

The Division of Compliance Assistance

SIMPLIFYING COMPLIANCE • LIVING GREENER • CERTIFYING PROFESSIONALS

A Decade of Difference

for Kentucky's Environment

FY15 Annual Report

10
Years





Contents

Executive Summary	3
Mission, Vision, Objectives	5
Certifying Professionals	6
Simplifying Compliance	9
Living Greener	13
Dashboard Reports	19
Contact Information	25

A Decade of Difference

As the Division of Compliance Assistance celebrates its tenth anniversary, we reflect on the division's initiatives and accomplishments over the last decade. This milestone provides us an opportunity to consider our formation, the mission of the division and future needs of the department, as well as new opportunities for outreach, assistance and training.

The division was formed out of the desire to bring together many of the outreach and assistance functions within the department and provide focused, enhanced services regarding environmental compliance and recognize environmental leadership. The result of that desire was the establishment of four vital programs within the division, with the primary goal being to make a difference.

The division served as a single point of contact for environmental questions. A decade of difference is illustrated by the thousands of responses to phone calls and emails to assist with regulatory compliance. The division assisted clients by raising awareness of the types of permits associated with regulated activities. Over the last decade, the division assisted entities with understanding the requirements of federal and state environmental regulations. Small businesses were assisted with completion of air permit applications. Through its efforts, the Environmental Compliance Assistance Program has worked to reduce the number and severity of violations and penalties through a better understanding of environmental permitting and regulations.

In partnership with the Division of Waste Management, the division's Brownfield Redevelopment Program has worked to bring clarity and predictability to redevelopment of abandoned and underused properties. Through funding of Targeted Brownfield Assessments, grant application workshops and the Cleaner Commonwealth Fund, the division is able to provide assistance with assessment and corrective actions at brownfield sites and bring these sites back into full use.

A decade of difference is the creation of KY EXCEL and the hundreds of individuals, groups and businesses that have shown environmental leadership and the resulting reduction in energy consumption, tons of materials recycled, school groups hosted and wildlife habitat restored among the many voluntary environmental projects completed by its members.

Over the last decade, the certification program has made a difference by training and assisting Kentucky's operators of water and wastewater facilities and preparing them for demonstration of their knowledge and expertise on the certification examinations. Through efficiency of the certification program staff, the division also assumed the administration of the certification of solid waste operators without the need for additional personnel, allowing the Division of Waste Management staff to focus on other duties.

The division's first decade is the foundation for its future. There are new opportunities on the horizon and as new needs arise, the Division of Compliance Assistance will be prepared to respond and adapt to needs for outreach and assistance to Kentucky's regulated entities and the public. The division will continue to protect air, water and land from emerging issues and provide education on environmental issues. We strive to be available to both the regulated and non-regulated sectors of Kentucky, provide meaningful and relevant resources and serve as the front porch of the agency where citizens find answers to their questions.



Larry Taylor
Director, Division of Compliance Assistance



DCA Time Line At-a-Glance

2004 The Division of Compliance Assistance is established.



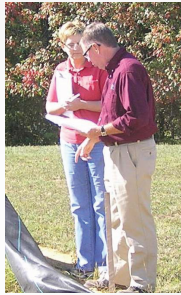
2005 Brownfield Program added to DCA.



2006 KY EXCEL, the state's environmental leadership program, is launched.



2007 The Environmental Compliance Assistance Program is established, providing environmental assistance to small businesses in Kentucky.



Certification Program establishes online renewal system, saving hundreds of hours of staff time.



2008

2009



Kentucky hosts the National Small Business Assistance Program Conference in Louisville.



From worst to first—Kentucky receives \$2 million in brownfield grants after program establishes grant writing assistance program.

2010

2011



KY EXCEL hosts first Sustainable Spirits Summit.



KY EXCEL's Eco-Art Contest honors its first student artists in the annual competition, which is now in its fifth year.

2012

First Steve Crosman Award established to recognize professionalism and excellence in water and wastewater operators.



2013

Environmental Compliance Assistance Program creates first online learning modules.



2014



Brownfield Redevelopment Program awards first Cleaner Commonwealth Fund Grants.

2015

Division starts collaborative outreach to agricultural community regarding agricultural water quality and best practices.





Mission

The Division of Compliance Assistance exists to provide services that increase environmental knowledge and change behaviors. We do this to improve regulatory compliance, achieve exceptional performance and enhance the quality of Kentucky's environment and communities.

Vision

The Division of Compliance Assistance will influence environmental stewardship throughout Kentucky. Kentucky's citizens will routinely trust the division as an important source of accurate and timely environmental information. Our proactive and innovative efforts will inspire others to take positive actions that improve the health of our citizens and enhance the quality of our environment.

Objectives

Certify qualified environmental professionals.

We will certify select environmental professionals to maximize appropriate actions and effective operations at regulated locations.

Help entities comply with Kentucky's environmental requirements.

We will assist and educate regulated entities so they understand and comply with their environmental obligations.

Facilitate environmental stewardship.

We will assist, educate and encourage Kentucky's citizens so they make informed choices that value Kentucky's environment and create healthier, stronger communities.



Certifying Professionals



Many people don't consider their municipal services. Where does my water come from? What happens to solid waste when it is thrown out? How does my city deal with wastewater? The Operator Certification Program provides certification training, continuing education and licensing for operators of water, wastewater and solid waste facilities in Kentucky. The services of this branch ensure that those operators have the skills and knowledge needed to perform the duties of their positions and protect Kentucky's environment. These operators make our lives easier and safer by performing their duties day in and day out. Our program takes the education of these service providers seriously and over the past 10 years has evolved to serve them more effectively and efficiently.

Administration

In order to ensure that an operator has the qualifications necessary to perform all of the tasks required of an operator, the staff of the Certification and Licensing Branch spend thousands of hours processing and reviewing applications submitted from drinking water, wastewater and solid waste operators. Through a thorough administrative review, each application is assessed to ensure that the individual meets the minimum educational and experience requirements for the level of certification requested. During FY 2015, the branch received and processed 884 applications from operators seeking to take a certification exam.

Board Support

Serving in an advisory capacity, the Kentucky Board of Certification of Water Treatment and Distribution System Operators and the Kentucky Board of Certification of Wastewater System Operators assist the agency in the implementation of the operator certification program. The board

reviews applications, reciprocity requests, proposed regulation revisions, third-party training submittals and operator disciplinary action requests. During FY 15, the boards reviewed 84 Class IV certification examination requests and received no referrals for potential operator disciplinary action.

Involvement

With the passage of the Clean Water Act in 1972 and the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 came the hiring of thousands of water and wastewater operators across the country. The retirement of that initial wave of operators is looming. It is estimated that over half of the nation's drinking water and wastewater operators will retire over the next few years, leaving a huge service gap in the profession. Our Operator Certification Program continues to actively promote the importance of operator certification in Kentucky, as well as nationwide. Staff participate in various conferences throughout Kentucky, as well as the annual Association of Boards of Certification Conference.

Staff members participated in high school, technical and college career fairs to discuss the importance of properly treated water and effective waste management. It is vital to raise the awareness of opportunity in this profession.

Renewal

All operators are periodically required to renew their licenses. The wastewater renewal cycle took place during the past fiscal year. The division sent postcards to more than 2,200 certified wastewater operators reminding them of the renewal cycle. The division also issued 1,841 wallet cards for drinking water and wastewater certification renewals submitted to the program. Electronic submittal continues to be popular and effective for operators and our staff. Ninety-eight percent of the renewals were submitted electronically, saving administrative processing time.

Certification

During FY 2015, the Operator Certification Program administered 740 exams that resulted in the issuance of 258 new or upgraded wastewater licenses, 219 new drinking water licenses and 36 new solid waste licenses. The drinking water program had a pass rate of 75 percent, the wastewater program had a pass rate of 74 percent and the solid waste program had a pass rate of 90 percent.

Training

The Certification and Licensing Branch provides training for the Commonwealth's drinking water, wastewater and solid waste operators. Both certification classes and continuing education classes are offered across the state. Topics range from new technologies, permits, regulatory requirements and issues related to water and wastewater treatment and distribution and solid waste management. In FY 15, the program conducted 35 training events worth more than 456 credit hours and had 1,234 participants. The boards reviewed 486 submittals from third-party training providers and approved 3,423 education hours.

Operation Matters Blog

In February 2012, the Operator Certification and Licensing Branch created the Operation Matters Blog to help distribute timely information and tools to the operators who serve the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Since that time, the blog has reached beyond Kentucky's borders to 169 countries. Last year, program staff authored 655 individual posts and the blog received 62,368 hits. The blog has 122 active followers and received over 201,169 views since its inception.



Tim Ricketts (top) and Dennis Minch teach class at the Kentucky Rural Water Conference.

Third Annual Steve Crosman Award



Left: John Thomas, 2015 Steve Crosman Award Recipient. **Right:** Steve Crosman, an integral part of DCA's Operator Certification Team, is remembered for his dedication through the annual Steve Crosman Award.

John Thomas, Hardin County Water District No. 1, has been honored, posthumously, with the third annual Steve Crosman Award for Outstanding Environmental Professionalism. John, who passed away on Oct. 3, was nominated by Amanda Spalding of Hardin County Water District No. 1. He held Class II Wastewater Treatment, Class IV Distribution and Class IV Water Treatment licenses.

The Kentucky Division of Compliance Assistance (DCA) presents this annual award in memory of Steve Crosman, a trainer with the Certification and Licensing Branch of DCA, who passed away in December 2011. Steve devoted himself to ensuring safe water for Kentucky by making sure he did his best to assist and train operators.

John Thomas had made a career of almost 30 years in the Kentucky water and wastewater industry, with 14 years at Hardin County Water District No. 1. He originally served as the water treatment plant operator and then as the district's project manager. During his career, John never stopped learning. He was always open to educational experiences/opportunities and going above and beyond regulated training requirements.

Through his extensive experiences and desire to learn, John gained an incredible amount of knowledge of the water and wastewater industry. This served him well as he wore many hats in

filling the director's project coordinator position. John helped to improve the water quality in his community in numerous ways—including taking his job and responsibilities seriously, helping to educate coworkers and using his extensive experience to provide valuable input when needed. John fully grasped the magnitude and importance of being a water treatment operator. Every shift that he ran, John had the desire to make the best possible product. John was very intuitive, almost sensing what needed to be done, and paid attention to the smallest details. He understood the impact on public health and safety and took that very seriously.

John used this profession to impact the public. The scope of public health and safety did not fall short on John, and he did everything in his power to make sure this priority was first and foremost. His caring attitude with customers let them know he heard and understood their concerns and offered solutions for the issues they were facing. John always went the extra mile to ensure customers were satisfied.

John's influence spans the Commonwealth, not only in the places where he worked, but also in the locations that former trainees and coworkers work. Being unafraid of change, John took on new challenges and was always eager to learn — two key components of being successful in the water and wastewater industry.

Simplifying Compliance



Environmental regulations are often complex, and complying with those regulations can be difficult for small businesses that don't have a working knowledge of environmental laws and regulations and often don't have the extra funds to hire someone to assist them. With more than 90 percent of the businesses in Kentucky having fewer than 50 employees, that means services to those people is pivotal for their success. The Environmental Compliance Assistance Program (ECAP) has grown over the past 10 years and developed the tools and services needed for businesses and specific industries across the state.

Assistance

From simple calls concerning environmental regulations to in-depth assistance requests, the Environmental Assistance Branch covers a broad range of topics on any given day. Over the last fiscal year, ECAP provided detailed responses to 38 small business air-quality requests and assisted in the submission of more than 14 air-quality applications. On a monthly basis, the program averages 101 calls for assistance, and 60 percent of them deal with air and waste issues. Overall, the branch responded to assistance requests from callers in 86 counties.

Regulations

The Environmental Compliance Assistance Program helps entities in understanding and complying with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) rules, including National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) and New Source Performance Standards (NSPS). Over the last year, the program has provided numerous services, including compliance education, resource development and permitting assistance in regards to the Area Source Boiler Rule, NESHAP

JJJJJ, with a special emphasis on biomass boilers in coordination with the Kentucky Statewide Wood Energy Team (SWET). Revisions of guidance documents and additional education outreach have been associated with the proposals and amendments to NSPS OOOO for Crude Oil and Natural Gas Production, Transmission, and Distribution. Staff presented to large audiences at several industry organizations to increase knowledge regarding the rules, in addition to being available for one-on-one questions and assistance.

Incentives

Many times, entities can avoid environmental penalties by being proactive. But some are afraid to approach the department for assistance. Others are skeptical of an assistance program housed within DEP. The ECAP program has the ability to use enforcement discretion and work proactively with clients who wish to identify and correct issues. The program can also help customers who want to utilize the self-audit privilege to self-disclose environmental violations.

Tool Development

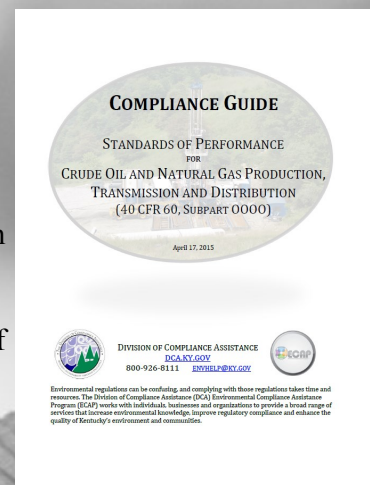
A goal of the Environmental Compliance Assistance Program is to ensure awareness and comprehension of environmental requirements, including permitting. Environmental permits may be required by federal, state and sometimes local governments to ensure that business and construction minimize potential impacts on human health and the local environment. The specific environmental regulations and permits that could apply to the construction and operation of a facility may vary depending on the specific location, breadth of activities and potential pollutants emitted. Permits provide a range or maximum amount of pollution that may be emitted during a specific time frame and explain how the pollutants are to be managed. To assist entities in understanding if certain permits or authorizations may apply to their operations, ECAP developed and published a 10-page At-a-Glance document that identifies typical Department for Environmental Protection permits and authorizations. In conjunction with this document, a short two-page document identifies the application timelines and fees associated with common DEP permits. Additionally, resource documents were developed that address DEP-issued certifications and regulations that may be triggered by construction and demolition activities. Lastly, as the concerns surrounding the potential presence of Ebola in the nation, DCA worked closely with the Division of Waste Management and Department for Public Health to develop a guidance document for the Management and Control of Ebola Contaminated Waste in Kentucky.

Outreach to Organizations and Industry

When regulations are developed or changed and when questions arise from sectors that are perplexed by current or upcoming environmental issues, outreach is the key to help them stay in compliance. This year, the Environmental Compliance Assistance Program provided information sessions to multiple sources on a variety of topics.

At the beginning of the fiscal year, ECAP provided a session at the Kentucky Oil and Gas Association annual conference regarding the New Source Performance Standards for Crude Oil and Natural Gas Production, Transmission, and Distribution. ECAP's involvement in the Statewide Wood Energy Team led to training on the Area Source Boiler Rule, NESHAP JJJJJ for biomass boilers located at area sources, and outreach on the services offered by the Division of Compliance Assistance.

In February of 2015, from a collaborative effort between the divisions within DEP, DCA issued a new version of the Discharge Monitoring Report Manual that includes guidance for the online reporting of DMRs through NetDMR. Near the end of the fiscal year, the program provided detailed guidance regarding the Division of Water's new general discharge permit for Concrete Products, Asphalt Paving and Ready-Mixed Concrete Operations (KYG11) for the Kentucky Ready-Mixed Concrete Association (KRMCA). Additionally, ECAP provided an informational session to other states' small business programs on outreach measures and development of online videos and training modules.



Environmental Assistance Branch Training and Education

ACC/SAMR Open House

Throughout the course of a year, entities with air permits are required to submit Annual Compliance Certification and Semi-Annual Monitoring reports. In an effort to help those who were unfamiliar with the process, the Division of Compliance Assistance teamed up with the Division for Air Quality, Field Operations Branch, to host the third annual permit-required reporting open house. Fifteen entities made their way to Frankfort to get one-on-one assistance for these reports.



Oil and Gas Outreach

Beginning in the FY14, ECAP began a partnership with Kentucky Oil and Gas Association (KOGA) to assist their members and the remainder of oil and gas operations on how to comply with NSPS OOOO for Crude Oil and Natural Gas Production, Transmission, and Distribution. ECAP has worked closely with the Division for Air Quality and KOGA representatives to ensure understanding of and compliance with the new rules and air-quality regulations. As a result, ECAP developed a step-by-step guidance document that outlines the requirements for hydraulically fractured natural gas wells and storage vessels at oil and gas sites. During this fiscal year, ECAP presented to the organization and has continued efforts to update the guidance document to incorporate new amendments to the rule.



Emily Ohde (DCA) and Deanna Picklesimer (DAQ) work with an ACC/SAMR Open House participants.

In addition to the compliance assistance provided to the industry organization, ECAP participated on behalf of the Division for Air Quality to represent them in modifications to the Department for Natural Resources', Division of Oil and Gas Operator's Manual updates. ECAP provided an overview of Division for Air Quality requirements not previously incorporated into the Division of Oil and Gas Operator's Manual.

Kentucky Ready-Mixed Concrete Association

The Division of Water issued a new general Kentucky Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (KPDES) permit for Concrete Products, Asphalt Paving and Ready-Mixed Concrete Operations (KYG11). ECAP has previously worked with the Kentucky Ready-Mixed Concrete Association with air-quality compliance measures and assisted them during this fiscal year with understanding applicability and compliance requirements associated with the KYG11.

NetDMR Manual

The first Discharge Monitoring Report Manual was published in August 2009. In recent years, the requirement for submitting monitoring reports associated with KPDES permits has moved from a paper form to an online submission through NetDMR. Divisions within the department have collaborated in order to update the 2009 manual. The new 2015 DMR Manual now includes additional instructions for NetDMR submissions, frequently asked questions, and screenshots of NetDMR to assist entities in correctly entering data into the new online template.

Collaborations for Education: Agriculture and County Officials



Dr. Steve Higgins, University of Kentucky, educates attendees about the Agricultural Water Quality Act.

The Kentucky Division of Compliance Assistance, in partnership with the University of Kentucky and KY DEP's Divisions of Waste Management, Water and Air Quality, developed and conducted the Agriculture Environmental Boot Camp trainings for agricultural service providers across the state. This full-day training event provided an overview of the environmental regulations that are common sources of confusion or compliance issues for producers.

Attendees learned about Kentucky's Agriculture Water Quality Act and the top 10 best management practices for producers with livestock from Dr. Steve Higgins of the University of Kentucky, College of Agriculture, Food and the Environment. Brian

Osterman and John Rogers from the Kentucky Division of Waste Management reviewed information on solid and hazardous waste concerns on the farm, including fuel tanks, tires, open dumping, land farming and animal disposal. John also covered emergency response and issues that might occur and the requirements for a landowner to report spills.

In the afternoon, attendees received information about common air complaints, including fugitive emissions, odor and open burning from Jarrod Bell of the Kentucky Division for Air Quality. Following Air Quality, Brian Crump from the Kentucky Division of Water reviewed inspections of Kentucky No Discharge Operation permitted-facilities and other concerns including groundwater protection and nutrient management plans.

Attendees included technical service providers, certified crop consultants, and commodity group staff, as well as staff from National Resource Conservation Service offices, Kentucky Division of Conservation, Kentucky Department of Agriculture and the University of Kentucky Extension Service.

Kentucky Association of Counties

The Kentucky Association of Counties (KACo) offers continuing education classes to county officials across the state. KACo approached DCA about providing a series of one-day training events on environmental issues that may arise on the job. Staff from each of the division's programs, along with representatives from water and waste, provided information on everything from dam safety to recycling programs.



Kevin Strohmeier with the Kentucky Environmental Response team talks to county officials about proper handling of an environmental emergency.

Living Greener



Recognizing the need to help the Commonwealth's citizens, communities and businesses be greener, the Division of Compliance Assistance has developed programs that can assist in the recycling of contaminated properties and promotion of green practices. The Kentucky Brownfield Redevelopment Program has grown over the past 10 years to provide services to those in the public and private sectors in all stages of contaminated property redevelopment. The KY EXCEL Program has been recognizing those who go above and beyond the call of duty in their homes and at work. Both programs highlight the power of proactive actions.

Brownfields

Americans tend to live a mobile lifestyle. With the development of the nation's highway systems and inclusion of bypasses around towns and cities, urban cores and downtowns can often be shells of their former glory. Many of those properties have real or perceived environmental issues and the Kentucky Brownfield Redevelopment Program works to help communities reinvent their abandoned and blighted properties.

The program, a collaboration between the Division of Compliance Assistance and the Division of Waste Management, continues to provide assessment and grant writing assistance services to communities. It has also initiated the Cleaner Commonwealth Fund. Thus far, six projects have been slated to receive grant funds, and the loan program is on track to be launched in the fall of 2015.

KY EXCEL

KY EXCEL, the state's voluntary,

environmental leadership program, offers in-depth, site-specific assistance. Our ultimate goal is to help entities go above and beyond what is required of them in regulation and promote sustainability among Kentucky's businesses, industries, communities and individual households.

The KY EXCEL staff has continued promoting positive environmental changes our members have made in this past year and since inception of the program. Through case studies, the program highlights the impressive projects our members are implementing. We showcase these case studies on the DCA website and several have been published in national media outlets such as *Environmental News Network*.

EXCEL continued to work with Kentucky's distilleries on the Sustainable Spirits Best Management Practices manual. The manual was finalized this year and printed for distribution. Look for it at distilleries on the Kentucky Bourbon Trail or on



The Sustainable Spirits document highlights the efforts made by the distilling industry to reduce its impact on the environment.

DCA's web page.

Staff offered educational opportunities and outreach services at a variety of events held by KY EXCEL members and other partner organizations. KY EXCEL staff attended meetings held by Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, LLP; Bluegrass Greensource and Kentucky American Water.

While KY EXCEL did not host a formal annual members' meeting at the 2014 Governor's Conference for Energy and Environment, it did encourage its members to attend a preconference site visit at a member's facility. Kentucky American Water was highlighted for its environmental efforts, and it gave KY

EXCEL members the chance to gather and explore what another member was doing to better the environment.

Cleaner Commonwealth Fund

The Cleaner Commonwealth Fund (CCF) is a grant-and-loan fund established with an \$850,000 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund Grant. In February 2015, the program solicited requests for cleanup grants for petroleum and hazardous waste projects. The CCF selected the following projects:

- Former shoe factory in Vanceburg, \$50,000
- Gateway Center in Louisville, 50,000
- Spalding University, \$34,000
- Old Fayette County Courthouse in Lexington, \$12,000

Two properties, Lincoln Hall in Annville and the Columbia Theatre in Paducah, received grants in 2014. Cleanup activities using the grant were completed at Lincoln Hall, a cultural center, in early 2015. Cleanup continues at the Columbia Theatre. The asbestos cleanup at the theatre should be completed in Fall of 2015 or early 2016.

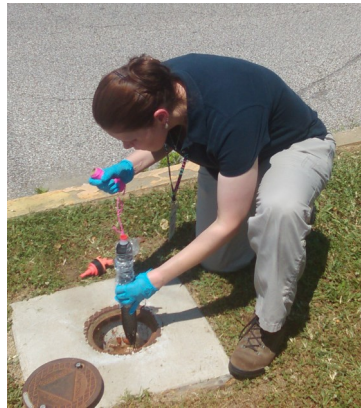


Amanda LeFevre and Emily Ohde tour the Columbia Theatre in Paducah, Ky.

Brownfield Redevelopment Program



Above: Jim Kirby and Sheri Adkins of the division perform a deed search as part of a Phase I Assessments. Left: Amanda LeFevre installs a passive diffusion sampling bag at a dry cleaning site.



Assessments

The Kentucky Brownfield Redevelopment Program works with communities and community organizations to take the first pivotal steps in contaminated property reuse. Phase I environmental assessments must be performed prior to the purchase or voluntary acquisition of a property in order to be eligible for federal and state liability management and federal cleanup grants. This year assessments applications were approved for 11 sites. Assessment activities, including Phase I updates, Phase I Assessments and Phase II Assessments were completed on eight of the properties, and activity is pending on the remainder.

Grant Writing Workshops

Grant writing is a tall task, especially for those communities and organizations that don't have the expertise on staff. The brownfield program hosts grant writing workshops each year to assist those interested in submitting brownfield grants to produce stronger proposals. This year's grant

workshops were held in Frankfort and London, with 84 people attending the two events. During the workshops, attendees not only learned about the brownfield grants' writing process, but also received a solid overview of basic grant writing. Brownfield program staff will review grant applications and offer feedback to anyone applying for EPA brownfield grants.

EPA Grants

This year the EPA awarded \$1 million in brownfield grants to Kentucky communities in order to assess and remediate properties with an environmental past. This year's grantees include:

- Cumberland Valley Area Development District (CVADD)—\$400,000 Community Wide Assessment Grants
- Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government —\$200,000 Cleanup Grant
- Vanceburg—\$200,000 Cleanup Grant
- YMCA of Greater Louisville—\$200,000 Cleanup Grant

ASTSWMO

The Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials (ASTSWMO) is a nonprofit organization that facilitates information exchange between state program peers. Amanda LeFevre joined ASTSWMO's National Brownfield Focus Group in April 2013 as the representative for EPA Region 4 brownfield programs. Since that time, Amanda has accepted the position of vice-chair for the group. During the past year, the focus group worked on a community redevelopment guide for beginners. The guide will help rural communities and organizations that have little experience with remediation. The guide will be available on ASTSMWO's website in the fall of 2015.

Focus groups also started work on the joint Superfund and Brownfield Symposium that will take place in 2016. The group will be developing fact sheets that correspond to brownfield sessions at the conference.

Spreading the Word

Providing accurate and up-to-date information to serve the people of Kentucky is important to DCA. By using a variety of methods, such as contributing posts to Naturally Connected, DEP's blog, DCA presents notice of the latest state and federal regulations to help others stay in compliance with environmental regulations. In FY 2015, this popular blog had 71,964 views, 20,470 visitors, nearly 4,800 subscribers and 243 posts, which makes it an important avenue for reaching the people of Kentucky. Within the DEP blog, our bi-weekly SNIPS provides readers with valuable information relevant to regulated entities.

Readers also turn to DCA's Facebook page for news of environmental events and updates on KY EXCEL members. Posts including tips on sustainable living and working, enabling citizens to be more environmentally conscious.

DCA staff members are in regular communication, meetings and partnerships with trade associations and other organizations. These groups benefit from DCA's compliance tools and resources, while DCA has the opportunity to discover the clients' issues and needs to best serve them.

Media outlets for DCA include:

- *Land, Air & Water*
- *Environmental News Network*
- *Brownfield Renewal*
- *KY Forward*
- *Green Guide*
- *KY Employee Connection*
- *Herald News (Edmonton)*
- *The Courier-Journal*
- *KY AgConnection*
- *Fayette County Public Schools Newsletter*
- *Wn.com*
- *iHigh.com*



Building the Framework for Environmental Leaders

During the Governor's Conference on Energy and the Environment in October, presentations were made to the six recipients of the 2014 DEP Environmental Excellence Awards. Through this awards program, the efforts and activities of individuals, businesses and organizations that are committed to protecting and improving Kentucky's environment are recognized.

- KY EXCEL Champion Award: Smithfield Farmland Middlesboro – Middlesboro
- Community Environmental Luminary Award: Covington's Urban Forestry Program – Covington
- Resource Caretaker Award: American Synthetic Rubber Company, LLC – Louisville
- Environmental Pacesetter Award for an Individual/Organization: City of Berea – Berea
- Environmental Pacesetter Award for a Small Business: Ruggles Sign Company – Versailles
- Environmental Pacesetter Award for a Medium to Large Business: Heaven Hill Brands, Bardstown Facility – Bardstown

Eco-Art Contest

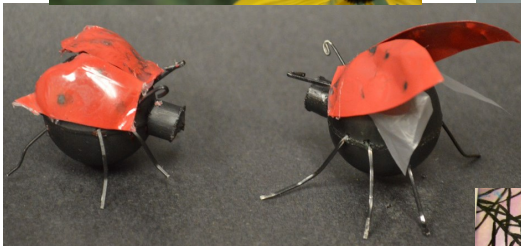
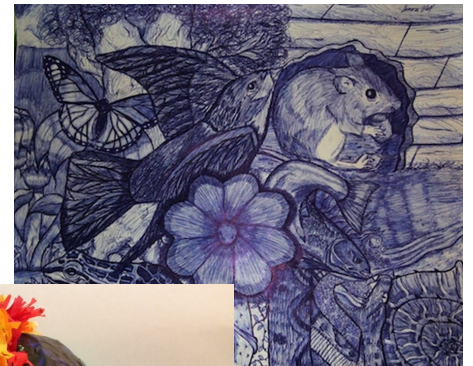
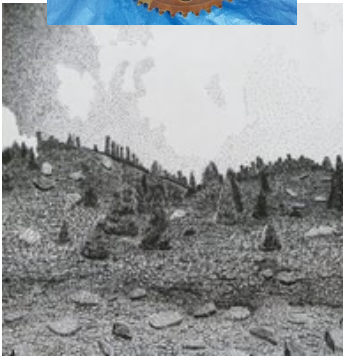


For five years, the Division of Compliance Assistance has been highlighting the work of high school artists who are inspired by the environment around them. The annual Eco-Art Contest is a chance to blend the creative arts with environmental messages in order to educate and inspire others to be mindful of the world around us. The themes were conservation, environmental protection and pollution prevention. Students were instructed to submit artwork using mediums of drawing, painting, print work, sculpture, mixed media and photographs. The winning high school artists received their awards at their respective schools. Artwork from the contest winners is displayed in the DEP Training Center, where it will be viewed by hundreds of visitors.



The winners of the 2014 Eco-Art Contest are as follows:

- Peyton Hawks, Pleasure Ridge Park High School, Louisville
- Vicky Lin, Atherton High School, Louisville
- Taylor Wilson, Atherton High School, Louisville
- Marina Witt, J. Graham Brown School, Louisville
- Mindy Greenwell, North Bullitt High School, Shepherdsville
- Miranda Keedy, North Bullitt High School, Shepherdsville
- Christina Howard, West Jessamine High School, Nicholasville
- Rachel Hampton, Metcalfe County High School, Edmonton
- Kennedy Kincaid, Metcalfe County High School, Edmonton
- Emily Jeter, Metcalfe County High School, Edmonton
- Hayley Bragg, Metcalfe County High School, Edmonton
- Stephanie Stumbur, Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, Lexington
- Samara Hall, Newport High School, Newport



Leading By Example

Throughout the Commonwealth, environmental leaders are setting positive examples to inspire all of us to do our part in caring for the environment. As a way of highlighting the efforts by these organizations, DCA has written case studies to illustrate creative ways to enhance our environment. These and previous case studies can be found on the DCA website.

Blue Grass Army Depot



The Blue Grass Army Depot, in Richmond, is a government-owned and operated Department of Defense installation with multiple missions and projects. The site includes open fields and wooded areas that have been used to restore native warm-season grasslands for species of grassland birds, such as the bobwhite quail, and mammals that are in decline across the country.

Fort Knox

Located near Louisville, Fort Knox is the military installation that is well-known as the depository for the nation's gold bullion. It is also home to two of the largest known maternity colonies of federally endangered Indiana bats within the range of the species and the largest in Kentucky. Fort Knox established the 1,458-acre Indiana Bat Management Area to manage and increase the population of Indiana bats, which eat a variety of flying insects, benefiting humans by feeding on insects that are considered pests or otherwise harmful to people, such as mosquitoes.



Catlettsburg Refining

This community-minded refinery manages the Catlettsburg Refining Savage Branch Wildlife Reserve. A management plan is in place that is designed to increase biodiversity on the property through the creation of wildlife habitat and monitoring the effects of natural succession. The open field restoration project aims to restore three former pasture fields to native vegetation.

KY NEED Project

The Kentucky branch of the National Energy Education Development Project (NEED) is a nonprofit education association providing energy education workshops and curriculum for K-12 teachers and students across the Commonwealth. KY NEED provides one-day energy workshops for teachers, training/support for student energy teams, energy tours for educators and sponsorships for teachers to attend the national conference.



Mellow Mushroom

When Louisville resident Andy Blieden saw a decaying building in his neighborhood, he sought advice from the Kentucky Brownfield Redevelopment Program about purchasing and cleaning the site. The passage of House Bill 465 enabled him to turn the eyesore into a productive, appealing property that created employment opportunities and additional tax revenue for the state.

American Cave Conservation Association

Hidden River Cave, in Horse Cave, had once been a dynamic underground river with interesting animal life and unique cave features. By the mid-1970s, the cave and river had become an open sewer with an overpowering odor. The American Cave Conservation Association relocated to the town, educating the public about protecting the karst ecosystems and water resources and cleaning and restoring the habitat.

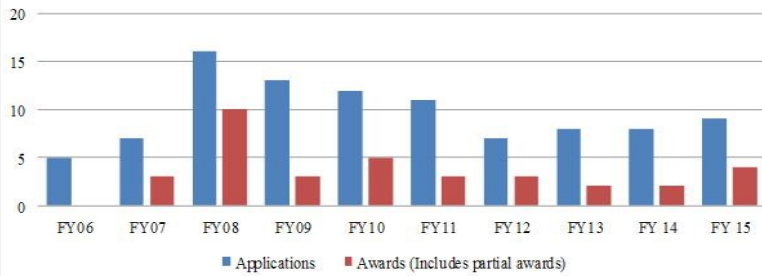




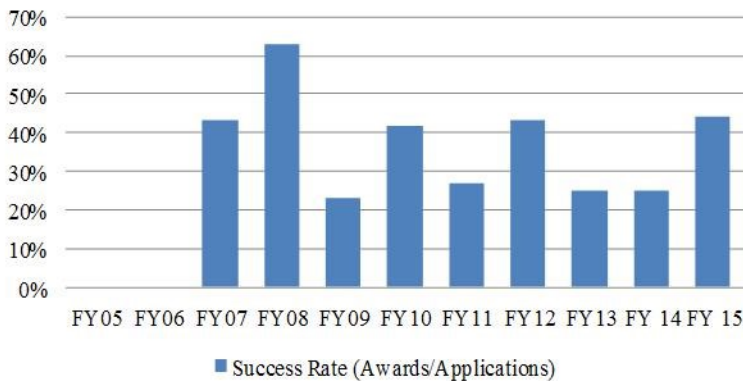
KENTUCKY BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAM 2015 DASHBOARD REPORT

US EPA Brownfield and Cleaner Commonwealth Fund Grants

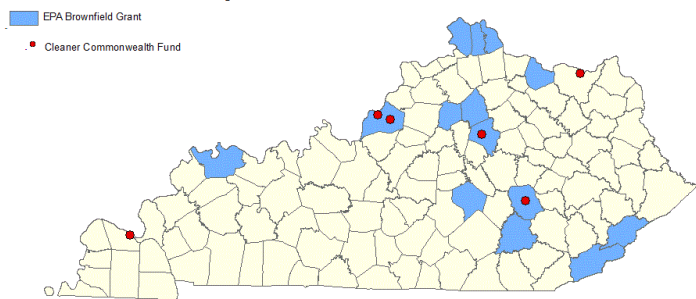
EPA Brownfield Grants



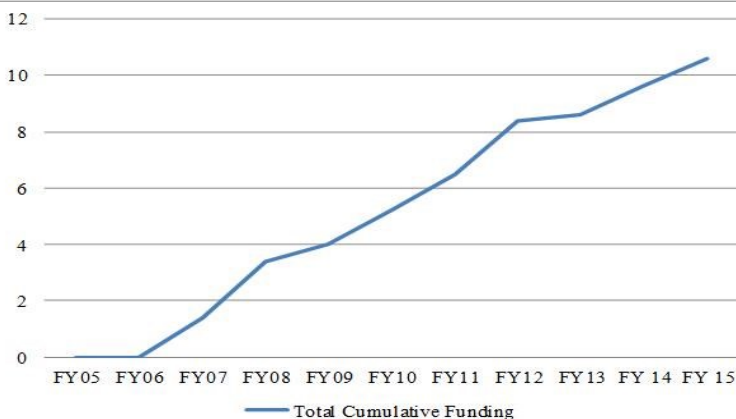
Success Rate (Awards/Applications)



Federal and State Grant Funding Locations

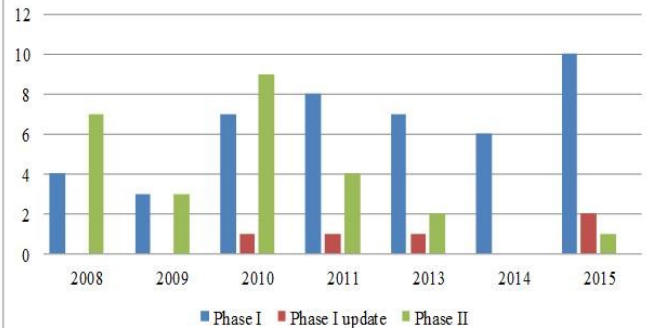


Total Cumulative EPA Brownfield Funding (in millions)

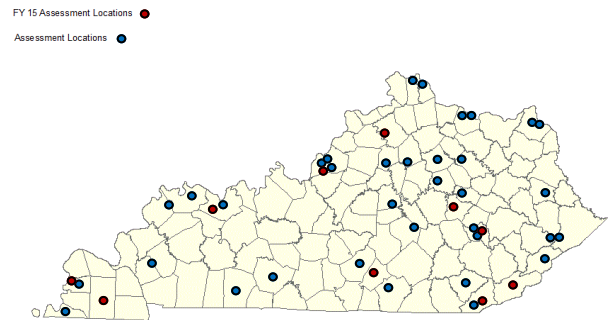


Targeted Brownfield Assessments

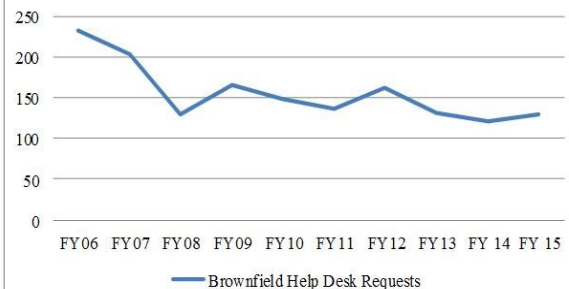
Assessments Completed



TBA Locations



Brownfield Help Desk Requests



Brownfield Help Desk



4
Events



134 People
Trained



14 Class
Hours



96%
Satisfaction
Rate

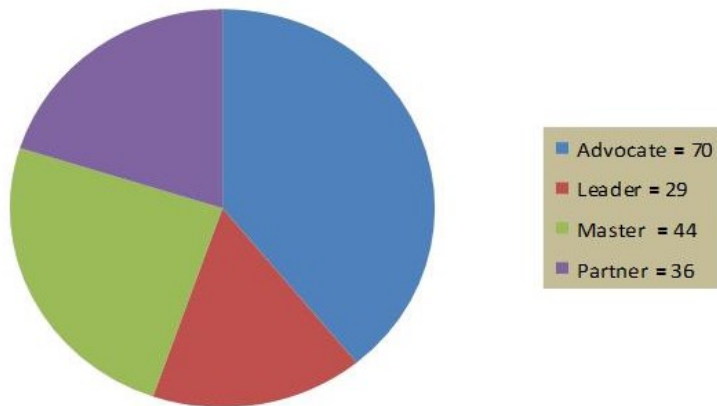
Training



KY EXCEL 2015 DASHBOARD REPORT

KY EXCEL Members

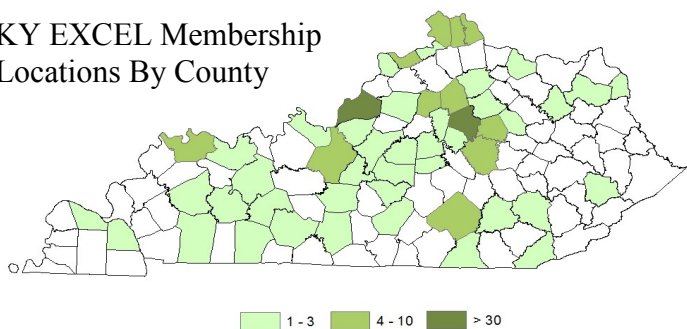
KY EXCEL Members



KY EXCEL Members



KY EXCEL Membership Locations By County



Program Achievements

Member Investments

Hours Spent	1,313,362
Dollars Spent	\$154,449,990
People Involved	65,873

Select Member Results



38 million pounds of paper, 2.4 million pounds of aluminum and 3.1 million pounds of plastic recycled



131 million kWh electricity, 95.5 million mmBtu natural gas and 187 million gallons of water conserved



\$25,202,166 donated



94,087 people trained

Training



1 Event



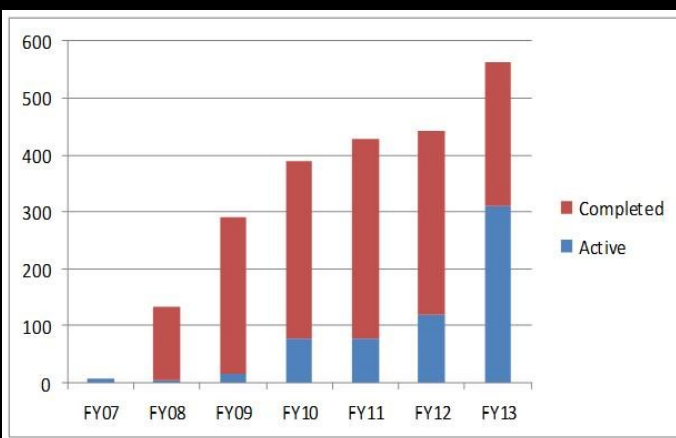
7 Class Hours



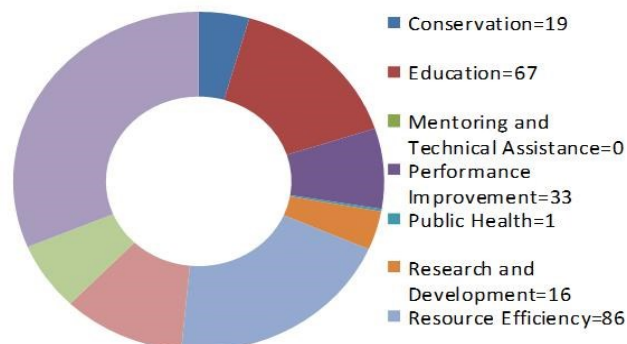
24 People Trained



100% Satisfaction



Member Projects

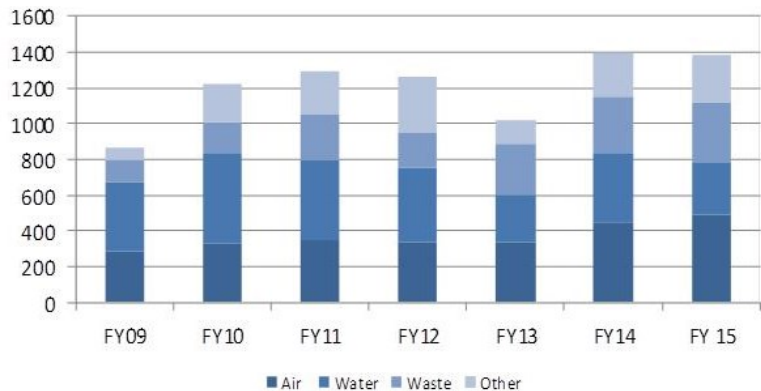




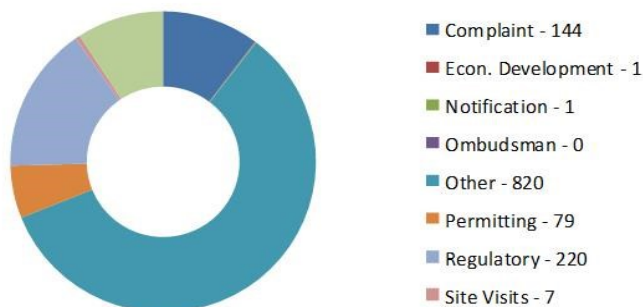
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE 2015 DASHBOARD REPORT

Assistance Requests

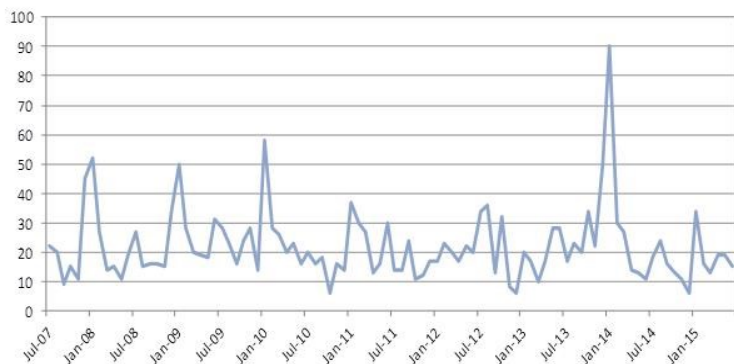
Assistance Requests by Media



Type of Assistance Requests (FY15)

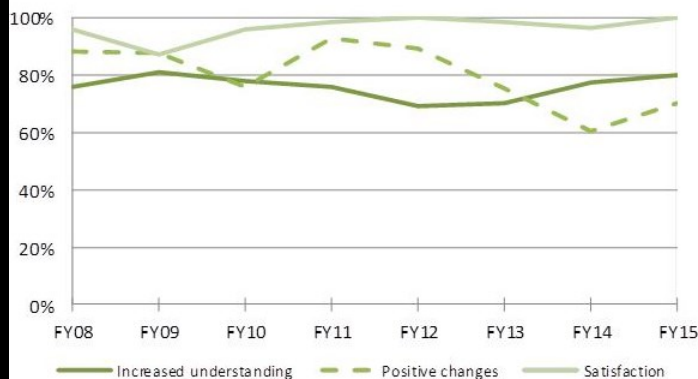


Small Business Requests



Program Results

Client Outcome Measures



Client Behavior Changes (FY15)



Training



4 Events



92 People
Trained



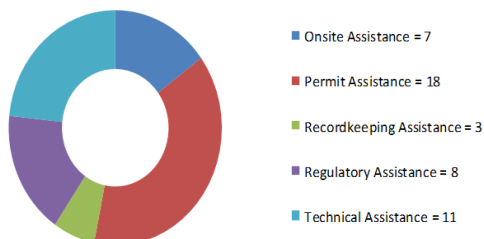
14 Class
Hours



96%
Satisfaction

Detailed Assistance

Detailed Assistance Types (FY15)



Total Detailed Assistance Requests

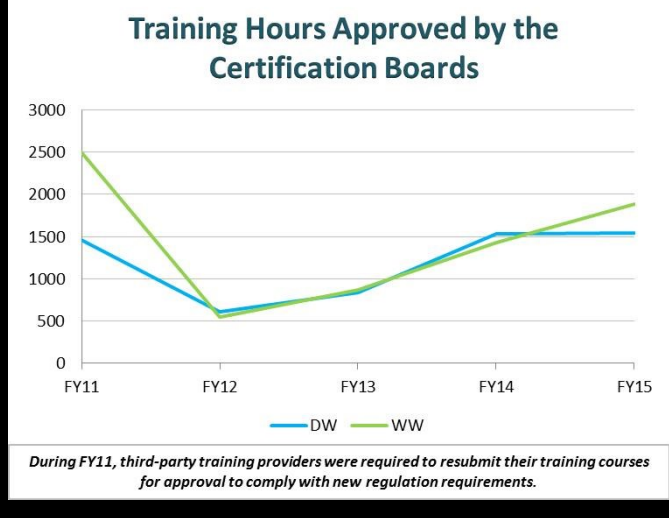
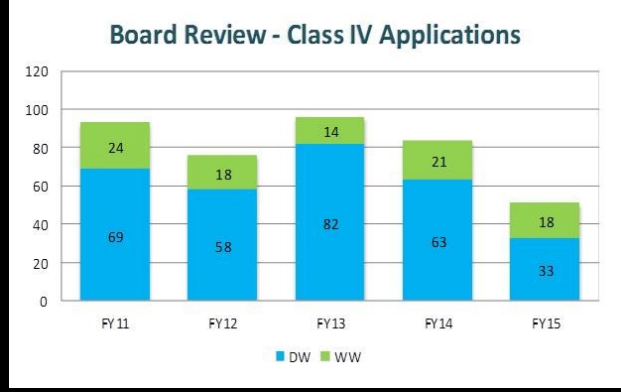
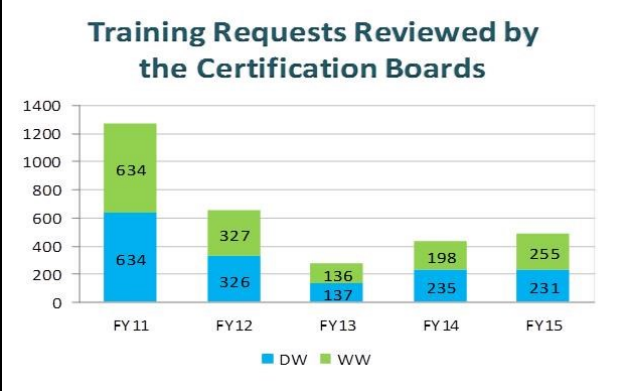
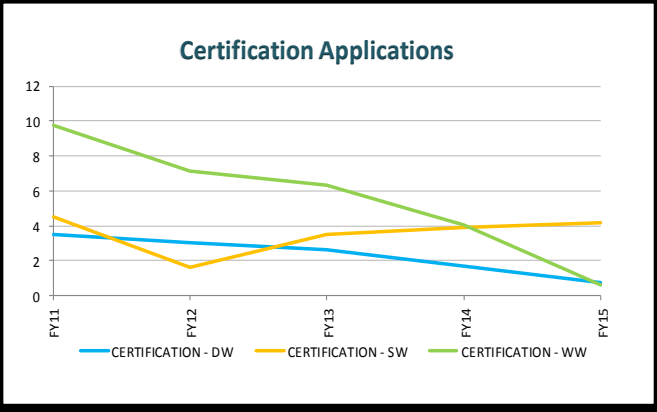
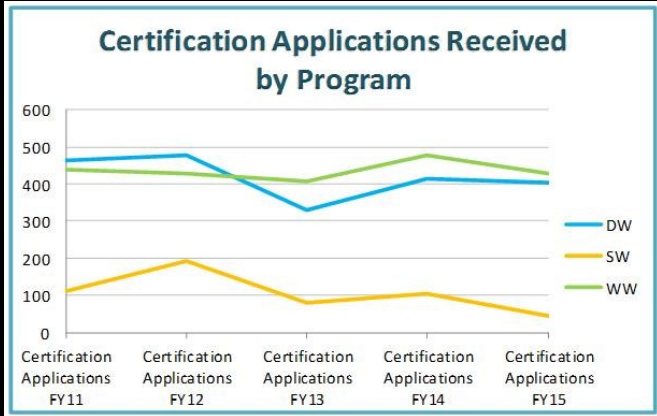




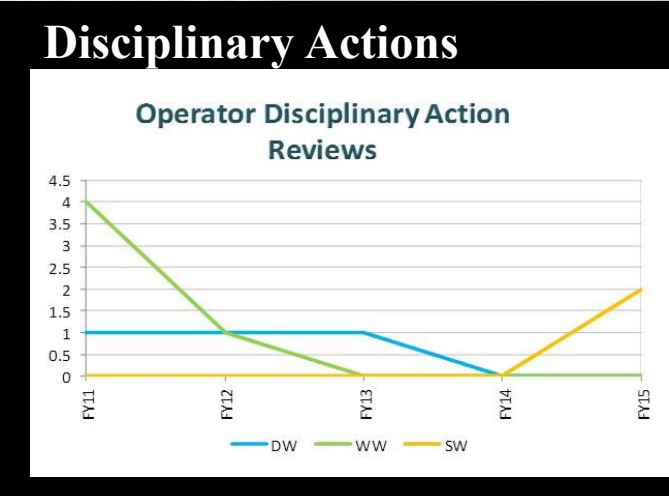
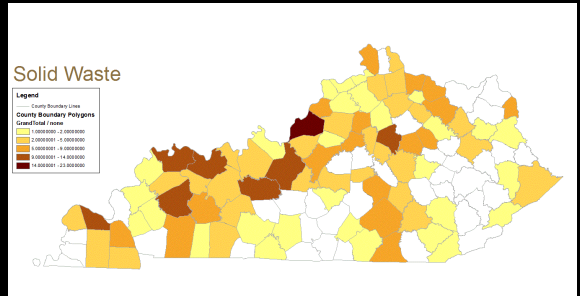
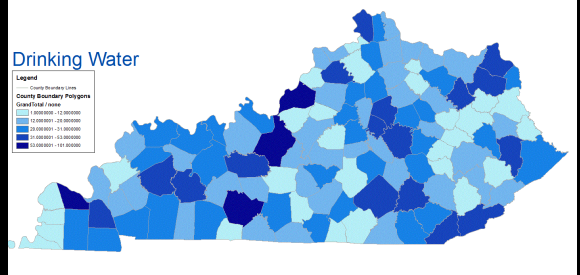
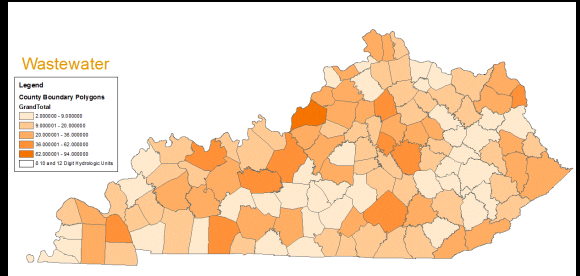
OPERATOR CERTIFICATION AND LICENSING 2015 DASHBOARD REPORT

Certification Board

Administration



Operator Availability



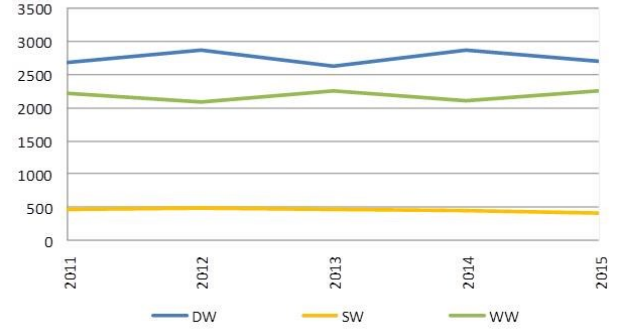
Testing

Examination Pass Rates

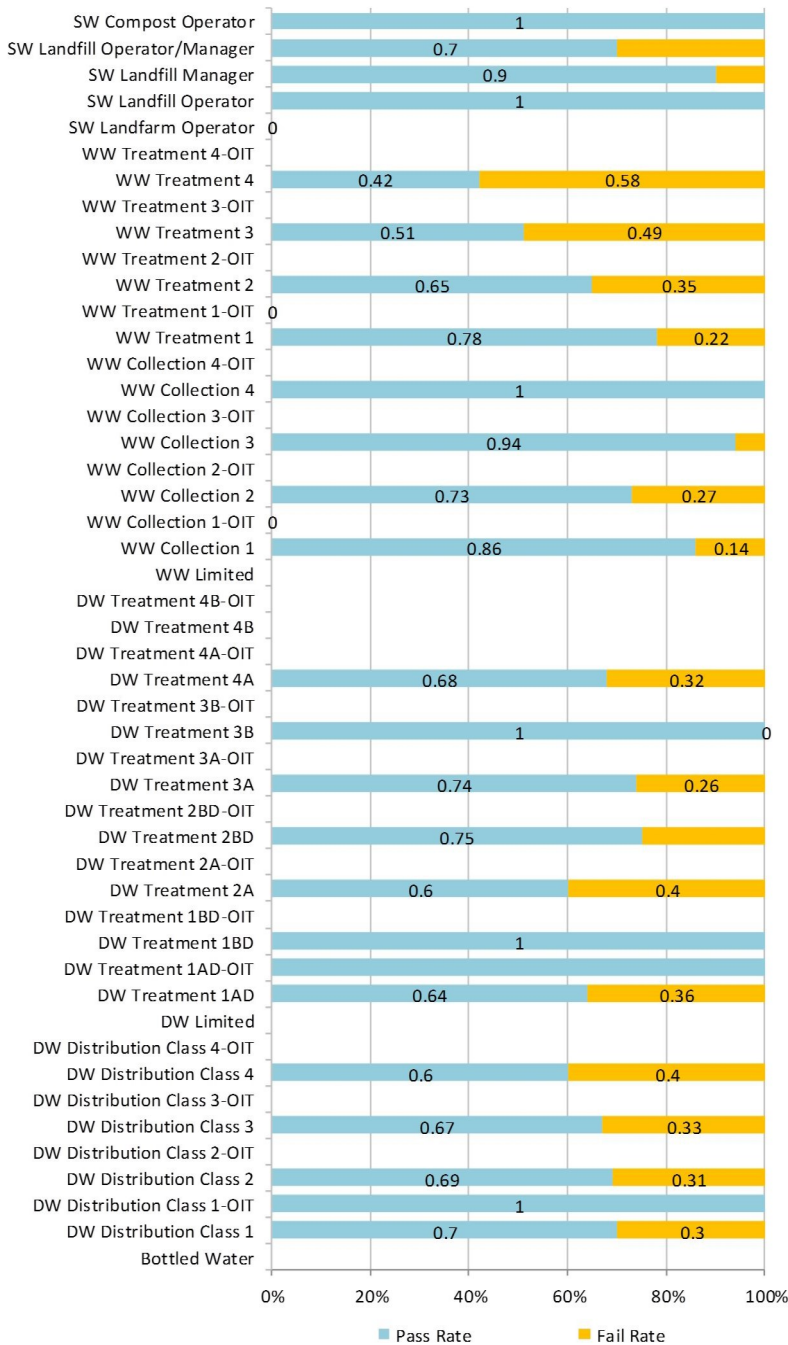


Licenses

Active Licenses



FY15 Pass-Fail Rates



New and Upgraded Licenses



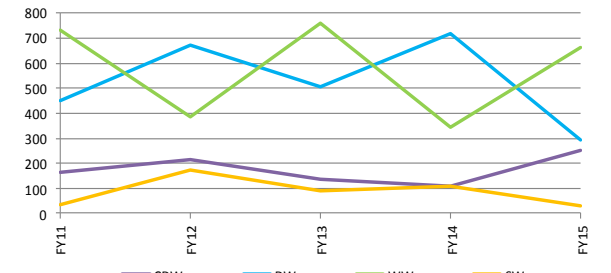
Training

Number of Training Hours Provided



CDW-- courses offered for both drinking water and wastewater continuing education hours

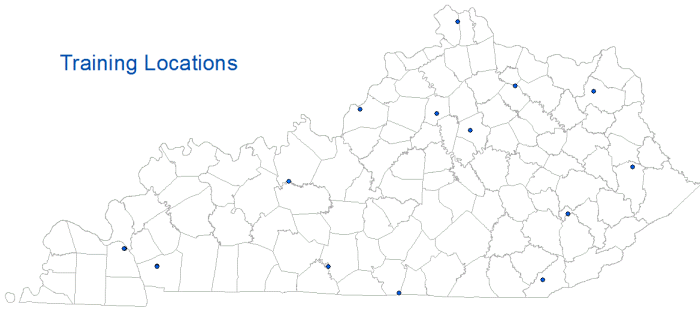
Number of Attendees



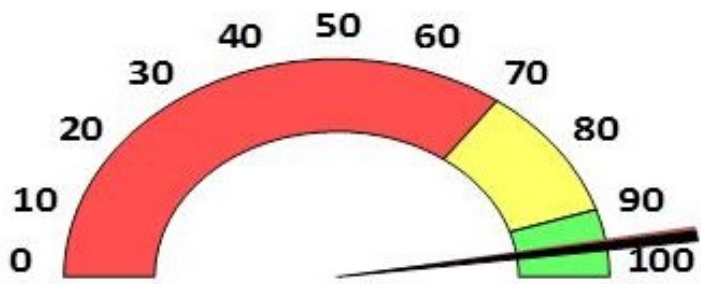
CDW-- courses offered for both drinking water and wastewater continuing education hours

Training

Training Locations



Attendee Training Satisfaction





Contact Information:
Division of Compliance Assistance
300 Fair Oaks Lane
Frankfort, KY 40601

Phone: 502-564-0323
Email: envhelp@ky.gov
Fax: 502-564-9720

