



**BEFORE THE
OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

December 30, 2015

Public Notice: Intent to Formally Propose Rules Establishing Monitoring and Reporting of Harmful Algal Blooms in Public Water Systems and Amendments to Laboratory Certification Rules.

Notice is hereby given that the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters (DDAGW) intends to propose rules in new Chapter 3745-90 and amendments to Chapter 3745-89 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC). This notice is not for the purposes of soliciting comments on the draft rules, but is for informative purposes prior to DDAGW formally proposing them in January 2016.

The new and amended rules in these chapters focus on the following:

- Establishes action levels for microcystins.
- Sets forth cyanobacteria screening, and microcystins monitoring and reporting requirements for surface water public water systems (PWSs).
- Requires increased monitoring based on detections of microcystins greater than 5 µg/L in the raw water or exceedances of action levels in drinking water.
- Requires PWSs to submit written cyanotoxin treatment optimization protocols if microcystins are detected in raw or finished drinking water. Additionally, PWSs may be required to submit a cyanotoxin general plan with one or a combination of source water protection activities, reservoir management and in-plant treatment technologies.
- Requires public notification in cases of monitoring violations and exceedances of action levels in drinking water, as well as consumer confidence reports.
- Establishes requirements for laboratory certification, analytical techniques and reporting deadlines.

DDAGW received several sets of comments during the interested party review period held from September 22, 2015 to October 23, 2015. A response to comments summary and a summary of revisions made after the interested party review period concluded are available on DDAGW's rules webpage. The revised draft rules will be available on the Agency webpage until their formal proposal. They can be found at <http://epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/rules.aspx> on the "Interested Party Review" tab.

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