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FOR RELEASE: March 15, 2012
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Ohio EPA Will Help Industries with Safer Chemistry Challenge

Ohio EPA is partnering with Ohio industries for the 2025 Safer Chemistry Challenge Program (SCCP), a new voluntary initiative of the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable, with a goal to reduce the use of selected chemicals by 25 percent by 2025.

The challenge is designed to motivate and reward industries that reduce the use of chemicals through source reduction measures including making changes in production processes or adopting new technologies, using cleaner processes that avoid use or generation of toxic chemicals and changing raw materials to include low toxicity materials that degrade into harmless substances in the environment.

Ohio EPA's [Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention](#) (OCAPP) staff can partner with participating businesses to advise them on the challenge program and offer technical assistance toward finding and implementing measures to meet the program's goals.

Based on 2007 chemical use data, the SCCP reduction goals start at 10 percent by 2015 and increase to 20 percent by 2020 and 25 percent by 2025.

There is a list of chemicals of high national concern, including heavy metals such as lead, mercury and chromium, and other common industrial chemicals such as perchloroethylene, phthalates and formaldehyde. However, participating companies will select chemicals based on their own internal priorities.

Participation will help protect Ohio's environment, but there are direct benefits to businesses, too. These include improving employee health and safety, minimizing risk and liability, reducing the cost of compliance and employee protection and improving profitability.

For details on the 2025 Safer Chemistry Challenge Program, go to www.p2.org. To contact Ohio EPA's OCAPP, call (614) 644-3469 or (800) 329-7518.

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