



Auditing for Environmental Compliance™

Conduct Environmental Compliance Audits with Structure, Credibility, and Strategic Value

December 15-16, 2026 | Annapolis, MD

Auditing for Environmental Compliance™ is an intensive, two-day program that prepares EHS professionals to lead internal environmental compliance audits, serve effectively on audit teams, and build audit programs that deliver measurable organizational value.

Unlike regulation-specific training, this course does not focus solely on theoretical knowledge and checklist verification, but rather on the principles, structure, and realities of multimedia environmental compliance auditing across federal and state programs.

This course is led by a Certified Professional Environmental Auditor (CPEA) with more than 25 years of national compliance and enforcement experience, including support for USEPA enforcement programs and consent decree auditing. Participants gain insight into how regulators evaluate audit findings, how enforcement risk develops, and how to design audit programs that strengthen compliance posture while minimizing unintended exposure.

Business Case for Attendance

The cost of undiscovered violations far exceeds the cost of finding them. EPA's civil enforcement program resolved over 1,851 cases in fiscal year 2024, assessing more than \$1.7 billion in penalties. Facilities that lack structured internal audit programs are more likely to accumulate undetected violations that compound over time, leading to larger penalties, corrective action requirements, and supplemental environmental project obligations when regulators discover them. A national parts-washing services company paid \$1,162,500 for RCRA hazardous waste management violations across multiple states—violations that a well-designed internal audit program could have identified and corrected before enforcement. EPA's Audit Policy provides incentives for organizations that voluntarily discover, promptly disclose, and expeditiously correct violations, including elimination or significant reduction of gravity-based penalties.

This course reduces reliance on outside consultants. After completing the Auditing for Environmental Compliance™ course, your employee returns prepared to design and execute structured environmental compliance audit programs, evaluate internal controls, develop defensible findings, and communicate audit results to management. Each of these tasks would otherwise require consultant support at rates that typically exceed the cost of this course in a matter of days.

The investment is immediate and practical. Course content is applied, not academic. Participants return with actionable knowledge, reference materials, and direct access to the course presenter for follow-up questions as compliance challenges arise.

Estimated Investment

Course Fee	\$1,320
Discounts*	–\$132 (if registered early)
Travel (airfare or mileage)	Varies by location Rental vehicle is not required
Lodging	~\$340 (For discounted rates see https://aarcherinstitute.com/location/annapolis-md/)
Meals (breakfast items, afternoon snack and all day beverages provided in-person)	2026 federal per diem is \$80/day (\$60 on travel days)

* Group discount of 15% off is available for three or more registrants from the same organization. Government employee, student, and veteran discounts (15% off) are also available. Corporate partnership discounts are also available.

What You'll Learn

This course develops applied proficiency in environmental audit methodology and program development. Participants build working capability in:

- Audit objectives, benefits, risks, and strategic positioning
- Regulatory foundations supporting environmental compliance audits
- Industry audit standards and professional auditor conduct
- Audit program design and governance structure
- Pre-audit planning and scoping strategies
- On-site audit execution techniques
- Evaluating regulatory applicability and compliance status
- Internal controls assessment and systems-based evaluation
- Improving finding quality and defensibility
- Root cause analysis and corrective action development
- Reporting strategies and management communication
- Building long-term value into internal audit programs

What You'll Take Back

Participants receive a certificate of completion approved for CEUs by EHS, legal, and engineering bodies, as well as:

- A comprehensive course binder and reference toolkit
- Practical guidance documents and useful references on a flash drive
- Access to presenters for follow-up questions
- Readiness to design and execute structured audit programs, strengthen internal controls, communicate findings effectively, and build compliance programs that withstand regulatory scrutiny

You will also return with new skills:

- Design and implement a structured environmental compliance audit program
- Conduct on-site audits using systematic evaluation techniques and professional standards
- Develop defensible audit findings with proper root cause analysis
- Evaluate internal controls and identify systemic compliance weaknesses
- Communicate audit results effectively to management and track corrective actions
- Contact the course presenter directly as future compliance questions arise

Who Should Attend

Auditing for Environmental Compliance™ is designed for professionals involved in developing, leading, or supporting environmental audit programs, including:

- Audit Program Managers
- Environmental Compliance Auditors
- Environmental Compliance Managers
- EHS Directors and Corporate Leadership
- Internal Counsel and Risk Managers
- Quality Control and Management Systems Professionals
- Facility personnel preparing for audits

Course Format

This presenter-led, two-day program is organized into structured modules that move logically from audit foundations to advanced implementation concepts. It includes:

- Discussion of audit program standards and regulatory context
- Real-world audit scenarios drawn from federal and industrial settings
- Practical exercises evaluating findings and internal controls
- Root cause analysis discussions
- Reporting and corrective action strategy workshops
- Interactive discussion with an experienced environmental compliance auditor

Why Aarcher Institute

Aarcher Institute is a professional training organization that has hosted more than 9,500 professionals for more than 20 years. Presenters are selected for regulatory expertise, real-world experience, and demonstrated training ability.

Unlike simple compliance overview courses, our exclusive course content was developed and continually refined by experienced compliance professionals. This is not a self-paced slide deck or scripted presentation delivered by full-time instructors or guest speakers. Practicing EHS professionals provide live instruction and foster open discussion to enhance understanding.

Preparing to Attend

The course is presented in a comfortable and professional meeting room with refreshments and frequent breaks. Course logistics and planning information is presented in the following table.

Course Logistics & Planning

Time Commitment	December 15-16, 2026 (Additional travel days might be necessary) → 8:15 AM – 4:15 PM (Day 1) → 8:15 AM – 3:00 PM (Day 2)
Course Location	Aarcher Institute training facility 111 Cathedral Street, Suite 300, Annapolis, MD
Flights	Most students fly into Baltimore BWI
Hotel Accommodations	Graduate by Hilton (Discounts: https://aarcherinstitute.com/location/annapolis-md/) Walking distance to course location
Dress Code	Casual to business casual (professional meeting attire)
Meals & Refreshments	Light continental breakfast items, snacks, coffee, and beverages are provided each day for in-person sessions
Transportation	Rental car not required Rideshare services or taxis are generally sufficient Parking: https://aarcherinstitute.com/location/annapolis-md/
Certification/Credits	This is not a certification course Participants receive a certificate of completion and approved continuing education credits