

**BEFORE THE  
OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**July 6, 2015**

**Public Notice: Proposed Rulemaking Governing Rules for Public Water System Plan Approval,  
Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control and Consumer Confidence Reports**

Notice is hereby given that the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters (DDAGW) drafted revisions to rules in Chapters 3745-91, 3745-95 and 3745-96 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC). The proposed amendments are, in part, a result of the five-year rule review requirements of Section 106.03 of the Revised Code.

Revisions made to rules in Chapter 3745-95 more clearly define the requirements for assessing locations where cross-connections to the consumer's water system have an increased potential to backflow into the public water system. The revisions provide an alternative to on-site investigations of each residential premise, replacing them with an educational campaign. In addition, revisions include an alternative to conducting an on-site investigation of all premises every five years. The proposed amendments allow for the use of information gathered through a water use survey questionnaire or in coordination with the local licensing agencies as indicators of when an on-site investigation should be conducted.

Additional changes include removing the provision prohibiting booster pumps on one, two or three-family dwellings. Also, an exemption, allowing a pressure vacuum breaker to be installed for certain residential auxiliary water systems meeting specific conditions was added to the rule listing types of backflow protection. Several standards have been aligned with the Ohio Plumbing Code in the rule governing booster pumps. Lastly, revisions have been made to the Ohio EPA Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control manual. The manual with revisions adopted will remain as recommendations and guidance.

Rule 3745-91-12 was drafted with revisions to include self-certification, requiring submittal of a project summary and annual report. Draft revisions in Chapter 3745-96 include defining PWS satellite system requirements, and adding in condominium complexes to the list of facilities for delivery of consumer confidence reports.

A public hearing pursuant to §106.03 of the Ohio Revised Code will be conducted on August 12, 2015, beginning at 10:30 a.m. in Conference Room A at the Ohio EPA, Lazarus Government Center, 50 West Town Street, Columbus, Ohio. All interested persons are entitled to attend or be represented and give their written or oral comments on this proposed rule-making. A presiding officer will be present until all interested persons have been heard.

To facilitate scheduling of oral presentations, persons intending to give testimony at the hearing should ensure that Ohio EPA receives notice of such intent by August 11, 2015, 5:00 p.m. Persons who provide Ohio EPA with prior notice will be heard ahead of persons who register at the hearing. **All visitors to Ohio EPA must register at the Security desk in the lobby**

**upon arrival. Please bring photo identification (such as a valid driver's license). For security reasons, visitors are required to wear their badge at all times while in the building. Please arrive early to complete these procedures.** To provide notice of intent to give oral comments at the public hearing, contact Susan Kramer by mail at Ohio EPA, DDAGW, Lazarus Government Center, 50 West Town Street, Suite 700, Columbus, Ohio 43215, or by phone at (614) 644-2752.

In order to ensure that written comments are considered as part of the official record of this hearing, written comments must be received by Ohio EPA by the close of business August 11, 2015. Written comments on the proposed rules may be given to the presiding officer during the hearing, sent by mail to Susan Kramer at the address above, or sent by email to the following address [ddagw\\_rulecomments@epa.ohio.gov](mailto:ddagw_rulecomments@epa.ohio.gov).

To obtain a copy of the proposed rules, contact Susan Kramer at Ohio EPA at (614) 644-2752 or email at [Susan.Kramer@epa.ohio.gov](mailto:Susan.Kramer@epa.ohio.gov). Please request the "amendments to backflow prevention and more" and be sure to include your name, telephone number, and complete mailing address. There is no charge for proposed rules. The proposed rules will be available on the Agency web page until their adoption or withdrawal. They can be found at <http://epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/rules.aspx> on the "Proposed Rules" tab.

Comments can be submitted in hard copy to the following address: "Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters, P.O. Box 1049, Lazarus Government Center, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049, Attn: Susan Kramer" or by email to [ddagw\\_rulecomments@epa.ohio.gov](mailto:ddagw_rulecomments@epa.ohio.gov). Comments should be received at the above address by close of business, August 12, 2015.