



OCTOBER

Pollution Prevention

QUARTERLY
NEWSLETTER
2025

Tennessee Pollution Prevention Program Update

The Tennessee Pollution Prevention Program is undergoing dynamic changes in order to improve and expand our efforts to reduce pollution through technical assistance to industry and the regulated public.

Several changes have already been implemented with significant success, including our quarterly open discussions, expansion of the Tennessee Green Star Partnership, webinars and workshops as well as direct technical assistance and onsite industry assessments through our partnership with TN Tech University and the University of Memphis.

We will continue to assist industries and businesses with material reuse efforts and networking with various recycling vendors and operations throughout the state. Keep reading for more updates on these initiatives below.

MATERIALS REUSE

One of the most innovative and unique services that the Office of Sustainable Practices offers is our state-wide network of material reuse transactions. Our staff are able to connect businesses that don't normally communicate to beneficially reuse waste materials. The service ensures that valuable resources are not landfilled, and instead returned to Tennessee's economy. Recently, Recycle Aerosol LLC, a small business in Bells, acquired a recycling contract that left the company with 200 to 400 empty short fiber drums (pictured) per month.

OSP staff connected Recycle Aerosol with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) for use in their [Unwanted Pharmaceutical Takeback Program](#). TBI has unwanted pharmaceutical collection points in each county and needed more uniform containers to transport the unwanted pharmaceuticals for incineration and energy recovery.

Contact [Vaughn Cassidy](#) if you have waste materials appropriate for reuse.



Tennessee Sustainable Spirits Program

Workshop Notification for Spirits Producers!



The Tennessee Dept. of Environment and Conservation – Office of Sustainable Practices would like to invite you to attend the Tennessee Sustainable Spirits Sustainability Workshop. Victoria Klaus with the James B. Beam Institute at the University of Kentucky will lead a workshop on Sustainability in the spirits industry and share more about the Beam Institute. After the workshop, attendees will conclude with a tour of Jackalope Brewing and Happy Hour.

Thursday, October 16, 2025 from 3:00 - 5:00 pm

Jackalope Brewing Company - Nashville, TN

Agenda:

3:00-3:10pm: Welcome TNSS video + Networking and Refreshments

3:10-4:00pm 40 min workshop + 10 Q&A on Sustainability and the Beam Institute

4:00-4:45pm Networking & Happy Hour

4:45-5:00pm Tour

[Register](#)

Check out the most recent webinar!

Recently the program produced a very informative webinar regarding practical cleaning solutions for small brewery producers, entitled "[Water Conservation through Cleaning: Practical Solutions for the Beverage Industry](#)". The featured speaker was Oliver Meinhold, Director of Brewery Division at Zee Loeffler - Member of The Vincit Group, who shared his extensive experience in brewery sanitation and water quality management.

[Sign up for the upcoming Tennessee Sustainable Spirits WEBINAR](#)



Open to
Tennessee
Industries
ONLY

TDEC's Office of Sustainable Practices continues to host open discussions throughout the year. 20 Tennessee industries participated on our most recent call, with discussion ranging from efforts to find the best recycling vendor to achieve zero waste to potential PFAS regulations. Members were able to share successes and challenges regarding reuse of materials from one company to another.

During these open discussions, participants have the opportunity to talk to other industry members about pollution prevention strategies, recycling, resource reuse, vendors, and other items relating to their facility environment, health, sustainability, or operations. Participants will receive a recurring quarterly calendar appointment.

If you are a Tennessee industry and are interested, please contact Vaughn Cassidy, with TDEC's Office of Sustainable Practices, to be included in the upcoming calendar appointment or the appointment series. Email [Vaughn Cassidy](#) or give him a call: 731-431-7856.

Join us if you can and meet other sustainable industries. You never know if a solution to an issue you are having will come up.



Energy Tips
from TDEC's
Office of Energy
Programs

Take advantage of this opportunity to hear an Energy Management Association panel discuss the importance of artificial intelligence in building and facility management.

Energy Management Association

October 7 @ 1:00 PM CT / 2:00 PM ET

With buildings and facilities accounting for approximately 40% of energy consumption, concerted efforts will be required to reduce demand and increase efficiency. Artificial intelligence (AI) and its ability to collect, collate, and analyze massive amounts of data can assist. The panel will discuss the various ways AI is being employed to assist utilities and facility managers to improve grid performance and ensure optimum performance of facility systems. Register here:

AI in the Utility and Facility Management Industries

Upcoming Webinars

[TDEC's Pollution Prevention webinars](#)
Anytime, Anywhere

Events

[Biomass Conference in Nashville](#)

March 31st to April 2nd 2026

[Materials Recovery Facility Tours](#)
Memphis

Conferences

[Clean Memphis Circular Summit](#)
Memphis, TN
October 22

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