

**State of Ohio
Environmental Protection Agency
Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Public Hearing**

Notice is hereby given that the Director of Environmental Protection, under the authority of Ohio Revised Code Section 6111.041, proposes to revise rules 3745-1-08, 3745-1-09, 3745-1-11, 3745-1-12, 3745-1-13, 3745-1-15, 3745-1-19, 3745-1-21, 3745-1-22, 3745-1-26 and 3745-1-28 of the Administrative Code.

Chapter 3745-1 of the Administrative Code addresses water quality standards for surface waters of the state. Within this chapter, rules 08 to 32 assign beneficial use designations (e.g., warmwater aquatic life habitat, public water supply and primary contact recreation) to surface waters of the state. The designated uses determine the applicable water quality criteria for various parameters identified in Chapter 3745-1. Together, the use designations and associated criteria may be the basis for requirements in National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits for facilities that discharge wastewater to surface waters of the state and for conditions in Section 401 water quality certifications.

The revised rules change beneficial use designations (aquatic life, water supply and recreational categories) for specified water bodies in the Hocking River, Scioto River, Maumee River, Sandusky River, Central Ohio Tributaries, Little Beaver Creek, Huron River, Great Miami River, Chagrin River, Cuyahoga River and Vermilion River drainage basins.

A public hearing on the proposed revised rules will be held on Wednesday, May 31, 2006 at the Ohio EPA Central Office, fifth floor conference room B, located in the Lazarus Government Center at 122 South Front Street in Columbus, Ohio. The public hearing will begin at 2:00 p.m. and adjourn when commenters complete their statements.

All interested persons are entitled to attend or be represented at the hearing and give written or oral comments on the proposed revisions to the rules. Written comments may be filed with the presiding officer at the hearing or with Ohio EPA (Attn: Chris Skalski, Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049) by the close of business on Friday, June 9, 2006. Comments received after that date may be considered as time and circumstances permit.

To obtain copies of the proposed rules and supporting documentation, contact Chris Skalski at the address above or by calling (614) 644-2144. Copies of the proposed rules are also available on the Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water Web site at www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/rules/drafrules and the Register of Ohio Web site at www.registerofohio.state.oh.us.