

# NEWS ALERT FOR PERC DRY CLEANERS

## THE "OFFICIAL WORD" FROM NEW YORK STATE ABOUT PERC LEAKS



SMALL BUSINESS  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
OMBUDSMAN

- ❖ All perceptible leaks need to be repaired immediately or tagged. This means that if perc is detected, the leak must be repaired. If the repair cannot be made right then, Part 232 requires that the leak be tagged and dated immediately.
- ❖ There is no such thing as an "acceptable" perc leak. The State Health Department can shut down a shop if it causes perc measurements in adjacent occupancies of 1000 micrograms per cubic meter - that's just one sixth of one PPM!!!
- ❖ If the inspector finds a leak during a Compliance Inspection and it results in an ambient concentration of 50 PPM or greater it is a severe, automatic violation of Part 232. Even if the leak is smaller it either must be fixed immediately - or if it cannot - the leak must be tagged, dated and the shop must be reinspected within 30 days. Untagged leaks or leaks which still exist at a reinspection are violations. So play it safe and do a leak check the day before an inspection. Tag any perceptible leaks. The tag could save you money!

Any questions about leaks should be referred to the **Small Business Environmental Ombudsman** at 800-STATE-NY or the NYSDEC at 518-402-8403.

