Orphan Drums

What is an orphan drum?
- Small quantity of any size or shape container
- Abandoned at location other than generation point
- No identifiable owner

What is not an orphan drum?
- Large quantity of containers
- Located at generation point
- Identifiable owner
- Property transfers/purchases

What happens to the orphan drum?
- Drums are sampled.
- Contents are analyzed.
- Waste is characterized as hazardous or non-hazardous.
- Waste is handled in this order:
  - Reuse
  - Recycle
  - Use as fuel
  - Treat
  - Incinerate
- Case is investigated to determine who is responsible.
- Enforcement action is taken to prosecute dumpers.

Contact
For more information, contact the Office of Emergency Response at (614) 836-8811 or an OSC in the appropriate ER Operations office.

Call the local fire department if the container(s) are leaking or are in a creek, river or lake. Then, call Ohio EPA’s spill hotline.

If you witness a dumping
Try to get the following information:
- License plate number
- Description of vehicle
- Description of dumpers
- Time and place

DO NOT
- Kick
- Move
- Open
- Touch
- Remove

BECAUSE
- Drums may be under pressure.
- Contents may be shock sensitive, reactive or toxic.
- This is a crime scene — dumping is illegal.