

STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

Ohio Environmental
Protection Agency
Lazarus Government Center
Columbus, Ohio 43215-1049

**To promote and guide the implementation of a coordinated,
comprehensive and effective ground water protection and
management program for the state of Ohio**

Ohio Department of Natural
Resources
Fountain Square
Columbus, Ohio 43224-1387

**June 18, 2015
ODNR Fountain Square Campus
Building E, Assembly Center East**

Ohio Department of Health
246 North High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0588

The June 18, 2015 meeting consisted of Agency announcements, and a presentation by Chris Kenah about Regional Characteristics of Ohio Ground Water.

Ohio Department of
Commerce-SFM
8895 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

ATTENDANCE

Ohio EPA: Barb Lubberger, Jeff Patzke, Aaron Shear
ODNR: Jim Raab, Doug Aden
ODH: Rachel Townsend
NRCS: John Armentano
USGS: Rob Darner
PUCO: Sue Daly

Ohio Public Utilities
Commission
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0573

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

United States Geological Survey, Ohio Water Science Center:
Staff Changes. Scott Jackson, Deputy Director is retiring effective July 2nd.
USGS plans to recruit for his position, and also to hire three new technicians.

High-Flow Monitoring. Staff in Surface Water are nearly all out in the field recently, collecting measurements of high flows in streams.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Soil and Water Resources:

Reorganization. The Division of Soil and Water Resources will be separated again effective January 2016, at which time most of the staff in the former Division of Soil and Water Conservation will transfer to the Ohio Department of Agriculture. The storm water staff will transfer to Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water. The former Division of Water staff will remain intact and will be the Division of Water Resources.

Replacement for ERIN. Next week a new map-based search application for well logs is expected to go online, to replace ERIN, which will be taken down on July 1, 2015. ERIN was provided by a 12-year-old server, and was based on software that is no longer supported. The new version will be very similar to the Division of Oil and Gas Resources' oil/gas well search engine.

Ohio Department of
Agriculture
8995 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068-
3399

Ohio Department of
Development
77 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0413

Ohio Department of
Transportation
1980 West Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Geological Survey

New Publications. The Division of Geological Survey has published a book titled *Minerals of Ohio*, by Ernest H. Carlson, 2015, and a bulletin on the Plumbrook Shale. The Energy Group is also working on a project involving the Devonian Shale as a source rock for unconventional drilling, and a Bulletin on the Cleveland Shale.

Current Projects. Karst mapping near Hillsboro is complete. Ongoing mapping projects include surficial geology for the Hillsboro 100k quadrangle, and OGS is beginning the next project to map the bedrock and glacial materials in the Portsmouth area. Work continues on the textural GIS study of Lake Erie to determine the percent sand vs. fines that are eroding, and to study the sand supply for beaches.

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Materials and Waste Management

Draft Landfill Rules. On May 18th released an Early Stakeholder Outreach (ESO) document along with conceptual draft language for the disposal of oil and gas waste. Please see the [ESO](#) for additional information. July 3rd is the deadline for comments on these conceptual draft rules.

Avian Influenza. Though not yet detected in Ohio, the state is planning measures on how to address management of poultry mortalities related to H5N2 avian influenza virus. (Ohio is now first in the U.S. for poultry, with approximately 30 million egg-layers). The state is proactively considering strategies for handling the disposal of massive numbers of carcasses, as all chickens in a facility must be euthanized if just one chicken is infected. Among the options are on-site burial, composting and incineration.

C&DD Landfill GW Monitoring. The Construction & Demolition Debris program is coordinating with the Division of Drinking and Ground Waters to update how preliminary hydrogeologic investigations are conducted for C&DD Landfills. ***Natural Resources Conservation Service: Sign-ups in Progress.*** NRCS is busy handling sign-ups for multiple programs, including the Upper Walnut, East Fork and Western Lake Erie projects that were approved last year, the headwaters of Paint Creek as part of the Mississippi River Basin project, and the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI).

Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Environmental Health:

Recycled Water Rules. The five-year rule revision includes rules for recycled water.

Newcomerstown Spill. Ohio EPA's geoprobe investigation of volatile organics found in some private wells at levels above their MCLs did not locate a source of contamination. Ohio EPA's work is complete, but ODH is still working with the private well owners to ensure access to safe water.

Ohio EPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters:

Harmful Algal Bloom Program Development.

- District Source Water Protection staff have been designated District HABs coordinators, responsible for coordinating sampling of public water systems as needed, and providing educational outreach; District Public Drinking Water staff (the system inspectors and engineers) will take the lead for treatment and contingency planning issues
- In May U.S. EPA provided 10-day Health Advisory thresholds for microcystin (0.3 ug/l for children below school age; 1.6 ug/l for all others) and cylindrospermopsin (0.7 ug/l for children below school age; 3.0 ug/l for all others). Ohio EPA is treating these thresholds as DO NOT EXCEED values, but allowing some time for public water systems to

optimize their treatment and try to bring levels down significantly before issuing a DO NOT DRINK advisory.

- DDAGW is revising the *Public Water System Harmful Algal Bloom Response Strategy* to address U.S. EPA thresholds and other new information.
- DDAGW is also considering rules to require cyanotoxin monitoring at public water systems using surface water.

Strontium. Staff are working with USEPA Research Lab in Cincinnati regarding a study on treatment for strontium removal. The study is being performed in support of the development of an MCL for strontium. DDAGW's primary role has been to provide ambient monitoring and drinking water data.

WORKGROUP UPDATES

Nutrient Reduction Strategy. DDAGW still has not heard from the Division of Surface Water concerning whether an extension has been requested/granted from U.S. EPA to add ground water-related topics to Ohio's Nutrient Reduction Strategy.

Updating the Well Construction Guidance Document. SCCGW staff consulted with others concerning the need for updating this guidance—much of which is now covered explicitly in rules. ODH staff recommend that we focus the guidance more on drilling in unique geologic conditions and drilling methods that are not covered in the rules. Colleagues at AIPG were contacted for their opinion, but no response has been received yet. Jim Raab agreed to also canvass the Ohio Water Well Association, as he attends their Board meetings.

PRESENTATION

Chris Kenah (Ohio EPA, DDAGW) gave a presentation on regional characteristics of Ohio ground water, with a focus on strontium and arsenic, and the geologic and geochemical controls for their distribution in Ohio's ground water.

NEXT SCCGW MEETING

Will be held August 20th at the Horace R. Collins classroom at Alum Creek, 8:30-11:30 am. A potluck is planned; details to follow.

REMINDER:

Meeting agendas and final meeting summaries are posted on the SCCGW website at <http://epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/sccgw.aspx>