



# EPA Overview

Vicki Arroyo, Associate Administrator

Office of Policy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

# Outline

- ▶ EPA's origin story
- ▶ Landmark environmental laws we implement
- ▶ Early successes
- ▶ EPA's mission & tools to accomplish it
- ▶ New opportunities & challenges
- ▶ How do NEYAC members fit in?

# Poor Quality

---

Air pollution was widespread in American cities in the 1960s & 1970s.

East River and Manhattan Skyline, New York



Cleveland, Ohio



Los Angeles, California



Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



Birmingham, Alabama



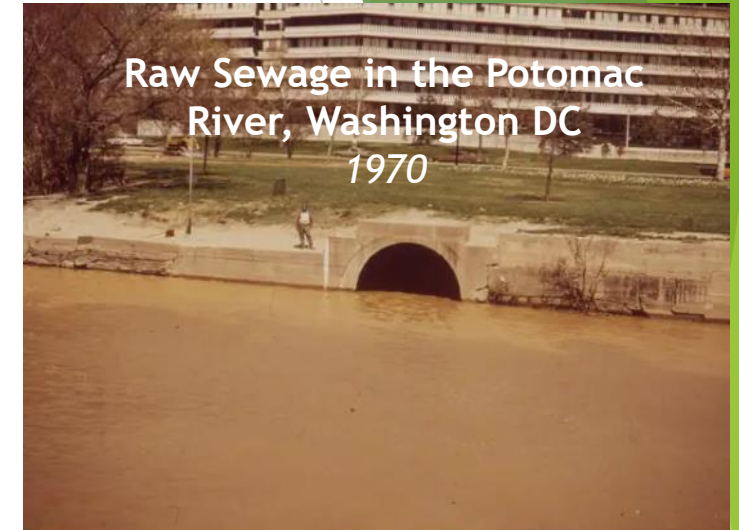


# Polluted Water

Waters across the U.S. were horribly polluted as well.



Cuyahoga River Fire  
*June 22, 1969*



Raw Sewage in the Potomac  
River, Washington DC  
*1970*



“Lake Erie is dead.”  
*January 1966*



Santa Barbara Oil Disaster  
*January 1969*



New Orleans, Lake Pontchartrain  
*1973*



# Growing Calls for Action

Public awareness of pollution's health effects increased, leading to protests for government action.



Water Pollution Hearings in Cleveland  
1968



National "Teach-In" Planning Begins  
December 1969



First Earth Day  
April 22, 1970

# Creation of EPA

---

First EPA Administrator,  
William Ruckelshaus Sworn In  
*December 4, 1970*





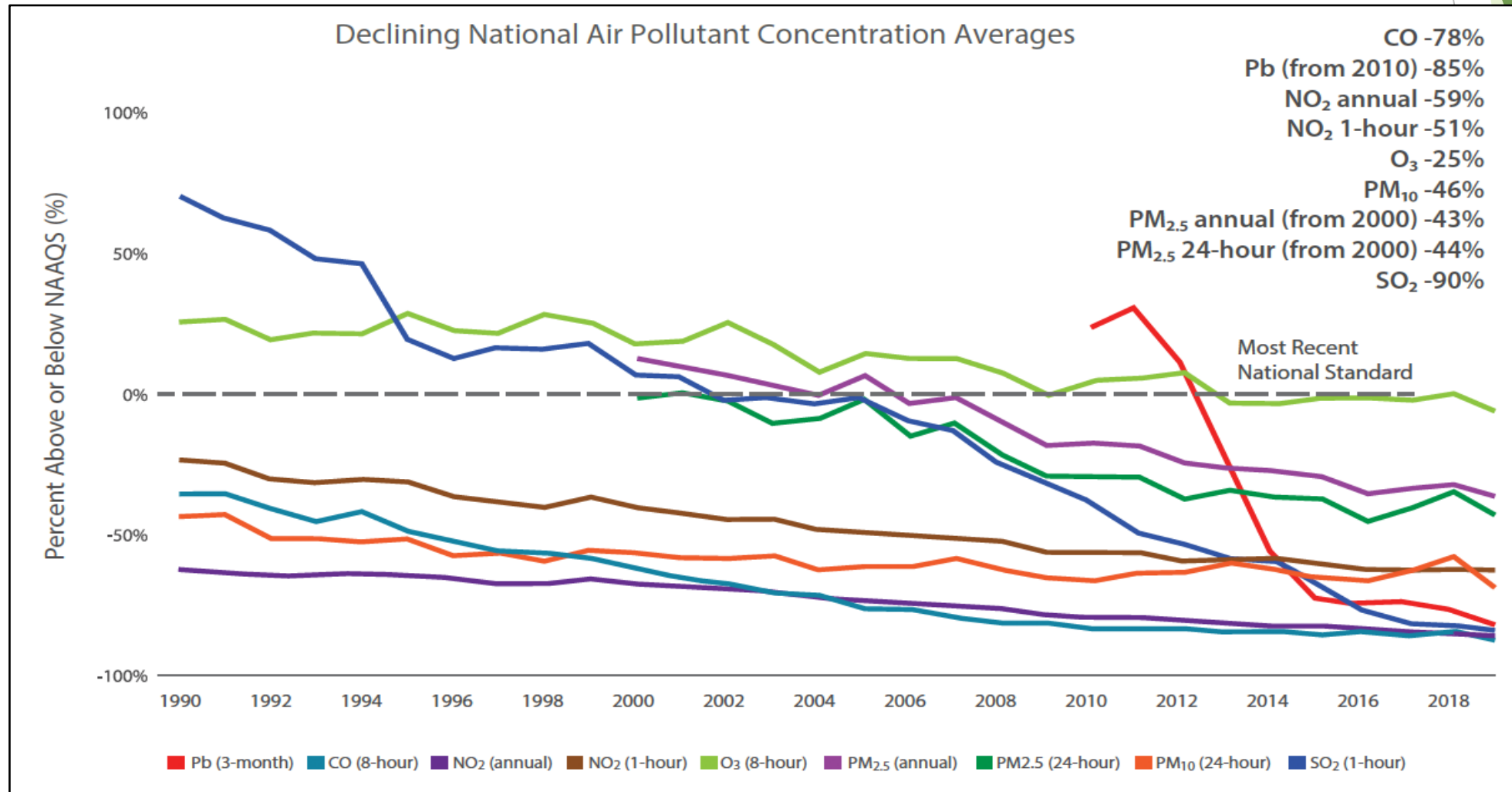
# Landmark Environmental Laws

---

- ▶ **1970:** Clean Air Act (CAA)
- ▶ **1972:** Clean Water Act (CWA)
- ▶ **1972:** Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)
- ▶ **1974:** Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA)
- ▶ **1976:** Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)
- ▶ **1976:** Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)
- ▶ **1980:** Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA or "Superfund").

# Clean Air Improvements (Office of Air & Radiation)

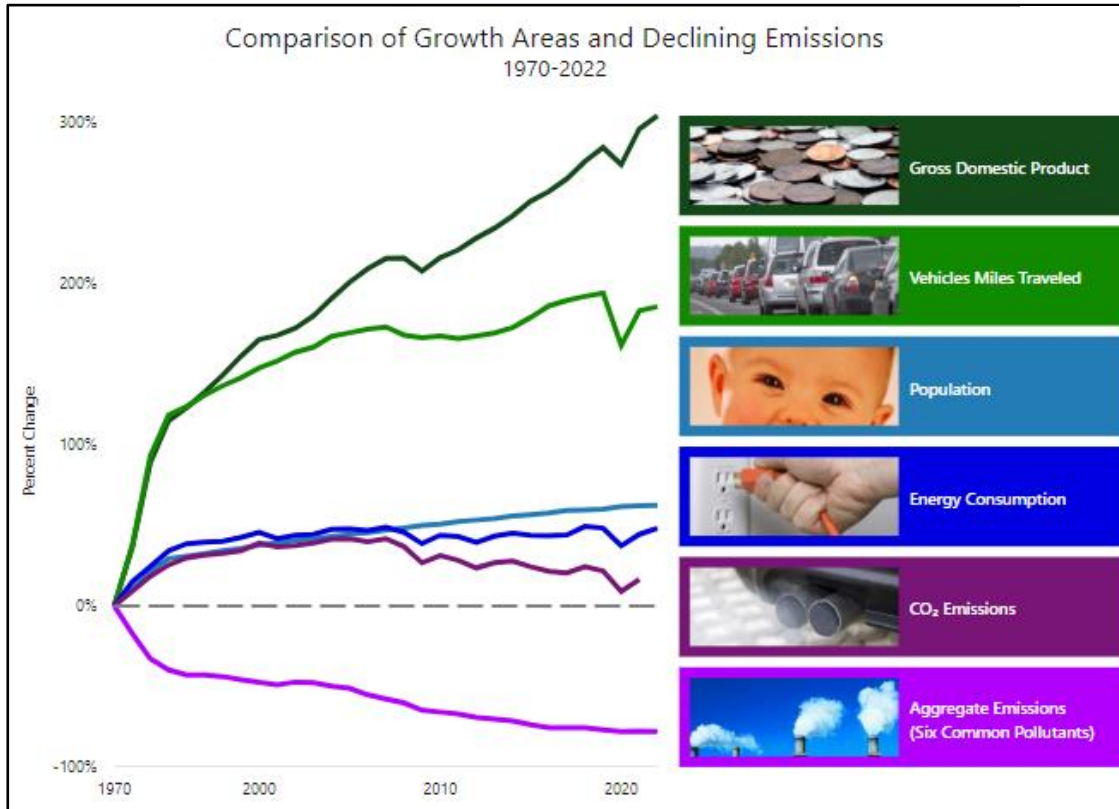
## Air Quality Trends Show Clean Air Progress



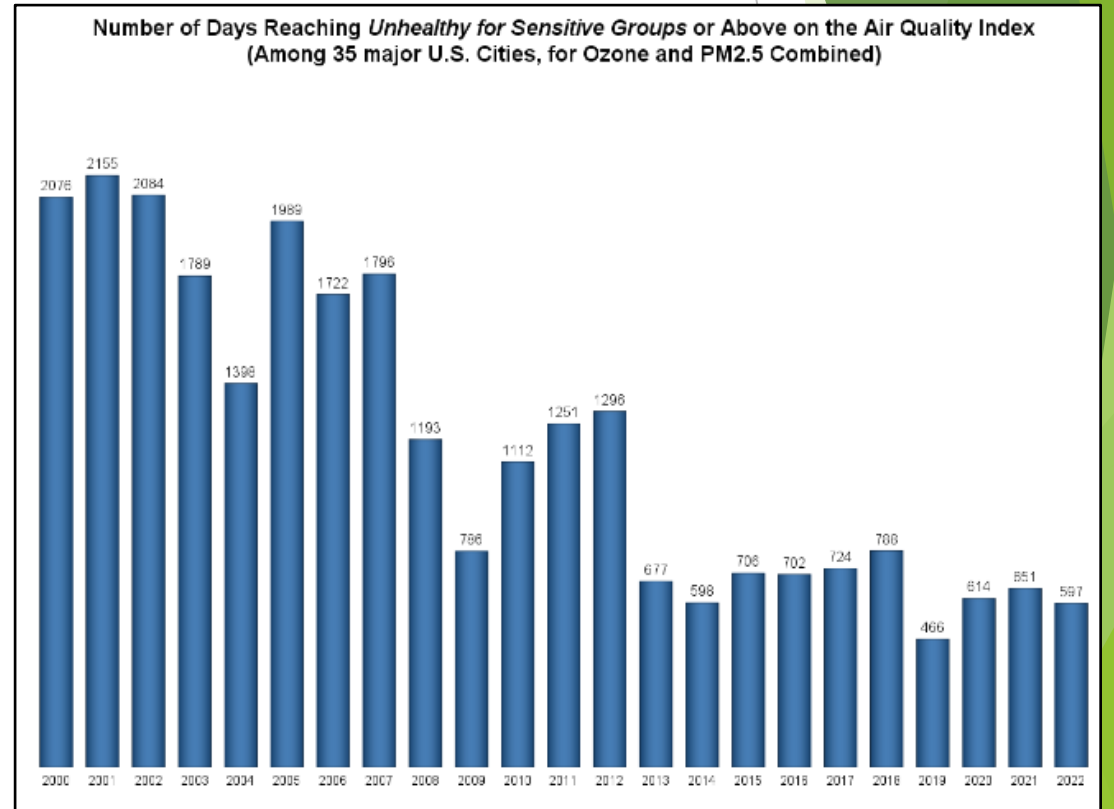


# Clean Air Improvements

## Economic Growth



## Reduction in Unhealthy Air Quality Days



# Clean Water Act Impacts (Office of Water)

## Reducing Pollution and Protecting Our Waterways

- ▶ 700 billion pounds of pollution have been diverted from America's rivers.
- ▶ Funded approximately 35,000 grants totaling \$1 trillion, invested towards curbing water pollution.
- ▶ Number of waters that meet clean water goals has doubled since 1972.

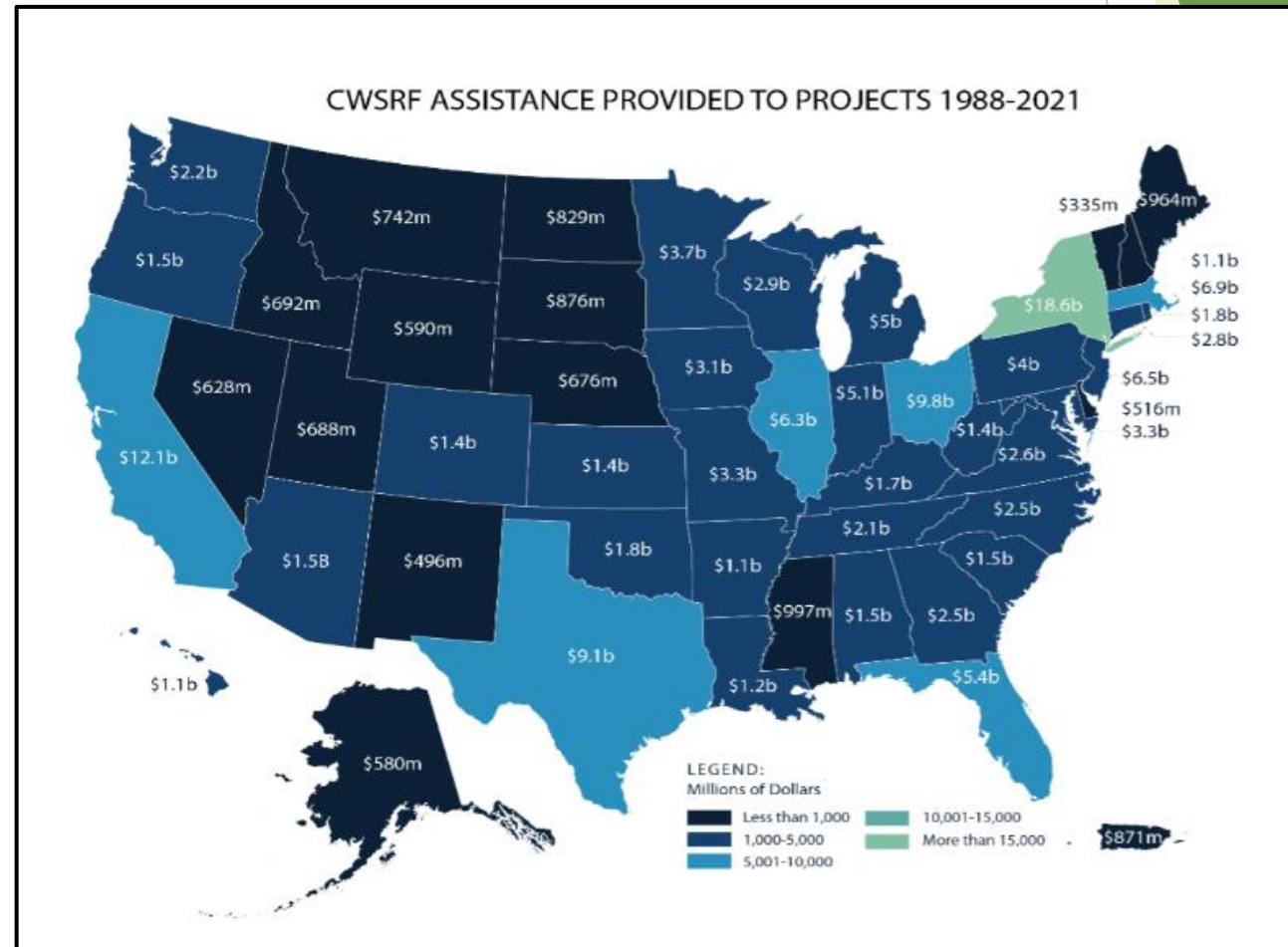


# Clean Water Act Impacts

## Infrastructure Investments

**Clean Water State Revolving Funds** are federal-state partnerships to provide communities low-cost financing for a wide range of water quality infrastructure projects.

- ▶ \$15 billion provided through over 44,500 low-cost loans since 1988.





# Safe Drinking Water Act Impacts

## Improved drinking water quality

- ▶ Created enforceable drinking water standards across the country
- ▶ EPA has established protective drinking water standards for more than 90 contaminants
- ▶ Standards for PFAS proposed in 2023





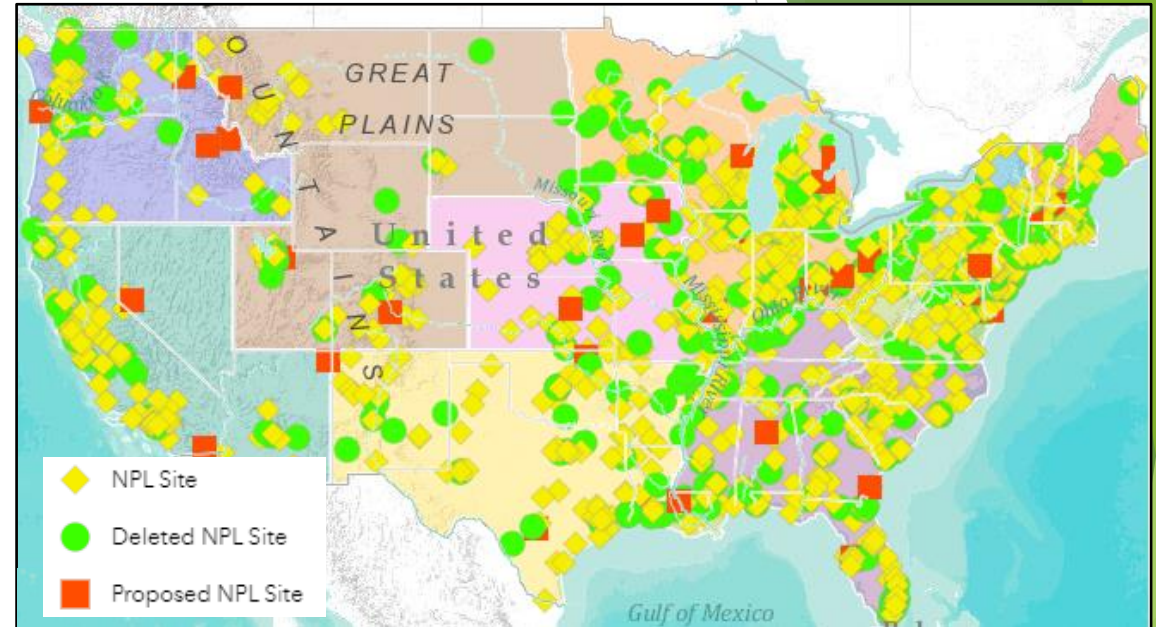
# Waste disposal concerns pre-regulation



# Office of Land & Emergency Management activities

- ▶ Since RCRA was passed in 1976, EPA established the framework for a national system of solid waste control.
- ▶ Since CERCLA was passed in 1980, over 450 Superfund sites have been cleaned up.
- ▶ EPA responds to natural disasters, oil spills, chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear incidents and large-scale national emergencies, including homeland security incidents.

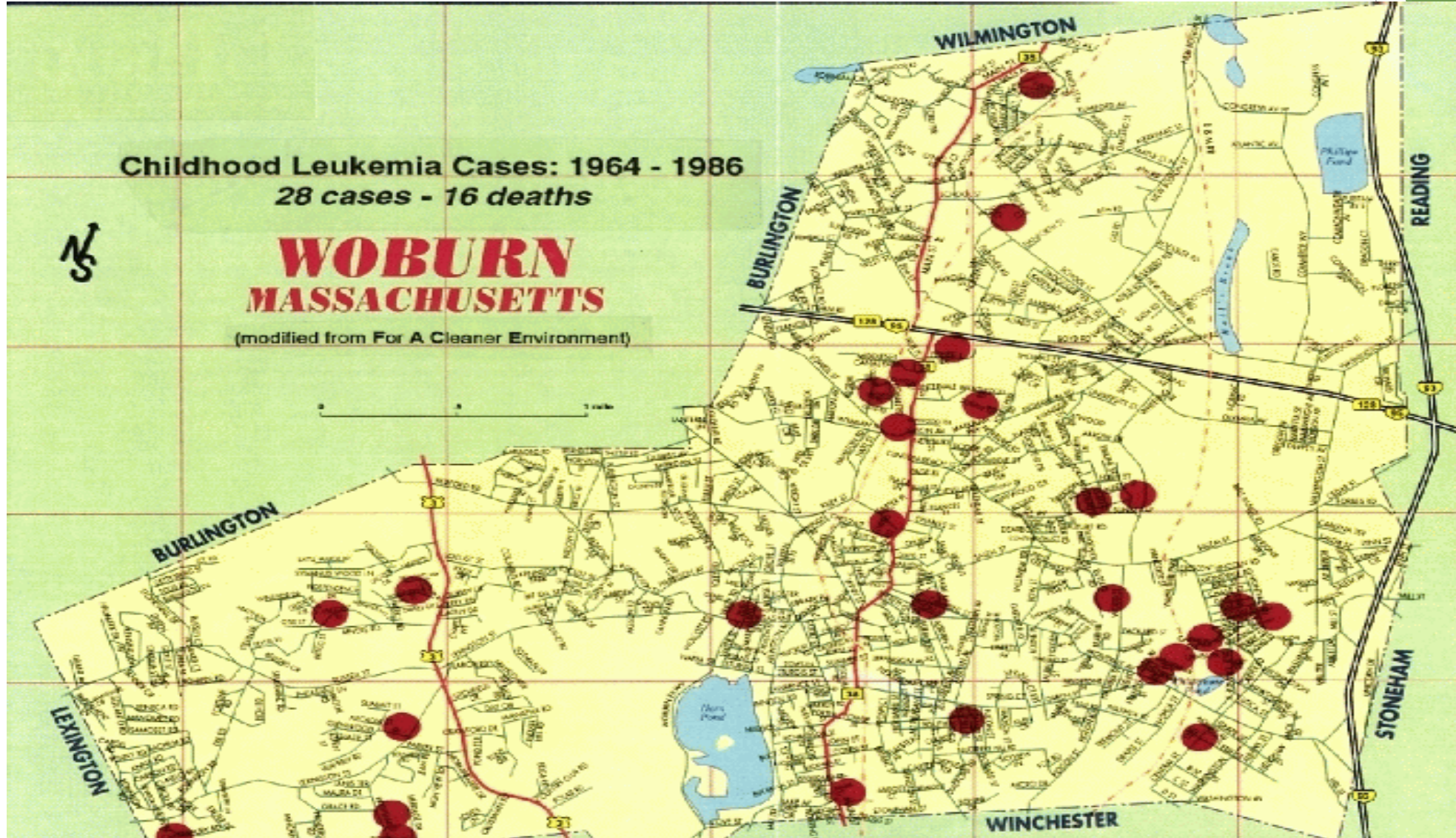
## National Priorities List Cleanups



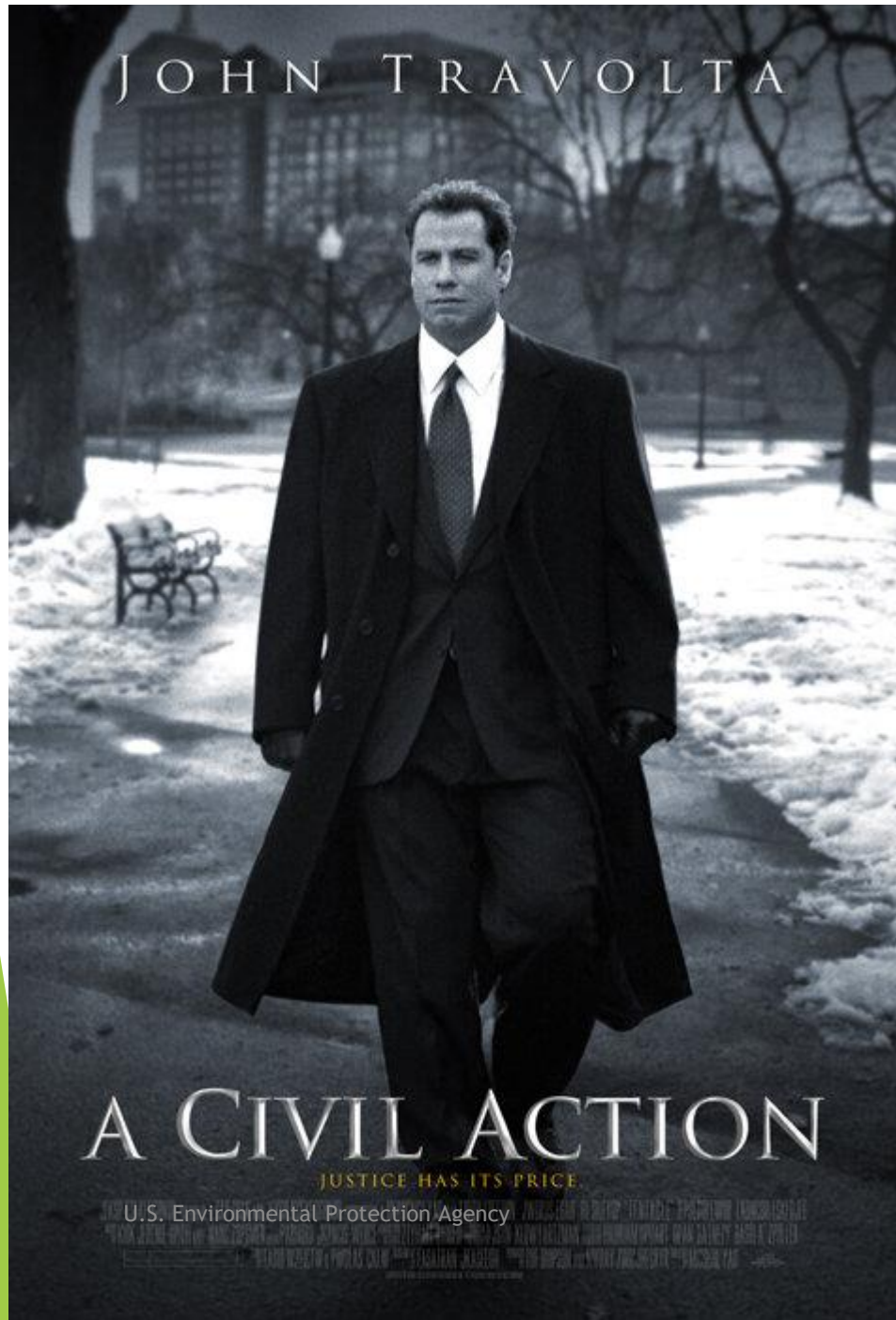
On-Scene Coordinators



# Toxic Substances







# Office of Chemical Safety & Pollution Prevention

## EPA proposes full ban on chemical linked to Woburn leukemia cluster

The childhood cancer cases and subsequent litigation were chronicled in 'A Civil Action.'

By [Vivi Smilgus](#) Globe Correspondent, Updated October 23, 2023, 4:35 p.m.



WATCH: TCE tied to 21 deadly cases of cancer in kids between 1969 and 1986. Correspondent Vivi Smilgus explains why people are still being exposed.

Senator Ed Markey joined Environmental Protection Agency senior leaders in Woburn on Monday to announce a proposed ban on a chemical behind a cluster of deadly childhood cancer cases in the city, events chronicled in the book and movie "A Civil Action."

Trichloroethylene, also known as TCE, has been tied to birth defects, reproductive problems, and to [21 cases](#) of childhood leukemia diagnosed in Woburn between 1969 and 1986.

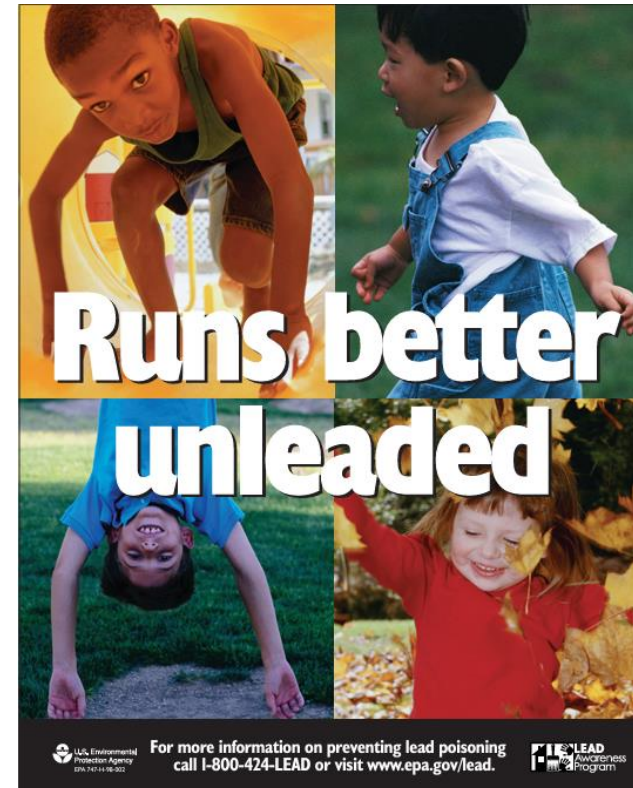
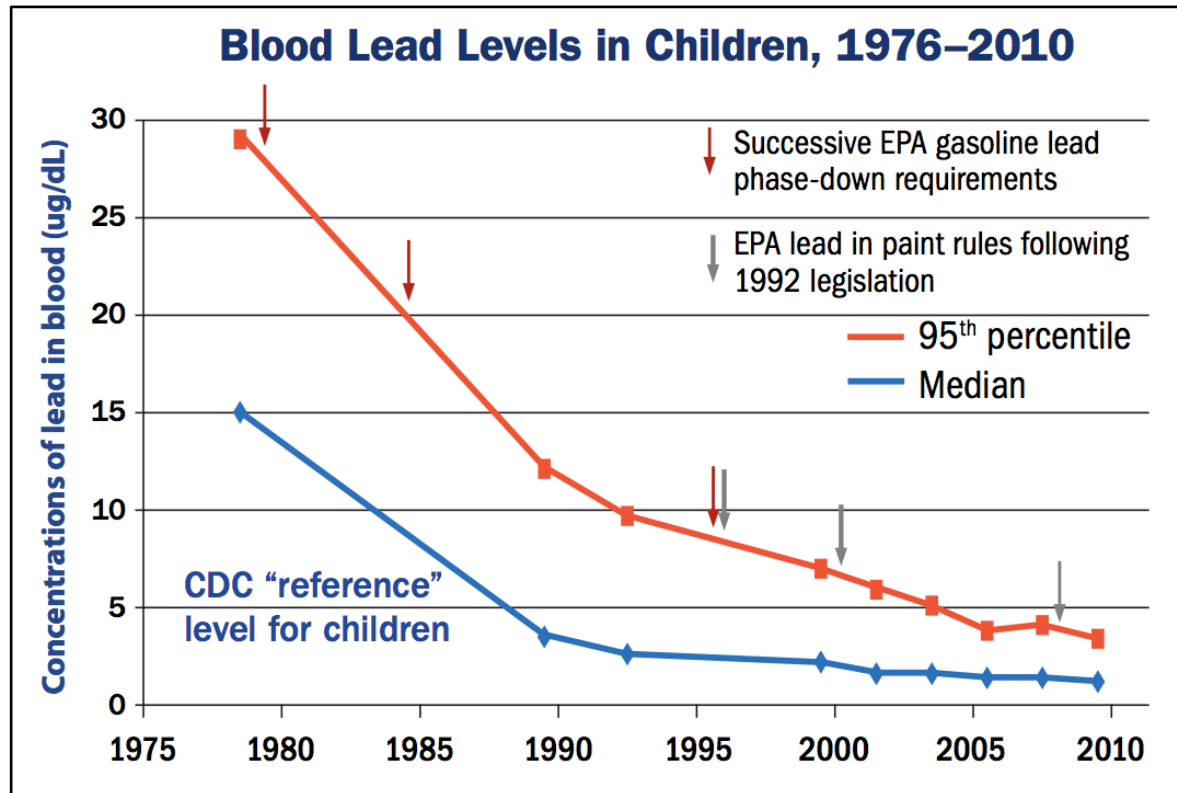
TCE is still used in commercial and consumer products, including cleaning products, aerosols, and refrigerants. It is banned in Europe, New York, and Minnesota.

"TCE is a clear and present danger to human health," Markey said in an interview Sunday. "It causes cancer by any route of exposure, and it's linked to toxicity for the nervous system, kidney, liver, immune system, reproductive system. Once we know a chemical is deadly, we need to get it out of circulation."



# Addressing Lead Exposure

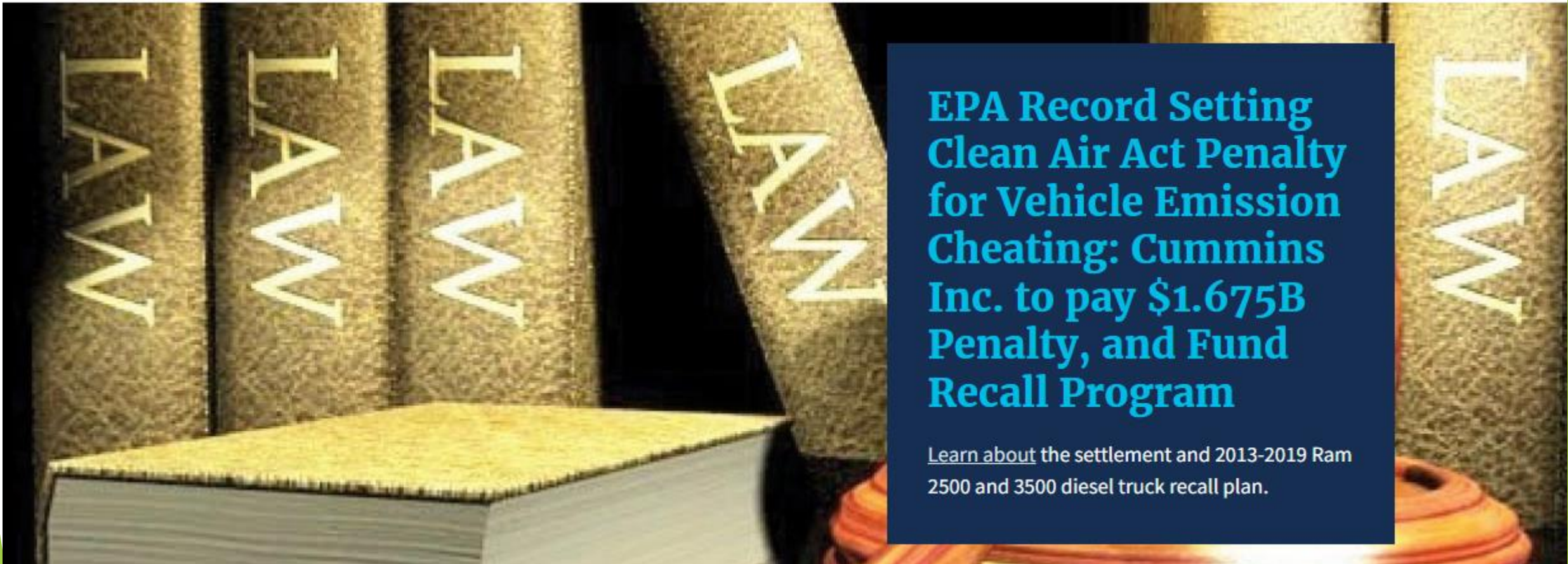
Combined actions from EPA, HUD, and CDC significantly reduced blood lead levels in children between 1972 and 2010.





# Environmental Enforcement (Office of Enforcement & Compliance Assurance)

---



**EPA Record Setting  
Clean Air Act Penalty  
for Vehicle Emission  
Cheating: Cummins  
Inc. to pay \$1.675B  
Penalty, and Fund  
Recall Program**

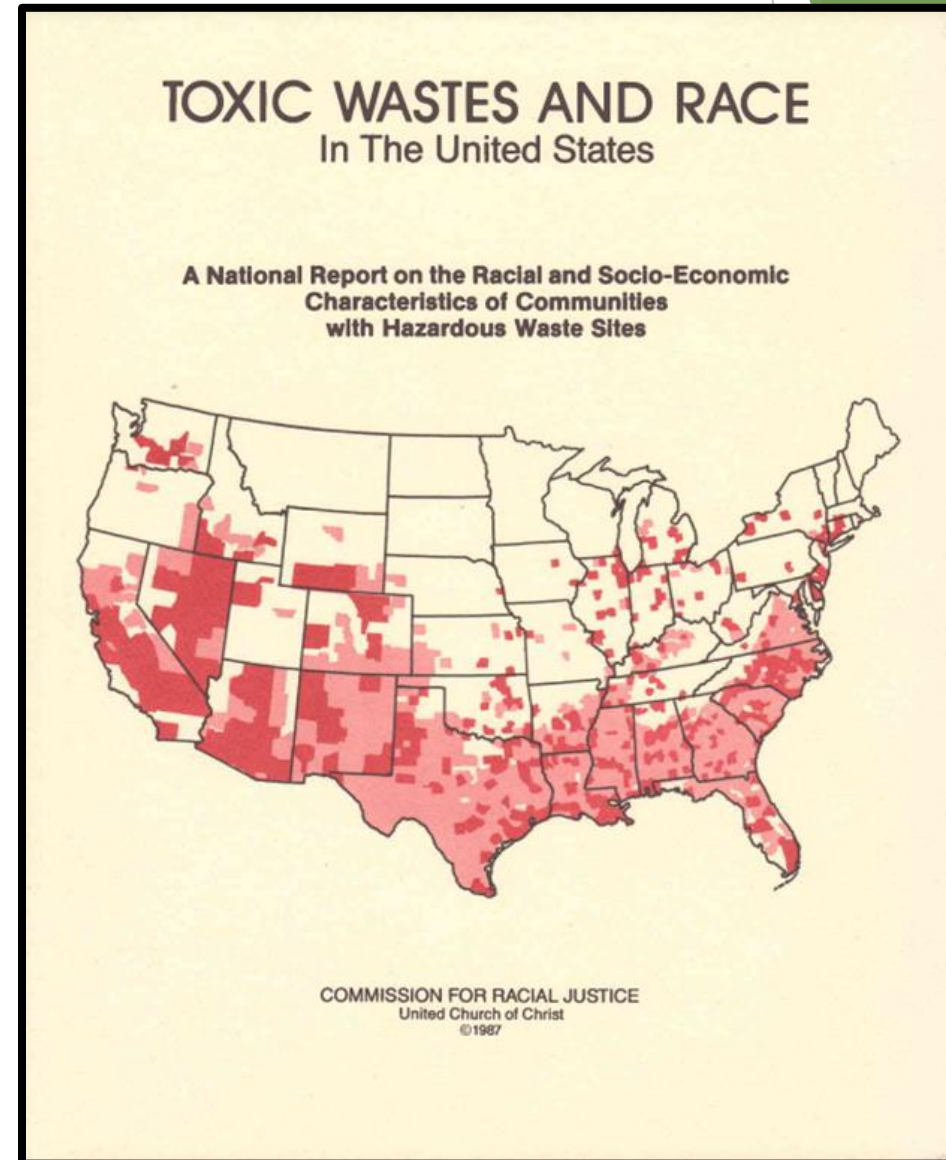
[Learn about](#) the settlement and 2013-2019 Ram 2500 and 3500 diesel truck recall plan.

# Environmental Justice

All communities have not benefited equally from environmental protection

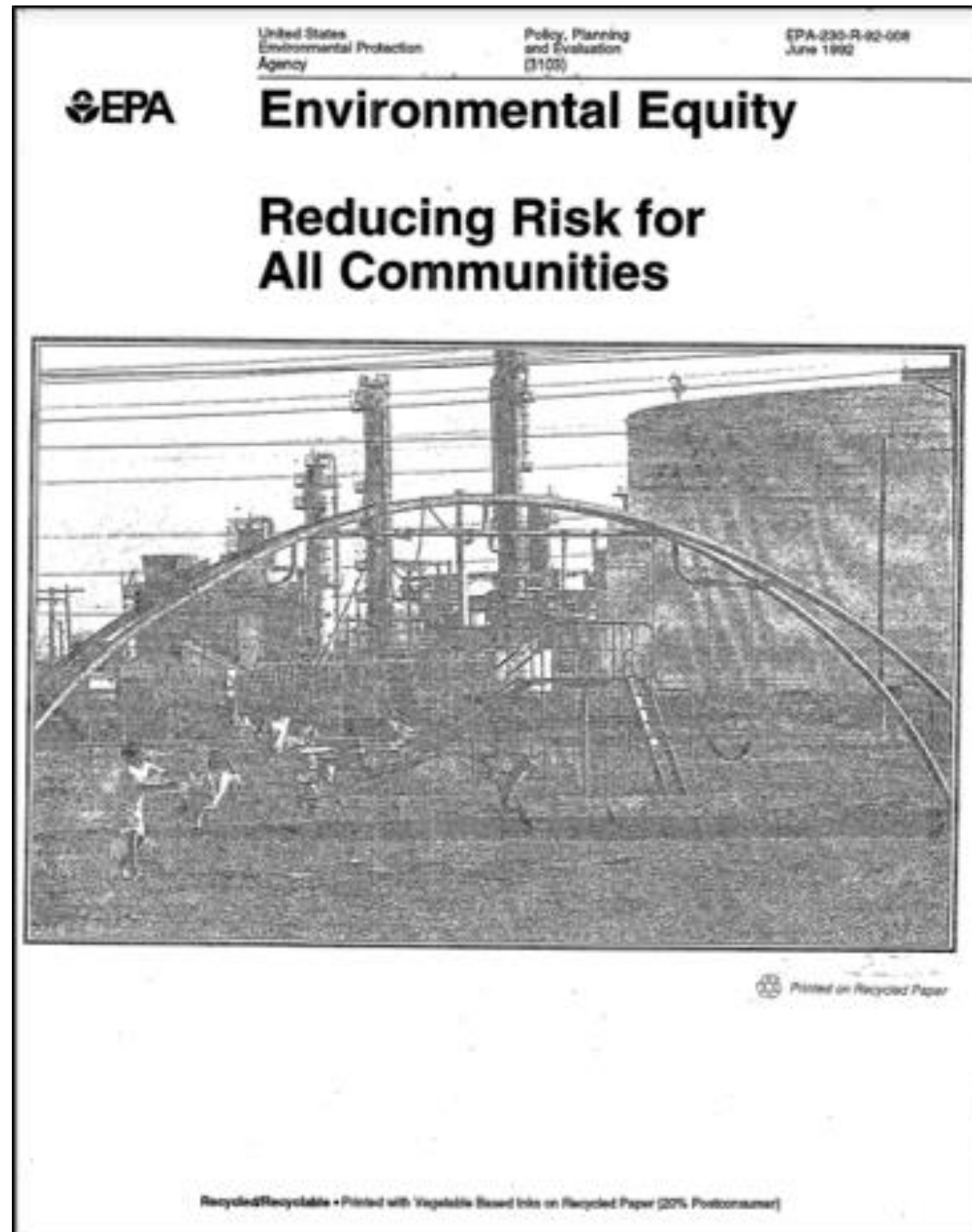


Warren County, NC. Sept. 16, 1982. Photo: AP





1992



# Journey to Justice





# Environmental Justice

---

Creation of new National Program Office:  
Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights



Warren County, NC  
September 2022

# Climate Change

---

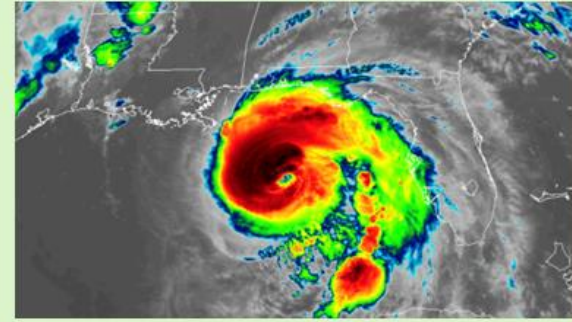
**Flooding**



**Rising Seas & Melting Ice**



**More Intense Hurricanes**



**Wildfires**



**Drought**



**Extreme Heat**

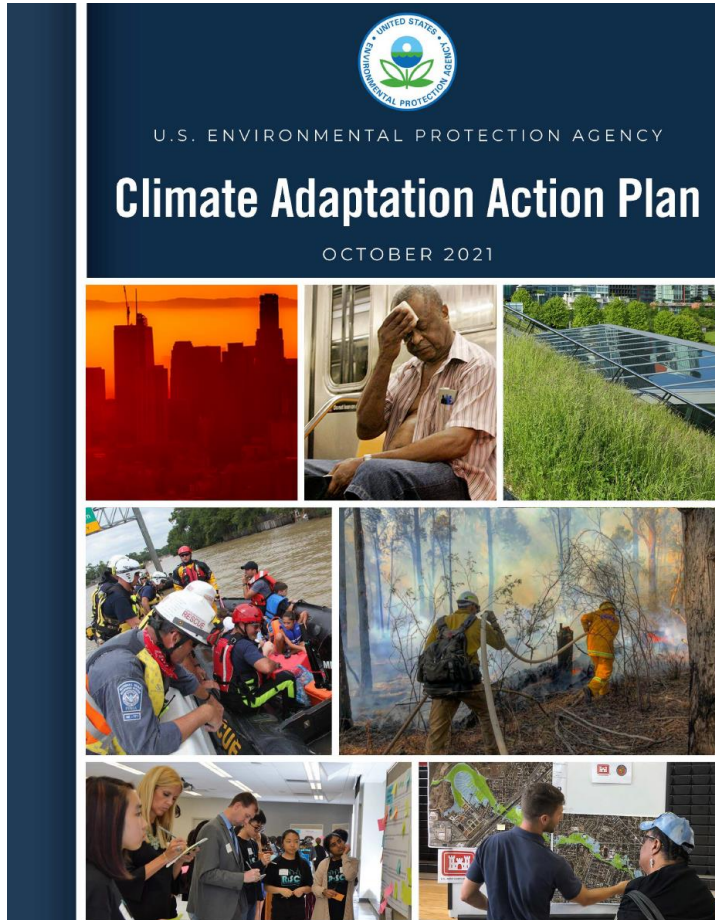


**Air Quality**





# Climate Adaptation Action Plan

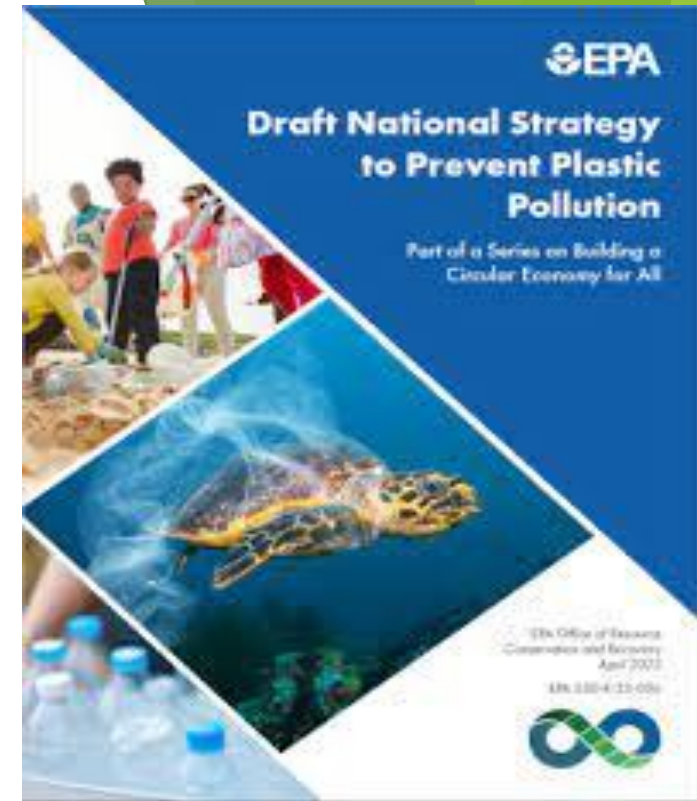
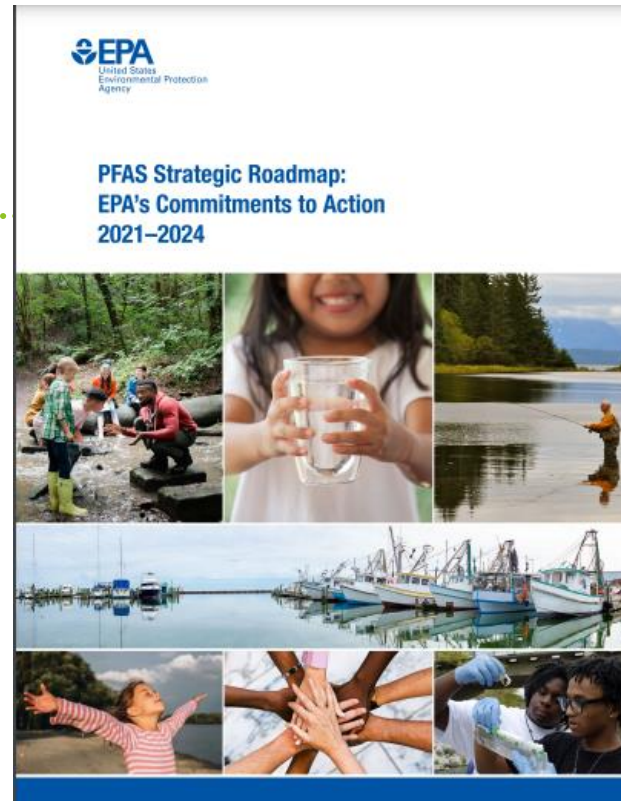


## Agency-wide Climate Adaptation Priorities

1. Integrate climate adaptation into Agency programs, policies, rulemaking processes, and enforcement activities.
2. Partner with states, Tribes, territories, local governments, and other federal agencies to increase the resilience of the nation, with a focus on advancing environmental justice.
3. Implement measures to protect Agency workforce, facilities, critical infrastructure, supply chains, and procurement processes from risks posed by climate change.
4. Measure and evaluate performance.
5. Identify and address climate adaptation science needs.

# Emerging Issues

- ▶ Plastic pollution
- ▶ Tire wear particles - 6PPD
- ▶ Food waste
- ▶ PFAS





# EPA Organizational Chart

## Office of the Administrator

Office of Administrative and Executive Services (OAES)	Office of Children's Health Protection (OCHP)	Office of Civil Rights (OCR)	Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations (OCIR)
Office of the Executive Secretariat (OEX)	Office of Homeland Security (OHS)	Office of Policy (OP)	Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Office of Public Engagement and Environmental Education (OPEEE)	Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU)	Office of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (OGGRF)	Science Advisory Board (SAB)

## Program Offices

Office of Air and Radiation (OAR)	Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights (OEJECR)
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSP)	Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM)
Office of Enforcement and Compliance (OECA)	Office of Water (OW)

## Support Offices

Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO)	Office of International and Tribal Affairs (OITA)
Office of General Counsel (OGC)	Office of Mission Support (OMS)
Office of Inspector General (OIG)	Office of Research and Development

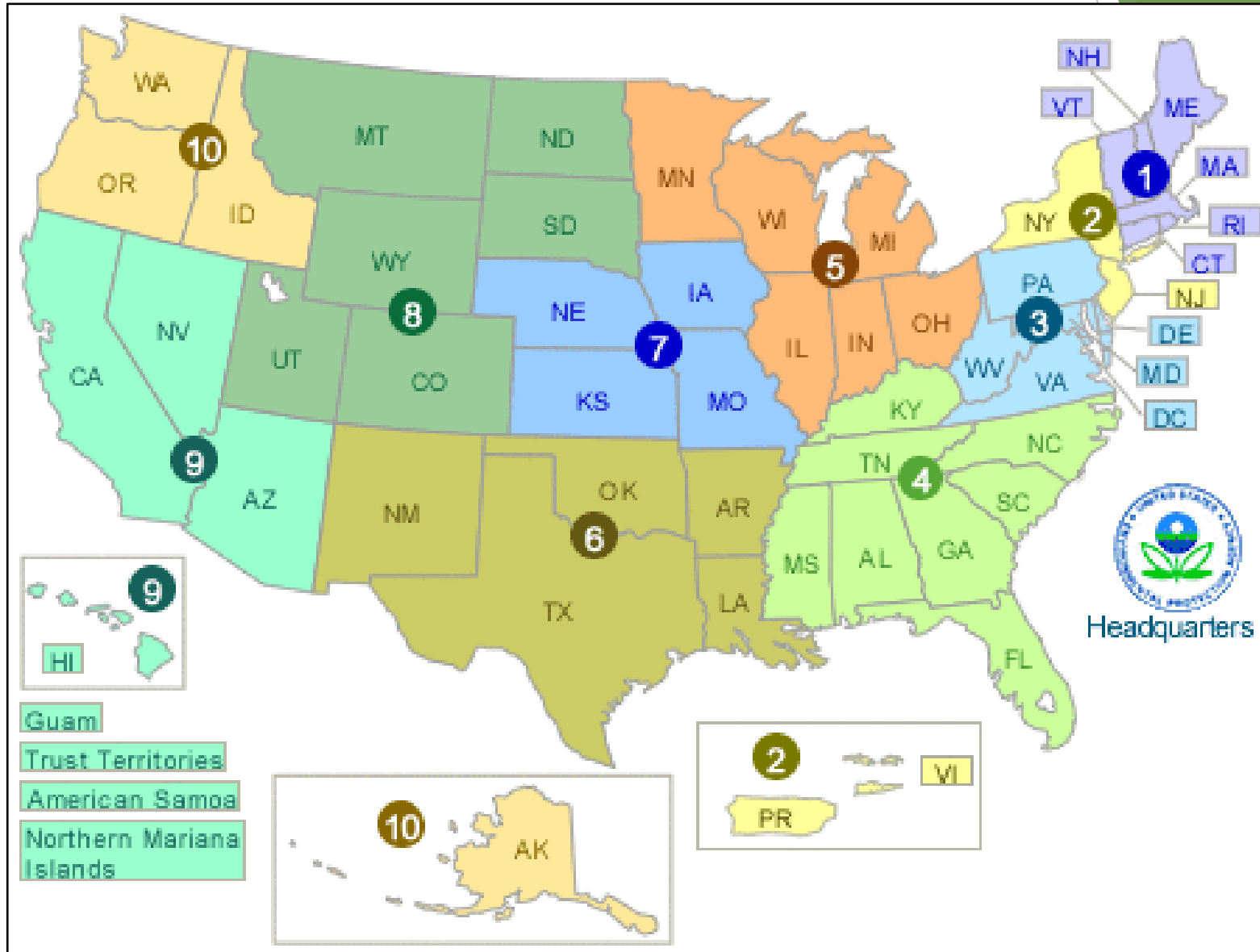
## Regional Offices

Region 1 (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT)	Region 6 (AR, LA, NM, OK, TX)
Region 2 (NJ, NY, PR, VI)	Region 7 (IA, KS, MO, NE)
Region 3 (DC, DE, MD, PA, VA, WV)	Region 8 (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY)
Region 4 (AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN)	Region 9 (AS, AZ, CA, CNMI, HI, MH, PW, NV)
Region 5 (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI)	Region 10 (AK, ID, OR, WA)

# EPA Regions

## Regional Headquarters

- Region 1 - Boston
- Region 2 - New York
- Region 3 - Philadelphia
- Region 4 - Atlanta
- Region 5 - Chicago
- Region 6 - Dallas
- Region 7 - Kansas City
- Region 8 - Denver
- Region 9 - San Francisco
- Region 10 - Seattle





# FY 2022-2026 EPA Strategic Plan Framework

**Mission:** To Protect Human Health and the Environment

**Principles:** Follow the Science, Follow the Law, Be Transparent, Advance Justice and Equity



## Strategy 1:

Ensure Scientific Integrity and Science-Based Decision Making



## Strategy 2:

Consider the Health of Children at All Life Stages and Other Vulnerable Populations



## Strategy 3:

Advance EPA's Organizational Excellence and Workforce Equity



## Strategy 4:

Strengthen Tribal, State, and Local Partnerships and Enhance Engagement



## Goal 1:

Tackle the Climate Crisis

- **Obj 1.1:** Reduce Emissions that Cause Climate Change
- **Obj 1.2:** Accelerate Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts
- **Obj 1.3:** Advance International and Subnational Climate Efforts



## Goal 2:

Take Decisive Action to Advance Environmental Justice and Civil Rights

- **Obj 2.1:** Promote Environmental Justice and Civil Rights at the Federal, Tribal, State, and Local Levels
- **Obj 2.2:** Embed Environmental Justice and Civil Rights into EPA's Programs, Policies, and Activities
- **Obj 2.3:** Strengthen Civil Rights Enforcement in Communities with Environmental Justice Concerns



## Goal 3:

Enforce Environmental Laws and Ensure Compliance

- **Obj 3.1:** Hold Environmental Violators and Responsible Parties Accountable
- **Obj 3.2:** Detect Violations and Promote Compliance



## Goal 4:

Ensure Clean and Healthy Air for All Communities

- **Obj 4.1:** Improve Air Quality and Reduce Localized Pollution and Health Impacts
- **Obj 4.2:** Reduce Exposure to Radiation and Improve Indoor Air



## Goal 5:

Ensure Clean and Safe Water for All Communities

- **Obj 5.1:** Ensure Safe Drinking Water and Reliable Water Infrastructure
- **Obj 5.2:** Protect and Restore Waterbodies and Watersheds



## Goal 6:

Safeguard and Revitalize Communities

- **Obj 6.1:** Clean Up and Restore Land for Productive Uses and Healthy Communities
- **Obj 6.2:** Reduce Waste and Prevent Environmental Contamination
- **Obj 6.3:** Prepare for and Respond to Environmental Emergencies



## Goal 7:

Ensure Safety of Chemicals for People and the Environment

- **Obj 7.1:** Ensure Chemical and Pesticide Safety
- **Obj 7.2:** Promote Pollution Prevention

# EPA's Mission

---

To protect human health and the environment - today and every day.



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

## Key Tools for Accomplishing Our Mission

- ▶ Development and enforcement of regulations and setting national standards.
- ▶ New and historic levels of funding from President Biden's Investing in America Agenda.



# EPA's Regulatory Agenda

Comprehensive report describing regulations currently under development or recently completed.

- ▶ **Timing:** Biannually in spring and fall
- ▶ **Unified Agenda:** EPA's report is bundled with other federal agencies reports to create Unified Agenda for the Administration.

OFFICE of INFORMATION and REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
OFFICE of MANAGEMENT and BUDGET  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE of the PRESIDENT

Reginfo.gov

U.S. General Services Administration GSA

Search:  Agenda  Reg Review  ICR

Home | Unified Agenda | Regulatory Review | Information Collection Review | FAQs / Resources | Contact Us

### Agency Rule List - Fall 2023

Environmental Protection Agency

Agency	Agenda Stage of Rulemaking	Title	RIN
EPA/RODALLAS	Final Rule Stage	Revision and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Texas; Regional Haze FIP; Disapproval and Error Correction; Denial of Reconsideration of Provisions Governing Alternative to Source-Specific BART	<a href="#">2006-AA03</a>
EPA/RODENVER	Proposed Rule Stage	Federal Implementation Plan to Establish a Market for Ozone-Precursor Emissions Reduction Credits From Existing Sources on Indian Country Lands Within the Uinta Basin Ozone Nonattainment Area	<a href="#">2008-AA04</a>
EPA/RODENVER	Proposed Rule Stage	Amendments to Federal Implementation Plan for Oil and Natural Gas Well Productions Facilities, Fort Berthold Indian Reservation (Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation), North Dakota	<a href="#">2008-AA05</a>
EPA/ROSANFRAN	Final Rule Stage	San Joaquin Valley PM2.5 Contingency Measures Federal Implementation Plan	<a href="#">2009-AA05</a>
EPA/OECA	Proposed Rule Stage	Correcting Civil Penalty Amounts in Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations	<a href="#">2020-AA55</a>
EPA/OMS	Proposed Rule Stage	Revisions to the EPA's Privacy Act Regulations for Systems of Records Notices	<a href="#">2025-AA43</a>
EPA/OW	Proposed Rule Stage	Vessel Incidental Discharge National Standards of Performance	<a href="#">2040-AF92</a>
EPA/OW	Proposed Rule Stage	Market-Based Approaches Under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program	<a href="#">2040-AG02</a>
EPA/OW	Proposed Rule Stage	Federal Recreational Water Quality Criteria Applicable to Certain Waters in New York	<a href="#">2040-AG08</a>
EPA/OW	Proposed Rule Stage	Clean Water Act Effluent Limitations Guidelines and Standards for the Organic Chemicals, Plastics and Synthetic Fibers Point Source Category	<a href="#">2040-AG10</a>
EPA/OW	Proposed Rule Stage	Clean Water Act Effluent Limitations Guidelines and Standards for the Meat and Poultry Products Point Source Category	<a href="#">2040-AG22</a>

# Rule Snapshot: Methane Rule



New source performance standards (NSPS) and first-ever emission guidelines for existing sources provide sharpest methane reductions in EPA's regulatory history.



Nearly 1 million public comments provided EPA with feedback to improve the final requirements.



Rule encourages use of innovative methane detection technologies, includes a new program designed by EPA to address super-emitter events, and improves the analyses of the rules' impacts.



# Methane Rule & Complementary Actions

<b>Regulatory Development Process</b> <i>(3 years)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Multiple opportunities for public comment</li><li>➤ Extended outreach to industry, communities, Tribes, states, technology vendors, and environmental stakeholders.</li></ul>
<b>Inflation Reduction Act</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Compliance with new standards will be reinforced by methane waste emission charges mandated IRA.</li></ul>
<b>Related Actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Reporting of oil and gas methane emissions will be expanded through a related rulemaking to update the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program (Subpart W).</li></ul>
<b>EPA's Social Cost of Methane</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Final 2023 oil and gas methane NSPS and EGs relied on EPA's social cost of methane to provide monetized climate change benefits.</li></ul>

# Investing in America Agenda

## Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)

### Goals

- ▶ Reduce emissions
- ▶ Build a clean economy
- ▶ Lower energy costs for households and businesses
- ▶ Create good-paying union jobs
- ▶ Advance environmental justice

Total Investment

**\$41 billion dollars**

## Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)

### Goals

- ▶ Strengthen our infrastructure
- ▶ Make communities more resilient to climate change
- ▶ Provide funding to America's water infrastructure, environmental cleanups, and clean air protections

Total Investment

**\$60 billion dollars**



# Snapshot: IRA Funding for Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG)

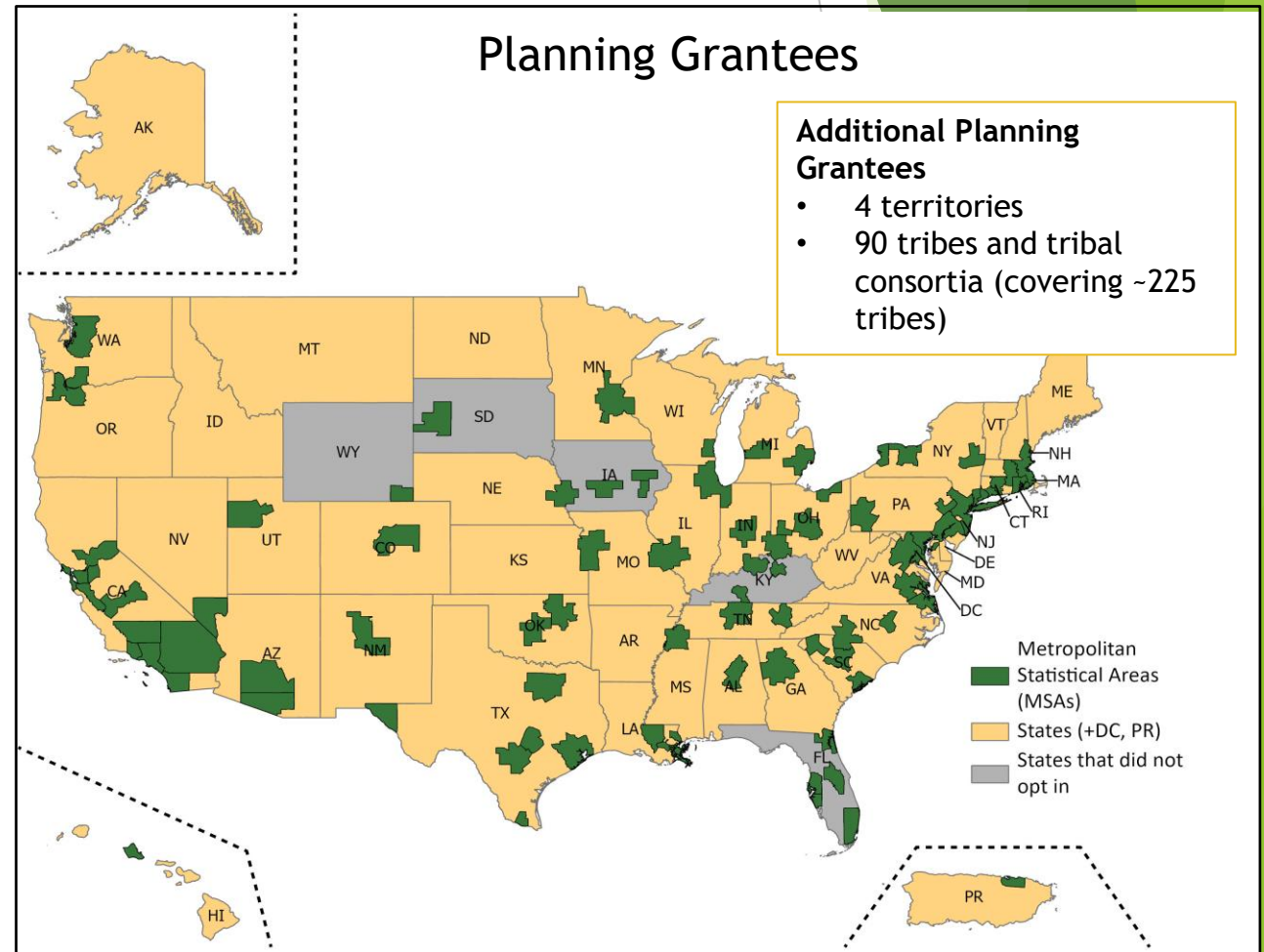
Grants implement ambitious measures to significantly reduce cumulative greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

## Planning Grants

- ▶ \$250 million
- ▶ Develop strong climate pollution reduction strategies

## Competitive Implementation Grants

- ▶ \$4.6 billion
- ▶ Put plans into action





**Electric Power**



**Transportation**



**Industry**



**Residential & Commercial Buildings**



**Waste and Materials Management**



**Agriculture/ Natural & Working Lands**



Comprehensive  
approaches  
addressing GHG  
reduction  
activities across  
the economy



# CPRG Implementation Grants

---



- ▶ General Competition: \$4.3 billion competition for states, local governments, tribes, and territories to fund policies and programs to cut climate pollution
  - Applications due April 1, 2024
  - Grant ranges: \$2M to \$500M, in 5 tiers
- ▶ Tribes and Territories Only Competition: \$300 million competition for only tribes and territories to fund policies and programs to cut climate pollution
  - Applications due May 1, 2024
  - Grant ranges: \$1M to \$25M, in 3 tiers
- ▶ These implementation grants build on \$250 million in CPRG planning grants EPA awarded in 2023

# Snapshot: BIL Funding for Superfund Cleanup & Lead Service Line Replacement

---

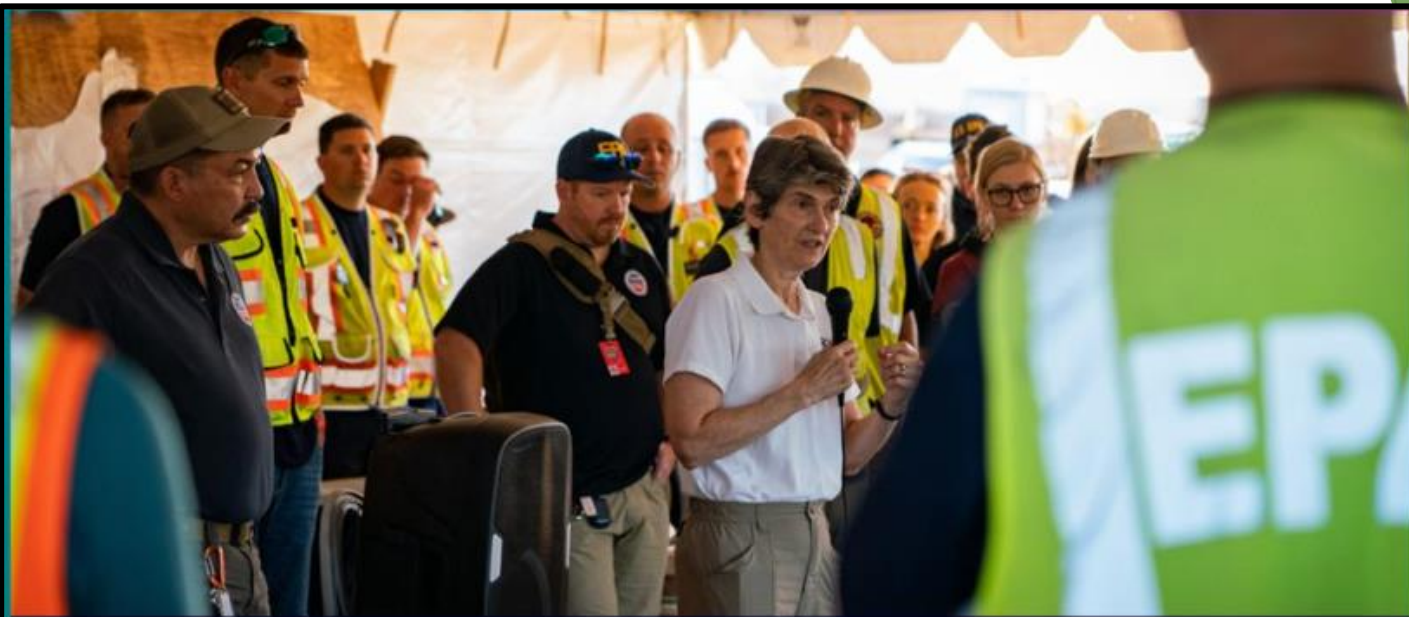
## Superfund Cleanup

- ▶ \$1 billion
- ▶ Expedite cleanup activities at 100 sites
- ▶ Began cleanup of 22 additional sites

## Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Programs

- ▶ \$50 billion
- ▶ Low-cost financing of water quality and infrastructure projects





## **Be EPA Virtual Hiring Webinar February 7, 2024 at 2 p.m. ET**

**WHO:** EPA Deputy Administrator Janet McCabe

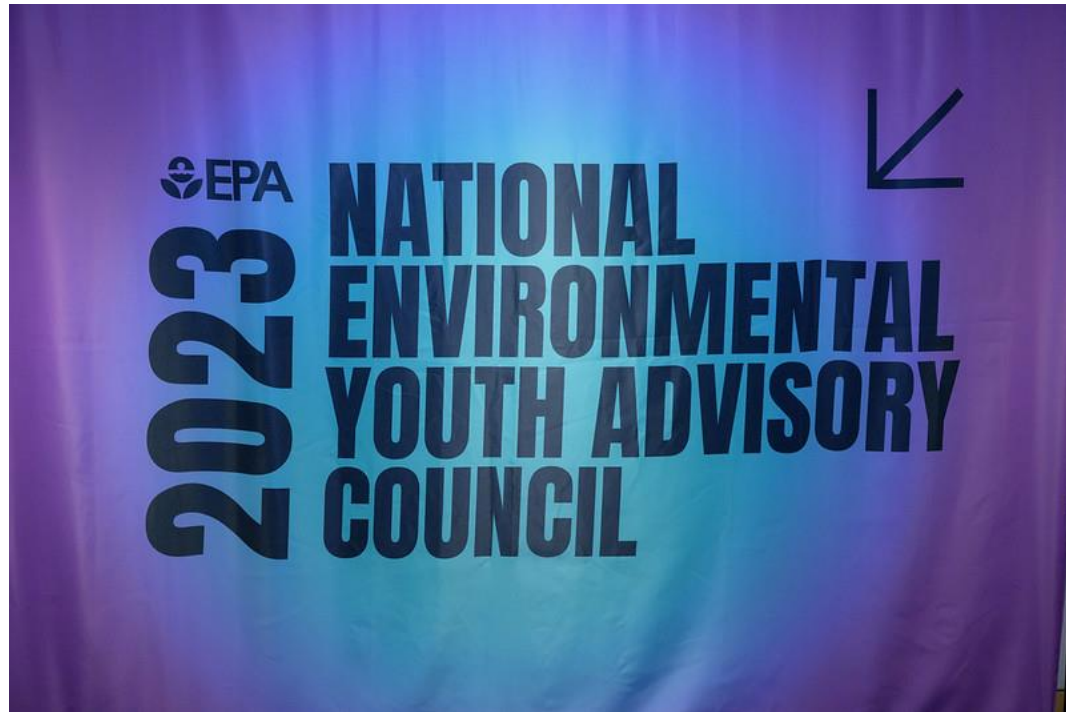
**WHAT:** Learn about the federal application process and unique hiring pathways for students and recent graduates

For questions, contact [careers@epa.gov](mailto:careers@epa.gov)



# NEYAC's Unique Role

---



Thank you for serving!