

# Coal Tar Pavement Sealant Ban: Austin's Enforcement Experience

Denver, Colorado

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# Summary

- Low cost of enforcement.
- No cost or delays for contractors.
- Communications are critical.
- Cost-effective urban water quality BMP.
- By the end of 2010, 1,000,000 lbs PAH will have been prevented from entering Austin's environment since January 2006.

# The Ban

- Use prohibited in the City Limits and ETJ
- Sale prohibited unless intended application outside ETJ
- Enforcement is complaint and observation driven
- Fines up to \$2,000 per day

**ATTENTION!**  
**COAL TAR SEALANT**  
**USE IS BANNED IN AUSTIN**  
**AND ITS PLANNING**  
**JURISDICTION (ETJ). FINES**  
**UP TO \$2,000 PER DAY**  
**WILL BE ENFORCED.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
**CALL 512-974-2550**

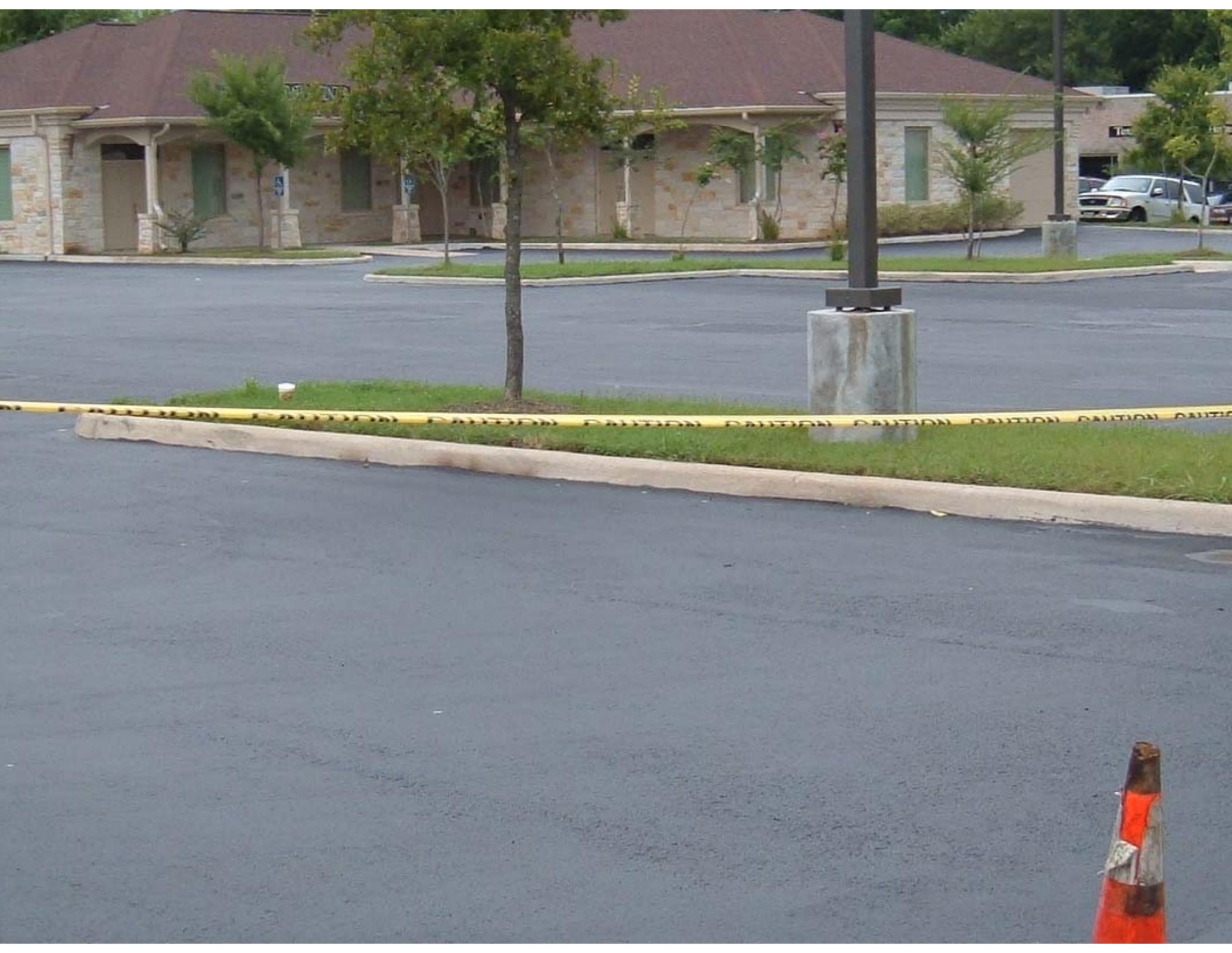
# Field

- How to tell if a surface has been sealed?

# What to Look for?

- Enforcement needs to learn what fresh coal tar smells like: telephone poles.
- Signs of a recent sealant job: sealant tracking, uncured product, odor, traffic cones, product buckets, or sealant applicators.
- Overspray and wear patterns.















# Enforcement

- Most effective eyes and ears? Existing staff but you need someone to own this.
- Debris disposal or old product disposal? Texas state officials ruled that dry product is "road debris" and safe for disposal in the trash. Wet product goes to Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center.

# Violations to Date

- all applicators from outside of Austin (3 outside of Texas)
- 3 Restaurants
- 1 Small office
- Deferral: Austin-speak: How are you going to address the problem?
- 1 re-surface (owner's option), 2 recoat, and 1 near complete sealant removal.
- Surveyed thousands of acres of lots to verify compliance using existing staff on routine routes.





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# Contact Information

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The opinions expressed here are the views of the presenter and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of City of Austin.