

# SMALL BUSINESS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE

## Mission Statement

Designed as a separate, non-regulatory, program within the DEQ, the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program serves to assist Montana businesses to understand and comply with applicable environmental regulations.

Within the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program exists the Small Business Ombudsman (SBO), and the Small Business Compliance Assistance Advisory Council (SBCAAC).

### Small Business Ombudsman

The Small Business Ombudsman serves to:

- Provide free assistance to help Montana's small businesses deal with the complexities of state and federal environmental regulations and permitting; and



- Represent the interest of small business before the DEQ and other local, state, and federal agencies regarding the requirements of the state and federal Clean Air Act.

### Small Business Compliance Assistance Advisory Council

- Seven (7) appointed members serve as advisors to DEQ regarding the needs of small businesses.
- Consults with small businesses concerning the implementation and application of environmental regulations.

For more information contact:

John Podolinsky  
Department of Environmental Quality  
Small Business Ombudsman (SBO)  
P. O. Box 200901  
1520 East Sixth Ave • Helena, MT

[jpodolinsky@mt.gov](mailto:jpodolinsky@mt.gov) • (406) 444-6592  
Toll Free: 800-433-8773  
[www.deq.mt.gov/sbap/default.mcp](http://www.deq.mt.gov/sbap/default.mcp)



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## Montana Small Business Environmental Assistance Program



COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE  
SBEAP HOTLINE  
800-433-8773

**Does your business NEED  
ASSISTANCE understanding  
Montana's Environmental  
Regulations?**

**Department  
of Environmental Quality's  
Small Business  
Environmental Assistance  
Program is here to HELP!**

**DEQ**  
MONTANA

# SMALL BUSINESS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE



## *The Mission of the . . .*

SMALL BUSINESS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SBEAP) is to assist Montana businesses to understand and comply with environmental regulations and to go beyond the regulations to prevent pollution and improve environmental quality. The SBEAP assists small businesses achieve and maintain compliance with new and existing environmental requirements, and acts as an advocate for small businesses. Assistance from the SBEAP is free, and imposes no obligation on Montana businesses.

- Advocacy on behalf of small businesses
- Assistance with communication between DEQ and businesses
- Permitting assistance
- Pollution prevention assistance
- Workshops and trainings
- Informative printing and mailers

## What Types of Small Businesses are Subject to Compliance with Environmental Regulations?

Following is a partial list of the types of Small Businesses that may be subject to compliance with environmental regulations:

- Auto Body Shops
- Auto Repair Shops
- Bakeries
- Chromium Electroplaters
- Contractors
- Carpet Cleaners
- Dry Cleaners
- Furniture Makers
- Gasoline Distribution Centers
- Air Conditioning Service Companies
- Machine Shops
- Metal Finishers
- Painting / Coating Operations
- Photo Finishing Services
- Printers

Plus many more.



## What Services Does the SBEAP Offer?

- Toll free telephone hotline
- On-site compliance assessments
- Internet web site with up-to-date information
- Assistance with permit applications and forms
- Industry-specific newsletters and other easy to understand publications

## How Much Does the Service Cost?

The services of the SBEAP are free to small businesses.

## Who is Eligible to Receive Assistance?

Any independently-owned Montana small business with fewer than 100 employees is eligible to receive assistance from the SBEAP.

## Will DEQ or EPA Enforcement Programs Know that I Requested Assistance from the SBEAP?

No, the SBEAP operates as an independent program. Assistance requests received by the office are confidential and are not shared with DEQ or EPA Enforcement, except in cases of imminent danger to human health or the environment.