



MARYLAND PROPOSES REVISIONS TO VOC LIMITATIONS ON CLEANING PRODUCTS

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The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) has proposed revising its regulations to establish new volatile organic compound (VOC) limitations for 11 new product categories and to “ratchet up” the VOC limitations for 15 product categories already subject to the state’s VOC regulations.

The proposed revisions to the Maryland VOC regulations are a direct result of U.S. EPA designating the state as “nonattainment for the national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) for ground level ozone. As a consequence, Maryland must increase its regulation of the VOC content of numerous commercial and consumer cleaning products as summarized below.

New Product Categories and VOC Limits (Percent by Weight)

Product Category	VOC Limit
Dual Purpose Air Freshener/Disinfectant (aerosol)	60
Anti-Static Product (aerosol)	80
Artist’s Solvent/Thinner	3
Automotive Windshield Cleaner	35
Disinfectant (aerosol)	70
Disinfectant (non-aerosol)	1
Multi-Purpose Solvent	3
Paint Thinner	3
Sanitizer (aerosol)	70
Sanitizer (non-aerosol)	1
Temporary Hair Color (aerosol)	55

Existing Product Categories and VOC Limits (Percent by Weight)

Product Category	VOC Limit
Adhesive, Construction, Panel and Floor	7
Automotive Brake Cleaner	10
Bathroom and Tile Cleaner (all other forms)	1

Product Category	VOC Limit
Carburetor or Fuel Injection Air Intake Cleaner	10
Engine Degreaser (aerosol)	10
Floor Polish/Wax Resilient Flooring Material	1
Floor Polish/Wax Non-Resilient Flooring Material	1
Furniture Maintenance Product (all other forms)	3
General Purpose Cleaner (aerosol)	8
General Purpose Degreaser (aerosol)	10
Laundry Starch/Sizing/Fabric Finish Product	4.5
Nail Polish Remover	1
Oven or Grill Cleaner (non-aerosol)	4
Oven or Grill Cleaner (aerosol)	8

The above VOC limits are proposed to become effective January 1, 2018, and apply to products manufactured on or after that date.

In addition to the above revised VOC limits, the proposed regulations also prohibit the sale, offer for sale or manufacture for use in the state of any bathroom and tile cleaner, construction panel and floor covering adhesive, electronic cleaner labeled “Energized Electronic Equipment use only”, general purpose cleaner, or oven or grill cleaner manufactured on or after January 1, 2018 that contains any of the following compounds:

- Methylene chloride,
- Perchloroethylene, or
- Trichloroethylene

Public Comments. A public hearing on this action will be held on **June 27, 2017** at 2 p.m. at the Department of the Environment, 1800 Washington Boulevard, 1st Floor Conference Rooms, Baltimore, Maryland 21230-1720.

Comments must be received by 5 pm on **June 27, 2017**.

For more information or to submit comments, call or e-mail:

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The ISSA Forum. The ISSA Forum, slated for June 20-21 in our Nation’s Capital, will provide an update on all state and federal VOC regulations. For more info, click [here](#).