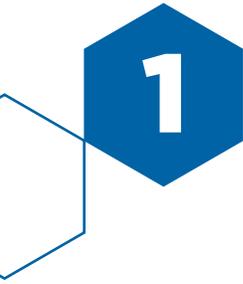


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Tool Kit Item #1

**YOUR NEW
ENVIRONMENTAL
REPORTING &
DISCLOSURE
BYLAW**



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Tool Kit Item #1

YOUR NEW ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING AND DISCLOSURE BYLAW

Imagine having a bird's eye view of your neighbourhood that shows your home, your schools, your parks and -- local pollution! Now thanks to a City of Toronto Bylaw – the Environmental Reporting and Disclosure Bylaw, you will be able to find out about pollutants in your neighbourhood – what they are, where they are coming from, and what can be done about them.

This is how it works.

Toronto Public Health has identified 25 substances that could be harmful. They are known to be in the air at levels that may affect our health. Many of them have been linked to cancer or to lung problems.

The City's new bylaw requires companies – large or small – that are using these substances and releasing them to the air, to report them to Toronto Public Health each year. The City will then make this information available to us. The new bylaw is called the Environmental Reporting and Disclosure Bylaw. It came into effect in 2008, and the data from reporting companies are now available. The bylaw, and the City's ChemTRAC program created by Toronto Public Health to support the bylaw, can be found at www.toronto.ca/health/chemtrac.

The companies that have to report include many large facilities in the City like sewage treatment plants and power plants. But they also include hundreds of small facilities that you might pass by every day without even noticing – printing companies, dry cleaners, auto body repair shops, food and beverage manufacturers, and small furniture makers. This will be the first time that many of these companies have been asked to consider their use and release of hazardous chemicals and report them to the public.

How can this bylaw help you?

Knowing what's there is the first step in helping to solve some of the City's air pollution problems. Those of us living in neighbourhoods, those of us who work in the City of Toronto, and the companies that are part of our community, will have a chance to work together to find ways to reduce these chemicals.

To find out how, we have prepared this Tool Kit in sections to help explain the way in which the Bylaw works and how you can use it. You can choose to download or print those sections that are of the most interest to you.