DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT
1200 FIRST STREET NE, 5TH FLOOR
WASHINGTON, DC 20002 | (202) 535-2600

GREEN WRENCH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

TOOLBOX NEWSLETTER

DID YOU KNOW?

DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS 2019

The annual District Sustainability Awards recognize outstanding businesses and organizations for their environmental stewardship, innovative best practices, pollution prevention, and resource conservation.

Applications are due February 14, 2019

Learn more at
doee.dc.gov/service/district-sustainability-awards

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

WE ARE WASHINGTON DC
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

GREEN WRENCH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

TOOLBOX

FEBRUARY 2019

DC PACE makes clean energy affordable. It allowed the BP gas station on Georgia Ave to install solar panels.

SIGN UP

The GreenWrench Program provides free pollution prevention guidance and training to District auto body and repair shops. GreenWrench services are all free and include:

1. Technical assistance visits
2. Workshops
3. Toolbox Newsletter
4. Certification

Sign up online at
doee.dc.gov/service/greenwrench
or by calling (202) 645-4231

FINANCING FOR CLEAN ENERGY

Did you know that one of DOEE's first Property Assessed Clean Energy (DC PACE) projects was for a BP gas station on Georgia Avenue?

The project, which included a 37-kilowatt solar installation, was financed using private capital from United Bank and will produce over 40,000 kilowatt-hours of renewable electricity every year, cutting the business owner's electricity bill by more than 40 percent.

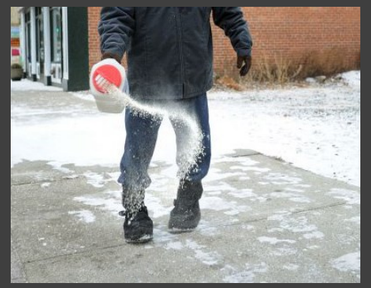
"I have been considering installing solar panels for several years now, but the large upfront investment prevented me from initiating this project," said Sergey Nikolaev, owner of the family-owned BP Station on Georgia Ave. "With 100 percent financing under the PACE program, I didn't have to put any money down, and my new roof is included in the financing. Not only is this project energy efficient, it's cost-effective for me as the energy savings are higher than the PACE payments."

Through a voluntary special assessment, DC PACE projects are structured so that business owners cover the cost of installation and save money over the life of the projects. This lowers utility bills and improves net operating income while reducing the District's overall carbon footprint.

The DC PACE program is administered for DOEE by a local firm, Urban Ingenuity, which has financed over $38 million for projects at small businesses, houses of worship, charter schools, and multifamily buildings. DC PACE can be used to finance renewable energy projects as well as energy efficiency upgrades such as HVAC systems and lighting.

For more information, please visit **dcpace.com** or contact Kenley Farmer at 202-671-3314.

DCPACE
A CLEAN ENERGY FINANCE SOLUTION
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT



Be careful how much salt is applied to sidewalks and driveways. (photo by a Yard & a Half Landscaping Cooperative)

DON'T BE SO SALTY: SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL

In the winter it is common for businesses to apply too much road salt to melt ice on their sidewalks and driveways. Salt has adverse environmental and financial effects.

Salt is corrosive and can cause concrete to chip and crack, costing thousands of dollars in repaving, and causes metal to rust.

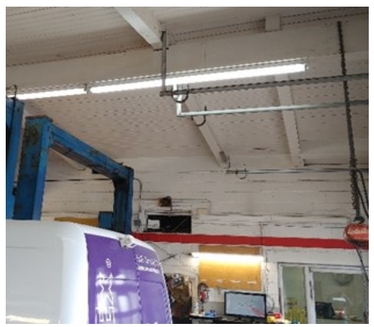
Salt is also damaging to the environment, where it can cause chemical burns on plants. Snowmelt washes salt down into stormdrains, causing further degradation to our waterways and to our drinking water and harms wildlife. Once dissolved in water, salt is extremely difficult to remove.

How to reduce salt use:

1. Remove snow as quickly as possible before it becomes compacted and turns into ice.
2. Use an eco-friendly deicer, such as calcium magnesium acetate (CMA), magnesium or calcium chloride, and ammonia-based deicers. You can find these at your local hardware store.

   Another option is to use sand to add traction to slick sidewalks.
3. Follow a salt application rate. With regular road salt, use 4.5 to 10 lbs. per 1,000 square feet depending on the temperature. Only apply as much as you need to melt the ice, but not so much that grains of salt are still visible afterwards. Be patient; it can take 30 minutes for deicers to work.
4. Don't apply deicers if the temperature is forecasted to rise above freezing (32° F). Allow Mother Nature to melt the ice instead.

Remember! District businesses are required to remove snow within 8 daylight hours of the snow ending, or they could receive a $150 fine.



Fluorescent tube lamps at AAMCO Transmission & Total Car Care (Photo by Global Consulting, Inc. 2019)

SMALL CHANGES, BIG SAVINGS

AAMCO Transmission and Total Car Care in northeast Washington, DC is proof that making environmentally conscious changes needn't be costly or difficult.

The shop has been replacing its old, end-of-life fluorescent tube lamps with more environmentally-friendly LED lamps and recycling their old lamps. This change has allowed them to both lower their energy use and limit the amount of universal waste they generate from dead bulbs and light ballasts.

Simple changes such as replacing old fluorescent T8 tube lamps with equivalent T8 LED lamps can amount to significant energy and cost savings. LED tube lamps also last up to six times longer. Shop owners can save – and pass savings onto their customers.

The simple act of replacing old fluorescent tube lamps with LEDs also enables AAMCO to keep its employees safer and healthier by minimizing their exposure to mercury and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), found in high doses in fluorescent tubes.

A U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) study determined that LED lamps have a significantly smaller environmental impact than incandescent and fluorescent lamps.

On top of making energy conscious decisions, AAMCO's excellent housekeeping practices demonstrate an obvious emphasis on workplace organization and safety, which studies have shown to both lower workplace injuries and provide a boost to worker productivity, according to the journal Safety Science.

Find lighting choices that save you money at www.energy.gov/energysaver/save-electricity-and-fuel/lighting-choices-save-you-money

Sources:

Geldart, S. et al. "Organizational practices and workplace health and safety," Safety Science 48, no. 5 (2010): 562-569.

Scholand, M., and H.E. Dillon, "Life-Cycle Assessment of Energy and Environmental Impacts of LED Lighting Products Part 2." Building Technologies Program. DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, May 2012.

USED-TIRE HAULING

Unlicensed used-tire haulers are a major source of illegal dumping in the District of Columbia. Some of these haulers charge discounted fees to auto shops, and then dispose of the tires in public parks, alleys, and vacant properties.

District agencies are actively working to enforce against both the hiring of unlicensed tire haulers and illegal dumping. On January 16, 2019, the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) 6th District charged Deron Winston McDonald of Alexandria, VA, on suspicion of illegally dumping 1,000 tires in the vicinity of E Street SE.

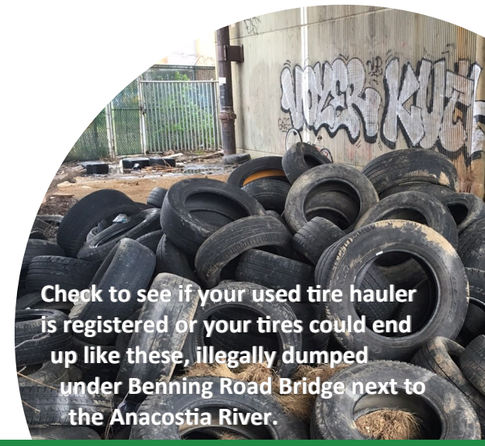
MPD said Mr. McDonald is suspected of using a stolen U-Haul truck, collecting tires from local tire shops at a discounted rate, and dumping them in wooded areas in Wards 7 and 8. He has been identified by residents as the violator in question for numerous illegal dumping incidents.
Illegally dumped tires are hazards that release toxic smoke, heavy metals, and oil when set on fire. Discarded tires also provide shelter and collect rainwater for pests that may carry disease, such as rodents and mosquitoes.

District regulations prohibit the disposal of solid waste and other materials in or upon any street, lot, alley, park, public place, or private property unless the site is authorized for the disposal by the Mayor or permission has been granted by a private property owner (21 DCMR 1000.1).

Illegal dumping carries both criminal and civil penalties, including a fine of up to $40,000 and/or up to five years imprisonment. Hiring an unlicensed solid waste collector could carry enforcement penalties from the Department of Public Works (DPW) and other District agencies.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

1. Check to see if your tire collector is licensed in the District. Go to **https://eservices.dcra.dc.gov/BBLV/Default.aspx**, and search for the hauler's name or navigate to the "Solid Waste Collection" category for a list of licensed haulers.
2. If you suspect a collector of being unlicensed, contact DPW at (202) 645-7190.
3. Call 311 or 911 to report illegal dumping



Check to see if your used tire hauler is registered or your tires could end up like these, illegally dumped under Benning Road Bridge next to the Anacostia River.