# **Ohio EPA Surface Water Update**

Southwest Ohio Water Environment Association Industrial Waste Seminar January 27, 2022

Tyler Bowman Environmental Specialist



#### **Overview**

- 1. Southwest District Industrial Staff / Administrative Updates
- 2. Website Changes
- 3. National Compliance Initiative (NCI) & DMR Non-Submittal Notifications
- 4. Ohio EPA Inspection Commitments
- 5. NPDES Permitting Updates
- 6. Compliance Assistance / Technical Resources





#### **Work Environment**

- Return to business as usual
- Field work and office/remote work
- Virtual environments
- Electronic documents





# **Industrial User Contacts**

County	Staff	County	Staff
Brown	Bob Ostendorf	Hamilton	Bob Ostendorf
Butler	Bob Ostendorf	Highland	Bob Ostendorf
Champaign	Rob Zimmer	Logan	Rob Zimmer
Clark	Rob Zimmer	Miami	Rob Zimmer
Clermont	Bob Ostendorf	Montgomery	Rob Zimmer
Clinton	Bob Ostendorf	Preble	Rob Zimmer
Darke	Rob Zimmer	Shelby	Rob Zimmer
Greene	Rob Zimmer	Warren	Bob Ostendorf

Staff	Email	Phone
Bob Ostendorf	Robert.Ostendorf@epa.ohio.gov	(937) 285-6107
Rob Zimmer	Robert.Zimmer2@epa.ohio.gov	(937) 285-6357





### **Pretreatment Program Contact**

**Primary Contact** 

Tyler Bowman
Tyler.Bowman@epa.ohio.gov
(937) 285-6475

#### Note:

- Staff assignments subject to change may result in contact changes
- Backfilling open positions as feasible
- If unsure of contact check Ohio EPA website

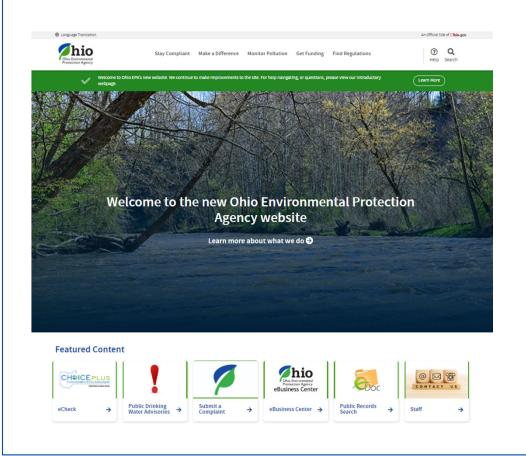


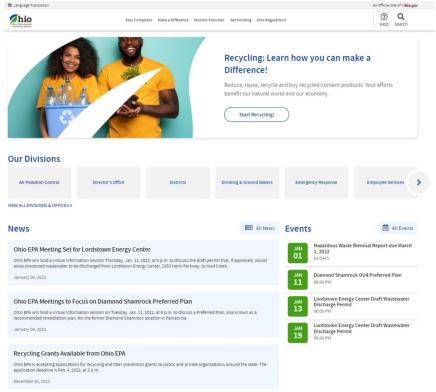


# **Website Changes**



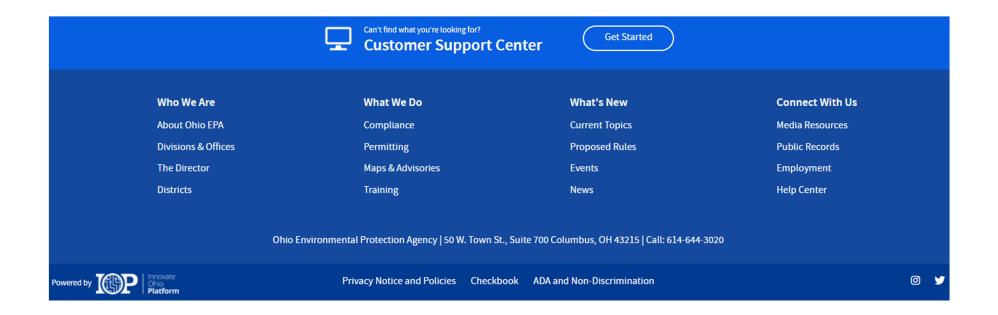
# **Website Changes**







### **Customer Support**





#### **DSW Effective Rules**



The Division of Surface Water (DSW) develops and enforces rules in the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC).

Ohio EPA surface water quality protection and wastewater pollution control regulations are located in OAC Chapters 3745-1 to 3745-3. 3745-11. 3745-32 to 3745-33. 3745-36. 3745-38. to 3745-40, and 3745-42. Additional chapters are added as needed to address new laws and requirements related to surface waters.

Proposing new rules and amending existing rules is a regular activity conducted by Ohio EPA in response to laws passed by the Ohio General Assembly and federal rule regularements. DSW is required by federal law to review water quality standards regulations every three years and by state law to review rules at least once every five years to ensure their continued

During the Ohlo rule-making process, rules pass through four phases: early stakeholder outreach, draft review, proposal to the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review, and final adoption. To view the rules currently in each of these phases, please see the tabs below.

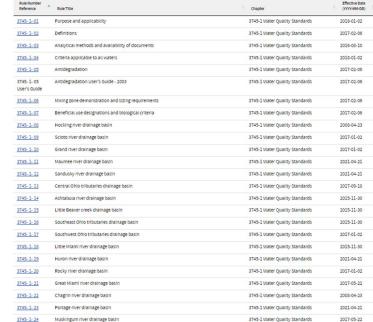
Join a rules electronic mailing list to stay informed about current rule-makings and opportunities to provide comment during the process.

Additional information on the Ohio EPA rule-making process and information on Agency-wide rules can be found on the Agency Rules and Laws page.

The following is a list of Ohio Administrative Code chapters related to programs in the Division of Surface Water. Links are provided to Ohio EPA internet pages where copies of the chapters may be downloaded.

#### **OAC Chapters**

Chapter 3745-1

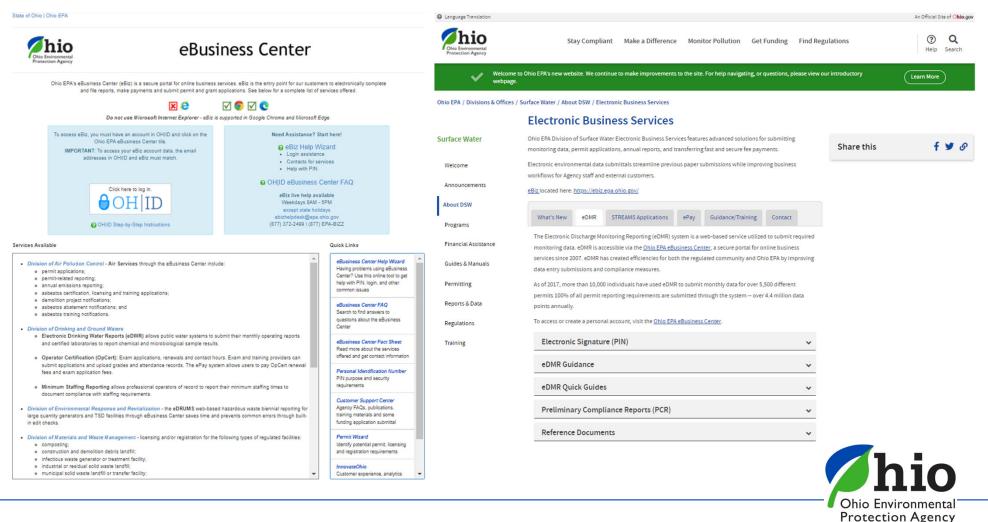


Showing 1 to 25 of 148 entries



An Official Site of Ohio.gov

#### **eBusiness Center**



# National Compliance Initiative & DMR Non-Submittal Notifications



# **U.S. EPA National Compliance Initiative (NCI)**

- What is an NCI?
  - NCIs focus EPA's enforcement and compliance resources on the most serious environmental violations.
- Program Goals:
  - To increase compliance using the full range of compliance assurance tools.
  - To improve surface water quality and reduce potential impacts on drinking water.
  - To help NPDES permittees achieve or maintain compliance and avoid potential enforcement and penalties.

- Purpose of this initiative:
  - In FY 2018, over 29% of the nation's 46,000 facilities with individually issued NPDES permits were in SNC with their permits.
  - This NCI is intended to ensure that all NPDES permittees – not just industrial contributors – are complying with their permits.
  - Aim to cut SNC in half and to ensure that the most serious SNC violations are timely and appropriately addressed.



#### **DMR Non-Submittal Emails**

- Supporting the NCI Initiative
- Reminder emails
- Implemented to cut down SNC
- Expedited enforcement (Orders and Penalty)

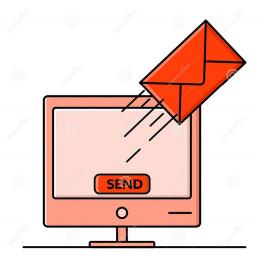


Image Source: https://www.dreamstime.com/emailsend-image182684835



## **Preparing for the NCI**

- How can NPDES permittees prepare?
  - Encouraged to assess compliance status by:
    - Reviewing discharge monitoring reports (DMRs).
    - Using EPA's Enforcement & Compliance History Online (ECHO) tool to look up your facility.
      - ECHO provides quarterly breakdown of compliance history that describes instances of SNC.
  - If your facility has NPDES violations, it is recommended that you take immediate action to correct them.



# **Ohio EPA Inspection Commitments**



#### **Ohio EPA Commitments**

Type of Inspection	Frequency
Pretreatment Program Audit	1 time/5 years*
Pretreatment Compliance Inspection	1 time/5 years*
Industrial User Inspection	1 time/5 years*

<sup>\*</sup> Unless Ohio EPA determines more frequent inspections are warranted

#### **Increased frequency ≠ Problems!**



# **NPDES Permitting Updates**



# **Permit Writing Changes (Pretreatment)**

- NPDES Permits PTOWs with approved Pretreatment Programs
  - Pretreatment Reporting
    - Language changing as permits are renewed 5-year cycle
    - Electronic reporting required
      - December 21, 2020 deadline
    - Ohio is ready to accept electronic reporting
  - Local Limits Evaluation
    - Technical Justification Compliance Milestone 5-year cycle
      - Language allowing for the use of influent data for establishing domestic loading
      - Language allowing for grab samples for low-level mercury analysis



# **Permit Writing Changes (MSGP)**

- Industrial Stormwater General Permit (OHR000007)
  - Expires on May 31, 2022
  - Draft General Permit renewal public noticed for comment comment deadline is February 3, 2022
  - An expired permit continues in force and effect until a new general permit is issued
  - The new permit is on schedule to be issued June 1, 2022



#### **Permit Writing Changes (Non-Contact Cooling Water)**

- Non-Contact Cooling Water General Permit (OHN000006)
  - Expired on February 28, 2021
  - Draft General Permit renewal public noticed for comment comment deadline was October 7, 2021
  - New permit was issued December 9, 2021; Effective January 1, 2022
  - Reminder: Submit Notice of Intent (NOI) to continue coverage



# **Compliance Assistance / Technical Resources**



# **Compliance Assistance (OCAPP)**

- Ohio EPA Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention (OCAPP)
  - Free and confidential assistance
  - Provides a variety of on-site assistance services
  - Assistance completing and submitting permit applications and reports, including navigating Ohio EPA's e-Business Center

- Benefits
  - Save money
  - Improve business performance
  - Achieve environmental compliance
  - Reduce liability and potential for violations or penalties
  - Protect your workers' health and safety
  - Help preserve natural resources



#### **Technical Resources**

- Technical Assistance Webinar Series
  - Purpose: Help attendees understand the root causes of common problems faced by wastewater treatment system operators and provide suggestions and resources to help them fine-tune their operations and, if needed, fix their noncompliance problems.
  - Audience: Plant operators, municipal leaders, technical assistance providers, and compliance inspection staff from federal, state, tribal, and local governments.
  - Presenters: Experts from states, U.S. EPA, and private industry.
  - Upcoming Schedule recorded webinars



#### **Technical Resources**

- Coming up...
- Four-part series: Optimizing Nutrient Removal and Wastewater Excellence; January – April '22
- February 17, 2022 (1:00 2:30 p.m. EST)
- Optimizing Nutrient Removal in Sequencing Batch Reactors
- Presenter: Grant Weaver, PE, President Grant Tech, Inc.
- Registration: https://usepa.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\_Pb87\_yreSHCz\_D U5avfY0g



#### **Thank You!**

**Questions?** 

Tyler.Bowman@epa.ohio.gov (937) 285-6475



#### **Sources**

- U.S. EPA Pretreatment Webcast Series https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-10/documents/intro\_to\_pretreatment\_webcast\_slides.pdf
- U.S. EPA National Pretreatment Program Implementation website https://www.epa.gov/npdes/national-pretreatment-program-implementation
- 40 CFR Part 403 https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=abb5ec2b6af12c915aaddec6a5c6aa89&mc=true&node=pt40.31.403&rgn=div5#se40.31.403\_12
- Pretreatment Roles and Responsibilities https://www.epa.gov/npdes/pretreatment-roles-and-responsibilitiescontrol-authorities
- Pretreatment Compliance Inspection and Audit Manual for Approval Authorities https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/owm0238.pdf
- Indirect Discharge Permit Program Fact Sheet https://www.epa.ohio.gov/portals/35/pretreatment/IDP-FS.pdf

