

Reorganizing to better serve Ohio Communities

**Ohio EPA's
Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance**

October 27, 2015



Background

Ohio EPA Director Butler has had a long-standing vision of creating a “one-stop shop” environment within Ohio EPA for customers seeking our technical and financial resources to help them achieve compliance. Now that he has rejoined Ohio EPA as Director, we are implementing this vision as a priority over the next two years.

A core component of this initiative is a reorganization effort to better align several of Ohio EPA’s compliance, technical and funding assistance programs under a single division.



What are our goals?

- Enhance the way in which we serve our customers.
- Improve our own internal operations through a more efficient, coordinated and strategic approach to administering resources.
- More strongly position the Agency to help even more regulated entities with a greater level of service.

What are the steps?

May 1, 2015 - the merger of our Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention (OCAPP) and our Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance (DEFA).

The new division retains the name of DEFA; however, provides a wider variety of services.



What does the new DEFA look like?

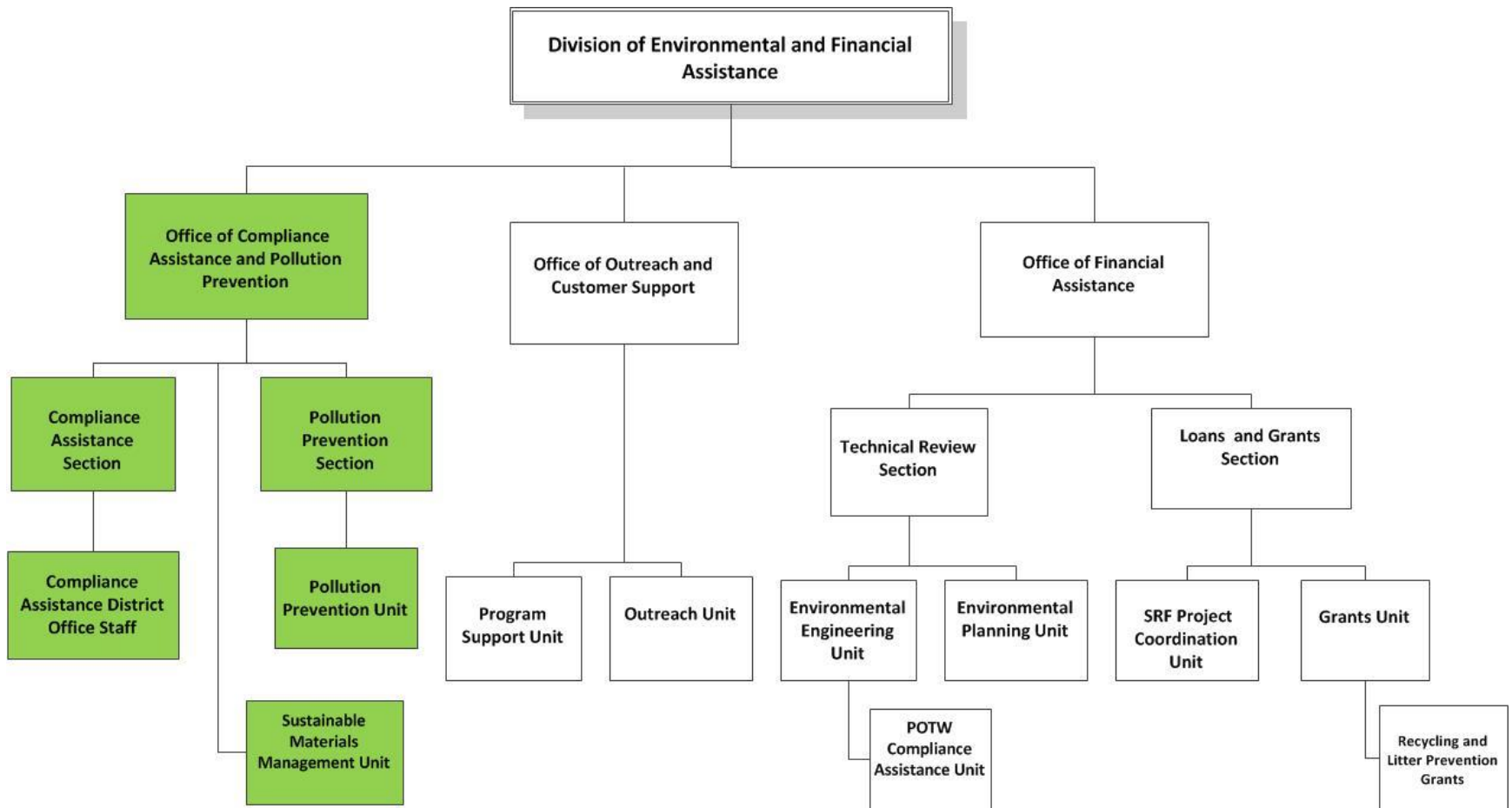
DEFA houses several of the Agency's core programs that have supported business and community development for many years.

DEFA has three main offices:

- Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention
- Office of Financial Assistance
- Office of Outreach and Customer Support



Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention



Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention (OCAPP)

- Help small businesses comply with regulations and permitting through a variety of services, including:
 - toll-free hotline
 - on-site assistance
 - training, workshops and webinars
 - email updates and newsletters
 - “plain-English” publications
- Help businesses with pollution prevention measures that increase performance and them save money.

Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention (OCAPP)

- Recognizing the outstanding efforts of businesses, communities and other entities making a commitment to environmental stewardship through our Encouraging Environmental Excellence (E3) Program.
- By law, OCAPP is required to work with small businesses confidentially – meaning that information obtained by the office is not shared with inspection or enforcement staff at Ohio EPA.

How OCAPP Helps Small Businesses

- Summarize EPA requirements for business start-ups and businesses that want to expand operations
- Help businesses correct violations found by an inspector
- Help businesses complete EPA paperwork
- Help navigate through regulatory and permitting processes

Annual OCAPP Accomplishments

- Help around 2,500 businesses with their pollution prevention (P2) and compliance needs.
- Conduct over 200 site visits to help companies with compliance and pollution prevention.
- Participate in about 40 presentations and training events to help educate Ohio businesses and organizations about P2 and compliance.
- Distribute thousands of publications each year to businesses.

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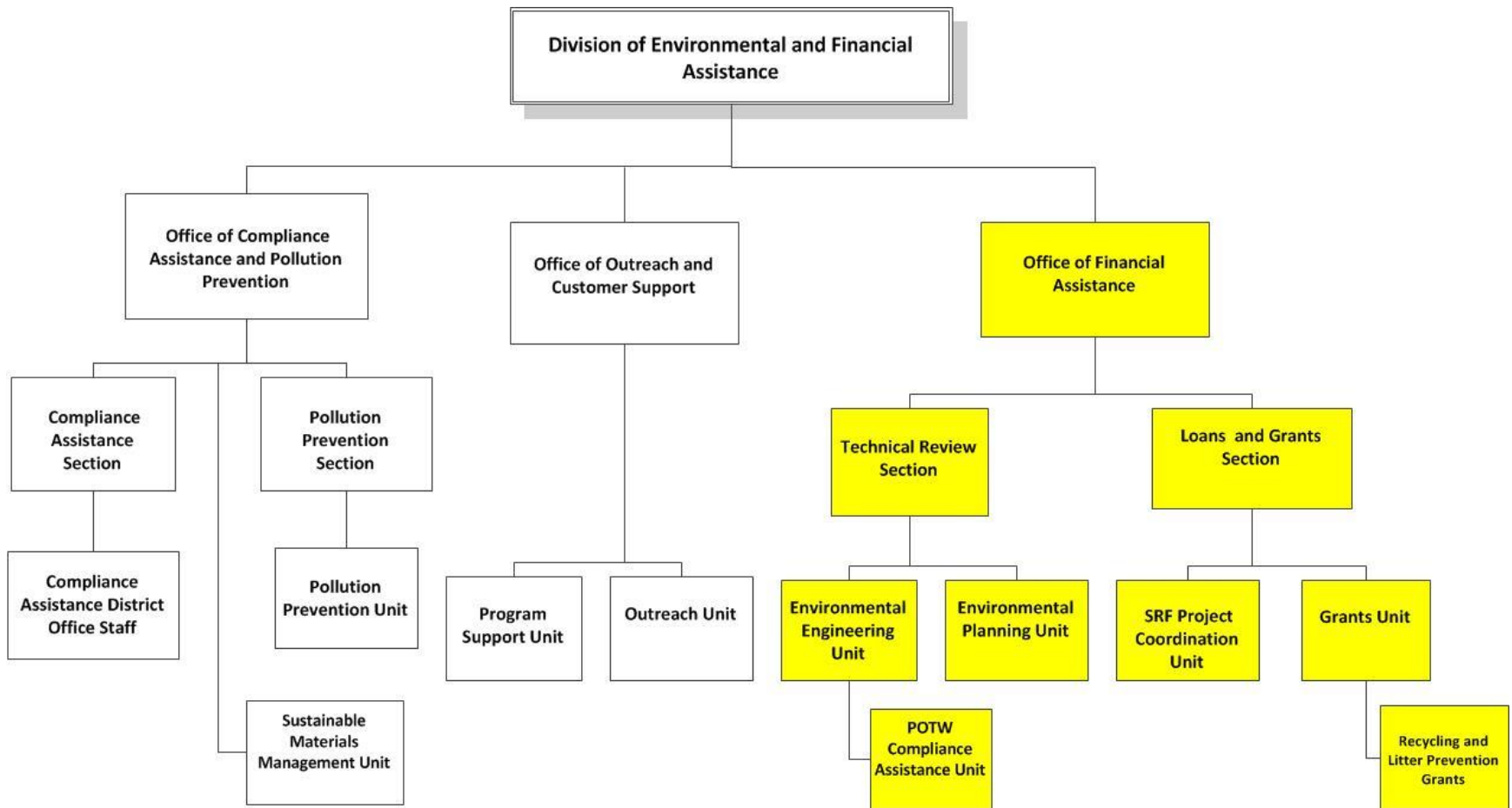
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Office of Financial Assistance



Office of Financial Assistance (OFA)

- Administer both state revolving loan fund programs
 - Water Pollution Control Loan Fund Water (WPCLF)
 - Water Supply Revolving Loan Account (WSRLA).
- Administer the recycling/litter prevention grant program
- Administer the wastewater treatment facility compliance assistance program

Office of Financial Assistance Administers Ohio's Two State Revolving Funds

- **Water Supply Revolving Loan Account (WSRLA)**
(the drinking water loan program)

- **Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF)**
(the wastewater loan program)

Ohio's Two State Revolving Funds

	WPCLF	WSRLA
Authorization (year)	CWA 1987	SDWA 1996
First Loan	Sept. 1989	Feb. 1999
Total Loans	1,840 loans - \$6.5 billion	446 loans - \$1.0 billion
Federal Seed Money	\$2.05 billion	\$493 million
State Matching Funds	\$395 million	\$98 million
Annual Capacity	\$500 million/year	\$150 million/year

Ohio's Two State Revolving Funds Water Supply Revolving Loan Account

Eligible Projects Include:

New water treatment plants

New waterlines

Water tanks/towers

Regionalization projects

Standby/back-up power

Emergency interconnections

Water treatment plant rehab

Waterline rehab/replace

Pump/booster stations

New water meters

New well fields

Asset Management Plans



Ohio's Two State Revolving Funds

Water Supply Revolving Loan Account

WSRLA Interest Rates

Category	Terms
Standard Long-term	Market Rate minus 1.25%
Small System (<10,000 pop.)	Market Rate minus 1.75%
Disadvantaged Communities (three levels)	From 20% to 40% Principal Forgiveness; rates as low as 0%

Ohio's Two State Revolving Funds

Water Pollution Control Loan Fund

Eligible Projects Include:

New wastewater treatment plants (WWTP)

WWTP upgrades and rehabilitation

New sanitary sewers for unsewered areas

Sanitary sewer rehabilitation or replacement

Correction of combined sewer overflows

Nonpoint source pollution control projects

- Stream protection and stream restoration
- Landfill closure
- HSTS replacement programs



Ohio's Two State Revolving Funds

Water Pollution Control Loan Fund

WPCLF Interest Rates

Category	Terms
Standard Long-term	Market Rate minus 1.25%
Small Community	Market Rate minus 1.75%
Hardship	1%
Hardship	0%
Principal Forgiveness	May be available...

Ohio's Two State Revolving Funds the WSRLA and WPCLF

Compared to market rates, savings are substantial
Example \$1 million loan (October 2015 rates)

Interest Rate	Total Repayments	Savings vs. Market
Market (3.43%)	\$1,390,138	-----
Standard (2.18%)	\$1,239,146	\$150,992
Small (1.68%)	\$1,181,545	\$208,593
Hardship (1%)	\$1,105,820	\$284,318
Hardship (0%)	\$1,000,000	\$390,138

Ohio's Two State Revolving Funds

Summary Points

- Ohio's two State Revolving Funds are:
 - Water Supply Revolving Loan Account (WSRLA) *the drinking water loan program*
 - Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) *the wastewater loan program*
- Funds are a major source of infrastructure financing.
- Programs offer very attractive below-market interest rates
- Limited principal forgiveness funds may be available

Emerging Funding Priorities for Water Quality

- Unsewered Communities
- Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Projects
- Home Sewage Treatment System (HSTS) Upgrades
- Projects that Reduce “Nutrient” Discharges at Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants
- Projects that will protect Lake Erie and other waters that experience Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)

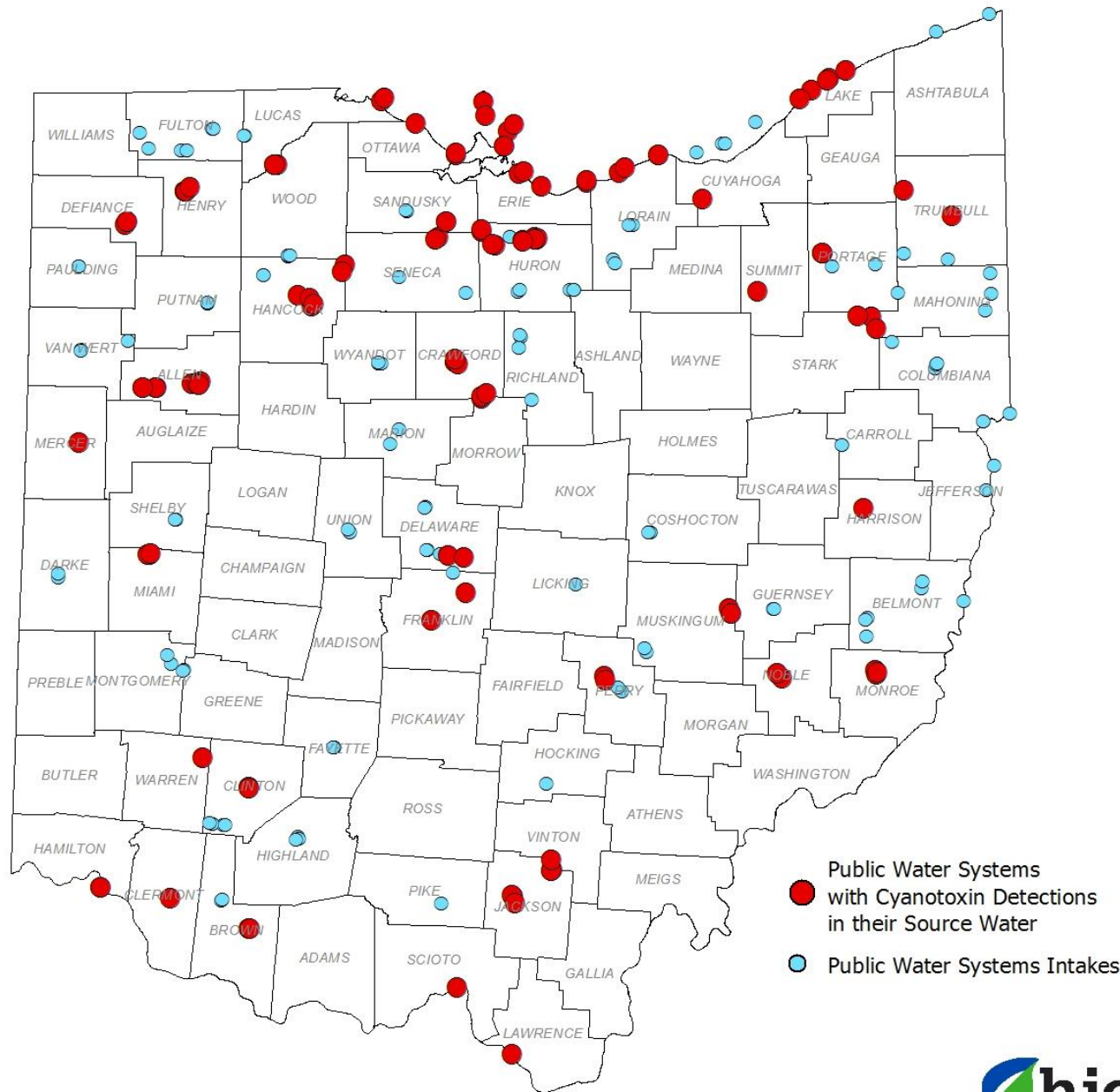
Emerging Funding Priorities for Public Drinking Water Systems

- Continued Focus on Small & Disadvantaged Communities
- Disadvantaged Community Regionalization
- Auxiliary Power
- Asset Management Planning
- Improvements at Surface Water Treatment Plants to address Harmful Algal Blooms

Cyanotoxin Occurrence

54 Public Water Systems with Cyanotoxin Detections in their Source Water

Sampled 1/2 of all Surface Water Public Water System Sources



We Need Your Help.....

- Monitoring of raw and finished water has been voluntary, and response-based.
- Ohio EPA has invested heavily in testing for public water systems (manpower, lab cost, etc)
- Ohio EPA has provided financial incentives to PWSs to help with monitoring costs.
- Ohio EPA has drafted HAB rules for PWSs to be more proactive.

Draft HAB Rules

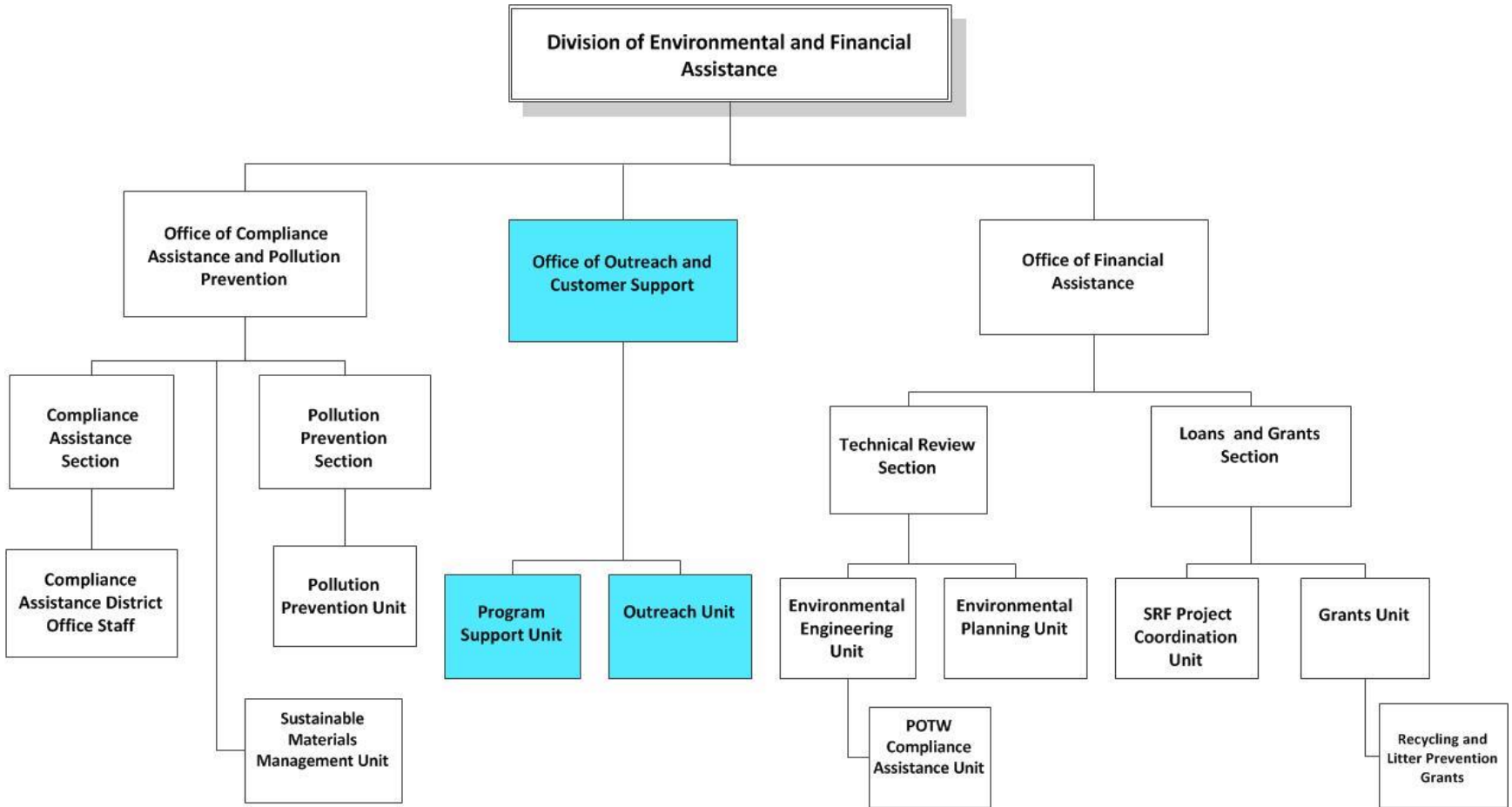
- **Establish Microcystins Action Level (based on USEPA Health Advisories)**
- **Monitoring Requirements for Surface Water Systems**
- **Treatment Technique Requirements**
- **Public Notification Requirements**
- **Requirements for Laboratory Certification, Analytical Techniques, and Reporting Deadlines**
- **Recordkeeping Requirements**

GOAL: Adopt final rules prior to 2016 HAB season

<http://epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/rules.aspx#habs>



Office of Outreach and Customer Support



Office of Outreach and Customer Support (OCS)

- A newly created office in DEFA that will focus on outreach, marketing and overall division support.
 - Facilitate meetings with external customers to describe DEFA's services.
 - Be the “front door” of the division to help ensure customers get connected to the right people and resources quickly.
 - Provide overall division support.

Outreach and Customer Support

One of Director Butler's priorities is that DEFA have a more proactive approach in reaching out to Ohio's communities and businesses to share information on our services.

It is important to me that our regulated entities not only understand what resources are available, but that we make ourselves available to guide them through the process of getting help, so that we can more fully meet their needs.



Anytown, Ohio



drinking water

wastewater

water intake

discharge

sewage

sludges/solids

How DEFA Can Help



- Compliance Assistance
- Pollution Prevention
- Recycling Market Development



- Compliance Assistance
- Pollution Prevention
- Recycling/Litter Prevention



water intake



drinking water

wastewater



Compliance Assistance



discharge



sewage



sludges/solids



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Questions?

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