

Ohio EPA Policy	<b>Design Criteria; Sludge Give-Away</b>	
DSW-0400.021  <b>Removed</b>	Statutory reference: Rule reference:	Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water Revision 0, August 1, 1988 Removed, August 23, 2002
<p><b>THIS POLICY DOES NOT HAVE THE FORCE OF LAW</b> Pursuant to Section 3745.30 of the Revised Code, this policy was reviewed and removed.</p>		

This policy has been replaced by policy number DSW-0100.028, Revision 1, August 23, 2002.

**For more information contact:**

Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water  
Standards and Technical Support Section  
P.O. Box 1049  
Columbus, OH 43216-1049  
(614) 644-2001

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## Design Criteria; Sludge Give-Away

POLICY: The following guidelines for sludge give away programs are to be used for entities that propose to provide a location at their treatment plant for the general public to obtain sludge. The guidelines do not apply to those entities that apply their own sludge or contract to have their sludge hauled, even though they may be giving away sludge as opposed to selling sludge.

1. In general, Ohio EPA discourages entities from proposing sludge give away programs. sludge give away programs will normally be associated with small communities where expensive sludge handling equipment prohibits other modes of disposal and/or reuse. The agency requires the entity to evaluate other alternatives for sludge use or disposal prior to proposing a give away program. If other alternatives are not feasible, a give away program could be proposed. In discouraging this concept, the potential liabilities should be brought to the attention of the generating entity's administration and solicitor.
2. Entities that propose or allow sludge give away programs of no more than one half dry ton per year to any person, company, or organization, shall submit a sludge management plan for their give way program that contains, as a minimum, the following requirements:
  - a. Sludge shall be well digested and dried to a cake form, e.g., sludge drying bed.
  - b. The maximum contaminant concentration of give away sludge shall not exceed:

Cadmium	12.5 mg/kg dry basis
Copper	500 mg/kg dry basis
Nickel	100 mg/kg dry basis
Lead	500 mg/kg dry basis
Zinc	1000 mg/kg dry basis
PCB	5 mg/kg dry basis

An analysis of the heavy metals in a representative sample of give away sludge shall be conducted at least quarterly and the results submitted to the Ohio EPA unless this requirement is modified or eliminated by the Ohio EPA. Sludge with contaminant concentrations in excess of those listed above shall not be made available for give away. Presence of contaminants other than those listed above may preclude sludge give away.

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- c. Entities proposing give away programs must provide an acceptable storage area at the plant site other than storing on sludge drying beds. Storage areas shall be designed to prevent groundwater contamination (from leaching) and surface water contamination (from runoff). The storage area should be located within the confines

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of the plant so that individuals obtain sludge only when the treatment plant is staffed (to keep records). The storage area shall be posted with a sign identifying the information listed in item 2.d of this guideline. The Ohio EPA district office will inspect the proposed plant site storage area but will not inspect or authorize the disposal site.

- d. The generating entity must require anyone who hauls sludge away to sign an informational notice. The notice must state:
  - 1). The sludge is a by-product of the wastewater treatment plant of the generating entity.
  - 2). The sludge may contain pathogenic organisms and heavy metals and may present a health hazard if not properly used.
  - 3). The sludge shall not be used on leafy vegetables or root crop gardens.
  - 4). The sludge shall not be applied to the same site so as to exceed the maximum cumulative metals loadings given in tables on pages 21 and 22 of the Ohio EPA Land Application of Sludge Manual, March, 1983.
  - 5). An analysis of the sludge is available upon request (identify where a copy of the analysis may be obtained).
  - 6). The individual acknowledges reading and understanding the above statements and agrees to properly use the sludge being hauled away.
3. Generating entities that propose or allow sludge give away programs where any person, company, or organization receives more than half dry ton per year, in addition to those items listed in number 2 above, shall submit a sludge management plan in conjunction with the sludge user that complies with the Ohio EPA land Application of Sludge Manual. District office site authorizations will be required.
4. Generating entities that propose or allow sludge give away programs described in items 2 (less than one half dry ton per year) in this guideline may need separate plan approvals for each sludge management plan.
5. In the event the general public does not remove sludge from the storage area as often as necessary, the entity shall implement other means of sludge disposal in compliance with an approved management plan.

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6. Applications for a plan approval of any sludge management plan must be signed by the highest elected official of the municipality from which the sludge is generated (in accordance with 3745-31-04(c)). The management plan must contain a statement signed by the generating entity's legal representative indicating that the entity is aware of the potential liability in giving sludge to the public.