

Ohio's Clean Diesel School Bus Fund Annual Summary, SFY 2015



This year, Ohio EPA used state civil penalty funds to install pollution-control equipment onto 56 school buses, and idle reduction equipment onto 70 school buses, to remove 3.3 tons of pollutants from Ohio skies.

During fall 2014 and spring 2015 grant cycles, Ohio EPA awarded \$274,516 to 10 school districts for their school buses. These funds provided pollution-control equipment to reduce student and driver exposure to diesel exhaust. Ohio EPA estimates these grants will remove 234.2 pounds of fine particulates (soot particles), 2,593.40 pounds of carbon monoxide, 3,260.0 pounds of nitrogen oxides and 517.6 pounds of hydrocarbons from the air annually for each year that these buses continue to operate.

Recipients this year include:

Alexander Local Schools, Athens County, \$11,708 to install emission control equipment on seven buses. #2015F-001. Contact: Dan Phillips, (740) 698-8831 ext. 41 or dphillips@alexanderschools.org

Crestwood Local Schools, Portage County, \$20,463 to install anti-idling equipment on six buses. # B2015F-007. Contact: Dave Toth, (330) 357-8207 ext. 6051 or dtoth@crestwoodschools.org

Lima City Schools, Allen County, \$11,662 to install emission control equipment on seven buses. #B2015F-008. Contact: Randy Crossley, (419) 996-3454 or rcrossley@limacityschools.org

Maple Heights City Schools, Cuyahoga County, \$58,703 to install emission control equipment on 9 buses and anti-idling equipment on 17 buses. #B2015F-006. Contact: Charinita McDonald, (216) 510-6412 or Charinita.mcdonald@mapleschools.com

Norwalk City Schools, Huron County, \$14,457 to install emission control equipment on nine buses. #B2015F-004. Contact: Dustin Brown, (419) 660-1822 or brownd@norwalktruckers.net

River Valley Local Schools, Marion County, \$49,216 to install emission control equipment on three buses and idle reduction equipment on 17 buses. #B2015S-002. Contact: Lois Bowdre, (740) 725-5410 or lbowdre@rvk12.org

Sandusky City Schools, Erie County, \$73,623 to install anti-idling equipment on 30 buses. #B2015F-002. Contact: Ted Peters, (419) 984-1331 or Tpeters@scs-k12.net

Seneca East Local Schools, Seneca County, \$6,670 to install emission control equipment on four buses. # B2015S-001. Contact: Tammy Feasel, (419) 426-2600 or tfeasel@se-tigers.com

Shawnee Local Schools, Allen County, \$13,346 to install emission control equipment on eight buses. #B2015F-005. Contact: Mike Wilson, (419) 998-8052 or mikew@limashawnee.com

Springfield Local Schools, Lucas County, \$14,668 to install emission control equipment on nine buses, #B2015F-003. Contact Nick Liggett, (419) 867-5612 or nickliggett@sksmail.net

Why Retrofit School Buses?

Research by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) suggests school bus commutes potentially expose children to significantly higher concentrations of pollutants than what is measured in the community's outdoor air. Children are especially sensitive to air pollution because their respiratory systems are still developing and they have a faster breathing rate than adults. The Ohio Department of Education estimates 1.3 million Ohio children ride school buses to and from school every day. While statistics show school buses are the safest way to transport children, Ohio EPA wants to ensure they are also the cleanest way to transport children.

Federal mandates on manufacturers of new school buses beginning with the 2007 model year made these buses up to 95% cleaner than those manufactured before 2004. However, diesel engines are durable and long-lasting. It will take a long time for new vehicles to replace the heavy-duty buses currently on the road. These existing school buses can be made much cleaner by retrofitting them with pollution-control devices and by switching to cleaner fuels. The Ohio General Assembly created Ohio's Clean Diesel School Bus fund for this purpose in 2006. The state portion of the funding comes from civil penalties that Ohio EPA collects for violations of Ohio's environmental protection laws. In SFY 2015, the fund received \$141,535.12 in penalties, all of which was awarded in grants. Administrative costs of the grant program are borne by the Ohio EPA Division of Air Pollution Control, Office of Environmental Education and Office of Fiscal Administration.

This program has three primary goals: (1) retrofit existing school buses with devices that reduce pollution; (2) reduce school bus idling; and (3) improve air quality in Ohio, particularly in counties that are not currently meeting Clean Air Act standards for fine particulates (PM 2.5). Since this grant program began in

2006, Ohio EPA has awarded more than \$8.3 million to install pollution-control equipment on 2,622 school buses statewide, install idle reduction equipment to 1,018 buses, and remove nearly 204 tons of pollutants from the air.

Ohio Clean Diesel School Bus Fund Fiscal Activity SFY 2006-2015

SFY	Revenues Received:			Grants Awarded:
	Ohio civil penalties	Federal DERA grant	ARRA stimulus grant	
2006	\$434,015.00			\$434,257.78
2007	\$726,217.00			\$681,465.68
2008	\$824,238.39			\$599,869.37
2009	\$778,386.11	\$295,230.00	\$1,730,000.00	\$1,647,674.52
2010	\$994,541.00	\$352,941.00		\$2,392,100.45
2011	\$996,542.00	\$352,941.00		\$1,355,427.79
2012	\$477,168.00	\$293,201.00		\$1,068,495.39
2013	\$175,481.10	\$257,466 directed to DERG program		\$429,117.53
2014	\$149,820.53	\$136,686 directed to DERG program		\$332,946.70
2015	\$141,535.12	\$154,722.00		\$262,808.20
TOTAL	\$5,697,944.25	\$1,843,187.00	\$1,730,000.00	\$9,215,871.53

Note: Grant awards appear to exceed revenues in FY 06 because grantees received 90% payments. Final 10% payments were made as projects were completed into the following FY. Ohio EPA reports totals for the FY they are announced and contracts signed. Because of project modifications approved and buses dropped for technical reasons, actual total amount expended is just over \$8.3 million.

State School Bus Funds Leverage Additional Federal Dollars

Ohio EPA used these state civil penalty dollars and school bus retrofit projects as the required state match to leverage \$394,152.00 in federal funds from U.S. EPA under the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) during SFY 13-14. State law directed those funds to Ohio EPA's Diesel Emission Reduction Grant program, where they were awarded for early retirement of 23 old diesel school buses, and their replacement with model year 2013 school buses running routes in the Cincinnati area. In 2015, the state civil penalty dollars were again able to successfully leverage an additional \$154,722.00 in federal funds for additional school bus retrofits.

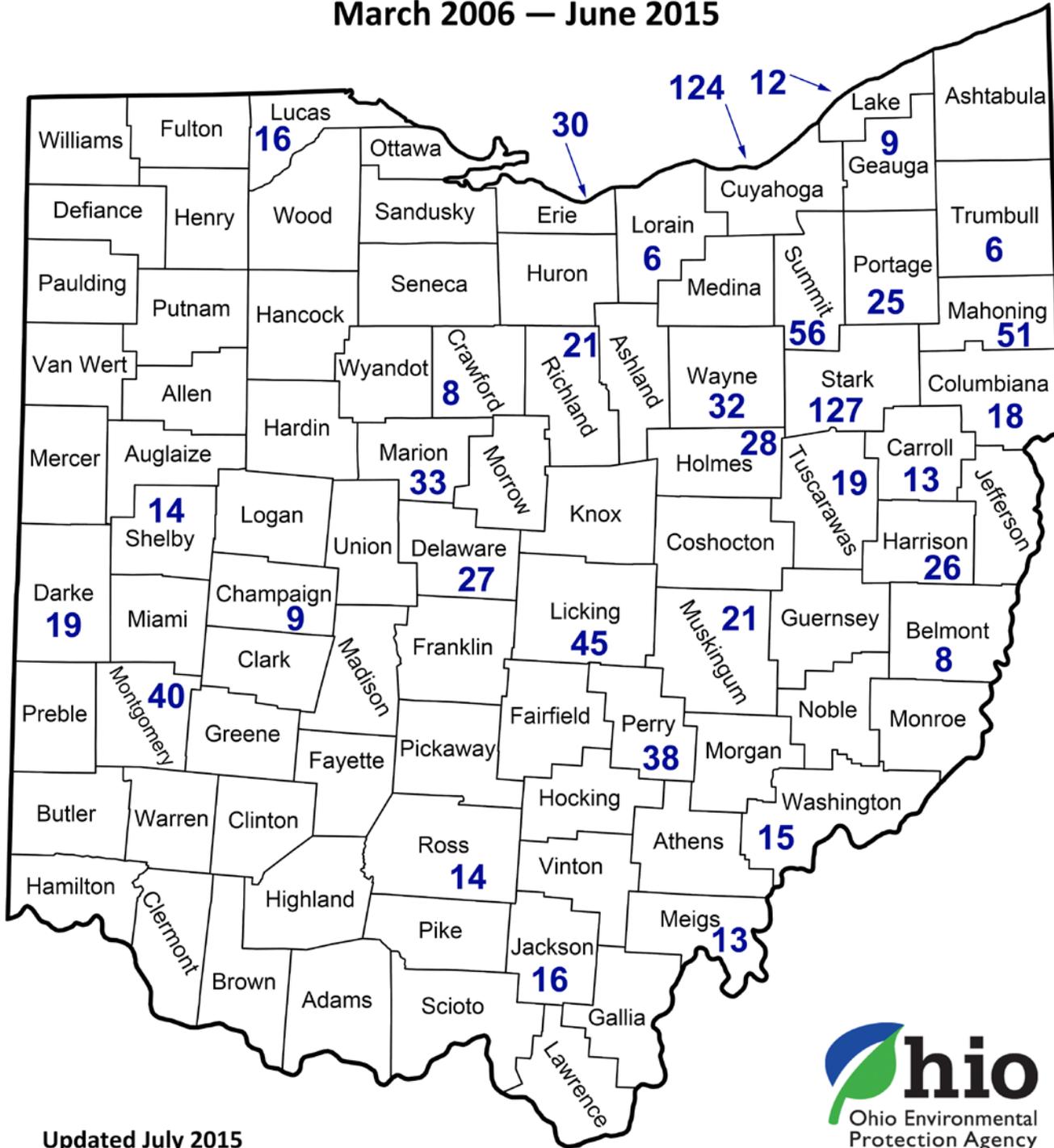
Grant application deadlines for Ohio's Clean Diesel School Bus Fund are March 1 and Oct. 15 each year, with applications posted at www.epa.ohio.gov/oe.



For additional information about diesel emissions from school buses and other clean diesel opportunities, consult U.S. EPA's Clean School Bus USA website, at www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus/.

For additional information about recent research into health effects, consult the University of Cincinnati's Childhood Allergy and Air Pollution Study website, at <http://eh.uc.edu/ccaaps/>.

**Ohio Clean Diesel School Bus Fund
 Number of School Buses Equipped with
 Pre-heaters for Idle Reduction by County
 March 2006 — June 2015**



Updated July 2015

