

Environmental Protection Agency
Department Breakdown

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Heron Bridge Education

Miami Climate Alliance

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Source

Data pulled on 05/25/2023-7/13/2023. To locate this information on the EPA website, navigate to the respective department or program from the following overall program organization chart:

<https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/epa-organization-chart>.

Office of Air and Radiation

What We Do

The Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) develops national programs, policies, and regulations for controlling air pollution and radiation exposure. OAR is concerned with:

- pollution prevention and energy efficiency,
- indoor and outdoor air quality,
- industrial air pollution,
- pollution from vehicles and engines,
- radon,
- acid rain,
- stratospheric ozone depletion,
- climate change, and
- radiation protection.

OAR is responsible for administering the [Clean Air Act](#), the [Atomic Energy Act](#), the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Land Withdrawal Act, and other applicable environmental laws.

The Office of Air and Radiation includes:

- [Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards](#)
- [Office of Atmospheric Protection](#)
- [Office of Transportation and Air Quality](#)
- [Office of Radiation and Indoor Air](#)

Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS)

What We Do

OAQPS's primary mission is to preserve and improve air quality in the United States.

To accomplish this, OAQPS:

- compiles and reviews air pollution data,
- develops regulations to limit and reduce air pollution,
- assists states and local agencies with monitoring and controlling air pollution,

- makes information about air pollution available to the public, and
- reports to Congress the status of air pollution and the progress made in reducing it.

Programs and projects managed by the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards:

- [AIRNow](#) - Air Quality Forecast
- Air Quality Data and Tools
- [Burn Wise Voluntary Program](#)
- [Criteria Air Pollutants](#) - Carbon Monoxide, Ground-level Ozone, Lead, Nitrogen Oxides, Particulate Matter, Sulfur Dioxide
- [Hazardous Air Pollutants](#)
- [Mercury and Air Toxics Standards](#)
- [Permitting Under the Clean Air Act](#)
- [Stationary Sources of Air Pollution](#)
- [Technical Air Pollution Resources](#)
- [Visibility and Regional Haze](#)

Office of Atmospheric Protection (OAP)

What We Do

OAP protects the ozone layer, addresses climate change, and improves regional air quality. It runs market based programs such as the Acid Rain Program and public/private partnership programs such as ENERGY STAR.

Programs and projects managed by the Office of Atmospheric Protection

- [Acid rain](#)
- [AgSTAR](#)
- [Center for Corporate Climate Leadership](#)
- [Climate Change](#)
- [Climate Change Indicators in the U.S.](#)
- [Coalbed Methane Outreach Program](#)
- [Combined Heat and Power Partnership](#)
- [Cross State Air Pollution Rule](#)
- [ENERGY STAR](#)
- [Fluorinated Gas Partnership Programs](#)
- [Global Methane Initiative](#)
- [Green Power Partnership](#)
- [GreenChill](#)
- [Greenhouse Gas Inventory, U.S.](#)
- [Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program](#)
- [Hydrofluorocarbon Phasedown](#)

- [Landfill Methane Outreach Program](#)
- [Ozone Layer Protection](#)
- [Responsible Appliance Disposal \(RAD\) Program](#)
- [Energy Resources for State, Local, and Tribal Governments](#)
- [UV Index](#)
- [Voluntary Methane Programs for the Oil and Natural Gas Industry](#)

Office of Transportation and Air Quality (OTAQ)

What We Do

OTAQ's mission is to protect human health and the environment by [reducing air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from mobile sources](#) and the fuels that power them, advancing clean fuels and technology, and encouraging business practices and travel choices that minimize emissions. OTAQ's programs address emissions from the range of mobile sources: cars and light trucks, large trucks and buses, farm and construction equipment, lawn and garden equipment, marine engines, aircraft, and locomotives.

OTAQ's primary activities include:

- Assessing mobile source-related air quality problems and developing sophisticated modeling tools to develop solutions, measure results, and support emission inventories.
- Establishing national standards to reduce emissions from on-road and nonroad mobile sources of pollution.
- Implementing national mobile source standards through certification processes and in-use monitoring strategies.
- Developing fuel efficiency programs and technologies to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases from the transportation sector.
- Researching, evaluating, and developing advanced technologies for controlling emissions, as well as developing new strategies for improving fuel efficiency.

OTAQ's [National Vehicle and Fuel Emissions Laboratory](#) provides OTAQ with emissions testing services in support of rulemakings, certification, enforcement actions, and test procedures development.

Programs and projects managed by the Office of Transportation and Air Quality

- [View the complete list on Key Issues, Websites and Programs related to Transportation, Air Pollution, and Climate Change page](#)
- [View an A-Z Index of all transportation, air pollution, and climate change topics](#)

Office of Radiation and Indoor Air (ORIA)

What We Do

ORIA's mission is to protect the public and the environment from the risks of radiation and indoor air pollution. The office coordinates across the Agency and with other federal, state, tribal, and non-governmental organizations to carry out its mission. ORIA develops criteria, standards, guidance, policies, and programs to limit unnecessary radiation exposure and control exposure to indoor air pollutants. The office:

- provides technical assistance to states and tribes through EPA's Regional offices, and to other national and international organizations having radiation and indoor air protection programs;
- directs an environmental radiation monitoring program;
- responds to radiological emergencies; and
- evaluates and assesses the overall risk and impact of radiation and indoor air pollution.

Programs and projects managed by the Office of Radiation and Indoor Air

- [Asthma](#)
- [Radiological Emergency Response](#)
- [Creating Healthy Indoor Air Quality in Schools](#)
- [Indoor Air Quality in Tribal Communities](#)
- [Indoor Air Quality](#)
- [Indoor airPLUS](#)
- [Mold and Moisture](#)
- [Radon](#)
- [Radiation](#)
- [RadNet](#)
- [RadTown](#)
- [Radiation Regulations and Laws](#)
- [Federal Guidance for Radiation Protection](#)
- [Smoke-free Homes](#)

Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP)

What We Do

Using sound science as a compass, OCSPP's mission is to protect you, your family, and the environment from potential risks from pesticides and toxic chemicals. Through innovative partnerships and collaboration, we also work to prevent pollution before it begins. This reduces waste, saves energy and natural resources, and leaves our homes, schools and workplaces cleaner and safer. OCSPP implements the:

- [Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act \(FIFRA\)](#),

- [Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act \(FFDCA\)](#),
- [Toxic Substances Control Act \(TSCA\)](#),
- [Pollution Prevention Act](#), and
- portions of other statutes (see below).

The Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention includes:

- [Office of Pesticide Programs](#)
- [Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics](#)
- [Office of Program Support](#)

Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP)

What We Do

OPP regulates the manufacture and use of all pesticides (including insecticides, herbicides, rodenticides, disinfectants, sanitizers and more) in the United States and establishes maximum levels for pesticide residues in food, thereby safeguarding the nation's food supply. EPA has expanded public access to information about risk assessment and risk management actions to help increase transparency of decision making and facilitate consultation with the public and affected stakeholders.

In addition to our regulatory functions, we provide information and coordinate with partners and stakeholders on issues ranging from worker protection to misuse of pesticides. We participate in a variety of partnerships related to pesticide use, including the Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program, a voluntary private and public partnership dedicated to reducing pesticide use and risk, and Integrated Pest Management in Schools.

OPP implements:

- the [Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act \(FIFRA\)](#)
- the [Pesticide Registration Improvement Extension Act \(PRIA 4\)](#)
- and key parts of the
 - [Food Quality Protection Act \(FQPA\)](#)
 - [Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act \(FFDCA\)](#), and
 - [Endangered Species Act](#)

[Learn more about our pesticides program, including general information on pesticides, how to control pests, health and safety issues \(including poison prevention\), environmental effects, and pesticide regulations.](#)

Programs and projects managed by the Office of Pesticide Programs

- [Assessing Pesticide Risks](#)
- [Bed Bugs](#)
- [Biotechnology under FIFRA](#)
- [Endangered Species Protection Program](#)
- [Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program](#)
- [Ingredients used in Pesticides](#)
- [Insect Repellents](#)

- [Integrated Pest Management in Schools](#)
- [Mosquito Control](#)
- [Pesticide Labels](#)
- [Pesticide Registration](#)
- [Pesticide Registration Review](#)
- [Pesticide Tolerances](#)
- [Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program](#)
- [Protecting Pets from Fleas and Ticks](#)
- [Protecting Pollinators](#)
- [Reducing Pesticide Drift](#)
- [Worker Safety Protection](#)

Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT)

What We Do

OPPT manages programs under the Toxic Substances Control Act and the Pollution Prevention Act. Under these laws, EPA evaluates new and existing chemicals and their risks, and finds ways to prevent or reduce pollution before it gets into the environment. We also manage a variety of environmental stewardship programs that encourage companies to reduce and prevent pollution.

OPPT implements:

- [Toxic Substances Control Act \(TSCA\)](#)
- [Pollution Prevention Act](#)
- [Section 313](#) of the [Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act](#).

[Information on chemicals and their regulation under TSCA, ways to prevent and reduce pollution, and on safer chemicals and their use.](#)

Programs and projects managed by the Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics

- [Acute Exposure Guideline Levels](#)
- [Assessing and Managing Chemicals under TSCA](#)
- [Biotechnology under TSCA](#)
- [Chemical Data Reporting](#)
- [Green Chemistry](#)
- [Green Engineering](#)
- [Greener Products and Services](#)
- [Import-Export Requirements for Chemicals under TSCA](#)
- [New Chemicals](#)
- [Pollution Prevention](#)
- [Predictive Models and Tools for Assessing Chemicals under TSCA](#)
- [Review of Confidential Business Information](#)
- [Safer Choice](#) (formerly Design for the Environment)
- [Sustainable Futures](#)

- [Toxics Release Inventory \(TRI\) Program](#)
- [TSCA Inventory](#)

Office of Program Support (OPS)

What We Do

OPS is responsible for supporting OCSPP administrative programs, including budget, financial management, human resources, information technology, information management, and correspondence management, and is responsible for providing program support services related to rulemaking, peer review, international and intergovernmental relations, and communications.

Programs and projects managed by the Office of Program Support

- [Scientific Advisory Panel \(SAP\)](#)
- TSCA Peer Review Committees
 - [Chemical Safety Advisory Committee \(CSAC\)](#)
 - [Science Advisory Committee on Chemicals \(SACC\)](#)

Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO)

What We Do

OCFO formulates and manages EPA's annual budget and performance plan, coordinates EPA's strategic planning efforts, develops EPA's annual Performance and Accountability Report, and implements the Government Performance and Results Act. The office leads agency enterprise risk management efforts by integrating it into EPA planning and review processes. In addition, OCFO provides financial services for the Agency and makes payments to EPA grant recipients, contractors, and other vendors.

The office also provides policy, reports, and oversight essential for the financial operations of EPA and has responsibility for information technology planning, development, and deployment of financial and resources management systems for the Agency. Finally, OCFO oversees the E-Enterprise for the Environment effort, a model to simplify, streamline and modernize jointly the implementation of our environmental programs in partnership with the states and tribes.

The Office of the Chief Financial Officer includes:

- [Office of Budget](#)
- [Office of Continuous Improvement](#)
- [Office of the Controller](#)
- [Office of E-Enterprise](#)
- [Office of Planning, Analysis and Accountability](#)
- [Office of Technology Solutions](#)
- [Office of Resource and Information Management](#)

- [Policy and Communications Staff](#)

Office of Budget (OB)

What We Do

The Office of Budget serves as EPA's central budget office, responsible for the formulation and defense of EPA's annual plan and budget request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and to Congress. The office also serves a fiduciary role in executing the budget by monitoring and analyzing the utilization of all EPA resources. To do so, this office provides guidance to the agency to ensure proper use of resources and works to ensure proper accounting and reporting of resources. The Office of Budget also integrates goal-based decision making into the allocation of EPA resources through multi-year and annual planning and the annual budget and accounting processes.

- [Learn about EPA's budget](#)

Office of Continuous Improvement

What We Do

The Office of Continuous Improvement (OCI) coordinates agency-wide implementation of the continuous improvement program. The core of the program is a Lean management system that enables the agency to track important actions so that we respond to and resolve challenges quickly and thoroughly, using Lean principles and tools. With continuous improvement, all parts of EPA will:

- set ambitious and achievable targets for their work,
- measure their results, and
- improve their processes to bridge gaps between targets and results.

The Lean management system uses visual management with regularly updated performance and workflow data to monitor progress toward [EPA's Strategic Plan](#) targets.

- [Learn More About Continuous Improvement at EPA](#)

Office of the Controller (OC)

What We Do

The Office of the Controller (OC) develops, manages and supports the agency's federal financial management program by interpreting fiscal legislation, maintaining fiscal operations and implementing government-wide external reporting reforms. This includes:

- Establishing the priorities, policy, guidance and strategy for EPA's financial management community;

- Overseeing financial information for agency program managers to support day-to-day decisions and facilitate environmental results;
- Providing a full range of national, local and specialized accounting, financial and customer services through the agency's three Finance Centers located in Washington headquarters, Cincinnati, and Research Triangle Park;
- Leading and managing the agency's Management Integrity program, including A-123 internal control system process.

OC also serves as OCFO's audit liaison and coordinates audit activities, provides payroll accounting support, provides administrative support to the agency, and manages the Federal Employee Relocation Center, which counsels EPA and external federal employees who are relocating to another federal job.

- [View EPA's financial statements](#)
- [Financial services and support](#)
- [Federal Employee Relocation Center](#)

Office of E-Enterprise (EE)

What We Do

E-Enterprise for the Environment is a model for collaborative leadership among environmental co-regulators. Working together, EPA, the states and tribes, are utilizing the E-Enterprise model to simplify, streamline and modernize the implementation of our environmental programs. By streamlining business processes and leveraging technology under shared governance, E-Enterprise is enabling the nation's environmental protection enterprise to be more informed, timely and productive – resulting in better health and environmental outcomes while supporting local jobs and communities. E-Enterprise helps foster greater trust among the regulated community, the public, and co-regulators by improving data integrity and communication.

[E-Enterprise for the Environment](#)

Office of Planning, Analysis and Accountability (OPAA)

What We Do

The Office of Planning, Analysis and Accountability (OPAA) serves as the Agency lead for strategic and annual planning and performance management and reporting efforts, working with a wide range of stakeholders. OPAA implements the Government Performance and Results Act and works to align strategies, measures and budget resources to accomplish Agency goals.

Programs and projects managed by OPAA

- [Strategic plans](#)
- [Financial and Performance Results](#)
- [Recovery Act quarterly performance reports](#)
- [National Program Guidance](#)

The Office of Technology Solutions

What We Do

The Office of Technology Solutions has responsibility for information technology planning, standard setting, and development and deployment of financial and resources management systems for the Agency. This includes all aspects of formulating and overseeing implementation of a strategic approach to technology investment planning, budgeting, and resource allocation for financial systems and development and implementation of financial systems and policies that effectively support achievement of EPA's environmental mission. OTS also manages the operation of the agency's time and labor system.

Office of Resource and Information Management (ORIM)

What We Do

The Office of Resource and Information Management (ORIM) mission is to provide expert analysis, oversight, and customer service related to OCFO's resource management, workforce development, information management and technology, emergency preparedness, and organizational programs and operations.

Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA)

What We Do

The Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) goes after pollution problems that impact American communities through vigorous civil and criminal enforcement. Our enforcement activities target the most serious water, air and chemical hazards.

OECA is building on our relationship with states and tribal partners to make sure we are delivering on our shared commitment to a clean and healthy environment.

Through improved transparency, advanced technologies and community participation, we are empowering the public to help us assure compliance nationwide, and to level the playing field for those entities that follow the law.

OECA works with EPA regional offices, and in partnership with state and tribal governments, and other federal agencies to enforce the nation's environmental laws, including:

- [Clean Air Act \(CAA\)](#)
- [Clean Water Act \(CWA\)](#)
- [Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act \(CERCLA, or Superfund\)](#)
- [Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act \(EPCRA\)](#)
- [Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act \(FIFRA\)](#)

- [Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act](#)
- [Oil Pollution Act \(OPA\)](#)
- [Resource Conservation and Recovery Act \(RCRA\)](#)
- [Safe Drinking Water Act \(SDWA\)](#)
- [Toxic Substances Control Act \(TSCA\)](#)

Programs and Projects Managed by OECA

Strategic Planning

- [EPA Enforcement Goals](#)
- [EPA National Enforcement and Compliance Initiatives](#)

Programs

- [Compliance](#)
- [Enforcement](#)
- [Next Generation Compliance](#)

The Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance includes:

- [Office of Administration and Policy](#)
- [Office of Civil Enforcement](#)
- [Office of Criminal Enforcement, Forensics and Training](#)
- [Office of Compliance](#)
- [Federal Facilities Enforcement Office](#)
- [Office of Site Remediation Enforcement](#)

Office of Administration and Policy (OAP)

What We Do

OAP provides policy, administrative, and management coordination across OECA including human resources, labor relations, budget, finances, contracts, grants, records management, information technology, and manages the Agency's enforcement website.

Programs and Projects Managed by the Office of Administration and Policy

- [Enforcement website](#)

Office of Civil Enforcement (OCE)

What We Do

The Office of Civil Enforcement (OCE) develops and prosecutes administrative civil and judicial cases and provides legal support for cases and investigations initiated in EPA regions. OCE directly implements and enforces federal programs, i.e., those where there are no EPA-authorized state programs. OCE also has responsibility for planning and setting priorities for enforcement activities, developing national enforcement policy and guidance, participating in Agency rule-making to ensure that regulations contain clear

and enforceable provisions, and implementing effective communication to alert regulated entities to potential compliance problems.

Programs and Projects Managed by the Office of Civil Enforcement

- [Air, Water, Waste and Chemical Enforcement](#)
- [National Compliance Initiatives](#)
- [Civil enforcement cases and settlements](#)
- [Policy Guidance and Publications](#)

Office of Criminal Enforcement, Forensics and Training (OCEFT)

What We Do

The Office of Criminal Enforcement, Forensics and Training (OCEFT) investigates violations of environmental laws and provides a broad range of technical and forensic services for civil and criminal investigative support and council on legal and policy matters.

Programs and Projects Managed by the Office of Criminal Enforcement, Forensics and Training

- [Criminal enforcement cases](#)
- [Criminal enforcement program area and resident offices](#)
- [Report an environmental violation](#)
- [EPA fugitives](#)
- [National Enforcement Investigations Center](#)

Office of Compliance (OC)

What We Do

The Office of Compliance (OC) provides the implementation and oversight of national activities in five functions of the enforcement and compliance assurance program. First, OC leads the strategic and annual planning processes and priority setting for the national compliance assurance program, including development and implementation of the national compliance initiatives. Second, OC develops policy, tools, and training for the national compliance monitoring program, which program includes targeting, data analytics, inspections, and other compliance monitoring tools. Third, OC develops, maintains and provides access to the data used to manage the national program and provide public transparency, including the modernization and operation of national data systems that serve EPA, state programs and the public. Fourth, OC leads our innovation efforts to use evidence to improve the effectiveness of our compliance assurance program and tools, including review of EPA regulations to improve their effectiveness. Fifth, OC leads efforts to collaborate with state authorized programs and provide oversight of state program performance thru the State Review Framework. In addition as secondary functions, OC leads the national compliance assistance program to help regulated entities comply with environmental laws and regulations and provides training for EPA inspectors and occasionally others on our environmental laws.

Programs and Projects Managed by the Office of Compliance

- [EPA National Compliance Initiatives](#)
- [Statutory programs compliance monitoring](#)
- [Compliance assistance](#)
- [Enforcement and Compliance History Online \(ECHO\)](#)
- [National Enforcement Training Institute](#)
- [Compliance and Enforcement Annual Results](#)

Federal Facilities Enforcement Office (FFEO)

What We Do

The Federal Facilities Enforcement Office (FFEO) is responsible for ensuring that federal facilities take all necessary actions to prevent, control and abate environmental pollution. FFEO facilitates compliance through inspections and enforcement under all environmental statutes and cleanup at federal facilities.

Programs and Projects Managed by the Federal Facilities Enforcement Office

- [Compliance and enforcement at federal facilities](#)
- [FedCenter.gov](#) -- the federal government's home for comprehensive environmental stewardship and compliance assistance information

Office of Site Remediation Enforcement (OSRE)

What We Do

EPA's cleanup enforcement program protects human health and the environment by getting those responsible for a hazardous waste site to either clean up or reimburse EPA for its cleanup. EPA uses a number of cleanup authorities independently and in combination to address specific cleanup situations.

The Office of Site Remediation Enforcement manages the enforcement of EPA's national hazardous waste cleanup programs:

- Superfund (officially known as the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act),
- corrective action under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA),
- the Oil Pollution Act (OPA), and
- underground storage tanks (UST).

Programs and Projects Managed by the Office of Site Remediation Enforcement

- [Superfund enforcement](#)
- [RCRA cleanup](#)
- [Cleanup enforcement](#)

Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights

What We Do

The Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights (OEJEER) supports the agency's mission by providing leadership on EPA's environmental justice and external civil rights priorities. OEJEER coordinates implementation of those priorities across the agency's national programs, regions, the Administrator's Office, and across our partnerships with other federal agencies and coregulators in state, tribal, and local government, and communities. OEJEER provides resources and other technical assistance on civil rights and environmental justice, engages with communities with environmental justice concerns, and provides support for community-led action.

This office also enforces federal civil rights laws, including Title VI, that, together, prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin (including on the basis of limited-English proficiency); sex; disability; or age by applicants for and recipients of federal financial assistance from EPA.

In addition, OEJEER is home to the [Conflict Prevention and Resolution Center \(CPRC\)](#), which is EPA's primary resource for services and expertise in alternative dispute resolution, environmental conflict resolution, consensus-building, and collaborative problem solving.

EPA defines environmental justice as the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

The Office Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights includes:

- [Conflict Prevention and Resolution Center \(CPRC\)](#)
- [Office of Resource Management and Communications](#)
- [Office of Community Support](#)
- [Office Of Policy, Partnerships and Program Development](#)
- [Office of External Civil Rights Compliance](#)

Conflict Prevention and Resolution Center (CPRC)

What We Do

The Conflict Prevention and Resolution Center (CPRC) supports EPA's regulatory, enforcement, and voluntary programs by providing [Environmental Collaboration and Conflict Resolution \(ECCR\)](#) services to the entire agency. ECCR is alternative dispute resolution (ADR) focused on environmental conflicts. Expert CPRC staff, ECCR specialists in the EPA's 10 regions, and dispute resolution professionals engaged through [CPRC's Conflict Prevention and Resolution Services contract](#), help EPA and its stakeholders exchange ideas and information, identify areas of concern and common interest, develop recommendations, prevent and overcome disputes, and reach agreements. CPRC supports ECCR across the Agency, pursuant to [EPA's ADR Policy](#).

Programs and Projects Managed by CPRC:

- Conflict Prevention and Resolution Services contract

- Conflict resolution training program
- Environmental Collaboration and Conflict Resolution (ECCR) services

Office of Resource Management and Communications (ORMC)

What We Do

This office manages the mission support services and communications portfolio of OEJEER. The work of ORMC includes management of human capital, budget formulation and execution, information technology and security, and Freedom of Information Act responsibilities (among other operational and administrative functions).

Programs and Projects Managed by ORMC:

- Strategic Planning and Continuous Improvement
- Limited English Proficiency and External Disability Access Programs
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility Efforts of OEJEER

Office of Community Support (OCS)

What We Do

This office facilitates the distribution in grant funding, including more than \$50 million in grant funding from the FY2022 appropriations, to community-based organizations and their partners at the tribal, state, and local levels. In addition, the office will offer technical assistance to community organizations and others -such as small rural municipalities and tribal governments -to plan for the future, effectively compete for federal and other sources of funding, and sustainably implement funding to revitalize their communities. A critical complement to these new grants and technical assistance resources will be the ability of EPA, particularly through regional offices, to directly engage and collaborate with more communities.

Programs and Projects Managed by OCS:

- Grants Management Division
- Community Engagement and Assistance Division
- Technical Assistance for Communities

Office Of Policy, Partnerships and Program Development (OPPPD)

What We Do

This office works with EPA's national programs and regional offices to integrate equity, environmental justice, and civil rights into its decision-making related to rules, permits, cleanups, and other core activities, as allowed by law. In addition, this office will continue to develop and improve tools, such as EJScreen, to assess the community-level impacts of the agency's activities and identify communities with the highest pollution burdens.

Programs and Projects Managed by OPPPD:

- Policy and Analysis Division

- Partnerships and Collaboration Division
- Program Development and Learning Division

Office of External Civil Rights Compliance (OECRC)

What We Do

This office fulfills EPA's promise of protecting human health and the environment for all people in the United States. OECRC enforces federal civil rights laws, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, that, together, prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin (including on the basis of limited-English proficiency); sex; disability; or age by applicants for and recipients of federal financial assistance from EPA.

Office of General Counsel (OGC)

What We Do

The Office of General Counsel (OGC) is the chief legal advisor to EPA, the federal agency with primary responsibility for implementing the nation's environmental laws. These laws include the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act ("Superfund").

OGC lawyers provide legal counsel to EPA policy-makers, thus providing critical input to rules, regulations, and guidance documents that are promulgated and issued to implement the Agency's statutory obligations. In addition, OGC attorneys provide assistance to Congress on national legislation affecting the environment, and address international law issues. Working with EPA headquarters and regional offices, OGC attorneys also provide legal support for the issuance of permits, and the approval of state environmental programs. OGC lawyers collaborate with the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance and regional attorneys and provide legal support for the initiation and litigation of enforcement actions.

In addition, OGC lawyers, together with attorneys in the [U.S. Department of Justice's Environment and Natural Resources Division](#), the Department of Justice's Civil Division, and local offices of the United States Attorney, represent the Agency in court challenges to agency actions (such as regulations), appeals of enforcement cases, and Supreme Court litigation. OGC lawyers carry out these functions not only with respect to EPA's environmental programs, but also in connection with EPA's day-to-day operations, including entering into contracts, awarding grants, managing property and money, protecting EPA's intellectual property, advising on eDiscovery, records, and information issues, and working with EPA's employees.

The Office of General Counsel includes:

- [Air and Radiation Law Office](#)
- [Civil Rights and Finance Law Office](#)
- [Cross-Cutting Issues Law Office](#)
- [Ethics Office](#)
- [General Law Office](#)
- [National FOIA Office](#)
- [Pesticides and Toxic Substances Law Office](#)
- [Resource Management Office](#)
- [Solid Waste and Emergency Response Law Office](#)
- [Water Law Office](#)

Air and Radiation Law Office

What We Do

The Air and Radiation Law Office provides legal support for EPA to reduce threats to public health and the environment by cleaning up the nation's air and dealing with radiation issues. The Air and Radiation Law Office provides support both in rulemakings and other activities undertaken by EPA's Office of Air and Radiation and in defending EPA's actions in court when the Agency is sued.

Statutes for which the Air and Radiation Law Office is responsible:

- Atomic Energy Act
- Clean Air Act
- Energy Policy Act of 1992 (Section 801 - Nuclear Waste Disposal)
- Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Section 131 - Energy Star Statutory Authority)
- Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA), amended by the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21)
- Motor Vehicle Information and Cost Savings Act (Corporate Average Fuel Economy)
- Noise Control Act
- Nuclear Waste Policy Act (as it relates to 40 CFR Part 191)
- Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act
- Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Land Withdrawal Act

Civil Rights and Finance Law Office

What We Do

The Civil Rights and Finance Law Office provides legal counsel and legal services to EPA offices with respect to civil rights, equal employment opportunity, contracts, claims by and against the Agency, real and personal property, financial assistance awards, interagency agreements, and appropriations law.

Statutes for which the Civil Rights and Finance Law Office is responsible:

Civil Rights

- Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967
- Civil Rights Act of 1964 and 1968 as amended, Title VI and Title VII
- Equal Pay Act of 1963
- Education Amendments of 1972, Title IX
- Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972, §13
- Rehabilitation Act of 1973, §501, 504, 505, and 508
- The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008
- Age Discrimination Act of 1975
- First and Fifth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution, Establishment Clause and Equal Protection Clause

Finance

- Anti-Lobbying Act
- EPA Appropriations Acts
- Federal Claims Collection Act
- Federal Tort Claims Act
- Funding provisions of CERCLA (Superfund), Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Diesel Emission Reduction Act, Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, Pollution Prevention Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, and Toxic Substances Control Act
- National Environmental Education Act
- Uniform Relocation Act
- Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act

Procurement

- Competition in Contracting Act
- Contract Disputes Act
- Federal Acquisition Regulation
- Procurement Integrity Act
- Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act
- Prompt Payment Act
- Federal Property and Administrative Services Act

Cross-Cutting Issues Law Office

What We Do

The Cross-Cutting Issues Law Office provides legal advice under the numerous federal statutes, Executive Orders, and policies that affect all of EPA's programs, including the Administrative Procedure Act, Environmental Justice, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Endangered Species Act, Indian law and Children's Health issues. The Office

also provides a focal point for international environmental legal expertise and advice. Finally, the Office handles legal issues arising in connection with the Agency's scientific functions.

The Cross-Cutting Issues Law Office has three practice groups:

- Communities and Ecosystems,
- International Environmental Law, and
- Regulatory Issues.

Communities and Ecosystems: The Communities and Ecosystems Practice Group provides legal advice to EPA offices on the following matters: federal Indian law, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Endangered Species Act, Environmental Justice, 5th Amendment takings of private property, and historic preservation.

International Environmental Law: The International Environmental Law Practice Group provides legal counsel to all programs and offices of the Agency with respect to international law, institutions, and procedures. In particular, it provides legal counsel on:

- international environmental law;
- trade, investment, and the environment;
- the implementation of international obligations at the domestic level; and
- issues involving transboundary pollution.

It represents EPA in international dispute settlement; in negotiations to draft and implement international agreements, protocols, and other instruments; and in interagency processes to resolve international legal issues related to the environment. It conducts legal capacity building activities with other countries regarding their environmental regulatory systems and provides legal counsel on cooperative and technical assistance to other countries.

Regulatory Issues: The Regulatory Issues Practice Group provides counsel on all administrative law matters relating to development of rules and guidance, as well as changes in interpretation; cross-cutting issues relating to judicial review (including final agency action, standing, ripeness, and standard of review); the Congressional Review Act; the Federal Advisory Committee Act; the Paperwork Reduction Act; the Regulatory Flexibility Act, including small business issues; the Information Quality Act; many Executive Orders, including interagency review; the Federal Docket Managing System; and legal issues associated with electronic reporting, collaboration and innovation.

Ethics Office

What We Do

The Ethics Office oversees all aspects of the Agency's ethics program, including the Standards of Ethical Conduct, conflicts of interest statutes, financial disclosure, ethics training and the Hatch Act. It is responsible for ensuring the high ethical standards of EPA employees.

General Law Office

What We Do

The General Law Office provides legal advice to the Agency in the following areas: Information law, including Freedom of Information Act, Privacy Act and the Federal Records Act; Labor and employment law; and Intellectual Property law, including patent, trademark and copyright issues. The attorneys in GLO represent the Agency in administrative proceedings and work with the Department of Justice in representing the Agency in judicial cases in the areas referenced below.

Statutes for which the General Law Office is responsible:

- Labor and Employment Law
- MSPB and EEOC Matters
- Freedom of Information Act
- Privacy Act of 1974
- Federal Records Act
- Trade Secrets Act
- Federal Information Security Management Act
- eDiscovery and eRecords Collection
- Patent and Trademark Act
- Copyright Act
- Technology Transfer Law, including the Federal Technology Transfer Act, the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act, and the Bayh-Dole Act

National FOIA Office

What We Do

The National Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Office (NFO) is the principal advisor to the Environmental Protection Agency's General Counsel in performing the functions of the Agency's Chief FOIA Officer. The NFO assists the General Counsel to implement Agency-wide responsibility for efficient and appropriate implementation and compliance with the FOIA.

The NFO performs the following functions:

- The FOIA Operations and Reporting Team (FORT) performs intake, review and assignment of all FOIA requests EPA receives; it monitors EPA's FOIA implementation; and it recommends reports to the Administrator, the Chief FOIA Officer, EPA Senior Leadership, and the Attorney General regarding EPA's performance in implementing the FOIA.
- The FOIA Expert Assistance Team (FEAT) advises on legal issues pertaining to selected FOIA requests that are among the most complex, voluminous, and potentially sensitive requests received across the Agency and it provides coordination and project management for those requests.
- The NFO leadership serves as the agency's FOIA Public Liaison(s), and the FORT staffs the FOIA Requester Center to assist the public with questions about how to file a request and the status of submitted FOIA requests.

- The FORT and the FEAT review EPA FOIA regulations, policy, procedures, and guidelines and recommend to the Chief FOIA Officer adjustments as may be necessary to improve EPA's implementation of the FOIA.
- The FORT and the FEAT develop and provide training to agency leadership, supervisors, FOIA professionals, and annual training to all staff.
- The NFO maintains the [EPA FOIA website](#).

Statutes for which the National FOIA Office is responsible:

- Freedom of Information Act

Pesticides and Toxic Substances Law Office

What We Do

The Pesticides and Toxic Substances Law Office handles legal issues for the EPA programs that address pesticides and toxic chemicals, including implementation of the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act which substantially revised the Toxic Substances Control Act. The office also handles legal issues related to pollution prevention and the Toxics Release Inventory, the program that informs citizens about toxic releases in their communities.

Statutes for which the Pesticides and Toxic Substances Law Office is responsible:

- Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, section 313 (Toxic Release Inventory)
- Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetics Act
- Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act
- Food Quality Protection Act
- Pollution Prevention Act
- Toxic Substances Control Act

Resource Management Office

What We Do

The Resource Management Office coordinates the management and administrative activities of the Office of General Counsel. The Office handles such activities as budget formulation and execution, OGC's strategic and organizational plans, information technology management, human resources, position management and classification, attorney and law clerk recruitment, training, space management, records management, procurement functions, payroll, correspondence, and [law library services](#).

Solid Waste and Emergency Response Law Office

What We Do

The Solid Waste and Emergency Response Law Office provides legal support for the Agency's hazardous and solid waste programs and cleanup initiatives. This includes counseling related to Superfund, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA),

Brownfields, Federal Facilities, oil spills, underground storage tanks, and the emergency response program.

Statutes for which the Solid Waste and Emergency Response Law Office is responsible:

- Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act ("Superfund")
- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
- Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) - all sections except Section 313 (Toxics Release Inventory)
- Oil Pollution Act
- Clean Water Act Section 311

Water Law Office

What We Do

The Water Law Office provides legal support for Agency programs that ensure drinking water is safe, that restore and maintain oceans, watersheds, and their aquatic ecosystems to protect human health, support economic and recreational activities, and provide healthy habitat for fish, plants, and wildlife.

Statutes for which the Water Law Office is responsible:

- Clean Water Act
- Safe Drinking Water Act
- Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA) also known as the Ocean Dumping Act

Office of Inspector General

The Office of Inspector General is an independent office within EPA that helps the agency protect the environment in a more efficient and cost effective manner. We consist of auditors, program analysts, investigators, and others with extensive expertise. Although we are a part of EPA, Congress provides us with our funding separate from the agency, to ensure our independence. We were created pursuant to the [Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended](#).

Learn more in our [OIG Brochures on Fraud, Waste and Abuse](#). For explanations of some commonly asked questions and misunderstood terms, visit our [Frequently Asked Questions and Terms](#) page.

What We Do

Conduct independent audits, evaluations and investigations; make evidence-based recommendations to promote economy, efficiency and effectiveness; and prevent and detect fraud, waste, abuse, mismanagement and misconduct for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board. We also provide [hotline](#) services to our agencies. We discuss issues with EPA management and others, including Congress, and provide detailed reports. Twice a year, we provide a Semiannual Report to Congress that identifies significant EPA deficiencies and proposed corrective actions and profiles our accomplishments.

Why We Do It

We strive to be a premier oversight organization trusted to speak the truth and promote good governance. We provide solutions to problems that ultimately result in making America a cleaner and healthier place.

Office Inspector General Departments

- Immediate Office of the Inspector General
- Office of Congressional and Public Affairs
- Office of Audit
- Office of Special Review and Evaluation
- Office of Investigations
- Office of Strategic Analysis and Results (OSAR)
- Office of Mission Support (OMS)
- Office of Information Technology (OIT)
- U.S. Chemical Safety Board

Office of Counsel

The Office of Counsel provides independent legal and policy advice to all components of the OIG on a variety of substantive and procedural matters relating to the OIG's audit, evaluation, investigation, and other activities. This office represents the OIG in administrative litigation before the Merit Systems Protection Board, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and the U.S. Department of Labor. OC manages the OIG ethics program, providing ethics training, advice, and financial disclosure reviews. OC also coordinates OIG responses to Freedom of Information Act and other document requests. OC also houses the role of [the Whistleblower Protection Coordinator](#) who can provide educational information to Agency employees (as well as employees of EPA contractors, subcontractors, grantees, subgrantees, or personal services contractors) who have made or are contemplating making a protected disclosure about prohibitions on retaliation for protection disclosures and the rights and remedies against retaliation for protected disclosures – including the means by which employees may seek review of any allegation of reprisal, and the roles of the Office of Inspector General, the Office of Special Counsel, the Merit Systems Protection Board and any other relevant entities.

OC activities also include legal reviews as deemed necessary by the Inspector General in response to requests by members of Congress, the agency, or the public.

Office of Congressional and Public Affairs

The Office of Congressional and Public Affairs communicates with Congress, the news media and the general public about the OIG's work, including responding to inquiries and requests. OCPA edits, publishes online and disseminates OIG reports and correspondence. This office also is responsible for managing the OIG's communications and social media platforms, creating multimedia products, operating the OIG's main phone line and email inbox, and handling internal communications.

Office of Audit

The Office of Audit conducts financial and performance audits to determine the efficiency, effectiveness, and compliance of Agency business operations and financial management. Audits assess the potential for fraud, waste, and abuse; the award and management of grants and contracts; management of information technology; and ways to realize cost savings and other efficiencies.

Office of Special Review and Evaluation

The Office of Special Review and Evaluation focuses on oversight of programs, offices, and centers, evaluating whether and how they are effectively and efficiently meeting legal, regulatory, congressional, and public requirements and expectation as well as how the EPA implements, executes, and enforces new and existing requirements and on the extent to which stakeholders can rely on those requirements. The office conducts administrative investigations of allegations of misconduct by senior agency employees and complaints of whistleblower reprisal by agency employees, or employees of agency contractors, subcontractors, grantees, subgrantees or personal services contractors. The office also performs special reviews of significant events and emergent issues of concern that involve a suspected or alleged violation of law, regulation, or policy, or allegations of serious mismanagement.

In addition, OSRE is responsible for the [OIG Hotline](#), which encourages suggestions for assessing the efficiency and effectiveness of agency programs, and receives complaints of fraud, waste, abuse and mismanagement in EPA and CSB programs and operations, as well as violations of law, regulations and policies by EPA and CSB employees, grantees, contractors and program participants.

Office of Investigations

The Office of Investigations investigates allegations of fraud, waste, abuse, and misconduct having an impact on EPA programs and operations. OI refers its findings to the U.S. Department of Justice for prosecution or to EPA or EPA OIG management for action. The types of allegations our special agents may investigate include, but are not limited to:

- Financial fraud, such as contract and grant fraud.
- Employee Integrity.
- Cybercrime.
- Laboratory Fraud.
- Theft of EPA property or funds.

Office of Strategic Analysis and Results (OSAR)

The Office of Strategic Analysis and Results (OSAR) encompasses the Strategic Planning and Initiatives and Data Analytics directorates.

Strategic Planning and Initiatives Directorate: Oversees the OIG's strategic and annual plans; leads the development of top management challenges for the EPA and the CSB; initiates projects to identify best OIG practices, and leads policy and performance planning, and other reporting efforts.

Data Analytics Directorate: Supports the Office of Audit, the Office of Evaluation, and the Office of Investigations by leveraging advanced analytics that highlight key risk areas to program integrity within EPA programs and operations.

Office of Mission Support (OMS)

The Office of Mission Support (OMS) provides a broad range of enterprise mission support functions and infrastructure necessary for EPA OIG to complete its mission. OMS helps OIG achieve its mission and goals through the effective employment of four distinct areas:

Control Center: Provides support services for EPA OIG HQ and Regional personnel, stakeholders, and the public by improving efficiency, coordination, and customer experience in the functional areas of facilities management, space management, property management, records management and continuity of operations.

Human Resources Directorate: Provides operational support for activities such as recruitment, staffing, classification, retirement, and benefits liaison; employee training and professional development; performance management; employee relations; workforce planning; and executive resources.

Budget Directorate: Provides support services to the OIG in the areas of budget formulation, budget execution, and interagency agreements, increasing business analysis capability; instituting performance-based resource strategy; and strengthening controls to promote assurance and mission accomplishment.

Acquisitions Directorate: Provides support services to the OIG in the areas of planning, awarding and administering contracts, including issuing and interpreting acquisition regulations; administering training for contracting and program acquisition personnel; providing information technology improvements for acquisition systems; and strengthening controls to promote assurance and mission accomplishment.

Office of Information Technology (OIT)

The Office of Information Technology (OIT) provides the OIG with a wide range of products and services in the areas of software development, network and infrastructure services, technical support, and information security. Additionally, performs all information management officer functions, including but not limited to overseeing information technology purchases and acquisitions, as well as providing mobile device support.

OIT consists of the following Directorates:

Infrastructure and Technical Services: Provides Datacenter Infrastructure Management, Citrix Administration, VMware Administration, Network Services (Routers, Switches, Firewalls), Data Protection & Disaster recovery (COOP Site), Database Administration, Auto Audit Administration (LN & Windows), IDEA Administration, Nuix Administration, Data Analytics Environment Administration, File Services and Systems Security. Provides Active Directory and

O365 accounts administration, desktop application support, desktop hardware provisioning and support (laptops, monitors, docking stations, local printers, scanners), support for printers and multi-purpose devices (printer, copier and scanner), mobile device support, videoconference support and desktop security.

Application and Web Development: Supports system requirements gathering, develops applications (Web and Low Code), system maintenance, User Acceptance Testing (UAT), System Life Cycle Management (SLCM), Continuous Monitoring, develops user and technical documentation, develops training materials & conducts system user-training, and SharePoint governance and administration. Provides web development, maintenance and administration support.

Information Security and Privacy Management: Identifies potential Points of Exploits by conducting regular Security Scans, Performs Security Impact Assessments on system changes affecting security controls, monitors agency tools for threats and vulnerabilities through log reviews, performs annual security assessments and remediation of findings through Plan of Action and Milestones (POA&Ms) tracking and reporting, reviews internal security controls (logical and physical), develops IT security policies and procedures and actively participates in agency security workgroups and data calls, conducts Privacy Impact Assessments and facilitates System of Records Notices to the privacy of OIG data, performs Privacy reviews, addresses Privacy and Security questions and concerns along with SPAM inquiries.

U.S. Chemical Safety Board

The Inspector General of the Environmental Protection Agency holds the position of Inspector General for the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board. The U.S. CSB is authorized by the [Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990](#) and became operational in January 1998.

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) conducts annual financial audits and evaluations of information security. The OIG also reports on CSB programs.

In addition to audits, the OIG provides a hotline service to receive complaints of fraud, waste and abuse in CSB programs and operations including mismanagement or violations of law, rules, or regulations. Complaints may be received directly from CSB employees or the general public.

[U.S. Chemical Safety Board](#)

Office of International and Tribal Affairs (OITA)

What We Do

EPA's Office of International and Tribal Affairs (OITA) leads EPA's international and tribal engagements, working across EPA's programs and regions to develop and implement policy and programs that protect U.S. public health and the environment.

Because pollution does not respect international boundaries, OITA works with other federal agencies and international organizations and individual countries to address

bilateral, regional, and global environmental challenges and advance U.S. foreign policy objectives.

Honoring the government-to-government relationship and respecting tribal treaty rights, OITA guides the Agency-wide effort to strengthen public health and environmental protection in Indian country, with a special emphasis on helping tribes administer their own environmental programs.

The Office of International and Tribal Affairs includes:

- [American Indian Environmental Office](#)
- [Office of International Affairs](#)
- [Office of Management and International Services](#)

American Indian Environmental Office (AIEO)

What We Do

The American Indian Environmental Office leads EPA's efforts to protect human health and the environment of federally recognized Tribes by supporting implementation of federal environmental laws consistent with the federal trust responsibility, the government-to-government relationship, and EPA's 1984 Indian Policy.

Programs and Projects Managed by AIEO

- [Environmental Protection in Indian Country](#)
- [Indian Environmental General Assistance Program \(GAP\)](#)
- [Laws, regulations and policies that affect tribes](#)
- [Consultation with tribes](#)

Office of International Affairs (OIA)

What We Do

The Office of International Affairs (OIA) provides policy and programmatic expertise for matters of environmental and geopolitical importance to the U.S. OIA serves as the Agency's primary point of contact with government officials and environmental experts in priority countries and regions, and key international organizations such as the United Nations, and develops Agency-wide strategies for international initiatives. At the multilateral level, OIA leads EPA's work addressing domestic environmental aspects of international instruments, such as trade, finance, and investment agreements, and represents the U.S. in international negotiations.

Programs and Projects Managed by the Office of International Affairs

- [Asia/Pacific Program](#)
- [North America Program](#)
- [Latin America/Caribbean Program](#)

- [Europe Program](#)
- [Africa Program](#)
- [Middle East Program](#)
- [Russia/Eurasia Program](#)
- [Environment, Trade and Finance](#)
- [Partnering with International Organizations](#)
- [International Actions to Reduce Mercury](#)
- [Cleaning Up Electronic Waste](#)
- [Protecting the Marine Environment](#)

Office of Management and International Services (OMIS)

What We Do

The Office of Management and International Services (OMIS) is responsible for providing the full range of necessary management and administrative functions that support the Agency's international programs and coordinates cross-cutting administrative support services. OMIS manages OITA's resources to ensure effective use and development of staff, high productivity, cost-efficient operations, and support of the Agency's environmental goals. OMIS provides expertise in strategic planning, budget formulation and execution, human resources, contracts and grants, and ethics for OITA. OMIS also coordinates the International Visitors Program for EPA.

Programs and Projects Managed by the Office of Management and International Services

- [International Visitors Program](#)
- [Grants and Cooperative Agreements](#)

Office of Land and Emergency Management

What We Do

The Office of Land and Emergency Management provides policy, guidance and direction for the Agency's emergency response and waste programs. At OLEM, we:

1. Develop guidelines for the land disposal of hazardous waste and underground storage tanks;
2. Provide grants, technical assistance, and education and outreach to all levels of government to establish safe waste management practices, including waste prevention, reuse, recycling and disposal;
3. Support state and local governments in redeveloping and reusing potentially contaminated sites through the Brownfields program;
4. Respond to abandoned and active hazardous waste sites, as well as accidental chemical releases through the Superfund program; and
5. Encourage innovative technologies to address contaminated soil and groundwater.

Programs and Projects Managed by OLEM

- [Brownfields](#)
- [Cleanups](#)
- [Emergency Management and Response](#)
- [Final Environmental Justice Action Plan for EPA's Land Protection and Cleanup Programs](#)
- [Federal Facilities Cleanup](#)
- [OLEM Program Benefits](#)
- [Renewable Energy on Contaminated Lands, Landfills and Mine Sites](#)
- [Superfund](#)
- [Circular Economy](#)
- [Underground Storage Tanks](#)
- [Waste](#)

The Office of Land and Emergency Management includes:

- [Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation](#)
- [Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery](#)
- [Office of Underground Storage Tanks](#)
- [Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization](#)
- [Office of Emergency Management](#)
- [Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office](#)
- [Office of Mountains, Deserts and Plains](#)

Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation (OSRTI)

What We Do

OSRTI administers Superfund, the federal government's program to clean up the nation's uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. We're committed to ensuring that the hazardous waste sites on the National Priorities List are cleaned up to protect the environment and the health of all Americans. OSRTI implements the [Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act](#).

- [Superfund](#)

Programs and Projects Managed by OSRTI

- [National Priorities List](#)
- [Community Involvement](#)
- [Superfund Redevelopment](#)
- [Environmental Response Team \(ERT\)](#)
- [Superfund Contract Laboratory Program](#)

Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery (ORCR)

What We Do

ORCR's mission is to protect human health and the environment by:

- promoting the conservation of resources,
- ensuring proper waste management,
- preventing harmful exposure and
- overseeing the cleanup of land for productive use.

We do this by establishing and implementing regulatory standards, incentive-based programs and best practices in collaboration with communities, governments, businesses, and other organizations. ORCR implements the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). [Learn about the programs and projects ORCR manages.](#)

Programs and Projects Managed by ORCR

Circular Economy

A circular economy refers to an economy that uses a systems-focused approach and involves industrial processes and economic activities that are restorative or regenerative by design, enable resources used in such processes and activities to maintain their highest value for as long as possible, and aim for the elimination of waste through the superior design of materials, products, and systems (including business models). This approach reduces material use, redesigns materials to be less resource intensive, and recaptures “waste” as a resource to manufacture new materials and products. Circularity is embraced within the sustainable materials management (SMM) approach that EPA and other federal agencies have pursued since 2009.

- [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law - Transforming U.S. Recycling and Waste Management](#): The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is an historic investment in the health, equity, and resilience of American communities. With unprecedented funding to support local waste management infrastructure and recycling programs, EPA will improve people's health and safety and help establish and increase recycling programs nationwide. Under the law, EPA is developing three new waste prevention, reuse, and recycling programs.
- [Circular Economy Strategy Series](#): EPA is developing a series of strategies to build a circular economy for all. The first part of this series is the *National Recycling Strategy*, which identifies actions to address challenges facing the U.S. municipal solid waste recycling system. Subsequent strategies will address other key materials, such as plastics, food, and electronics.
- [Sustainable Management of Food](#): Sustainable management of food seeks to reduce wasted food and its associated impacts over the entire life cycle, starting with the use of natural resources, manufacturing, sales, and consumption, and ending with decisions on recovery or final disposal. EPA works to promote innovation and highlight the value and efficient management of food as a resource. Through the sustainable management of food, we can help businesses and consumers save money, provide a bridge in our communities for those who do not have enough to eat, and conserve resources for future generations.

- [Sustainable Management of Electronics](#): The use of electronic products has grown substantially over the past two decades, changing the way and the speed in which we communicate, and how we get information and entertainment. A long-term approach towards electronics stewardship is necessary both at work and at home. With the prevalence of electronics in mind, the federal government is committed to being a responsible consumer of electronics and a leader of electronics stewardship in the United States.
- [Facts and Figures about Materials, Waste and Recycling](#): EPA began analyzing data on waste and materials recycling several decades ago, and the Agency has data tables that go back to the 1960s. The *Facts and Figures Report* looks at existing data on generation, recycling, composting, combustion with energy recovery, landfilling for a variety of materials and products, and other pathways for food.
- [Waste Reduction Model \(WARM\)](#): EPA created WARM to help solid waste planners and organizations track and voluntarily report greenhouse gas emission reductions, energy savings, and economic impacts from several different waste management practices. WARM calculates and totals these impacts from baseline and alternative waste management practices—source reduction, recycling, anaerobic digestion, combustion, composting and landfilling.
- [Reduce, Reuse, Recycle](#): The most effective way to reduce waste is to not create it in the first place. Making a new product requires a lot of materials and energy - raw materials must be extracted from the Earth, the product must be fabricated, and then transported to wherever it will be sold. As a result, reduction and reuse are the most effective ways you can save natural resources, protect the environment, and save money.

Hazardous Waste Program

RCRA gives EPA the authority to control [hazardous waste](#) from the "cradle-to-grave." This includes the generation, transportation, treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous waste. To achieve this, EPA develops regulations, guidance, and policies that ensure the safe management and cleanup of solid and hazardous waste, as well as programs that encourage source reduction and beneficial reuse.

- [Hazardous Waste Generators](#): Many industries generate hazardous waste. EPA regulates hazardous waste under RCRA to ensure these wastes are managed in ways that protect human health and the environment. Generators of hazardous waste are regulated based on the amount of hazardous waste they generate in a calendar month, not the size of their businesses or facilities.
- Data Collection and Reporting Systems:
 - [RCRAInfo Web](#): EPA, in partnership with the States, biennially collects information regarding the generation, management, and final disposition of hazardous waste regulated under RCRA. EPA communicates the findings of EPA's hazardous waste data collection efforts to the public, government agencies, and the regulated community through [RCRAInfo Web](#).
 - [RCRAInfo](#): EPA's comprehensive information system, RCRAInfo, provides access to data supporting RCRA. The system enables

cradle-to-grave waste tracking of many types of information regarding the regulated universe of RCRA hazardous waste handlers. RCRAInfo characterizes facility status, regulated activities, and compliance histories, in addition to capturing detailed data on the generation of hazardous waste from large quantity generators and on waste management practices from treatment, storage, and disposal facilities.

- [Hazardous Waste Test Methods](#): In support of RCRA, EPA developed test methods for the analysis of various environmental media. These test methods can be found in the EPA publication, *Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste: Physical/Chemical Methods*.
- [Electronic Manifest \(e-Manifest\) Program](#): EPA established a national system for tracking hazardous waste shipments electronically, known as “e-Manifest.” This system modernizes the nation’s cradle-to-grave hazardous waste tracking process while saving valuable time, resources, and dollars for industry and states.
- [Hazardous Waste Permitting](#): The RCRA hazardous waste permitting program ensures the safe management of hazardous waste. Under this program, EPA establishes requirements regarding the treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous waste. The permitting program is important to the cradle-to-grave management system for hazardous waste, which prevents dangerous releases and avoids costly Superfund cleanups. Permits are issued by authorized states or EPA regional offices.
- [RCRA Corrective Action Program](#): EPA and 44 authorized states and territories work with hazardous waste facilities to investigate and clean up any release of hazardous waste into the soil, groundwater, surface water, and air through the RCRA Corrective Action program. RCRA Corrective Action cleanups support healthy and sustainable communities where people and the environment are protected from hazardous contamination today and into the future.
- [State Authorization](#): State authorization is a rulemaking process that EPA delegates the primary responsibility of implementing the RCRA hazardous waste program to individual states in lieu of EPA. This process ensures national consistency and minimum standards while providing flexibility to states in implementing rules.

Non-Hazardous Waste Regulations

Non-hazardous solid waste is regulated under Subtitle D of RCRA. Regulations established under Subtitle D ban open dumping of waste and set minimum federal criteria for the operation of [municipal waste and industrial waste landfills](#), including design criteria, location restrictions, financial assurance, corrective action (cleanup), and closure requirement. States play a lead role in implementing these regulations and may set more stringent requirements.

[National Regulations for Coal Combustion Residuals \(CCR\)](#): CCR, commonly known as coal ash, is created when coal is burned by power plants to produce electricity. Coal ash is one of the largest types of industrial waste generated in the United States. To address the risks from improper disposal and discharge of coal ash, EPA has established national regulations on the safe disposal of coal ash in landfills and surface impoundments.

Managing Materials and Waste for Homeland Security Incidents

Waste management is a critical part of preparation for response and recovery following [homeland security and smaller incidents](#). These may include an act of terrorism involving chemical, biological, and radiological agents, a large-scale natural disaster, or an animal disease outbreak. EPA provides public and private emergency planners, managers, and responders with all-hazards information they can use to increase their communities' resiliency to these incidents.

Tribal Waste Management Program

EPA encourages environmentally sound waste management practices that promote resource conservation through recycling, recovery, reduction, clean-up, and elimination of waste. [The Tribal Waste Management Program](#) provides national policy direction and partners with the EPA Regions and other federal agencies to assist tribes with the management of their waste. The Tribal Waste Management Program also provides technical assistance, training and funding, and facilitates waste program peer matches among tribes, education, and outreach to tribes.

International Initiatives

EPA works to ensure that waste is managed in a manner that is protective of human health and the environment through [international initiatives](#). EPA's efforts to sustainably manage waste include supporting the reduction and prevention of waste generation, promoting and facilitating the reuse and safe recycling of waste, and controlling [imports and exports of hazardous waste](#) between the United States and other countries.

The Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) Program

[PCBs](#) are toxic chemicals that would pose a risk to communities if improperly managed or controlled. The Toxic Substances Control Act provides EPA with authority to require reporting, record-keeping and testing requirements, and restrictions relating to chemical substances and/or mixtures, including PCBs. EPA's PCB regulations cover the use, clean-up, and disposal of PCBs.

Office of Underground Storage Tanks (OUST)

What We Do

OUST manages a regulatory program for underground storage tank (UST) systems that store petroleum and other hazardous substances. An UST system is a tank and any underground piping system connected to the tank that has at least 10 percent of its combined volume underground.

- [Underground storage tank program](#)

Programs and Projects Managed by OUST

- [Preventing UST releases](#)
- [Cleaning up UST releases](#)
- [Emerging fuels and USTs](#)
- [Petroleum brownfields](#)
- [USTs in Indian country](#)

Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization (OBLR)

What We Do

EPA's Brownfields program provides grants and technical assistance to communities, states, tribes, and other stakeholders, to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse formerly contaminated properties. Cleaning up and reinvesting in these properties protects the environment, reduces blight, and takes development pressures off greenspaces and working lands. EPA's Land Revitalization program works with communities, states, non-profits and other stakeholders to develop and test sustainable approaches for the reuse of formerly contaminated properties. OBLR implements the [Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act](#).

Programs and Projects Managed by OBLR

- [Brownfields program](#), including [grants and funding](#)
- [Land revitalization](#)

Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

What We Do

OEM works with other federal partners to prevent accidents and maintain incident response capabilities. We provide information about response efforts, regulations, tools, and research that help the regulated community, government entities, and concerned citizens prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies. OEM administers several environmental statutes, including the [Oil Pollution Act](#).

Programs and Projects Managed by OEM

- [Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Consequence Management Advisory Division \(CMAD\)](#)
- [Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act \(EPCRA\) Requirements](#)
- [Emergency Response](#)
- [Executive Order on Improving Chemical Facility Safety and Security](#)
- [Facility Response Plan \(FRP\) Rule](#)
- [Local Governments Reimbursement \(LGR\) Program](#)
- [National Contingency Plan \(NCP\) Subpart J Product Schedule](#)
- [Reporting Oil Discharges and Hazardous Substance Releases](#)
- [Risk Management Plan \(RMP\)](#)
- [Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure \(SPCC\) Rule](#)

Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office (FFRRO)

What We Do

FFRRO works with the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD), the Department of Energy (DOE), and other federal agencies to develop creative, cost-effective solutions to environmental challenges at Federal Facility Superfund Sites. FFRRO's mission is to

facilitate faster, more effective and less costly cleanup and reuse of federal facilities while ensuring protection of human health and the environment.

Programs and Projects Managed by FFRRO

- [Cleanups at Federal Facilities](#)
- [Base Closure and Realignment \(BRAC\)](#)
- [FEDFacts](#)
- [Federal Facilities Hazardous Waste Compliance Docket](#)
- [Redevelopment at Federal Facility Superfund Sites](#)

Office of Mountains, Deserts and Plains (OMDP)

What We Do

Created during EPA's 50th anniversary, the Office of Mountains, Deserts and Plains (OMDP), which reports to the Office of Land and Emergency Management, was established to address cross-media, cross-program, and cross-agency issues associated with advancing cleanups and reuse of Superfund and non-Superfund abandoned hardrock mining sites across the country. The Office provides support for federal hardrock mining cleanup sites; serves as a central contact for other federal partners, states and tribes with responsibility for or impacted by these sites; identifies and facilitates reprocessing or recovery of critical mineral from abandoned hardrock mine sites; evaluates innovative technologies and reuse options; coordinates and advances cleanup of abandoned uranium mines on or surrounding the Navajo Nation; and supports efforts of conservation organizations to voluntarily undertake projects (Good Samaritan projects) to improve environmental conditions at abandoned hardrock mine sites.

Programs and Projects with OMDP Involvement:

1. Cleanups
2. Cleanups at Federal Facilities
3. Climate Change and Land
4. Education
5. FEDFacts
6. Greener Cleanups
7. Hazardous Waste
8. Land Revitalization
9. Programs and Projects of the Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM)
10. RE-Powering America's Land
11. Risk Management Plan Rule
12. Superfund
13. Superfund Redevelopment Program
14. Technologies for Cleaning Up Contaminated Sites
15. Tribal Lands

Office of Mission Support

What We Do

The Office of Mission Support (OMS) leads the agency's core mission support functions to improve efficiency, coordination, and customer experience for internal customers, stakeholders, and the public, including protection of EPA's facilities and other critical assets nationwide, acquisition activities (contracts), grants management, human capital, information technology, and information management activities.

The Office of Mission Support includes:

- [Office of Resources and Business Operations \(ORBO\)](#)
- [Office of Administrative Law Judges](#)
- [Environmental Appeals Board](#)
- [Office of Human Resources](#)
- [Office of Administration](#)
- [Office of Acquisition Solutions](#)
- [Office of Grants and Debarment](#)
- [OARM – Research Triangle Park Office](#)
- [OARM – Cincinnati Office](#)
- [Office of Enterprise Information Programs](#)
- [Office of Information Technology Operations](#)
- [Office of Information Management](#)
- [Office of Information Security and Privacy](#)
- [Office of Digital Services and Technical Architecture](#)
- [Office of Customer Advocacy, Policy and Portfolio Management](#)

Office of Resources and Business Operations (ORBO)

What We Do

The Office of Resources and Business Operations (ORBO) serves as the principal staff to the Assistant Administrator on matters related to program management, budget, human resources, communications, workforce development programs, and administrative operations within OMS. ORBO staff also oversees the agency's federal advisory committee management program and directly manages four federal advisory committees.

Programs Managed by FACMD

- [Federal Advisory Committee Management Program](#)
- [Good Neighbor Environmental Board \(GNEB\)](#)
- [Governmental Advisory Committee \(GAC\)](#)
- [National Advisory Committee \(NAC\)](#)

Office of Administrative Law Judges (OALJ)

What We Do

The Office of Administrative Law Judges (OALJ) is an independent office in EPA's [Office of Mission Support](#). The Administrative Law Judges conduct hearings and render decisions in proceedings between the EPA and persons, businesses, government entities, and other organizations that are, or are alleged to be, regulated under environmental laws.

Administrative Law Judges preside in enforcement and permit proceedings in accordance with the [Administrative Procedure Act \(APA\)](#). Most enforcement actions initiated by the EPA are for the assessment of civil penalties. The Administrative Law Judges also conduct hearings and render decisions in appeals from determinations of the [EPA's Office of Civil Rights \(OCR\)](#) in complaints of violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and of the EPA's implementing regulations at [40 C.F.R. Part 7](#). [The Part 7 procedures and further information regarding OCR and the Title VI complaint process are posted on EPA's Civil Rights website.](#)

All litigants before the Administrative Law Judges are offered the opportunity to resolve enforcement cases through [alternative dispute resolution](#) with a neutral mediator.

Federal administrative law judges are certified by the Office of Personnel Management and appointed in accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 3105. They have decisional independence pursuant to Section 557 of the APA, 5 U.S.C. § 557, which ensures the fair and impartial resolution of proceedings.

Decisions issued by the Administrative Law Judges are subject to review by the [Environmental Appeals Board \(EAB\)](#). An Administrative Law Judge's initial decision, which is a disposition of all of the issues in a proceeding, becomes the final order of the EPA within 45 days after service upon the parties, unless a party appeals to the EAB, or the EAB on its own initiative elects to review the initial decision.

Environmental Appeals Board (EAB)

What We Do

The Environmental Appeals Board (“EAB” or “the Board”) is an impartial appellate tribunal established by regulation to hear administrative appeals under the major environmental statutes that EPA administers. The EPA Administrator has delegated to the Board the authority to hear these appeals. The Board is independent of all Agency components outside the immediate office of the Office of the Administrator. The Board’s caseload consists primarily of appeals from federal permitting decisions and administrative civil penalty decisions as well as petitions for reimbursement of costs incurred in complying with cleanup orders issued under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. The Board’s Environmental Appeals Judges generally sit in panels of three, and a panel decides a matter by majority vote. Please see “Guide to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Environmental Appeals Board,” available on the Board’s website, for additional information about the Board.

Office of Human Resources (OHR)

What We Do

The Office of Human Resources sets strategic vision and direction for EPA's human resource programs and ensures HR program consistency across the agency. This includes agency-wide policy development, strategic planning, workforce planning, learning and development, performance management, diversity and outreach programs, employee benefits and services, agency directives, executive resources management, labor and employee relations, and human resource information technology systems.

Programs and projects managed by the Office of Human Resources

- [Careers](#)
- [Current job openings](#)
- [Benefits](#)

Office of Administration (OA)

What We Do

The Office of Administration is responsible for the development and conduct of programs for acquisition, maintenance, and operations of all EPA facilities, including:

- space management and utilization;
- facilities construction, acquisition, design, and layout;
- facilities management, maintenance and repairs, property management, transportation, security, and mail management; and
- the workplace health and safety of EPA employees.

We also develop environmental management initiatives for energy efficiency and sustainability, recycling, and pollution prevention, and environmental compliance of EPA facilities.

Programs and projects managed by the Office of Administration

- [Environmental Management Systems](#)
- [Energy and Emissions at EPA](#)
- [Greening EPA](#)
- [Background Investigations and Clearance](#)

Office of Acquisition Solutions (OAS)

What We Do

OAS is responsible for planning, awarding and administering contracts for the Agency, including issuing and interpreting acquisition regulations; administering training for contracting and program acquisition personnel; providing advice and oversight to regional procurement offices; and providing information technology improvements for acquisition.

Programs and projects managed by the Office of Acquisition Solutions

- [Contracting with EPA](#)
- [EPA Acquisition Forecast Database](#)

Office of Grants and Debarment (OGD)

What We Do

OGD provides cradle-to-grave administrative management of all Headquarters-administered grants, loans, cooperative agreements, fellowships, interagency agreements (IAs) and for the management of the Agency's Suspension and Debarment program.

Programs and projects managed by the Office of Grants and Debarment

- [Application kit for federal assistance](#)
- [Funding opportunities](#)
- [How to apply for a grant](#)
- [Plan for Grants Management](#)
- [Suspension and debarment](#)

OARM – Research Triangle Park Office (RTP)

What We Do

The Office of Administration and Resources Management (OARM) in RTP provides diversified administrative support services to all EPA-RTP customers, including facilities management, information technology services, safety, health and security, and human resources services to various EPA customers.

OARM – Cincinnati Office

What We Do

OARM in Cincinnati provides diversified administrative support services to all EPA-Cincinnati customers, including facilities management, information technology services, safety, health and security, and human resources services to various EPA customers.

Office of Enterprise Information Programs (OEIP)

What We Do

OEIP helps ensure the proper collection, use, release, and management of EPA information. OEIP leads the Agency's Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), dockets, records and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act programs. The Office also houses the Agency's Electronic Discovery (eDiscovery) Program, the EPA Quality Program, the Agency's National Library Network, Controlled Unclassified Information Program, and FOIAonline Program, which supports certain federal agencies' management of their Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests.

Programs and Projects Managed by the Office of Enterprise Information

- [EPA's Quality Program](#)
- [Information Quality Guidelines \(IQGs\)](#)
- [EPA Docket Center](#)

- [National Records Management Program](#)
- [Library Network](#)
- [FOIAonline](#)

Office of Information Technology Operations (OITO)

What We Do

OITO is responsible for the implementation and management of a secure information technology (IT) infrastructure and IT solutions in support of EPA's mission.

Office of Information Management (OIM)

What We Do

Within EPA's Office Mission Support-Environmental Information (OMS-EI), the Office of Information Management (OIM) provides information management solutions to meet EPA's mission needs. OIM provides many tools and resources that encompass the full data lifecycle of information management, including data management, analytics and visualization tools; information collection and exchange services; Exchange Network grants; content management; and publication services.

Programs and Projects Managed by the Office of Information Management

- [Central Data Exchange \(CDX\)](#)
- [Cross-Media Electronic Reporting Regulation \(CROMERR\)](#)
- [Data Standards](#)
- [Facility Registry System \(FRS\)](#)
- [Geospatial Program](#)
 - [EPA's Environmental Dataset Gateway \(EDG\)](#)
 - [EPA's Metadata Editor \(EME\)](#)
 - [EPA's Geospatial Data Download Service](#)
- [National Environmental Information Exchange Network \(Exchange Network\) and Grant Program](#)
- [Open Government](#)
- [System of Registries \(SoR\)](#)
 - [Laws and Regulations Services \(LRS\)](#)
 - [Registry of EPA Applications and Databases \(READ\)](#)
 - [Substance Registry Services \(SRS\)](#)
 - [Terminology Services \(TS\)](#)
 - [Tribes Names Service](#)
- [Envirofacts](#)
- [MyEnvironment](#)
- [Toxics Release Inventory \(TRI\) Tools](#)
- [TRI-MEweb](#)

Office of Information Security and Privacy (OISP)

What We Do

OISP promotes Agency-wide cooperation in managing risks and protecting EPA information in harmony with mission accomplishment. It defines clear, comprehensive and enterprise-wide information security and privacy strategies, including the Program mission, vision, goals, objectives and performance measures.

Programs and Projects Managed by the Office of Information Security and Privacy

- [Privacy Act](#)

Office of Digital Services and Technical Architecture (ODSTA)

What We Do

ODSTA serves on the leading edge of enterprise technologies for the EPA. The Office researches, plans and manages future directions of EPA's Information Technology/Information Management (IT/IM) architecture, supports the introduction of new technologies and technology support capabilities in response to Agency requirements, and ensures that Office of Mission Support (OMS)-operated systems align with key federal mandates.

Programs and Projects Managed by the Office of Digital Services and Technical Architecture

- [Developer Central](#)

Office of Customer Advocacy, Policy and Portfolio Management (OCAPPM)

What We Do

OCAPPM provides communications, customer experience and adoption to advance OMS services. The Office manages information technology and information management (IT/IM) strategy, policy, and investment portfolios to facilitate EPA's mission.

Programs and Projects Managed by the Office of Customer Advocacy, Policy and Portfolio Management

- [EPA Information Directives - CIO Policies, Procedures, Standards, and Guidance](#)

Office of Research and Development (ORD)

The Office of Research and Development (ORD) is the scientific research arm of EPA. Its leading-edge research informs Agency decisions and supports the emerging needs of EPA stakeholders, including the Agency's state, tribal, and community partners.

What We Do

ORD conducts the research for EPA that provides the foundation for credible decision-making to safeguard human health and ecosystems from environmental pollutants. ORD's work is organized into six research programs that identify the most pressing environmental health research needs with input from Agency offices, partners,

and stakeholders. Our Strategic Research Action Plans updated every few years outline the research underway in the programs. ORD Offices and Centers are situated in 10 facilities across the country. We also serve as the Agency's National Program Manager for Regional Laboratories.

Learn more about:

- [Strategic Research Planning at EPA](#)
- [ORD's Role as National Program Manager for Regional Laboratories](#)

Offices

- [Office of Resource Management \(ORM\)](#)
- [Office of Science and Information Management \(OSIM\)](#)
- [Office of Science Advisor, Policy, and Engagement \(OSAPE\)](#)

Research Centers

- [Center for Computational Toxicology and Exposure \(CCTE\)](#)
- [Center for Environmental Measurement and Modeling \(CEMM\)](#)
- [Center for Environmental Solutions and Emergency Response \(CESER\)](#)
- [Center for Public Health and Environmental Assessment \(CPHEA\)](#)

Research Programs

- [Air, Climate, and Energy](#)
- [Chemical Safety for Sustainability](#)
- [Health and Environmental Risk Assessment](#)
- [Homeland Security](#)
- [Safe and Sustainable Water Resources](#)
- [Sustainable and Healthy Communities](#)

Office of Resource Management (ORM)

What We Do

ORM's mission is to advance ORD's research mission by providing fully integrated operational support. We achieve this mission by providing effective resource management support and services in the areas of: budget formulation and execution, extramural management, human capital management, travel management, program accountability, policy, and operations and compliance for Safety, Health, and Environmental Management (SHEM), facilities, fleet, capital equipment, and vertebrate research programs.

Divisions

- Extramural Management Division
- Human Capital Division
- Improvement and Accountability Division

- Research Support and Compliance Division
- Planning and Budget Division

Office of Science and Information Management (OSIM)

What We Do

The mission of OSIM cascades from the higher-level missions of EPA and ORD. OSIM is ORD's IT/IM office. OSIM enables high quality, high impact environmental research by providing agile tools, technology, processes and services for research projects, planning, collaboration and quality control.

Divisions

- Application and Information Management Division
- Customer and Infrastructure Support Division

Office of Science Advisor, Policy and Engagement (OSAPE)

What We Do

The Office of Science Advisor, Policy, and Engagement (OSAPE) supports the Agency's Science Advisor and integrates and coordinates science across ORD and the Agency, with key external partners, and into the regulatory process. OSAPE provides support by:

- Integrating scientific research and expertise into Agency decisions, providing Agency leadership on scientific integrity and human subjects research review,
- Providing advice and vision on science and technology issues, managing ORD's extramural research programs,
- Leading ORD's regional science programs, challenges and prizes, managing several external advisory boards, serving as ORD's lead on science policy issues, and
- Coordinating ORD's partnerships with tribes, other federal agencies and international organizations, and key state and local partners.

OSAPE also includes EPA's Human Subjects Research Review Official and EPA's Scientific Integrity Official. The Human Subject Research Review Official provides Agency leadership regarding the approval of human research and oversight of relevant policies, practices and regulations. The Scientific Integrity Official leads the implementation of the Agency's Scientific Integrity policy, collaborating with senior leadership within EPA and promoting a climate that is supportive of high quality, timely science products.

Divisions :

- [Extramural Research and Partnerships Division](#)
Maggie LaVay, Director

- [Science Policy Division](#)
Nikki Bass, Acting Division Director

Extramural Research and Partnerships Division

What We Do

The Extramural Research & Partnerships Division (ERPD) leads and coordinates ORD's extramural research grants and partnerships with EPA's programs and regions, tribes, other federal agencies, and key external stakeholders. ERPD works with ORD's National Program Directors (NPDs) in prioritizing extramural research and managing relevancy reviews for new projects and the subsequent grants and contracts within their subject area portfolios. The Division also works across ORD on partnerships with EPA's regions, states, the tribes, other federal agencies, international organizations, and organizations who represent specialized state or local partners.

Extramural Research

Science to Achieve Results Grant Program

Extramural Research funded through EPA's Science to Achieve Results (STAR) grants provides invaluable engagement between the agency and scientific community, fostering a collaboration and knowledge-sharing platform. These grants not only engage top scientists throughout the U.S., resulting in a strong scientific foundation to support the Agency in meeting its mission, but the resulting funded research provides the underlying scientific and engineering knowledge needed to address environmental and human health issues and to improve decision-making, problem detection, and problem-solving.

[Research Funding Opportunities.](#)

Small Business Innovation Research Program

The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program supports small businesses (500 or fewer employees) to develop and commercialize novel environmental technologies that support EPA's mission of protecting human health and the environment. The program is designed in a phased approach. Phase I awards are \$100,000 for six months and for "proof of concept" of the technology. Phase II awards are for up to \$300,000 for two years to further develop and commercialize the technology. Phase II companies that obtain qualifying third-party investments are eligible for a commercialization option of \$100,000.

[Small Business Innovation Research \(SBIR\) Program.](#)

People, Prosperity and the Planet Student Design Competition

The People, Prosperity and the Planet (P3) program awards grants to research, develop, and design solutions to real-world challenges to respond to the needs of people across the U.S, including those in small, rural, tribal, and disadvantaged communities. P3 is a student design competition that highlights the use of scientific principles in creating innovative projects focused on sustainability. Phase I is a competition for one-year grants to test, research, and develop innovative scientific projects or engineering designs to promote sustainable development. Phase II awards – open only to student teams with a current Phase I grant – provide additional funds to support further development and

demonstration of the sustainability projects and designs the teams created in Phase I. [People, Prosperity and the Planet \(P3\) Student Design Competition.](#)

Partnerships

Regional Science Program

The Regional Science Program links EPA's Office of Research and Development with 10 regional offices located throughout the country. The program builds networks and partnerships, provides technical assistance, and delivers research results on high-priority science issues in support of environmental decision makers.

[Regional Science Program Fact Sheet \(pdf\)](#) (456.02 KB, June 2022)

Tribal Science Program

The tribal science program builds bridges between Tribal and EPA programs by collaborating on priority tribal science issues through the Tribal Science Council (TSC). The TSC is a forum for interaction between Tribal and Agency representatives to work collaboratively on environmental science issues. The Council is comprised of EPA representatives from across the Agency, a tribal representative from each of the EPA regions with federally recognized tribes, and a representative of the Alaska Native Villages.

[Tribal Research Resources](#)

Science Policy Division

What We Do

The Science Policy Division (SPD) provides leadership within the Office of Research and Development (ORD) on regulatory activities, evaluates the impact of ORD's contributions to the development of regulations and policy actions and coordinates across the Agency on science and technology policy issues, such as peer review, scientific integrity, reproducibility of information, public access to data and human subjects research review.

SPD supports external and internal research by managing ORD engagement with the Board of Scientific Counselors and peer review of research grants. The Division also supports EPA's Science Advisor, Scientific Integrity Official and Human Subjects Research Review Official.

Science Advisor Programs

The Science Advisor works across the Agency to ensure that the highest quality science is better integrated into the Agency's policies and decisions. In this capacity, the Science Advisor leads the Science Advisor Programs and chairs the Agency's Science and Technology Policy Council which reviews selected science issues that have implications across program and regional offices.

The mission of the Science Advisor Programs is to provide leadership and serve as an honest broker for cross-Agency science, science policy, and technology issues. Science Advisor Programs provide leadership in cross-Agency science and science policy development and implementation to ensure the best possible use of science at the Agency. These efforts help ensure regulations are interpreted and enforced in a manner consistent with the science supporting them and will strengthen EPA's overall scientific performance.

Scientific Integrity

EPA's Agency-wide Scientific Integrity Policy builds on our long history of scientific safeguards and further ensures that sound science drives Agency decision making. The policy builds on EPA's Principles of Scientific Integrity and outlines foundational principles that promote a culture of scientific integrity, communication with the public, the use of peer review and Federal Advisory Committees, and the development of Agency scientists.

Visit these sites for more information:

- [Basic Information about Scientific Integrity](#)
- [EPA's Principles of Scientific Integrity](#)
- [Scientific Integrity Policy](#)

The Scientific Integrity Policy establishes the Scientific Integrity Committee to implement its policy. The Scientific Integrity Official (SciO) chairs the Committee and reports to the Science Advisor for EPA. The SciO is the Agency's focal point on scientific integrity and serves as the Agency's expert on such matters.

Human Subjects Research

Programs of the Office of the Science Advisor provide direct regulatory oversight of Human Subjects Research (HSR) conducted or supported by the Agency. They also support the Office of Pesticide Programs in its regulatory oversight of HSR done by third parties involving substances meeting the regulatory definition of pesticides, over which EPA has statutory authority. Ethical HSR is executed through the coordinated activities of its two components: Human Subjects Research Review Official and the [Human Studies Review Board](#).

Visit [Basic Information about Human Subjects Research](#) for more information.

Risk Assessment Forum

EPA's Risk Assessment Forum (RAF) promotes consensus on risk assessment issues and develops agency risk assessment guidance. RAF guidance is intended to guide the agency as a whole, rather than any specific program. RAF guidance undergoes extensive internal and external peer review along with public comment prior adoption.

Visit [Basic Information about Risk Assessment Guidelines Development](#) for more information.

Science and Technology Policy Council

The success of EPA's mission depends on a strong and credible foundation of science and technology. The Science and Technology Policy Council (STPC) serves as a mechanism for addressing EPA's many significant science policy issues that go beyond regional and program boundaries. The STPC's goal is to integrate policies that guide agency decision makers in their use of scientific and technical information.

Visit [Basic Information about Scientific Coordination](#) for more information or email STPC_Staff@epa.gov.

Federal Advisory Committees

Committees subject to the Federal Advisory Committees Act provide advice on a wide range of environmental issues. Every committee meeting, no matter what the subject matter or where it is held, is dedicated to open government and citizen participation.

For more information visit:

- [Open Government](#)
- [Federal Advisory Committees at EPA](#)

Board of Scientific Counselors

The EPA Board of Scientific Counselors provides advice, information, and recommendations on technical and management issues of its research programs.

Visit [Board of Scientific Counselors \(BOSC\)](#) for more information.

Human Studies Review Board

EPA's Human Studies Review Board provides advice, information, and recommendations on issues related to scientific and ethical aspects of human subjects research. The major objectives are to provide advice and recommendations on: research proposals and protocols; reports of completed research with human subjects; and how to strengthen EPA's programs for protection of human subjects of research.

Visit [Human Studies Review Board](#) for more information.

Center for Computational Toxicology and Exposure (CCTE)

What We Do

The Center for Computational Toxicology & Exposure (CCTE) is a scientific organization working to support Agency decisions by providing solutions-driven research to rapidly evaluate the potential human health and environmental risks due to exposures to environmental chemicals and ensure the integrity of the freshwater environment and its capacity to support human well-being. To do this, CCTE research strives to:

- Reduce the time required to thoroughly test chemicals and other emerging materials for human health and ecological toxicity from years to months.
- Expand our understanding of quantitative human and ecological exposures for thousands of chemical substances and emerging materials.
- Develop a comprehensive information system that contains relevant actionable chemical safety and ecological data with the software tools to integrate them for a range of human health and environmental decisions.
- Reduce the time required to characterize freshwater ecosystems and project the future state of ecological condition and ecosystem services from decades to years.
- Demonstrate translation of CCTE data, models, and tools into regulatory decisions by EPA Program Offices, EPA Regions, and States to protect human health and the environment.

Using the knowledge and tools developed from this research, CCTE performs rapid chemical screening and evaluation that allows thousands of chemicals to be evaluated for potential risk in a very short amount of time. The data and tools produced by CCTE researchers can then be leveraged to help Region and Program Offices, states, tribes, and communities make decisions to sustain a healthy society and environment.

Learn more about EPA's CCTE research by viewing our [Safer Chemicals Research Fact Sheets](#).

Research Tools

- [Models, Applications and Databases](#)

- [Downloadable Data](#)
- [Computational Toxicology and Exposure Data APIs](#)
- [EcoTox Knowledgebase](#)
- [Sequence Alignment to Predict Across Species Susceptibility \(SeqAPASS\)](#)

Outreach and Partnerships

- [Collaborative Research](#)
- [Computational Toxicology Communities of Practice](#)

Divisions

- [Biomolecular and Computational Toxicology Division](#)
- [Chemical Characterization and Exposure Division](#)
- [Great Lakes Toxicology and Ecology Division](#)
- [Scientific Computing and Data Curation Division](#)

Biomolecular and Computational Toxicology Division

What We Do

The Biomolecular & Computational Toxicology Division (BCTD) supports the Agency's mission by expanding and refining the development and use of new approach methods for evaluating chemicals for health effects. BCTD develops and uses high-throughput assays, complex cell culture systems, alternative species models and computational and informatics approaches to transform the components of chemical risk assessment with a focus on human health. BCTD research aims to broaden the acceptance and implementation of these new approaches in support of regulatory decisions.

Our Research

- [ToxCast](#)
- [Toxicology in the 21st Century Federal Consortium](#)
- [Understanding Chemical Interaction with Biological Systems](#)
- [Developmental Neurotoxicity](#)

Chemical Characterization and Exposure Division

What We Do

The Chemical Characterization and Exposure Division (CCED) performs research to develop and advance experimental chemistry approaches that are critical to the rapid characterization of the presence, structural characteristics, and properties of chemicals that are of interest to EPA scientists due to their potential environmental fate and toxicity. In addition to chemical characterization, CCED develops computational

models to predict external exposure and internal doses for large numbers of chemicals based on minimal data.

CCED strives to reduce the time to conduct toxicity and exposure assessments from years to months by developing:

- Chemoinformatic tools and knowledgebases
- Rapid analytical methods for identifying environmental chemicals in environmental and biological samples
- Predictive models of both exposure and dose for environmental chemicals
- Absorption, Distribution, Metabolism and Excretion approaches for environmental chemicals and model parameterization

Our Research

- [ExpoCast](#)
- [HTTK R Package](#)
- [Non-Targeted Analysis Collaborative Trial \(ENTACT\)](#)
- [CompTox Chemicals Dashboard](#)
- [Chemical and Products Database \(CPDat\)](#)
- [DSSTox](#)
- [Toxicity Estimation Software Tool](#)
- [Adverse Outcome Pathway](#)
- [PFAS Tiered Testing Research](#)

Great Lakes Toxicology and Ecology Division

What We Do

The Great Lakes Toxicology & Ecology Division (GLTED) focuses on developing new methods to predict the effect of chemicals on our nation's freshwater ecosystems. The Division incorporates traditional and predictive toxicity using advanced tools to produce science to inform ecological risk assessments of chemicals by EPA's Program Offices and Regions.

GLTED primarily focuses on freshwater coastal ecology, linking the ecological integrity of receiving waters to watershed effects, and developing indicators and sampling protocols for freshwater ecosystem assessments. GLTED uses an array of factors to assess and predict outcomes of clean up and revitalization efforts. Intrinsic to this division's mission is building the functional resiliency of watersheds and coastal systems to human-driven flows of chemicals, sediment, and invasive species.

Our Research

- [SeqAPASS](#)

- [EcoTox](#)
- [SSD Toolbox](#)
- [Markov Chain Nest Productivity Model Estimating Tool](#)
- [Markov Chain Nest Productivity Model](#)
- [Adverse Outcome Pathways](#)
- [National Aquatic Resource Surveys in the Great Lakes](#)
- [Remediation to Restoration to Revitalization](#)
- [Ecosystem Services](#)
- [Dredged Materials Decision Tool \(DMDT\)](#)

Scientific Computing and Data Curation Division

What We Do

The Scientific Computing & Data Curation Division (SCDCD) develops the knowledge and information architecture necessary for integrating, transforming, and managing large scale data streams related to assessing the risk of chemicals. SCDCD creates and manages online tools and ensures they are compatible with existing chemistry, toxicology and other experimental data sources.

SCDCD scientists develop innovative decision support tools that integrate complex data sources and organize them for simple application in specific chemical safety decisions.

Center for Environmental Measurement and Modeling (CEMM)

What We Do

The Center for Environmental Measurement and Modeling (CEMM) conducts research to advance the Agency's ability to measure and model contaminants in the environment, including research to provide fundamental methods and models needed to implement environmental statutes. Our research involves:

- Occurrence, fate, and transport in the natural environment
- Regulatory methods and models
- Tools to inform and evaluate environmental management practices and policies
- Environmental indicators
- Contaminants of emerging concern

Divisions

- [Air Methods and Characterization Division](#)
- [Atmospheric and Environmental Systems Modeling Division](#)
- [Atlantic Coastal Environmental Sciences Division](#)
- [Gulf Ecosystem Measurement and Modeling Division](#)

- [Watershed and Ecosystem Characterization Division](#)
- [Ecosystem Processes Division](#)

Air Methods and Characterization Division

What We Do

The Air Methods and Characterization Division (AMCD):

- Develops, evaluates and applies advanced laboratory and field methods to measure, characterize, and analyze concentrations of pollutants in the air and at various emission sources;
- Develops methods required to support the Clean Air Act (CAA), including federal reference methods (FRMs) and federal equivalent methods (FEMs) to measure criteria pollutants used to determine compliance with National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), and analytical methods for collecting and analyzing air toxics and related compounds to meet regulatory requirements and help better understand exposure and health effects; and
- Develops, evaluates, and applies advanced monitoring technologies and methods to characterize and predict emissions from a variety of sources, provide solutions to manage air pollutant sources, and to minimize environmental impact.

Relevant Research

- [Air Sensor Toolbox for Citizen Scientists](#)
- [Federal Reference and Equivalent Methods](#)

Atmospheric and Environmental Systems Modeling Division

What We Do

The Atmospheric & Environmental Systems Modeling Division (AESMD):

- Conducts research to help EPA characterize processes that impact the transport, transformation, and fate of environmental contaminants in the air, and how they interact with the rest of the environment, in support of the Clean Air and Clean Water Acts;
- Develops and uses modeling tools to help manage air quality at multiple scales, such as models that estimate the contributions of various air emission sources to air pollution and inform exposure and effects assessments;
- Studies emission impacts from alternative energy pathways that can improve the cost-effectiveness of air quality management approaches and identify potential implications of energy system changes on air quality and other environmental media; and

- Advances the science of atmospheric modeling tools to support robust air quality management policy decisions.

Relevant Research

- [Community Multiscale Air Quality Modeling System \(CMAQ\)](#)
- [Visual Environment for Rich Data Interpretation \(VERDI\)](#)
- [Probabilistic Reverse dosimetry Estimating Exposure Distribution \(PROCEED\)](#)
- [Community-LINE Source Model \(C-LINE\) to estimate roadway emissions](#)
- [Fertilizer Emission Scenario Tool](#)
- [Atmospheric Model Evaluation Tool for meteorological and air quality simulations](#)
- [GLIMPSE](#)

Atlantic Coastal Environmental Sciences Division

What We Do

The Atlantic Coastal Environmental Sciences Division (ACESD):

- Conducts coastal watershed, freshwater, estuarine, and coastal ecological research;
- Develops theories, methods, models, and data to better understand the cumulative effects of stressors and extreme weather events on the coastal waters and watersheds of the Atlantic seaboard;
- Helps develop methods to measure the ecological effects of nutrients and other pollutants and to determine the effects of biogeochemical processes on stressors;
- Uses social-ecological systems approaches to restore and enhance the resilience of the coastal environment and to characterize the tradeoffs inherent to decision making;
- Conducts place-based research to resolve key problems identified by stakeholders and which are transferable to other parts of the nation; and
- Provides research support to states and communities on issues related to the protection and restoration of coastal watersheds and marine ecosystems.

Relevant Research

- [Rapid Benefit Indicators \(RBI\) Approach](#)
- [Harmful Algal Bloom and Cyanobacteria Research](#)
- [National Aquatic Resource Surveys](#)
- [Watershed Management Optimization Support Tool](#)

Gulf Ecosystem Measurement and Modeling Division

The Gulf Ecosystem Measurement and Modeling Division (GEMMD):

- Provides leadership and research in marine, estuarine, and watershed ecology and ecotoxicology to predict and assess the effects of human-generated stressors on the aquatic resources of the U.S. Gulf of Mexico and the U.S.;
- Uses its research to help determine ecological condition, evaluate rates and causes of declining systems, and predict future conditions under various alternative water quality scenarios; and
- Works closely with communities, states, and the region to develop tools and provide a scientific basis for sustainable environmental management decisions that maximize economic, ecosystem, and social outcomes and resiliency.

Relevant Research

- [Human Well-Being Index \(HWBI\)](#)
- [Ecosystem Services in Coordinated Case Studies](#)
- [Coral Reef Biological Condition Gradient](#)
- [National Coastal Condition Assessment](#)
- [Web-based Interspecies Correlation Estimation \(Web-ICE\)](#)
- [Linking Watershed Stressors to Biological Effects](#)
- [Methods, Models, Tools, and Databases for Water Research](#)

Watershed and Ecosystem Characterization Division

What We Do

The Watershed & Ecosystem Characterization Division (WECD):

- Conducts research to help characterize the presence, transport, transformation, sources, and impacts of contaminants in watersheds and ecological systems;
- Develops methods to measure chemical and microbial pollutants in environmental media such as soil, dust, water, and other biota to support environmental statutes (e.g., Superfund and the Clean Water Act);
- Uses ecological monitoring of chemical and biological stressors at multiple scales, characterizing the condition of environmental systems through the development and application of novel field indicators, environmental genomics, and geospatial tools;
- Develops watershed management tools that are applied to both ecological response and economic benefits; and
- Develops methods, tools, and technologies that are used to inform effective watershed management practices and minimize health risks from various chemical and microbial contaminants.

Relevant Research

- [EPA Microbiological Methods and Online Publications](#)
- [Perfluorinated Chemical \(PFC\) Research](#)
- [Nanomaterials Research](#)
- [Harmful Algal Bloom and Cyanobacteria Research](#)
- [Better Assessment Science Integrating Point and Non-point Sources \(BASINS\)](#)
- [Virtual Beach](#)

Ecosystem Processes Division

What We Do

The Ecosystem Processes Division (EPD):

- Uses state-of-the-art targeted and non-targeted analytical methods to generate data on the presence, concentration levels, and ecological effects of emerging priority chemical contaminants and their degradates in natural and built environments.
- Develops data and predictive tools to evaluate and prioritize chemical and nonchemical stressors based on the potential for human and ecological exposure, health impacts, and ecosystem degradation.
- Develops next generation cloud-based hydrology, water quality, and ecology modeling platform to facilitate data provisioning services, modeling workflows, mobile apps to support effective management of watersheds and ecosystems.
- Develops cost effective, reliable, and documentable means to identify, monitor, and control vapor intrusion into homes and buildings to reduce or prevent potential occupant exposures and associated health impacts.

Relevant Research

- [Vapor Intrusion](#)

Landscape and Aquatic Systems Modeling Branch:

- [Site-specific models of pathogen indicators in recreational waters](#)
- [Cyanobacteria Assessment Network Mobile Application \(CyAN\)](#)
- [Watershed hydrology, water quality, and ecology modeling](#)

Chemical Processes and Systems Branch:

- [Chemical Transformation Simulator](#)
- [Research on Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances \(PFAS\)](#)
- [Adverse Outcome Pathways](#)

Center for Environmental Solutions and Emergency Response (CESER)

What We Do

The Center for Environmental Solutions & Emergency Response (CESER) plans, coordinates and conducts an applied, customer-driven, national research and development program to improve decision making by EPA, federal, state, tribal and local agencies, when faced with challenging environmental problems in the built environment.

The Center develops and provides applied scientific and engineering solutions, technologies, and cutting-edge innovations to protect and remediate our air, land, and water resources, and critical infrastructure challenged by systemic and acute environmental contamination.

CESER assists customers across the nation with effective and innovative approaches to safeguarding public water systems and remediating contaminated soil, sediments, urban areas, and groundwater. Contamination sources include those traditionally managed through environmental regulation and emerging environmental stressors, as well as potential threats from terrorism or natural disasters.

CESER advances approaches and guidance for sustainable materials management including waste management and the development of decision support tools for effective environmental and disaster management strategies.

The Center develops, evaluates and applies research and demonstration methods on various scales spanning laboratory to pilot to full field scale to provide the most useful scientific solutions in support of EPA's mission and the Office of Research & Development (ORD) Immediate Office of the Assistant Administrator's mission and strategic vision.

CESER provides technical support to EPA regions and programs, states, tribal nations, and federal partners, and serves as the interagency liaison for EPA in homeland security research and technology. CESER interfaces with ORD and other EPA offices and other Federal and nonfederal organizations relative to CESER programs and services.

Divisions

The Center is made up of five divisions:

- [Groundwater Characterization and Remediation Division](#)
- [Homeland Security and Materials Management Division](#)
- [Land Remediation and Technology Division](#)
- [Water Infrastructure Division](#)
- [Technical Support Coordination Division](#)

Groundwater Characterization and Remediation Division

What We Do

The Groundwater Characterization and Remediation Division (GCRD) plans, coordinates, and conducts an applied, national-scale, customer-driven research program to provide data, tools, models, strategies, and technologies to protect and restore groundwater. GCRD research and outreach programs include basic and applied studies of the physical, chemical, and biological processes that control the transport of water, chemicals, and/or microorganisms of known or emerging concern in subsurface environments.

GCRD also provides research and outreach for applied site-specific studies to determine the effects of management practices on pollutant removal or pollution avoidance. We consult with EPA Regions, Program Offices, and other stakeholders on specific problems and needs that can be addressed by GCRD research.

Relevant Research

- [Ground Water Technical Support Center](#)
- [Ground Water Modeling Research](#)

Homeland Security and Materials Management Division

What We Do

The Homeland Security and Materials Management Division (HSMMD) conducts an applied, customer-driven, national-scale research program to improve the nation's preparedness for and response to environmental emergencies and materials management challenges. HSMMD's mission includes:

- Understanding fate and transport of contaminants
- Developing innovative characterization tools and strategies
- Developing analytical methods
- Developing wide-area cleanup technologies
- Developing water treatment and related sensors
- Developing water infrastructure decontamination methods
- Management of oil spills, wastes, and other materials

HSMMD studies help in the development of systems-based decision support tools. This research also supports the regulatory and non-regulatory scientific needs of EPA; water utilities; and state, local, territorial, and tribal agencies.

Relevant Research

- [Water Infrastructure Resilience and Incident Response](#)
- [Contaminant Detection and Sampling and Analysis](#)
- [Contaminant Fate, Transport, and Exposure](#)
- [Wide Area Remediation](#)
- [Waste Management](#)
- [Oil Spill Research](#)

Learn more about [Homeland Security Research](#)

Land Remediation and Technology Division

What We Do

The Land Remediation and Technology Division (LRTD) plans, coordinates, and conducts an applied research program that delivers innovative technologies, guidance, and tools to manage the nation's land resources. LRTD research produces approaches and tools that improve our ability to manage and remediate contaminated sites and sediments. LRTD research:

- Produces methods and tools to assess life cycle impacts from an environmental and human health perspective
- Addresses emerging environmental stressors
- Produces methods to assess the fate, transport, and environmental impacts of novel materials and chemicals through their life cycle
- Advances more sustainable use of natural and engineered resources
- Prepares for and responds to urgent Agency priorities

Relevant Research

- [Research on the Management of Contaminated Sites](#)
- [Ground Water Modeling Research](#)
- [Materials and Waste Management Research](#)
- [Nutrients Management Research](#)
- [Oil Spill Research](#)
- [Underground Storage Tank Research](#)

Learn more at [Land and Waste Management Research](#)

Water Infrastructure Division

What We Do

The Water Infrastructure Division (WID) conducts customer-driven research and support, providing scientific leadership on national-scale problems associated with water quality in the built infrastructure. Specifically, our research program addresses treatment strategies for drinking water contaminants such as cyanotoxins, disinfection by-products, inorganic contaminants, pathogens such as Legionella, Mycobacterium avium, and chemicals of emerging concern such as PFAS.

We also conduct extensive research on corrosion control strategies and analysis of drinking water pipe scales to reduce lead and copper exposure. In addition, WID conducts research in the areas of stormwater management and water reuse to improve best practices. Hydraulic and water quality modeling for drinking water and stormwater management is also an important aspect of WID's research portfolio.

Using the scientific and technical expertise generated through research, WID scientists provide technical support to public water systems as well as state and local governments. WID specializes in providing technical information to small water systems who have unique capabilities and needs.

Relevant Research

- [Drinking Water and Wastewater Research](#)
- [Stormwater Management and Green Infrastructure Research](#)
- [Harmful Algal Blooms & Drinking Water Treatment](#)

Technical Support Coordination Division

What We Do

The Technical Support Coordination Division (TSCD) is responsible for coordination and delivery of Office of Research and Development (ORD) technical support to assist EPA Program Offices, Regions, states and tribes with decision making at Superfund sites, during emergency responses, and in other situations as needed. The Division helps regional hazardous waste program managers and on-scene coordinators make scientifically defensible decisions by providing a one-stop function to obtain the breadth and depth of ORD technical expertise.

Technical Support Centers

EPA's Technical Support Centers (TSCs) offer scientific and engineering expertise to contaminated site decision makers within EPA, including remedial project managers and on-scene coordinators. EPA's Regional Offices network with the states and tribes within their area to request assistance. ORD has five technical support centers:

- [Engineering Technical Support Center](#)
Provides short- and long-term assistance to Superfund and RCRA Corrective Action staff.
- [Ground Water Technical Support Center](#)
Provides support to EPA staff on issues regarding subsurface contamination, contaminant fluxes to other environmental media (e.g., surface water or air), and ecosystem restoration.
- [Site Characterization and Monitoring Technical Support Center](#)
Provides technical assistance on complex hazardous waste site characterization issues through specialized teams of scientists equipped to aid the regions with screening and site characterization.
- [Superfund Health Risk Technical Support Center](#)
Provides technical support to EPA program and regional offices in the area of human health risk assessment.
- [Ecological Risk Assessment Technical Support Center](#)
Provides technical information and addresses scientific questions on topics relevant to ecological risk assessment at hazardous waste sites for Superfund and RCRA Corrective Action staff.

Find more information at [EPA's Technical Support Centers](#).

Superfund and Technology Liaisons

The Superfund and Technology Liaisons (STLs) are a team of scientists and engineers who serve as the primary technical liaisons between each of EPA's regional offices and the Office of Research and Development (ORD) on issues related to hazardous waste. STLs work to ensure that hazardous waste managers have access to technical support that can help them make scientifically defensible decisions during site cleanup.

Find more information at [EPA's Superfund and Technology Liaison Program](#).

Center for Public Health and Environmental Assessment (CPHEA)

The Center for Public Health and Environmental Assessment (CPHEA) provides the science needed to understand the complex interrelationship between people and nature in support of assessments and policy to protect human health and ecological integrity.

What We Do

The Center for Public Health and Environmental Assessment (CPHEA) develops human health and environmental assessments that support EPA program and regional policies and decisions.

CPHEA examines the human health and the environment at individual, community, regional, and national scales to improve the prediction of human health, environmental and ecological effects to enable informed risk reduction and remediation. The Center evaluates and applies environmental indicators of ecological and human systems to inform EPA programs, help establish programmatic priorities and assess environmental impacts.

CPHEA conducts toxicological, clinical, ecological, epidemiological, and citizen science studies to assess the impact of environmental exposures to chemicals and other stressors on healthy individuals, populations, and ecosystems, emphasizing people and ecosystems most susceptible to the adverse effects of such exposures.

CPHEA provides research, statistical methods, analysis, and modeling that helps interpret scientific study results and inform assessments or programmatic decisions. This includes laboratory and field studies, pharmacokinetic and ecological modeling, dose- and stress-response analysis, that help evaluate the results of studies and determine public health or ecological impact. The Center's efforts advance the state-of-the-science of risk assessment by developing methods and guidelines.

CPHEA advances the principles of translational science characterized by problem formulation and research to inform risk assessment, policy decisions, interventions, and evaluation through Solution-Driven Research Projects.

CPHEA develops systems-informed scientific approaches and conducts research to address complex environmental problems, providing information and solutions that lead to improvements in environmental condition, ecosystem service production, and human health and well-being.

CPHEA evaluates scientific knowledge gaps and identifies, and implements research needs to improve risk assessment and risk reduction. The Center's efforts advance through innovative research and predictive modeling links between environmental condition and the health and well-being of people and society.

CPHEA provides technical assistance to the Region and Program Offices, states and tribal nations, and other risk assessors who perform site-specific or chemical-specific assessments, helping to evaluate scientific knowledge gaps in portions of the risk assessment process. The Center additionally interfaces with Federal and non-federal organizations relative to Center programs, products, and services.

CPHEA Divisions

The Center for Public Health and Environmental Assessment (CPHEA) organization is made up of the following divisions:

- [Chemical and Pollutant Assessment Division \(CPAD\)](#)
- [Health and Environmental Effects Assessment Division \(HEEAD\)](#)
- [Integrated Climate Sciences Division \(ICSD\)](#)
- [Pacific Ecological Systems Division \(PESD\)](#)

- [Public Health and Environmental Systems Division \(PHESD\)](#)
- [Public Health and Integrated Toxicology Division \(PHITD\)](#)

Chemical and Pollutant Assessment Division (CPAD)

What We Do

EPA's Chemical and Pollutant Assessment Division (CPAD) is a leader in the science of human health assessment, a robust and transparent scientific process used to determine effects of pollutants or other stressors on human health. CPAD occupies an essential position in EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) between researchers generating scientific data and EPA's program and regional offices that make decisions regarding the protection of public health and the environment.

CPAD scientists develop a range of fit-for-purpose human health risk assessment products based on the evaluation, synthesis, and analysis of the most up-to-date scientific information. Products include the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) and Provisional Peer Reviewed Toxicity Values (PPRTV) assessments. These products are developed through interactions with EPA's program and regional offices, other agencies, the scientific community, industry, policy-makers, and the public. Once finalized, they serve as a major scientific component supporting EPA's regulations, advisories, policies, enforcement, and remedial action decisions.

CPAD also conducts cutting-edge research to develop innovative human health risk assessment methods (e.g., systematic review) that facilitate careful evaluation of scientific evidence, as well as tools and models (e.g., benchmark dose modeling software).

Health and Environmental Effects Assessment Division (HEEAD)

What We Do

EPA's Health and Environmental Effects Assessment Division (HEEAD) is a leader in the science of human health and ecological risk assessment, a robust scientific process used to determine how pollutants or other stressors may impact human health and the environment. The Division champions the development and use of health and ecological assessments by interacting with other agencies, the scientific community, industry, policy-makers, and the public. HEEAD occupies a critical position in EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) between researchers in other parts of ORD and outside of EPA who are generating new findings and data and the regulators and decision-makers in EPA's program and regional offices who must make decisions to protect public health and the environment.

- HEEAD's programs are broad in scope and involve numerous scientific disciplines. The programs address the needs of stakeholders through

evaluation, synthesis and analysis of the most up-to-date scientific information. These products serve as a major component of the scientific foundation supporting EPA's regulations, advisories, policies, and enforcement and remedial action decisions.

- HEEAD also conducts cutting-edge research to develop innovative risk assessment methods and tools that help extrapolate between experimental data and real-world scenarios, improve our understanding of uncertainties, and facilitate careful evaluation of scientific evidence through development and application state of the art information technologies that support risk assessment.
- HEEAD scientists are responsible for development of Integrated Science Assessments to support decisions by the EPA Administrator to retain or revise the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for major air pollutants, and health risk assessments for priority chemicals.
- HEEAD scientists support risk assessors worldwide, including through development of the Benchmark Dose suite (BMDS) of dose-response models and the application of information technologies through the Health and Environmental Research Online (HERO) system, and Health Assessment Collaborative Workspace (HAWC) to make the world's literature available to risk assessors and the public.
- HEEAD scientists carry out research and assessment activities to identify, understand, and characterize the individual and combined effects of multiple stressors including climate and land-use change, on ecological and environmental endpoints across both terrestrial and aquatic systems.

Integrated Climate Sciences Division (ICSD)

What We Do

EPA's Integrated Climate Sciences Division advances two climate-focused initiatives that address urgent climate priorities expressed by EPA program, regional, state, and Tribal partners.

- ICSD scientists deliver quantitative assessments of climate damages in support of the EPA's need to assess the costs of climate change and the benefits of national, state, and local actions to control greenhouse gases and inform metrics, such as the [Social Cost of Carbon \(PDF\)](#).
- ICSD scientists deliver regionally relevant assessments, technical assistance, and capacity building to support adaptation planning and resilience building, especially in frontline communities most vulnerable to climate change impacts. This effort includes communities facing historical inequities and disproportionate environmental burdens. It also provides technical support for the

implementation of greenhouse gas mitigation actions, such as the deployment of clean energy technologies under the [Inflation Reduction Act \(IRA\)](#).

These efforts require a wide range of disciplines and infrastructure to facilitate critical interactions between research stakeholders. ICSD's work is done through an [Environmental Justice](#) lens, ensuring that the science produced addresses EPA's focus on equity in providing climate solutions. In so doing, a full breadth of expertise across the social and natural sciences is leveraged to solve these complex environmental issues.

This work improves our ability to respond to the climate crisis and supports EPA partners in advancing our mission to protect human health and the environment.

Pacific Ecological Systems Division (PESD)

What We Do

EPA's Pacific Ecological Systems Division (PESD) conducts innovative research on watershed ecological epidemiology and develops tools to assist stakeholders achieve sustainable and resilient watersheds. Research focuses on terrestrial, freshwater and coastal systems and how they are connected. Scientists develop tools to monitor and predict the condition of these systems and their contributions to human well-being nationwide, with a special focus on the Pacific Northwest.

- PESD leads innovative research and predictive modeling efforts that link environmental condition to the health and well-being of people and society. PESD advances research and tools for achieving sustainable and resilient watershed and water resources.
- PESD advances systems-based research to predict the adverse effects of chemicals and other stressors across species and biological levels of organization through the development and quantification of adverse outcomes pathways across multiple scales.
- PESD researchers are working with federal, state, and local partners to understand how nutrients affect water quality in the Tillamook estuary on the central Oregon coast, (such as seagrass beds) and natural resources (such as shellfish, finfish, and wildlife) valued by residents and visitors. PESD researchers demonstrate how important estuaries are for coastal communities, producing natural resources that are beneficial for local economies, public health, and recreation.
- PESD researchers are working with farmers to manage nitrogen in their fertilizer more efficiently to control the release of nutrient pollution to air, land and rely on accurate measurement of these releases. This effort provides cleaner and safer water by keeping nitrogen in the soil and dollars in farmer's pockets, an important priority too, in the Willamette

Valley region of Oregon. Our scientists also helped to collaborate with universities to create the Institutional N footprint to assist institutions and individuals measure their nitrogen footprint. Some of this work on nitrogen and phosphorus release is also available through [EPA's EnviroAtlas](#) website.

- PESD researchers are developing models to identify the locations and potential importance of cold-water areas or “refuges” that can help salmon persist during periods of warm water temperature. This information is being used to help state, local and tribal managers develop habitat plans for salmon recovery as increasing water temperatures are threatening salmon populations in the Pacific Northwest.
- PESD is working on methods and models to improve water quality in cities by examining how stream restoration, stream daylighting, green roofs, and other green water infrastructure for managing storm water can help prevent erosion and reduce polluting nutrients.
- PESD researchers are studying a substance called "biochar", which is a charcoal-like substance created by slowly burning vegetation like agricultural waste. Biochar could be used to revitalize the land and prevent contamination in mines at Superfund sites. By mixing biochar in soil at contaminated sites, vegetation grows better and the site can be restored.
- PESD scientists created models to help planners and communities identify best watershed management practices to control pollutant loadings to streams and estuaries. A key modeling tool developed by PESD, VELMA, is used extensively at the state and local levels for community forest planning, urban storm water management, and assisting states and tribes to help improve salmon habitat in working forests.
- PESD scientists have developed two extensive catchment datasets for the conterminous U.S.: one for streams and one for Lakes. For streams, the Stream-Catchment (StreamCat) dataset is an extensive collection of landscape metrics for 2.6 million streams and associated catchments. For lakes, the Lake-Catchment (LakeCat) dataset is an extensive collection of landscape metrics for about 378 thousand lakes and associated catchments. The data are summarized both for individual stream or lake catchments and for cumulative upslope watersheds. The two datasets include both natural and human-related landscape features. The data have been used to develop national maps of aquatic condition and watershed integrity.
- PESD conducts research on the identification, quantification and valuation of final ecosystem goods and services (FEGS) available in the nation, regions, and communities. A classification system, the FEGS-CS guides the development of this information and houses the information.

Scientists developed a framework to economically account for the benefits provided by ecosystems. This framework, called the National Ecosystem Services Classification System, analyzes the human welfare impacts of policy-induced changes to ecosystems. It classifies the flows of the ecosystem supply and demand.

- PESD scientists are studying how release of engineered nanomaterials to terrestrial ecosystems affects human health and the environment. They conduct analyses to identify molecular initiating events (key events directly perturbed by interaction with a chemical) across species. Using these events, they are able to develop Adverse Outcome Pathway (AOP) models to determine common events triggered by engineered nanomaterials. At PESD, researchers are interested in whether nanomaterial release may lead to effects on important ecosystem properties such as nutrient cycling. Terrestrial plants are critical for ecological function and human provision, and therefore much of the work focuses on important plant species.
- PESD leads research and technical support for the Office of Water's National Aquatic Resource Surveys (NARS). The surveys and assessments provide answers to common questions of the public and Congress such as: Is there a problem in our Nation's waters? How big is the problem? Is it widespread or localized? What are the biggest causes of problems? PESD provides survey design and data analyses for the indicators used in the surveys. In turn, the data resulting from the surveys is used in national assessments and as a core portion of the information.
- PESD scientists developed a spatial framework, called Ecoregions, for watershed ecological epidemiological research, assessment, management, and monitoring of ecosystems and their components.

Public Health and Environmental Systems Division (PHESD)

What We Do

EPA's Public Health and Environmental Systems Division (PHESD) focuses on the interrelationships between people and their environment, promotes human health and well-being, and fosters healthy and safe communities.

- PHESD scientists develop and evaluate measurements, methods, and models to better understand and quantify exposures and their effects on public health and the environment. Our scientists conduct innovative research on characterizing human and ecological exposures and understanding the impacts of these exposures on both human health and ecological integrity.

- PHESD conducts research that characterizes human exposure to environmental contaminants by obtaining and analyzing data on environmental media concentrations, human activities, behaviors, and anthropometric attributes. This is accomplished through a variety of approaches including primary data collection, data mining, and modeling.
- PHESD scientists assess the impact of environmental exposures (both beneficial and harmful) on human health through different epidemiologic approaches including field studies and observational studies that integrate environmental, clinical, and biological markers to better understand pollutant-related disease causes and prevention, and gene-environment interactions.
- PHESD scientists work on incorporating exposure science data into broader sustainability assessment tools to inform decisions that can mitigate or prevent adverse health and ecological impacts.
- PHESD provides the science foundation for the relationship between the built and natural environments and human health and well-being. Our scientists conduct research to identify the impact of social, economic, and environmental drivers on community public health, and providing tools to assist local decision makers.

Public Health and Integrated Toxicology Division (PHITD)

What We Do

The Public Health and Integrated Toxicology Division (PHITD) performs integrated epidemiological, clinical, animal, and cellular biological research and statistical modeling to provide the scientific foundation in support of hazard identification, risk assessment, and standard setting for the purpose of protecting public health and the environment.

- PHITD scientists identify at-risk populations and evaluate environmental risk to multiple aspects of human health including reproduction, pregnancy, pre- and postnatal development, and the cardiac, immune, nervous, and endocrine systems. It uses an “Assay to Outreach” approach where fundamental research is performed to understand toxicological responses and mechanisms; these assays are confirmed in clinical and population-based studies that link environmental conditions to health. Public health outreach programs use the results to reduce the risk of environmental exposures.
- PHITD scientists identify potential health effects of wildfire smoke exposure and have initiated a citizen science project and a mobile application called Smoke Sense to increase awareness and reduce the risk of known health effects, and to help understand how people respond to smoke exposure. They have also constructed a vulnerability index to identify communities at greatest risk to

smoke exposure. Researchers are evaluating how different woods (fuels), burning conditions, and atmospheric processes alter the chemistry of the emissions and associated risk.

- PHITD scientists use advances in computational approaches such as artificial intelligence to examine extremely large data sets such as medical records, satellite images, and biological data from very large cohorts to identify the modifiable and non-modifiable risks to environmental pollutants. In collaboration with the University of North Carolina, Duke, and Harvard Universities, as well as the German Helmholtz Institute, they are identifying those populations at the greatest risk to the cardiovascular effects of poor air quality.
- PHITD scientists evaluate the effects of combined exposures to chemical and nonchemical stressors during childhood development on life-long health and risk of disease and explore potential underlying mechanisms.
- PHITD scientists assess the safety of real-world mixtures of drinking and surface water contaminants by developing cumulative risk models and in vitro approaches to screening by chemical class and researching the toxicity of harmful algal blooms.
- PHITD scientists identify social, dietary and behavioral interventions that can reduce the health burden from environmental pollutants. They evaluate the effectiveness of strategies to minimize exposure during a wildfire smoke event by examining the health benefits of different masks and household filters.
- PHITD scientists are assessing the local and regional characteristics of air pollution that influence public health impacts in healthy and at-risk populations. This project will inform which regional mixtures have greater health impacts, assess the health risks of short-term and long-term exposures and the risks of neonatal and early life exposure on development of chronic disease.
- PHITD scientists evaluate the effects of exposures EDCs during vulnerable life stages on fertility and permanent adverse health outcomes in the offspring to assess reproductive and developmental outcomes of exposure to endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs).
- PHITD scientists are developing New Approach Methods (NAMs) that can predict the toxicity of commercial chemicals that could be inhaled. These systems will assist the EPA in meeting its requirements under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) and Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) to evaluate potential risks from new and existing chemicals. NAMs are also used for developmental neurotoxicity studies and provide case studies to link exposures to chemicals of emerging concern to potential neurobehavioral health outcomes.

Air, Climate, and Energy Research Program

What We Do

EPA's Air, Climate, and Energy (ACE) Research Program recognizes that addressing the increasing risks posed by climate change and reducing the disproportionate burdens faced by low-income and minority communities requires effective air quality risk management with consideration of criteria and other toxic air pollutants, indoor air quality, wildfires, and the transformation of our energy and transportation systems. The ACE Research Program lays the foundation for research that promotes the strategic objectives of the Agency to improve air quality, address the causes and consequences of climate change, and protect public health and the environment.

Visit our research pages:

- [Air Research](#)
- [Climate Research](#)

Chemical Safety for Sustainability Research Program

What We Do

Improving the safe production, use, and disposal of chemicals is a major priority in support of actions to protect human health and the environment. EPA's Chemical Safety for Sustainability (CSS) Research Program is focused on addressing the pressing environmental and health challenge of a lack of sufficient information on chemicals needed to make informed, risk-based decisions. Improving the safe production, use, and disposal of chemicals is a major priority in support of actions to protect human health and the environment.

Visit our research pages: [Safer Chemicals Research](#)

Health and Environmental Risk Assessment Research Program

What We Do

EPA's Health and Environmental Risk Assessment (HERA) Research Program is designed to develop and apply state-of-the-science research to characterize the impacts on human and ecological systems, whether they result from exposure to single, complex, or multiple physical, chemical, or biological stressors. In doing so, HERA provides key components of the scientific foundation for risk assessments to inform decisions aimed at protecting human health and the environment.

Visit our research pages:

- [Health Research](#)
- [Human Health Risk Assessment](#)

Homeland Security Research Program

What We Do

EPA's Homeland Security (HS) Research Program addresses science gaps related to oil spill response, protecting water systems, and cleanup of wide areas contaminated with high-priority Homeland Security Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear agents. This includes contamination incidents due to natural disasters, pathogens that cause communicable diseases, covert release of chemicals, and agricultural incidents with animal and crop diseases.

Visit our research pages: [Emergency Response Research](#)

Safe and Sustainable Water Resources Research Program

What We Do

EPA's Safe and Sustainable Water Resources (SSWR) Research Program provides robust research and scientific analyses to innovatively and economically support safe and adequate supplies of water—protecting people's health and livelihood while restoring and maintaining watersheds and aquatic ecosystems. Targeted research will yield the innovative tools and information needed to protect and restore watersheds, aquatic ecosystems, and water infrastructure to provide clean, adequate, and equitable supplies of water for optimum human health and ecosystem functions.

Visit our research pages: [Water Research](#)

Sustainable and Healthy Communities Research Program

What We Do

EPA's Sustainable and Healthy Communities (SHC) Research Program takes a systems approach to integrate the full range of available data from public health, physical, natural, and social sciences, toxicology, engineering, and ecosystems research to support Agency priorities and empower communities to make scientifically informed decision. Research is done with and for communities to improve their access to clean air, water, and land for increased health and well-being where people live, learn, work, and play.

Visit our research pages:

- [Ecosystems Research](#)
- [Land and Waste Management Research](#)
- [Health Research](#)

Office of Water

What We Do

The Office of Water (OW) ensures drinking water is safe, and restores and maintains oceans, watersheds, and their aquatic ecosystems to protect human health, support economic and recreational activities, and provide healthy habitat for fish, plants and wildlife.

OW is responsible for implementing the Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act, and portions of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Ocean Dumping Ban Act, Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act, Shore Protection Act, Marine Plastics Pollution Research and Control Act, London Dumping Convention, the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships and several other statutes.

Headquartered in Washington, D.C., the Office of Water works with the ten EPA regional offices, other federal agencies, state and local governments, American Indian Tribes, the regulated community, organized professional and interest groups, land owners and managers, and the public-at-large. OW provides guidance, specifies scientific methods and data collection requirements, performs oversight and facilitates communication among those involved. OW helps the states and American Indian Tribes to build capacity, and water programs can be delegated to them for implementation.

Documents Related to Our Mission

- [EPA Strategic Plan](#)
- [National Water Program Guidance](#)
- [National Water Program Performance, Trends and Best Practices Report](#)
- [Enhancing the Office of Water's Efficiency and Effectiveness](#)

Organization

The Office of Water includes:

- [Immediate Office of the Assistant Administrator for Water](#)
- [Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water](#)
- [Office of Science and Technology](#)
- [Office of Wastewater Management](#)
- [Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds](#)

Immediate Office of the Assistant Administrator for Water (IO)

What We Do

Under the direction of the Assistant Administrator, the Immediate Office performs a variety of policy, communications, resources management, and operational functions for managing the National Water Program. The IO also works on broad or emerging issues in coordination with its program offices and other parts of EPA.

Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water (OGWDW)

What We Do

OGWDW, together with states, Tribes, and our many partners, protects public health by ensuring safe drinking water and protecting ground water. We oversee implementation of the Safe Drinking Water Act. We:

- develop and help implement national drinking water standards;
- oversee and assist funding of state drinking water programs and source water protection programs;
- build the capacity of drinking water systems, including small, rural, and tribal communities;
- respond to emergencies and disasters that may impact our nation's water and wastewater infrastructure;
- support efforts to build resiliency and increase security, including cybersecurity of water and wastewater utilities;
- protect underground sources of drinking water through the Underground Injection Control Program; and
- provide information about drinking water quality to the public.

EPA's structure is designed to enhance the execution of both established (e.g., regulatory development and implementation) and newer (e.g., Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, America's Water Infrastructure Act, Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act) programs, today and in the future.

Programs and Projects Managed by OGWDW

- [Building the Capacity of Drinking Water Systems](#)
- [Drinking Water Basics](#)
- [Drinking Water Contaminants](#)
- [Drinking Water Standards Development](#)
- [Drinking Water State Revolving Fund](#)
- [Private Drinking Water Wells](#)
- [Public Drinking Water Systems](#)
- [Safe Drinking Water Information System](#)
- [Source Water Protection](#)
- [Underground Injection Control](#)
- [Water Infrastructure Resilience and Cybersecurity](#)

Office of Science and Technology (OST)

What We Do

OST works with states, Tribes, and other stakeholders to develop recommended safe water quality levels for toxics, nutrients, and pathogens to help ensure our nation's waters can be used for fishing, swimming, and drinking water supplies. OST also develops national economically and technologically achievable performance standards to address water pollution from industry. In addition, our Water Reuse Program helps foster collaboration among water reuse stakeholders and helps advance water reuse applications across the United States.

Programs managed by OST

- [Analytical Methods to Assess Wastewater](#)
- [Beaches](#)
- [Biosolids](#)
- [Cooling Water Intakes](#)
- [Drinking Water Contaminant Human Health Effects Information](#)
- [Fish and Shellfish Advisories](#)
- [Industrial Effluent Guidelines](#)
- [Nutrient Pollution Policy and Data](#)
- [Water Quality Standards](#)
- [Water Quality Criteria](#)
- [Water Reuse](#)

Office of Wastewater Management (OWM)

What We Do

OWM supports the Clean Water Act by promoting effective and responsible water use, wastewater treatment, disposal and management and by encouraging the protection and restoration of watersheds. We provide regulatory standards, voluntary management approaches, and financial and technical assistance to states, Tribes, communities, and regulated entities to protect human health and aquatic ecosystems, reduce flooding, and protect the nation's infrastructure investment.

[View OWM's Annual Reports.](#)

Programs and Projects Managed by OWM

- [Animal Feeding Operations](#)
- [Clean Water State Revolving Fund](#)
- [Clean Watersheds Needs Survey](#)
- [Combined Sewer Overflows](#) and [Sanitary Sewer Overflows](#)
- [Green Infrastructure](#)
- [Permits - National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System \(NPDES\)](#)
- [Septic Systems \(Onsite/Decentralized\)](#)
- [Small, Rural, and Tribal Wastewater Systems](#)
- [Stormwater Management](#)
- [Sustainable Water Infrastructure](#)
- [U.S./Mexico Border Water Infrastructure](#)
- [Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center](#)
- [Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act \(WIFIA\)](#)
- [Water Pollution Control \(Section 106\) Grants](#)
- [WaterSense Program](#)

Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds (OWOW)

What We Do

OWOW works to protect our freshwater, estuarine, coastal and ocean ecosystems, including watersheds and wetlands. We regulate and monitor ocean dumping and vessel discharges, and reduce aquatic trash and marine debris. We protect water quality and habitats in 28 estuaries around the nation. We control polluted runoff and restore impaired waters.

[View OWOW's Annual Reports.](#)

Programs and Projects Managed by OWOW

- [Climate Ready Estuaries](#)
- [Healthy Watersheds Program](#)
- [Impaired Waters and Total Maximum Daily Loads \(TMDLs\)](#)
- [Mississippi River/Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Task Force](#)
- [Monitoring Water Quality](#)

- [National Aquatic Resource Surveys \(NARS\)](#)
- [National Estuary Program](#)
- [Nutrient Pollution](#)
- [Ocean Discharge Criteria](#)
- [Ocean Dumping Management](#)
- [Polluted Runoff: Nonpoint Source Pollution](#)
- [Section 404 of the Clean Water Act](#)
- [Trash Free Waters](#)
- [Urban Waters](#)
- [Vessels, Marinas and Ports](#)
- [WATERS \(Watershed Assessment, Tracking & Environmental Results\) Databases](#)
- [Watershed Academy](#)
- [Wetlands Protection and Restoration](#)

Office of the Administrator

What We Do

The Office of the Administrator (AO) provides executive and logistical support for the EPA Administrator. AO supports the leadership of EPA's programs and activities to protect human health and the environment.

The Office of the Administrator includes:

- [Office of Administrative and Executive Services](#)
- [Office of Children's Health Protection](#)
- [Office of Civil Rights](#)
- [Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations](#)
- [Office of the Executive Secretariat](#)
- [Office of Homeland Security](#)
- [Office of Policy](#)
- [Office of Public Affairs](#)
- [Office of Public Engagement and Environmental Education](#)
- [Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization](#)
- [Science Advisory Board](#)

Office of Administrative and Executive Services (OAES)

What We Do

OAES is the centralized management component supporting the programs and personnel within the Office of the Administrator. In support of the Agency's core mission, OAES plans, manages, and reports results associated with:

- human resources and organizational development;

- budget formulation and execution;
- information technology management and security; and
- systems and process development.

OAES' Major Work

OAES is responsible for the following in the Office of the Administrator (AO):

- Preparation of budget documents, operating plans and supporting justifications for all resource decisions;
- Preparation and planning of studies to assess resource requirements;
- Oversight of AO's Working Capital Fund;
- Assistance in developing and implementing automated resource and tracking systems;
- SharePoint development;
- Preparation of organizational, administrative and personnel materials;
- Preparation and tracking of payroll, travel and procurement actions;
- Audit coordination and tracking;
- Coordination and oversight of facilities, space, and property management services;
- Coordination and oversight IT/Information Management Governance;
- Coordination and oversight system and application development;
- Oversight of Hardware and Software initiatives;
- Coordination and oversight of the Occupant Emergency Program;
- Coordination and oversight of National Security Program and Training;
- Coordination and oversight IT Security and Training; and
- Special projects management and execution.

Office of Children's Health Protection (OCHP)

What We Do

OCHP, which is located within the Office of the Administrator, has the fundamental goal to ensure that all EPA actions and programs address the unique vulnerabilities of children.

Children may be more vulnerable to environmental exposures than adults because:

- their bodily systems are still developing;
- they eat more, drink more, and breathe more in proportion to their body size; and
- their behavior can expose them more to chemicals and organisms.
- EPA's children's health-protection efforts are guided by [Executive Order 13045](#), "[Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks](#)" (PDF).

OCHP's major goals are to:

- reduce negative environmental impacts on children through involvement in EPA rulemaking, policy, enforcement actions, research and applications of science that focuses on prenatal and childhood vulnerabilities;
- protect children through safe chemicals management; and
- coordinate community-based programs to eliminate threats to children's health where they live, learn and play.

OCHP's Major Work

- increasing environmental health literacy of health care providers through support of [Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units](#); and
- evaluating and communicating trends in environmental contaminants that may contribute to childhood disease through publication of [America's Children and the Environment](#).

Office of Civil Rights (OCR)

What We Do

The Office of Civil Rights (OCR), which is located within the Office of the Administrator, provides leadership, direction, and guidance in carrying out the Agency's equal employment programs. We also provide policy and technical assistance to EPA's Headquarters offices, Regional offices, and laboratories located throughout the country in carrying out their responsibilities related to civil rights and in complying with Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) laws and regulations.

- The Employment Complaints Resolution Staff ensures that all EPA employees and applicants for employment receive equal employment and advancement opportunities without regard to:
 - race;
 - color;
 - religion;
 - sex, including pregnancy, sex stereotyping, gender identity or gender expression;
 - national origin;
 - sexual orientation;
 - physical or mental disability;
 - age;
 - protected genetic information;
 - status as a parent marital status;
 - political affiliation; or
 - retaliation based on previous EEO activity.
- The Affirmative Employment Analysis and Accountability Staff prepares the Agency's Affirmative Employment plan and monitors its implementation.
- Through the Reasonable Accommodation Program, all EPA employees and applicants for employment that are individuals with a disability can request reasonable accommodations (modifications or change in work environment or way job is performed) to remove workplace barriers unless it would cause an undue hardship.

Programs and Projects Managed by OCR

- [Employment Complaints Resolution \(Title VII\)](#)
- [Affirmative Employment Analysis and Accountability \(AEAA\)](#)
- [Reasonable Accommodation \(RA\)](#)

Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations (OCIR)

What We Do

The Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations (OCIR) serves as EPA's principal point of contact with Congress, states and local governments. The Office serves as the liaison with these constituencies on the agency's major programs as well as on intergovernmental issues.

OCIR is comprised of two major offices:

- the Office of Congressional Affairs, which facilitates all legislative activity and interfaces with Congress at EPA; and
- the Office of Intergovernmental Relations, which facilitates interactions with states and local governments, and coordinates those activities with our regional offices around the nation. A component of OCIR, the Resources Management and Operations Division, provides administrative management services and manages the resources of the office.

OCIR:

- Assists, develops and implements the legislative agenda for the agency, including legislative initiatives and proposals;
- Leads EPA in the review of legislation; coordinates EPA's formal positions and technical assistance to Congress; and monitors all relevant legislative actions (e.g., bills, reports, regulations) related to EPA programs;
- Facilitates communication of the agency's priorities and policies to Congress;
- Coordinates agency appearances at [Congressional hearings](#) and manages associated testimony;
- Leads the development and implementation of the [National Environmental Performance Partnership System](#) between EPA and the states;
- Manages and monitors environmental issues with both national associations and individual state and local governments;
- Manages the agency's congressional and gubernatorial correspondence process;
- Monitors resources and coordinates policy for the agency's [Lab Services and Applied Sciences Divisions \(LSASDs\)](#);
- Coordinates and maintains the [Lead Region Process](#), which enhances Regional participation in agency decision-making; and
- Coordinates logistics, agendas, and subject matter for routine, special, and "hot issue" meetings and conference calls of EPA and [Regional senior leaders](#).

Programs and Projects Managed by OCIR

- [National Environmental Performance Partnership System](#)
- [Local Government Advisory Committee](#)
- [Small Community Advisory Subcommittee](#)
- [Lead Region Process](#)
- [Municipal Ombudsman](#)

Office of the Executive Secretariat (OEX)

What We Do

OEX serves as the correspondence, records management, and Freedom of Information Act hub for the Office of the Administrator. The office:

- Processes executive correspondence for the Administrator and Deputy Administrator, facilitating substantive and thorough responses to communications from individuals and organizations representing diverse perspectives, priorities and backgrounds.
- Maintains the Administrator's and Deputy Administrator's records, including documents such as correspondence, calendars, and briefing materials.
- Oversees records management activities in AO staff offices and ensures compliance with federal statutes and National Archives requirements. OEX also administers the AO vital records program and disaster preparedness activities.
- Establishes the Agency's style and format standards for correspondence and publishes the EPA Correspondence Manual (EPA Manual 1320).
- Manages operation of the Correspondence Management System, the EPA's web-based correspondence tracking and workflow management software application. The CMS has more than 2,800 users across the nation.
- Processes [Freedom of Information Act requests](#) assigned to AO and its staff offices. OEX coordinates search efforts, liaisons with the Office of General Counsel, and provides training to staff.

Programs and Projects Managed by OEX

- [System of Records Notice EPA-22 - Correspondence Management System](#)
- [Correspondence Management System Privacy Impact Assessment](#)
- [EPA Records Schedule 077 - Correspondence Management System](#)

Office of Homeland Security (OHS)

What We Do

The EPA's Office of Homeland Security (OHS) was established to manage the agency's national and homeland security objectives and requirements pursuant to Federal law, Executive Orders, Presidential Policy Directives (PPDs), and other White House directives. EPA OHS provides Agency-wide leadership and coordination for national and homeland security policy, including EPA's planning, prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery for national security-related incidents.

Our mission is to empower and strengthen the EPA Programs and Regions by informing national security decisions and policy-making efforts, countering threats to Agency equities and interests, expanding Agency resources through effective partnerships, and providing a national capability to coordinate and integrate homeland security resources. The Associate Administrator of the Office of Homeland Security (AA/OHS), assisted by the Deputy Associate Administrator (DAA), provides senior technical, policy, and intelligence advice to the EPA Administrator, Deputy Administrator, and senior leadership related to national security and homeland security for the Agency.

In preparation for and in response to a nationally significant incident, the AA/OHS provides, in consultation with the EPA Administrator and impacted regions, strategic coordination of the Agency's activities for prevention and protection; coordination for disaster mitigation,

response, and recovery; Agency-wide policy, guidance, and direction; and recommendations for resources.

Programs and projects managed by OHS:

- [National Security Policy Coordination](#)
- [Intelligence & Analysis Program](#)
- [Defensive Counterintelligence \(DCI\) & Foreign Visitors Program](#)
- [Insider Threat Program](#)
- [Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States \(CFIUS\) Support](#)
- [National Planning Framework Coordination \(Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, & Disaster Recovery\)](#)
- [Disaster Mitigation and Recovery Coordination](#)

Office of Policy (OP)

What We Do

Located in the Office of the Administrator, the Office of Policy (OP) is the primary policy arm of EPA. We work with our EPA colleagues to support Agency priorities and enhance decision-making. We provide multi-disciplinary analytic skills, management support, and special expertise in the following areas:

- regulatory policy and management,
- environmental economics,
- community revitalization,
- climate adaptation,
- environmental permitting, and
- stakeholder engagement via [Smart Sectors](#).

The Office of Policy includes:

- [National Center for Environmental Economics](#)
- [Office of Community Revitalization](#)
- [Office of Federal Activities](#)
- [Office of Regulatory Policy and Management](#)

Office of Policy Programs:

- [Climate Change Adaptation Program](#)
- [Smart Sectors Program](#)
- [EPA's Standard Executive](#)

National Center for Environmental Economics (NCEE)

What We Do

Economic analysis plays a central role in informing EPA decision-making. The National Center for Environmental Economics (NCEE) leads the Agency's work in this area, with a range of expert economists specializing in evaluating the economic costs, benefits and impacts of proposed environmental regulations and policies on the national economy and society. In addition, NCEE engages in new research and develops improved methods for

measuring the economic consequences of environmental changes. The office maintains an [Environmental Economics website](#) providing research, publications and resources on the subject.

- Serving as Consultants to the Agency – NCEE helps EPA programs perform sound economic and risk analysis and promotes analytic rigor and consistency across the Agency. NCEE provides regulatory review support for economically significant rules and provides training and expertise on economic analysis guidance, assessing exposures and risks, quantitative uncertainty analysis and related issues.
- Promoting Consistent Economics – To promote consistency and quality in EPA’s economic studies, NCEE works with economists from across the Agency to develop and continually update guidance materials, such as [Guidelines for Preparing Economic Analyses](#) and more specialized guidance documents, including:
 - [Assessing environmental justice in regulatory analyses](#);
 - [Considerations in valuing benefits to reducing environmental risks to children](#); and
 - [Conducting economic analysis of land cleanup and reuse sites and programs](#).
- Enhancing EPA’s Economic Tools – NCEE develops data and methods for benefit and cost assessments by targeting priority needs across the Agency for research and analysis. NCEE promotes efforts across the agency and elsewhere to improve the quality and reliability of economic methods, models, and information and analysis, and to keep EPA analysts abreast of advances in the field.
- Linking Science and Policy – NCEE works in partnership with other Agency scientists to develop risk assessment information used to support economic analyses and inform policy. This work improves EPA’s ability to evaluate risks to public health and the environment in the context of economic analysis. In addition, NCEE collaborates with other Agency offices to analyze relationships between environmental pollution and human health, including characterizing morbidity risks to children and adults, as well as investigating the expected benefits of preventing prenatal risks from exposure to pollutants.
- Connecting with Outside Experts on Priority Analytic Needs – NCEE communicates EPA’s priority needs to economists across the nation on economic research topics and opportunities to improve analytic methods used by EPA. NCEE facilitates engagements with outside experts by organizing workshops, writing working papers, and hosting seminars. NCEE obtains advice to improve the Agency’s ability to ensure that analyses provide a complete accounting of the impacts of regulatory actions; this includes involuntary unemployment and distributional consequences. NCEE also seeks the best economy-wide modeling tools to assess the economic effects of environmental regulatory options, including methods designed to examine the distribution of regulatory burdens.

Programs and Projects Managed by the National Center for Environmental Economics

- [Guidelines for Economic Analyses](#)
- [NCEE Publications and Research](#)
- [NCEE Reports](#)
- [Economic Workshop Documents and Proceedings](#)

Office of Community Revitalization (OCR)

What We Do

The Office of Community Revitalization (OCR) (formerly the Office of Sustainable Communities) supports locally-led, community-driven efforts to revitalize local economies and improve environmental and human health outcomes. To accomplish this work, OCR collaborates with other EPA programs, federal agencies, regional, state, and local governments, and a broad array of nongovernmental and private-sector partners to bring additional resources to communities and to leverage public and private sector investments. Assistance is provided at the community's request on issues such as the reuse and redevelopment of abandoned and underused properties; diversifying economies and revitalizing main streets through local and regional food systems, broadband infrastructure investments, light manufacturing, health care organizations and other community assets; disaster recovery and resilience and green and compete street designs. To foster outcomes in the built environment that protect environmental quality and public health, support economic growth, and avoid disproportionate harm to disadvantaged communities, OCR:

- Provides technical assistance in response to community requests:
 - [Local Foods, Local Places](#);
 - [Healthy Places for Healthy People](#);
 - [Cool & Connected](#);
 - [Building Blocks](#);
 - [Greening America's Communities](#);
 - [Governors' Institute on Community Design](#);
- Produces tools, research, case studies and other information on a variety of topics;
- Shares examples of community strategies and projects that can be models for other places;
- Convenes diverse interests to encourage better growth and development; and
- Co-leads EPA's Environmental Justice and Community Revitalization Council.

Programs and Projects Managed by the Office of Community Revitalization

- [Technical Assistance](#)
- [Publications](#)
- [Tools](#)

Office of Federal Activities (OFA)

What We Do

The Office of Federal Activities (OFA) coordinates EPA's review of all federal Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) prepared by other agencies under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as well as EPA's internal compliance with NEPA. OFA also leads and coordinates Agency-wide efforts to develop strategies and make policy-related changes to accelerate permitting-related decisions without sacrificing environmental results.

- NEPA Compliance Division (NCD) serves as the EPA representative between assigned federal agencies and the EPA regional and headquarters offices to implement the environmental requirements of NEPA and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act regarding federally conducted, supported, or permitted activities.
 - Specifically, NCD:
 - Maintains a national EIS filing system and publishes a weekly notice of EIS documents available for review;
 - Provides written comments on the adequacy and acceptability of the environmental impacts of federal proposed actions subject to NEPA;
 - Assures that EPA's own actions comply with NEPA and other environmental requirements;
 - Provides technical assistance and capacity building for environmental impact assessment in other countries; and
 - Works with federal, foreign governments, international and non-governmental organizations to ensure compliance for expeditions (including tourism) in Antarctica.
- Permitting Policy Division (PPD) serves as the agency's central point of contact for Federal agencies on EPA issued permits and coordinates with the EPA's three major permitting offices (Office of Air and Radiation, Office of Water, and Office of Land and Emergency Management) and EPA's ten Regional offices to establish and implement streamlining strategies resulting in consistency and timeliness for the issuance of permits.
 - PPD provides direction and coordination for the EPA's permitting activities through the following responsibilities:
 - Serves as the EPA's advocate and central point of contact for all Federal agencies on EPA issued permits;
 - Leads the identification and tracking of common permit performance measures to guide coordinated cycle time reduction and consistency efforts;
 - Increases transparency and accountability across all EPA permit programs;
 - Promotes early coordination between the regulated community and state/federal permitting programs; and

- Oversees and track the timely and synchronized permit issuance within the environmental review process for Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST-41) projects.

Programs and Projects

- [National Environmental Policy Act \(NEPA\)](#)
- [Environmental Impact Assessments \(EIAs\) Regarding Nongovernmental Activities in Antarctica](#)
- [Environmental Impact Statement Database](#)
- [FAST-41 & One Federal Decision Project Coordination](#)

Office of Regulatory Policy and Management (ORPM)

What We Do

EPA issues regulations to carry out the environmental and public health protection laws enacted by Congress. OP's Office of Regulatory Policy and Management (ORPM), manages the regulatory development process for the Agency, providing support and guidance to EPA's program and regional offices as they develop regulations. ORPM provides policy and analytical advice and support to these offices, works to ensure compliance with key statutes and Executive Orders relating to regulatory process, and helps to promote analytical consistency and rigor across EPA's regulatory portfolio.

- Policy and Regulatory Analysis – ORPM advises the Administrator and other senior Agency decision-makers on regulatory and policy development; manages the Agency's policy priority agenda; conducts timely and effective policy analysis; and helps ensure that EPA's regulatory decision processes and actions are invested with high quality information.
- Regulatory Management – ORPM manages EPA's action development and review process, provides comprehensive action development training for EPA staff and managers, and provides procedural and analytical support to help EPA consider the impact of its actions on small entities and state and local governments.
- Small Business Advocacy Chair – ORPM's Office Director serves as EPA's Small Business Advocacy Chair (SBAC). The SBAC is responsible for guidance and oversight of the Agency's implementation of the Regulatory Flexibility Act and serves as the permanent chair of all Small Business Advocacy Review (SBAR) Panels.
- Laws and Regulations – ORPM maintains the [Laws and Regulations website](#), which provides general information about the laws we administer, the regulations we are developing, and how we write regulations.

Programs and Projects Managed by the Office of Regulatory Policy and Management

- [Laws and regulations](#)
- [Laws that EPA administers](#)
- [Regulatory agendas and plans](#)

- [Regulatory Flexibility Act / Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act \(RFA/SBREFA\)](#)

Climate Change Adaptation Program

What We Do

The Climate Change Adaptation Program oversees and coordinates EPA's work focused on ensuring the agency continues to fulfill its mission of protecting human health and the environment even as the climate changes and disruptive impacts increase. This includes integrating climate adaptation planning into EPA programs, policies, rulemaking processes, enforcement actions, and operations to ensure they are effective even as the climate changes. A major goal is to consult and partner with states, tribes, territories, local governments, community groups, businesses and other federal agencies to strengthen adaptive capacity and increase the resilience of the nation, with a particular focus on advancing environmental justice.

Smart Sectors Program

What We Do:

EPA's [Smart Sectors](#) program provides a platform to collaborate with industry sectors and develop creative solutions that better protect the environment and public health. The program works with 13 industrial sectors at the national level and includes a network of Smart Sectors programs in all 10 of EPA's regional offices. Sector leads serve as liaisons with industry stakeholders to facilitate effective communication and engagement with the agency, leading to better environmental outcomes.

Key program objectives include:

- Meaningful collaboration. The program engages at the national and regional levels with trade associations, individual companies, and other stakeholders to pursue opportunities for improved environmental performance.
- Innovative solutions. The program's collaborative approach provides an opportunity for government, business, and other stakeholders to explore new and better ways to achieve environmental progress.
- Multi-Media Perspective. Within EPA, the program complements the work of EPA's land, water, air, and chemical program offices by providing sector-specific expertise and a holistic, multi-media view of industry sectors and their environmental opportunities and challenges.

Programs and Projects

- [Regional Smart Sectors programs](#)
- [Sector snapshots](#)

EPA's Standard Executive

What We Do

EPA has a continuing commitment to using and participating in Voluntary Consensus Standards (VCS) and other private sector standards as directed by the National

Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA) and related Federal policies. Use of private sector standards in regulation, voluntary programs, research, and other activities helps the Agency achieve robust engagement with industry, academia, NGOs, and others, harnessing partnerships that enhance public trust and lead to durable policies that enjoy broad consensus and buy-in.

Office of Public Engagement and Environmental Education (OPEEE)

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)

What We Do

OPA is the primary office for all EPA communications. The Associate Administrator for Public Affairs serves as the Agency's Public Information Officer (PIO) and is the principal advisor to the Administrator on all issues concerning short-term and long-term strategic communications.

The Office of Public Affairs:

- prepares speeches for the Administrator and senior managers,
- serves as the principal news media gateway for official agency announcements, press releases and statements, speeches, Congressional and public hearing testimony, biographies of principal officers, and other documents of public interest,
- coordinates the Agency's external message for emergency response activities,
- serves as the Agency-wide point of contact for the planning, developing, and reviewing of all Agency print, promotional, display, audiovisual and broadcast products (other than news and web-based products) intended for the public,
- directs Agency multilingual outreach and communications efforts,
- manages EPA's web content, including content on epa.gov and in new social media, and
- communicates with EPA personnel on a variety of topics.

Programs and Projects Managed by OPA

- [EPA newsroom](#) and [news releases](#)
- [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), [Flickr](#) and other [social media](#) channels
- [EPA Perspectives](#)
- [EPA en español](#)

Office of Public Engagement and Environmental Education (OPEEE)

What We Do

OPEEE resides in the Office of the Administrator and is comprised of two offices, the Office of Public Engagement (OPE), and the Office of Environmental Education (OEE). These offices coordinate stakeholder outreach and environmental education that support the agency's mission and Administration priorities.

About the Office of Public Engagement (OPE)

The Office of Public Engagement initiates and maintains the agency's relationships with principal stakeholders to enhance the effectiveness of environmental

decision-making. OPE is responsible for engaging with all stakeholders on important issues and policies and communicating stakeholder input and concerns to EPA leadership.

The achievement of EPA's environmental goals requires the active engagement of all stakeholders and organizations that are impacted by EPA policies and regulations, including environmental justice, climate change, and infrastructure. OPE coordinates with all EPA national programs and regional offices around stakeholder engagement ensuring the Administrator and senior staff are aware and advised of stakeholder interests and concerns related to the current Administration's priorities. OPE functions include communicating and fostering strong relationships with the public, convening briefings and meetings, organizing events, and gathering timely and relevant information to inform agency decision making.

OPE continually and proactively establishes relationships with stakeholders to ensure a broad range of voices are captured in the agency's work.

Current Projects Managed by OPE

OPE regularly organizes stakeholder engagement related to EPA actions and programs, such as:

- [Climate Change](#)
- [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#)
- [Compliance and Enforcement](#)
- [Air Quality](#)
- [Environmental Justice](#)
- [Chemical and Pesticide Safety](#)
- [Historically Black Colleges and Universities \(HBCUs\)](#) and Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs)

About the Office of Environmental Education

The Office of Environmental Education manages EPA activities and programs that support environmental education, including professional development, youth and educator recognition, and grants. Environmental education increases public awareness and knowledge about environmental issues or challenges. In doing so, it provides the public with the necessary skills to make informed decisions and take responsible action.

Current Projects Managed by OEE

- [Environmental Education Grants Program](#)
- [National Environmental Education Training Program](#)
- [President's Environmental Youth Award \(PEYA\)](#) and the [Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators \(PIAEE\)](#)
- [National Environmental Education Advisory Council \(NEEAC\)](#)

Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU)

What We Do

OSDBU advocates and advances the business, regulatory, and environmental compliance concerns of small and socio-economically disadvantaged businesses. OSDBU is also responsible

for the implementation of procedures and oversight of small business programs mandated and described under several statutory authorities and Executive Orders.

Programs and Projects Managed by OSDBU

Procurement Opportunities Support for Small Businesses

OSDBU's Small Business Solutions and Opportunities (SBSO) Team is responsible for the implementation of [Section 15\(k\) of the Small Business Act](#), to ensure that small businesses are afforded the maximum practicable opportunity to participate in EPA's acquisitions. The SBSO Team also monitors and evaluates Agency performance in achieving [EPA's small business goals](#). In accordance with Section 15(k) of the Small Business Act, the SBSO Team provides small and socioeconomic businesses technical assistance and information on EPA acquisitions. This includes, among other things, providing technical assistance concerning;

- Obtaining payments or late payment interest penalties (Section 15(k)(6));
- EPA's unsolicited proposal process (Section 15(k)(14));
- Solicitation that may unduly restrict small business competition (Section 15(k)(17)); and
- The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs (Section 15(k)(21)).

For assistance with any of these areas, please contact the OSDBU staff at: OSDBU@epa.gov.

You may also obtain additional information on the SBIR and STTR programs at:

<https://www.sbir.gov/about> and <https://www.epa.gov/sbir>.

Consistent with Section 15(k)(19) of the Small Business Act, small business prime contract and subcontract awardees who seek assistance in identifying resources for education and training on compliance with post award contracting regulations, contact the OSDBU staff at OSDBU@epa.gov.

[Learn more about EPA's advocacy for small businesses in EPA procurement.](#)

Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman

The Agency's Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman (ASBO), located in OSDBU, supports the environmental and compliance performance of small businesses while reducing the regulatory burden on small businesses, including the cost of compliance and the adverse impact on business operations. ASBO also:

- responds to citizens' complaints under the [Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act \(PDF\)](#) (15pp, 195K, [about PDF](#)), commonly known as AHERA (Public Law 99-519),
- serves as a liaison between EPA and the small business community,
- advocates for small business during the EPA rulemaking process,
- provides technical assistance to small businesses, and
- supports the national network of [Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs](#).

[Learn more about the Small Business Ombudsman.](#)

Science Advisory Board (SAB) and the SAB Staff Office

What We Do

A key priority for EPA is to base Agency actions on sound scientific data, analyses, and interpretations. To accomplish this, the SAB Staff Office manages two federal advisory committees: the Science Advisory Board (SAB); and, the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC). These committees provide a mechanism for the Agency to receive peer

review and other advice designed to make a positive difference in the production and use of science at EPA. The SAB is authorized to:

- Review the quality and relevance of the scientific and technical information being used by the EPA or proposed as the basis for Agency regulations
- Review EPA research programs and plans
- Provide science advice as requested by the EPA Administrator
- Advise the Agency on broad scientific matters

The CASAC is authorized to:

- Provide independent advice to the EPA Administrator on the technical bases for EPA's National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

The SAB Staff Office

- Manages EPA requests for scientific and technical advice and peer review
- Provides policy, technical and administrative assistance to advisory committees in conducting meetings and preparing reports
- Oversees the formation of advisory committees and panels, ensuring that the needed breadth and depth of expertise and balanced points are achieved
- Informs the public of committee advisory activities through Federal Register Notices
- Ensures that committees conduct advisory activities in public
- Provides the public with opportunities to provide input during the advisory process

Programs and projects managed by the SAB Staff Office

- [Science Advisory Board](#)
- [Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee \(CASAC\)](#)