

introducing a new  
**Topic Hub™**



**NETWORKING**

Regional Roundtables  
P2 Programs Directory  
Regional Listservs  
National Listservs  
Topical Listservs  
Conferences  
Websites

**MEASUREMENT**

Regional Aggregation Tools  
Desktop Tracking Software  
Success Story Database

**INFORMATION**

Topic Hubs™  
P2 News  
Sector Resources  
Document Libraries  
P2 Experts

**P2 SERVICES**

Rapid Response  
Document Search  
Training

**View all P2  
Topic Hub  
subjects on  
reverse.**

**RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION**

A quick guide to essential pollution prevention (P2) information on residential construction with a compilation of the best available on-line resources.

**Why P2 for Construction Businesses?**

Construction can degrade water quality in streams, wetlands, and groundwater near the site. Demolition debris burdens landfills. Wastes include asbestos, PCBs, and lead. Paints, solvents, adhesives, caulks, and preservatives often contain hazardous substances. Each year the average house releases more than twice as much greenhouse gas as the typical car. Beneficial green building construction reduces site disturbance (e.g. sediment runoff, air pollution) and solid wastes for landfill disposal. Sustainably built homes conserve natural resources and energy.

**How Do Construction Contractors Prevent Pollution?**

The Residential Construction Topic Hub offers many strategies to prevent pollution. Below are just a few:

- Select products that are re-used or salvaged, durable, environmentally benign, or that are derived from other wastes (e.g. glass aggregate road mix).
- Build for energy efficiency with a tightly sealed thermal envelope and appropriate ventilation, and orient the home for natural heating and cooling.
- Protect natural drainage ways and maintain vegetated buffers; prevent silt, detergents and rain from washing down storm drains – use permeable outdoor surfaces, direct runoff toward landscaping or build vegetated rooftops.
- Separate wastes on-site (recyclable, salvageable, hazardous waste, etc.), use up paint, & reuse solvents.

**Best P2 Resources at Your Fingertips**

Topic Hubs are peer-reviewed on-line primers that include background and operational information plus specific opportunities for pollution prevention. They include an extensive list of links for the “best of the best” on-line resources: manuals, checklists, fact sheets, case studies, etc.

Topic Hubs are valuable resources for P2 programs, regulators, environmental managers, and industry. P2Rx centers have more than 55 Topic Hubs available on a wide range of issues covering many industrial sectors. Check them out at [www.p2rx.org/hubs](http://www.p2rx.org/hubs).

**Did You Know?**

■ For examples and technical assistance on how to apply this Topic Hub data, link to a nationwide collection of home profiles at [www.homes-across-america.org](http://www.homes-across-america.org). These profiles demonstrate green high performance housing and sustainable construction through home siting and design, indoor air quality features, energy efficiency, green product use, waste management, and water protection.

■ According to Reid Lifset, Editor in Chief, *Journal of Industrial Ecology*, recent studies agree on the most pressing sources of environmental impact: mobility, food, and home and related energy use. These sectors currently cause 70-80% of society’s total environmental impacts. Read a review of the special *Journal* issue, “Priorities for Environmental Product Policy,” at [www.mitpressjournals.org/toc/jiec/10/3](http://www.mitpressjournals.org/toc/jiec/10/3).

**View the complete  
Residential  
Construction  
Topic Hub at  
[p2rx.org/hubs](http://p2rx.org/hubs)**



The Residential Construction Topic Hub was written by Peaks to Prairies.

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## How to Use the Topic Hub™ Web Resource

The screenshot shows the P2Rx TOPIC Hubs™ website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Web Library, P2 Network, Directory, Topic Hubs™, and Search. Below this is a search box with the text 'Email Page / Jump to: Public Lands'. The main content area is titled 'Public Lands: Table of Contents' and includes a welcome message and several sections: Background and Overview, Operations, Reasons for Change, Preventing Pollution, Public Education, and Complete List of Links. A sidebar on the left contains a 'Table of Contents' and 'Key References' section with links to various documents. Arrows point from text labels to specific parts of the interface: 'Navigate to all Subsections' points to the navigation bar; 'Search the references used for this Topic Hub' points to the sidebar; 'Key References' points to the 'Key References' section in the sidebar; 'Access Any Topic Hub' points to the search box; and 'Read an overview of the issues' points to the 'Background and Overview' section.

## Current Topic Hubs

Aerospace	Food Service	Metal Finishing
Agricultural Teaching Labs	Green Procurement	Oil and Gas
Auto Body	Hospitality	P2 and Environmental Security
Auto Repair	Household Hazardous Materials	Paint and Coating Manufacturing
Auto Salvage—Great Lakes Region	Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for Schools	Pollution Prevention (P2)
Clean Snowmobiles	Landscaping	Pollution Prevention for Arts Education
Community Growth	Lead	Pork Production
Construction Science Education	Lean Manufacturing	Printing-Flexography
Consumer P2	Marinas and Small Boat Harbors	Printing-Lithography
Dioxin	Meat Processing	Public Lands
Dry Cleaning	Mercury	Publicly Owned Treatment Works
Economic Incentives	Mercury-Automotive	Regulatory Integration
Electric Utilities	Mercury-Dental	Residential Construction
Electronic Waste	Mercury-Health Care	Semiconductor Manufacturing
EMS	Mercury-Schools	Ship Building and Repair
EMS in Government	Mercury-Thermometers	Ski Areas
Environmental Management Accounting	Mercury-Thermostats	Technology Diffusion
Environmental Measurement	Metal Fabrication and Machining	Textiles
Environmental Mentoring		Wood Furniture Manufacturing
Fiberglass Fabrication		Youth Education