



### Safe Shops Helping auto shops be good neighbors



Thomas M. Menino, Mayor Barbara Ferrer, Executive Director

www.bphc.org/safeshops

617-534-5966



# Auto Shops in Boston

- More than 600 known automotive repair and body shops
- Provide an important source of employment in low income, minority, and immigrant communities
- Most have fewer than 5 employees paid on a perjob basis
- No health insurance and little in the way of worker protection



### **Obstacles?**

- Gaining Trust: Non-regulatory program ie 'NO TEETH'. Largely immigrant population, and sometimes fearful of government agencies
- Designing the Program: Lack of knowledge of what auto shop workers / owners needed to learn
- **Locating Shops:** Having a vague map constructed from records from various city agencies.



# The Safe Shops Tool Kit

http://www.bphc.org/bphc/safeshops\_toolkit.asp

- Safe Shops Case Study
- Develop and Sustain Partnerships
- Identifying Shops
- Creating an Educational Program

- Addressing Health Disparities
- Auto Shop Links and Resources
- Applying for Funding Resources
- Providing Incentives



# Safe Shops Case Study

http://www.bphc.org/bphc/safeshops\_toolkit\_casestudy

Neighborhood	Roxbury	Dorchester		Mattapan
		North	South	мацаран
Pop. % non-White	85%	82%	67%	97%
Pop. % below poverty level	29.2%	22.9%	17.6%	17.5%
Asthma hospitalizations per 1,000 children under 5 (1999-2003)	14.8	13.7	11.4	9.9
Elevated blood lead levels (10 ug/dL or greater)	2.2%	4.4%	3.8%	2.8%
Number of Auto Shops	36	163		45



# Safe Shops Case Study

http://www.bphc.org/bphc/safeshops\_toolkit\_casestudy

Mechanical Repair Hazards	Auto Body Hazards		
Workers not using proper personal protective equipment (dust masks for working with solvents/paint, etc.)	Workers not using proper personal protective equipment (dust masks for working with solvents/paint, etc.)		
Improper storage of flammable materials	Improper storage of flammable materials		
Workers not adequately trained/informed – no knowledge of MSDS, safety plan, etc.	Workers not adequately trained/informed – no knowledge of MSDS, safety plan, etc.		
Parts cleaning in uncovered solvent systems	Parts cleaning in uncovered solvent systems		
Improper and "off label" use of spray organic solvents	Improper and "off label" use of spray organic solvents		
Improper storage of auto batteries, scrap metal, and spare parts	Improper storage of auto batteries, scrap metal, and spare parts		
Improper labeling, storage, and disposal of hazardous wastes	Improper labeling, storage, and disposal of hazardous wastes		



### **Develop and Sustain Partnerships**

http://www.bphc.org/bphc/safeshops\_toolkit\_A



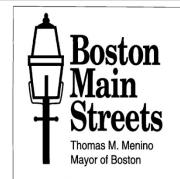






Bowdoin Street Health Center

### Partners







Nuestra Comunidad Development Corporation







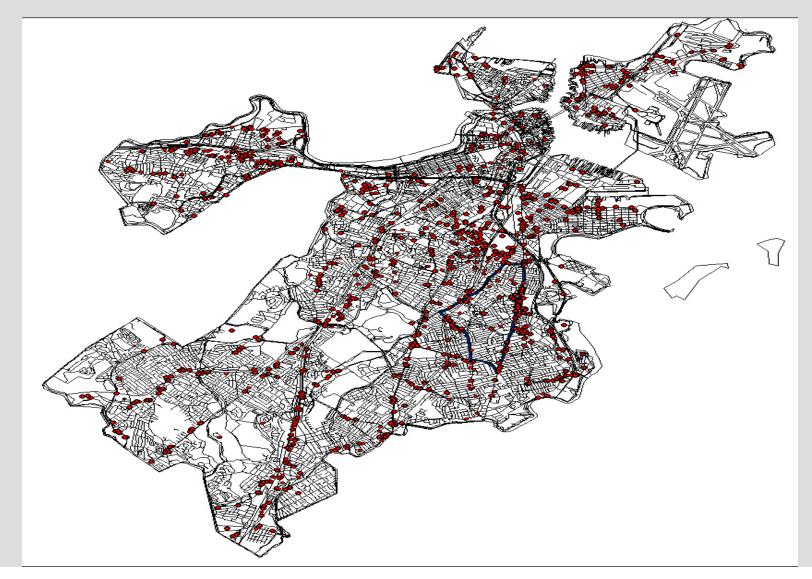
Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**MassCOSH** 



# **Identifying Shops**

#### http://www.bphc.org/bphc/safeshops\_toolkit\_B





# Creating and Educational Program

http://www.bphc.org/bphc/safeshops\_toolkit\_C

Stakeholder involvement to design the educational training through focus groups with incentives for participating.

Implemented the training from information gathered from focus groups. Shops started asking for training.



# Safe Shops - Education

- Three "Tailgate" Trainings held per month in shops during lunch/before work
- Eight shops (average) per week visited by outreach workers conducting health surveys
- Presentations at community events and meetings of community organizations to raise awareness



Community partners conducting a "Tailgate" Training



### **Materials Developed**









### **Addressing Health Disparities**

http://www.bphc.org/bphc/safeshops\_toolkit\_D

OAuto shop workers work with toxic chemicals on a daily basis, but do not regularly access health care.

Auto shops located in polluted neighborhoods where people lack access to health care.







Invite a sus

familiares

Saluda blemente

/ amigos

#### Para los mecánicos y trabajadores de talleres

#### **Servicios**

Chequeos del/de la

- Colesterol
- Presión Sanguinea
- Azucar (diabetes)
- Composición del
- cuerpo
- ■Hemoglobina
- (hierro)
- Información de
  - ■Nutrición

■Y más



## Cuidar su salud es cuidar a su familia.



SALUD SEXUAL Examen y consejeria del VIH/SIDA gratis y confidencial



### **Auto Shop Links and Resources**

http://www.bphc.org/bphc/safeshops\_toolkit\_E

#### **Tool Name**

Safe Shops Tool Box

Auto Shop Pollution Prevention Video: Protecting Your Environment, Your Employees, and Your Business

US EPA Design for the Environment (DfE) Best Practices and Fact Sheets

Crash Course for Compliance and Pollution Prevention

Auto Repair and Fleet Maintenance Pollution Prevention

CA Department of Toxic Substances Control: Auto Body and Paint Shop Project fact sheets and videos

CA Department of Toxic Substances Control Vehicle Service and Repair Fact Sheets and Videos



# **Providing Incentives**

http://www.bphc.org/bphc/safeshops\_toolkit\_G

Through the Toxics Use Reduction Network Community Grant Program:

- Free trial of safer alternatives for brake cleaner and spray gun washing chemicals (eliminating 'perc', xylene, acetone and toluene)
- Toxics Use Reduction banner to give positive publicity to participating shops
- Participating shops were highlighted in a newsletter that went out to all shops in the City of Boston

### TURI Tool Kit Link:

http://www.turi.org/community/model\_community/community\_sites/small\_businesses/auto\_ maintenance\_and\_repair/turn\_projects/safe\_shops\_bphc



Mayor Thomas M. Menino

### Ask us how we use Less Toxic Chemicals for a Safer Neighborhood!



Paid for with a grant from the TURI Community Grants Program







### Safe Shops Project

Office of Environmental Health Boston Public Health Commission

Proyecto 'Talleres Seguros' (Safe Shops Project) Oficina de Salud Ambiental, Comisión de Salud Pública de Boston

#### Safe Shops Highlights:

For more than three years, the Safe Shops Project has partnered with auto repair and body shops, community groups, health centers, and City agencies to address health disparities in communities that are overburdened with toxic chemical exposure. The Safe Shops Project provides valuable resources at no cost, such as environmental and workplace safety trainings, health screenings, and financial and technical assistance.

This year, the Safe Shops Project worked with auto body shops to use an alternative spray gun cleaner recommended by the US EPA. This chemical, Acrastrip 400 made by US Polychemical Corp., is a less toxic alternative to lacquer thinner or mineral spirits, which contain hazardous chemicals such as toluene, acetone, and xylene. This replacement greatly improved the air quality in the shops.

Safe Shops also worked with several auto repair shops to replace perchloroethylene-based brake cleaners with either an aqueous (water based) brake cleaning sink from Safety-Kleen or alternative aerosol spay cleaners recommended by the Toxics Use Reduction Institute (TURI). Perchloroethylene (aka PCE, tetrachloroethylene, or 'perc') is a harmful chemical that can often be found in aerosol brake and parts cleaners and has been linked to cancer in humans. The new aqueous cleaning systems are nonflammable and contain no solvents that can harm the environment and shop employees. Vist our webste at:www.bphcorg/bphc/ceh\_safeshop.asp

Puntos destacados de este proyecto: Durante más de tres años, el Proyecto 'Talleres Seguros' se ha asociado con talleres mecánicos y de servicio automotriz, grupos comunitarios, centros de salud y agencias de la ciudad para atender la desigualdad de salud en las comunidades que están so brecargadas de exposición a sustancias químicas tóxicas. Este proyecto brinda valiosos recursos sincosto alguno, como capacitaciones sobre seguridad ambiental y seguridad en el lugar de trabajo, exámenes de salud, y asistencia técnica y financiera. Este año, el Proyecto 'Talleres Seguros' trabajó con talleres de servicio automotriz para probar un limpiador para pistola rociadora alternativo recomendado por la EPA de EE. UU. Este producto químico, Acrastrip 400, fabricado por US Polychemical Corp., es una alternativa menos toxica al diluvente de 'laquer thinner' o alcoholes minerales, que contienen sustancias químicas peligrosas, como tolueno, acetona y xileno. Estereemplazo mejoró en gran medida la calidad del aire en los talleres. El proyecto también trabajó con varios talleres mecánicos para reemplazar los limpiadores de frenos basados en perclorpetileno por un limpiador de frenos acuoso (con base de aeua) de Safety-Kleen o limpiadores en aerosol alternativos recomendados por el Instituto de Reducción del Uso de Sustancias Tóxicas (Toxico Use Reduction Institute, TURI). El percloroctileno (también conocido como PCE, tetracloroetileno, o 'perc') es una sustancia química perjudicial que a menudo está presente en los limpiadores de partes y frenos y se ha asociado con el cáncer en seres humanos. Los nuevos sistemas de limpieza acu-0505 no son inflamables y contienen ninguna, cantidad de solventes que pueden afectar al medio ambiente y a los empleados de un taller.

Visite nuestra pagina Web en: www.bphc.org/bphc/oeh\_safeshop.asp

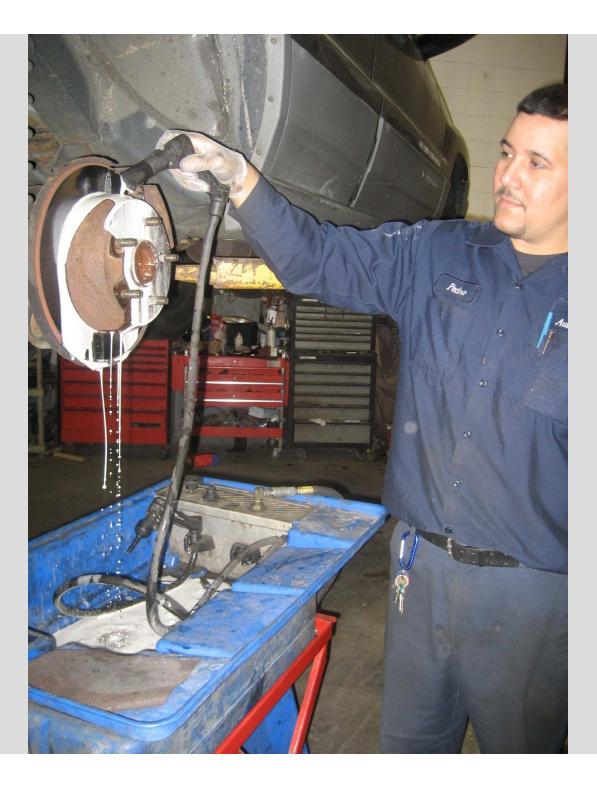


## Accomplishments

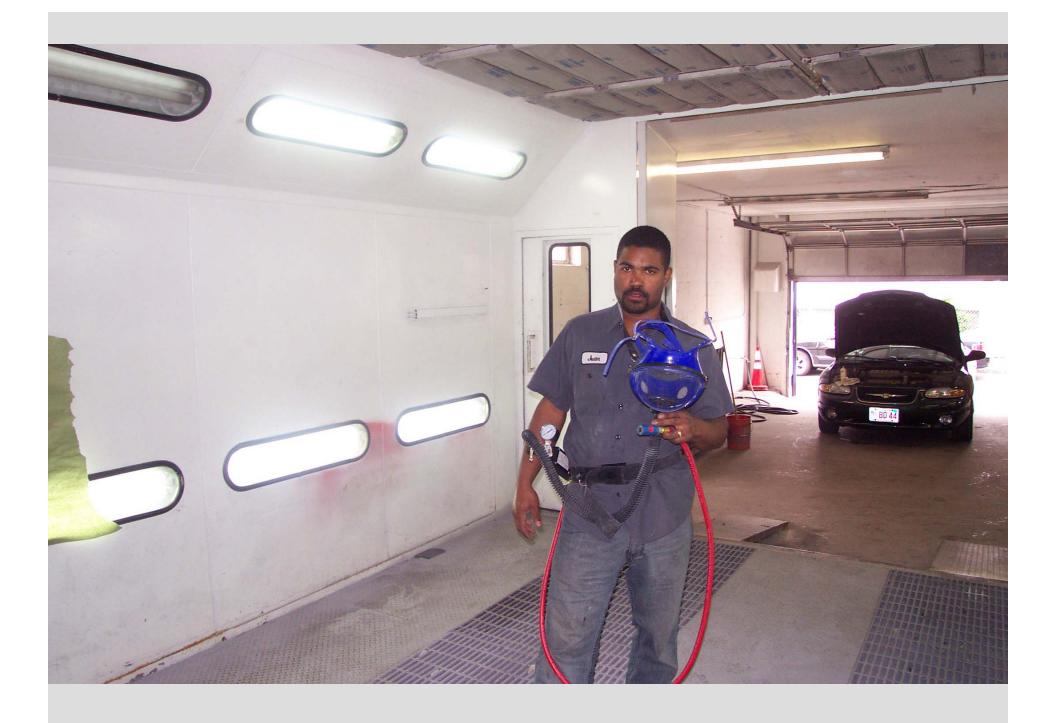
- 523 Auto shop workers and vocational students trained on best environmental practices.
- The Safe Shops Project was awarded a citation from the Massachusetts State Senate for "outstanding efforts in toxic use reduction, and continuing to make the City of Boston and The Commonwealth a safer place to live and work."













"The Safe Shops Project has given us a sense of awareness that our health can be better with certain changes. It has even boosted our morale due to recognition and attention."

- Carson Leroy Maloney, Supreme Auto Center, Inc.





"Safe Shops staff is easy to work with and helpful."

- Chuck Crespii, Mecca Motors



"Safe Shops introduced me to safer methods for our auto body shop: alternative gun washer fluid, low VOC paint, and better personal protective equipment."

- Juan Chavez, Moreno Auto Body



"Safe Shops has opened my eyes to environmentally friendly products. Customers are impressed with the certificates and ask about them."

- Jose Monge, Foreign Auto Clinic





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