



New
Jersey
Department of
Environmental
Protection

ENFORCEMENT ADVISORY

Compliance **ALERT**

Making You Aware of Anticipated Enforcement Activities

Compliance and Enforcement

Issued: September 2003

#2003-08

DEP to Conduct Compliance and Enforcement Sweep in the City of Paterson in Late 2003

Who is affected by this initiative?

Many businesses, public entities or individuals in the city of Paterson conduct activities that impact the environment and human health, making them subject to environmental regulation.

To help ensure that public health and the environment are protected, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) with the assistance of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Passaic County Health Department will conduct a citywide investigation of regulated businesses in Paterson in late 2003. In addition to conducting compliance inspections, the DEP will meet and work cooperatively with community and business representatives and provide compliance assistance to regulated entities to help ensure compliance with environmental laws.

Areas of focus and issues of environmental concern include:

Air Pollution	Lead & Mercury
Community Right to Know	Pesticides
CFC's (refrigerant recovery)	Solid Waste
Discharge Prevention	Toxic Catastrophe Prevention
Hazardous Waste	Underground Storage Tanks
Land Use	Water Pollution

Why is DEP focusing on the city of Paterson?

By conducting citywide inspections throughout a specific community, the DEP can explore and increase environmental compliance in that area. DEP data show that Paterson has a high number of regulated facilities in close proximity to residential neighborhoods. Compliance rates in Paterson are low compared to several other northern New Jersey cities.

What is DEP doing?

The DEP is developing a two-phase environmental compliance initiative for the city of Paterson. The first phase, known as the Compliance Sweep, will begin in September 2003 and will focus on providing outreach and assistance to known and potentially regulated individuals, businesses and government operations. The second phase, known as the Enforcement Sweep, will involve a large-scale inspection effort. Both efforts will be led by the NJDEP, in partnership with the USEPA, the Passaic County Health Department and the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners. Non-compliance found during the Enforcement Sweep will be addressed with Notices of Violation and with penalties where appropriate. The Enforcement Sweep will occur over the course of at least one full week beginning in late 2003.

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During the two-phase environmental compliance initiative, the DEP will meet and communicate with citizens and community groups to ensure that their concerns are considered and opportunities to improve public health and the environment are maximized.

What should I do?

Below are lists that may prove useful to both businesses and citizens in the city of Paterson

Businesses:

1. Remember that ultimately it is up to each person or business to be aware of regulations that apply to them. Review your operations for regulatory applicability, necessary permits or DEP approvals. Now is your chance to make sure your environmental house is in order.
2. Consider reaching out to trade associations or State or local chambers of commerce. The DEP is working with these associations to reach and help the widest number of regulated entities possible.
3. Pay attention to DEP updates, through flyers, mailings but mostly for time and efficiency, through the DEP web pages. You will find helpful resources both generally and specifically related to this Sweep, which may help you get or stay in compliance.

Citizens:

1. The DEP will be working with your local government representatives and various community groups. Work with or through these entities to participate in this effort.
2. Watch the DEP web pages for information on the Sweep and what DEP finds.

Whom should I contact with questions?

General questions (609) 984-3285
NJDEP Community Outreach (609) 777-0319

NJDEP Compliance & Enforcement:

Air	(973) 299-7700	Solid Waste	(609) 584-4180
Hazardous Waste	(973) 299-7571	Underground Storage Tanks	(609) 633-0737
Land Use	(609) 984-0564	Toxic Catastrophe &	
Pesticides	(609) 984-6568	Discharge Prevention	(609) 633-0610
Pollution Prevention	(609) 777-0518	Water	(973) 299-7592
Right to Know	(609) 984-7924	Waterway Enforcement Team	(973) 299-7592

NJDEP general compliance assistance and
Small Business Assistance (toll free) 1 (877) 753-1151

EPA Compliance Assistance/
Small Business Assistance (212) 637-3413

Passaic County Health Department (973) 225-3637

Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners (973) 817-5710

NJ State Chamber of Commerce (609) 989-7888

NJ Commerce Commission 1 (800) 643-6090

Greater Paterson Chamber of Commerce (973) 881-7300

Where can I get more information?

The following web sites can be accessed for additional information:

Paterson Sweep Info Page: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/enforcement/paterson/paterson.html>
NJDEP Home Page: www.nj.gov/dep