

HB 3273A: Oregon Dry Cleaner Program Sunset

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

April 18, 2023

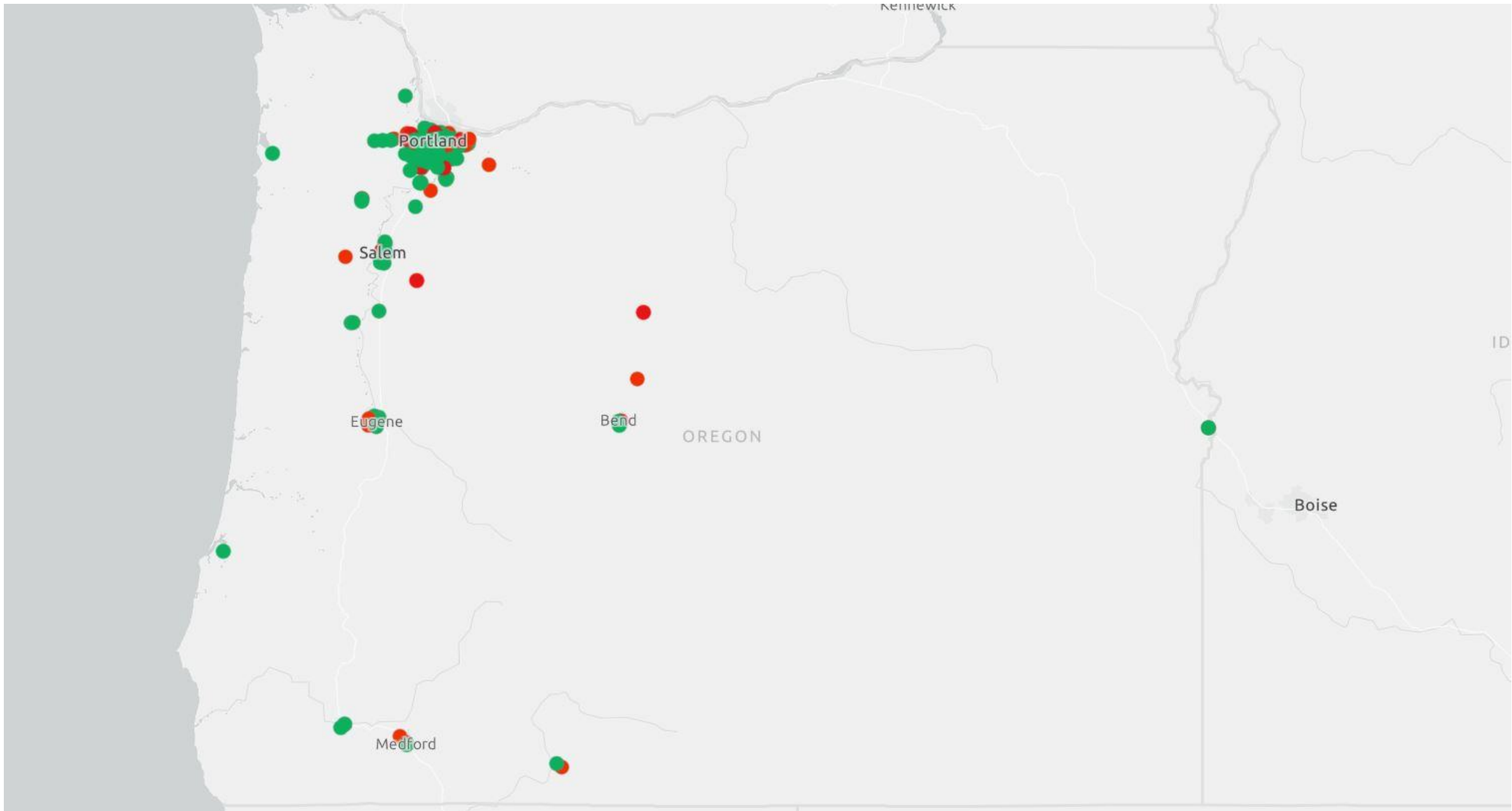
Dry Cleaner Program Overview

Created by the Oregon Legislature in 1995, with the purpose of:

- Creating a \$1 million cleanup fund paid for solely by the industry
- Exempting dry cleaning owners and operators from cleanup liability
- Ensuring the cleanup of contamination resulting from dry cleaning

Dry Cleaner Program Overview, cont.

- Fees paid annually into Dry Cleaner Environmental Response Account
- Fee amounts set in statute, used for:
 - Program administration
 - Compliance inspections
 - Environmental cleanups
- Statute requires waste minimization to:
 - Prevent future contamination and reduce future cleanups
 - Be eligible for a cleanup



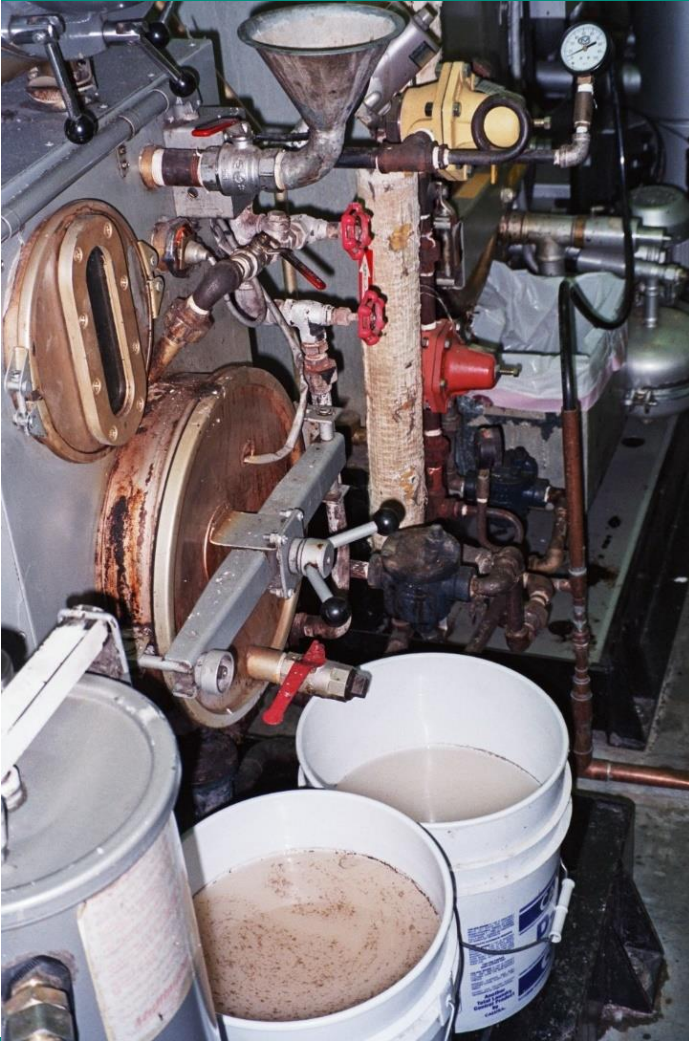
Dry Cleaner Program Activities

Since 1995:

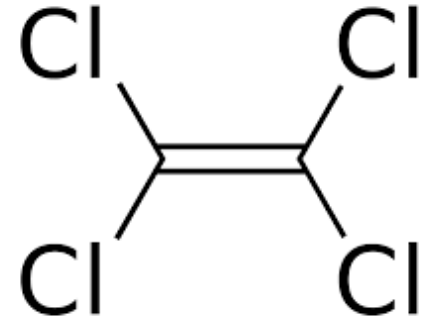
- Compliance inspections: > 400
- Cleanups: > 50
- Cost: > \$8.4 million



Perc and Environmental Cleanups

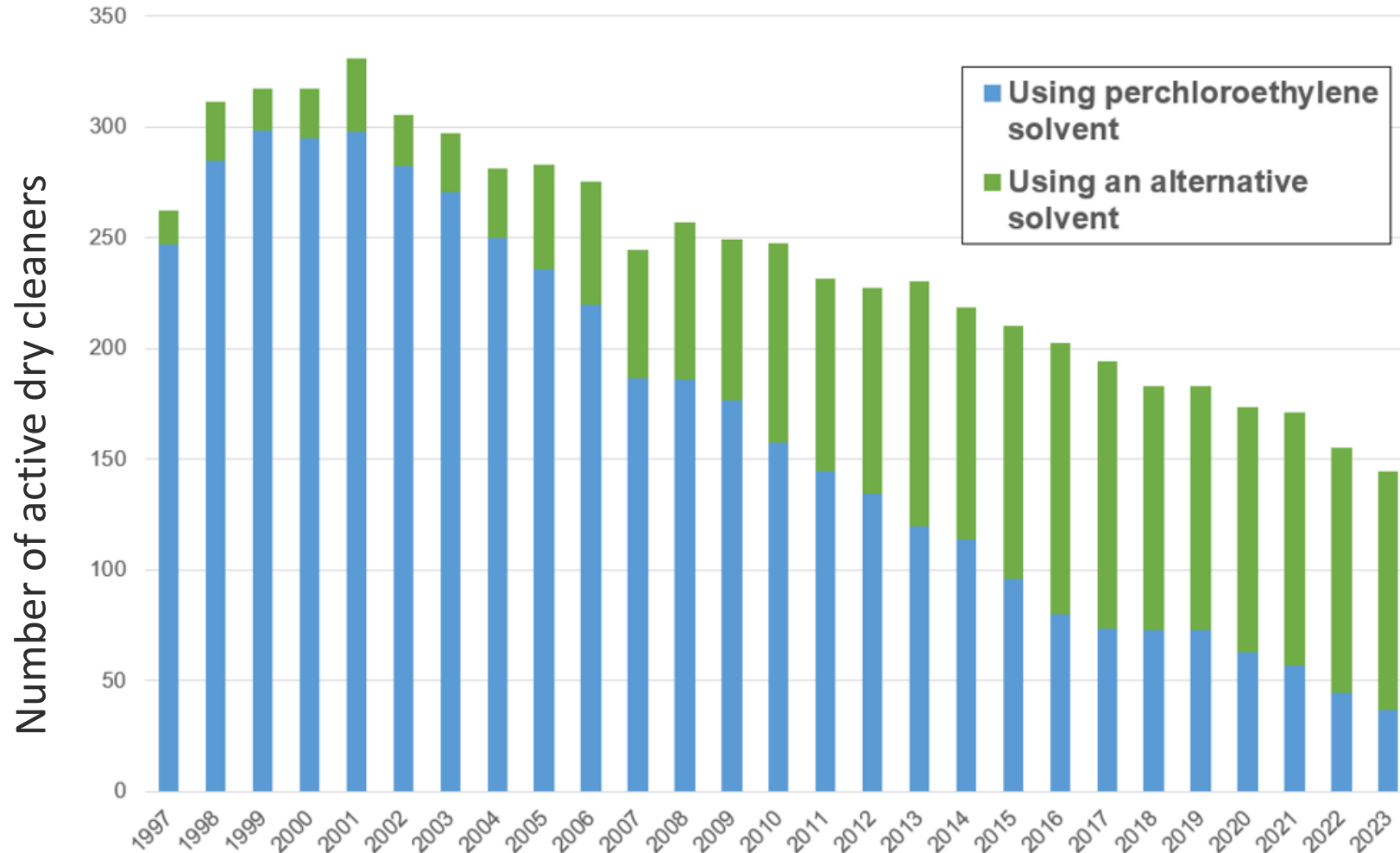


Perchloroethylene or perc

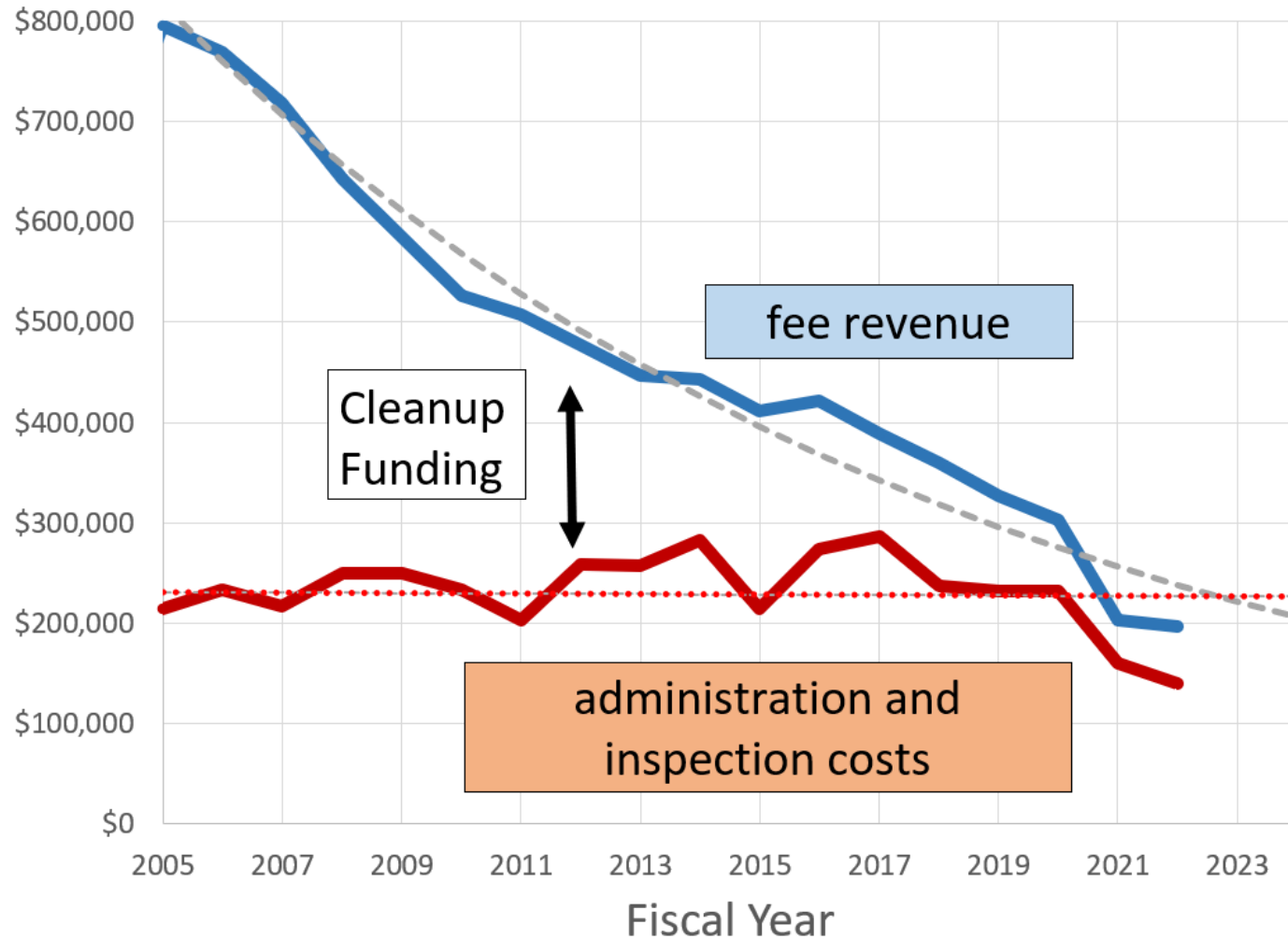


- Widely used since 1940s
- Highly toxic
- Difficult and expensive to clean up

Number Of Dry Cleaners in Oregon



Program Revenue and Expenses



Why Sunset the Program?

- Number of dry cleaning facilities continues to decline
- Number of dry cleaning facilities using perc continues to decline
- Program is no longer financially viable
- Raising fees not a sustainable option

HB 3273A

Repeal Dry Cleaner Program

- End program: January 1, 2024

Prohibit use of perc and n-propyl bromide for dry cleaning

- Prohibition effective: January 1, 2028

Passage of HB 3273A: Outcome

Program sunset:

- Dry Cleaners no longer required to pay annual fees
- Cleanup liability consistent with other industries and chemicals

Solvent prohibition:

- Reduced risk of negative impacts to human health and the environment
- Reduced risk of future cleanups