

The Air You Breathe

Free Quarterly Newsletter from **Akron Regional Air Quality Management District**

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Ohio EPA's New Director



In December 2022, Governor Mike DeWine appointed Anne M. Vogel as the director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. She most recently served as Policy Director for Governor DeWine during his first term, driving implementation of the DeWine/Husted agenda for Ohio. Chief among them is the creation and launch of H2Ohio, the Governor's water quality initiative that brings together the Ohio EPA, Ohio Department of Agriculture and Ohio Department of Natural Resources to improve Ohio's water quality through the creation of wetlands, the reduction in phosphorus runoff, and access to clean drinking water and quality sewer systems. Vogel also served as Infrastructure Coordinator for Governor DeWine, overseeing a cross-agency team charged with securing federal grants for infrastructure improvements across the state.

Director Vogel spent a decade at American Electric Power Company, with experience in both regulatory matters and operations. She was responsible for federal energy policy development in Washington. Following law school, Anne started her career as a litigator at the Columbus law firm of Porter Wright and subsequently clerked for Judge Sargus, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio.

Vogel holds a law degree from Capital University and an MBA from The Ohio State University.

Environmental Justice in Air Permitting

Securing environmental justice and equity for all environmentally overburdened communities is a high priority for EPA. New guidance is intended to provide a framework of principles and practices to assist each EPA region to promote environmental justice and equity through air permitting programs using existing clean air act authorities and discretion, federal civil rights laws, as well as other federal and state laws that may help to mitigate potential adverse and disproportionate effects of a permitting action. The document includes the following 8 principles:

1. Identify communities with potential environmental justice concerns (especially using EJScreen)
2. Engage early in the permitting process to promote meaningful participation and fair treatment
3. Enhance public involvement throughout the permitting process (through multiple communication methods)
4. Conduct a "fit for purpose" environmental justice analysis
5. Minimize and mitigate disproportionately high and adverse effects associated with the permit action to promote fair treatment
6. Provide federal support throughout the air permitting process
7. Enhance transparency throughout the air permitting process (by documenting and addressing concerns)
8. Build capacity to enhance the consideration of environmental justice in the air permitting process (including co-regulators, communities and stakeholders).

Find the more information by clicking [HERE](#).

in this issue

Ohio EPA Director P.1
EJ in Air Permitting P.1
Permit Wizard P.2
P.2
AQ by the Numbers P.3
MowGREENER 2023 P.4

How Can I Find Out if I Need a Permit?

Ohio EPA's **Permit Wizard** is an excellent tool designed to help individuals, companies or municipalities figure out if they need any permits or other documents for certain activities. It is anonymous, and gives general information. The easy to navigate screens move you quickly through the process and then end with permits that are recommended and contact information to move forward.

Don't be caught without the right permits for your business or activities. Go to: https://ohioepa.custhelp.com/app/permit_wizard and find out what you need to know to get the right permits!

Welcome to Ohio EPA's Permit Wizard

This tool is a quick and convenient way to help identify the major Ohio EPA requirements and permits your business may need, however it may not address every environmental issue or regulation that could apply.

You will be answering a series of questions providing some basic information about your operations. You will be provided a summary of your likely regulatory requirements, guidance documents, and contact information as a resource. Please note: Permit Wizard is an anonymous tool – your progress and results are not saved so please complete Permit Wizard in one sitting.

Disclaimer: The information provided by Permit Wizard is not intended to provide an official, binding, or exhaustive permitting determination by the Ohio EPA. It will provide you with a good understanding of likely permits you will need based on the questions you answer. However, the permitting laws and regulations that apply may change based on the actual location and circumstances for your specific business.

Who are you interested in getting permit information for?

- a business with a large complex or facility
- an individual or residential concern
- I have an environmental complaint
- a small business or government

[Back](#) [Next](#)

[Erase All and Start Over](#)



Likely Permits Needed for Paint Booth

Below is a list of the permits that are likely needed for Paint Booth. You may call the contacts provided for answers to any permitting or regulatory questions you may have regarding these requirements.

To find out if your operations may be eligible for exemptions of other permitting options, please provide more details about your business and continue exploring options in the Permit Wizard below.

The business activity selected is: **Paint Booth**
The business activity is located in **Summit** County.

Please make sure to scroll down to see all information on the screen then click the **Next** button to continue.

Akron Regional Air Quality Management District (DAPC) (330) 375-2480 [Web Page](#)

Air Permit [Find out if Air Permit exemptions or simplified permit options apply.](#) Many facilities like yours have equipment, operations or activities that produce air pollution and often require an air permit. In some cases, permit exemptions or simplified permit options are available for your operations. [Fact Sheet](#) [Rules](#) [Web Page](#)

Coating operations typically need an air permit-to-install and operate (PTIO). Depending on your operations, you may qualify for a permit-by-rule (PBR) or a permanent exemption. For more information or assistance, continue exploring options in the Permit Wizard or call the Ohio EPA regulatory division listed above. [Apply](#) [Application Instructions](#)

Ohio EPA Northeast District Division of Environmental Response and Revitalization (DERR) (330) 963-1200 [Web Page](#)

Hazardous Waste Generator ID [Find more information on what hazardous waste generator requirements apply to your business.](#) Coating operations may generate hazardous waste and should be evaluated for regulatory requirements. There are specific requirements for managing and disposing of hazardous waste. Your requirements depend on the type of hazardous waste you generate, how much you generate in any given month, and your hazardous waste generator category. [Fact Sheet](#) [Web Page](#) [Video](#)

Your business may be required to obtain a hazardous waste generator ID and meet other requirements (i.e. accumulation time, biennial report, etc.). For assistance in identifying if the waste you generate at your business is considered hazardous waste and what requirements may apply to your business. [Apply](#) [Application Instructions](#) [FAQ](#)

Don't Open Burn with Spring Clean-up

It's hard to imagine Ohio during the dreary days of February that Spring will be here before our next newsletter drops! But, it will, and with it will come the need to clean up all the leftover leaves and tree debris that winter gave to us. Many folks are accustomed to simply raking things in a pile and lighting that on fire. Drive around in April & May (and Oct/Nov) and you'll undoubtedly see a smoky haze in the air. *That* is wood smoke made up of billions and billions of tiny pollutants we refer to as PM_{2.5} or Fine Particle Pollution. PM_{2.5} is documented to be bad for human health impacting eyes, nose, throat as simple irritants and our heart & lungs as a major negative health impactor.

Better options would be to mulch or compost the items that can be composted or have debris hauled away to an appropriate facility.

Learn more about Ohio's Open Burning regulations by clicking [HERE](#).

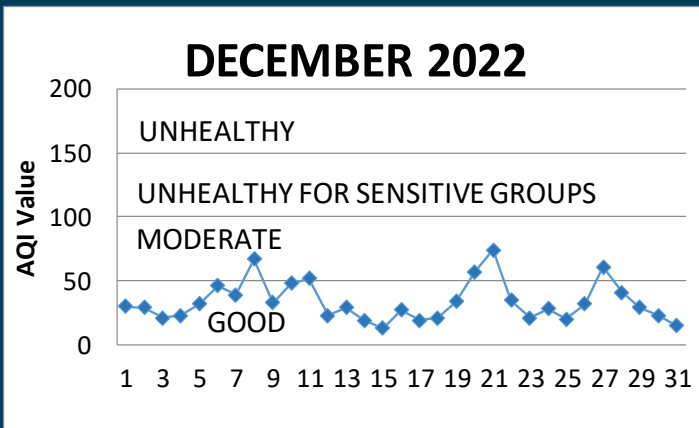
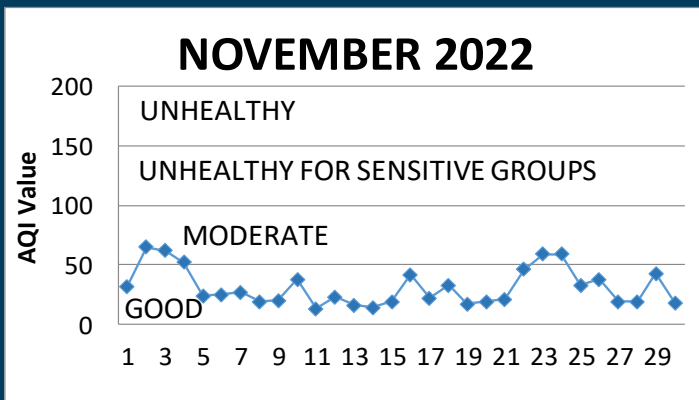
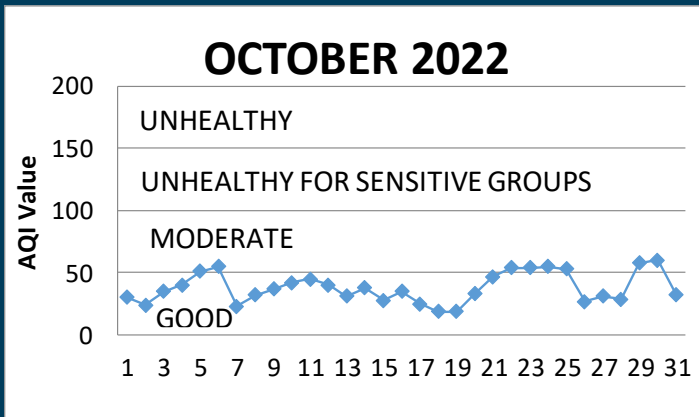
Learn about the negative health effects of wood smoke by clicking [HERE](#).



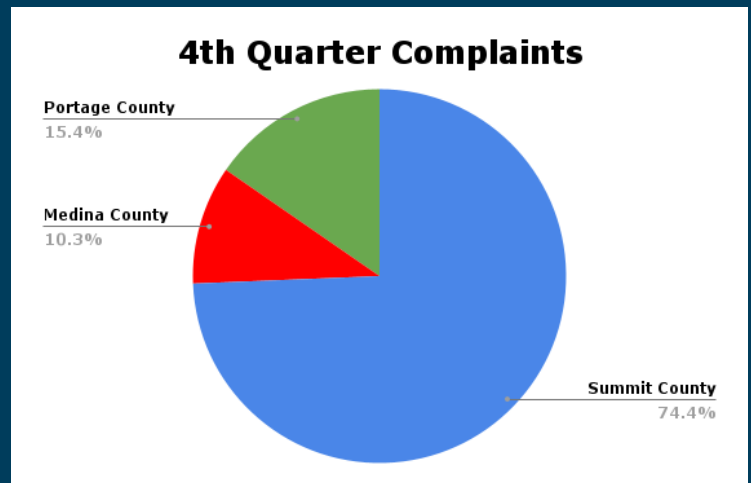
AQ by the Numbers: 4th Quarter 2022

Air Quality Index

Complaints & Inspections



Area/ Health District	Commercial/ Industrial	Residential	Total
Summit County	9	15	24
Medina County	1	3	4
Portage County	5	6	11
Kent	0	0	0



Site Visits	4th Quarter 2022
FEPTIO	10
Title V	6
Non Title V	69
Full Compliance Evaluations	33

Additional Stats

Permits Issued							
4th Quarter 2022	Permit to Install		Permit to Install & Operate		Title V		Permit by Rule
	Draft	Final	Draft	Final	Draft**	Final	
**Includes - Preliminary Proposed Permits & Proposed Permits	0	1	1	31	4	1	19

Asbestos	
4th Q- Notifications	47
4th Q- Inspections	32



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A service of Summit County Public Health

MowGREENER is Back for 2023!

We are excited to once again offer MowGREENER to residents of Medina, Summit and Portage Counties. The goal of the program is to responsibly remove old gas powered mowers from use (participants surrender their gas mower at a scrap facility). Gas powered mowers add pollutants to the air that contribute to the formation of ground-level ozone and create health concerns for everyone in the region. Keep an eye on our MowGREENER page for registration dates and program details. scph.link/MowGREENER



Reasons to MowGREENER
with a battery powered lawnmower

CLEANER While mowing, the air you breathe has no exhaust fumes!

QUIETER You won't wake up the neighbors...or a sleeping baby!

EASY TO USE Push button start. Lightweight. No more gas cans to mess with!

LOW MAINTENANCE No more tune-ups, oil changes or spark plugs to worry about!

\$100 REBATE FROM ARAQMD For residents of Medina, Summit or Portage counties. Learn more at: scph.link/MowGREENER

