

# pollution prevention

P2 at the Pacific Northwest  
Pollution Prevention Resource Center

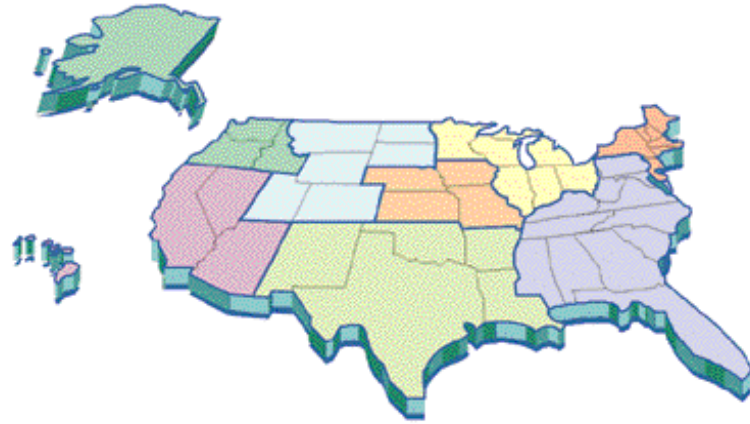
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# what is pollution prevention?

- At its simplest, pollution prevention (P2) is avoiding the generation of all types of pollution
- *The Pollution Prevention Act of 1990* established a federal policy that pollution should be prevented or reduced at the source, and when pollution cannot be prevented, it should be recycled in an environmentally safe manner.
- At the program level, P2 programs consists of any activity or strategy that
  - ★ eliminates or reduces the use of toxic substances;
  - ★ conserves water or energy; and/or,
  - ★ reduces (or eliminates) the generation of nonproductive output, hazardous waste, air emissions, wastewater, or other pollutants.

# what is PPRC?



- We are one of eight regional centers in the US, we serve the fourstates of the pacific northwest
- Provide pollution prevention (P2) information resources, research and networking
- Support Technical Assistance Providers in federal, state and local government and industry
- Partner with agencies, businesses, non-profits citizen groups, and individuals on a wide variety of projects to protect public health and the environment through eliminating/reducing all types of pollution, conserving resources, and improving performance

# key activities and programs

- source reduction—applying a systematic approach and continuous improvement
- LEAN and GREEN—lean eliminates non-value-added activities, inputs or outputs, green eliminates pollution and conserves resources
- E3 (economy, energy, and environment)
- Community toxics reduction
  - ★ EcoBiz
  - ★ Greening sports
  - ★ Solvent reduction
  - ★ Toxics use, or should it be risk, reduction through holistic evaluation and developing innovative solutions

# toxics—a discussion

- What factors make a toxics issue a priority?
- Building an investigatory framework
- Developing a holistic approach for identifying sources, evaluating their relative priority, and looking for loose ends
- Quantifying potential releases and loadings, current and legacy
- Understanding fate, transport, and behavior in the environment
- Determining the potential for exposure, significance, health effects, environmental harm (real, probable, potential future risk)

# more toxics

- Evaluating how existing and future regulations or limits could alter the potential for future risk
- Exploring existing solutions and identifying gaps
- Investigating the applicability and potential of developing innovative, technical solutions
- Partnering with key resources to further develop and test, pilot, and implement innovative solutions
- Continuously questioning, checking, rechecking, and re-evaluating (looping)