

Ohio EPA

Updates and Priorities

Laurie Stevenson
Director, Ohio EPA



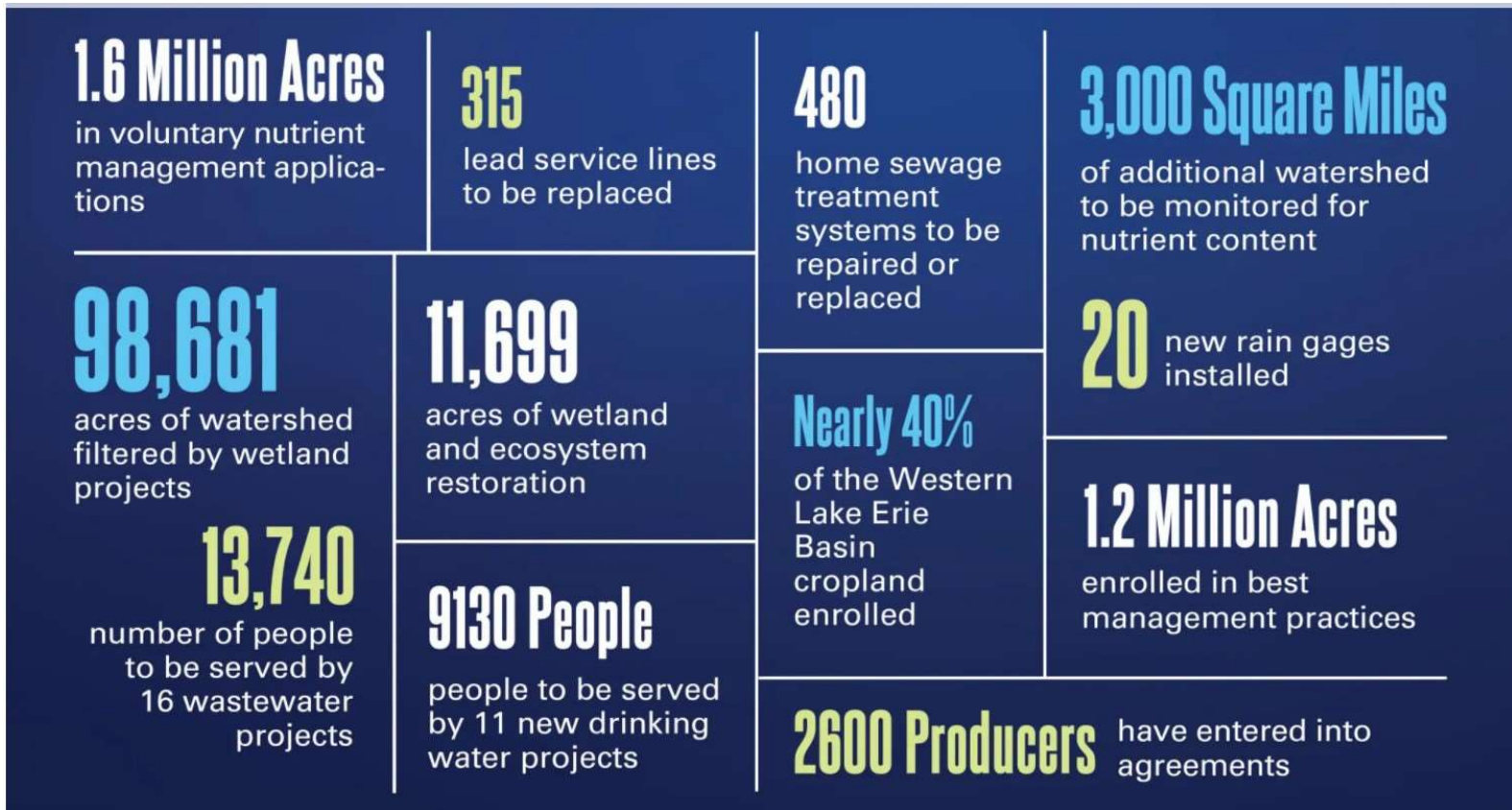
The Past Year+ Priorities and Accomplishments

- H2Ohio
- Infrastructure Funding
- Drinking Water
- Surface Water
- New Website
- Customer Connection and Service

H2Ohio

- Launched by Governor DeWine in 2019, H2Ohio invests in targeted solutions to address harmful algal blooms on Lake Erie, improve infrastructure and reduce lead exposure in drinking water from old service lines and fixtures.
- To support H2Ohio, \$172 million authorized by the General Assembly in the 2020-2021 biennium and \$170 million in 2022-2023.
- H2Ohio is administered in partnership between ODA, ODNR, OEPA and OLEC. Many additional partners at the state and local levels.

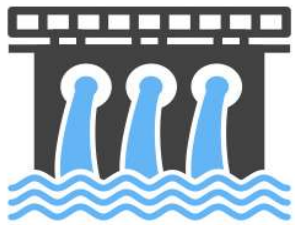
H2Ohio By the Numbers



<https://h2.ohio.gov/>

H2Ohio

\$15,300,000
For 28 Critical Water and Sewer Projects



\$1,250,000



lead service line and fixture replacement for safer water at Ohio daycare facilities.

\$3,350,000



for 18 local health districts to replace household sewage treatment systems.

Increased Monitoring and Data Collection

installing an additional 20 rain gages to improve weather forecasting and rainfall estimates in northwest Ohio.

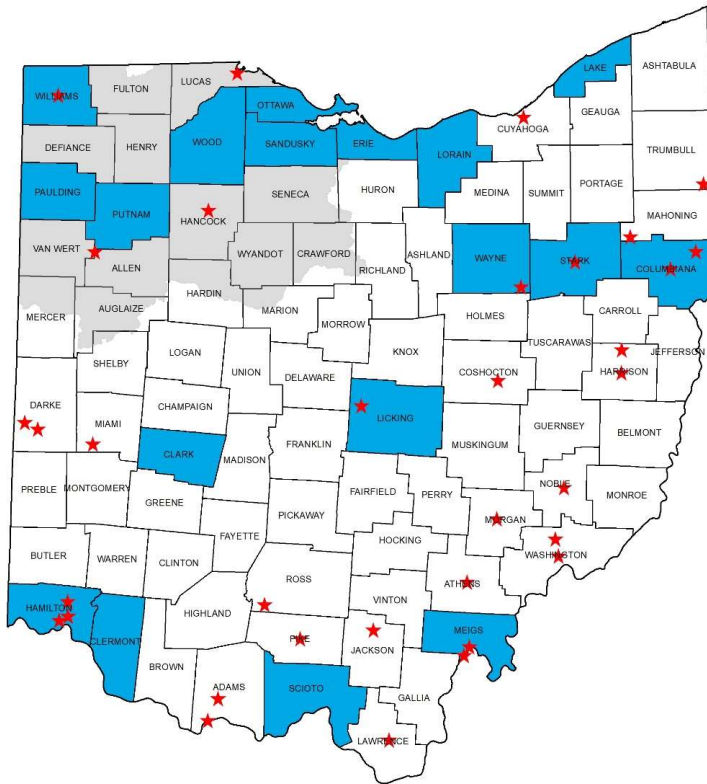


MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO



Ohio Environmental
Protection Agency

Wastewater and Drinking Water Infrastructure Funding



- 28 communities; \$15.3 million
- Drinking water and wastewater infrastructure projects in disadvantaged communities
- Replacing failing home sewage treatment systems in partnership with local health districts

Childcare Lead Service Line (LSL) Replacement



During H2Ohio Years 1-2

\$1.25 million in targeted funding to address LSL and lead fixtures replacements in Cincinnati childcare centers

\$500,000 grant to Cleveland to remove and replace city-owned lead service lines that supply water to approximately 440 childcare centers.

Helping Water Systems Map and Replace Lead Service Lines



The graphic features the H2Ohio logo on the left, a photograph of a rusted lead pipe in the center, and a table of grant amounts on the right. At the bottom right, it includes the Governor of Ohio's seal and name, Mike DeWine.

City/County	Grant Amount
Delphos - Allen, Van Wert	\$500,000
Lockland - Hamilton	\$500,000
Norwood - Hamilton	\$348,000
Scio - Harrison	\$150,000
Sebring - Mahoning	\$500,000
Hubbard - Trumbull	\$180,000

MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO

- \$1.4 million for new program to assist public water systems in identifying and mapping lead service lines (50K grants)
- \$600,000 for the Rural Community Assistance Program (RCAP) & Ohio Rural Water Association (ORWA) to assist small public water systems with ID and map LSL

Showing H2Ohio Progress in a Story Map

H2Ohio Improving Ohio's Water and Wastewater Infrastructure

Projects Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Annual Reports

November 26, 2019:

Ohio EPA Announces Funding for Pomeroy Infrastructure

Ohio EPA has announced the first infrastructure project aimed at improving water quality throughout Ohio as part of Gov. Mike DeWine's H2Ohio initiative. The Village of Pomeroy will receive \$500,000 in H2Ohio funding toward its project to extend sewer lines to approximately 80 homes along S.R. 833 that currently have failing home sewage treatment systems.

The map displays the progress of H2Ohio projects across Ohio. A legend on the left side of the map area provides the following information:

- Ohio EPA H2Ohio Projects:**
 - Status: Announced (blue icon)
 - Status: Under Construction (orange icon)
 - Status: Complete (green icon)
- H2Ohio HSTS Project Counties:** Represented by a light blue shaded area.
- Ohio Counties:** Represented by a light grey shaded area.

Major cities shown on the map include Toledo, Cleveland, Akron, Mansfield, Columbus, Dayton, and Cincinnati. The map also shows Lake Erie and the Wayne National Forest.

Ohio BUILDS Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Grant Program

- HB 168 authorized \$250 million of ARPA funding to improve drinking water and sewer infrastructure
- Ohio Department of Development lead agency in distributing funding
- Grants to support design and construction projects
- Awarded approximately \$250 million for 183 projects in three rounds
- Projects in all 88 counties

Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Funding Opportunities

Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act

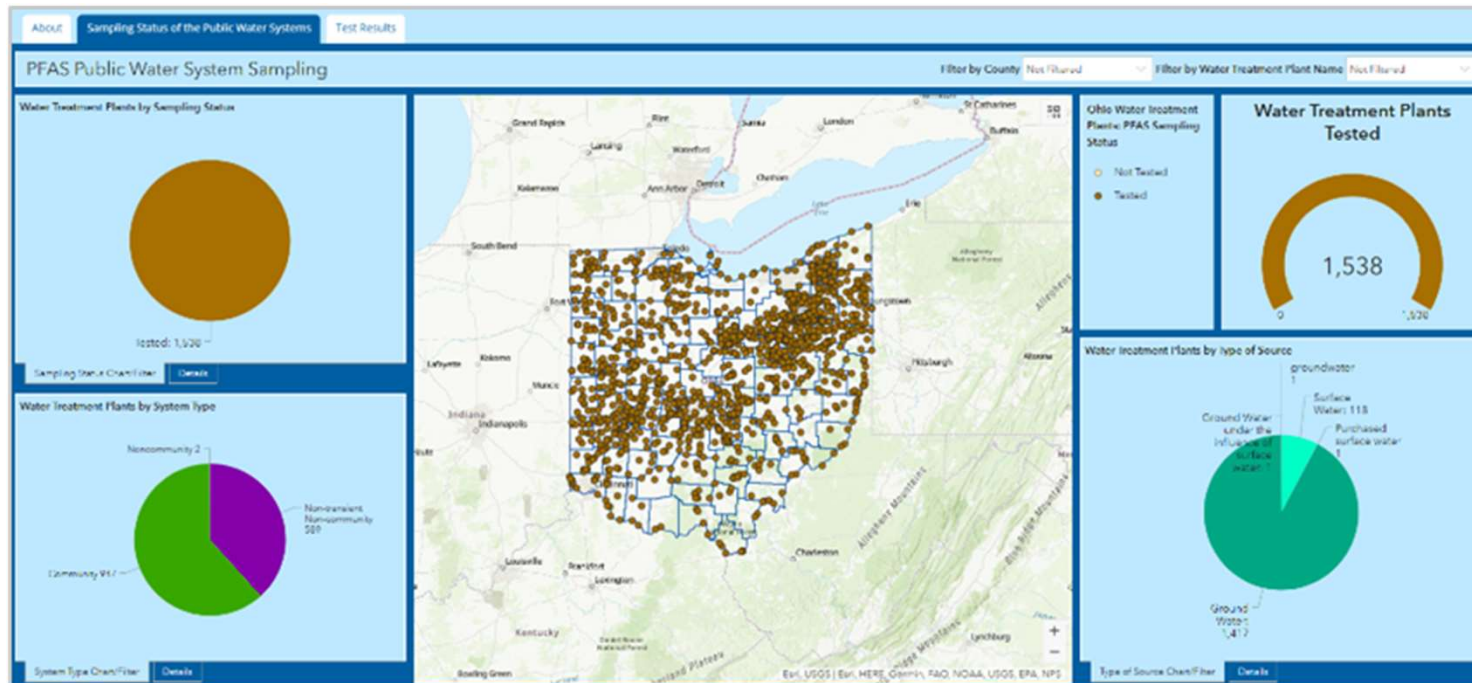
- **Funding will be routed through State Revolving Fund (SRF) programs:**
 - Water Pollution Control Loan Fund
 - Water Supply Revolving Loan Account
- **Three Purposes** – funding is for three main areas:
 - More funds for the core SRF programs to improve drinking water and wastewater infrastructure
 - Projects addressing emerging contaminants
 - Lead service line replacement projects
- **Appropriations spread over a five-year period (2022-2026)**

PFAS Testing at Public Water Systems

- Under Ohio's PFAS Action Plan, >1500 public water systems were tested during 2020 for six PFAS compounds.

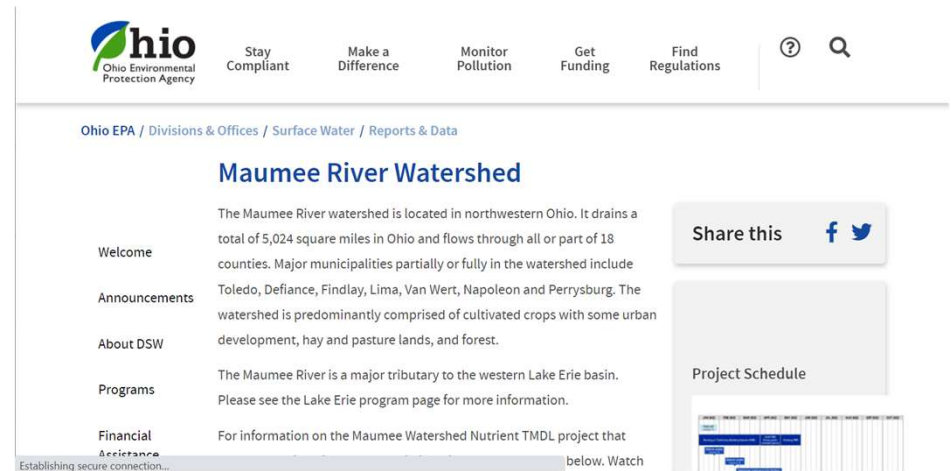
~94% systems non-detect, 2 systems with HAL exceedance

Sample results and information available at <https://epa.ohio.gov/pfas>



Water Quality

- Active outreach ongoing for Maumee River TMDL
- More info at:
<https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/surface-water/reports-data/maumee-river-watershed>
- Integrated Report and Mass Balance in 2022



The screenshot shows the Ohio EPA website page for the Maumee River Watershed. The page features the Ohio EPA logo and navigation links: Stay Compliant, Make a Difference, Monitor Pollution, Get Funding, and Find Regulations. The main heading is "Maumee River Watershed". The text describes the watershed's location in northwestern Ohio, its size (5,024 square miles), and the major municipalities it covers (Toledo, Defiance, Findlay, Lima, Van Wert, Napoleon, and Perrysburg). It also mentions the watershed's composition (cultivated crops, urban development, hay and pasture lands, and forest). A "Share this" button with Facebook and Twitter icons is visible. Below the text, there is a "Project Schedule" section with a table. The table has columns for "Project Name", "Start Date", and "End Date". The first row shows "Maumee River Watershed Nutrient TMDL Project" with a start date of "2022" and an end date of "2022".

Statewide Anti-Littering Campaign

- Governor DeWine introduced statewide anti-littering campaign on Earth Day 2021
- Create awareness that every single piece of litter adds up to a big problem for the state, our roadways, parks, communities and environment
- Collaboration between OEPA, ODNR and ODOT
- Litter Summit, Aug. 6, 2021, first step
- Social media campaign, more to come



Agency Dashboard Reporting

- External dashboard reports issued semi-annually to help convey the important work we do and the progress we are making toward environmental improvements and operational efficiency.
- The dashboards include project/initiative highlights, permits/authorizations issued, outreach, funding, emergency response activities and other metrics.
- <https://epa.ohio.gov/monitor-pollution/reports/dashboard-overview>

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency **Dashboard**
July-December 2021

Ohio BUILDS Water Infrastructure Grant Program

This fall, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and Lt. Governor Jon Husted announced \$250 million to help fund critical water projects in all of Ohio's 88 counties as part of the new Ohio BUILDS (Broadband, Utilities, and Infrastructure for Local Development Success) water infrastructure grant program. The \$250 million will support 183 drinking water and wastewater infrastructure projects impacting communities across the state.

"Clean drinking water is part of the foundation for a good quality of life, yet too many communities in Ohio can't reliably provide residents with this basic necessity due to crumbling infrastructure that has been too expensive to fix," said Governor DeWine. "My administration is committed to helping our communities address these important water issues."

The Ohio BUILDS water infrastructure grant program, announced by Governor DeWine in October, was funded by the Ohio General Assembly as part of House Bill 168, sponsored by State Representatives Mark Fraizer (R-Newark) and Mike Lopez (R-Saxena), with funding that was appropriated through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

"Governor DeWine and I have made water quality and protecting our natural resources in Ohio a priority, and it is great to see the legislature prioritizing it as well," said Lt. Governor Husted. "Water quality isn't just about protecting our health, it's also about our quality of life and our economic future."

Since applications for the program opened in late July, the Ohio Department of Development received more than 1,200 grant applications requesting nearly \$1.4 billion in funding.

Governor DeWine created the Ohio BUILDS water infrastructure grant program to reduce or eliminate the local financial burden associated with critical infrastructure needs, such as the construction of new water systems, the replacement of aging water lines, and the installation of new water mains. Grants are also funding projects to prevent sewer system backups and replace failing household sewage treatment systems with new sewers.

MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO

JON HUSTED
LT. GOVERNOR OF OHIO

Page | 1

Customer Connection and Service

- Created online portal for citizens to file environmental complaints
<https://epa.ohio.gov/help-center/contact-us/submit-a-complaint>
- Online chat feature available through our Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention (OCAPP)
<https://ohioepa.custhelp.com/app/contactus>
- Customers can provide feedback through customer service survey link, included in outgoing emails
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ohioepacustomersurvey>

Permitting and Regulatory Assistance

Mark Johnson, Deputy Director, Business and Regulatory Affairs

For assistance with regulatory and permitting issues

mark.johnson@epa.ohio.gov

Dan Sowry, Assistant Chief, Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention

Small business assistance, sustainability, educational/outreach opportunities

dan.sowry@epa.ohio.gov



Looking Ahead

- Continued focus on Governor's priorities, including infrastructure and water quality
- Working with Ohio EPA senior team on goals/objectives through 2022
- Continued focus on staff development, including inspector training
- Open communication policy to discuss and resolve issues
- Continued focus on soliciting feedback to deliver best service, including permitting performance

Thank You

Laurie Stevenson

laurie.stevenson@epa.ohio.gov

