

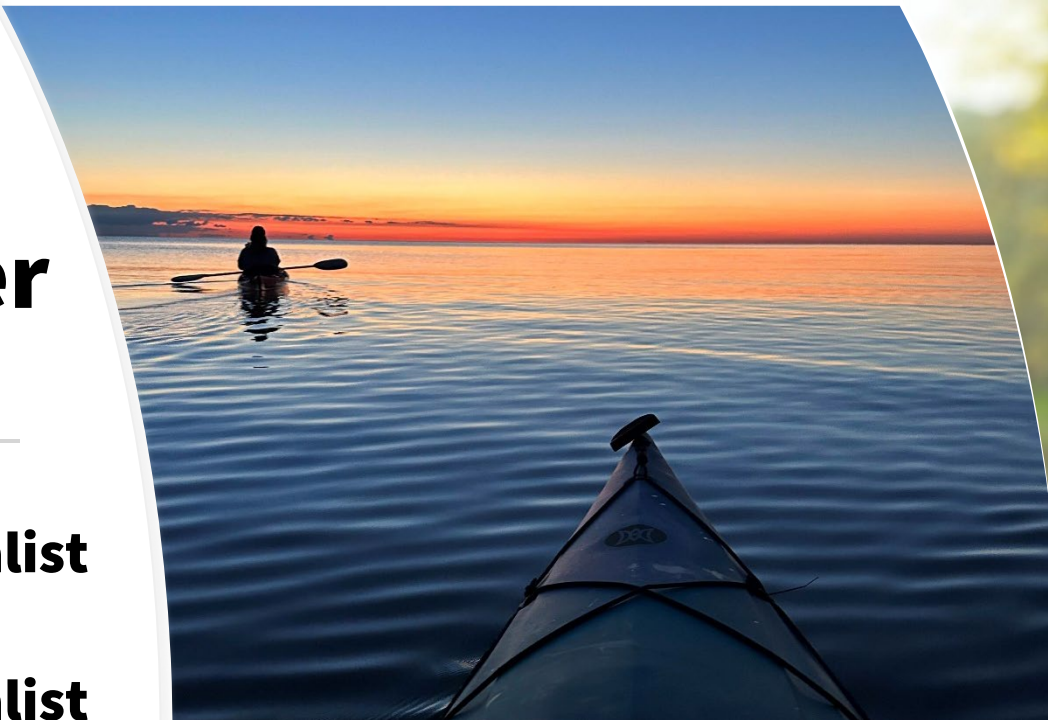
Division of Surface Water Updates

**Rob Zimmer:
Environmental Specialist**

**Tom Lipp:
Environmental Specialist**



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Outline

- Staffing
- Compliance
- Stormwater
- Permitting
- PFAS
- Biosolids
- Southwest Regional Water Study



Staffing

- New Chief of Division of Surface Water
 - Holly Tucker
 - Appointed in December 2025
 - Previously served in multiple other divisions at Ohio EPA:
 - Chief of the Office of Environmental Education
 - Environmental Specialist in Division of Surface Water
 - Prior to Ohio EPA
 - B.S. in Zoology from The Ohio State University
 - M.S. in Natural Resources The Ohio State University
 - Environmental consulting



Municipal Facility Contacts

County	Staff	County	Staff
Brown	Richard Miller	Hamilton	Glen Vonderembse/ Richard Miller
Butler	Maddy Mason	Highland	Apryl Dotson
Champaign	Glen Vonderembse	Logan	Kevin Chandler
Clark	Maddy Mason	Miami	Amy Wilcox
Clermont	Apryl Taylor	Montgomery	Jacob Taylor
Clinton	Jacob Taylor	Preble	Amy Wilcox
Darke	Amy Wilcox	Shelby	Kevin Chandler
Greene	Jacob Taylor	Warren	Kevin Chandler

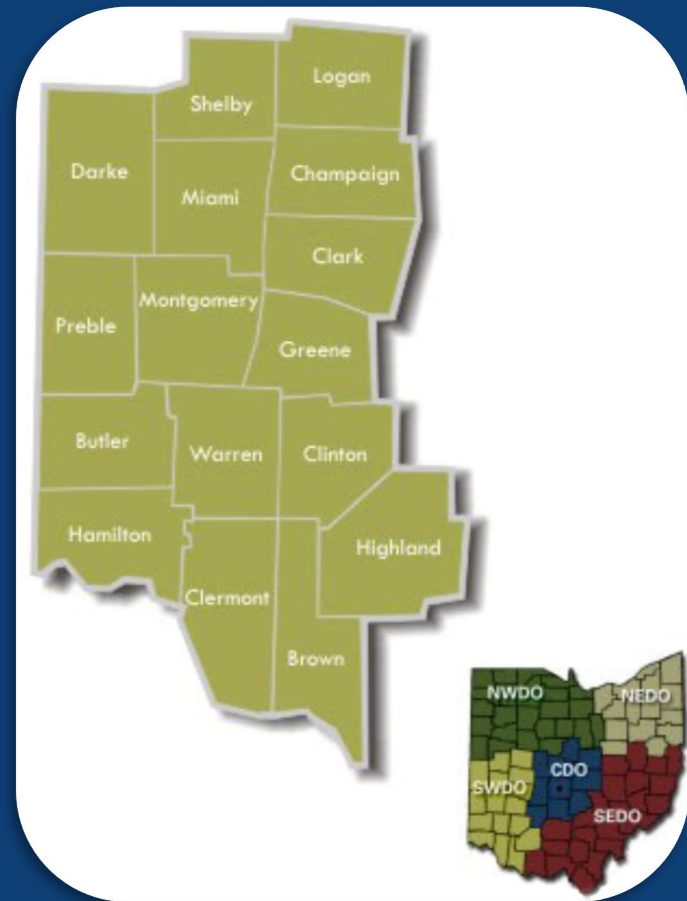
Staff	Email	Phone
Richard Miller	Richard.Miller@epa.ohio.gov	(937) 285-6647
Kevin Chandler	Kevin.Chandler@epa.ohio.gov	(937) 285-6034
Jacob Taylor	Jacob.Taylor@epa.ohio.gov	(937) 285-6096
Amy Wilcox	Amy.Wilcox@epa.ohio.gov	(937) 285-6103
Apryl Taylor	Apryl.Taylor@epa.ohio.gov	(937) 285-6032
Glen Vonderembse	Glen.Vonderembse@epa.ohio.gov	(937) 285-6033
Maddy Mason	Madeline.Mason@epa.ohio.gov	(937) 285-6044



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Industrial Facility Contacts

County	Staff	County	Staff
Brown	Thomas Lipp	Hamilton	Thomas Lipp
Butler	Thomas Lipp	Highland	Thomas Lipp
Champaign	Rob Zimmer	Logan	Bryan Slaton
Clark	Bryan Slaton	Miami	Rob Zimmer
Clermont	Bryan Slaton	Montgomery	Rob Zimmer
Clinton	Bryan Slaton	Preble	Bryan Slaton
Darke	Rob Zimmer	Shelby	Bryan Slaton
Greene	Rob Zimmer	Warren	Bryan Slaton



Staff	Email	Phone
Thomas Lipp	Thomas.Lipp@epa.ohio.gov	(937) 285-6004
Rob Zimmer	Robert.Zimmer2@epa.ohio.gov	(937) 285-6444
Bryan Slaton	Bryan.Slaton@epa.ohio.gov	(937) 285-6042



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Stormwater Facility Contacts

County	Staff	County	Staff
Brown	Daniel Hoit	Hamilton	Michelle Flanagan
Butler	Michelle Flanagan	Highland	Michelle Flanagan
Champaign	Daniel Hoit	Logan	Michelle Flanagan
Clark	Michelle Flanagan	Miami	Michelle Flanagan
Clermont	Daniel Hoit	Montgomery	Michelle Flanagan
Clinton	Daniel Hoit	Preble	Daniel Hoit
Darke	Michelle Flanagan	Shelby	Daniel Hoit
Greene	Daniel Hoit	Warren	Daniel Hoit



Staff	Email	Phone
Daniel Hoit	Daniel.Hoit@epa.ohio.gov	(937) 285-6104
Michelle Flanagan	Michelle.Flanagan@epa.ohio.gov	(937) 285-6440



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Water Quality, Biosolids and Pretreatment

Pretreatment	Tyler Bowman	Tyler.Bowman@epa.ohio.gov (937) 285-6475
Biosolids	Kristen Diesburg	Kristen.Diesburg@epa.ohio.gov (937) 285-6442
Water Quality	Matt Walbridge	Matthew.Walbridge@epa.ohio.gov (937) 285-6095
Water Quality	Michelle Waller	Michelle.Waller@epa.ohio.gov (937) 285-6028



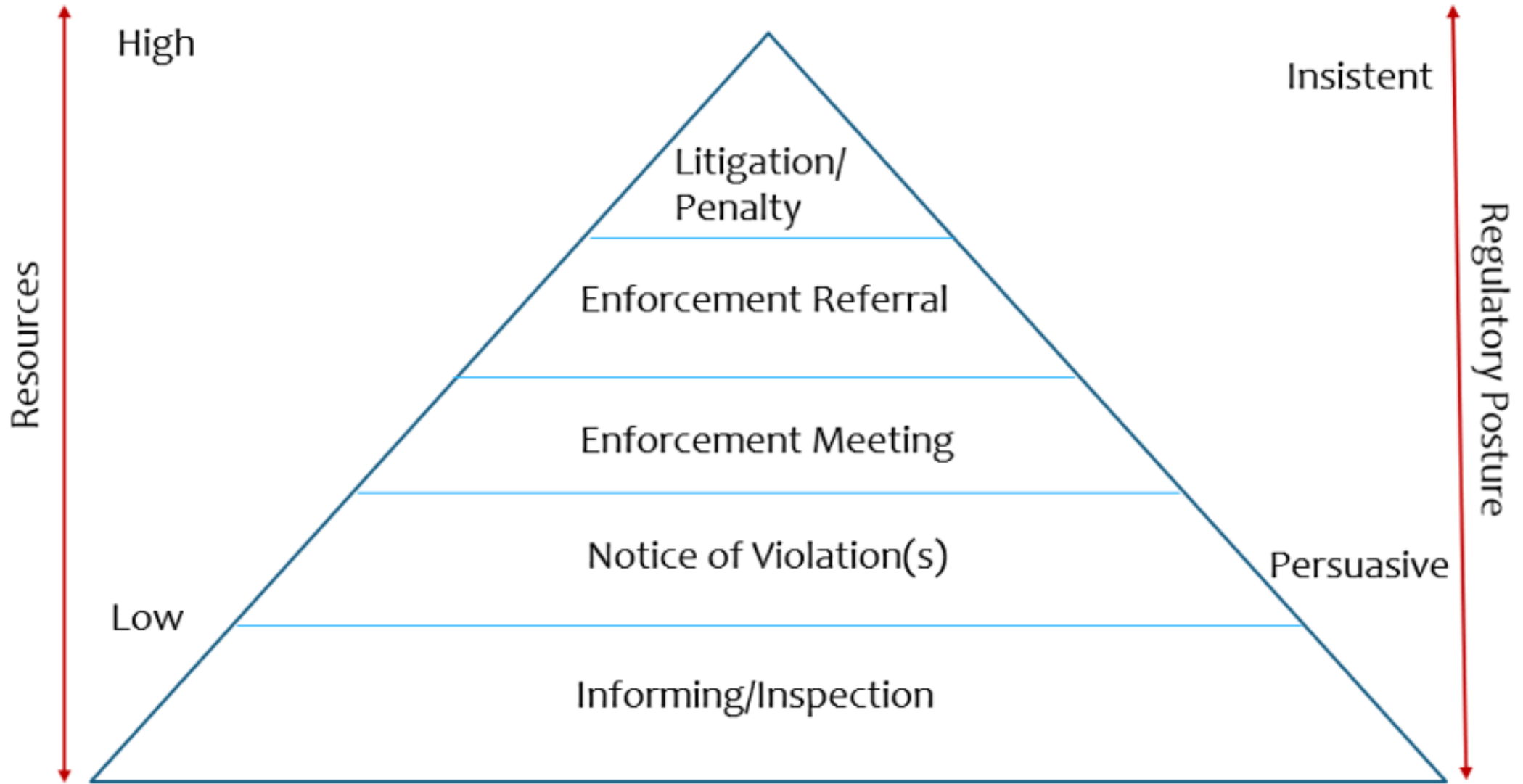
Note:

- Staff assignments subject to change – may result in contact changes
- If unsure of contact – check Ohio EPA website or contact the Ohio EPA Southwest District Office main telephone number (937) 285-6357



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Compliance and Enforcement



What is Significant Non-Compliance (SNC)?

➤ SNC Definition:

- The most serious level of violation designated by U.S. EPA
- Indicates whether violations or non-compliance events may pose a more severe level of concern for the environment or program integrity

➤ SNC Causes:

- **Non-submittal of required reporting**
 - **Significant Effluent Violations**
 - Failure to meet a permit schedule milestone
 - Violations of formal enforcement actions
- } Most Common Causes



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What causes Significant Non-Compliance (SNC)?

➤ Effluent Limit Violations

- Violations exceeding Technical Review Criteria (TRC)
 - 40% exceedance for conventional pollutants (i.e., BOD, TSS, ammonia, oil and grease)
 - 20% exceedance for toxic pollutants (i.e., copper, cyanide, chlorine, organics, most metals)
 - Trigger = Two (2) or more months in a 6-month period
- Chronic Violations
 - Monthly average effluent violation of any parameter by any amount
 - *Trigger = Four (4) or more months in a 6-month period*



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Ohio EPA uses SNC designation in determining inspection priorities
(Example: Major permitted facilities that fall into SNC throughout the year are inspected)



U.S. EPA uses SNC designation to assist with targeting facilities for inspection and potential enforcement - will also choose industries/sectors to target regardless of compliance history



U.S. EPA is active in Ohio
- between October 1, 2024, and April 1, 2025,
U.S. EPA conducted 17 inspections in Ohio

**WHAT'S THE
BIG DEAL?**

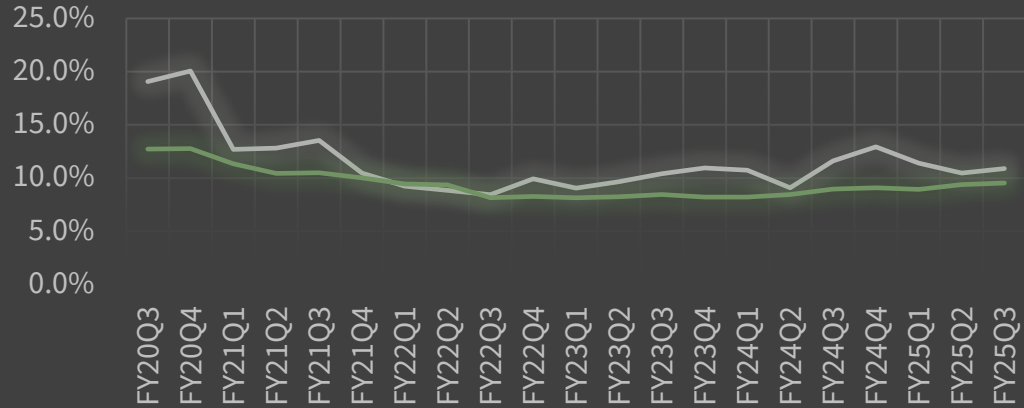


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Ohio by the Numbers

Ohio vs National SNC rate (%)

— OH SNC (%) — National SNC (%)



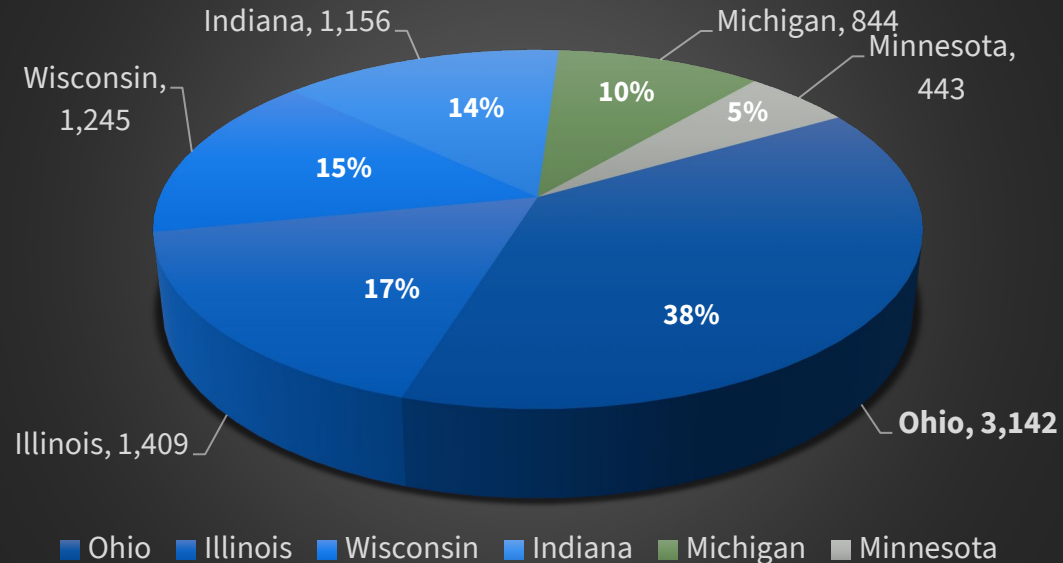
Ohio SNC Rate

- Spring 2020: 19.1%
- Spring 2025: 10.4%

BY THE NUMBERS

Ohio's Individual Permit Universe is ~7% of the total permit universe of the United States and 38% of the U.S. EPA Region 5 universe.

Region 5 Permit Universe



Environmental Protection Agency

DSW – WWTP Compliance Assistance Unit

Walter Ariss

Manager
614.644.3075

Nick Hammer

Environmental Specialist
740.380.5416

Andy Gall

Environmental Specialist
419.373.3003

**Free, confidential services to
assist WWTP operators with
ongoing issues**



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Stormwater Updates

- Small MS4 General Permit
 - Expires March 31, 2026
 - Early Stakeholder Input Ended July 18, 2025
 - Draft general permit public notice: TBD
 - Expected effective date: April 01, 2026

Stormwater Updates

- Industrial Stormwater General Permit
 - NOVs being issued to facilities that failed to perform Benchmark Monitoring
- Construction Stormwater Applications Weekly Report
 - Email Wesley.Sluga@epa.ohio.gov to join email list serve
 - Useful for MS4s – Identifies NOTs received and NOIs issued



General Permit Updates

- Expiring in 2026
 - Small MS4 Stormwater: March 31, 2026
 - Bridge Maintenance Wastewater: October 17, 2026
 - Household Sewage Treatment Systems: December 31, 2026
- New in 2026
 - Data Center: TBD



General Permit Updates

- Data Center (OHD000001)
 - Covers the discharge of wastewater and stormwater
 - Applicable wastewater discharges:
 - Non-contact cooling water
 - Low volume wastewater (e.g. cooling tower blowdown, boiler blowdown, air compressor condensate etc.)
 - Key parameters
 - Limited: pH, Total Dissolved Solids, Total Residual Chlorine and Total Residual Oxidants
 - Monitoring: Flow Volume, Oil and Grease and Temperature
 - In-person and virtual public hearing held on December 17, 2025
 - Comment period on draft permit ended January 16, 2026.
 - Reviewing submitted comments and developing a response document.



Division of Surface Water and PFAS

- Not currently undertaking rulemaking at the state level to adopt water quality criteria for any PFAS compounds
- U.S. EPA still has effective acute aquatic life use criteria that Ohio EPA will need to evaluate at our next triennial review
- U.S. EPA had signaled that PFAS sampling would be added to all NPDES permit application requirements in a future rulemaking; we have not heard a timeline on that effort or if it is still proceeding
- Ohio EPA completed sampling for PFAS in our large rivers (view summary report at QR code)



Biosolids Updates

- Biosolids: Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3745-40
 - 12 rule updates
 - 1 new rule
- Updates proposed to Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR) on January 06, 2026
 - JCARR meeting to discuss the rule updates: January 20, 2026
 - JCARR deadline to make changes to proposed updates: February 14, 2026
 - Anticipated effective date for rule updates: March, 2026



Biosolids Updates

3745-40-09: Approved Sampling Methods, Monitoring Frequency Requirements, Record Retention and Annual Reporting

- **Rule changes**

- Removed dioxin monitoring requirements
- Updated the table of approved analytical methods for sludges
- Added field storage inspection records
- Reorganized SOP and record keeping requirements for clarity



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Biosolids Updates



3745-40-12: Compliance and Enforcement;
Spill Notification Requirements

- Sludge entering waters of the state shall be reported within 30 minutes of **discovery**, not 24 hours
- Spill Hotline: 800-282-9378



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Biosolids Updates

3745-40-13: Requirements for the Biosolids Beneficial User Management Program

- Certification of beneficial users
 - Application and examination process to become certified
 - Free materials with online exam
- Recordkeeping requirements for beneficial users
- Reasons a certification may be suspended or revoked
- Certification requirement will become effective on January 1, 2028
- Applies to agricultural use only



Biosolids Updates

Certified
Beneficial User

Does **not need**
certification
(but the more
the merrier!)

Farmer

Land Applier

Subcontractor



Biosolids Updates

- Betsy Sheerin, Biosolids Program Manager, Ohio EPA CO:
 - (614) 644-2150
 - Betsy.Sheerin@epa.ohio.gov
- Kristen Diesburg, Biosolids Coordinator, Ohio EPA SWDO:
 - (937) 285-6442
 - Kristen.Diesburg@epa.ohio.gov



Southwest Ohio Regional Water Study

— *Ohio EPA and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources are partnering to facilitate regional comprehensive water studies across Ohio. The goal of these studies is to evaluate current water availability, current water demand, projected future water demand, and plan for the future. Ohio must be forward-thinking about its water infrastructure needs, while also protecting our most important natural resource.*

— [Water Studies | Ohio Environmental Protection Agency](#)

Project Objectives:

- Improve, Maintain and Optimize Resources While Planning for Growth
- Collaboration & Regionalization
- Identify Future Needs



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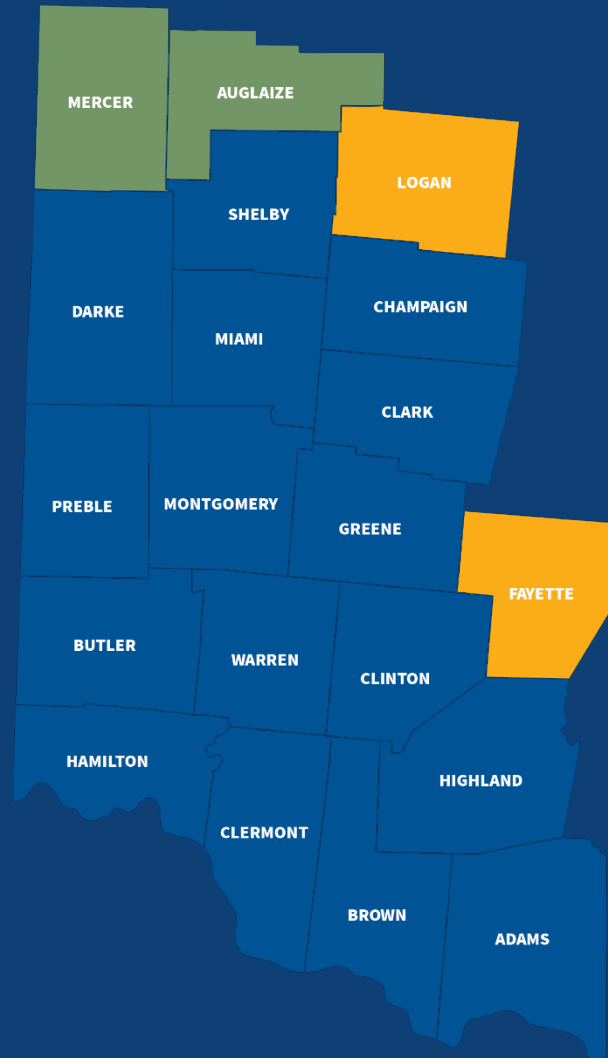
Southwest Ohio Regional Water Study

Timeline

- Contract awarded to CDM: October 2025
- Data Gathering: Ongoing
- Outreach/stakeholder engagement: Ongoing
 - OKI Designated Management Agencies meeting: November 2025
 - OKI Groundwater Committee: December 2025
 - MVRPC Water & Environment Subcommittee: January 2026
- Targeted Completion Date: November 2026



Southwest Ohio Regional Water Study



Mercer and Auglaize Counties - Part of Dayton Comprehensive Economic Development Area

Logan and Fayette Counties - Regional Jobs Ohio plan



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Southwest Ohio Regional Water Study

Project Team

Primary Consultant Team



Additional Stakeholder Engagement



Partner Agencies



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Southwest Ohio Regional Water Study



PAST

Understanding What Has Shaped the Present



The Great Flood of 1913 is considered one of the greatest natural disasters in Ohio History. Photograph of Main Street in Dayton, Ohio from March 25, 1913. Source: Dayton and Montgomery County Public Library.



Approximate boundaries of the Behr Dayton Thermal System VOC Plume Site, North Sanitary (Valleycrest) Landfill and Valley Pike VOCs Superfund sites. Source: EPA.



Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) shut down Grand Lake St. Marys in 2010 for the Summer Season.



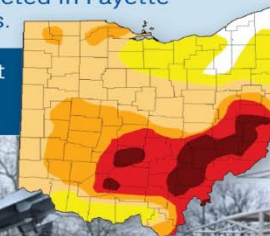
PRESENT

Take Immediate Action to Address the Present



\$5B Honda EV Plant being Constructed in Fayette County. Source: Dayton Daily News.

In 2024, Ohio experienced its most significant drought in 25 years. Source: U.S. Drought Monitor

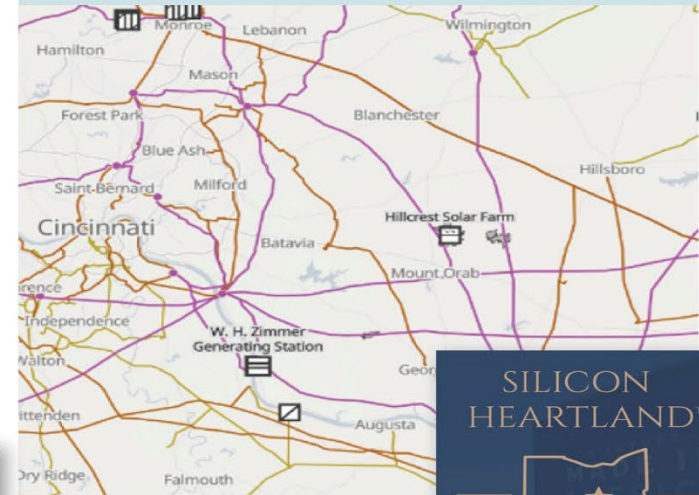


Since PFAS regulations were enacted in 2024, Airports and Air Bases have been common contributors given the use of firefighting foam (AFFF) including Wright Paterson and Wilmington Air Park.

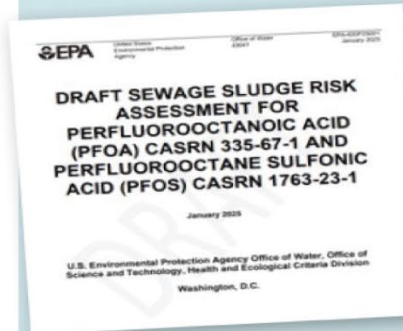


FUTURE

Plan for Future Threats to Preserve Water Quality and Quantity



An abundance of high voltage electric transmission mains in the southwest region will give rise to new hyper-scale data centers.



Future PFAS regulations for biosolids disposal will further reduce beneficial reuse through land application.

Southwest Ohio Regional Water Study

SW Ohio Water Concerns

- Legacy Contaminated and other potential source within the Great Miami and Little Miami Aquifers
- Nutrient impacts from Agricultural Land runoff and POTW discharges to recreational waters (inland lakes and streams)
- Recent effects in Biosolids disposal practices
- Impacts from climate extremes of drought and flooding
- LCRI Regulatory Compliance requirements



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Southwest Ohio Regional Water Study

Regional Benefits

- Ensure safe and abundant drinking water supply compliant with LCRI requirements
- Develop climate resiliency from drought and floods by securing regional water resources
- Support large industrial users with minimal (no) environmental or public impact
- Protect the environment and recreational waters from impacts associated with agricultural runoff and POTW discharges
- Implement sustainable long-term biosolids management
- Promoting feasible and sustainable infrastructure projects, such as water reuse to ensure long-standing water resources



Southwest Ohio Regional Water Study

Interested Party Contact Information:

- Joe Miller, Project Manager, Ohio EPA DSW SWDO:
 - (937) 285-6109
 - Joseph.Miller@epa.ohio.gov



Thank You

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