



Late Summer 2003

# Clean Air News

"To preserve and enhance air quality in southwest Washington"

## ATTENTION! TRUCK BED LINING COMPANIES

The Department of Labor and Industries has issued a hazard alert for isocyanate exposures from spray-on urethane truck bed linings. Recent workplace safety and health inspections have found workers exposed to isocyanates while spraying on truck bed lining. Isocyanates are very toxic and can cause immediate and long-term health problems including permanent breathing or chest problems. Due to the seriousness of the hazard, the Department of Labor and Industries, WISHA Services, is focusing enforcement efforts on companies that apply spray-on linings.

Isocyanates are a group of very reactive and toxic compounds used to make urethane, polyurethane or polyurea coatings. Spray-on truck bed liners, automotive paints and rigid foams are examples of materials that are based on isocyanates. Workers applying this material can be exposed to lower but harmful levels of isocyanates if the spray operation is not well controlled. Health effects that may occur within eight hours of exposure include allergic sensitization, eye and lung irritation, upset stomach, vomiting, fever, stuffiness of the nose, sore throat and a feeling of tightness in the chest. Long-term health effects include permanent breathing or chest problems including asthma, increased sensitivity to isocyanates, and skin reactions.

For more information, visit  
[www.lni.wa.gov/wisha/hazalerts/  
March2003HazardAlert\\_Final\\_.pdf](http://www.lni.wa.gov/wisha/hazalerts/March2003HazardAlert_Final_.pdf).

## WE'RE MOVING!

In September the Southwest Clean Air Agency will be moving to the EastRidge Business Park in Vancouver, WA.

Our new address will be...  
11815 NE 99th Street, Suite 1294  
Vancouver, WA 98682.

## Upcoming Changes to SWCAA 400

"General Regulations for Air Pollution Sources"

The Southwest Clean Air Agency is proposing to revise selected portions of SWCAA 400. The purpose of the rulemaking is to:

1. Maintain consistency with WAC 173-400 subsequent to a recent revision (effective September 15, 2001);
2. Clarify the terms "source" and "stationary source" and their respective use in the regulations;
3. Implement use of the term "air discharge permit" as a substitute for "Order of Approval";
4. Incorporate specific comments made by Ecology and EPA during review of NSR SIP provisions;
5. Add and revise definitions (400-030);
6. Add provisions for permitting nonroad engines (400-045 and -046);
7. Revise registration/permitting exemption criteria (400-101);
8. Separate registration fees/requirements (400-100) from Title V program fees (400-103);
9. Add emission tuning requirements for combustion sources (400-106);
10. Clarify reporting requirements for excess emissions (400-107);
11. Update NESHAP, MACT and NSPS adoptions (400-075 and -115);
12. Add provisions for protecting ambient air increments (400-140);
13. Revise 400-141 to adopt WAC 173-400-141 by reference rather than maintaining a separate program; and
14. Correct previously identified deficiencies in public notice requirements (400-171).

A copy of the proposed rule changes is available at [www.swcleanair.org](http://www.swcleanair.org) or upon request from Wess Safford at 360-574-3058, ext. 26. The full text of the proposed rule changes and associated information is available for public inspection by appointment between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at our office at 11815 NE 99th St, Suite 1294, Vancouver, WA.

Please address all written comments to the address above. To be considered, comments must be received by Tuesday, September 23, 2003.

SWCAA will review all issues raised during the comment period. Following this review, SWCAA may modify the rule proposal prior to final adoption to address concerns raised during this comment period.

An adoption hearing will be held at 3:00 p.m. on October 2, 2003 concurrent with a meeting of the SWCAA Board of Directors. The hearing will be at SWCAA's new office at 11815 NE 99th Street, Suite 1294, Vancouver, WA.

## Keeping an Eye on the Sky

The Southwest Clean Air Agency, in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and Air Resource Specialists, now has real-time digital visibility pictures online. Funds to set up the camera system online came from an EPA Supplemental Project grant to study urban visibility. The camera sits atop the Smith Tower in downtown Vancouver and offers both clear and hazy views of Mount Hood, Larch Mountain, the Glen Jackson/I-205 Bridge and Prune Hill. To view real-time images and other air quality data, visit [www.swcleanair.org/airqual.html](http://www.swcleanair.org/airqual.html).



11815 NE 99th Street, Suite 1294  
Vancouver, WA 98682



Southwest Clean Air Agency

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## Coming Soon to a Bus Stop Near You: Cleaner School Buses—Healthier Children!

In May 2003 Governor Locke and our local state legislators made a tremendous commitment to the health of school children by funding a program to clean up diesel school buses in Washington over the next five years. A recent Yale University study suggests that school children are exposed to levels of toxic diesel emissions that are five to 15 times higher than the general population experiences. And a report released last year by the Union of Concerned Scientists ranked Washington state's school bus fleet as one of the two dirtiest in the country. Using funds from existing sources of state revenue, this program will install retrofit devices to reduce toxic emissions from diesel school buses. The use of retrofit devices in conjunction with ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel can reduce particulate matter emissions by more than 90 percent. Diesel engines are among the largest sources of fine particulate matter, particles that are so small that several thousand of them could fit in the period at the end of this sentence. With asthma rates on the rise and children being among the most vulnerable to air pollution, this program will have many school children in Washington breathing easier.

## Back by Popular Demand

The Wood Stove Rebate program is back! SWCAA and several local dealers have renewed funding to offer rebates of approximately \$250 toward the purchase of a new, EPA certified wood stove when customers turn in their old, uncertified wood stoves for destruction and recycling.

The program for Clark, Cowlitz, Lewis, Skamania and Wahkiakum county residents will run until funds are exhausted. A fee with each new wood stove sold provides funds for the Washington Department of Ecology to pass through to SWCAA. Matching funds are provided by participating dealers. EPA certified wood stoves and fireplace inserts emit about half as much pollution as uncertified woodstoves and inserts, primarily because the new models burn wood much more efficiently. For more information about this program, call the **Southwest Clean Air Agency** at 360-574-3058 or 1-800-633-0709, or check with your local wood stove dealer for their participation.



## Southwest Clean Air Agency

### SOUTHWEST CLEAN AIR AGENCY

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[www.swcleanair.org](http://www.swcleanair.org)

### BOARD MEETINGS

When: First Thursday of every month  
Where: SWCAA offices  
Contact: (360) 574-3058

### CLARK COUNTY OUTDOOR BURN INFO

Contact: (360) 574-3058, ext. 6

### BURN INFORMATION/OTHER COUNTIES

Contact: (800) 633-0709

### NEWSLETTER

Kathy Carlson, Editor  
For questions or comments regarding  
this newsletter, call  
(360) 574-3058, ext. 39  
or e-mail [Kathy@swcleanair.org](mailto:Kathy@swcleanair.org)

This newsletter was printed on recycled paper.



## State of the Air

The American Lung Association of Washington has released its State of the Air Report for Washington. This report outlines the air pollution challenges that different regions of Washington face, describes associated health impacts and offers suggestions for what everyone can do to help our air quality. For more information or to read the report online, go to the American Lung Association of Washington's website at [www.alaw.org/air\\_quality/](http://www.alaw.org/air_quality/).

## Did You Know...

That automobiles are responsible for more than half of our region's air pollution? With the advancement of industrial emission controls in recent years and our increasing dependence on cars, our everyday habits of driving have an increasing impact on our local air quality. To reduce your environmental impact on hot days, try leaving the car at home, bringing a lunch to work instead of going out, or combining errands into one trip.