FAITH COMMUNITIES GO GREEN

ADVOCATE FOR SUSTAINABLE POLICY

FCGG.ORG
How to follow legislation and committee meetings at the Ohio Legislature

You can sign up for an account through “My Ohio Legislature,” a link at the top of [https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/) or [https://www.ohiohouse.gov/](https://www.ohiohouse.gov/)

**Tracking legislation:** Once you've created an account, you can track legislation by bill number or topic. You will get an email if the bill’s **status** changes: that is, it’s referred to a committee, voted onto the floor, passed in one chamber, etc. Unfortunately, this resource will not tell you if the bill you are tracking is going to have a hearing. This is important, because hearings are typically scheduled at the end of the week before the hearing date. Sometimes you have even less advance notice, and you must submit testimony no later than 24 hours in advance, to the committee chair, with a witness slip.
To get the quickest possible notice that a bill will have a hearing, call or email the committee chair and ask to be added to the committee distribution list. You will get the agenda, which indicates what hearing it is (first, second, etc) and what kind of testimony can be submitted (proponent, opponent, and/or interested party). You can find a picture and the name of the committee chair by clicking on the committee name in the directory of the relevant chamber.
How to follow committees: You can use My Ohio Legislature to choose which committees you want to follow. You will then get an email when the committee schedules a hearing. The email will include a hyperlink which takes you to a page where you can download the agenda. Another link on that page lets you add the hearing to your calendar.

Standing committees that consider environmental bills include (but are not limited to):

**Ohio House**
- Agriculture and Conservation
- Energy and Natural Resources
- Public Utilities

**Ohio Senate**
- Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Energy and Public Utilities

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