



Environmental Services

FACTsheet

**Environmental
Monitoring and
Enforcement Unit**

Surcharge Fees and
Pollution Prevention

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Environmental Monitoring and Enforcement Unit

DID YOU KNOW?

Surcharge fees are necessary to ensure that York Region continues to maintain the financial capacity to align operations with provincial water treatment standards and to ensure recovery of operation and maintenance costs.

Reducing waste at the source can be less costly for your company than treating waste once it has been generated.

Pollution prevention initiatives may resolve system inefficiencies, therefore enhancing your company's bottom line.

Surcharge Fees and Pollution Prevention

What is a surcharge agreement?

- Permits businesses, at the sole discretion of the Regional Municipality of York, to discharge to sanitary sewers which would otherwise be prohibited by the York Region Sewer Use Bylaw
- Sets out conditions of payment to cover additional costs incurred by York Region
- Surcharge rates are determined by a rate structure outlined by York Region as amended from time to time

Question: *"How can I reverse my fees?"*

Answer: *"Pollution prevention."*



What is pollution prevention?

- Reduction of pollutants and waste at the source
- A pollution prevention plan identifies specific pollution prevention methods to be implemented within the operation over a realistic period of time

How may pollution prevention improve your business?

- Increase profitability by reducing surcharge fees and operating costs stemming from overstrength discharge
- Enhance image of social and environmental responsibility, potentially expanding your client base
- Protect health and safety of public, municipal workers and property from hazardous conditions
- Reduce risks of liability

Pollution Prevention Spotlight – Food Waste Diversion System results in annual savings of \$69,000 for Prokleen Washing Services



Prokleen attracted a new client which recognized the facility for their initiative in environmental and social responsibility

Prokleen Washing Services, located in Concord, Ontario, is a leader in food grade and chemical cleaning systems for all classes and sizes of trucks. In 2006, a consulting firm studied the plant to determine levels of liquid and solid waste disposal and treatment. Among the recommendations pursued by Prokleen was the implementation of a food waste diversion plant.

COSTS AND BENEFITS OF FOOD WASTE DIVERSION SYSTEM	
Surcharge expenses prior to pollution prevention changes:	\$216,000/annum
Cost of food waste diversion system:	Less than \$10,000
Annual savings from implementing food waste diversion system:	\$69,000/annum