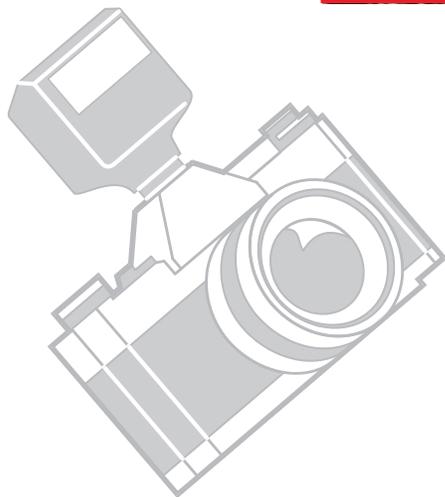




State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

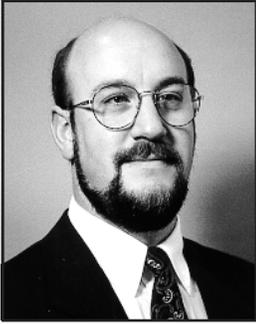


F•O•C•U•S

Annual Report 2000

Introduction

“To protect the environment and public health by ensuring compliance with environmental laws and demonstrating leadership in environmental stewardship.”



This annual report spans a time period that will be remembered in history – the transition to year 2000. It was a time when individuals, businesses and government organizations undertook a flurry of planning exercises designed to head off potential problems caused by “Y2K” glitches in our computer programs.

Ohio EPA, already skilled in emergency response activities, invested considerable resources in developing well-thought out plans to prevent emergencies, and to clearly document how we would respond in the face of a crisis. The hard work paid off; there were very few problems.

However, in spite of the considerable time and energy required by Y2K planning, Ohio EPA still had to carry out its many responsibilities as a state regulatory agency. One of my main goals as director has been to **focus** the Agency on doing the best possible job of carrying out our mandated obligations.

We are here to ensure that environmental laws and regulations are followed in Ohio. The permits we issue minimize environmental impacts, and establish regular monitoring and reporting requirements. When we discover problems, we evaluate the best option for returning facilities to compliance. Sometimes a little technical assistance results in a quick and effective return to compliance. In other situations, we pursue formal enforcement. But our measure of success is not how much enforcement action we take. The real **focus** is on improving compliance with the regulations and, ultimately, measuring continual environmental progress: is our air, land and water cleaner?

This is a tremendous responsibility, and Ohio EPA takes it seriously. In the coming year, we will continue to **focus** on effectively carrying out our mission and working diligently for the people of Ohio who value a clean environment.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher Jones".

Christopher Jones
Director



Division of Air Pollution Control

“To attain and maintain the air quality at a level that will protect the environment for the benefit of all.”

The mission of the Division of Air Pollution Control is: “To attain and maintain the air quality at a level that will protect the environment for the benefit of all.” As partners, the division and nine local air agencies are required under state and federal law to perform all of those functions designed to attain and maintain ambient air quality and protect public health.

National Air Quality Standards

The Clean Air Act Amendments of 1970 authorized U.S. EPA to establish National Ambient Air Quality Standards to protect our health and environment. The standards consist of an allowable concentration of a pollutant, and a restriction on the number of times the standard can be exceeded before it is considered a violation. To determine if the air quality meets those standards, Ohio EPA operates air quality monitors.

There are 49 monitors for ozone in 34 counties. In May, June and July 1999, Ohio EPA monitored 14 readings above the one-hour ozone standard, and more than 400 readings above the eight-hour standard. In May and June 2000, Ohio EPA monitored one reading above the one-hour standard, and approximately 110 readings above the eight-hour standard.

At the end of 1999, the Cincinnati area (Hamilton, Warren, Butler, and Clermont Counties) became the last urban area in Ohio to attain the ozone standard. No violations of the one-hour ozone standard were monitored in the four-county area since 1998. On June 19, 2000, U.S. EPA proposed to designate the area to attainment.

Several Ohio counties are also designated non-attainment for sulfur dioxide levels, although these areas have not had monitored violations of the sulfur dioxide standard in over 20 years. The division worked with U.S. EPA to redesignate Lake and Jefferson



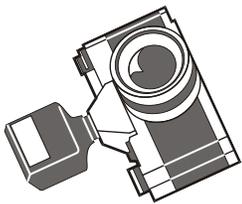
counties to attainment status (effective September 29, 1999), and U.S. EPA proposed to redesignate Gallia, Coshocton and Lorain counties on June 5, 2000.

Air Toxics

The division continued to implement air toxic reduction programs required by the Clean Air Act of 1990. The Toxic Release Inventory is used to measure the effectiveness of the regulatory and voluntary efforts to reduce air toxics. Ohio facilities reduced toxic air emissions by 41.7 percent between 1992 and 1997, according to a report released by Ohio EPA in SFY'00.

Ohio EPA adopted the risk management planning program, which was created under Section 112(r) of the Clean Air Act of 1990. The intent of this program is to prevent accidental releases to the air and mitigate the consequences of releases that do occur. The focus is on prevention measures for chemicals that pose the greatest risk to the public and the environment. Under these requirements, industry has an obligation to prevent accidents and operate safely.

Information that summarizes these requirements is called a risk management plan (RMP). Facilities were required to file



F.O.C.U.S.
on Air

Division of Air Pollution Control

RMPs with U.S. EPA by June 21, 1999, and with Ohio EPA by January 3, 2000. Approximately 500 facilities filed RMPs with Ohio EPA.

Ohio EPA also conducts specialized air toxic monitoring studies to determine the level of toxic pollution in the air. These can be specialized studies at a particular site, such as the work done in SFY'00 at River Valley High School in Marion County, the Kirby Tire fire in Wyandot County, and near a coke plant in New Boston Ohio. Studies also are done to examine the air toxics in a community, such as Lima Ohio. Ohio EPA released its Cleveland Air Toxics Study in August 1999.

Issuance of Permits

To measure the quality of services provided, the division monitors the number of permits it issues and the timeliness for issuing permits-to-install (PTIs). In SFY'00, the division issued 1,086 final PTIs, 992 permits-to-operate, 145 draft Title V permits, and 59 final Title V permits. In response to Y2K problems with the permit tracking system, DAPC implemented an improved permit tracking system. As a result of this system, information regarding the status of air permits is now available through the Internet.

| Air Monitoring Locations | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Pollutant | Number of Sites | Number of Counties |
| Ozone | 46 | 31 |
| Carbon Monoxide | 18 | 9 |
| Nitrogen Oxide | 4 | 2 |
| Lead | 14 | 5 |
| Sulfur Dioxide | 30 | 22 |
| Particulate Matter (10 microns) | 70 | 28 |
| Particulate Matter (2.5 microns) | 41 | 19 |

Ohio facilities reduced toxic air emissions by 41.7 percent between 1992 and 1997, according to a report released by Ohio EPA in SFY'00.

Enforcement

The division strives to operate a fair and efficient program. The effectiveness of the enforcement program is measured by the number of cases resolved and the overall percentage of major facilities that are in compliance. In SFY'00, 79 air enforcement cases were resolved. Ninety-four percent of Title V facilities in Ohio—the major sources of air pollution—were in compliance with air pollution control regulations.

E-Check

The E-Check Program oversees the contractor-operated emissions inspection program for vehicles in the Cleveland/Akron, Dayton and Cincinnati areas. The goal of the program is to encourage motorists to routinely maintain the emission control equipment on their vehicles, thereby reducing the release of pollutants that lead to the formation of smog. The division strives to provide a fair and accurate test for motorists, measured by the number of vehicles tested, the pass/fail rates and the number of vehicle owners that file a damage claim.

In SFY'00, 1,946,102 vehicles were tested, and the average pass rate was 89.21 percent. The average fail rate was 10.79 percent, with 210,072 vehicles failing the test. Owners of approximately 0.03 percent of the cars tested filed a claim of perceived damage. The division also monitors the stations operated by the contractor, and conducts equipment audits to ensure an accurate test.

Division of Emergency and Remedial Response

“To protect human health and improve the quality of the environment for present and future generations, through the prevention, identification, investigation, regulation and remediation of chemical and petroleum hazards in all environmental media.”

Following a reorganization at the end of the previous fiscal year, the division began to focus its efforts on cleaning up contaminated sites and responding to contaminated releases. Overall, this refocusing enabled the division to carry out its functions in a more efficient and cost-effective way, while maintaining progress on site cleanup.

Emergency Response

The emergency response (ER) program focuses on responding to sudden releases of hazardous materials, petroleum and radiation. ER partners with local and state emergency management officials to share information in an effort to minimize and prevent releases to the environment. On average, ER takes 5,300 spill calls every year and responds to about 1,200 of these calls.

One of the most significant spills in SFY'00 involved a fertilizer tank in Marion County. In March 2000, for the second time since January, a 1.5 million-gallon fertilizer tank completely failed and catastrophically released its contents at the Marion County Morral Companies facility. The resulting wave overswept the dike walls and spilled into an adjacent farm field and into the office parking lot. Two separate drainage systems were affected and an unknown amount of fertilizer entered the Little Sandusky River. Cleanup and recovery at the facility went on for months. Eventually, more than 2.4 million gallons of liquid were recovered as reusable fertilizer. An additional two million gallons were donated to a hog farmer for field application as a weak fertilizer solution. Soil removed around the plant site was given to local farmers for application to farm fields. At

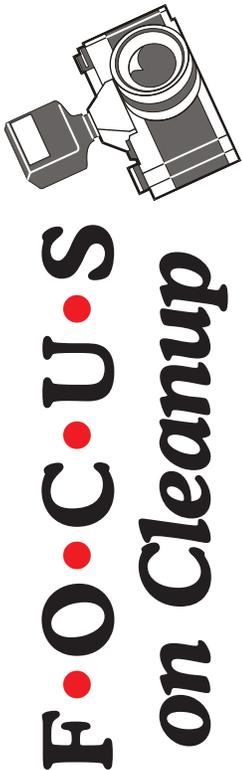


its peak, the emergency response involved more than 100 people from at least six different cleanup companies. The cost of the incident has been estimated at over six million dollars.

Remedial Response

The remedial response program focuses on determining that contaminated sites are safe for their intended use.

Since the inception of the division, about 13 sites have undergone full remediation under this program. Interim measures have been taken at 26 sites. Every year, the remedial response program works on about 140 sites undergoing investigation or cleanup, and assesses about 60 sites for inclusion in the remediation program. In conjunction with U.S. EPA, this program has cleaned up nine sites and implemented large removals at 38 sites. This year, Ohio added two more sites to the federal system (National Priorities List) for cleanup, the first since 1995.



Division of Hazardous Waste Management

“To protect and improve the environment and therefore the health of Ohio’s citizens by promoting pollution prevention and the proper management and cleanup of hazardous waste.”

Cessation of Regulated Operations Program (CRO)

When certain businesses close, they must first remove hazardous chemicals from the property, and under rules proposed by Ohio EPA on SFY’00, it will be much easier to understand the requirements that apply. The division rewrote and proposed the CRO rules in “plain language” during this last year.

This is a new approach undertaken to assist the public and regulated community in understanding the rules. Clearly written rules improve compliance by clarifying what the regulated community needs to do. Additionally, a simpler version of the rules should enhance participation in the public comment process.

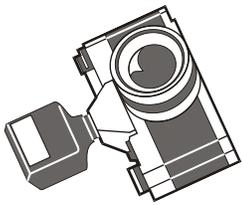
Pollution Prevention Integration

As of October 1, 1999, the division fully integrated pollution prevention (P2) into daily hazardous waste tasks. With the integration of P2, every regulatory inspection includes a P2 component where inspectors assist the regulated community in identifying P2 opportunities at their facilities. This involves looking for P2 opportunities with any media, not just hazardous waste. In the past, inspectors would generally focus only on P2 opportunities relating to hazardous waste. Now also provided, is the opportunity for division staff to conduct P2 assessments for companies that want this type of service. The Office of Pollution Prevention will continue to provide technical assistance and monitor the progress of P2 within the division.



Handler Notification Update Project Undertaken

The division began an effort to update the U.S. EPA identification (ID) information on more than 23,000 hazardous waste ID numbers assigned in Ohio since 1980. The first phase was to mail letters to sites listed as large quantity generators that are either not filing annual generator reports or where the notification information has not been updated recently. Also targeted are other types of regulated handlers, such as transporters and small quantity generators. Some information has not been updated by the handler since it was filed in 1980.



F•O•C•U•S
on Hazardous Waste

Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management

Service Delivery and Outreach

Web Page Updates

In April, the division unveiled a new Web page (<http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsiwm>). The new site provides a more appealing visual presentation, simplified site navigation, detailed program and personnel information, easier to find contact lists, and Agency documents not previously available on the Web.

Each page is clearly marked with subject headers or other identifiers. Easy-to-use navigation buttons and subject oriented drop-down menus appear along the left margin of every page. Users no longer have to backtrack several pages in order to explore a different branch of the site.

The new site contains program pages that provide basic information about the operation of each program area, such as municipal solid waste, scrap tires, etc. Each program page contains links to frequently asked questions, official division documents, and specific unit pages. The unit pages provide general descriptions of Central Office units responsible for overseeing the various programs, and contain lists of unit personnel with phone numbers and e-mail addresses.

The biggest improvement to the site is the addition of a comprehensive collection of documents, such as guidance documents, fact sheets, applications, and report formats. These documents are available in Adobe Acrobat PDF format for downloading by any visitor to the site.

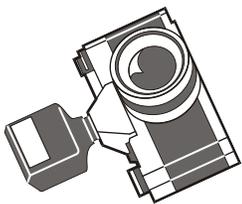
Also on the site are pages dedicated to upcoming activities, such as training events and meetings, and current division news, including enforcement settlements and permit issuances. Future improvements to the site include the addition of a searchable collection of Ohio Administrative Code rules applicable to the division's activities, and a photo gallery containing examples of various waste disposal/handling techniques, success stories in cleaning up dump sites, and more.

SIIMAN Update

The division has put considerable effort and work over the past year into development of SIIMAN (Solid and Infectious Waste Information Management System). SIIMAN is a computer-based system designed to facilitate and track the daily work projects of staff, and provide the regulated community and local health departments with the opportunity for electronic submission of required reporting data and registration, permit, and license applications. SIIMAN is expected to be complete and in use by staff statewide by December 2000. Following successful implementation within Ohio EPA, specially designed stand-alone SIIMAN modules will be made available (targeted for mid-2001) for use by local health departments and the regulated community.

Debris Management Courses

The division partnered with the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (EMA) to develop a training course for local disaster planning groups, including local EMA staff, health departments, local community leaders, and other state agencies. The course focuses on the steps local communities need to take to prepare for and effectively respond to disaster events, such as tornados and floods, where large amounts of debris can be generated. The training provided resource lists of disposal facilities, composting facilities, scrap tire transporters and other types of facilities that can manage disaster-related debris; contact lists for Agency personnel who can provide assistance to local communities regarding debris management, wastewater and drinking water issues, and hazardous waste management; and contact lists of local planning districts and contractors who may be able to assist in debris reduction and recycling efforts. The course was presented in nearly a dozen counties during the past fiscal year, and will continue to be presented when requested.



F•O•C•U•S
on Solid Waste



Division of Drinking and Ground Waters

“To protect human health and the environment by characterizing and protecting ground water quality and ensuring that Ohio's public water systems provide adequate supplies of safe drinking water.”

Technical Support

The division provides technical support on ground water issues to Ohio EPA's waste management divisions. Technical support includes reviewing ground water related permits, plans and reports, as well as conducting ground water related site/facility inspections; collecting ground water samples; participating on policy, guidance and rule workgroups; and developing and/or reviewing general or ground water related policy, guidance and rules. These technical support activities help the Agency to protect and manage ground water protection efficiently and effectively.

During SFY'00, 620 technical support projects were completed for the Division of Emergency and Remedial Response; 1,073 for the Division of Hazardous Waste Management; 295 for the Office of Federal Facilities Oversight; and 1,546 for the Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management. The division provided assistance on the ground water aspects of the Kirby Tire fire in northwest Ohio and the investigation of contamination at the River Valley Schools in Marion. Staff also investigated the occurrence of benzene in oil-bearing shales in northwest Ohio to determine if the benzene is naturally occurring.

In SFY'00, Ohio EPA approved 1,566 sets of detailed plans for new water systems or improvements to existing water systems. The average review time for these plan approvals was 68.4 days. Pilot and demonstration studies for approval of new drinking water treatment technologies and for an increase in the rated capacities of conventional treatment processes have become a significant effort for the division. A fairly new technology in Ohio that is gaining interest is the use of membranes to remove microbes from surface water and hardness in well water. This year, the City of

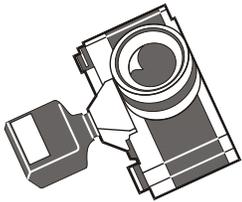


Lancaster and Montgomery County both successfully completed pilots of membrane softening systems. Both systems intend to submit engineering plans for water treatment plants utilizing membranes.

The division was also involved in eight pilot or demonstration studies that resulted in higher approved capacities for water treatment plants with conventional treatment technologies. This type of study allows water treatment plants to expand treatment capacity without the need for additional structures or additional equipment, which saves millions of dollars in construction costs. The division worked on 31 studies during SFY'00.

Protection Programs

The Ohio Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) Program was approved by U.S. EPA in October 1999. The SWAP program protects public health and preserves Ohio's water resources for future generations by protecting waters being used as the source



F•O•C•U•S
on Drinking Water

Division of Surface Water

"To protect, enhance and restore all waters of the state for the health, safety and welfare of present and future generations."

Program Initiatives

The division issued Section 401 water quality certification to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) proposed Nationwide Permits (NWP) on June 7, 2000. This certification approved the Corps' replacement or modification of several existing NWPs for use within Ohio. NWPs allow applicants to receive an expedited review by the Corps for activities that result in minimal individual or cumulative impacts to waters of the United States.

In May 1998, Ohio EPA formed an external advisory group to get input on revisions to Ohio's antidegradation rule; the group's focus was to enhance and clarify Ohio's rule, a required component of Ohio's permitting programs to protect water quality that has been in place since 1996. Based on the group's recommendations presented in SFY'00, the division's future rule-making effort will enhance efficiency and clarify the permitting process, while protecting Ohio's high quality waters.

The division has played a lead role in the Lake Erie Lakewide Management Plan (LaMP), a bi-national effort to protect and restore Lake Erie. The first stage of the process was to define the problems in the Lake related to beneficial use impairments (fish consumption, drinking water, healthy aquatic communities, etc.). The *Lake Erie LaMP 2000* document – edited by Ohio EPA – was released by U.S. EPA and Environment Canada in April 2000, describing the state of the Lake, the next steps, the action plans to reduce mercury and PCBs and restore habitat, and identifying emerging issues.

The Permit-to-Install/Agricultural Unit was involved in stream sampling and compliance inspections. Sites were chosen and sampled in the Stillwater and Wabash River basins, where more than 50 permitted livestock facilities are located. In the same area, 13 compliance inspections were conducted.

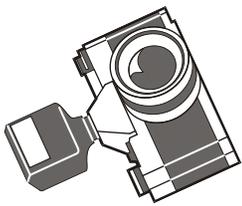


Process Improvements

Recommendations to shorten the Section 319 grant process were implemented in response to a 1999 survey where 70 percent of grant recipients rated the length of time from Request for Proposals to receipt of the first grant payment as "fair" or "poor." In May 2000, the team submitted recommendations that will reduce the length of time from 19 months to two months.

Division staff worked with representatives of point source dischargers to develop a guidance document that the regulated community and Ohio EPA can use to develop and review mercury variance requests. Staff also worked with the regulated community to produce guidance that maximizes the flexibility of the pretreatment rules. These guidance documents are designed to minimize disputes on wastewater discharge permits issued under the 1997 Great Lakes Initiative rules.

The division recently experienced its first significant backlog of expired major wastewater discharge permits since 1991. Anticipating U.S. EPA's concern, the division developed a strategy for reducing the backlog. This four-year plan requires a total of 80 major and 550 minor permits to be issued each year. The permitting staff exceeded this goal in SFY'00 by issuing a total of 82 majors and 574 minors; Ohio was the only Region V state to meet its commitment.



F•O•C•U•S
on Water Quality

Division of Surface Water

Technical Assistance

Trainers from the Compliance Assistance Group are gaining a national and international reputation for excellence. The group placed second in the nation in the “Most Improved Small Wastewater Treatment Plant” category in U.S. EPA’s Facility Operations and Maintenance Competition. During the past year, staff members were asked to provide training in West Virginia, Indiana, Kentucky and Mexico. Many Ohio facilities have benefitted from this group’s expertise.

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Enforcement

The division and the Attorney General’s Office actively worked on a number of enforcement cases, one of which was the Buckeye Egg Farm. The Croton and Northwest Buckeye Egg Farm facilities had multiple incidences of fly outbreaks and unpermitted discharges of storm water and manure. Staff members have spent numerous hours conducting field sampling, following up on complaints, and working with the Attorney General’s Office to negotiate and prepare for litigation.

sue U.S. EPA regarding Ohio’s program were filed in 1998, but lawsuits have not materialized; Ohio EPA believes this is attributable to a good faith effort by the Agency to establish a credible TMDL program.

The division is on schedule with its TMDL project commitment. The Middle Cuyahoga River TMDL was submitted to U.S. EPA in 1999 and approved in Fall 2000. Four new projects will be added per year, and the pace accelerates in 2004. Thirteen TMDL projects are currently in various stages of development (see map).

A New Approach

The division continued to develop the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) program, as required by the Clean Water Act. A TMDL looks at all sources that contribute to water quality problems in a defined area and identifies the actions needed to restore and protect an impaired water body. The division developed a 12-step process, built on existing monitoring, modeling, permitting, and grant programs. Public involvement in local problem-solving and decision-making is a key element of the process, as is partnering with other agencies.

TMDLs have recently generated national debate, primarily focused on U.S. EPA rulemaking efforts. The division remains focused on implementing a TMDL program that makes sense for Ohio – to spend resources wisely to bring about real environmental improvements. Two notices of intent to



Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance

"To use financial and professional resources to benefit Ohio's environment and its citizens."

The Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance's mission is to use financial and professional resources to benefit Ohio's environment and its citizens. It delivers environmental protection assistance by providing incentive financing, supporting the development of effective projects, and encouraging environmentally proactive behaviors.

The Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance administers the Ohio Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF), the Village Capital Improvements Fund (VCIF), and assists with the administration of the Water Supply Revolving Loan Account (WSRLA). In addition, the division performs and coordinates internal environmental reviews of applications made to the Ohio Power Siting Board.

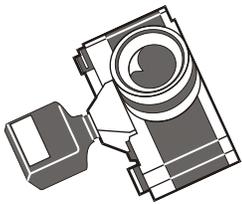
During SFY'00, \$278.3 million in low interest loans were made from the WPCLF for water quality improvement projects. The majority of financing still goes to meet municipal wastewater needs, with approximately 95 percent of the \$278.3 million in loans going to municipal wastewater treatment system construction. Following is a summary of SFY'00 loan awards:

The WPCLF continued to be used to finance a number of different nonpoint source needs in SFY'00. These included agricultural pollution controls and septic system replacement through its linked deposit loan program, matching loans for the rural hardship grants, as well as loans for brownfields remediation. The division continually seeks ways to expand financing of nonpoint source pollution controls through the WPCLF.

In SFY'00, interest free loans totaling \$238,100 were provided through the VCIF to nine villages to assist them in planning and designing wastewater treatment and public water supply facilities.

There has been a significant increase in applications to the Ohio Power Siting Board over the last year, partly in response to the pending deregulation of the electric utility industry. As a result, division staff were involved with the review of 15 pending applications in SFY'00.

The Water Supply Revolving Loan Account, newly established in 1999, is beginning to provide financial assistance for improving public water supplies. During SFY'00, 21 loans were awarded for a total of \$43,532,489.



F.O.C.U.S
on Loans

Summary of WPCLF Financial Assistance Activity During SFY 2000

| Project Type | Number of Loans | Total Loan Amount |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Municipal Wastewater Systems * | 44 | \$265,581,767 |
| Linked Deposits | 83 | \$ 2,216,504 |
| Rural Hardship Loans | 2 | \$ 145,283 |
| Brownfields | 6 | \$ 10,344,647 |
| Totals | 135 | \$278,288,201 |

*Small - 9 projects for \$19,367,458, 2% hardship - 5 projects for \$2,982,276
Standard - 30 projects for \$243,232,033

Office of Environmental Education

“To enhance public awareness and understanding of issues that affect environmental quality.”

The Office of Environmental Education administers the Ohio Environmental Education Fund (OEEF), established by the General Assembly in 1990 to enhance public awareness and understanding of issues affecting environmental quality. Funding comes from half of the civil penalties collected by Ohio EPA's air and water pollution control programs. The OEEF provides grants for projects targeting kindergarten through university students, the general public, and regulated community audiences. In SFY'00, the OEEF awarded 23 general grants of up to \$50,000 and 21 mini grants of up to \$5,000, for a total of \$1,007,420. Education projects funded by the OEEF this year focused on:

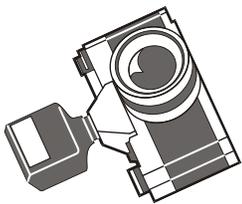


- Stream sampling and wetland field study projects in Carroll, Delaware, Fairfield, Hamilton, Lorain, Madison, Union, and Washington counties, where elementary through senior high school students are getting their feet wet.
- Recycling seminars for construction and demolition debris landfill operators; a lending library for wastewater treatment plant operators; and hands-on workshops and compliance assistance for small chemical companies and operators of composting facilities and package sewage treatment plants.
- Information for homeowners on maintaining septic systems; for homebuilders and renovators on properly abating lead hazards; and for private landowners on managing forest lands in an environmentally sound manner.
- Workshops, a Web site, farm tours, and farmer-to-farmer mentoring programs on ecologically sound farming practices.

In a new program launched this year, environmental science and engineering scholarships were awarded to 17 students at 13 state-supported colleges and universities.

To most efficiently focus scarce resources, the Office of Environmental Education is partnering with the Environmental Education Council of Ohio (EECO), the Ohio Departments of Education and Natural Resources, dozens of organizations and hundreds of individuals, to carry out *Ohio EE 2000: a Strategic Plan for Environmental Education in Ohio*. U.S. EPA and foundation grants are funding several components of this plan, to provide best-practices guidelines, professional development opportunities, and curriculum resources for environmental educators in schools, universities, and non-formal settings, such as nature centers, zoos, camps, parks and local government agencies.

The office partners with the Ohio Alliance for the Environment to provide community-based environmental education programming that focuses on the needs of low-income and minority audiences. Staff also coordinate Ohio EPA's tutoring and Adopt-A-School program, and the Governor's Awards for Excellence in Environmental Protection Research for student science projects at State Science Day.



F•O•C•U•S
on Education

Office of Pollution Prevention

“To develop and implement pollution prevention initiatives that effectively reduce pollutants in Ohio.”

In SFY'00, the Office of Pollution Prevention (OPP) continued efforts to integrate pollution prevention (P2) into Agency programs. With support from OPP, each of Ohio EPA's major divisions established a P2 team. These teams will enable the Agency to more effectively encourage and educate companies and others on the economic and environmental benefits of P2. OPP met with each P2 team throughout SFY'00, and helped them develop recommendations to integrate P2 into their core operations. The divisions are now reviewing these recommendations, and determining which items can be implemented during SFY'01 and which items will require a more long-term approach.

Some examples of regulatory integration activities completed during SFY'00 include working with the Division of Air Pollution Control to incorporate P2 into Maximum Achievable Control Technology standards; helping the Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance identify ways to integrate P2 in their financial assistance activities; assisting the Division of Hazardous Waste Management with its first on-site P2 assessments; and helping the Division of Surface Water incorporate P2 into some rules and policies.

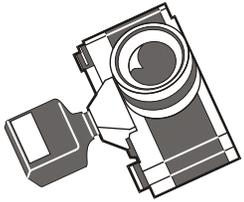
Ohio is recognized as a national leader in incorporating P2 into enforcement settlements where a portion of an enforcement penalty is reduced in exchange for completing some type of P2. Ohio has incorporated P2 into 84 enforcement settlements to date, including eight in SFY'00.

Ohio is recognized as a national leader in incorporating P2 into enforcement settlements where a portion of an enforcement penalty is reduced in exchange for completing some type of P2.

Technical Assistance

In SFY'00, OPP helped more than 350 Ohio businesses, and provided technical assistance to more than 550 companies, organizations, and/or individuals. This includes 22 site visits to help Ohio companies implement P2 programs and nearly 50 presentations and training events to help educate Ohio businesses and organizations about P2. Assistance efforts with four of these companies identified more than \$640,000 in potential annual economic benefits and potential reductions of more than 670,000 gallons of wastewater; 39,000 pounds of hazardous waste; and 180,000 pounds of volatile organic compound emissions.

OPP's Web site attracts more than 30,000 visits each month from external stakeholders, and has been acknowledged by U.S. EPA and others as one of the better state agency sites to obtain practical P2 information.



**F•O•C•U•S
on Prevention**

District Offices

Northwest District

Ohio EPA continued to oversee the federal investigation of the contaminated disposal area located on the River Valley School campus in Marion County. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers estimated that it would cost approximately \$44 million to clean up the property if the schools were to remain in place. Instead, the State of Ohio, federal government and school district agreed to a funding mechanism that will allow for the relocation of the schools, with long-term cleanup occurring after the relocation. The Corps will clean up the property to an industrial/commercial standard for future development. Monitoring of the air and water continues to demonstrate that appropriate health-based risk guidelines are not being exceeded in and near the school buildings.

The settlement of the City of Toledo wastewater treatment federal enforcement case required significant effort by Ohio EPA. The settlement will result in an estimated total expenditure of \$400-600 million in wastewater improvements over the next 15 years, in addition to a \$500,000 penalty and \$1 million in credit projects.

The district invested considerable resources on follow-up work related to the 1999 Kirby Tire fire. Staff coordinated efforts to treat wastewater from the site, remove and shred tires, and oversee the environmental investigation of the area impacted by the fire.

A remediation project conducted by United Technologies Corporation required significant Ohio EPA attention. A plume of contaminated ground water extends off-site to within 250 feet of Lexington's water supply wells. In 1999, it became apparent that an interim action was required to prevent further movement of the plume into the wells and to cut it off from the Clear Fork of the Mohican River. A proposal to install several hundred wells was evaluated, and is now under construction.

The district worked with several partnerships and entities to implement watershed projects. They include the Maumee River Remedial Action Plan, Portage River Basin Council, Sandusky River Watershed Coalition, Ottawa River Coalition (Allen County) and Duck and Otter Creek Partnership. The

Ottawa River (Lucas County) experienced another year of progress as the Dura Avenue Landfill remediation project was conducted. Ohio EPA's data is being used to perform a risk assessment in preparation for evaluating sediment remediation alternatives.

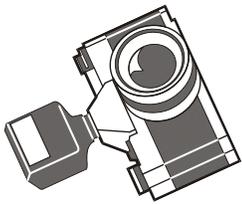
Northeast District

Northeast Ohio continues to have a growing interest in brownfield site development, and the district was busy with Voluntary Action Program (VAP) sites. District staff worked on the issuance of eight covenants not to sue, one urban setting designation and five VAP audit reports. The Jergens property (formerly Collinwood Yards) was an example of public/private partnerships yielding a successful VAP redevelopment project. Governor Bob Taft spoke at the site to encourage participation of other redevelopment projects in the state.

The emergency response group responded to 454 spills including a number of significant spills affecting residential areas, schools and transportation routes. The program provided operation and maintenance (O&M) support to 14 Superfund/state-lead sites in the district, and is providing funding to support O&M at five of the 14 sites.

Approximately 700,000 scrap tires and 700 tons of shredded tires were cleaned up from CASTLO Industrial Park in Mahoning County. The project was completed in July 2000 with a grant from Ohio's scrap tire cleanup fund.

The 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act reauthorization required all community public water systems to develop and provide all customers with a consumer confidence report. Through the efforts of the district drinking water staff, 98 percent of the community public water systems in the district complied with this federal requirement during the first year (1999). Additionally, staff worked with representatives of several larger communities on development of additional water sources. These new sources will improve the capacity of the water systems and, in some cases, replace potential or actual contaminated sources.



F•O•C•U•S
on Districts

District Offices

Central District

Staff worked with DuPont-Circleville to develop and issue a permit for the installation of a \$90 million project. The company's time schedule was kept on track, which allowed the project to remain at the preferred location for this significant capital investment. The Agency received a thank you letter from DuPont-Circleville for its efforts in developing a successful permitting strategy and aggressively implementing the process.

During the past year, district surface water personnel maintained a strong field presence to document two fish kills on Walnut Creek, one on Mill Creek, one on Big Darby Creek, and several on Raccoon Creek related to the Buckeye Egg Farm (Croton) facility. A field presence was also evident with stormwater inspections, with emphasis on the COSI development, Spring-Sandusky Interchange, and Blacklick Creek watershed. Staff collected 585 surface water samples at 120 locations as well as many sediment and water column samples within Rocky Fork, Alum Creek, Blacklick Creek, and Big Walnut Creek to support the Big Walnut Creek Total Maximum Daily Load plan. Technical support was also provided in Ohio's effort to document the nuisance conditions, water quality violations, and contempt of the Licking County Court orders related to Buckeye Egg Farm.

Key District Activities in SFY'00

To manage Ohio EPA's programs at the local level, the state is served by five district offices. District personnel review permit applications; evaluate sites for proposed facilities; investigate complaints; inspect facilities; identify environmental violations and prepare recommendations for enforcement; provide technical assistance; and maintain contact with the public. This chart summarizes the output for some of the main district activities in SFY'00.

Permitting

Operating

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Major Air Sources (Draft Title V) | 307(of 395) |
| Wastewater Discharge (NPDES) | 882 |

Installation and Plan Approvals

| | |
|---|------|
| Air PTIs | 575 |
| Wastewater PTIs | 2429 |
| Drinking Water Plan Reviews | 1646 |
| Ground Water Reviews | 3887 |
| Solid Waste PTIs, Certifications, Closure Plans | 631 |
| Hazardous Waste Permit Modifications, Certifications, Closure Plans | 509 |

Inspections

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| Air | 1235 |
| Wastewater and Stormwater | 5423 |
| Drinking Water | 2871 |
| Solid Waste | 402 |
| Hazardous Waste | 742 |
| Spill Prevention & Control | 1926 |

Monitoring

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Air Monitors checked | 80 (at 45 sites) |
| Surface Water Ambient Sites checked (monthly) | 38 |
| Surface Water Survey Samples Collected | 2375 |
| Ground Water Ambient Wells Sampled | 267 |

Cleanups

| | |
|-----------------|------|
| Active Sites | 183 |
| Spill Responses | 1286 |

Support Offices

budgeting in order to better utilize staff and improve delivery of services to customer divisions, districts and offices.

Legal

The Legal section provides general counsel to the divisions and districts, and evaluates, prepares and negotiates administrative enforcement actions. In addition, Agency attorneys help facilitate rulemaking and legislative initiatives, prepare trade secret claim determinations, prepare and review contracts, and address public records request issues.

Following a reorganization the previous year, the Legal Section concentrated on strategic management initiatives in SFY'00 to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its legal services. Through these efforts, the section reduced the backlog of enforcement cases and pending verified complaints (any complaint or enforcement case pending longer than two years). The section also established and met performance standards for providing general counsel to the Agency. In SFY'00, an office manager position was created to supervise the support staff.

The Agency's rules coordinator continued to track and coordinate all rules packages and act as a liaison with the legislature's rule review committee. In SFY'00, the rules coordinator refined procedures for coordination of rules packages within and between divisions. In addition, a rules manual was developed to guide divisions through the rules development process.

Library

The Ohio EPA Library continued to add new books, journals and electronic sources in its quest to provide environmental information to employees, consultants and students. Environmental information can be procured in other local libraries and sources, but Ohio EPA's library has the largest centralized collection, with a well-trained professional staff to assist. The library is open to visitors Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Questions will also be answered by phone (614-644-2862) or e-mail (pam.caruzzi@epa.state.oh.us).

Operations and Facilities

Operations & Facilities' focus is to ensure each division has the tools necessary to perform their duties. They maintain all leases for office and warehouse space; keep an operational and safe vehicle fleet; handle all mail and courier services for the central offices; operate a supply room; keep an inventory of all equipment valued over \$500; and supervise an in-house recycling effort for Central Office. The telecommunications section keeps the Agency up-to-date with desk and cellular phones and pagers, and eliminated long distance charges between central office and the four outlying districts by setting up centrex access.

In SFY'00, Operations facilitated the consolidation of four field facilities into one new facility, giving the Agency's field units more space with shared work environments. Operations staff assisted in leasing the facility including Controlling Board presentation, the installation of voice and data wiring, the switch to a different phone system, cubicle layout design and installation, and the move itself.

On January 1, 2000, Operations staff, serving as the primary call-in point for building Y2K facility testing, received phone calls of from each agency office indicating complete functionality of all facility mechanical equipment. This was a culmination of months of planning during which building owners were contacted to ensure all facility equipment had manufacturers' assurances of Y2K readiness. Utility companies (gas, electric, water and telephone) also were asked to provide readiness reports. Operations obtained cellular phones and pagers for backup communication and assisted Ohio EPA's Y2K coordinator in formulating the Agency disaster plan.

Operations' motor pool added 21 new sedans to its statewide fleet and helped prompt DAS into creating specifications for a field vehicle which was sent out for bid. Employee complaints about Jeeps not being conducive to transporting equipment and pickup trucks not being conducive to transporting employees led the motor pool to create specifications for a quad cab pickup with a cap to meet both requirements.

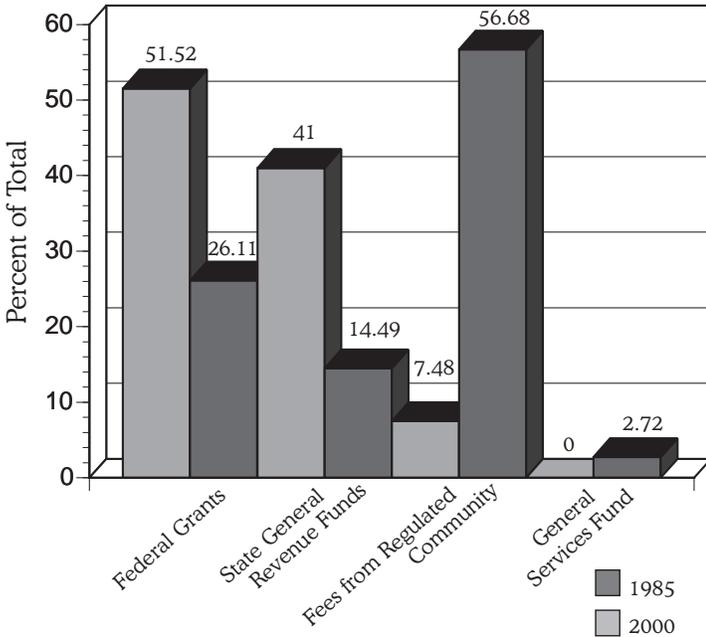
Public Interest Center

The Public Interest Center educates the public about environmental issues and Ohio EPA's activities, and encourages public participation in the Agency's decision-making processes. In SFY'00, the public involvement section responded to more than 3,800 citizen telephone calls, letters and various information requests, and conducted 88 public meetings. They also provided highly regarded community relations training to Agency employees. The media relations section issued 295 news releases to inform the media about Ohio EPA activities, and Agency employees responded to 1,885 media calls. The publications staff produced numerous brochures, newsletters, and educational displays.

SFY'00 Budget Information

July 1, 1999-June 30, 2000

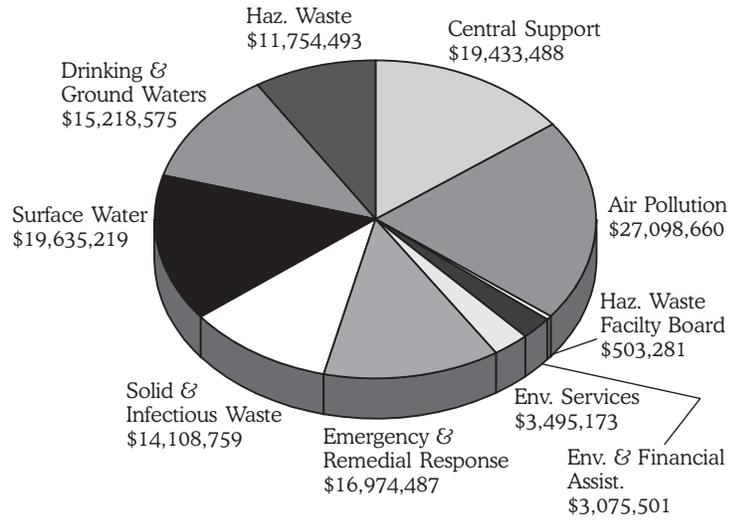
Historical Trends in Funding



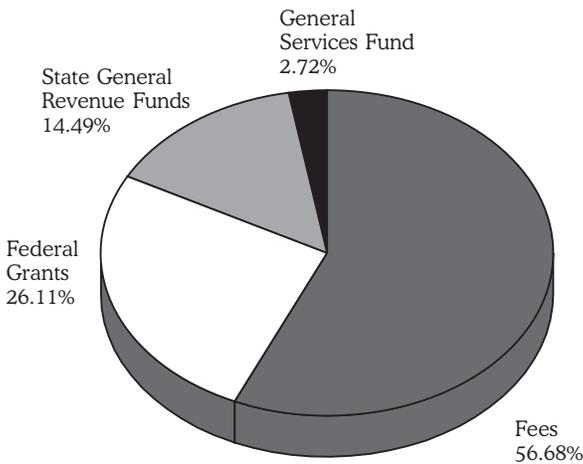
This chart shows how the sources of Ohio EPA's funding have changed significantly over the last 15 years. In 1985, nearly all of the Agency's funding came from state and federal sources. Now, more than half comes from fees charged to the regulated community.

Ohio EPA Total Expenditures (All Funding Sources)

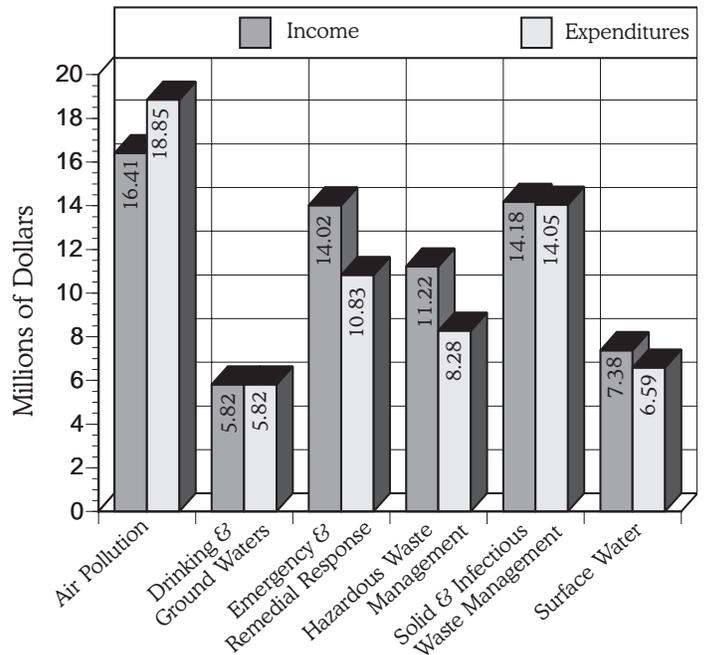
\$131,297,634



Sources of Revenue



Fee Income and Expenditures by Program



A Publication of Ohio EPA
Public Interest Center

Bob Taft, Governor
Chris Jones, Director

Editor: Carol Hester
Graphics and Layout: Pattie J. McKean

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