Overview of TDEC’s Pollution Prevention (P2) Program
Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

Bureau of Operations, Strategy, and Engagement
- BOSE Divisions
  - Office of Sustainable Practices

Bureau of Environment
- BOE Divisions
  - Office of Energy Programs
- Field Offices (8)

Bureau of Parks and Conservation
- State Parks (61)
- Natural Areas
TN Department of Environment and Conservation

OFFICE OF SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES & SMALL BUSINESS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Our mission is to provide programs, resources, and services that maximize positive environmental, social, and economic impacts for Tennesseans. We also provide technical assistance to small businesses to help them gain and maintain compliance with environmental regulations.

- Provide Environmental Technical Assistance
- Facilitate Recognition Programs
- Implement Sustainability in State Parks
- Promote Food Waste Reduction
- Administer Sustainability Programs
- Encourage Environmental Stewardship
- Increase Radon Awareness
- Engage in Community Outreach
Main Components of TDEC’s P2 Program

TDEC’s P2 program is partially funded through an EPA Pollution Prevention Grant and has three main components:

1. P2 Technical Assistance and Training,
2. Tennessee Sustainable Spirits,
3. Tennessee Green Star Partnership.

Operating under a 2-year P2 Grant from EPA, started October 1, 2022, and ends September 30, 2024. (Will re-apply for next 2 years of funding spring 2024.)
P2 Technical Assistance Program

• Webinars
  – 4 technical P2 webinars a year
  – 2 spirits related webinars a year

• In-Person Workshops
  – 2 P2 related workshops, typically includes facility tour
  – 1 spirits related workshop

• Quarterly Newsletters

• Quarterly Open Discussions

• On-site Technical Assistance
  – Partner with TTU IAC on audits
  – One off offerings
Tennessee Green Star Partnership (TGSP)

- Voluntary environmental leadership program for manufacturers facilitated by TDEC.
- Promotes the health and well-being of all Tennesseans and helps stimulate economic development through avoided operational costs.
- Recognizes Tennessee manufacturers that are committed to sustainability and exhibit continuous improvement throughout their entire operation
  - Sharing Successes
  - Networking
  - Best management practices
Tennessee Green Star Partnership (TGSP)

Recognizing Industrial Excellence: The TN Green Star Partnership

When businesses practice responsible environmental protection, TDEC believes they should be recognized, honored, and assisted. The department has a program—the Tennessee Green Star Partnership—specifically designed to shine light on those businesses, and it highlighted three in the last year.

Koppers Performance Chemicals of Millington, Clayton Gills of New Tazewell, and Nucor Steel Memphis joined the list of partners, bringing the total in the program to 41. Green Star partners can be found from West Tennessee to the mountains of Upper East Tennessee.

Koppers Performance Chemicals produces several proprietary chemicals used in wood preservation and supplies nine of the 10 largest wood treating companies in the United States.

Clayton Gills is a homebuilding and supply company committed to sustainable building practices, focusing on increasing recycling and decreasing waste and water consumption.

Nucor Steel Memphis produces special quality steel using an electric arc furnace. The mill, which Nucor began operating in 2009, melts recycled scrap metal and turns it into new steel products.

Tennessee Green Star Partnership Members

The Green Star Partnership’s objectives promote the health and well-being of all Tennesseans and help stimulate economic development. The partnership has resulted in many positive environmental outcomes including pollution prevention and significant CO2 emissions reductions through waste diversion and increased energy efficiency.

The Green Star Partnership is funded in part through an EPA Pollution Prevention Grant, which will assist with technical assistance for manufacturers.

Environmentally safe practices boost the cause of environmental protection and also the success of businesses. Many businesses are interested in environmental protection, and some go above and beyond what might be expected. This program will continue to recognize such commitment.

See TDEC’s 2023 Annual Report.
Tennessee Sustainable Spirits

- Tennessee Sustainable Spirits is a voluntary program that assists wineries and wine growers, breweries, and distilleries in increasing sustainability by promoting best practices, providing technical assistance, and developing relationships.

- Members fulfil a range of sustainability requirements:
  - Water conservation
  - Reduced air/water pollution
  - Increased waste reduction
  - Expanded community involvement compared to current industry standards for the spirits industry.
Value Stream Mapping

Delivery

Grain Storage

Milling

Mashing

Lautering

Link to TDEC TNSS Value Stream Mapping Resource
The Governor’s Environmental Stewardship Awards (GESA) were created in 1986. They recognize outstanding achievements by individuals, businesses, organizations, educational institutions, and agencies for successful environmental projects and conservation measures. The awards encourage leadership by example through its award winners. As of now, 72 counties in TN have won a GESA award.