

# National Small Business Environmental Assistance Program 2024 Annual Report



## Who we are

Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs, or SBEAPs, help small businesses and other assistance providers access environmental compliance and sustainable practices information. We offer free and confidential assistance and can act as your small business advocates on environmental regulations. State program staff allocations range from 0.25 to 100 staff.

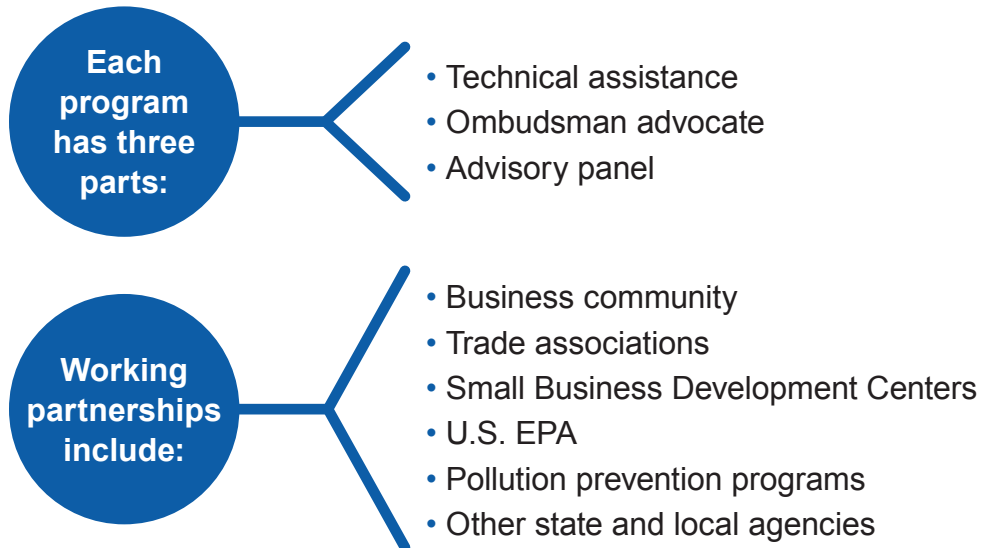
## Types of small businesses we assist

- Auto body repair refinishing
- Construction contractors
- Dental offices
- Dry-cleaners/laundry service
- Manufacturers
- Metal fabrication/finishing
- Painting and coating
- Plating and polishing
- Printing/graphic arts

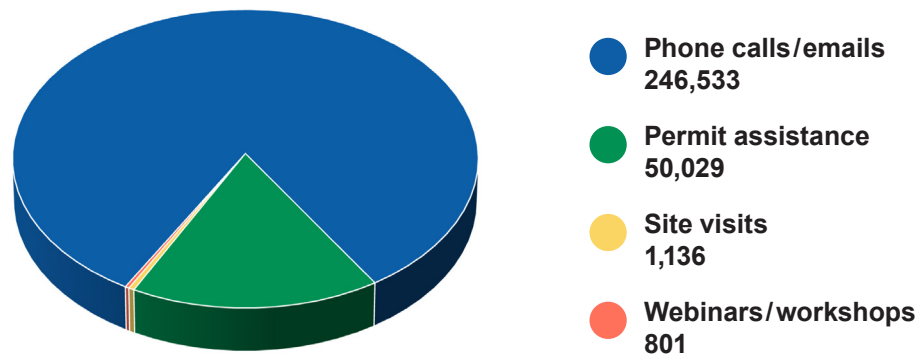
## Did you know?

Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs were established as part of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. These programs are supported through various state funding mechanisms including state air permit fees.

## How our programs work







## Technical assistance by type



Data based on 37 programs

## 2024 audience impact

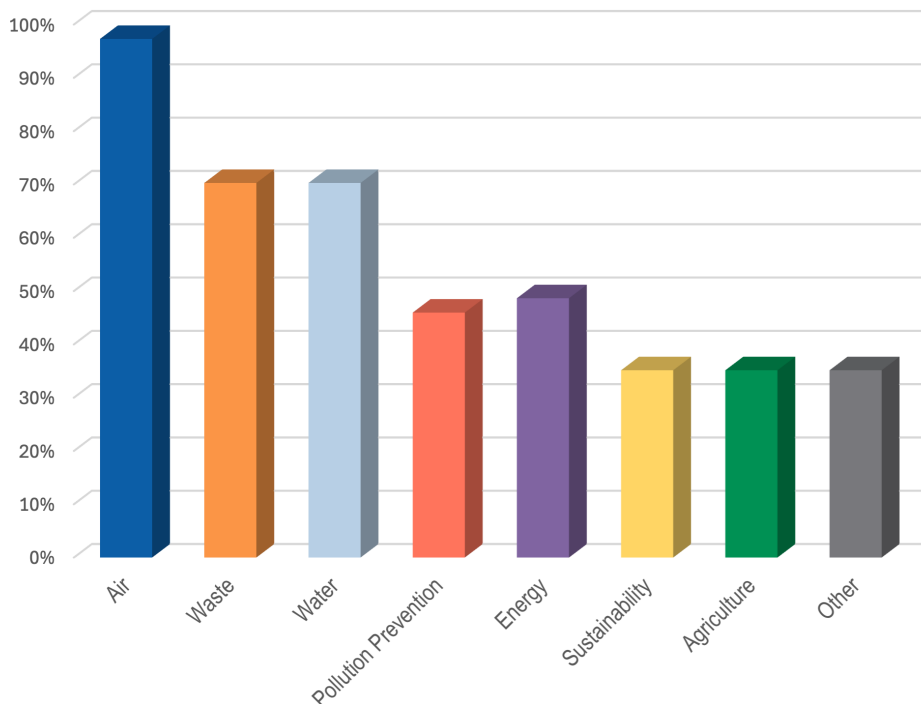
-  **Clients served: 297,977**
-  **Online resource visits: 536,059**
-  **Outreach audience: 11,374,035**
-  **Webinar/workshop attendees: 334,662**
-  **Total social media followers: 311,542**

To learn more about resources available from your state's Small Business Environmental Assistance Program, visit [www.nationalsbeap.org](http://www.nationalsbeap.org) or call 800-368-5888.

## How we make an impact

Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs throughout the country offer compliance assistance in many areas. All programs provide assistance with air quality, and 81% also offer additional services such as hazardous waste and pollution prevention technical assistance. These “multi-media” programs are a one-stop shop for small businesses with limited resources. The chart below represents the percentage of programs providing technical assistance in the following areas.

### Technical assistance areas



## What our clients say

*“This resource has helped me navigate the tricky legal regulations that are almost impossible for the layperson to understand, without their help this could have disrupted my business.”*

*Over the past 20 years, each person I have worked with has been quickly responsive and extremely knowledgeable. I am so grateful for this service.*

*“...provides great service and information to small businesses. It is very helpful and reassuring knowing an organization is there to help and provide answers to questions.”*

*“...helped us to better understand the EPA rules and permits and worked closely with us to ensure our small business has what is needed... This program has been a great asset to our small business in remaining compliant.”*

## Featured Case Study: Connecticut Breweries

Connecticut has more than 100 operating breweries. The recent growth in this industry is a welcome addition to the state’s economy, but the brewing process comes with potential environmental impacts.

Three Connecticut breweries ([Back East Brewing Company](#), [Beer’d Brewing Company](#) and [Great Falls Brewing Company](#)) participated in a voluntary wastewater sampling project and implemented low- and no-cost best practices. As a result, the breweries reduced biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), chemical oxygen demand (COD), total suspended solids (TSS) and other pollutants being discharged, or were able to identify how brewing processes contribute to discharge strength.

Recommendations and actions taken by these breweries serve as a model for actions other local breweries can also implement. Two of the breweries alone reduced a total of 125,800 lbs. of wastewater pollutants (BOD, COD, TSS, and ammonia).



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