



Environmental Management Newsletter

POLLUTECH ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS are independent Canadian consulting firms providing services nationally and internationally in the fields of environmental engineering, chemistry and biology.

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MUNICIPAL CODE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE DISCHARGE OF CONTAMINANTS TO SANITARY AND STORM SEWERS IN THE GREATER TORONTO AREA

Municipal Code Chapter 681-5, "Pollution Prevention Planning" for industries located in the Greater Toronto area, has been adopted by the City of Toronto on February 1, 2001.

The new Pollution Prevention Plan is intended to:

- Improve industrial waste management and reduction practices
- Reduce the concentration of contaminants, subject pollutants, discharged to the sanitary and/or storm sewers
- Control toxic metals and organics
- Improve biosolids quality

The sampling and analysis for subject pollutants in the storm and sanitary sewers required by this article shall be carried out in accordance with the procedures as described in Standard Methods or the "Guidance Document for the Sampling and Analysis of Wastewater for the 1999 Model Sewer Use By-Law," the United States Environmental Protection Agency methods or analytical methods adopted by the City. Refer to Chapter 681-8.

There are thirty-eight (38) subject pollutants. Some of the subject pollutants of concern are copper, chloroform, chromium, benzene, mercury and arsenic. Refer to Chapter 681, Article 1 - Appendix 2 for a current list of subject pollutants.

Every subject sector in industry which discharges any amount of a subject pollutant to the sewers shall prepare a pollution prevention plan summary and submit to the Commissioner for approval as early as June 30, 2001. Refer to Chapter 681, Article 1 - Appendix 1 for North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes to determine what date your industry must report to the Commissioner.

It would be prudent for industrial facilities located in the Greater Toronto area to assess if they are required to prepare and submit a pollution prevention plan. For industrial facilities located outside the Greater Toronto area, it is important to note that such an initiative may set a precedent which could change their local sewer use by-laws.



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