

Ohio EPA Updates and Priorities

**Mark Johnson
Assistant Director, Ohio
EPA**



New Director, New Progress



Ohio EPA Director Anne M. Vogel



50 years of Ohio EPA



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)



H2Ohio 2022 Highlights

- Critical Water and Sewer Infrastructure Projects
- Lead Service Line Replacement
- Home Sewage Treatment System Repair and Replacement
- Lead Service Line Mapping

H2Ohio

\$18,450,000
For 34 Critical Water and Sewer Projects



\$3,200,000 

for lead service line and fixture replacement resulting in safer water in eight communities.

\$3,975,000 

for 23 local health districts to replace household sewage treatment systems.

Increased Monitoring and Data Collection

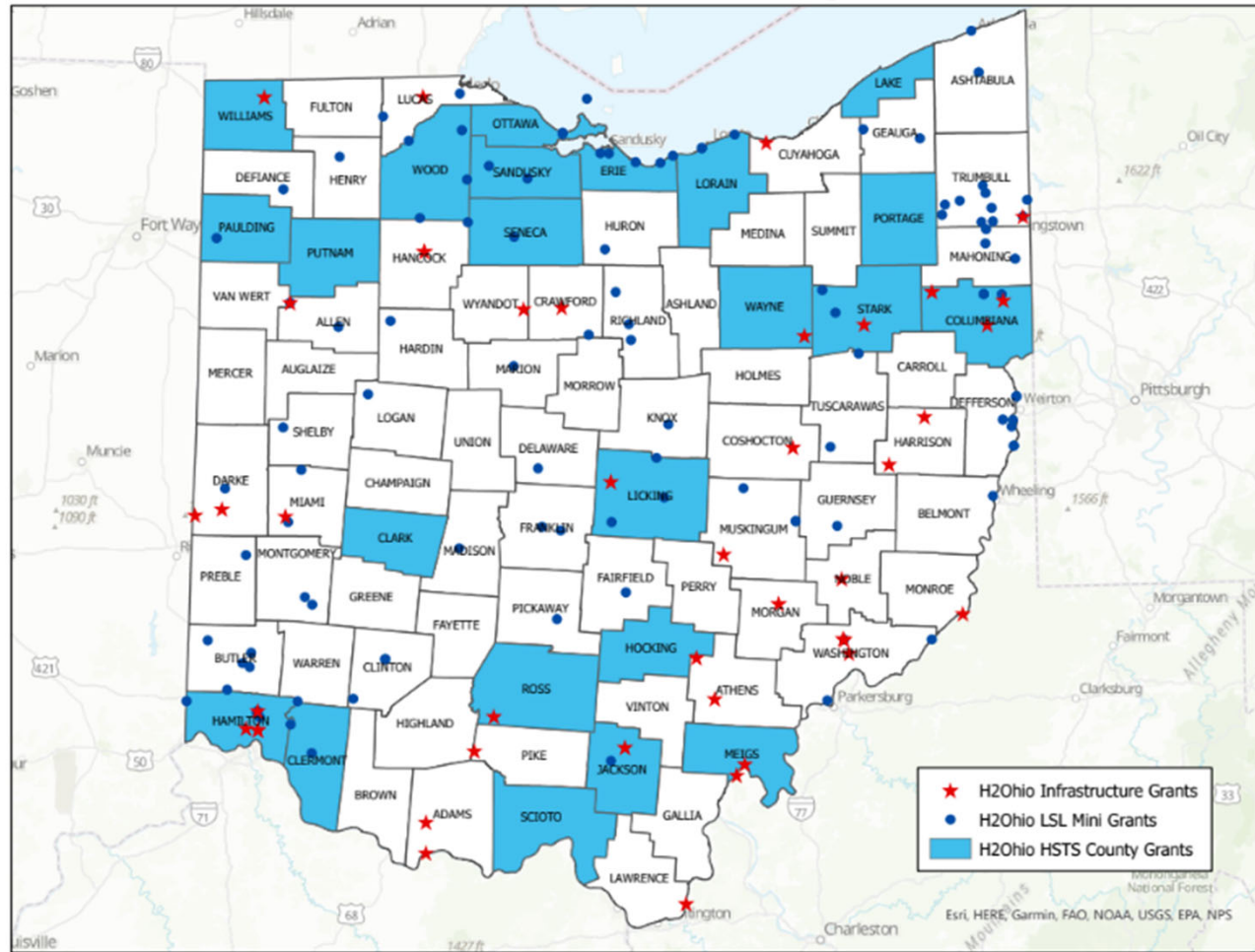
installing an additional 20 rain gages to improve weather forecasting and rainfall estimates in northwest Ohio.



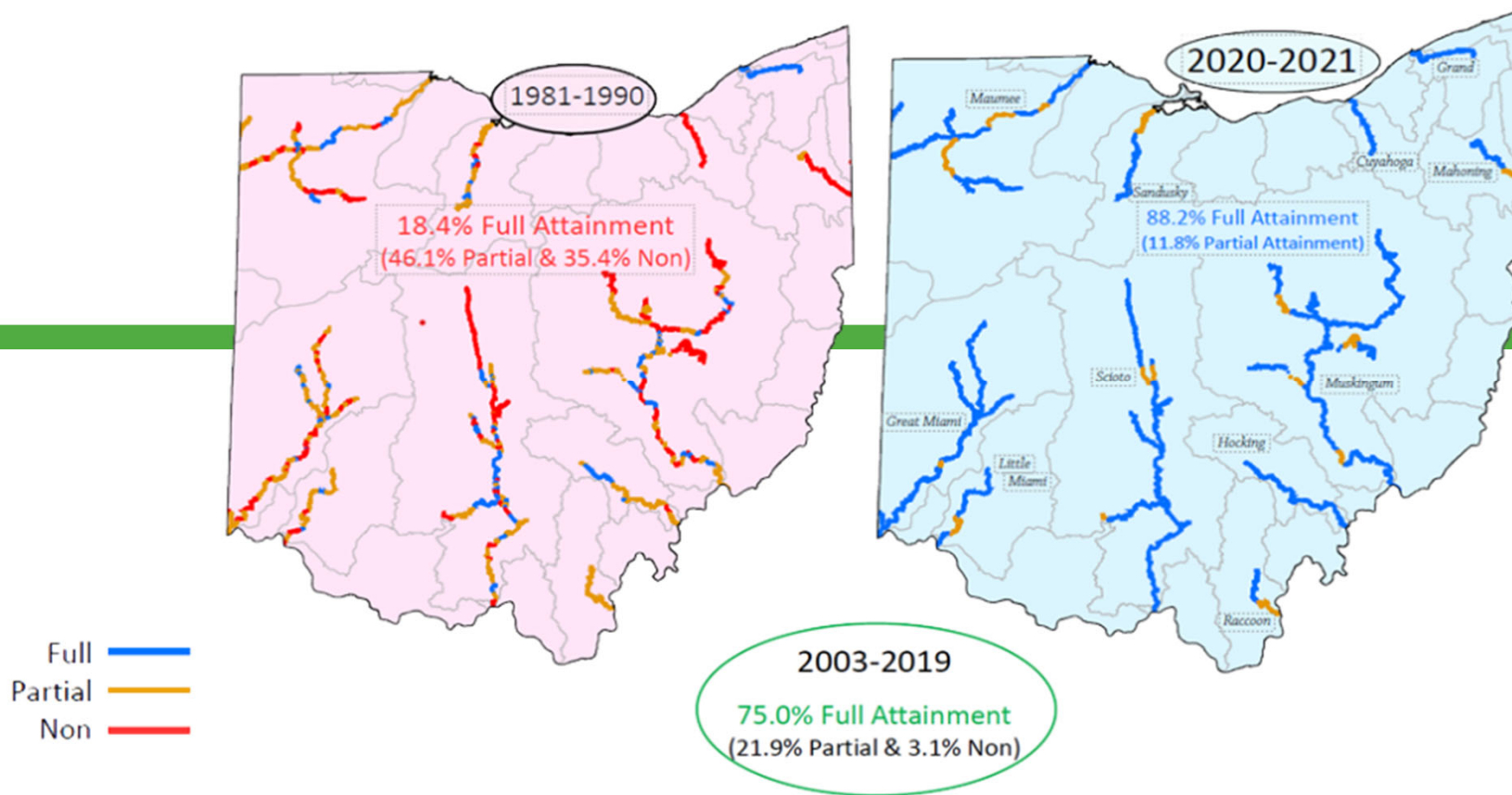
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency



Ohio EPA H2Ohio Funding



Status of Ohio's Rivers





Introducing H2Ohio Rivers Initiative

An expansion of the H2Ohio Initiative, the H2Ohio Rivers Initiative will place an emphasis on the preservation and improvement of Ohio's rivers, which will provide critical wildlife habitat, drinking water, and recreation space.

H2Ohio

Rivers Initiative



River Restoration

Prioritize and fund habitat restoration in areas with impairments through stream restoration, habitat creation, and contaminated sediment removal.

Dam Removal

Ohio EPA, in concert with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and the Ohio Department of Agriculture, proposes to remove aging and non-functional low head dams to improve safety, and the health of Ohio's large rivers

Road Salt Management

Ohio EPA proposes to decrease salt contamination and maintain safety and service levels through cost-sharing incentives, education, and outreach.

Emerging Contaminant Assessment

Ohio EPA proposes to survey Ohio's large rivers for previously unmeasured emerging contaminants and assess the levels of emerging contaminants in the environment and their potential impact to aquatic life.



PFAS Testing at Ohio's Public Drinking Water Systems

- In 2019 under Governor DeWine's leadership, he asked Ohio EPA and Ohio Department of Health to test Ohio's public water systems for the presence of PFAS chemicals based on the U.S. EPA's Health Advisory Level (HAL) for the contaminant.
- This was Ohio's first sampling of water for the presence of PFAS statewide.
- Over 94% of the public drinking water systems tested revealed no detection of PFAS compounds.
- Only two systems were identified with levels above the previous HALs, and both have addressed those issues through connecting to nearby public drinking water systems. Ohio EPA is providing ongoing assistance to other systems that have had PFAS detections below the previous HALs to identify and prioritize options to reduce PFAS for the health and safety of Ohioans.

U.S. EPA's Proposed Drinking Water Standards for PFOA and PFAS

- Ohio EPA is reviewing U.S. EPA's proposed drinking water standards for PFOA and PFAS. The proposed rule does not require any action until the rule is finalized. Water systems will have three years to comply with the final rule. If the rules become final, Ohio EPA will adopt the drinking water standards.
- Ohio EPA will continue working with any public water systems that detect these compounds in drinking water. Ohio will receive approximately \$150 million in federal funding over the next five years to help Ohio public water systems treat for emerging contaminants like PFOA and PFAS.





Ohio EPA's State Revolving Loan Program

- Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) and Water Supply Revolving Loan Account (WSRLA)
- Since the establishment of Ohio's SRF programs over 30 years ago, more than \$13 billion in infrastructure financing has been provided to support the development of drinking water and wastewater infrastructure in communities throughout Ohio.
- Last program year, Ohio EPA awarded **\$1.165 billion** in infrastructure financing.
- Through the state revolving funds and H2Ohio, Ohio EPA has assisted many small, disadvantaged communities in funding their important infrastructure projects.



U.S. EPA – Inflation Reduction Act

- August 2022 – Congress passed and the President Signed the Inflation Reduction Act.
- Provides for \$369 billion dollars in “Energy Security and Climate Change” programs over 10 years

Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program

- \$5 billion to assist in the development and implementation of strong climate pollution strategies

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund

- \$27 billion in funding to mobilize financing and leverage private capital for clean energy and climate projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions with an emphasis on projects that benefit low-income and disadvantaged communities

Transportation Programs

- Funding to reduce emissions from the transportation sector
 - \$1 billion for clean heavy-duty vehicles
 - \$3 billion for clean port technology

Customer Connection and Service

**Office of Compliance
Assistance and Pollution
Prevention Online Chat**

Social Media



**Online Citizen
Complaint Portal**

**Customer
Feedback Survey**

Ohio EPA – Part of Ohio’s Economic Engine!!



Considerations For Your Project – Is the site right for you?



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)?

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.



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 Scales, (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



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



Encouraging Environmental Excellence (E3)



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

Thank You

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IDEM Update

Brian Rockensuess
Commissioner
Indiana Department of
Environmental Management



New Leadership:

- Senior Team:
 - Parvonay Stover – Chief of Staff
 - Hillary Alderete – Chief Financial Officer
 - Bob Lugar – Assistant Commissioner of Program Support
 - Carl Woodrich – Deputy Assistant Commissioner of Program Support
- Branch Chiefs:
 - Janusz Johnson – Air Compliance & Enforcement
 - Robin Fellar – Land Permits
 - Lori Freeman – Land Compliance & Enforcement
 - Tim Veatch – Underground Storage Tank
 - Cathy Csatari – Northwest Regional Office Director
- Legislative Director – Drake Abramson
- Communications Director – Allen Carter
- Agricultural Liaison – Megan Espinda



IDEM Metrics

- Permitting
 - Goal is to get permits done in 75% of the time we are allowed by statute
 - Agency wide we are processing permits in 51.4% of the time
- Compliance
 - Goal is to have inspections reports to the facility within 7 days of the inspection.
 - Agency wide we are at 4 days.
- Excellent Drinking Water – 98.7%
- Clean Air – 97.1%



My Focus:

- Communication
- Staffing
- Environmental Justice
- PFAS
 - IDEM/IDHS project
 - Community Water Sampling
- Air Fees
- Clean-up Programs
- Streamlining and IT Improvements



Air

- Attainment Status

- All areas of the state are meeting all air quality standards except a couple of townships in Lake and Porter counties and one township in Huntington County.

- Lake and Porter Counties currently not meeting the 2015 Ozone standard
- Township in Huntington County currently not meeting the Sulfur Dioxide standard

- Redesignations

- 2008 Ozone standard for Lake and Porter counties
- 2015 Ozone standard for Clark and Floyd counties

- Indiana Emission Reductions

- PM 2.5 = 72%
- Carbon Monoxide = 76%
- Nitrogen Oxide = 76%
- Volatile Organic Compounds = 68%
- Sulfur Dioxide = 96%



Land

- Cleanup Faster
 - On average a site in Voluntary Remediation Program takes 14.7 years and in State Cleanup 11.7 years
- Tanks
 - SB 246 Excess Liability Trust Fund Bill
 - EPIC Database
- Billing
 - RFI on Billing Portal



Water

- PFAS Drinking Water Sampling
 - Phase 1 – Medium Sized Systems
 - Collected 400 samples from 78 systems.
 - Phase 2 – Small Systems (serves 3,300 or less customers)
 - Collected 1,050 samples from 315 systems. Phase should be completed this summer.
 - Phase 3 – Large Systems (serves 10,000 or more customers)
 - Anticipate 900 samples from 89 systems. Hope to complete this fall.
 - Comparing results to the proposed PFAS rule and communicating with utilities
- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Impacts
 - 38% increase in demand for drinking water projects.
 - 37% increase in demand for wastewater projects.



Program Support

- Recycling Grants
 - \$4 Million Recycling Grant for efforts in Marion County
- Environmental Justice
 - Environmental Stakeholder Inclusion (ESI)
 - Making sure EJ communities and community groups have dedicated individuals within the agency.



Federal

- Ozone Transport (Good Neighbor rule)
 - EPA published a Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) in 2022
 - The FIP includes other industries than electric generation
 - IDEM commented on the plan after seeking input from various affected industry centers.
- WOTUS
 - Currently operating under the pre-2015 regulatory regime.
 - Significant nexus
 - Governor signed a letter asking EPA to wait on WOTUS rule changes until the Sackett v. EPA case is rule on by the Supreme Court.



Federal Cont.

- Lead and Copper Rule
 - IDEM is working on incorporating the federal revisions by October.
 - To help prepare systems meet the service line inventory requirements, IDEM and Indiana Finance Authority (IFA) have been working with 120Water to finalize the service line inventory spreadsheet.
 - Systems can start completing their service line inventory on the IDEM Service Line Inventory Spreadsheet
- Rules concerning PFAS
 - Proposed MCL at 4 ppt
 - IDEM is working to comment on the proposal
 - EPA is contemplating on labeling PFAS as a hazardous waste.
 - What happens with biosolids and land application?



Thank You

Brian Rockensuess

Commissioner

Indiana Department of
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Biographical Information



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Mark Johnson was appointed Assistant Director in August 2022. Prior to his appointment as Assistant Director, Johnson was the Deputy Director of Business and Regulatory Affairs for Ohio EPA. As deputy director, Johnson acted 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.

Biographical Information



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Brian C. Rockensuess was appointed commissioner of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) by Governor Eric J. Holcomb in December 2021. Mr. Rockensuess has worked at IDEM since 2013, serving as the chief of staff since 2016. Prior to being named chief of staff, he worked as the agency's director of governmental affairs and was the business, agricultural and legislative liaison. Prior to his service at IDEM, he worked for the Indiana State Senate.

Mr. Rockensuess earned an undergraduate degree from Ball State University and a master's degree in public administration from Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.

Biographical Information



TONY HATTON
Commissioner
Department for
Environmental Protection
Commonwealth of
Kentucky
Energy and Environment
Cabinet

Tony Hatton has been an employee of the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet (EEC) since 1999. Prior to coming to the EEC he worked as a consulting geologist for 11 years on projects for the Department of Defense, Department of Energy and numerous large hazardous waste and Superfund projects.

In 1999, Tony worked as a staff geologist in the Division of Waste Management's (DWM) hazardous waste program. Over the course of his career Tony has served as the Assistant Director and then the Director of the Division of Waste Management beginning in 2008 and in 2016 began serving as the Deputy Commissioner and then in 2018 Commissioner for the Department for Environmental Protection.

Tony holds a Master of Science degree in geology from Eastern Kentucky University and is a registered professional geologist. He is married to his wife Debbie and has one son, Caleb.