

Do you sell windshield wiper fluid in any of the 13 counties below?



If so, and if your business is located in one of the above counties, *you are subject to Air Quality Rule 391-3-1-.02(2)(aaa) Consumer and Commercial Products.*

- In the above counties, you *may not* sell windshield wiper fluid containing Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) in a dilution formula greater than 8.0%. Most windshield wiper fluid contains methyl alcohol, a VOC.
- VOC content percentage *must* be displayed on the label.

NOTE: Concentrated formulas and fluids designed to work in temperatures below 20° F contain *more* than 8% VOCs and are therefore prohibited.

For more information about Air Quality Rule 391-3-1-.02(2)(aaa) or if you have questions, please call or email:

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Help “Wipe Out” Air Pollution in Metro Atlanta

Understanding Air Quality Rule:
391-3-1-.02(2)(aaa)
Consumer and Commercial
Products

Windshield Wiper Fluids
in the 13 County Metro
Atlanta Area

Why is this rule important?

Air Quality in metro Atlanta has been classified as “non-attainment” for ground-level ozone by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This means that the air in metro Atlanta may be unhealthy to breathe, especially for children and older adults.

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) is mandated by EPA to improve air quality in Georgia’s non-attainment areas including metro Atlanta. This rule is part of the plan to improve air quality in metro Atlanta.

Why is windshield wiper fluid included in this rule?

Most windshield wiper fluid contains methyl alcohol, one of the compounds known as Volatile Organic Compounds or VOCs.

What are VOCs?

VOCs are carbon based chemicals that evaporate easily at room temperature. Ground level ozone is formed when VOCs combine with nitrogen oxide which are produced by vehicle emissions as well as in the burning process.

How can limiting the amount of VOCs in windshield wiper fluid help air quality?

EPD issues rules that limit the release of nitrogen oxides as well as VOCs. Limiting the amount of VOCs and nitrogen oxides released into metro Atlanta’s air will result in the formation of less ground level ozone.

Why should I care if ground level ozone is formed?

Ground Level Ozone is harmful to human health. It is a colorless gas that can cause inflammation to the lungs and cause permanent damage, even at very low levels. Ground level ozone can actually sunburn lungs and cause asthma.

What does the rule say?

- No person shall, after January 1, 1996, within Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding or Rockdale Counties, supply, offer for sell, or sell any automobile windshield washer fluids that contain VOCs as an active ingredient, or solvent in a concentration greater than 8.0% by weight.
- Each container of any fluid subject to this subsection shall display the maximum VOC content of the fluids as a percent by weight.

What does that mean?

If you sell windshield wiper fluid in Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding or Rockdale County, and it contains methyl alcohol (a VOC), this rule applies to you.

- VOC percent content must be displayed on the label.
- Check the labels on your windshield wiper fluid bottles. Make sure it states that you are selling a dilution formula *equal* or *less* than 8% VOC by weight.
- Ensure that all windshield wiper fluid products delivered to your stores have a label displaying the VOC content, and that it is *equal* or *less* than 8% VOC by weight.
- When buying products for stores in the counties listed in the box above, *only* buy windshield wiper fluid products with a dilution formula of *equal* or *less* than 8% VOC by weight.
- Concentrated formulas and fluid designed to work in temperatures below 20° F have *more* than 8% VOC and therefore prohibited for sale.

Complying with this rule is *easy*.

Not complying with this rule can be *expensive*.

Look on the Label.

Compliant

- VOC % content *is* displayed on the label
- Windshield wiper fluid that works in temperatures *greater* than +20° F
- Windshield wiper fluid that contains *equal* or *less* than 8% methyl alcohol, a VOC.

Noncompliant

- VOC % content is *not* displayed on the label
- Windshield wiper fluid that works in temperatures *less* than +20° F
- Windshield wiper fluid that contains *more* than 8% VOC, such as methyl alcohol
- Windshield wiper fluid *concentrates*
- De-icers