

**BEFORE THE  
OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**Public Notice  
Proposed Rulemaking Governing  
Administrative Penalties**

Notice is hereby given that the Director of Environmental Protection, under the authority of Sections 6109.23, 6109.121, 6109.04 of the Ohio Revised Code and in accordance with Chapter 119, proposes to amend the following rule of the Ohio Administrative Code:

**3745-81-04: Administrative Penalties**

This rule addresses administrative penalties for Public Water Systems.

The purpose of this rule making is to remove section B because of changes to the statute administrative penalty. The changes allow the Agency to use standard state administrative penalties instead of having a separate detailed penalty amount based on the lead and copper rules.

The public comment period will run until **April 5, 2024**. A public hearing on this proposed rulemaking will be held to consider public comments in accordance with Section 119.03 of the Ohio Revised Code. Ohio EPA will be holding an in-person and virtual public hearing on the rules on **April 5, 2024, at 10:30 AM EDT**. The in-person hearing will be at the same time and date and will be located at Ohio EPA, Suite 700, 50 W, Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. The in-person hearing will be held in conference room A. During the hearing, the public may submit written comments on the record about the proposed rules if participating virtually and verbally if participating in person.

Citizens who want to participate virtually must register in advance for the meeting at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/896788508835707221>

To facilitate the scheduling of oral presentations, persons intending to give testimony at the hearing should notify the Ohio EPA Public Interest Center, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049, (614) 644-2160. Prior registration will ensure that registrants are heard ahead of those individuals who register at the hearing. Oral testimony may be limited to five minutes, depending on the number of persons testifying. All interested persons are entitled to attend or be represented and to present oral and/or written comments concerning the proposed rulemaking.

Written testimony should be sent to the attention of **Brooke McLoughlin** at the Division of Drinking and Ground Water (DDAGW) P.O. Box 1049, Columbus Ohio 43216-1049. Written comments may also be submitted to the Hearing Officer at the public hearing. Written testimony will receive the same consideration as oral testimony. All testimony received at the hearing or by close of business on **April 5, 2024**, will be considered by Ohio EPA prior to final action on this rulemaking proposal. Written comments submitted after this date may be considered as time and circumstances permit.

Questions regarding this rule package should be directed to **Brooke McLoughlin** at the DDAGW at (614) (244-2316).

To receive a copy of the proposed rules, please contact the DDAGW receptionist at (614) (644-3386). In addition, full copies of all proposed rules are available for review at any Ohio EPA district office and at the Ohio EPA central office. The proposed rules are also accessible on the DDAGW web page at <https://epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/DDAGWrules>.

To request a reasonable accommodation due to a disability, visit <https://epa.ohio.gov/ada>