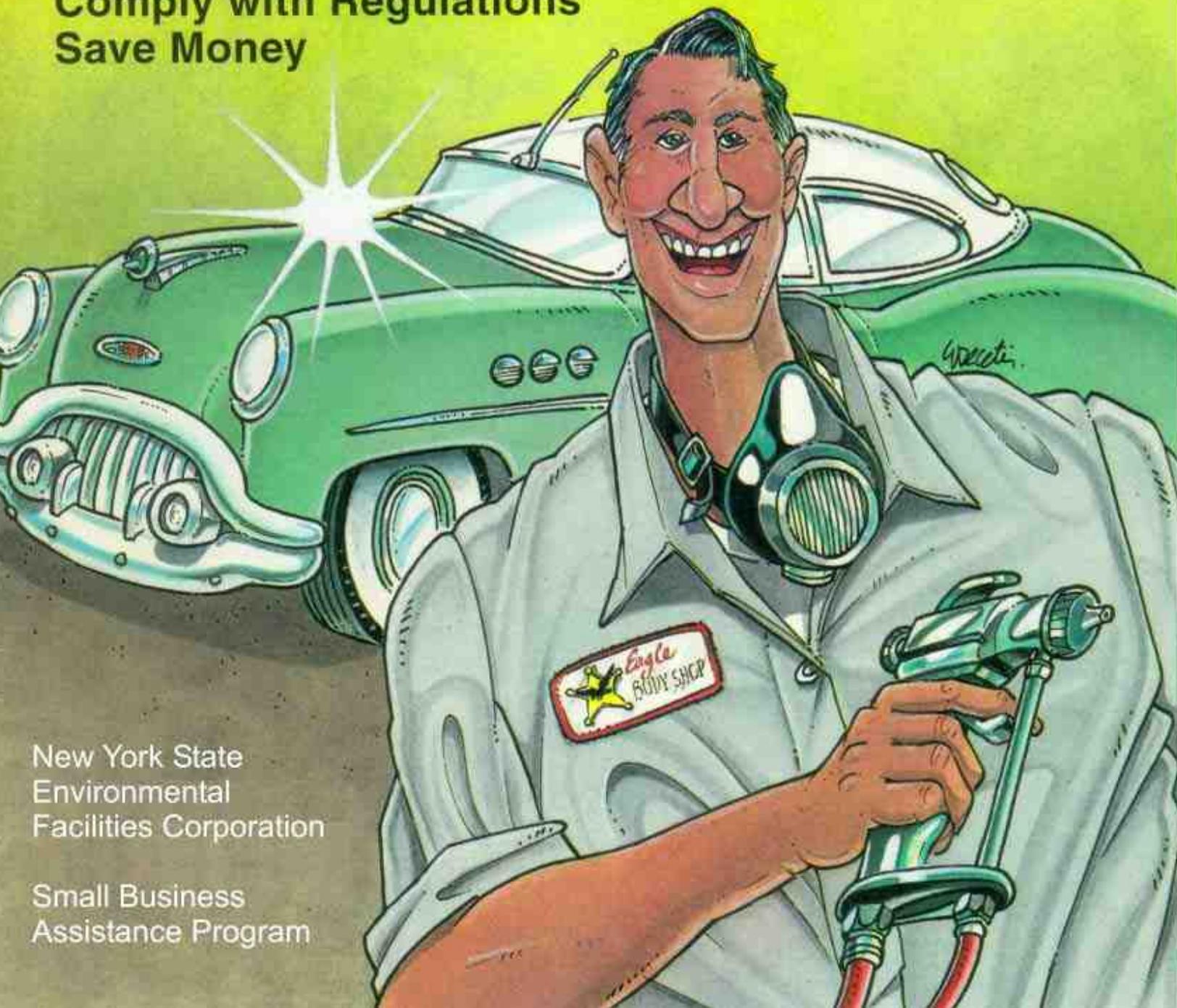


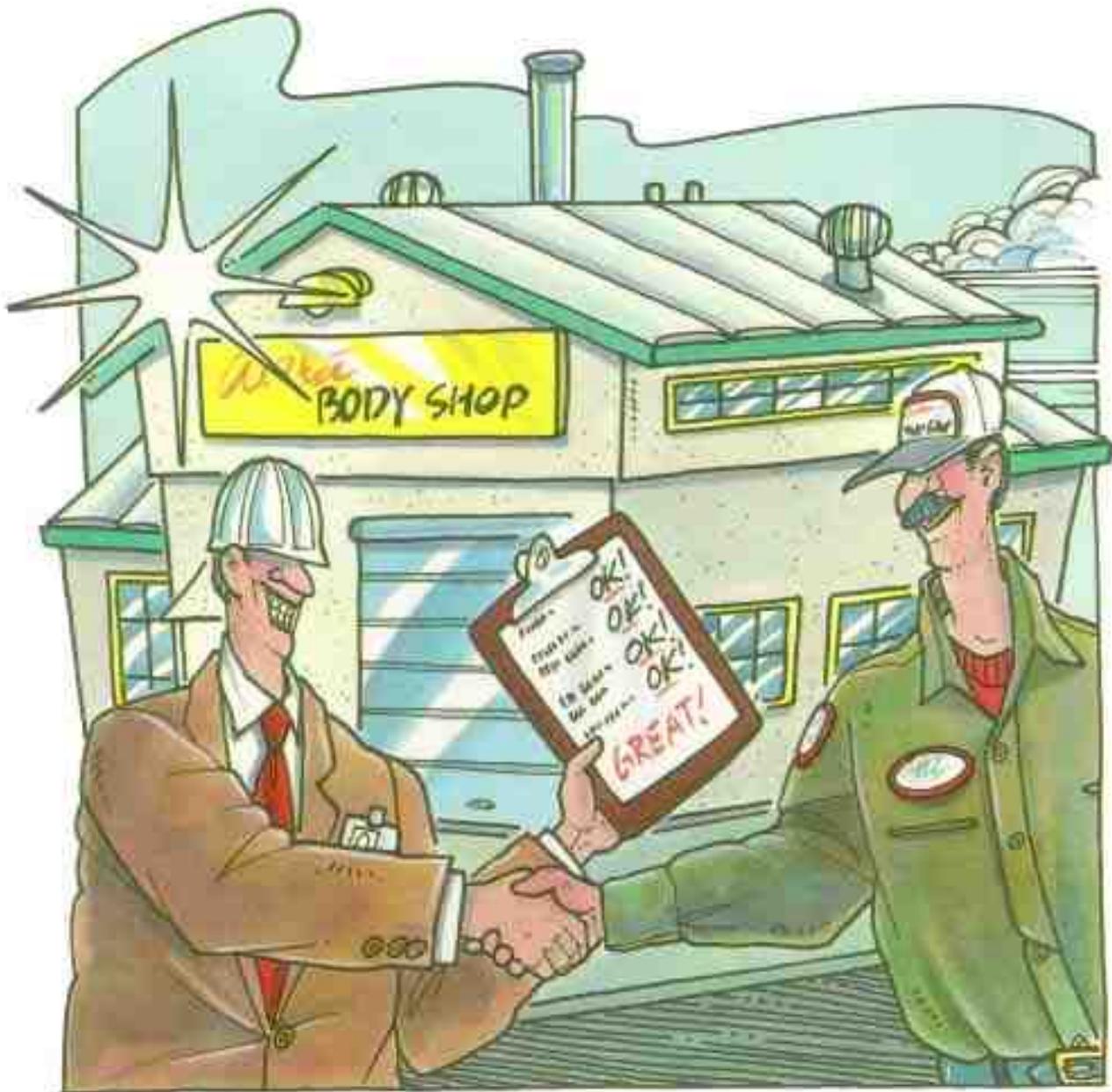
# **AUTOMOTIVE REFINISHING SELF-INSPECTION HANDBOOK**

**Reduce Air Pollution  
Comply with Regulations  
Save Money**



New York State  
Environmental  
Facilities Corporation

Small Business  
Assistance Program



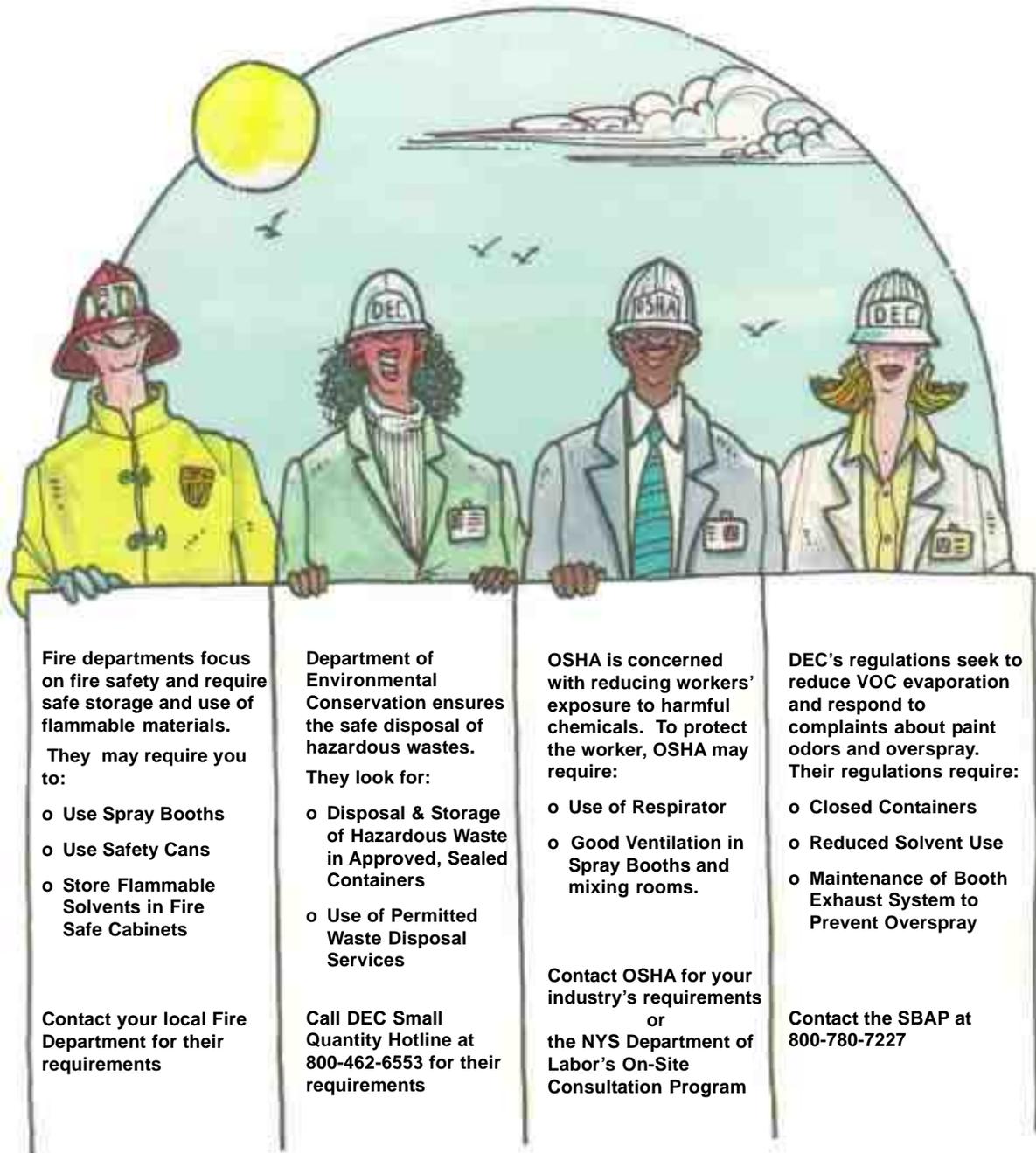
Controlling air pollution is a responsibility we all share. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has identified motor vehicle refinishing as one of the many commercial businesses that contributes to air pollution. The purpose of this handbook is to help you understand and follow the air pollution laws in our state. Following the law can save you money and improve the environment. Read on. See what you can do to clean up our air. **You can make a difference!**

## Minimize Smog Forming VOCs



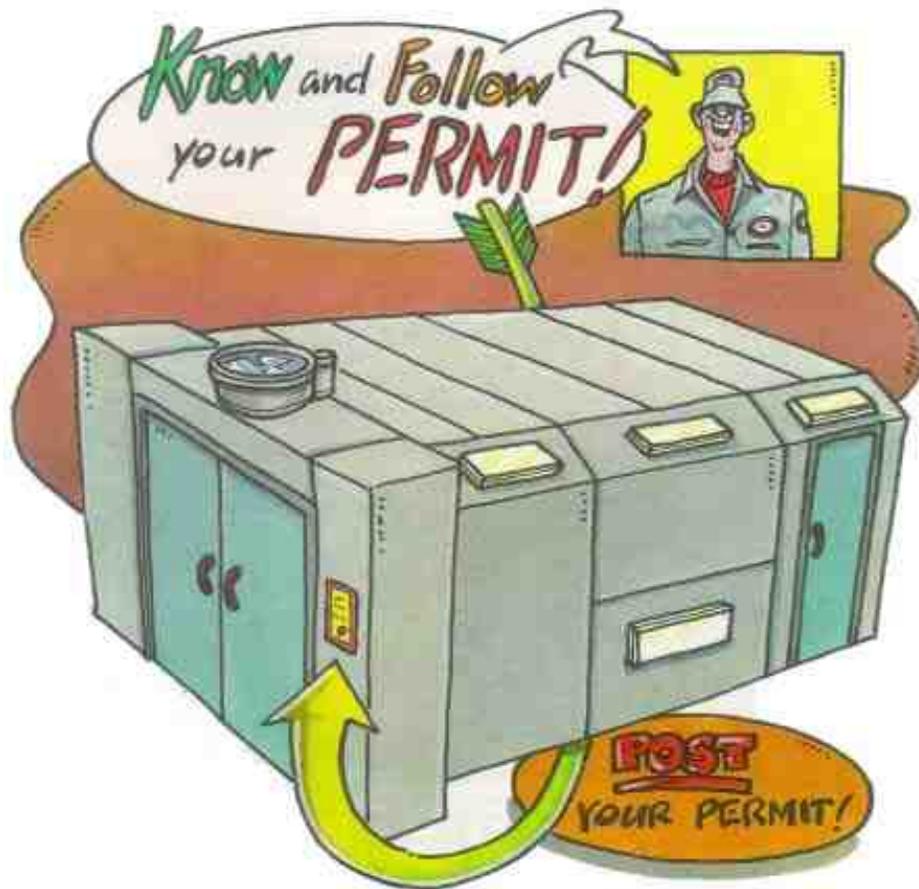
Many organic **solvents** used by industry contain **volatile organic compounds (VOCs)**. VOCs combine with other pollutants in the presence of sunlight to form ozone, a major component of smog. Ozone, a corrosive pollutant, trapped in the air we breathe damages our health, crops, and property. Federal laws require DEC to regulate the emissions of VOCs. Motor vehicle refinishing VOC emissions come from solvents evaporating from paint and solvent application, cleanup of parts, and prep work.

# Who Regulates My Shop?



More than a business permit is required to operate your facility. Other governmental agencies which protect you and the environment develop laws on specific health, safety, or environmental concerns. Contact all the agencies which oversee your operations. Learn all the requirements for your shop. Not knowing the law is a poor excuse. **Keep informed.**

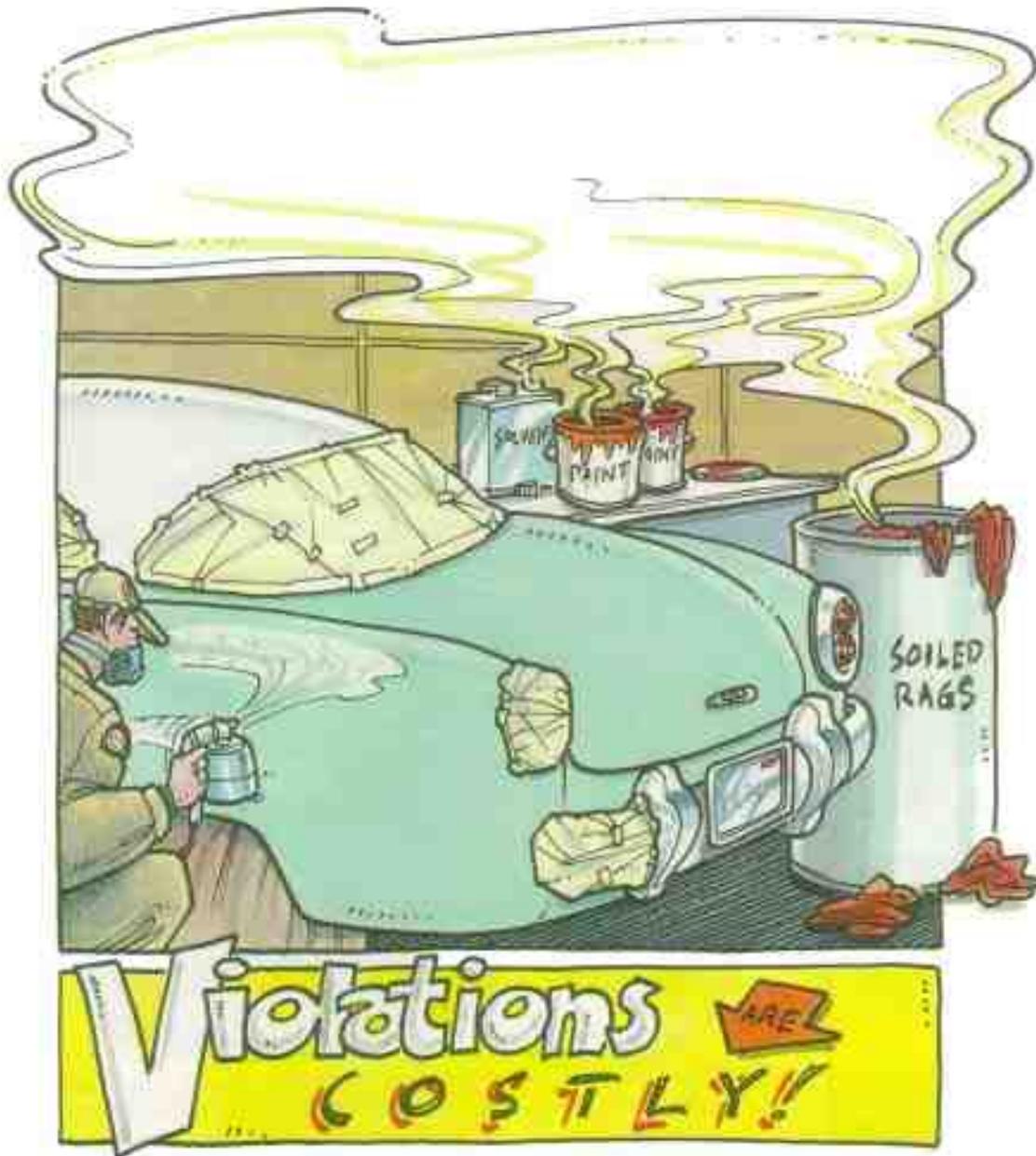
## DEC May Require Registrations/Permits to Operate



Depending on your specific situation, you may need to obtain an Air Facility Registration or State Facility Permit for your operation. Check with the Small Business Assistance Program (**SBAP**), administered by the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation to determine whether or not you are exempt.

If you already have a registration/permit, it may require that you operate under special conditions. **Follow your registration/permit requirements.** Know your conditions and check that your registration/permit is current. Post your registration/permit in a visible area. If you need to update your registration/permit or have any questions, call the SBAP at **1-800-780-7227**.

**Follow the Law!  
Save Money and Reduce Air Pollution**



You can reduce air pollution and **save money** by following all air pollution laws. **Each violation can cost up to \$15,000 per day.** Air pollution laws reduce VOC emissions by reducing VOC evaporation. Following the law can save money by reducing paint and solvent use. Don't spend valuable time and money on violations and wasted paint. Keep a legal shop!

**Be A Good Neighbor!  
Don't Cause a Public Nuisance.**

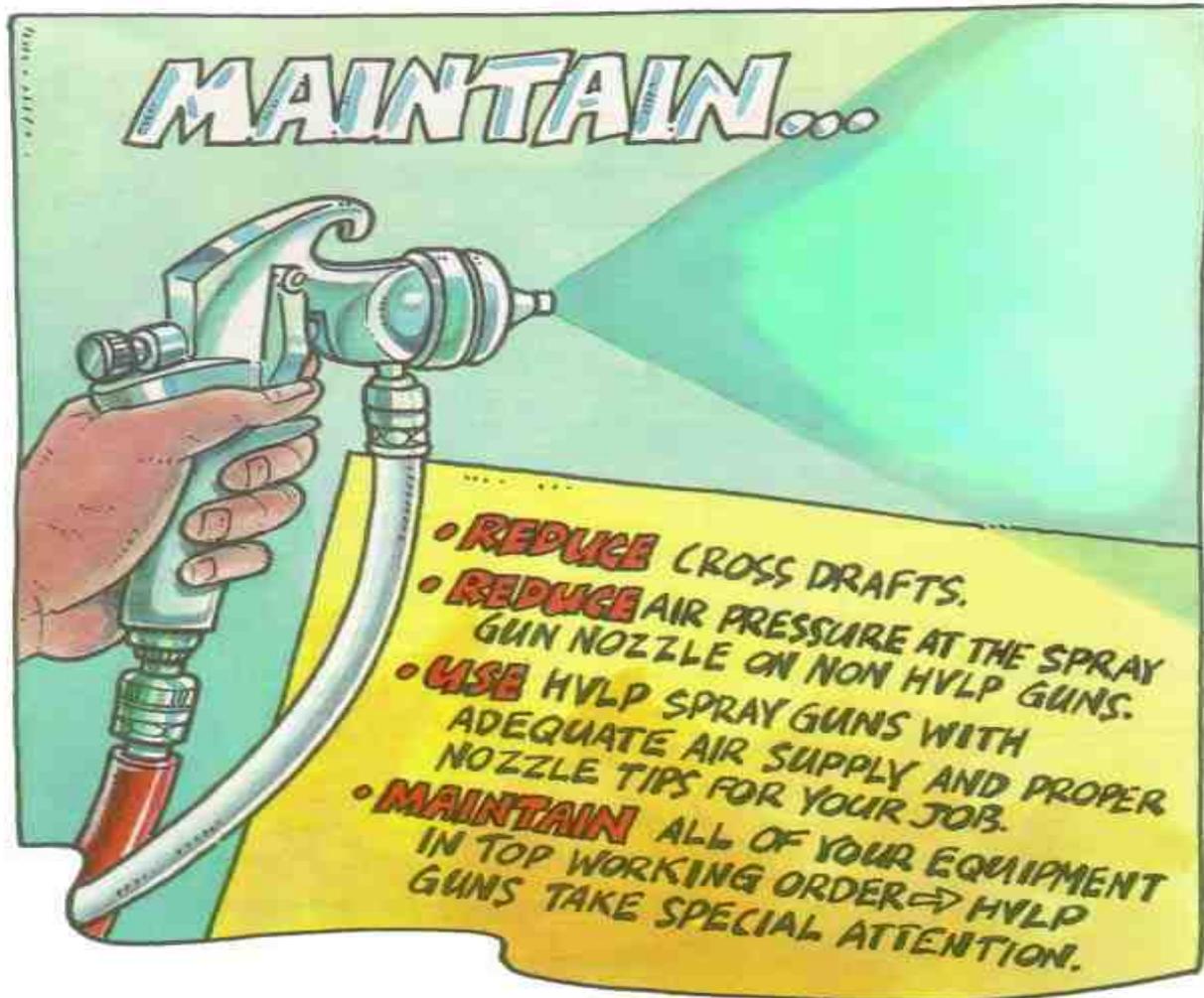
**Overspray & Odors  
CAN COST YOU MONEY!**



Neighbors can file a public nuisance complaint against you if odors and overspray travel beyond your shop and cause injury or nuisance or endanger their health and safety. The DEC is required to investigate all complaints. Even if you are in compliance with all the regulations, you may be required to take additional measures to address the complaint.

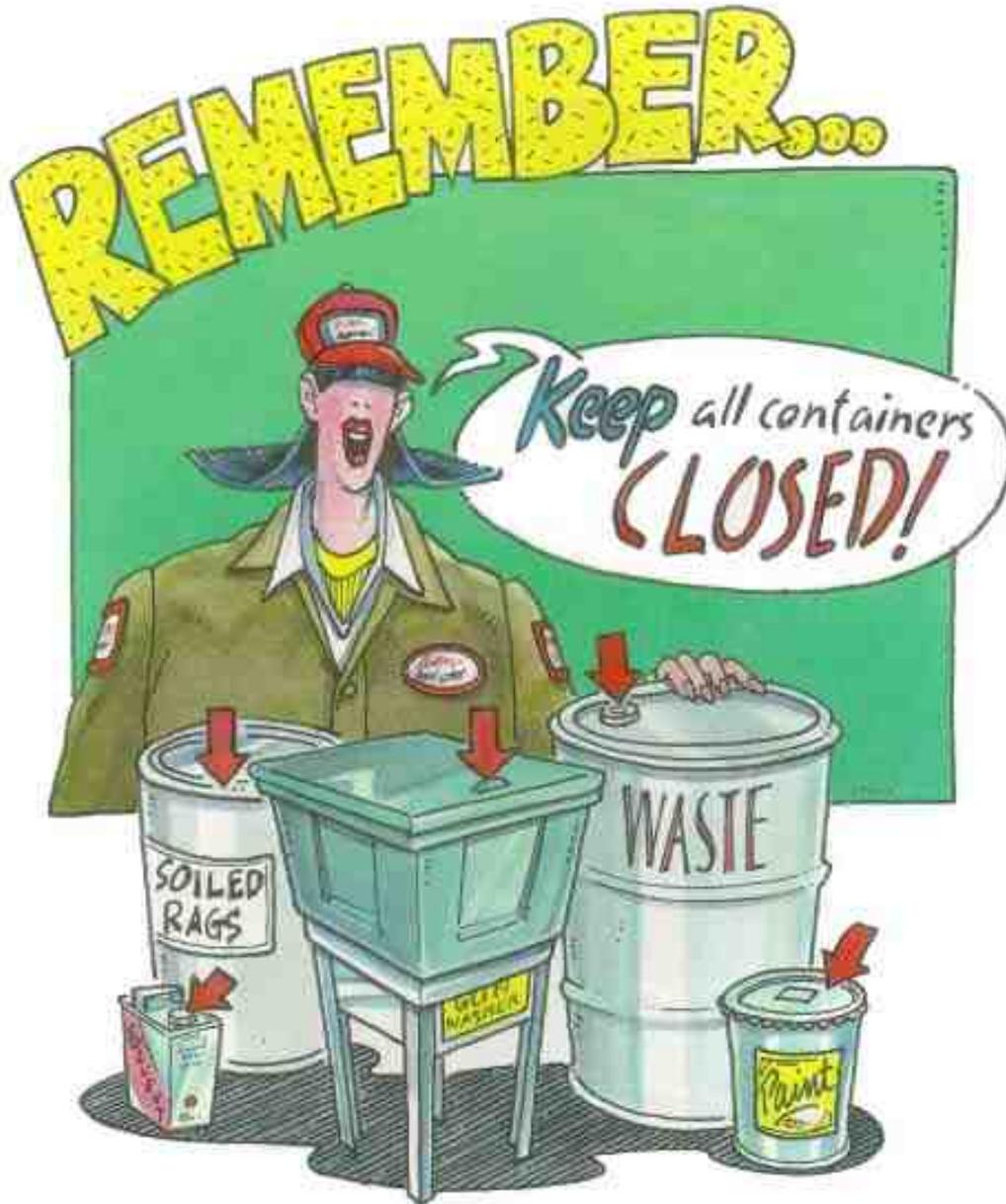
Minimize odors and overspray. Spray inside the booth if you have one and maintain your spray booth's exhaust system. Be aware of where your spray booth vents are, and of your neighbor's location. If you don't have a booth, make sure your shop ventilation system vents the exhaust air away from neighbors. Be considerate of others. **Save money and prevent complaints.**

## High Transfer Efficiency Saves Paint



**Save money** by not wasting paint. DEC requires shops to use high transfer efficient HVLP spray guns or other high transfer efficient methods to reduce paint usage. This requirement becomes effective in New York on January 1, 2005. Save paint and produce a quality finish by learning proper equipment use. **Do NOT thin with solvent**; instead improve your spray technique. A small change in habits can save you money and protect the environment.

## Reduce VOCs by Closing All Containers



Spray guns must be cleaned using special equipment such as an enclosed spray gun cleaning system that minimizes solvent and VOC emissions. Remember, always store fresh and used solvent, dirty rags, and paints in tightly closed containers. **Minimize your solvent use.** The less you waste, the more you save, and the cleaner our air gets.

## § 228.8 Table 2. - VOCs

Effective January 1, 2005 Mobile equipment repair and refinishing or color-matched coating line, including repainting and repair coats, but not automotive touch-up repair.

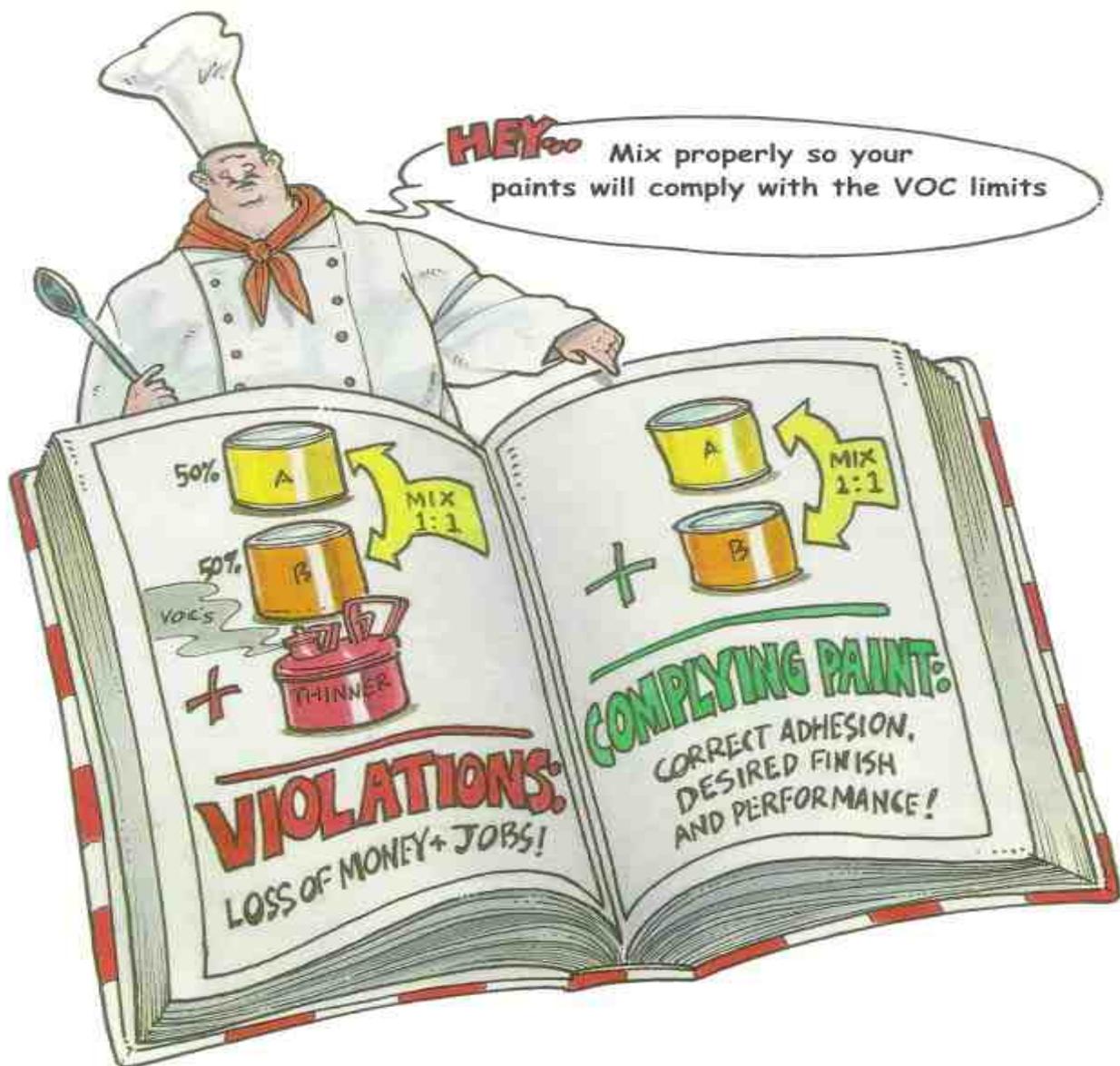
*Maximum permitted pounds of VOC per gallon (minus water and excluded VOC) of coating at application*

Automotive pretreatment primer	6.5
Automotive primer-surfacer	4.8
Automotive primer-sealer	4.6
Automotive topcoat:	
Single stage-topcoat	5.0
2 stage basecoat/clearcoat	5.0
3 or 4-stage basecoat/clearcoat	5.2
Multi-colored	5.7
Automotive specialty	7.0

Paints consist of solids (resins, pigments, etc.) and liquid carrier (VOCs, water, etc.) Motor vehicle refinishing rules (Part 228 – Surface Coating Processes) control paint's VOC content by limiting the VOC concentration of your "mixed" paint. This VOC concentration does not change if you increase the volume of properly mixed paint. The VOC concentration does increase when adding VOC solvents (thinners and reducers). Look for the VOC content on the paint can label, material safety data sheet (MSDS) or manufacturer's specification sheet.

DEC requires records to be kept of your shop's paint and solvent usage. Record your coating mixture **exactly**. Accurate records prove your compliance with rule limits.





Know your Part 228 VOC limit for your paint. Post mixing instructions to stay at or below the correct VOC limit. Do not add additional solvents. Mix properly. If you are not sure of the correct mixing instructions to stay below the VOC limit, ask your supervisor, paint supplier or manufacturer's representative.

# Need More Information?

## *Let Us Help You!*

This booklet is brought to you by the Small Business Assistance Program (SBAP) administered by the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation. If you're ready to join the other New York State small businesses who've taken advantage of free, confidential assistance from the SBAP, call our **toll-free number, 800-780-7227**. We're looking forward to helping you comply with the clean air requirements.

## Small Business Assistance Program

**New York State  
Environmental Facilities Corporation**  
625 Broadway  
Albany, New York 12207-2997

[WWW.NYSEFC.ORG](http://WWW.NYSEFC.ORG)

**George E. Pataki**  
Governor



**David Sterman**  
President

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