

The 7 Pollution Prevention Techniques



Pollution prevention (P2) is the most effective way to decrease your environmental impact because it treats potential issues rather than fix them after-the-fact. The 7 main techniques for preventing pollution described below can help your business become more efficient, save money and become a safer place for your employees.



Substituting materials or feedstock

Replacing the substances you use with more environmentally-friendly alternatives



Redesigning or reformulating products

Analyzing your product's life cycle and either redesigning or reformulating it to prevent pollution at any or all stages of its life



Changing equipment or processes

Using new equipment or processes, or altering existing equipment or processes to improve efficiency, reduce or eliminate pollution, and reduce material, water or energy use



Preventing Spills and leaks

Limiting spills and leaks from happening in the first place, and having measures in place to limit the damage if there is a spill or leak



Changing inventory management and purchasing practices

Having strategies in place to both: reduce the amount of stock you have to throw out because it is expired, damaged or no longer needed; and ensure you take the environment into account when buying goods



Reusing, recycling, and recovering on-site

Using your waste and waste by-products instead throwing them away (often at a cost)



Improving operating practices and providing training

Using best practices and training to minimize waste and increase efficiency

For more information, visit [Environment and Climate Change Canada's Pollution Prevention web page](#)

