

Ohio EPA Policy	<b>Assigning Stream Use Designations for the Protection of Recreational Uses</b>	
DSW-0700.008  <b>Removed</b>	Statutory references: Rule references:	Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water Revision 0, February 21, 1985 Revision 1, September 30, 1999 Removed, December 21, 2006
<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.		

This policy does not meet the definition of policy contained in Section 3745.30 of the Ohio Revised Code. Ohio EPA is removing this document from the Division of Surface Water Policy Manual and is considering addressing this topic in a future rulemaking.

**For more information contact:**

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Ohio EPA Policy  DSW-0700.008  <b>Final</b>	<b>Assigning Stream Use Designations for the Protection of Recreational Uses</b>	
	Statutory reference: ORC 6111.041 Rule reference: OAC 3745-1-07(B)(4)	Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water Revision 0, February 21, 1985 Revision 1, September 30, 1999
THIS POLICY DOES NOT HAVE THE FORCE OF LAW Pursuant to Section 3745.30 of the Revised Code, this policy was reviewed on the last revision date.		

**Purpose**

To identify the guidelines Ohio EPA will use to designate water quality standard recreational uses to surface waters of the State.

**Background**

The recreational season in Ohio is the time period from May 1 to October 15. During this period surface waters must meet numerical criteria which protect the recreational use. The recreational use designations are defined in OAC 3745-1-07 (B)(4) as follows:

Bathing Waters - are waters where a lifeguard and/or bathhouse facilities are present during the recreational season, and include any additional such areas where the water quality is approved by the Director.

Primary Contact - are waters that during the recreational season are suitable for full body contact recreation such as, but not limited to, swimming, canoeing and scuba diving with minimal threat to public health as a result of water quality.

Secondary Contact - are waters that during the recreational season are suitable for partial body contact recreation such as, but not limited to, wading with minimal threat to public health as a result of water quality.

**Procedure**

Table 1 is used to determine the recreational designated use. It is derived from the narrative requirements in OAC 3745-1-07(B)(4). If a water body is listed in one of the Appendices then the existing recreational use is established based upon that information known by the data source column. Potential recreational uses are assigned using the four field evaluations listed in Table 1. The highest designated use is assigned based upon the assessment of potential as shown in Table 1 and any existing use from the data source column. If a water body fails to meet the specifications in all four field evaluations, the potential recreation use is limited to wading and secondary contact is the designated use.

Field evaluations are generally conducted as part of the biological and water quality survey program. Physical habitat descriptions of the sampling sites are used to establish the range of physical stream size (depth and width). Additional observations of the stream channel may be used to evaluate overall stream morphology and the likelihood of isolated swimming holes (evaluation 4). These evaluations should be undertaken during the recreational season, due to evaluation of depths and the variability of hydrologic conditions in Ohio streams.

Table 1. Determination of Recreational Designated Use.

Designated Use	Recreational Use	Data Sources Existing Uses	Field Evaluation of Existing and Potential Uses
Bathing Waters	Swimming area with lifeguards and/or bathhouse	Major swimming areas (Appendix A)	1. Determine if lifeguards and/or bathhouse are present.
Primary Contact	Canoeing	Ohio Canoe Livery Association Directory and ODNR publication "Public Access to Ohio Streams" (Appendix B)	2. Determine if canoeing could be reasonably pursued on the stream <sup>a</sup>
	Swimming, etc.		3. Determine if an average depth of at least 3 feet over an area of <i>circa</i> 100 square feet exists. 4. Determine if there are other smaller but usable areas for swimming available (e.g., quarry cuts in northwest Ohio limestone streams, plunge pools in high gradient streams).
Secondary Contact	Wading		Segment lacks potential for canoeing and swimming (items 2, 3 and 4 above).

<sup>a</sup> Seasonal or year round canoeing potential evaluation based on the following: 1) stream similar in size and physical morphology to those listed in Appendix B; 2) depths in pools and runs are greater than 18 inches; and 3) channel bottom widths in the range of 10-20 feet or greater.

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## Appendix A

### Major Swimming Areas

1. Alum Creek State Park
2. Atwood Lake
3. Bark Camp State Park
4. Blue Rock State Park
5. Buck Creek State Park
6. Buckeye Lake State Park
7. Burr Oak State Park
8. Ceasars Creek State Park
9. Cedar Point Beach
10. Charles Mill Lake
11. Cleveland Lake Front State Park -  
Edgewater Beach
12. Conneaut Township Beach
13. Cowan Lake State Park
14. Crane Creek State Park
15. Deer Creek State Park
16. Delaware State Park
17. Dillon Reservoir
18. East Fork State Park
19. East Harbor State Park
20. Fairport Harbor (Painesville)
21. Findley State Park
22. Forked Run State Park
23. Geneva State Park
24. Grand Lake - St. Marys State Park
25. Guilford Lake State Park
26. Harrison Lake State Park
27. Hinkley Reservation
28. Hueston Woods State Park
29. Huntington Beach - Metro Park
30. Indian Lake State Park
31. Jackson Lake State Park
32. Jefferson Lake State Park
33. Kelleys Island
34. Kiser Lake State Park
35. Lake Alma State Park
36. Lake Hope State Park
37. Lake Logan
38. Lake Loramie State Park
39. Lake Vesuvius -  
Wayne National Forest
40. Lake White State Park
41. Lorain
42. Madison County Lake
43. Mentor Headlands State Park
44. Mosquito Lake State Park
45. Nickel Plate Beach (Huron)
46. Pike Lake State Park
47. Pleasant Hill Lake
48. Portage Lake State Park
49. Port Clinton Beach
50. Punderson State Park
51. Pymatuning State Park
52. Rocky Fork State Park
53. Salt Fork State Park
54. Seneca Lake
55. Shawnee State Park
56. Stonelick State Park
57. Strouds Run State Park
58. Tappan Lake
59. Tar Hollow State Park
60. Tinkers Creek State Park
61. Wallace Lake -  
Rocky River Reservation
62. Walnut Beach (Ashtabula)
63. West Branch State Park
64. Wolf Run

## Appendix B

### ODNR "Public Access to Ohio Streams"

The streams included in this publication include all listed streams in "Ohio Canoe Livery Association Directory" as well as the following water bodies:

East Fork Little Miami River

Tolawanda Creek

Upper Maumee River

Upper Tiffin River

St. Joseph River

Conneaut Creek

Pymatuning

Little Beaver Creek