



Ohio Small Business Compliance Advisory Panel

The Ohio Small Business Compliance Advisory Panel serves small businesses by providing assistance on environmental compliance and sustainable business information.

How it All Started

Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs were established as part of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. In these Amendments, each state was required to establish a Small Business Assistance Program (SBAP) and Small Business Ombudsman (SBO) to help small businesses understand and comply with air pollution regulations. A Compliance Advisory Panel (CAP) oversees the SBAP and SBO to ensure these programs provide useful services and regulatory guidance to small businesses.

The Ohio CAP

In Ohio, the SBAP is housed within Ohio EPA’s Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance (DEFA) and is a multimedia environmental assistance program. The SBO is housed within the Clean Air Resource Center of the Ohio Air Quality Development Authority. Ohio’s CAP receives support from a national coalition of state CAP’s in communicating small business interests to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Small Business Ombudsman in Washington, D.C.

CAP Membership

As prescribed by Ohio Revised Code 3704.19, CAP membership consists of:

- Two members selected by the governor who are not owners or representatives of owners of small businesses to represent the general public;
- One member selected by Ohio EPA’s director to represent the Agency;
- Four members selected by the General Assembly who are owners or representatives of owners of small businesses. One each shall be appointed by the president of the Senate, the minority leader of the Senate, the speaker of the House of Representatives and the minority leader of the House of Representatives.

CAP Responsibilities

The official responsibilities of the CAP include:

- Advising Ohio EPA of the small business perspective on environmental issues;
- Reviewing publications prepared by DEFA to ensure that the information is understandable;
- Reviewing the effectiveness of DEFA’s services, difficulties encountered and recommending improvements to the program;
- Reporting to U.S. EPA concerning compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, Regulatory Flexibility Act and the Equal Access to Justice Act.

Compliance Advisory Panel Membership

Small Business Representatives:

Ty Baker-Baumann Rebsco, Inc. Greenville, Ohio (937) 548-2246	Chris Shaw Shaw Textile Cleaning Dayton, Ohio
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John Pierko M S Consultants, Inc. Youngstown, Ohio (330) 744-5321	(Vacant)
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General Public Representatives:

Carolyn Cybulski Weaver Consultants Group Dublin, Ohio	Kara Alison * Environmental Management Specialists, Inc. Groveport, Ohio
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Ohio EPA Representative:

Dan Sowry, Assistant Chief
Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention
Columbus, Ohio
(614)728-8575

Secretary (Support only)

Lexie Andrews, Supervisor
Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention
Ohio EPA/DEFA, Columbus, Ohio
(614)644-3646

Small Business Ombudsman (Support only)

Todd Nein, Project Manager
Ohio Air Quality Development Authority
Columbus, OH
(614) 387-3062

*Volunteer

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CAP Goals

The CAP strives to improve environmental performance at Ohio's small businesses by:

- Promoting services through the Ohio legislature, small business trade organizations and other networks;
- Recommending outreach strategies and collaborative efforts;
- Collaborating with the National CAP to provide comments on new federal rules proposed by the U.S. EPA;
- Providing comments to Ohio EPA on proposed state rules having significant small business impact.

Small Businesses we assist

- Auto body repair/refinishing
- Dental Practices
- Dry-cleaner/laundry service
- Furniture manufacturing/refinishing
- Gas Stations
- Hospitals
- Municipalities/Local Governments
- Metal fabricating/finishing
- Painting and coating
- Construction/contractors
- Printing/graphic arts
- Manufacturing
- Restaurants
- Many more

How Can I Contribute?

The CAP meets quarterly to review the work of the SBAP and SBO offices. The CAP provides input from a small business perspective on new compliance assistance initiatives, environmental regulations and Agency actions. Meetings are held from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Dial in access is provided at (614) 644-4742. Meeting minutes can be found on [OCAPP's Small Business Compliance Advisory Panel](#) website.

Contact

For more information, visit [OCAPP's Small Business Compliance Advisory Panel](#) website dropdown section, or contact Lexie Andrews at Alexis.Andrews@epa.ohio.gov or (614)644-3646.