



May 2010 Newsletter

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BP Oil Spill



The BP oil spill in the gulf of

Gabriel Gazette

May 2010

New Construction Site Stormwater Regulations

U.S. EPA has issued new regulations to clarify their construction site stormwater rules. Previously, they required dischargers engaged in construction activity to obtain an NPDES permit and to implement control measures to manage discharges associated with construction activity. There were not, however, any national performance standards or monitoring requirements for construction sites. The new regulation establishes a technology-based "floor" or minimum requirements on a national basis.



These stormwater regulations will work with existing state regulations to establish acceptable levels of the amount of sediment, turbidity, Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and other pollutants in stormwater discharges from the site. The new rule also establishes a numeric effluent limitation for turbidity in discharges from construction sites that disturb ten or more acres of land at one

Mexico which began April 22nd, 2010 is a hotly contested event. Depending on how the event evolves, this accident could have long-term effects on the environment, public health, and emerging environmental legislation.

To help citizens remain abreasted of the situation, the EPA has set up a BP oil spill section on their website. To read the most up to date information released by the EPA on the status of air, soil and water sampling visit the EPA's website:
www.epa.gov/bpspill

The link includes information as to the EPA's response as well as the most current air and sediment sampling available.

Environmental Links

[Environmental Protection Agency](#)

[Illinois Environmental Protection Agency](#)

time. Permittees would be required to sample stormwater discharges from the site and report the levels of turbidity present in the discharges to the proper state agency.

For more information on the new NPDES permit requirements for construction sites or to learn how they may impact your projects, contact [Steve Sawyer](#) at 773-486-2123 or view [the final rule published in the Federal Register](#).

Get to know Gabriel: Paul Basso

Paul Basso has been working for Gabriel since 1988 and now serves as the coordinator of the remediation group. Paul holds a BS in Geology from Illinois State University and has overseen hundreds of remediation projects in more than 20 years in the field.



In addition to his remediation expertise, Paul is also an avid gardener. Every year, Paul plants everything from cucumbers and tomatoes to kohlrabi and cabbage. The yield from his garden is far more than Paul could ever eat himself, and he has graciously bestowed the "fruits" of his labor upon his neighbors, sisters, and coworkers!



Selection of veggies from Paul's Garden

Paul is also known for his weather expertise - a skill which has brought him to meet Tom Skilling, John Coleman, and Harry Volkman.

Paul enjoys bicycling around Chicago and the suburbs. It is his goal to bike in the 35 miles from his house to Gabriel at least one day this summer. You can drop Paul a line at

pbasso@gabrielenvironmental.com and send him words of



The Power of the Wind



A new study by the Department of Energy shows that onshore U.S. wind resources could generate nearly **37,000,000** gigawatt hours annually, **more than nine times current total US. electricity consumption.**

Wow - now that's green power!

Gabriel is proud to buy all of our power in our Illinois and Wisconsin offices from wind farms in Kansas and Wisconsin.

Envirofacts Updated



encouragement, or see if he has any extra veggies laying around!

EPA Proposes Changes to Lead-Paint Renovation Rules

U.S. EPA's lead paint regulations have barely taken effect, and EPA has already proposed changes to these new rules. Beginning in April 2010, EPA now requires certified contractors to use lead-safe practices during the renovation of any residential, child-care or educational buildings built before 1978.

EPA has recently proposed post-cleanup testing for certain interior renovation, including:



- * Use of a heat gun at temperatures below 1100 degrees Fahrenheit.
- * Removal or replacement of window or door frames.
- * Scraping 60 square feet ("SF") or more of painted surfaces.
- * Removing more than 40 SF of trim, molding, cabinets, or other fixtures.

Additionally, EPA has announced its intention to expand the scope of the Renovation, Repair and Painting rule to include public and commercial buildings.

EPA is [accepting comments on this proposed rule](#) until July 6th. For information about how this new regulation affects your renovation plans, contact [Steve Sawyer](#) (773-486-2123) or [Bill Gray](#) (219-972-1110).

Join us THIS Thursday to learn about renewable energy

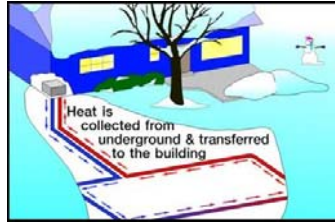
Tapping into Geothermal
How a cleaner and more efficient HVAC system can save money

U.S. EPA has updated its online Envirofacts database with more than 6,300 chemicals and 3,800 chemical facilities.

"The addition to Envirofacts will provide the American people with unprecedented access to information about chemicals that are manufactured in their communities," said Steve Owens, assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention.

Residents can use the Envirofacts database to search for environmental activities that may affect air, water and land in the U.S and provides tools for analyzing the data. One can learn about the UV rating for the day in their area or local hazardous waste generators, among other search capabilities.

Envirofacts can be found online at www.epa.gov/enviro/



until the fall.

Highlights include:

- What are the benefits of geothermal technology?
- How are geothermal systems installed?
- Cost comparison to traditional heating and cooling methods
- Information on federal tax credits available
- Information on other renewable energy sources
- Geothermal boring demonstration, plus see Gabriel's own solar and geothermal systems

Thursday, May 27th, 2009

12:00 pm - Lunch & Registration

12:15 pm - Seminar begins

1:30 pm - Geothermal boring demo and tour of Gabriel's geothermal and solar systems

RSVP to Sara Scardina (gabriel@gabrielenvironmental.com or 773-486-2123) - space is limited, and will be allocated first come, first serve.

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