# 2024 Update Drinking and Ground Waters

Tanushree Courlas, Assistant Chief OTCO Class III/IV Workshop



### DDAGW Big Picture

- Rule Updates
- Lead and Copper
- PFAS
- Resources/Funding
- Project Planning



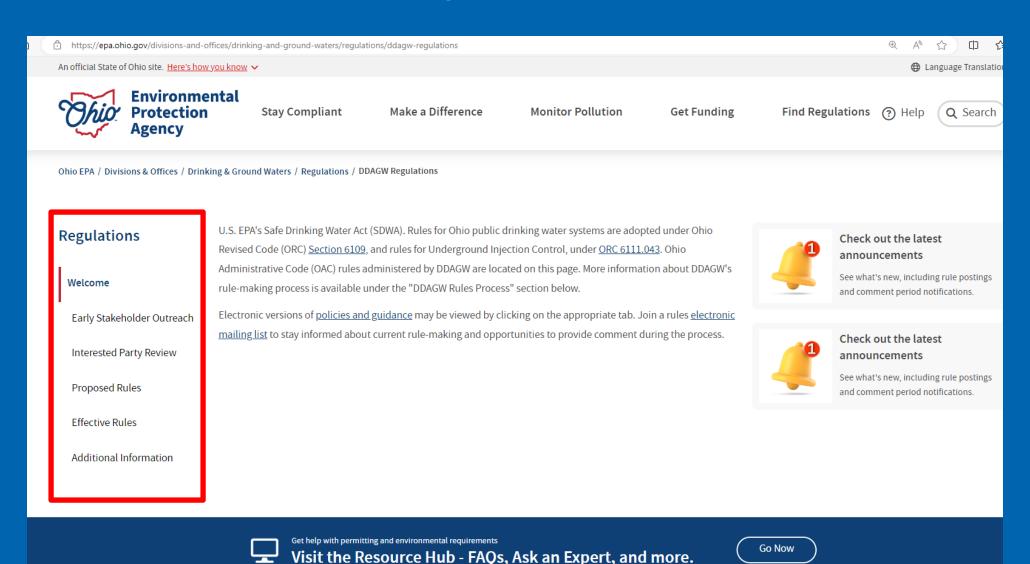
### Rule Update – Rule Making Process



#### Four Phases of Rule Making:

- Early Stakeholder Outreach
   (ESO) Ideas/Intent
- 2. Interested Party Review (IPR) Draft Rules
- 3. Original File Proposed Rules
- 4. Final File Final Rules

### Rule Updates Online



**Environmental** 

**Protection** 

**Agency** 

# Rule Updates Early Stakeholder Outreach (ESO)



- Lab Certification
  - Taking comments until August 11<sup>th</sup>
- Source Monitoring (81-65, 81-66, 81-71)
  - Taking comments until August 11<sup>th</sup>
- Plan Approval (91-02)
  - Comment period ended on June 6<sup>th</sup>

# Rule Updates Interested Party Review (IPR)



- Asset Management (87-01, 87-02, 87-03, 87-04, and 87-05)
  - Updating and adding definitions
  - Adding language specifying that only community and nontransient non-community PWSs are required to develop an asset management plan
  - Increasing the mileage of distribution pipe breaks that need to be recorded
  - Adding additional language to require the time spent on maintenance tasks
  - Removing optional recording of customer service metrics

# Rule Updates Original File

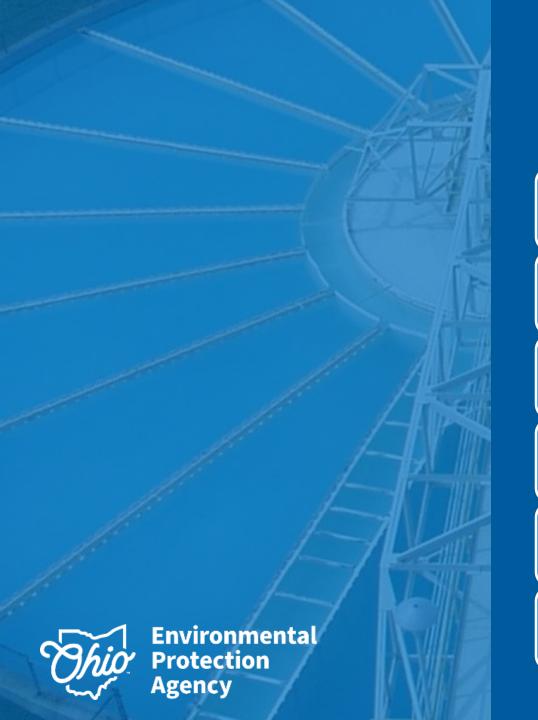


- Disruption of Service (83-02)
  - Proposed Rule out for public comment until August 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Maximum Contaminant Levels and Point of Entry Devices (81-10, 81-11, 81-15, 81-19)
  - Proposed Rule out for public comment until August 19<sup>th</sup>
- Operator Certification
  - Working towards original file.

### Rule Updates Final File

- Public Water System Licenses (81-02, -03, -29, and -07)
  - Working towards final file
- Administrative Penalties (81-04)
  - Final filed on May 30, Effective June 13





### Operator Certification Key Changes Proposed

Changing "wastewater treatment" with the term "water reclamation"

Holiday and other staffing flexibility

New "facility-specific" classification

Reducing required operating experience time for Class II, III and IV

Adding operator in training (OIT) status for Class III and increase OIT time

Adding flexibility to review reciprocity

# Rule Updates Upcoming



#### PFAS

- Internal workgroup has formed.
- Discussing content and number of rules
- Surface Water Treatment Rule
  - Internal workgroup kick off meeting earlier this month

# **Service Line Inventory**

- Inventory is due by October 16, 2024 (all community and NTNC)...even if you don't have lead service lines.
- Annual or triennial updates of the inventory are required, based on the system's monitoring schedule
- For <u>each service line</u> connected to the system, provide the material(s) for the public side, connector, and private side
- Inventories must be made publicly available



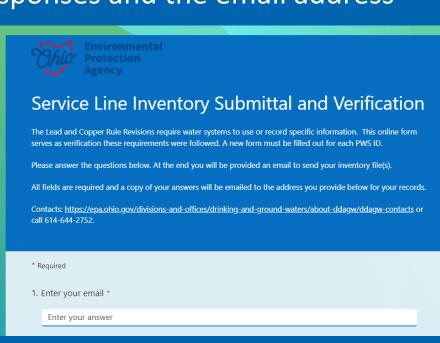
### **Submitting the Inventory**

- Recommended file name:
  - Inventory\_OHxxxxxxxx\_Date\_Initial/Update/etc.
    - Inventory\_OH1234567\_3.5.24\_Initial
- Complete the Microsoft form linked in the instructions

You will receive a confirmation email with your responses and the email address

for submittal





### **DDAGW Team**

General questions: <a href="mailto:DDAGWLeadCopper@epa.ohio.gov">DDAGWLeadCopper@epa.ohio.gov</a>

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# **PFAS Sampling Results Detection Above Action Level Detection Below Action Level** Sampled: No Detection County Boundaries (WM) Protection Agency Esri, HERE, Garmin, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community

# 2020 Statewide PFAS Study at Ohio PWS





### **PFAS**

- Building on statewide PWS testing results
- 80+ systems had at least one PFAS detected; 20+ additional systems had at least a raw detection (over 60 PWS likely > MCL)
- Recognize challenges designing and true costing treatment and source alternatives





### **Proposed PFAS Standards**

Compound	Proposed MCLG	Proposed MCL (enforceable levels)
PFOA	zero	4.0 ppt
PFOS	zero	4.0 ppt
PFNA		
PFHxS	1.0 (unitless)	1.0 (unitless)
PFBS	Hazard Index	Hazard Index
HFPO-DA (GenX)		110120101110107

Source: https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas



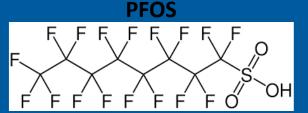
### **Drinking Water Treatment Guidance**

- DDAGW has drafted a PFAS Treatment Guidance in collaboration with AWWA and USEPA ORD
- Includes treatment options, demonstration studies and other considerations including waste streams and corrosion
- Final version will be available very soon
- Guidance will be updated periodically

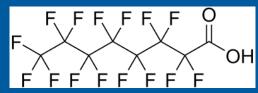


# **PFAS Next Steps**

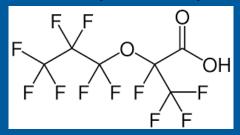
- PFAS in drinking water supplies
  - Evaluate treatment and alternative source options
  - Get more data if needed (test all wells)
  - Funding available
- If unknown, then do more testing
- PFAS Action Plan 2.0
- Chemours/Dupont Settlement
- Ongoing lawsuits
- Source investigations



#### PFOA



#### GenX (HFPO-DA)





### **RECENT GRANTS**

#### Well Abandonment & Source Water Protective Strategies Grants:

-SWAP applications awarded: 23

-Total amount awarded: \$359,354.62

-Well Abandonment applications awarded: 12

-Total amount awarded: \$253,331

#### Emergency Generator Grant:

-2024 applications awarded: 37

-Total amount awarded: \$1,326,242

#### Asset Management Program Grant:

-2024 applications awarded: 37

-Total amount awarded: \$511,551

#### H2Ohio Distribution Equipment Grant:

-Phase 1 applications received: 111

-Total among awarded: \$1,000,000

-Phase 2 applications received: 259

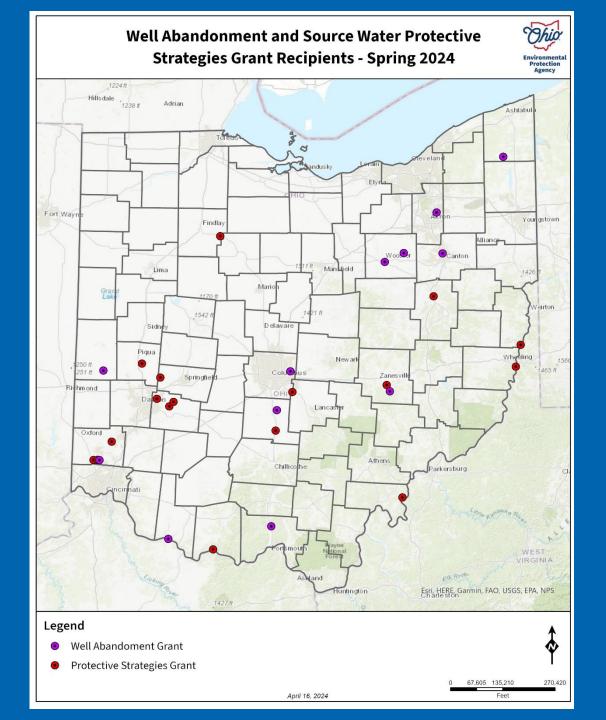
-Total among awarded: \$2,232,000



Service Line Inventory Assistance Program - \$18 million

### **SWP Grant Breakdown**

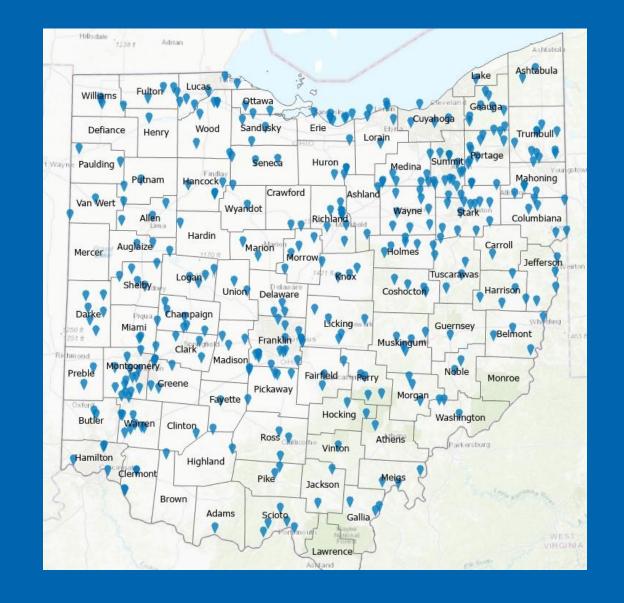
- Award Letters Sent!
- SWP Strategies Grant
  - − ~\$360,000 to 22 PWS
- Well Abandonment Grant
  - -~\$253,000 to 12 PWS



## **Distribution Equipment Grants**

- Two rounds
- 350 grants
- \$3.2 million

H2Qhio





# **Examples of SWP Strategies**

- Purchasing educational materials for outreach to customers, general public and in local schools
  - Enviroscapes Watershed 3-D model
  - Environmental Brochures and mailing materials to send information on SWAP plan
  - Printing coloring books for distribution
- Source Water Protection Signs (in high traffic areas, protect future land use)
- Spill Containment and Clean Up kits (providing to businesses on pcsi list, stage at WTP and wellfield)
- Participation in Emergency Response Training (E-learning courses, coordination with FDs)
- Source Water Protection website development/update
- Video Series (inform public how to protect ground water)
- School Field Trip
- Early Warning Monitoring Wells
- Fencing around wells



# UPCOMING GRANTS Fall 2024

Well Abandonment & Source Water Protective Strategies Grants:

- -Well Abandonment: \$250k available, up to \$15k per well
- -Source Water Protective Strategies: \$500k available, up to \$20k per strategy
- Emergency Generator Grant:
  - -\$1,250,000 available, up to \$50k per award
- NEW: Water Audit and Water Loss Control Program Grant:
  - -\$1 million available, up to \$20k per award



Service-Line Verification Pot-Holing Demonstration RCAP Field Day, 06-11-2024

# Water Audit and Water Loss Control Program Grant

The purpose of this grant program is to help small community public water systems increase their technical capacity to provide a continuous source of safe drinking water in a more efficient way by contracting with a third-party to assist with a water audit and water loss control program development.

# Water Audit and Water Loss Control Program Grant

#### Items eligible for reimbursement:

- Initial water loss control program development conducted by a third-party contractor, which must include:
  - a thorough water audit
  - A plan or intervention process to address findings of the water audit and reduce or eliminate water losses, and
  - an evaluation to determine if steps taken to address water loss issues have been successful.
- A final report from the selected third-party contractor detailing the outcomes of initial program development and future planning should be provided with reimbursement documentation.

# Service Line Inventory Direct Assistance Contract

- \$18 million
- Contracted with two vendors to meet the needs of Ohio's PWS
- 140 PWS have requested assistance
- Contractor will be sent out to provide assistance <u>No</u> charge
- Assistance includes inventory development, identification, replacement plans
- All community and not for profit NTNC's can receive assistance



### How to Participate and Stay Engaged

- Update contact information with inspectors
- Follow Ohio EPA on social media
- Follow WSRLA program announcements
- Questions: infrastructurefunding@epa.ohio.gov

**WSRLA** 



**DDAGW Grants** 





# **Project Planning**



- Water Loss
- Rate Study
- Alternatives Analysis
- Cost Comparison
- Environmental Impacts
- Ongoing Operation and Maintenance Costs
- Demonstration Studies
- Corrosion Control Evaluations

# Components of an Asset Management Program



INVENTORY AND EVALUATION
OF ALL ASSETS



OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAMS



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
AND CONTINGENCY
PLANNING PROGRAM



CRITERIA AND TIMELINES
FOR INFRASTRUCTURE
REHABILITATION AND
REPLACEMENT



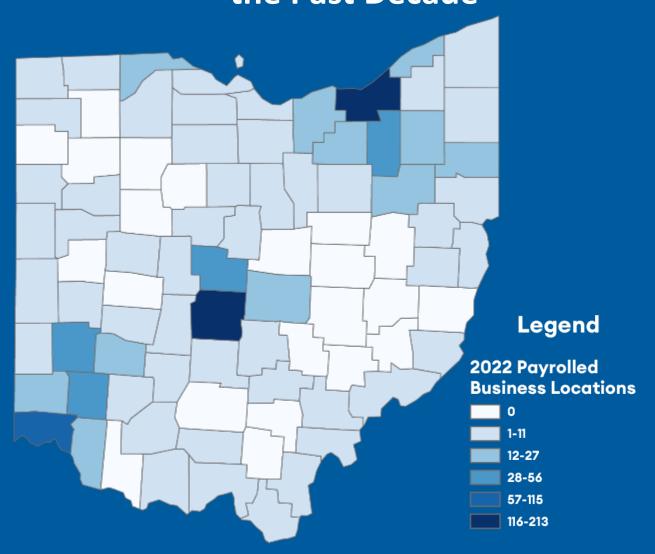
APPROVED CAPACITY PROJECTIONS
AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT
PLANNING



LONG-TERM FUNDING STRATEGY TO SUPPORT ASSET MANAGEMENT PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION



Dramatic Growth in the Data Center Industry over the Past Decade



# **3X Data Center Growth**

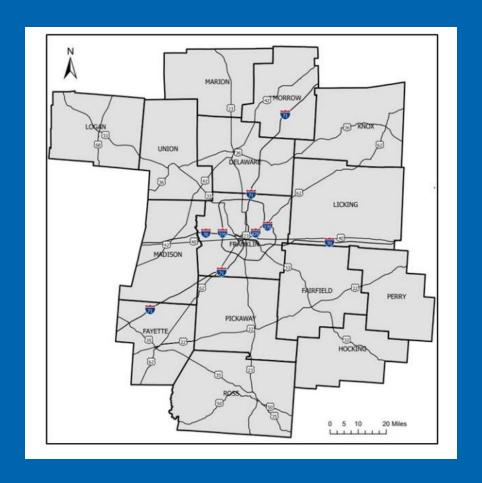
In 2011, Ohio had 379 data center locations -

Today, there are over 1,100



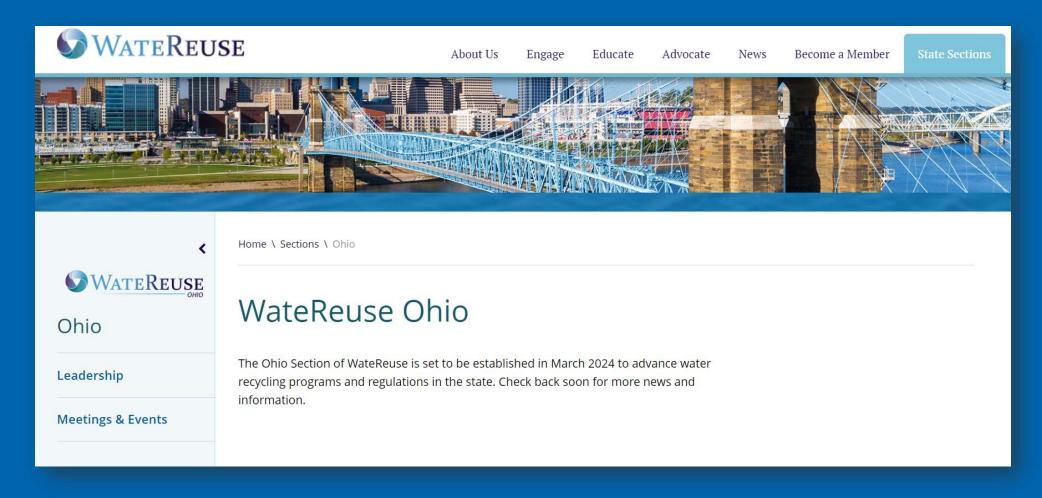
# Central Ohio Water Study

- 15 county comprehensive study
- Evaluate water resources, water and wastewater capacity, and ground and surface water conditions and status
- Ambitious 12-month effort
- Planning to replicate in other areas of the state





## Water Reuse





https://watereuse.org/sections/ohio/

# Also on the Radar



- Cybersecurity
- Workforce Development
- Contingency Planning
- Emergency Response coordination
- Coordination with USEPA (R5 and HQ)

# Also on the Radar



- Cybersecurity
- Workforce Development
- Contingency Planning
- Emergency Response coordination
- Water reuse and planning
- Efficiencies and customer service

# **Takeaways**



Energized federal regulatory environment





Regulatory changes coming... we are all on notice and need to start working now



Ohio EPA fully committed to (continue and expand) our partnership with the water industry

# Thank You

# Tanushree Courlas, Assistant Chief

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http://epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/











