

# 2011 Compliance Assistance Conference

Do you Know Where Your Floor Drains Go?  
Underground Injection Control (UIC)



Environmental  
Protection Agency

# Do you Know Where Your Floor Drains Go?

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# What is “Underground Injection”?

- “Underground Injection” is the emplacement of fluids into the ground via a well.
- A “well” is any structure deeper than the largest surface dimension.
- A fluid can be a waste or a product.

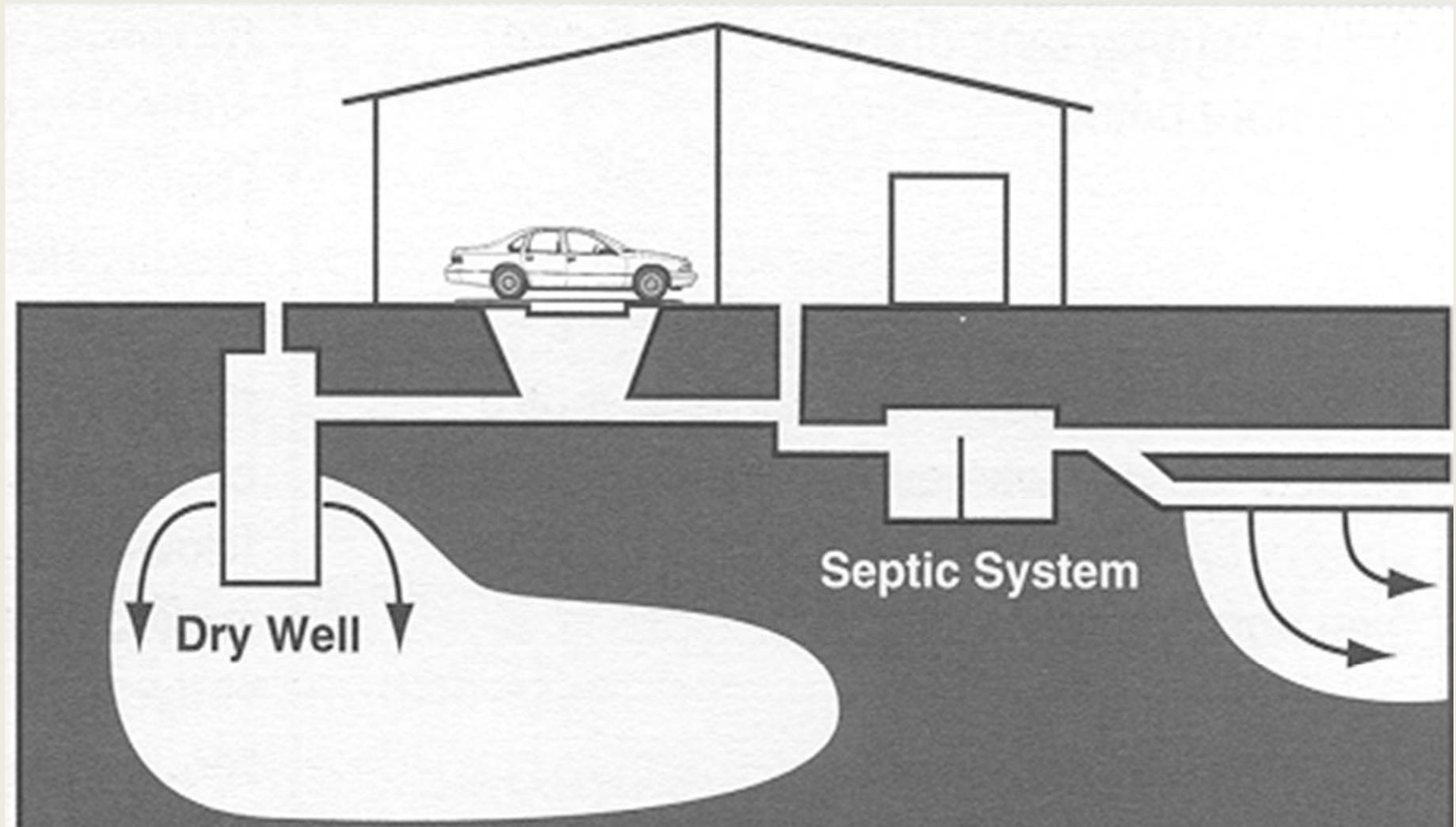
# What is “Underground Injection”?

- Activities regulated Federally under the “Safe Drinking Water Act”.
- Regulated in Ohio under ORC 6111.043 to 6111.047.
- Rules are located within OAC Chapter 3745-34.

## Most Common Well Used By Businesses

- Class V wells – Used to inject into or above an underground source of drinking water.
- Includes wells used to inject sanitary waste and industrial waste.
- Includes septic systems with leach fields or dry wells.

# Examples of Class V wells



## How does this apply to me?

- Do your floor drains or shop sinks go to a septic system including a leach field or a dry well?
- Do you have 20 or more people using your septic system?

# Should I be concerned about my floor drains?

- Do you dispose of an industrial waste into your floor drain?
- Do you perform vehicle maintenance in an area that drains to the floor drain?
- Do you wash cars in the area of the floor drain?
- Do you dispose of food processing wastes?
- Do you just dispose of sanitary waste or sewage?

## Example of floor drain in truck maintenance facility.



## What if I have an injection well?

- Depends on type of injection well you have.
- Approved by rule – wells used to dispose of sanitary waste, sewage, manure, water softener backwash are approved by rule.
- Must have septic system approved by Local Health Department or Ohio EPA.
- Must submit an inventory form to be approved by rule.

## When am I not approved by rule?

- Well is used to dispose of industrial waste.
- Examples: automotive waste fluids, hair salon waste, insecticides from animal treatment (flea dips), contact cooling water, embalming fluids, etc.
- Permit required except for motor vehicle waste disposal wells (banned).
- Closure required if no permit.

## What is involved with a permit?

- \$2,000 fee.
- Information on waste including analysis.
- Description of the well.
- Financial assurance can be required.
- Must verify that injection will not cause ground water quality to exceed drinking water standards.
- Can include monitoring wells.
- Monthly analysis and reports.

# How do I avoid a permit?

- Run a shop without a floor drain - permanently seal with cement.
- Install a holding tank.
- Hook up to sewer.
- Change business process so as to cease injection of industrial waste.

## What are the closure requirements?

- OAC 3745-34-11(N)
- Notify of intent to close 30 days prior.
- Notification should include: inventory form, how the sludge and soils will be removed and disposed of, and plugging plan.
- After closure a closure report needs to be submitted.

# More Information

Division of Drinking and Ground Waters UIC  
webpage.

<http://www.epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/uic.aspx>

Questions?