA and DEQ

What to expect: The City is required to survey all businesses. Using information based on business type, City staff can complete the survey for some businesses without having to contact the business. Other businesses may receive a survey in the mail. Survey information will be evaluated to determine if a business needs a discharge permit.

Pollution Prevention for Stormwater

Contact: Laura Dose

Program goal: Prevent pollutants from entering stormwater

Geographic focus: Citywide

Pollutants of concern:

- **Streams:** sediment, metals, pesticides, nutrients, bacteria, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)
- **Groundwater:** pentachlorophenol (PCP), phthalates, metals, halogenated solvents (spills and dumping)

Businesses: Auto-related, landscaping, pet daycare, manufacturers, and outdoor washing, spills and dumping activities

Regulatory status: Required by DEQ

What to expect:

Phase 1: Site inspection

Businesses will be contacted by phone to arrange for a site visit. The inspector will review practices and may be able to suggest alternative methods that are needed to protect stormwater from pollutants.

Phase 2: Prioritize improvements

Issues noted during the site visit will be evaluated and prioritized for follow-up.