



***"To protect
the environment
and public
health***



***by ensuring
compliance with
environmental
laws.....***

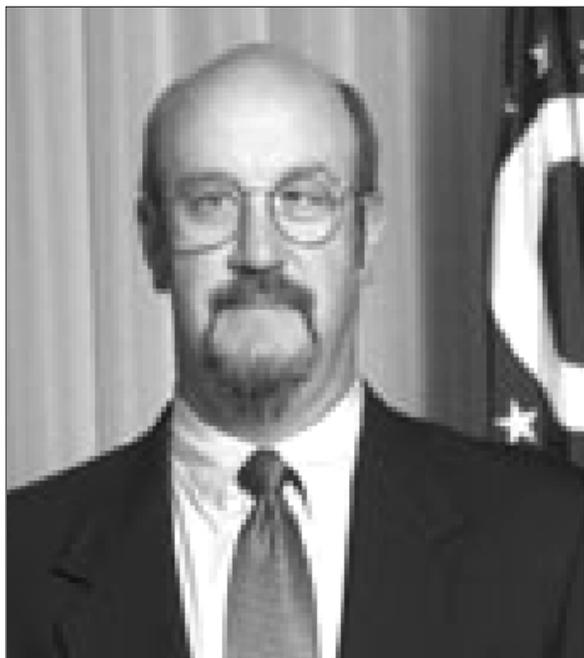


***.....and
demonstrating leadership
in environmental
stewardship."***



Recognized For Excellence

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Annual Report 2001



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

programs. We have personnel serving at the highest levels of national environmental organizations and associations, where they share their expertise to help advance environmental protection efforts throughout the country.

Several employees were honored with awards from statewide environmental groups during the year. The environmental stewardship demonstrated by all Ohio EPA staff led to the theme of this year's report, "Recognized for Excellence." I'd like to thank both the celebrated and the unsung heroes of Ohio EPA for the outstanding work produced during the past year.

Air quality and water quality continue to improve. More sites were cleaned up. Local officials, along with Ohio EPA, gained skills in dealing with emergencies and disasters. Environmental legislation was passed to help protect wetlands. Fees were increased to allow more cleanups of old tire dumps.

In the coming year, Ohio EPA will build on its strengths and focus attention on areas that need improvement. I welcome your support and encouragement.

Sincerely,

Chris Jones, Director

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Environmental Legislation	1
Emergency and Remedial Response	2
Environmental and Financial Assistance	3
Hazardous Waste Management	4
Solid and Infectious Waste Management	6
Drinking and Ground Waters	8
Surface Water	10
Air Pollution Control	12
Quality, Accountability and Customer Service	13
Environmental Services	14
Environmental Education	14
Small Business Assistance	16
Pollution Prevention	16
Federal Facilities Oversight	17
District Offices	18
Support	21
Budget Information	24

DEAR OHIOAN:

This is a report about the activities of your Environmental Protection Agency from July 1, 2000, through June 30, 2001. Our employees, including many career public servants, worked hard day in and day out to protect your air, land and water. While we were doing that, a number of awards and recognition came our way. Some of those stories of excellence are shared in this report.

For example, Ohio EPA is nationally recognized for its criminal environmental enforcement, biomonitoring, source water assessment, and infectious waste alternative treatment technology

SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION

CREATION OF THE CLEAN OHIO FUND (H.B. 3)

During Governor Taft's 2000 State of the State address, he proposed a \$400 million bond program to preserve natural areas and farmland, protect streams, create outdoor recreational opportunities, and return contaminated properties to productive use by correcting environmental problems. The Ohio General Assembly overwhelmingly supported H.J.R. 15 last spring to place this proposal before the voters as State Issue 1. Former U.S. Senator John Glenn joined Governor Taft to urge Ohio voters to approve the Clean Ohio Fund, and voters did so in November, 2000.

H.B. 3, introduced in January 2001 by Representative Blasdel, provided eligibility criteria, a statutory framework for applying for Clean Ohio Funds, and other administrative details of the program. The legislature passed H.B. 3 in June and Governor Taft signed the bill on July 26, 2001.

On the conservation side of the fund, the state will award \$150 million in grants over four years for eligible conservation projects, including the purchase of open spaces and the cost of making them accessible to the public. These funds will also protect stream corridors, the area along a waterway that supports wildlife habitat and reduces erosion. An additional \$25 million will be available to purchase trailways and

develop recreational trails. The state will also spend \$25 million on the purchase of "agricultural easements" to help keep valuable farmland in agricultural production.

Within the brownfield revitalization portion of the fund, at least \$175 million will be available over four years to eligible applicants to evaluate potentially contaminated sites, ensure that they meet appropriate cleanup standards, and return them to productive use. This investment will produce both an economic and environmental benefit. No one who caused or contributed to a property's contamination can receive funding. Over four years, \$25 million will be available to local governments to address sites that pose a public health threat, but hold little prospect for redevelopment to offer economic benefit to a community.

ISOLATED WETLANDS LEGISLATION (H.B. 231)

In January 2001, the United States Supreme Court ruled that regulation of isolated wetlands is solely a responsibility of the state, not the federal government. This gave Ohio EPA and the General Assembly the challenge and opportunity to review the current regulatory program for isolated

wetlands to see where improvements could be made without undermining isolated wetlands' protection as a valuable resource in Ohio. H.B. 231, sponsored by Representative Keith Faber, was introduced to address this issue. Ohio EPA worked with Rep. Faber and other interested parties to develop compromise legislation that gives the regulated community more flexibility and predictability in the permitting process, while maintaining our level of review and regulatory protection based on the quality of the impacted isolated. H.B. 231 was passed and signed by Governor Taft in July 2001.



EMERGENCY AND REMEDIAL RESPONSE



EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The emergency response (ER) program responds to sudden releases of hazardous materials, petroleum and radiation. ER partners with local and state emergency management officials to minimize and prevent releases to the environment.

ER received approximately 12,000 calls during SFY'01, fielded 4,549 incidents, and responded to 1,302 of them (29 percent). Significant incidents included:

- a massive fish kill caused by fermented grain in the scenic Big Darby River;
- 1,200 gallons of sodium hydroxide spilled from a tanker near Toledo;
- 2,000 gallons of crude oil spilled into the Buffalo Fork River in Muskingum County;
- a 19-ton ammonia release from a farm storage facility in Darke County; and
- a number of mercury contaminations involving communities throughout the state.

In early SFY'01, the emergency response and site investigations section began to plan and rewrite most response and sampling procedures in preparation for the Davis-Besse Nuclear

Power plant graded exercise on May 22-23, 2001. The full-scale exercise is mandated and graded by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. It tested many of DERR's procedures, including the ability to deploy field staff. Central office earned passing grades for its work in the state dose assessment room and emergency operations center. The Ohio EPA Radiological Assessment Team impressed federal observers in the field who graded the team's performance.

REMEDIAL RESPONSE

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

The Dura Avenue Landfill cap—the culmination of years of technical and legal efforts—was installed this past year. The cap is the principal element of the remedy that will prevent water infiltration into the waste, ending outbreaks of contaminated leachate into the Ottawa River vicinity. Prior to the cap's construction, an estimated 27,000 gallons of leachate was entering the Ottawa River every day.

VOLUNTARY ACTION PROGRAM

The Voluntary Action Program (VAP) focuses on determining that contaminated sites are safe for their intended reuse. The VAP provides tools to the private sector so they can voluntarily clean

up sites and facilitates their return to productive use. Volunteers who seek state release from future liability must meet certain cleanup standards, and submit information to Ohio EPA documenting the standards have been met.

Throughout SFY'01, Ohio EPA worked with U.S. EPA to develop an alternative approach for volunteers to receive assurance that USEPA will not require additional cleanup at sites cleaned under Ohio's VAP.

In the new Memorandum of Agreement track:

- Ohio EPA will directly oversee investigation and cleanup activities; and
- there are more opportunities for public review and comment on site documents as they are produced by the volunteer.

There is no difference in cleanup standards between the two tracks. The MOA track will be available for Ohio's volunteers after a six-month start-up period.

The MOA describes the cleanup process volunteers must use and details of the agreement between U.S. EPA and Ohio EPA. Both U.S. EPA and Ohio EPA are enthusiastic about opportunities the agreement will provide.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance provides incentive financing, supports the development of effective projects, and encourages environmentally proactive behaviors.

The division 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 reviews and coordinates Agency comments on applications received by the Ohio Power Siting Board.

The WPCLF was used to finance a number of different nonpoint source needs in SFY'01. The division launched a new incentive program, called the Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program (WRRSP), as a component of the WPCLF. Water quality restoration activities undertaken through the program range from preservation and protection to full restoration of stream and other aquatic habitats. Municipalities receiving WPCLF loans for wastewater treatment works improvements can sponsor themselves or another entity, such as a park district, to protect or restore a water resource. The interest rate on the treatment works loan is reduced so that the interest savings cover the restoration/protection expenses. During SFY'01, more than \$10 million was approved to finance eight WRRSP projects around the state, including restoration of the stream corridor adjacent to the Village of

Lodi, and protection for the headwaters of Old Woman Creek in Erie County's Edison Woods.

During SFY'01, \$187.9 million in low-interest loans were made from the WPCLF for water quality improvement projects. Most financial assistance (almost 93 percent) was again used to meet municipal wastewater needs. The chart provides a summary of SFY'01 awards.

In SFY'01, interest-free loans totaling \$377,254 were provided through the VCIF to 13 villages to assist them in planning and designing wastewater

treatment and public water supply facilities. There was another significant increase in applications to the Ohio Power Siting Board over the last year, partly in response to state deregulation of the electric utility industry, and partly in response to increased demand for electricity. As a result, division staff were involved in the review of more than 30 pending or under-construction applications.

The Water Supply Revolving Loan Account, in its third year in SFY '01, awarded more than \$63 million for drinking water system improvements, an increase of approximately \$20 million from SFY '00. The WSRLA made 21 loan awards.



WPCLF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SFY 2001

Project Type	Number of Loans	Total Loan Amount	Percent of Total
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Works*	58	\$173,805,876	92.6
Nonpoint Source Linked Deposits**	76	3,276,165	1.7
WRRSP	8	10,783,000	5.7
Totals	135	\$187,865,041	100.0

*Small-12 projects for \$24,943,531. 2% hardship-6 projects for \$7,531,3111.
Standard-40 projects for \$141,331,034.

**Agricultural best management practices-74 projects for \$2,425,365. Livestock manure disposal-2 projects for \$850,800.

HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT



RCRA CLOSURE QUALITY COMMITTEE

The RCRA Closure Quality Committee was chartered to improve the quality of the division's review and processing of RCRA closure plans. Closures are cleanups of individual hazardous waste management units. The committee is an integral part of the division's decentralization of the closure plan review process. The term "quality" includes several considerations; whether decisions are made with statewide consistency, whether decisions are technically or scientifically sound, and whether the decision process meets regulatory performance standards and achieves expeditious closures. The committee has improved the closure plan review process by stressing quality in all areas and promotes open dialogue within the division and with the public.

DRUMS ANNUAL REPORT DATA ENTRY MODULE

Facilities classified as large quantity generators of hazardous waste and those that treat, store or dispose of hazardous wastes are required to submit annual reports to Ohio EPA that describe the type, quantity and management of the hazardous waste they handle. For the 2000 annual hazardous waste report due March 1, 2001, hazardous waste generators and facilities were able to use a new software called the DRUMS

Data Entry Module to make annual reporting easier. The software is an electronic version of the paper forms, allowing users to enter the information on their personal computer and submit the report to Ohio EPA via e-mail. Data validation checks built into the software reduced errors in part by eliminating the need for staff to enter data from paper copies. Approximately 400 handlers used this new method of reporting. From the comments received, users were generally happy with it. Updates and other general improvements will take place next year.

IMPROVED PERMITTING AND ENFORCEMENT INFORMATION ON WEB PAGE

Under the News & Events link on the division's home page, two new Web pages were created for the public to get information about hazardous waste draft permit actions open for public comment and final administrative enforcement orders issued by the director over the past two years. To get detailed information about enforcement orders, the user clicks on the appropriate year listed and is linked to a summary of the orders issued during that year. The user may

413,598 tons of contamination were cleaned up through hazardous waste closures in SFY'01

also view the orders signed by the director. The user can access detailed information about draft permit actions and how to comment on those actions by clicking on the facility name.

LEVELING THE PLAYING FIELD

A comprehensive compliance assurance program supported by effective enforcement when necessary is critical to fulfilling the division's mission of ensuring compliance with Ohio's hazardous waste laws. Compliance assistance tools help the regulated community understand what the hazardous waste laws require. In addition, staff inspect facilities to make sure companies apply the rules properly. And, as a deterrent to non-compliance, the enforcement program levels the playing field for those who have not taken the necessary steps to comply.

During SFY'01, through administrative enforcement actions, companies were required to clean up approximately 7,000 cubic feet of contaminated soil and assessed more than \$920,000 in civil penalties. More than \$237,000 of this was credited toward preventing pollution and carrying out environmentally beneficial projects, such as substituting less hazardous products and developing and implementing an environmental education project.

CESSATION OF REGULATED OPERATIONS PROGRAM (CRO)

When certain businesses close, they must first remove hazardous chemicals from their property. Under new rules effective since February 2001, it is much easier to understand the requirements that apply. The CRO rules were rewritten in "plain language;" this was the Agency's first effort to write rules using this approach.

This is a new approach undertaken to assist the public and regulated community in understanding the rules. One of the most noticeable changes is that rules are now written in a question and answer format. Clearly written rules improve compliance by clarifying what the regulated community needs to do.

FLUORESCENT LAMP RECYCLER COMPLIANCE

Division staff statewide worked together to develop checklists, provide educational outreach, and determine compliance at fluorescent lamp recyclers. Eight fluorescent lamp recyclers were visited between March and April 2001 to determine compliance with the hazardous waste rules and alert them to possible regulatory changes which could affect their business activity. Ohio is

planning to adopt the comparable federal rule for Universal Waste lamps. If the rule is adopted for fluorescent lamps, some recycling activity will require a permit. A fact sheet that addressed proposed changes to the universal waste rule, which may include spent fluorescent lamps, was distributed during these visits.

LAND DISPOSAL RESTRICTION RULES UPDATED

Keeping up with the changes to the federal land disposal restriction (LDR) rules was challenging during the 1990s as U.S. EPA amended the rules a number of times in response to lawsuits. Ohio EPA has substantially updated its LDR rules to

match their federal counterparts through the federal "LDR phase IV" amendments. The LDR rules impact most hazardous waste generators and hazardous waste treatment and disposal facilities. The main purpose of the LDR rules is to ensure that hazardous wastes are treated prior to land disposal. Treatment reduces the toxicity of the waste and the likelihood of migration of hazardous constituents from the waste. The improvements and significant changes we made to Ohio's LDR rules include: the consolidated LDR treatment standards for hazardous wastes; the addition of the Universal Treatment Standards; the one-time notification requirement, and the alternative treatment standards for hazardous debris and contaminated soil.

John Schierberl and **Jeff Mayhugh**, employees of the Division of Hazardous Waste Management, received the "Friend of Science" award from the Science Education Council of Ohio in May 2001 for their support of the Hazardous Waste Removal Program in Ohio schools. The award is given to individuals who have positively influenced science education in Ohio or the nation.

Ohio EPA and the Ohio Department of Education implemented a \$2.9 million program to address hazardous waste removal

needs in Ohio schools. The program was the first statewide program of its kind in the country and removed more

than one million pounds of chemicals safely from 196 Ohio schools. Student safety and awareness dramatically increased, and 90 percent of Ohio school districts agreed to participate. All 196 schools contained some high-hazard materials that required special handling. Schools saved an average of \$10,000 per building—money that would have been spent on a commercial cleanup service. Nearly 1,000 school officials and teachers also attended safety seminars regarding responsible management of chemicals and chemical wastes.



John Schierberl



Jeff Mayhugh

SOLID AND INFECTIOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT



SCRAP TIRE ABATEMENT

During SFY'01, the state-funded scrap tire abatement program continued to focus on the Kirby Scrap Tire Site in Wyandot County. An additional 672,186 passenger tire equivalents (PTEs) were removed from the site on the limited funding available in the scrap tire management fund. Treatment of contaminated water which had come in contact with the buried 1999 Kirby scrap tire fire residuals continued to be funded from the solid waste fund. A total of 2.5 million gallons of water were treated at a cost of \$1,168,239 during SFY'01. A new water treatment contract will lower this cost significantly for each of the next two years.

As part of the state budget bill, the Agency successfully pursued an increase in the scrap tire fee from 50 cents to one dollar per tire. This fee increase will allow the Agency to accelerate tire removal from the Kirby site; pay for water treatment at the Kirby site from the scrap tire management fund; repay more than \$3 million used during SFY'00 and SFY'01 from the solid waste fund for water treatment at the Kirby site during the next two years; and fund at least one additional scrap tire abatement site during SFY'02. The scrap tire fee was also extended from a sunset date of June 30, 2006 to June 30, 2011.

The Agency continues to work on its sixth scrap tire cleanup site. Since the start of the program in SFY'98, a total of 10.8 million PTEs have been removed from six scrap tire sites. Contracts to remove 3.0 million PTEs from the Kirby site and clean up at least one other high priority scrap tire site are planned for SFY'02.

SCRAP TIRE PROGRAM

During 2000, reports indicated that more than 70 percent of Ohio's scrap tires were being recycled or beneficially used. The largest single use is as a drainage material in landfill leachate collection systems, replacing sand and gravel. Use of tire chips as a drainage material around house foundations and in septic systems is expected to increase in the future. The use of Ohio scrap tires as tire-derived fuel is increasing due to markets in West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

The annual scrap tire reports submitted by scrap tire transporters and businesses show a steadily increasing number of tires being accounted for each year. The total reported increased from nine millions passenger tire equivalents (PTEs) in 1997 to 15.8 million PTEs in 2000. A PTE equals 20 pounds of tire material. This is a major step forward compared to 1987, when 47 percent of all tires were unaccounted for and probably open



Kirby Tire Site, Wyandot County

dumped. Ohio generates 12 million PTEs per year. In addition to accounting for the current generation of scrap tires, the additional tires reported in 2000 reflect the ongoing cleanups of existing tire dumps.

REVISED STATE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN DRAFTED

The State Solid Waste Management Plan (State Plan) contains strategies to address a wide range of solid waste management issues and is the document that establishes State recycling goals. The last State Plan was adopted in 1995.



The draft State Plan also establishes a goal to recycle 50 percent of all solid waste generated in Ohio by 2005.

During the last year, the division put considerable effort into updating the State Plan; the draft was completed at the end of June. These efforts included a detailed evaluation of the State's progress toward implementing the strategies and achieving the goals contained in the last State Plan, and identification of important solid waste issues for the future. As part of the revision process, the division conducted numerous meetings with the State Solid Waste Management Advisory Council, which is a statutorily created advisory board that provides input to Ohio EPA on the contents of the State Plan.

Among other things, the draft State Plan contains information regarding the siting of solid waste facilities, the proper management of scrap tires and household hazardous waste, and the development of markets for recyclable materials.

RULE REVIEWS

During the past year, significant activity occurred on the review of regulations. The division proposed revisions to Ohio's scrap tire program, the regulation of construction and demolition debris facilities, and all of the solid waste landfill rules. The Agency is considering public comments and appropriate changes prior to seeking adoption of revised rules in the coming year.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Division staff put considerable effort over the past several years into development of SIIMAN (Solid and Infectious Waste Information Manage-

ment 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 ability to electronically submit required reporting data and registration, permit, and license applications. SIIMAN was completed and put into use internally in January. Since initial deployment, system use by staff has increased steadily. Additionally, staff from the Division of Drinking and Ground Waters have started using SIIMAN to complete their work projects for the division. Data Entry Modules for regulated community and local health department use are in the final building and testing stages and should be available for distribution in mid SFY'02.

Ohio EPA's Infectious Waste Unit is known among regulators nationally and internationally as a resource for information about the review of alternative technologies for the treatment of infectious wastes. Alternative technologies offer techniques for infectious waste treatment that are not specified in the Ohio Administrative Code.

Staff member **Angela Evans** has been recognized by

the Florida Department of Health and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for her expertise in the review of alternative treatment technologies. Before joining Ohio EPA, Evans was a supervisor with The Ohio State University's Department of Microbiology, where she worked as a laboratory coordinator for teaching labs.



DRINKING AND GROUND WATERS



The Division of Drinking and Ground Waters' (DDAGW) mission is to protect human health and the environment by characterizing and protecting ground water quality and ensuring Ohio's public water systems provide adequate quantities of safe drinking water.

DDAGW provides oversight and technical assistance to more than 5,800 public water systems to ensure they are properly designed and operated. During 2001, DDAGW conduct more than 2,500 on-site inspections, reviewed and approved approximately 1,600 detailed plans for new and existing water systems, reviewed approximately 23,500 chemical and more than 115,000 microbiological water quality results, provided technical assistance, and assisted water systems during potential contamination incidences.

Pilot and demonstration studies for approval of new drinking water treatment technologies have become a significant effort for the division. After a successful pilot study, the City of Lancaster is building a membrane softening plant with a capacity to produce more than eight million gallons of drinking water per day. This will be the largest operating membrane softening plant in Ohio, representing the latest development in the use of new technologies. Engineering staff worked closely with the city's engineers to find solutions to several engineering challenges encountered during this project.

To address ground water protection and remediation more consistently, DDAGW staff provide geologic and hydrogeologic technical support to Ohio EPA's waste management divisions. This includes reviewing ground water related permits, plans and reports; conducting ground water related inspections; collecting ground water samples; and developing ground water-related policy, guidance and rules. During 2001, 602 technical support projects were completed for the Division of Emergency and Remedial Response, 1,089 for the Division of Hazardous Waste Management, 276 for the Office of Federal Facilities Oversight and 1,648 for the Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management.

Using the division's geographic information system to help analyze data from the Ambient Ground Water Monitoring Network and public water systems, staff have identified significant distributional relationships for the distribution of arsenic and nitrate in the States ground waters.

The division filed 33 new or revised rules in response to new requirements of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. These rules address consumer confidence reports, operator certification, disinfection/disinfection byproducts, and interim



enhanced surface water treatment requirements. They enhance public health protection by ensuring consumers have greater access to information on the quality of their drinking water, establishing requirements for the operators of all public water systems, increasing the level of protection from exposure to *cryptosporidium parvum* and other pathogens in drinking water supplies and limiting exposure to disinfection byproducts.

The division also filed 37 different rules in response to state requirements to review and re-file existing rules every five years. Fifteen of these rules had no changes, and most of the rest addressed plan approvals for drinking water system and backflow prevention requirements.

Ohio EPA's Source Water Assessment and Protection Program (SWAP) was identified by U.S. EPA as one of the best source water programs in the country. The program identifies potential sources of contamination within a watershed, and empowers water systems and citizens within that watershed to develop effective strategies to avoid contaminating their drinking water.

DDAGW issued its first set of unilateral findings and orders with a \$23,750 penalty under its administrative penalty rule. DDAGW negotiated and finalized seven other sets of enforcement orders. Three contained penalties totaling \$25,520. Other enforcement actions by DDAGW included 10 bilateral compliance agreements and two actions through the Attorney General's Office.

The underground injection control (UIC) program regulates Class I and Class V injection wells. Ohio currently has 12 Class I injection wells that

inject waste 2,000 to 4,000 feet below any underground source of drinking water (USDW). Class V wells are used to inject non-hazardous fluids into or above a USDW, and include septic systems and drainage wells. There are more than 12,500 Class V wells inventoried in Ohio, and tens of thousands more are suspected. In SFY '01, the UIC program inspected 20 Class I wells and 81 Class V wells. The UIC program issued one permit-to-operate renewal, and three approvals for area permits to drill and three approvals for permits to operate Class V wells.

Beginning in January 2001, drinking water and wastewater system operators are required to earn director-approved continuing education "contact hour" credits to renew their operator certificates every two years. The certification unit approved nearly 800 contact hour courses while meeting a 60-day review turnaround.

To assist public water systems with infrastructure needs, Ohio EPA issued 21 loans totaling approximately \$67.4 million. In addition, the Agency made its first bond issuance, which provided approximately \$15 million of state match money for nearly \$75 million in additional capitalization grants.

Mike Baker, chief of Ohio EPA's Division of Drinking and Ground Waters, was elected president-elect of the Ground Water Protection Council (GWPC), a national organization whose mission is to promote the protection of water resources for all beneficial uses and provide independent research and objective information related to potential sources of ground water contamination and pollution prevention practices. Baker became president at the association's September 2001 meeting.

Baker is also a member of the executive committee and board of di-

rectors, which coordinate strategic planning for the organization, secure and track funding, represent the interest of member states in meetings and maintain correspondence with U.S. EPA and members of Congress.

During his presidency, Baker hopes to increase understanding and member participation in organization activities, increase information provided to members, provide additional funding for the underground injection control program, and maintain a good working relationship with U.S. EPA leaders.

Baker's accomplishment illustrates on a national level Ohio EPA's outstanding leadership and technical competence.



SURFACE WATER



PROJECT INITIATIVES

Ohio EPA has regulated impacts to isolated wetlands since the early 1970s through the federally based permitting system. In January 2001, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a ruling that left regulation of isolated wetlands entirely to the States. An emergency rule adopted in April 2001 established a State permitting mechanism, but was effective for only 90 days. On July 17, 2001, House Bill 231 was signed into law by Governor Bob Taft. The bill establishes a permanent permitting process for isolated wetlands that is reasonable, timely and predictable.

The division developed an outline of rules, which it intends to finalize by summer 2002, to implement the Phase II Storm Water program. DSW also developed two brochures for this program.

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. Preparation of *Lake Erie LaMP 2002* is currently underway to track the progress of the assessment and remediation activities presented in the 2000 report. The main goals are to determine a future ecological state/goal for Lake Erie, reduce PCB and mercury input, and preserve and restore habitat. Work continues on the community-based remedial action plans for the Maumee, Black, Cuyahoga and Ashtabula River Areas of Concern. Numerous projects, workshops and public outreach/education events were conducted over the past year.

Ohio EPA's biomonitoring program has been promoted as a national model by U.S. EPA. Agency staff have flown around the country to teach other states how to do biomonitoring. And, because of Ohio's long history with biomonitoring research, Ohio knows more about the quality of its streams than any other state in the nation.

Biomonitoring uses biological indicators to detect pollution effects not seen in traditional chemical and toxicity tests used to determine water quality.

The Agency has received praise from national organizations for its extensive biomonitoring database, creativity, and the high caliber of Ohio EPA biologists.

Ohio EPA is conducting a two-year study to document the biological and physical features of primary headwater habitats. The study will approximate the extent of primary headwater streams in Ohio and provide scientific basis for establishment of a potential water quality standard use designation and aquatic life criteria for Ohio's primary headwater streams.

PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS

Ohio EPA issued 57 renewals and two new major permits in SFY'01. In just two years, Ohio EPA has reduced the major wastewater discharge permit backlog from 50 percent to 22 percent. Ohio EPA also renewed 550 minor permits in SFY'01 and reduced that backlog to 22 percent as well. This accomplishment is in accordance with the backlog reduction strategy developed two years ago.

The enforcement program underwent a thorough review and implemented numerous changes to improve its efficiency. As a result, the division exceeded enforcement goals by 30 percent, and reduced the backlog of administrative enforcement cases (more than two years old) from 34 to 5.

The 2000 305(b) Report showed the percentage of stream miles attaining aquatic life use continues to show an overall increase. This number has increased from 34.6 percent in the 1988 report to 54.6 percent in the 2000 report.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

DSW's Compliance Assistance Group placed first in Region V in the "Most Improved Plant" category of U.S. EPA's Operations and Maintenance Awards program. The group received the award for assistance it provided to the Pickaway



Correctional Institute treatment system. This category recognizes exceptional efforts by treatment system personnel, administrative officials, and the on-site operator trainer to return a facility to compliance. Many Ohio facilities have benefitted from this group's expertise.

A NEW APPROACH

Despite continuing national debate and state funding limitations, Ohio's total maximum daily load (TMDL) program continued to move forward. A TMDL looks at all sources that contribute to water quality problems in an area and identifies the actions needed to restore and protect an impaired water body. U.S. EPA is gathering comments on new federal rules, but TMDLs will continue to be developed under the existing federal program. The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) recently reviewed U.S. EPA's TMDL program and recommended changes. Ohio's program already incorporates many of the NAS recommendations, for example:

- studying and describing water quality conditions appropriately through an adequate monitoring program that uses biological criteria and refined uses
- consistent reporting of conditions by closely aligning the water resources inventory with the list of impaired waters

- incorporating an in-depth assessment of a watershed as a first step in a TMDL to make sure resources are addressed to real and appropriate problems.

A new list of impaired waters and a revised TMDL schedule will be prepared by April 2002. The revised schedule will reflect Ohio EPA's ability to support the development of TMDLs with decreased staffing. Additional funding requests for TMDL development during the recent state budget cycle were unsuccessful due to decreases in expected state revenues and other funding priorities. Seventeen TMDL projects are underway (see map below), and the division expects to add two to three projects per year.

TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD PROJECTS



Harry Kallipolitis

works in the Division of Surface Water at Ohio EPA's Central District Office in Columbus.

In 2000, Harry received the public service award from the Ohio chapter of the The Nature Conservancy for his "unfailing commitment to the health of Darby creeks and central Ohio waterways." Kallipolitis has worked in the Darby watershed for seven years with public and private organizations to provide timely response to water quality threats. He conducts inspections

of most construction and industrial sites in the watershed to determine potential threats to storm water quality.

The award is presented annually to one person in Ohio's public sector who stands out in their efforts to preserve natural lands and waters. The Nature Conservancy is an international organization whose mission is to preserve the plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive. Harry

accepted the award at the Ohio Chapter's 2000 Annual Meeting in Toledo on October 28, 2000.



AIR POLLUTION CONTROL



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 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 six standards define an allowable concentration of pollution and restrict 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 50 ozone monitors in 32 counties to measure ozone levels for both the one-hour and eight-hour ozone standard. In April through October 1999, Ohio EPA measured 14 readings above the one-hour standard and 461 readings above the eight-hour standard. In April through June 2001, Ohio EPA measured 1 reading above the one-hour standard and 141 readings above the eight-hour standard.



All Ohio's counties now meet the ozone standard. Cincinnati became the last area redesignated to attainment by U.S. EPA on July 5, 2000.

Two Ohio counties are designated non-attainment for the sulfur dioxide standard, though these areas have not had a monitored violation in more than 20 years. Ohio EPA worked with U.S. EPA to redesignate Gallia, Coshocton, and Lorain counties to attainment status (effective July 5, 2000). Ohio EPA continues to work with U.S. EPA to redesignate Lucas and Cuyahoga counties.

The particulate matter standard recently decreased from less than 10 microns, or PM 10, to less than 2.5 microns, but this standard has not yet been implemented by U.S. EPA. Ohio EPA worked with U.S. EPA to redesignate Cuyahoga and Jefferson counties (effective January 10, 2001). All counties now meet the PM10 standard.

AIR TOXICS

The division implements air toxic reduction programs required by the Clean Air Act of 1990. The Toxic Release Inventory is used to measure the effectiveness of regulatory and voluntary efforts to reduce air toxics. Ohio facilities reduced toxic air emissions by 46 percent between 1992 and 1999.

Ohio EPA also implements the risk management planning program created under Section 112(r) of the Clean Air Act of 1990. The program requires industries to develop plans to prevent accidental releases and mitigate consequences of releases that do occur. It focuses on prevention measures for chemicals that pose the greatest risk to the public and environment. Approximately 500 facilities have filed risk management plans with Ohio EPA.

Ohio EPA also conducts specialized monitoring studies to determine the level of toxic pollution in the air. Studies can be specialized for a site, such as the River Valley School campus in Marion County, or a community, such as Portsmouth and Lima.

ISSUANCE OF PERMITS

DAPC completed two permitting efficiency studies in SFY'01, and is currently implementing changes to enhance the quality of permitting services. In SFY'01, DAPC issued 1,065 permits-to-install, 406 permits-to-operate, 112 draft Title V permits, and 95 final Title V permits.

COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE TO SMALL BUSINESSES

DAPC's Small Business Assistance Program (SBAP) provides free and confidential technical assistance to eligible small businesses to increase understanding and compliance with air pollution regulations. This helps decrease the need for enforcement actions and fines.

In SFY'01, the SBAP provided on-site assistance to 161 companies in 54 counties. It also assisted small businesses in completing 274 air permit applications, saving them time, money, and resources. Follow-up surveys indicate more than 98 percent of customers would use the SBAP again.

SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

Number of Small Businesses Receiving On-Site Assistance	161
Number of Permit Applications Completed by Small Business Staff	274
Number of telephone calls	1,801
Number of documents provided	200



QUALITY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND CUSTOMER SERVICE

Ohio EPA values its customers and wants to provide the best service it can. This year, approximately 100 companies, attorneys and representatives of environmental organizations received some type of assistance from the Office of Quality, Accountability and Customer Service (QACS).

Assistance included information gathering, meeting coordination, permitting issues, special project coordination, and others. Permitting issues are common, because in most cases a permit is needed before construction can begin. With complicated permits, meeting desired timelines is sometimes difficult. In these instances, QACS worked with the applicant and the permitting staff to help ensure that a quality permit was written in the most efficient manner possible.

When the Director's office was reorganized, QACS was split. The Quality and Accountability portion was placed in the new Strategic Management office. Customer service/liaison activities now serve under the deputy director for policy. The services and functions remain the same.





ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

The Division of Environmental Services (DES) provides quality biological and chemical data and technical assistance to other Ohio EPA divisions, as well as other state and local agencies, to help monitor and protect human health and the environment and to ensure a high quality of life in Ohio.

- In SFY'01, the division received and processed 9,441 samples, exceeding its goal of 9,000 samples. Samples covered a variety of matrices, including water, drinking water, soil, sediment, air canister, air filter, and fish tissue. Of the samples processed, 499 were rush samples; 366 of these samples came from Buckeye Egg Farms. Rush samples also were received for Marion River Valley Middle School, Gorham Fayette School in Fulton County, Dicks Creek in southwestern Ohio, Big Darby Creek in central Ohio and the Canton tire fire, among others. DES reported 144,323 inorganic test results and 2,669 organic scan results. DES also conducted 87 bioassays (toxicity tests).
- Five analytical methods were added or amended at the request of customer divisions.
- The lab received 421 samples from the Fish Tissue Consumption Program. Samples are analyzed for arsenic, cadmium, lead, mercury, selenium, pesticides and PCBs. As of SFY'01, more than 4,000 samples have been collected throughout Ohio.
- Staff conducted performance audit inspections at nine wastewater laboratories.
- For the Voluntary Action Program lab certification program, staff reviewed 71 separate laboratory documents, audited four laboratories and issued 28 laboratory approvals.
- Staff conducted 400 chemistry drinking water lab surveys (192 percent of the goal) and 140 microbiology drinking water lab surveys (157 percent of the goal). Three newsletters on drinking water laboratory policies, procedures, and general information were issued to approximately 425 laboratories each.
- The division reviewed 362 applications and 35 plans for the drinking water laboratory certification program.
- Staff responded to 3,582 technical assistance requests from individuals outside Ohio EPA. They responded to 2,392 technical assistance requests from Ohio EPA staff on methods, data interpretations, sampling requirements, sample scheduling, and other laboratories' performance.
- DES participated in 12 laboratory performance audits, receiving perfect scores on each of the quarterly air audits.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

This year, the Ohio Environmental Education Fund (OEEF) celebrated its 10th anniversary of supporting programs targeting kindergarten through university students, the general public, and the regulated community. In SFY'01, the OEEF awarded 33 grants totalling \$580,816 for projects like these:

- \$49,628 to the Collins Career Center (Lawrence County) to help junior and senior Joint Vocational School (JVS) natural resource and agri-science students. The students will manage a forest plot and sawmill, and document environmental benefits of sustainable timber harvesting techniques, reforestation, water and soil improvements, and re-establishment of wildlife habitat. The center will work with carpentry, business and marketing students to document economic opportunities of sustainable forestry methods, and share the results through demonstrations for local farmers, citizens, and younger students from eight school districts.
- \$43,948 to the Ohio Hospital Association (OHA) to advance pollution prevention initiatives in hospitals throughout the state. OHA will conduct baseline waste assessments and measure results of proper management and reduction of hospital wastes. A peer-to-peer training network will help hospitals implement measures to reduce or eliminate mercury and persistent bioaccumulative toxins.

- \$49,998 to the Greenacres Foundation to enhance a database of water quality information collected by trained volunteers in the Little Miami watershed. The grant will make it possible to display data in map form to better educate local residents about conditions in their watershed. New computer files compatible with state and federal agency formats will be more useful to water management professionals. This compatibility will support local water management efforts such as the Total Maximum Daily Load implementation, storm water, and flood plain management programs. The database will be replicated in the Mill Creek watershed as a first step toward a centralized system for reporting reliable, volunteer-collected information in a consistent format statewide.

Through its six-year partnership with the Environmental Education Council of Ohio, the OEEF continues to provide professional development opportunities for teachers and nonformal educators, as well as quality curriculum resources aligned with Ohio's proficiency standards and education reform efforts. Partnering with the Ohio Academy of Science, the OEEF provided environmental science and engineering scholarships to 17 university students who will become tomorrow's environmental professionals.



Protecting Your Environment, an interactive CD-ROM from the Office of Environmental Education, meets a need in Ohio for environmental education materials targeted to older audiences.

The Ohio Comparative Risk Project conducted by Ohio EPA in the mid-1990s (where citizens and experts ranked a wide range of environmental risks according to scientific evidence and public values) showed that Ohio citizens need unbiased information about

local environmental conditions and steps they can take to prevent environmental risks. A 1998 environmental literacy survey of Ohio adults reaffirmed this conclusion.

The CD-ROM uses downloadable photos and video clips, interactive windows, quizzes and games to help users learn about major environmental concerns and success stories; learn how to participate in government decisions and how to be an ecologically smart consumer; and access data on environmental conditions in their community.

Protecting Your Environment was selected to receive a 2001 Award of Excellence from the Environmental Education Council of Ohio.

Carolyn Watkins, chief of Ohio EPA's Office of Environmental Education, received the Excellence in Public Service Award from the Ohio Chemistry Technology Council in March 2001. The council is a trade association representing and promoting chemical and allied industries in Ohio through government relations and public outreach activities.

The award recognized Watkins' work with the council education committee on an annual "Teachers, Industry, and the Environment" conference and development of a new

"Chemistry Live" exhibit at Columbus' Center of Science and Industry

Watkins also has worked with council chemical companies and the Allen County Education Service Center on "women in science" programs for seventh and eighth grade girls. She is currently helping develop a new statewide initiative to provide students with environmental career mentoring by professionals in the public and private sectors.





SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

The Small Business Assistance Office (SBAO) had another successful year during SFY'01, logging 739 calls and more than 2,500 total compliance assistance requests to date. Since SBAO's opening in 1996, annual calls have increased as more small business owners find out about the services available.

Calls for assistance came from a diverse group of businesses such as auto shops, manufacturers, printers, dry cleaners and contractors. A greater response from these specific business sectors was likely due in part to targeted mass mailings from the SBAO during SFY'01.

The office published a number of resources, including compliance materials for painting contractors, photographers and printers. The SBAO also updated its compliance self-assessment guide, created a catalogue of compliance publications for small businesses, and worked with a number of trade associations to get compliance information distributed to small business owners. The SBAO distributed three issues of its newsletter, *The Small Business Resource*, to about 4,000 Central Ohio small busi-

nesses. A special edition newsletter for auto service shops was also sent statewide to approximately 7,000 auto shop owners.

To date the office has sponsored 23 workshops; the majority of these focus on Ohio EPA's hazardous waste regulations. A total of 308 people attended the workshops, and feedback has been positive.

Future plans include developing more workshop materials and compiling additional publications. The office is considering specific guidance to restaurant operators, contractors and salvage yards.



POLLUTION PREVENTION

The Office of Pollution Prevention (OPP) helped more than 330 Ohio businesses and provided technical assistance to more than 600 companies, organizations, and/or individuals in SFY '01. This included 21 site visits to help Ohio companies implement pollution prevention programs and nearly 70 presentations and training events to help educate Ohio businesses and organizations about pollution prevention.

OPP's Internet site receives more than 20,000 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 pollution prevention information.

More than 3,000 Ohio businesses received OPP's newsletter, *Prevention Quarterly*. This quarterly newsletter highlights successful pollution prevention activities completed by Ohio businesses and provides resource information to help companies reduce waste and maximize efficiency.

OPP developed more than 30 new publications to help companies prevent pollution. These include fact sheets on pollution prevention opportunities for woodworking and refinishing companies, mercury reduction, using pollution prevention to build "green," and a number of case studies highlighting successful pollution prevention projects by Ohio companies.

OFFICE OF FEDERAL FACILITIES OVERSIGHT

In SFY'01, OPP continued efforts to integrate pollution prevention into Agency programs. Some examples of these activities include: working with the Division of Air Pollution Control to incorporate pollution prevention into Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) standard development; helping the Division of Hazardous Waste Management develop pollution prevention training for inspectors; coordinating the Ohio Materials Exchange with the Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management; working with the Division of Surface Water to develop publications on storm water pollution prevention and the metal products and machinery rule; and assisting the Southeast District Office on incorporating pollution prevention into inspections.

Ohio continues to be recognized as a national leader in incorporating pollution prevention into enforcement settlements where a portion of an enforcement penalty is reduced in exchange for completing some type of pollution prevention activity. Ohio has incorporated pollution prevention into 92 enforcement settlements to date, including eight in SFY'01.

OPP began work on number of new initiatives in SFY'01. These include environmentally preferable purchasing, mercury reduction, sustainable development, environmental management systems and hospital waste reduction.

The Office of Federal Facilities Oversight (OFFO) was created in 1994 to oversee investigation and remediation activities at federal cleanup sites. The office provides cleanup oversight and facilitates environmental monitoring, emergency response, remedial actions and public outreach at Department of Energy (DOE) and Department of Defense (DOD) sites in Ohio.

The DOE Fernald site welcomed a new site director, and Fluor Fernald signed a new remediation contract. After more than two years of waste placement in the on-site disposal facility, cell 1 capping began. Forty trains of waste pit material have gone to Utah for disposal. In the former production area, demolition was completed in Plant 5 and continues in Plant 6. Contract problems continued at the silos projects. OFFO worked with local school children to plant and grow more than 600 native wildflower seedlings at Fernald and local schools.

At the DOE Mound facility, approximately 95 acres were transferred to the community for commercial development. Ground water pump and treat and soil vapor extraction continues with more than 3,500 pounds of solvent removed. OFFO, with the public and other stakeholders, began to look at post-closure stewardship and evaluate ways to accelerate cleanup to meet the 2006 site closure date.

At the DOE Portsmouth site, a significant effort was spent working on winterization and cold standby activities due to the cessation of enrichment activities. Ohio continues to work with DOE, Kentucky and Tennessee on the long-term plans to manage and convert thousands of depleted uranium hexafluoride cylinders currently in storage. Several pilot projects are underway to evaluate innovative technologies to remediate ground water, including bioremediation and oxidant injection.

At the former Marion Engineer Depot (River Valley School site), the Remedial Investigation report was issued. An agreement was finalized to relocate the high school and middle school and develop the property for industrial use. At the Ravenna Army Ammunition Plant, Ohio EPA reviewed work plans and reports on 13 areas of concern. Field work for an ecological field truthing study was completed, and three interim removal actions were conducted. At Wright Patterson Air Force Base, an institutional control failure damaged a landfill cover, which will be recapped beginning in August 2001. At Gentile Air Force station, the Air Force transferred another parcel to the City of Kettering. OFFO provided technical and administrative support to other federal facility cleanups throughout the state. One continuing challenge in the federal facility oversight program is the large work increase related to the Department of Defense program for formerly used defense sites.

DISTRICT OFFICES



CENTRAL

Drinking water staff worked diligently to meet and surpass their sanitary survey goals. They completed 128 of 171 community surveys (176 percent of the divisional goal). In addition, 148 of the 168 non-transient, non-community surveys were completed (248 percent of the divisional goal). And, 182 of 298 transient, non-community surveys were completed (305 percent of the divisional goal).

The district's priority was to process approximately 19 Title V draft air permits by July 1, 2001. District staff processed 19 draft Title V permits, accomplishing 100 percent of the divisional goal.

The district staff worked with communities and facilities to assure the proper level of effort was committed to the assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment of noteworthy sites in the district's jurisdiction.

- Commitments were completed for the U.S. EPA Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection Cooperative Agreement: They included two site screenings (Mt. Vernon Academy public water supply and Newark Processing); one integrated assessment (Columbus Municipal Electric Utility Boilers); and one geographic initiative (Alum Creek).

- Construction was completed of the remedial actions at PPG Industries, Inc. Circleville, and the Ramp Creek impoundment area.
- Covenants not to sue under the Voluntary Action Program were issued for four sites reviewed by the district. They include Custom Cleaners, Dowell Corporation, Dura Corporation, and Swan Dry Cleaners.
- Emergency Response received 877 incident reports and staff conducted 313 initial responses.

NORTHWEST

During SFY'01, while working on permitting, compliance and monitoring activities, NWDO staff continued their involvement with local stakeholders on various projects including watershed planning, brownfield redevelopment and the implementation of several remedial projects. NWDO's first TMDL projects include the upper reaches of the Auglaize and Sandusky Rivers. A very active local interest group, the Sandusky River Coalition, has been extremely valuable in communicating the TMDL effort in the area.

Four significant remedial response actions occurred during the past year. These include the implementation of the remedial actions at the Former Hamilton Standard Controls in Lexington and the former Fayette Tubular Products, and the

completion of the multilayer cap system at the Dura Avenue Landfill in Toledo. A 700-foot soil dike was recently completed at the former Countyline Landfill in Sandusky County. Waste and leachate from this dump are now separated from a Lake Erie tributary.

The Maumee Remedial Action Plan celebrated its tenth anniversary this year. The group continues to be very active in northwest Ohio. In the past year, the group has worked on many projects including: preparation of a 10-Year Activity and Accomplishments report, phase II of the Toussaint River Incentive program, the newly formed Duck and Otter Creek partnership, river cleanups, establishment of www.maumeerap.org, a new informational brochure and participation in the Maumee River Regional Stormwater Coalition.

The district successfully began reviews of Voluntary Action Program (VAP) projects ahead of a planned statewide decentralization. In addition, the Remedial Response Program assisted the cities of Lima, Mansfield, and Toledo with their respective brownfields efforts. NWDO also assisted with oversight activities at the Marion federal facilities, including environmental monitoring at the River Valley School complex.

NWDO continues to monitor ground water at the Kirby Tire site, scene of a large fire in 1999. Ground water quality has not been impacted from this fire and, to date, more than 2.5 million tires have been removed. Sumps were recently

installed on the property to collect contaminated water and prevent it from reaching nearby streams. Air and wastewater permitting backlogs were greatly reduced during SFY'01, while meeting performance standards for new permits-to-install.

NORTHEAST

Through the efforts of local health departments and district staff, more than 98 percent of the district's regulated solid and infectious waste facilities are in substantial compliance. As part of a trend to reuse former solid waste landfills, more than 400,000 cubic yards of waste at the old R&B Development Landfill in Cuyahoga County was relocated to make way for businesses and light industries.

The air pollution control staff provided technical assistance to the Cleveland Bureau of Air Pollution Control to improve their permit and inspection quality, and oversaw asbestos removal projects in the City of Cleveland.

The hazardous waste management staff continued to develop and implement the corrective actions program. Determinations were completed for key environmental indicators at seven high-priority facilities. The drinking water staff worked on collecting Global Positioning System data for all community public water systems, and coordinated with an outside contractor to collect the data for non-community systems. The

data will be used to complete source water assessments for the systems. Staff also assisted community water systems with evaluating proposed well sites and worked with systems when well contamination was discovered.

Surface water staff helped develop water quality criteria to protect primary headwater streams. District staff also worked on four Total Maximum Daily Load reports (Middle Cuyahoga River, Rocky River, Sugar Creek, and Upper and Lower Cuyahoga River). Draft reports for Sugar Creek and Rocky River were submitted to U.S. EPA for approval. Follow-up monitoring was conducted in the Rocky River and Cuyahoga River basins.

District staff worked on the issuance of seven covenants not to sue and two urban setting designations under the Voluntary Action Program for brownfield sites, and provided technical assistance to 37 other volunteers. In June, staff completed a brownfield site assessment at the former Schmidt's Brewery in Cleveland to support redevelopment of the site by Cuyahoga County.

The district responded to 343 of 1,179 reported spills, including numerous mercury releases. The remedial response program provided oversight at more than 45 sites undergoing investigation and cleanup. A cost-recovery settlement was obtained for the New Lyme Landfill Superfund site; operation and maintenance responsibilities transferred to the responsible parties.

SOUTHWEST

SWDO responded to numerous spills and natural disasters. Events such as the anhydrous ammonia spill in Miami County demonstrated the staff teamwork that's required to oversee a cleanup, protect downstream water supplies and assess impacts on sensitive ecosystems. Responses to natural disasters such as the Xenia Tornado required quick action by staff from all program areas to help local and emergency management officials make timely and environmentally sound decisions on the massive cleanup effort.

The district received positive feedback for its many efforts to assist local communities meeting their environmental challenges. For example, in Enon, Urbana and Miamisburg, staff worked to help communities address contaminants moving toward public drinking water well fields. Under the SWAP program, many communities received assistance in assessing ways to protect their source of drinking water. Technical assistance to communities dealing with hazardous chemicals, such as at the future Relizon headquarters site in Dayton or at individual private residences helped to assure that materials were handled appropriately.

District staff actively participated with outside organizations providing environmental outreach to the community. Environmental fairs, science fairs, career days, the Dayton Children's Water Festival, Adopt-a-School and other educational

DISTRICT OFFICES



events allowed staff the opportunity to share their expertise. Staff member Kelly Kaletsky, who performed scientific research in Antarctica on a leave of absence, returned to Dayton and shared his experiences in classrooms and on television. In addition, presentations to a wide variety of industry associations helped educate regulated industries about Ohio EPA requirements.

SOUTHEAST

All of the district's counties now meet federal ambient air standards. The Gavin Power Plant in Gallia County, one of the largest power plants in the U.S., installed controls for nitrogen oxide emissions. These controls reduced the nitrogen oxides by 90 percent, but caused an unexpected blue haze containing small amounts of sulfuric acid. The district gave top priority to working with the company and U.S. EPA to resolve this problem. The district also reviewed air and water permit applications for eight proposed natural gas power plants. More than 90 percent of wastewater facilities in the district are in compliance with their discharge limits, and 62 percent of the stream miles meet all ambient stream standards. The district started to analyze data to draft the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) report for Raccoon Creek, completed TMDL sampling on the central Ohio River tributaries and started TMDL sampling on Sunday and Monday Creeks.

More than 98 percent of drinking water facilities in the district are in compliance with drinking

water standards. Staff completed source water assessments for most of the 54 drinking water sources in the pilot county of Coshocton.

More than 90 percent of solid waste facilities in the district are in compliance with standards. Several open dump and scrap tire cleanups were conducted, including a 5,000-ton solid and medical waste cleanup at Cambridge Mental Health Center in Guernsey County.

More than 90 percent of hazardous waste facilities in the district are in compliance with standards. Several hazardous waste cleanups were

conducted, including the elimination of a DDT discharge and removal of 61,733 tons of hazardous waste sludge in Washington county.

More than 500 incidents were reported to Ohio EPA's spill hotline from Southeast District counties, requiring 140 responses from on-scene coordinators. Forty active sites contaminated by past practices are under formal investigation or cleanup and more than 1.87 billion gallons of ground water were pumped to clean up or protect drinking water sources.

Tom Winston is chief of the Agency's Southwest District Office in Dayton. His involvement in national organizations is one example of the excellence and expertise Ohio EPA employees demonstrate both in Ohio and nationally.

Winston is co-chair of the State and Tribal Government Working Group (STGWG), an organization of 16 states and nine tribal nations that host or are impacted by Department of Energy (DOE) installations. STGWG overviews and develops consensus recommendations for DOE's national programs.

Winston was appointed by the Secretary of Energy to DOE's Environmental Management Advisory Board as co-chair of the Long-Term Stewardship Committee. This committee plans activities necessary to protect public health from residual contamination left after cleanup is complete.

Winston is also co-chair of the Long-Term Stewardship Committee of the National Governor's Association (NGA) Federal Facilities Task Force formed to help implement the requirements of the Federal Facilities Compliance Act. NGA is developing a

handbook of best practices and evaluating DOE's site-cost estimates for long-term stewardship.



SUPPORT OFFICES

FISCAL ADMINISTRATION

The Office of Fiscal Administration (OFA) coordinates and controls the following functions: purchasing, accounts payable, Controlling Board representation, records retention of fiscal documents, accounts receivable, payroll, grants administration, budgeting, and internal accounting control review.

During the past year, OFA completed a comprehensive review of Agency fiscal activity. Following this review, the existing staff was reorganized to maintain centralized coordination of fiscal activity and, at the same time, provide dedicated personnel to meet the complex needs of each division. Also this past year, OFA's grants section converted to a new system that resulted in a significant reduction in the time required to draw and receive grant funds from U.S. EPA. Accounting practices were improved to reconcile the Agency's grant records with information in the state Central Accounting System. The use of electronic purchase requisitions and invoices was expanded to include several new offices and divisions. Improvements in budgeting included a new process to centrally monitor the Agency's filled and vacant positions by funding source, and a new, simplified, indirect cost plan that went into effect in July 2001 to provide funding for the Central Support offices.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Office of Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) monitors the Agency's compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules, and regulations governing nondiscrimination in employment.

In July 2000, with the support of Director Jones, the office implemented an EEO training initiative that trained employees in Columbus and all five districts. By December 2000, 1,289 employees (99 percent of the workforce) were

were trained at a minimal cost of \$13.03 each. This effort toward maintaining a workforce knowledgeable about EEO positively contributed to the Agency's diverse cultural climate.

EEO's training objectives were to identify the rights and responsibilities of Ohio EPA as a State of Ohio employer and Ohio EPA staff as State of Ohio employees; to assist Ohio EPA staff with identifying, preventing, and reporting any allegations of discrimination, including sexual harassment; and to demonstrate Ohio EPA's firm commitment to being an Equal Opportunity

Ohio EPA's training officer, **Rod Spain**, was recognized this year by the Ohio Speaker's Forum as the 2001 Meeting Planner of the Year.

The non-profit organization is dedicated to educating professional speakers and enhancing the profession of public speaking.

Spain has managed non-technical training at Ohio EPA since he started with the Agency in 1988. Spain was nominated for his cooperation, professionalism, and partnership while working with consultants for training opportunities at Ohio EPA.

This includes the Agency's leadership development program—Developing Excellent Agency Leaders (DEAL)—which is currently receiving national recognition.

Recognizing that a large percentage of Ohio EPA's most seasoned employees are due to retire, the Agency created an in-depth program to develop bench strength and prepare employees to become future leaders. Since many state environmental departments were created in the early 1970s, they face similar challenges. The states of Georgia, Michigan, South Carolina, Utah and Wisconsin have contacted Ohio EPA

for information about DEAL; Wisconsin is implementing a similar program based on Ohio EPA's DEAL.



SUPPORT OFFICES



Employer and achieving a workplace free of discrimination. The Office developed two training courses for the program: Sexual Harassment Awareness and EEO Policies and Procedures.

DATA & SYSTEMS

Ohio EPA continued making progress on its strategy to coordinate and integrate data management across environmental programs. The Agency received U.S. EPA's "One Stop" grant, which will fund the realignment of the Division of Surface Water's SWIMS system with the Agency Enterprise database. The office continues work with contractors and divisions to complete the production startup of new Enterprise-aligned systems. Specifically, both SIIMAN for the Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management and DRUMS for the Division of Hazardous Waste Management are in the final phases of implementation.

Infrastructure improvements also were made to increase the safety and availability of Agency data. These include the upgrade of production database servers and the installation of a storage network to ensure high availability of data and prevent data loss. Upgrading the Agency's Oracle database software significantly improved performance. The Agency's data assets are more secure than ever. This year, the office installed virus checking software to each desktop, developed security policies, and installed a firewall to protect Ohio EPA's computing environment.

LEGAL

The Legal Office provides general counsel to divisions and districts, and evaluates, prepares and negotiates administrative enforcement actions. In addition, Agency attorneys assist with rulemaking and legislative initiatives, prepare trade secret claim determinations, prepare and review contracts, and address public records request issues. In SFY'01, the office supported the wetlands, bond fund, and statute of limitations legislative initiatives, and rule-making efforts including the Agency's permit-to-install initiative. The office supported divisions in efforts to meet Agency-wide enforcement goals for calendar year 2000. Much time was spent working toward Ohio EPA's short-term goals of issuing



100 administrative orders and resolving all two-year-old administrative enforcement cases and verified complaints. In calendar year 2000, the Agency issued 103 administrative orders, reduced its backlog of enforcement cases by 74 percent and verified complaints by 65 percent. In the first half of 2001, the office's enforcement assistance to divisions brought Ohio EPA on track to surpass 2000 enforcement achievements.

In SFY'01, the office generated 64 formal general counsel opinions to the divisions, and provided informal general counsel on a daily basis, including services provided by division duty attorneys. The attorneys also visited each district offices to present a training seminar on public records and privileges. These presentations were well received, and provided districts with a better understanding of Ohio EPA's public records obligations.

OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES

Operations and Facilities continues to improve the workplace for employees in the office and in the field. Aesthetic improvements in the central and field offices, like adding color to the lobby and office walls, created a warm and welcoming environment for employees and visitors. A new break room in the central office gives employees a place to fuel for their bodies and recharge their minds and spirit.

O&F renegotiated with the field office landlord to redesign the parking compound, adding

additional, secured parking for state and personal vehicles. Employees who work consecutive days in the field no longer have to leave their vehicles unsecured, and additional spaces have eliminated the need to double park or park in the grass. The motor pool began using new gasoline credit cards, improving efficiency at the pump as well as in the office. One monthly invoice replaced as many as 15 previous bills from individual oil companies throughout the state.

EMPLOYEE SERVICES

With a staff of six employees, the Office of Employee Services (OES) provides complete employment services to 1,300 employees. The office processes all employment activities and position descriptions internally, conducts skills assessments to identify qualified applicants, develops proposals for classification plan changes, and ensures that background checks and pre-employment drug testing are completed. It also administers proficiency tests, recruits employees and interns, develops and coordinates Agency events like Bring Your Child to Work Day, and administers employee benefits, including disability, FMLA, and healthcare, dental, and vision insurance. OES currently is developing a wellness and fitness program to be available to all employees.

The electronic job vacancy announcements and application process continue to attract interest in employment from widely varied populations.

LIBRARY

The Ohio EPA Library continued to add new books, journals and electronic sources in its quest to provide environmental information to employees, consultants, regulated entities and students. The library collection includes many technical documents not available in other libraries, on topics such as Ohio water quality sampling research and methodology. The library can also provide copies of all Ohio EPA policy and guidance documents. The library is open to visitors Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the library staff can also answer questions by phone (614-644-2862) or e-mail (ruth.evans@epa.state.oh.us).

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'01, the public involvement section responded to more than 3,500 citizen telephone calls, letters and various information requests, and conducted 114 public meetings attended by 7,000 citizens. They also provided highly regarded community relations training to Agency employees. The media relations section issued **287** news releases to inform the media about Ohio EPA activities, and Agency employees responded to **2,828** media calls. The publications staff produced numerous brochures, newsletters, and educational displays.



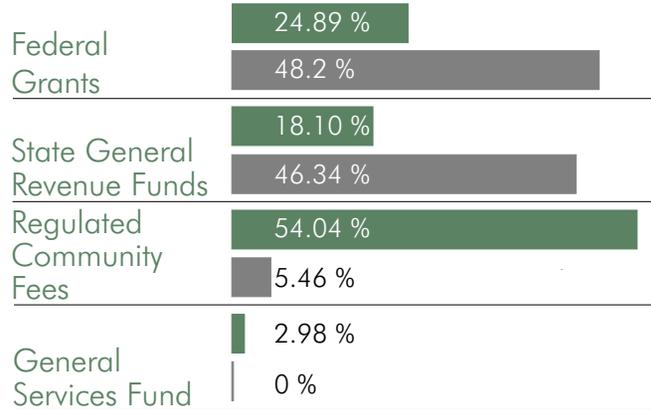


STATE FISCAL YEAR 2001

(JULY 1, 2000 - JUNE 30, 2001)

Historical Trends In Funding

(in percentages of total)

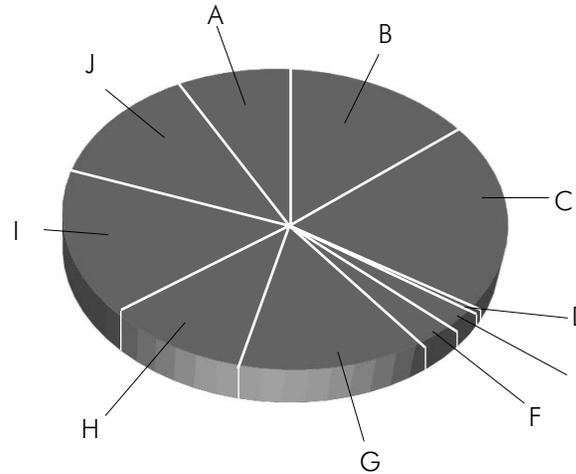


This chart shows how the sources of Ohio EPA's funding have changed significantly over the last 15 years. In 1986, nearly all of the Agency's funding came from state and federal sources. Now, more than half comes from fees charged to the regulated community.

1986 2001

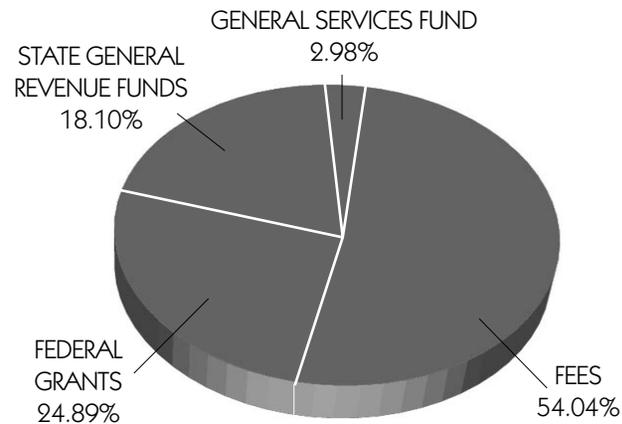
Ohio EPA Total Expenditures

(All Funding Sources \$131,829,338)

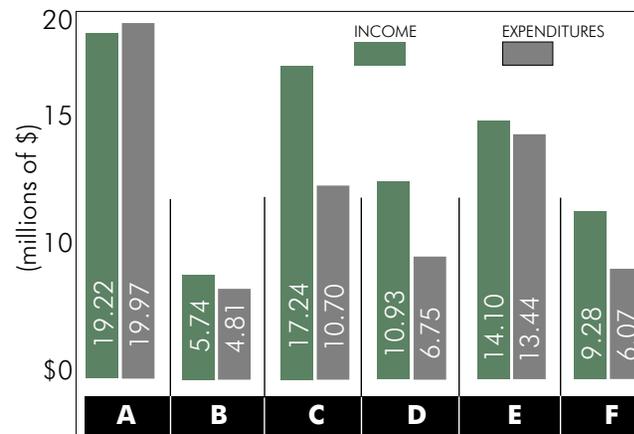


- A. **Hazardous Waste**
\$11,967,809
- B. **Central Support**
\$18,357,309
- C. **Air Pollution**
\$28,844,422
- D. **Hazardous Waste Facility Board**
\$403,732
- E. **Environmental & Financial Assist.**
\$2,973,773
- F. **Environmental Services**
\$3,533,680
- G. **Emergency & Remedial Response**
\$16,802,820
- H. **Solid & Infectious Waste**
\$13,512,337
- I. **Surface Water**
\$21,224,511
- J. **Drinking & Ground Waters**
\$14,208,947

Sources of Revenue



Fee Income and Expenditures by Program



- A. **Air Pollution**
- B. **Drinking & Ground Waters**
- C. **Emergency & Remedial Response**
- D. **Hazardous Waste**
- E. **Solid & Infectious Waste**
- F. **Surface Water**

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency



Bob Taft, Governor

Christopher Jones, Director

Joe Koncelik, Assistant Director

122 South Front Street
Lazarus Government Center
South Front Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Voice: (614) 644-3020

Fax: (614) 644-2329

www.epa.state.oh.us

Carol Hester, Editor

Yvonne Foster-Smith, Graphic Designer

Heather Shaw, Writer

Ohio EPA is an equal opportunity employer

printed on recycled paper

