



Semipublic Sanitary Disposal System Inspection Contracts (HB110 Program)

What is the House Bill 110 Program?

In 1984, the Ohio General Assembly adopted House Bill 110 (HB110) which created a framework to provide for a partnership between the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) and local health districts (LHDs) to oversee and investigate small, commercial sanitary treatment or disposal systems. The program allows Ohio EPA to enter into a contractual partnership with LHDs, whereby LHDs conduct, on behalf of the Agency, inspection and enforcement services for commercial sanitary waste treatment/disposal systems discharging less than 25,000 gallons per day (semipublics). This program commonly became referred to as the HB110 program.

Ohio EPA manages the HB110 program to better protect the public health and welfare, and to protect the environment. Ohio EPA believes that due to the proximity, the multitude of facilities, and the availability of resources, oversight of operations for sanitary waste disposal at semipublics may best be accomplished locally by qualified LHDs.

In accordance with Ohio EPA's HB110 contracts, LHDs regularly inspect sanitary facilities at semipublics for compliance with Ohio's water pollution control laws and regulations. Investigations of complaints regarding waste disposal by semipublics are also accomplished locally.

Ohio EPA regularly consults with LHDs on the approval of plans and issuance of a permit-to-install (PTI) for semipublics. Installation inspections may be performed locally to ensure compliance with Ohio EPA's PTI conditions.

What is a semipublic disposal system?

A "semipublic disposal system" means: "a disposal system that treats the sanitary sewage discharged from publicly or privately owned buildings or places of assemblage, entertainment, recreation, education, correction, hospitalization, housing, or employment, but does not include a disposal system that treats sewage in amounts of more than twenty-five thousand gallons per day; a disposal system for the treatment of sewage that is exempt from the requirements of section 6111.04 of the Revised Code pursuant to division (F) (6) of that section; or a disposal system for the treatment of industrial waste."

The legal definition of a semipublic disposal system is contained within various laws and rules that pertain to Ohio EPA activities and is the definition highlighted below in this fact sheet. As can be seen by this definition, a semipublic disposal system is basically any treatment and/or disposal system that is installed to control and/or treat sanitary wastewaters at flows of less than 25,000 gallons per day for any commercial type activity. Examples of semipublic systems may be those that serve restaurants, small mobile home parks, businesses, industrial parks, housing subdivisions, apartment complexes, markets, shopping centers, etc. One fact that does need stressed is that the system does not have to have a discharge to surface waters to be considered a semipublic disposal system. The definition and the HB 110 program are applicable for discharging systems as well as on-site disposal/treatment systems. There are tens of thousands of these systems in Ohio that would benefit from enhanced oversight and guidance that would be provided through this program.

What are the benefits to the program? Why should a local health district participate?

The bottom-line benefit associated with the program is improved water quality and protection of public health within the community where such a program is in place. This improved water quality is achieved through a number of ways that cannot occur without the assistance of LHDs and the community involved in the program, both the regulated entities and the general public. Traditional enforcement, permitting and inspections may be performed more regularly and consistently and more informally, technical assistance and local control or oversight encourages the semipublic facilities to be more conscientious. LHDs are the key component in this improved water quality by providing the necessary resources that may be lacking across the state.

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Is there any training available to the health departments concerning wastewater treatment plant operations?

Ohio EPA provides training in various aspects of wastewater treatment plant operations. Ohio EPA intends to provide regular training programs for all LHDs participating in, or interested in participating in the HB110 program. The formal training program will focus on sanitary waste disposal/treatment for semipublic facilities, technical assistance, inspection issues, and enforcement case development. Also, Ohio EPA is available to provide less formal training or assistance to LHDs upon request simply by contacting the district office having jurisdiction over the county area.

Additional guidance manuals or documents on operations of wastewater treatment plants are available from Ohio EPA and copies can be obtained by contacting the appropriate Ohio EPA district office or visiting Ohio EPA's website at epa.ohio.gov/defa/CAU.

How does a local health department fund such a program?

To offset costs of local oversight and the HB110 program, State law (Revised Code § 3709.085) authorizes LHDs to charge fees for inspection services to be paid by semipublics. Provisions in state law allow for the LHD to charge a fee to perform the inspections under the program. These fees are established at the local level and intended to provide enough funding to operate on a day-to-day basis.

Initial costs to start a HB110 program are ultimately the responsibility of the LHD to establish and will require planning and various projections. However, there are various funds available to assist LHDs in this endeavor. The following can be contacted to discuss these various grant or loan opportunities:

Lake Erie Protection Fund
Ohio Lake Erie Commission
(419) 357-2775
lakeerie.ohio.gov

Ohio EPA's Division of Environmental and Financial
Assistance
Water Pollution Control Loan Fund
(614) 644-2798
epa.ohio.gov/defa

Contact Information

The HB110 program is a unique opportunity for Ohio EPA and LHDs to assist one another in achieving the mutual goal of protecting public health and welfare for which the whole state will benefit. Ohio EPA welcomes the participation of all LHDs. For questions, or more information, please contact the appropriate district office or Mark Stump at mark.stump@epa.ohio.gov or phone at (614) 644-2028.

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Central Office

Lazarus Government Center
50 W. Town St., Suite 700
Columbus, OH 43215
(614) 644-3020

Central District Office

Lazarus Government Center
50 W. Town St., Suite 700
Columbus, OH 43215
(614) 728-3778
(800) 686-2330

Northwest District Office

347 N. Dunbridge Rd.
Bowling Green, OH 43402
(419) 352-8461
(800) 686-6930

Northeast District Office

2110 E. Aurora Rd.
Twinsburg, OH 44087
(330) 963-1200
(800) 686-6330

Southeast District Office

2195 E. Front Street
Logan, OH 43138
(740) 385-8501
(800) 686-7330

Southwest District Office

401 E. Fifth St.
Dayton, OH 45402
(937) 285-6357
(800) 686-8930



*Toll-free numbers are for citizens with questions or concerns about environmental issues.
The regulated community should use the business line for routine business.
Spills and emergencies should be reported to (800) 282-9378.*