

# Ohio

## Small Business Environmental Assistance Program

**JENNIFER COLLINS** MAY 28, 2021 04:27PM

### Big Wins

**JENNIFER COLLINS** JUN 03, 2021 02:31PM

#### 1. Ohio EPA's Virtual Compliance Assistance Conference:

i. From September 21 to October 8, 2020 Ohio EPA hosted their first virtual compliance assistance conference. Over 7,600 attendees logged on to attend 20 different conference sessions. OCAPP helped the Agency pilot a new virtual platform that allowed attendees to interact virtually through live polling, live Q&A and receive both Continuing Education Credits and Certificates for attending. All sessions were recorded and are still being viewed on Ohio EPA's YouTube channel and conference landing page.

2. OCAPP responded to more than 13,000 environmental assistance requests from Ohio businesses, communities, and other organizations during 2020

3. This included assistance in completing 2,603 forms, which included permit applications and other Ohio EPA related paperwork 4. OCAPP staff participated in 40 presentations and training events, reaching more than 1,100 people. Presentation and training topics included a wide range of environmental compliance topics for internal and external stakeholders.

5. OCAPP hosted 17 webinars with over 5,400 attendees. The most popular webinars included:

- i. Virtual Assistance and Resources from Ohio EPA and Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation
- ii. Open Dumping of Solid Waste and Scrap Tires
- iii. Recycling and Litter Prevention Grant

Application Process

- iv. Lead Service Line Replacement Funding

*You guys did AWESOME!!!* – ANONYMOUS

*Wow!* – DONOVANGRIMWOOD

### Challenges

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1. Currently working on filling vacant positions and some restructuring of the Recycling and Litter Prevention Unit with the Sustainability Unit.
2. Continuing to work virtually.

### 2021 / 2022 Excitement & Priorities

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1. OCAPP's Recycling and Litter Prevention Grant Program received an increase in spending authority.
2. Working on planning a virtual Sustainability Conference
3. Working on a project to create "How-To" videos that will help a wide range of our customers, hoping to turn this into a training plan.

### Help Wanted

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1. Any advice or assistance on training new employees, keeping up with sustainability and pollution prevention technologies and best practices.
2. OCAPP would love to learn more about different state's compliance tools.
3. OCAPP is also interested in how other states track their data and highlight successes.

# Structure and Stats (Where are you housed? and How many Full Time Equivalents (FTEs)?)

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1. Our program (the Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention) is housed in Ohio EPA's Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance. We have a central office located in Columbus, Ohio and five district offices located in Logan, Twinsburg, Bowling Green, Dayton and Columbus. OCAPP has at least one staff member in each of the five district offices.

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2. In total there are 21 Full time employees in our state SBEAP program and one part time worker. Our Environmental Assistance Unit has 9 staff and are filling a 10<sup>th</sup> position (1 supervisor, one lead worker (filling this position) and 8 district staff. The Recycling and Sustainability Unit has 8 staff ( 1 supervisor, 1 grant coordinator, 3 staff and are filling 3 more vacancies). We have one other full time staff and one part time that help with outreach and customer support. We also have a manager and assistant chief who oversee the program.