

# The Pretreatment Times



## MISSION STATEMENT -

*The mission of the Industrial Waste Unit (IWU) is to protect the City's freshwater resources and wastewater treatment plants by enforcing local, state and federal regulations governing wastewater discharges to the City's wastewater and stormwater collection systems.*

Volume 6

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## Inside This Issue

### What's Inside?

- ◆ The Compliance Assistance section discusses Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), why their manufacturing has been banned and what can be done to help further reduce PCB contamination. This section also includes helpful tips on how to avoid pH violations.
- ◆ The Water Department is proposing to raise rates to account for the maintenance of the utility's top-quality drinking water production, wastewater management services, flood protection and the protection of natural resources and waterways. This proposal is expected to be implemented in October 2012.
- ◆ Industrial Users who have had no violations of their wastewater discharge permit in 2011 received a Bronze Award for 100% Compliance and are also recognized on Page 4.

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## PWD PLANT TOURS

Are you interested in getting an inside look at how the City treats its drinking water and wastewater? The IWU will be scheduling tours of Philadelphia's three Water Pollution Control Plants (Northeast, Southwest and Southeast) and three drinking water treatment plants (Baxter, Queen Lane and Belmont). Any Industrial User interested in touring a plant should contact IWU at 215-685-6236. **The Queen Lane Tour is scheduled for August 8th at 9:30 am.**

## REMINDERS:



Semi-Annual Compliance Reports are Due:  
NO LATER THAN July 31, 2012

Submitting your Semi-Annual Compliance Report more than 30-days late is considered Significant Non-Compliance.

If your report has not been received you will find yourself in Significant Non-Compliance!!

# Compliance Assistance

## PCBs

### What are PCBs?

Polychlorinated Biphenyls\* (PCBs) are chlorinated hydrocarbons previously manufactured for industrial use due to their chemical stability, high boiling point, non-flammability and electrical insulating properties. Domestically manufactured from 1929 until 1979, their manufacture was banned by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) because of their toxicity. While no longer produced in the United States, PCBs can still be present in products and materials produced before the 1979 PCB ban, including: electrical equipment (including capacitors, transformers), hydraulic fluids, thermal insulation material, adhesives and tapes, oil-based paint, plastics, caulking and floor finish.

### Why was PCB manufacturing banned?

PCBs have been demonstrated to cause cancer, and a variety of adverse health effects on the immune, reproductive, nervous and endocrine systems. Because PCBs do not easily break down once in the environment they can accumulate in plants and food crops and be taken up into the bodies of small organisms and fish. As a result, people who ingest fish may be exposed to PCBs that have bioaccumulated in the fish they are ingesting.

### If PCBs are banned, why are they *still* a problem?

Despite the 1979 ban on PCB manufacturing, PCBs are still released into the environment from poorly maintained hazardous waste sites, illegal or improper PCB waste dumping, leaks or releases from electrical transformers containing PCBs and disposal of PCB-containing products into municipal landfills not designed to handle hazardous waste.

### What is being done to reduce PCB levels in our area?

At the request of the states of Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and the USEPA, the Delaware River Basin Commission\* (DRBC) developed a Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) for PCBs for the Delaware Estuary in 2003. TMDL\* are calculations of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still safely meet water quality standards.

To help identify and reduce PCB sources in Philadelphia, the PWD developed a PCB Pollutant Minimization Plan\* (PCB PMP) in 2005 that set up measures for sampling and analyzing water pollution control plant (WPCP) effluent, inspecting locations known to house PCB-containing devices, identifying previously unknown PCB sources through trackdown sampling in the City's sewer system and reporting reductions in PCBs at each of the City's WPCPs. The PWD also revised its regulations (PWDR) to include a specific wastewater discharge limitation for PCBs stating that PCBs shall be non-detectable by EPA method 608 (see PWDR Section 501.3(b)(5)).

### What can you do to help the City further reduce PCB contamination?

At this time, the IWU is requiring all permitted industrial users to complete a survey requesting information about the presence (or absence) of PCB-containing devices at their facilities. The form and instructions are included with this issue of *The Pretreatment Times*. Please complete the attached form and submit it to your permit administrator with your semi-annual compliance report due in January 2013. This information will help ensure the PWD's list of PCB-containing devices in the City is accurate.

\* - <http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/hazard/tsd/pcbs/index.htm>

\* - <http://www.state.nj.us/drbc/>

\* - <http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/lawsguidance/cwa/tmdl/index.cfm>

## Compliance Assistance Avoiding pH Violations

### Avoiding pH Violations

Industrial Users should never be in violation of pH for missing a sample or due to a sample being out of compliance. There is always another opportunity to resample pH before the day or month is out. Violations can be avoided using these simple techniques. The Philadelphia Water Department's local limit on pH is no less than 5.5 and no greater than 12.

### How to avoid pH violations

- ◆ Sample pH every hour or continuously
- ◆ If a violation occurs resample 15 minutes later
- ◆ Continue to resample until compliance is achieved
- ◆ Sample early in the day to allow time to resample

### Reasons why pH should never be a Violation

- ◆ pH can be taken at any time
- ◆ Resampling can occur within the same hour
- ◆ Resampling can occur the same day
- ◆ pH can be neutralized then resampled
- ◆ pH can be set up to be continuously monitored

## Water Department News - PWD Proposed Rate Increase

The Philadelphia Water Department is currently seeking rate changes to maintain the utility's top-quality drinking water production, wastewater management services, flood protection and the protection of natural resources and waterways. The proposed new rates, phased in over a four-year period, will fund measures to help protect residents from stormwater flooding and to reduce water main leaks and breaks that can damage property.

### Why is the Water Department Rates Changing?

The proposed rate increase is designed to meet a projected revenue shortfall of some \$316.2 million over the Department's FY 2013-2016 Rate Period. In order to raise this level of revenue, the Department is proposing rates to achieve average annual increases of 6.5% to its revenue base. The proposed rates would increase the typical residential customer rates by approximately \$4.10 per month, if implemented beginning in October 2012 (or as soon thereafter as new rates can be implemented). Commercial and industrial users would see average annual rate increases in the 6.8% range over the next four years, depending on meter size and usage.

## Pretreatment Awards 100% Compliance



This issue brings the second annual awarding of the Industrial Waste Unit's Pretreatment Certificates for 100% Compliance. These certificates will be awarded annually to permittees who have had no violations of their wastewater discharge permit in the previous year. The certificates also recognize consecutive years of compliance through the award of silver (3-4 years), gold (5-9 years) and platinum (10+ years) certificates. As IWU began this program during 2010, this year's awardees are all receiving bronze certificates. Out of the 132 permitted industries, 93 received this certificate. On Page 4 is the list of some of these industries. If your facilities' name is not on the list IWU didn't receive a response before it was printed.

## 2011 Bronze Award Recipients

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A. C. Kissling Company</li> <li>2. AECO, Inc.</li> <li>3. AgustaWestland Philadelphia Corporation</li> <li>4. Arway Apron and Uniform Rental</li> <li>5. Ashland Inc.</li> <li>6. Astra Foods, Inc.</li> <li>7. Automotive Rebuilders, Inc.</li> <li>8. Barnell, Inc.</li> <li>9. Bethayres Reclamation Corp.</li> <li>10. C W Industries</li> <li>11. Cardone Opco, LLC</li> <li>12. Computer Components Corporation</li> <li>12. Catalent Pharma Solutions</li> <li>13. Cintas Corporation</li> <li>14. Columbia Silk Dyeing Co., Inc.</li> <li>15. Computer Components Corporation</li> <li>16. Curtiss Laboratories</li> <li>17. Custom Powder Coatings, Inc.</li> <li>18. DELAVAU, LLC</li> <li>19. Department of the Treasury, U.S. Mint</li> <li>20. DGM Custom Polishing &amp; Finishing Corporation</li> <li>21. Dickler Chemical Laboratories, Inc.</li> <li>22. Fleetwash, Inc.</li> <li>23. GE International Inc.</li> <li>24. Hillock Anodizing, Inc.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>25. Hillock Anodizing, Inc. Center</li> <li>26. J.P. Cerini Technologies, Inc.</li> <li>27. JAWS, INC</li> <li>28. Kohler Freda LLC</li> <li>29. Kraft Foods Global, Inc. - Phila. Bakery</li> <li>30. Lannett Company, Inc.</li> <li>31. Lannett Company, Inc.</li> <li>32. Leatex Chemical Company</li> <li>33. LSG Sky Chefs</li> <li>34. Martin/F. Weber</li> <li>35. Max Levy Autograph, Inc.</li> <li>36. McNeil Consumer Healthcare</li> <li>37. Medical Products Laboratories</li> <li>38. MedImmune LLC</li> <li>39. Metal Improvement Company</li> <li>40. Metlab/Potero</li> <li>41. Michel's Bakery, Inc.</li> <li>42. Mrs. Ressler's Food Products</li> <li>43. Murray Greene &amp; Sons</li> <li>44. Mutual Pharmaceutical Company</li> <li>45. Mutual Pharmaceutical Company</li> <li>46. National Chemical Laboratories, Inc.</li> <li>47. National Railroad Passenger Corp.</li> <li>48. Naval Foundry &amp; Propeller</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>49. NEL Metal Restorations</li> <li>50. Northeast Donut Shops Management Corp.</li> <li>51. PaperWorks Industries, Inc.</li> <li>52. PChem Associates, Inc.</li> <li>53. Penn Fishing Tackle Mfg. Co.</li> <li>54. Perfecseal, Inc.</li> <li>55. Philadelphia Cheesesteak Co.</li> <li>56. Philadelphia Rust-Proof Company, Inc.</li> <li>57. Plains Products Terminals, LLC</li> <li>58. Purolite Company</li> <li>59. Qualawash Holdings, LLC</li> <li>60. Regal International Leathers, Ltd</li> <li>61. Richards-Apex Inc.</li> <li>62. Siemens Industry, Inc.</li> <li>63. Simons Brothers</li> <li>64. SPD Technologies</li> <li>65. Starlite Industries, Inc.</li> <li>66. Sun Chemical</li> <li>67. Sunoco, Inc. (R&amp;M)</li> <li>68. Thermacore, Inc.</li> <li>69. UCT Specialties, Inc.</li> <li>70. Veolia Energy Philadelphia</li> <li>71. Vincent Giordano</li> <li>72. Wade Technology, Inc.</li> <li>73. Wayne Mills Corp.</li> <li>74. William H. Cooper's Sons, Inc.</li> <li>75. WuXi AppTec Incorporated</li> </ol> |
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### Industrial Waste Unit Contact Information

Questions, comments and suggestions for future topics are always welcome and suggested.

For comments on draft permits contact us at:  
 Industrial Waste Unit  
 1101 Market Street, 3rd Floor  
 Philadelphia, PA 19107

Phone 215-685-6236  
 Fax 215-685-6232



For questions about your permit:  
 Baxter Water Treatment Plant  
 9001 State Road  
 Philadelphia, PA 19136  
 Joe Cerrone 215-685-8030  
 Bob Gonsiewski 215-685-8093  
 Evan Schofield 215-685-8068

Visit the Industrial Waste Unit Online at: [www.phila.gov/water/IWU.html](http://www.phila.gov/water/IWU.html)