

# Environmental Compliance

The Facilities Management Division is responsible for assuring that County facilities comply with various Federal, State and Local environmental regulations.

This includes the managing and overseeing the County's Underground Storage Tank Compliance Program, the Asbestos Operation & Maintenance Program, Disposal of Hazardous and Non-Hazardous waste, investigation, resolution of indoor air quality, lead-based paint, mold, environmental/occupational health complaints, as well as providing technical assistance to other County Departments and Agencies.

The Facilities Management Division section is committed to ensuring a healthy and safe work environment for all county employees and occupants and to resolving complaints in a professional and thorough manner

## FAQ's

### **What has the County done regarding asbestos-containing materials in our building?**

In 2012, Facilities Department contracted with an Environmental Consulting firm to provide updates to the existing comprehensive building inspections of asbestos-containing materials and/or hazardous materials in all county owned buildings under the control of the Facilities Department. The project included the development of Operation and Maintenance Plans for each facility to manage any remaining materials in place, and awareness training for custodial/maintenance personnel and management personnel. Two-hour OSHA Asbestos training classes for individuals who may come into contact or disturb these materials has been being conducted.

### **What should I do if I suspect an indoor air quality issue?**

The following procedures shall be followed if you wish to report an Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) issue in a county-owned or leased building.

- Try to identify or isolate the source.
- Speak to your immediate supervisor and have him or her contact Assistant Director, Anthony Matre at 513-946-5030. Make sure all the information is accurate and correct. If the problem is determined to be an immediate health hazard, please follow your Department's Procedures for responding to Medical Emergencies. Employees should report all indoor air quality concerns to their immediate supervisor.
- If the indoor air quality complaint is not an emergency, or does not require 911, then County Facilities should try to identify or isolate the source. The immediate supervisor or should contact the Building Superintendent. The Building Manager will investigate and contact an outside consultant if they think they are needed to resolve the complaint. If

- the complaint cannot be resolved, then contact the Director of County Facilities, Ralph Linne at 513-946-5025 or [rwl@cms.hamilton-co.org](mailto:rwl@cms.hamilton-co.org) for assistance.
- Once the complaint is logged to the Department of County Facilities, the designated IAQ investigator will assign an incident number and schedule a meeting with the immediate supervisor to investigate the complaint and issue a written report after the complaint is resolved.

Good indoor air quality within a building requires a concerted effort by everyone who works in that building. Building management, maintenance, and housekeeping personnel cannot bear the full responsibility for good indoor air quality. All County employees can help by keeping work areas clean, familiarizing themselves with potential sources of pollutants, and taking an active part in helping to identify and correct problems.

### **What about our Underground Storage Tanks?**

The Facilities Management Division is responsible for assuring all required inspections and record keeping are properly done and documented for the ten (10) Underground Storage Tanks.

On an annual basis the County pays its annual premium for ten (10) Underground Storage Tanks per Section 3737.91 of the Ohio Revised Code. All Ohio petroleum UST owners are required both under provisions of federal and Ohio law to demonstrate “financial responsibility.” Financial responsibility is the ability to pay for the costs of corrective actions (environmental clean-up) and third-party liability (bodily injury or property damage) as a result of an accidental petroleum release.

The Ohio Petroleum Underground Storage Tank Release Compensation Board (PUSTR) consists of government and industry representatives and has the primary responsibility of administering the Petroleum Financials Assurance Fund. The “Fund” is a source of money derived from mandatory per-tank fees and is available to eligible underground storage tank owners to reimburse petroleum release clean up costs.