

Ohio EPA has initiated the “triennial review” of Ohio’s WQS as required by the Clean Water Act. Ohio EPA seeks input on all aspects of the current regulations and specifically requests feedback on the following subject matter.

New or updated Aquatic life chemical criteria

EPA national criteria recommendations:

- Cadmium
- Ammonia
- Chloride
- Copper
- Selenium
- Mercury (add fish tissue based criteria)

Replace current EWH, WWH, MWH, LRW with lower EPA national mussels present/salmonids absent values;
Replace current CWH and SSH with lower EPA national mussels present/salmonids present values;

- Acrolein
- Carbaryl
- Chlorpyrifos
- Diazinon
- Nonylphenol
- Tributyltin

EPA national recommendations exist, Ohio lacks criteria (four pesticides, potential endocrine disruptor and marine paint additive)

New Ohio criteria

- Fluoride
- Strontium
- Barium
- Peracetic acid

Tier I criteria numbers are being developed to address permitting needs

New or updated Human Health (HH) chemical criteria; Update of methodologies consistent with latest federal guidance

- Replace current criteria and add new criteria for 94 chemical covered by USEPA’s 2015 publication of national recommendations. Information is available at <https://www.epa.gov/wqc/human-health-water-quality-criteria>.
- Ohio’s current list of regulated chemicals HH criteria and values are listed on the Division’s web page at:
 - Ohio River basin - <http://www.epa.ohio.gov/portals/35/wqs/Ohioval14.pdf>
 - Lake Erie basin - <http://www.epa.ohio.gov/portals/35/wqs/Erieval13.pdf>

Add new rule “Eutrophication Standards and Implementation Procedures”

- Work has already begun on rules to address nutrients in streams. Following an ESO notification in 2013 a technical advisory group made recommendations on a Stream Nutrient Assessment Procedure (SNAP) that would replace the Agency’s current approach. More information can be found at <http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/wqs/NutrientReduction.aspx#146064467-tag>

Antidegradation

- Update the lists of special high quality water in the antidegradation rule (Outstanding State Waters and Superior High Quality Waters)
- Revise the way in which threatened and endangered species are referenced in the rule
- Update or remove the list of declining fish species

Ohio River Standards

- Update Ohio’s WQS to include the most recent ORSANCO standards <http://www.orsanco.org/pcs>

Mixing Zone rule

- Review/revise rule

Variations

- Revise to be consistent with new federal WQS procedural requirements (all variances need to be done in a rulemaking)
- Multiple discharger variance determinations

Duration and Frequency

- Add language in the rule that describes the time interval and frequency of criteria exceedances that are protective of aquatic life uses and human health consistent with USEPA guidance

Definitions

- Are there specific terms used in the rules that need new or revised definitions?

Analytical methods and availability of documents

- Are all regulations and method documents referenced in the rule correctly cited using the most up-to-date version of the regulation or document?

Beneficial use designations for water supply, recreation and aquatic life (includes Biological Criteria)

- Are there any recommendations to change or update the current set of use designation categories?