Laura Factor was first appointed assistant director in January 2005. Factor assists the director in overseeing key program activities and establishing agency priorities to protect Ohio's air, land and water resources. Factor also oversees the Agency's legislative efforts and policy/rule development.

Factor came to Ohio EPA in August 1991 as a legislative liaison, became chief of Ohio EPA's Office of Legislative Affairs in 1999, and Deputy Director for Policy and Legislation in 2001. Prior to joining Ohio EPA, Factor was a legislative aide to Senator Gary Suhadolnik, then Chair of the Senate Energy, Natural Resources and Environment Committee. While there, the Senate Committee passed several major pieces of legislation including House Bill 592, the first significant solid waste management statute in Ohio.

A graduate of Duke University, Factor majored in public policy studies.