Ohio EPA
Updates and Priorities

Mark Johnson

Deputy Director Business & Regulatory Affairs, Ohio EPA

Ohio Environmental
Protection Agency

Ohio EPA Background

- Created October 23, 1972
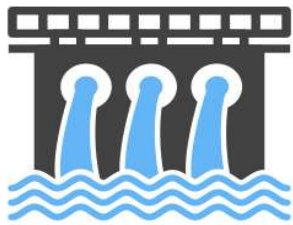- Central Office in Columbus
- Five District Offices

Major Program Areas

- Division of **_Air_** Pollution Control (DAPC)

- Division of **_Drinking_** & **_Ground Waters_** (DDAGW)

- Division of **_Materials_** & **_Waste_** Management (DMWM)

- Division of **_Surface Water_** (DSW)

- Division of Environmental **_Response_** & **_Revitalization_** (DERR)

- Division of Environmental & Financial **_Assistance_** (DEFA)

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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.
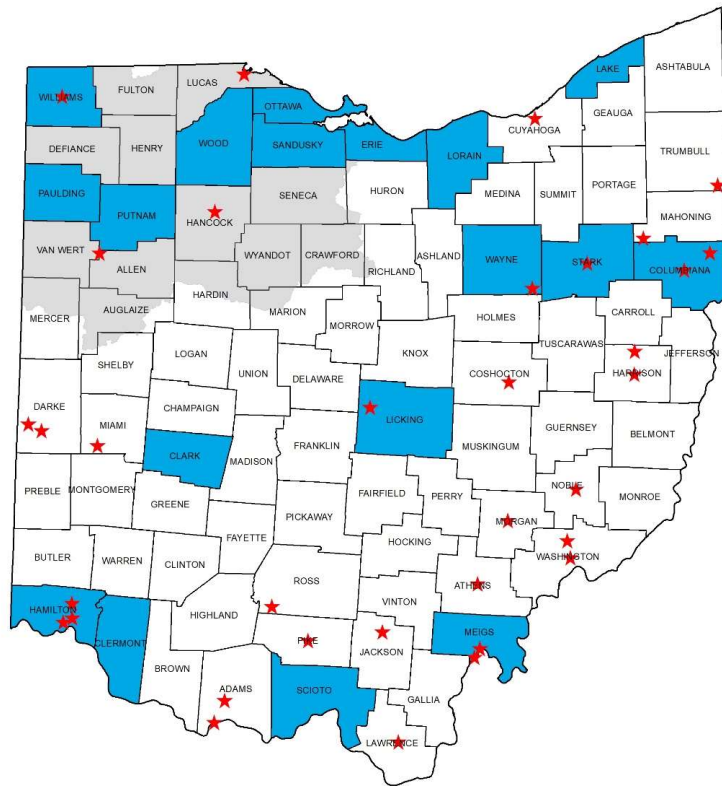
MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO

Ohio

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Wastewater and Water Infrastructure Funding

- 28 communities

- $15.3 million total

- Drinking water projects addressing contaminated wells and inadequate water supply

- Wastewater projects serving disadvantaged communities with failing HSTS

- 18 local health districts (LHDs)

Helping Water Systems Map and Replace Lead Service Lines

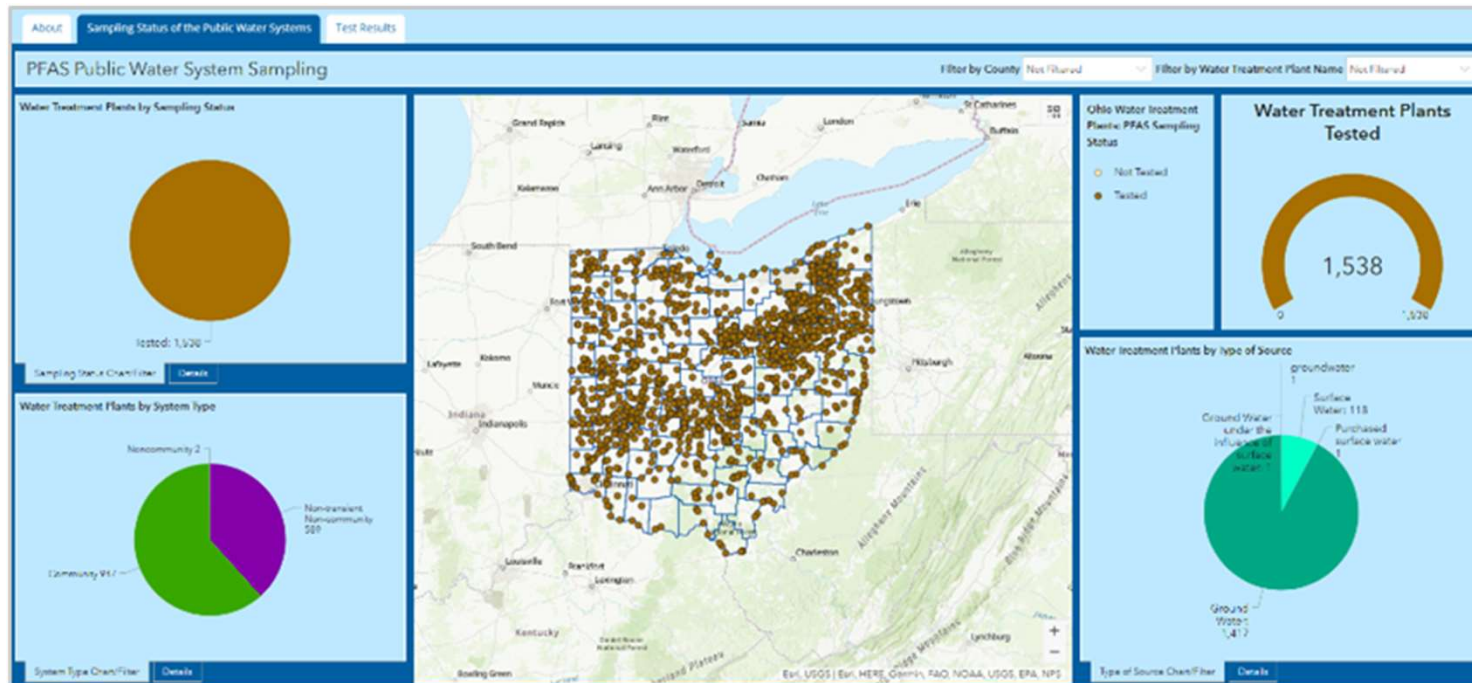| City/County	Grant Amount
Delphos - Allen, Van Wert	$500,000
Lockland - Hamilton	$500,000
Norwood - Hamilton	$348,000
Scio - Harrison	$150,000
Sebring - Mahoning	$500,000
Hubbard - Trumbull	$180,000

- $2.1 million for new grant program: up to $50,000 for public water systems to ID and map LSL
- $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

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

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

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

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Permitting and Assistance
Setting the Stage for Success

- Mark Johnson – Main point of contact for Ohio EPA Customers

- Open Communication (early and often)

- Pre-Application meeting

- Request a pre-application meeting to review your project, the timelines, and the permitting requirements

- Contact your permit writer for updates, ask for periodic phone conferences or meetings

- Expect clear guidance on permit application deficiencies

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Considerations For Your Project

Water and Wastewater Infrastructure:

- If you have an on-site system to treat your wastewater, can your existing system handle both the increased flow and concentration? Can you expand your current system?
- If not, can you connect to a sanitary system nearby that can handle your discharge?
- Is there existing municipal water or do you need to drill your own water wells?

On-Site Construction/Existing Conditions:

- Do you have any wetland and/or streams on your property that will be impacted by expanding your building(s)?

Air Quality Requirements:

- How will the expansion impact your air emission and permit status?
- Are there any non-attainment considerations (for major sources)?

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If you need a consultant, use one familiar with Ohio EPA's permitting process

Consultants who have experience with environmental permitting in Ohio can be instrumental in keeping the permit review process moving.

Some aspects of permitting are very complex (for example, air modeling, ORAM scoring, etc.) and require special expertise.

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After You Get Your Permit

- Once you get your final permit, read and make sure you understand it.

- Make sure you comply with the terms and conditions of your final permit.

- If you have questions, call Ohio EPA!

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OCAPP District Contacts

- **Central Ohio Contact**
  - Kyle Fox, (614) 644-2885
- **Northeast Ohio Contacts**
  - Tamara Girard, (330) 963-1282
  - Miranda Stockton (330) 963-1250
- **Northwest Ohio Contact**
  - Tom Cikotte, (419) 373-3020
  - Jeremy Scoles, (419) 373-3095
- **Southwest Ohio Contact**
  - Maddie Adams, (937) 285-6456
  - Amber Hicks, (937) 285-6439
- **Southeast Ohio Contact**
  - Ralph Witte, (740) 380-5241

Hotline: (800)329-7518

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Encouraging Environmental Excellence (E3)

- Recognition program for businesses, organizations, communities and schools
- Achievement in environmental stewardship
- E3
  - Achievement
  - Silver
  - Gold
  - Platinum

ENCOURAGING **Environmental** EXCELLENCE

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OCAPP and Online Resources

Ohio EPA's Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention (OCAPP) https://epa.ohio.gov/ocapp/

Helps small businesses determine regulations and permits that apply to them. Also help complete paperwork, get resources, etc.

On-line Tools
Permit Wizard – helps identify needed permits
Answer Place – searchable FAQs, Ask a Question feature

Thank You

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Biographical Information

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Mark Johnson is the Deputy Director of Business and Regulatory Affairs for Ohio EPA. As deputy director for business and regulatory affairs, Johnson will act as a primary contact for regulated entities to help coordinate permitting activities within the Agency, particularly for complex projects requiring multiple permits.

Johnson joined Ohio EPA in 2012 and has worked in the Division of Surface Water, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters, and Division of Environmental Response and Revitalization. Johnson has years of experience in oversight of staff, environmental regulations, environmental enforcement, environmental remediation, Brownfield redevelopment, and ecological restoration.

Johnson graduated from Kent State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Conservation Biology.