

July 2009

eBusiness Center Ohio EPA's Business Portal

If you are subject to Ohio's environmental rules and regulations, doing business with Ohio EPA is a fact of life. With the introduction of Ohio EPA's eBusiness Center, your life just got a little easier.

Ohio EPA's eBusiness Center is a new, secure portal for online business services.

The eBusiness Center is the entry point for the regulated community and consultants to electronically complete and file reports and permit applications.

In the future, you will even be able to pay fees online.

Why eBusiness?

The main goal of the eBusiness Center is to provide an easy to use, reliable and secure one-stop shop for Ohio EPA services.

The three main features of the Agency's eBusiness Center are ease of use, reliability and secure data submission and retrieval.

Other benefits include:

- improved data collection;
- rapid verification and updating of Ohio EPA's main database entries;
- reduced staff time for maintenance of various reporting functions; and development of unique user personal identification number (PIN) that may be used for all electronic submissions to the Agency.

Under the Cross-Media Electronic Reporting Rule, U.S. EPA requires all states to collect, process and manage specific data electronically. Ohio also has an equivalent rule, the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, created under Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Chapter 1306.

The eBusiness Center will help ensure that Ohio EPA and the regulated community can meet these requirements.

When fully operational, the eBusiness Center will:

- provide access to various reporting functions;
- streamline the payment process;
- enable users to apply for new permits and permit modifications electronically; and
- improve the validity and coordination of Ohio EPA's data.

Who will use the eBusiness Center?

Potential users include:

- owners of small and large businesses;
- consultants/engineering firms;
- laboratories;
- water and wastewater treatment plant operators;
- community and local government officials;
- administrative support/data entry technicians;

- utility directors and employees;
- regulated facilities; and
- hazardous waste generators and management facilities.

What services are available?

To ensure a smooth start and to allow for various testing of the associated applications, Ohio EPA is rolling out the eBusiness Center-associated applications on a staggered schedule.

The Division of Surface Water (DSW) has already introduced the eBusiness Center to facilities that regularly report water quality data. To date, more than 3,200 facilities are using the system to submit monthly operating reports to the Agency.

The latest division to make services available through the eBusiness Center is the Division of Air Pollution Control (DAPC).

Other divisions planning to integrate their business services into the eBusiness Center include the Division of Drinking and Ground Waters; Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management; and Division of Hazardous Waste Management.

Because divisions will come online at different times, Ohio EPA is working hard to ensure that all users receive the training and assistance needed as they begin using the new eBusiness Center.

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Advantages of eBusiness Center

In addition to its ease of use, the eBusiness Center has numerous advantages.

Users do not need to upgrade their existing computer systems because there is no need to download or install separate data reporting and application software.

With the eBusiness Center, users will receive immediate verification of successful data submission and be able to track the status of applications submitted to the Agency.

Other benefits to users include:

- secured site with privileged access, account management, integrated functionality and personalization;
- one PIN for all services;

- flexibility to enter and submit data at any time;
- secure user identification codes and data entry/ submission;
- ability to save partially completed applications and reports for later submittal;
- reduced paperwork;
- increased reliability;
- reduced postage and copying costs; and
- ability to create multiple user accounts and assign varying levels of responsibility.

Benefits to Ohio EPA include:

- reduced staff time required for data entry;
- increased reliability that data is accurate;
- ability to quickly disseminate information to customers;

- integration into the current electronic business environment;
- creation of a reliable self-tracking mechanism for data submittals; and
- reduced paperwork.

More Information

To log in to Ohio EPA's eBusiness Center, go to <https://ebiz.epa.ohio.gov>.

For more information about the eBusiness Center, contact the appropriate Ohio EPA division employee listed below or the eBusiness Center Helpdesk by e-mail at ebizhelpdesk@epa.state.oh.us or phone at (877) 372-2499 (1-877-EPA-BIZZ).

eBusiness Center

Who do I contact for help?

For general questions about the eBusiness Center, please contact the eBusiness Center Helpdesk by e-mail at ebizhelpdesk@epa.state.oh.us or phone at (877) 372-2499 (1-877-EPA-BIZZ). For service-specific questions, please contact the employees listed below.

Division of Air Pollution Control (Air Services)	Linda Lazich	linda.lazich@epa.state.oh.us	(614) 644-3626
Division of Drinking and Ground Waters (e-Drinking Water Reports)	Brian Tarver	brian.tarver@epa.state.oh.us	(614) 644-2752
Division of Hazardous Waste Management (eDRUMS)	Paula Canter	paula.canter@epa.state.oh.us	(614) 644-2917
Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management (DSIWM Disposal Fees)	Scott Wilson	scott.wilson@epa.state.oh.us	(614) 644-2621
Division of Surface Water (eDMR)	Jamie Roberts	james.roberts@epa.state.oh.us	(614) 644-2054