

For more information, please contact the DTSC office nearest you, or call the regional Public and Business Liaisons at 800-72-TOXIC (1-800-728-6942) or visit www.dtsc.ca.gov.

DTSC Headquarters

1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 323-2678

Sacramento Office

8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826-3200
(916) 255-3545

Berkeley Office

700 Heinz Avenue, Suite 200
Berkeley, CA 94710-2721
(510) 540-2122

Clovis Office

1515 Tollhouse Road
Clovis, CA 93611-0522
(559) 297-3901

Glendale Office

1011 North Grandview Avenue
Glendale, CA 94710
(818) 551-2800

Cypress Office

5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
(714) 484-5300

San Diego Office

2878 Camino del Rio South, Suite 402
San Diego, CA 92108-3847
(619) 278-3734



State of California



Department of Toxic Substances Control



Department of Toxic Substances Control

Laws, Regulations &



This is DTSC

Pollution Preven

& Technology



Science & Tech



Public Involvement

Managing Hazardous Waste

Cleanup



The Department of Toxic Substances Control's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment, and to ensure public health, environmental quality, and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.



Who We Are and What We Do

DTSC protects Californians and the environment by cleaning up existing contamination, regulating hazardous waste, and seeking ways to reduce the amount of hazardous waste produced in California.



DTSC's authority primarily comes from the Hazardous Waste Control Laws in the California Health and Safety Code, the California Environmental Quality Act, the Federal Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act, Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, and the Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976.

Other hazardous waste laws are specific to handling, storage, transportation, disposal, treatment, reduction, cleanup, and emergency planning. DTSC develops regulations and consistent program policies and procedures that spell out how to comply with the laws.

Overseeing Site Cleanup
An estimated 90,000 properties throughout the State are believed contaminated with some level of toxic substances. DTSC completes an average of 125 cleanups each year at a variety of different kinds of sites.



Brownfields: Brownfields are properties that sit idle or are underused, contributing to both urban blight and urban sprawl. DTSC has created several initiatives to encourage developers and property owners to clean up brownfields sites.

Schools: DTSC's environmental review process ensures that new and existing school sites are uncontaminated or are cleaned to a safe level.



Military Bases: DTSC is currently investigating, cleaning up, or providing technical assistance at more than 160 current or former military installations.

State Superfund Sites: The State Superfund covers "orphan sites" for which there are no cleanup funds through a responsible party.

Federal Superfund: DTSC continues to have responsibility for cleanup and enforcement at several high-profile federal Superfund sites.

Voluntary Cleanup Agreement Sites: Under this streamlined program, DTSC provides oversight to motivated parties to assess and clean up lower-priority sites.



Emergency Response: Trained responders, working with law enforcement agencies, remove toxic chemicals from roughly 2,000 illegal drug labs each year.

Managing Hazardous Waste

DTSC enforces California's Hazardous Waste Control Laws using a tiered permitting process to regulate more than 5,000 businesses that treat, store, or dispose of hazardous waste. This includes educating the regulated community about the requirements, making the process as easy to follow as possible, and then ensuring that businesses and individuals comply.

At the local level, under guidance from State agencies including DTSC, 72 Certified Unified Program Agencies enforce regulations, conduct inspections, administer penalties, and hold hearings. DTSC conducts roughly 200 inspections a year resulting in as many as 30 new enforcement cases, some of which may be criminal violations.



Encouraging Pollution Prevention

DTSC focuses on source reduction, which involves eliminating sources of hazardous waste by using non-hazardous alternatives to hazardous substances and processes. Other efforts include reducing the toxicity of hazardous pollutants, encouraging environmentally positive technological advancements, and educating businesses and individuals about the methods and benefits of pollution prevention.

Applying Science and Technology

DTSC's toxicologists examine toxic substances and calculate the risks that they present. The Hazardous Materials Laboratory is an analytical chemistry laboratory with facilities in Berkeley and Los Angeles. They identify concentrations of toxic chemicals in air, water, soil, sludge, hazardous waste



streams, and biological and human tissues. Geologists analyze the ground and investigate the way toxic substances travel through the land and groundwater.



Communicating with the Public

DTSC ensures that the public is aware of hazardous waste enforcement, permitting, and cleanup activities taking place in all of California's communities. Public participation



specialists provide information about DTSC's work and ensure that everyone has a fair and equal opportunity to take an active role in the decision-making process.

This unique program is nationally recognized as the most proactive example of its type for citizen involvement.

DTSC also produces a constant flow of media releases, fact sheets, and publications as well as an informative Web site that provides details about every DTSC function. DTSC promotes environmental responsibility by educating children and adults about the dangers of and alternatives to hazardous waste. Staff members are active in community events and schools providing educational material and making information simple to access and to understand.

