



2777 State Road  
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198

# **Operating Plan for Septage Receiving Wastewater Treatment Plant**

Revised October 2014

## SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

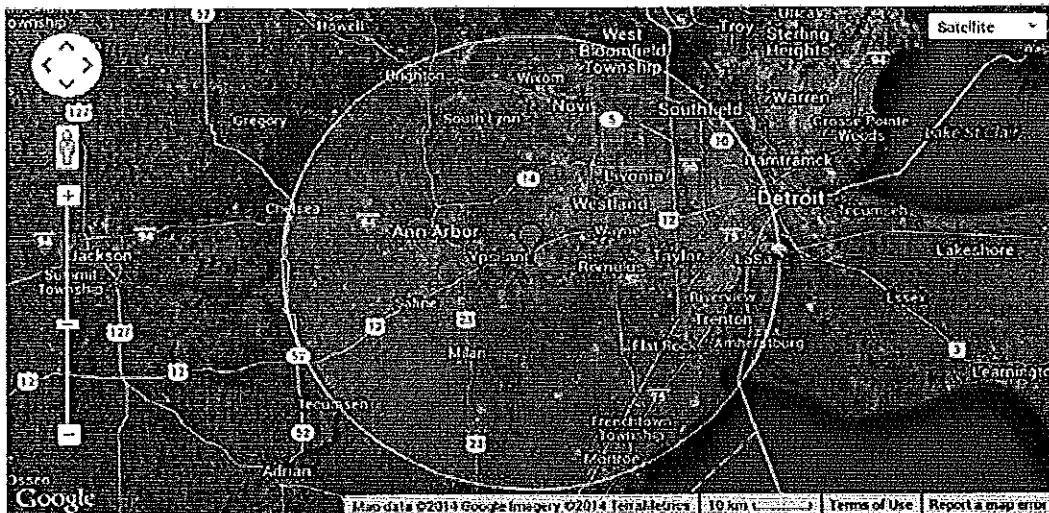
Part 117, Septage Waste Servicers, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, regulates the pumping, disposal, and land application of septage waste. Receiving facilities are required to develop an operating plan for septage receiving to comply with Part 117, Septage Waste Servicers, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451.

## SECTION 2: APPLICABILITY

Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTP) that accept domestic septage are defined as a "receiving facility" in Part 117. The Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority (YCUA) Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) is an approved receiving facility by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). YCUA's WWTP has developed and adopted this operating plan for two septage receiving stations located at 2777 State Road in the Township of Ypsilanti. Domestic septage means liquid or solid material removed from a septic tank, cesspool, portable toilet, type III marine sanitation device, or similar storage or treatment works that receives only domestic sewage. Domestic septage does not include liquid or solid material removed from a septic tank, cesspool, or similar facility that receives either commercial wastewater or industrial wastewater and does not include grease removed from a grease interceptor, grease trap, or other appurtenance used to retain grease or other fatty substances contained in restaurant waste. Domestic sewage means waste and wastewater from humans or household operations.

## SECTION 3: SERVICE AREA

Service area means the territory for which a receiving facility has the capacity and is available to receive and treat septage waste. The geographic service area of a receiving facility shall not extend more than 25 radial miles from the receiving facility. Septage collected in YCUA's service area shall be disposed of at our receiving facility or any other receiving facility within the service area for which the hauler is engaged in collecting septage. Due to the current available treatment capacity at the YCUA WWTP, domestic septage will be accepted from areas inside and outside of our service area provided it is from domestic (residential) sources only. YCUA's receiving facility is located at 2777 State Road in the Township of Ypsilanti. YCUA's service area is pictured below:



### **SECTION 3: HOURS OF OPERATION**

Delivery of septage waste shall occur Monday through Friday between the hours of 6:00 am 6:00 pm. Septage waste deliveries are generally not accepted on Holidays and weekends unless prior arrangements have been made and approved by the YCUA. YCUA observes the following holidays: New Year's Eve; New Year's Day; Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday; Presidents' Day; Good Friday; Memorial Day; July 4<sup>th</sup>; Labor Day; Veteran's Day; Thanksgiving Day; Day after Thanksgiving; Christmas Eve; and Christmas Day. When a holiday falls on a Sunday, it is observed on the following Monday. When a holiday falls on a Saturday it is observed on the preceding Friday. Companies found discharging outside of these times will have their unloading privileges suspended.

### **SECTION 3: VOLUME RESTRICTIONS**

In consideration of the current available treatment capacity at the YCUA WWTP, no volume restrictions are in place. If deemed necessary, YCUA may enact volume restrictions at any time.

### **SECTION 4: BILLING**

YCUA currently charges \$0.07 per gallon of septage as measured by the flow metering system at the primary receiving station. If the primary receiving station is out of service, accurate estimates for septage volumes may be required when using the secondary receiving station. Monthly septage invoices for deliveries from the previous month will be mailed by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Septage invoices are always due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the following month. For example, septage discharged in June will be invoiced by July 15<sup>th</sup> with payment due on or before August 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **SECTION 4: ACCEPTANCE PROCEDURE**

YCUA utilizes a formal application and permitting process when providing discharge authorization to a septage hauling company. Septage haulers are required to have a current septage license from the MDEQ to receive a permit from the YCUA. Septage haulers are invoiced a permit application processing fee upon receipt of a completed application which must be paid prior to discharge authorization. A septage hauler discharge permit is normally issued within 90 days of receiving an acceptable application. Applications can be obtained electronically at [www.ycua.org](http://www.ycua.org).

### **SECTION 5: GENERAL CONDITIONS**

#### **A. Severability**

The provisions of a permit are severable, and if any provision of a permit, or the application of any provision of a permit to any circumstance, is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances, and the remainder of the permit, shall not be affected thereby.

#### B. Duty to Comply

Permittees must comply with all conditions of a permit. Failure to comply with the requirements of a permit may be grounds for administrative action, or enforcement proceedings including civil or criminal penalties, injunctive relief, and summary abatelements.

#### C. Duty to Mitigate

Permittees shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or correct any adverse impact to the public treatment plant or the environment resulting from noncompliance with their permit, or any other federal, State, or local laws, ordinances or standards.

#### D. Permit Modification and Termination

Permits may be modified or terminated for good causes including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. To incorporate any new or revised Federal, State, or local laws, standards, ordinances or requirements.
- b. A change in any condition in either the septage hauler or the POTW that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the authorized discharge.
- c. Violation of any terms or conditions of a permit.
- d. Misrepresentation or failure to disclose fully all relevant facts in the permit application or in any required reporting.
- e. Revision of or a grant of variance from any federal, State, or local laws, standards, or ordinances.
- f. To correct typographical or other errors in a permit.
- g. To reflect transfer of the facility ownership and/or operation to a new owner/operator.
- h. Upon request of a permittee, provided such request does not create a violation of any applicable requirements, standards, laws, ordinances or rules and regulations.
- i. Falsifying any reports.
- j. Refusing to allow timely access to the facility premises and records.
- k. Failure to pay bills and/or fines.
- l. Failure to meet compliance schedules.

The filing of a request by a permittee for a permit modification, revocation and re-issuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance, does not stay any permit condition.

#### E. Permit Appeals

Permittees may petition to appeal the terms of a permit within thirty days of permit reception. This petition must be in writing; failure to submit a petition for review shall be deemed to be a waiver of the appeal. In its petition, the permittee must indicate the permit provisions objected to, the reasons for this objection, and the alternative condition, if any, it seeks to be placed in the permit.

The effectiveness of a permit shall not be stayed pending a reconsideration by the Board. If, after considering the petition and any arguments put forth by the Director, the Board determines that reconsideration is proper, it shall remand the permit back to the Director for re-issuance. Those permit provisions being reconsidered by the Director shall be stayed pending re-issuance. A Board of Director's decision not to reconsider a final permit shall be considered final administrative action for purposes of judicial review.

#### F. Property Rights

The issuance of a permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any injury to private property or any invasion of personal rights, nor any violation of federal, State, or local laws or regulations.

#### G. Limitation on Permit Transfer

Permits may be reassigned or transferred to a new owner and/or operator with prior approval of the Director:

- a. The permittee must give at least thirty days advance notice to the Director
- b. The notice must include a written certification by the new owner which:
  - i. States that the new owner has no immediate intent to change the facility's operation or discharge.
  - ii. Identifies the specific date on which the transfer is to occur.
  - iii. Acknowledges full responsibility for complying with the exiting permit.

#### H. Duty to Reapply

If a permittee wishes to continue an activity regulated by this permit after the expiration date of a permit, the permittee must submit an application for a new permit at least ninety days prior to permit expiration.

#### I. Continuation of Expired Permits

An expired permit will continue to be effective and enforceable until the permit is reissued if:

- a. The permittee has submitted a complete permit application at least ninety days prior to the expiration date of the existing permit.
- b. The failure to reissue the permit, prior to expiration of the previous permit, is not due to any act or failure to act on the part of the permittee.

#### J. Retention of Records

All records that pertain to matters that are the subject of special orders or any other enforcement or litigation activities brought by the YCUA, or any other federal, State or local governing agency, shall be retained and preserved by the permittee until all enforcement activities have concluded and all periods of limitation with respect to any and all appeals have expired.

#### K. Falsifying Information

Knowingly making any false statement on any report or other document required by a permit or knowingly rendering any monitoring device or method inaccurate, is a crime and may result in the imposition of criminal sanctions and/or civil penalties.

#### L. Planned Changes

Permittees shall give thirty days' notice, to the YCUA, of any truck modifications, truck volumes or truck fleet changes which result in new or substantially increased discharges, or if there is a change in the nature of the discharge.

#### M. Anticipated Noncompliance

Permittees shall give advance notice to YCUA of any planned changes that may result in noncompliance with permit requirements.

**N. Duty to Provide Information**

Permittees shall furnish to the YCUA, within ten (10) days any information which the YCUA may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating a permit, or to determine compliance with a permit. The permittee shall also, upon request, furnish to the YCUA within ten days copies of any records required to be kept by a permit.

**O. Signatory Requirements**

All applications, reports, or information submitted to the YCUA must contain the following certification statement and be signed by the owner(s) of the permitted entity.

*" I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."*

**P. Civil and Criminal Liability**

Nothing in a permit shall be construed to relieve the permittee from civil and/or criminal penalties for noncompliance under sewer use ordinance or State or Federal laws or regulations.

**Q. Penalties for Violations of Permit Conditions**

The Sewer Use Ordinance provides that any person who violates a permit condition may be subject to a civil penalty of \$1000 per day of such violation. Any person who willfully or negligently violates permit conditions is subject to criminal penalties of a fine of up to \$500 per day of violation, or by imprisonment up to 90 days, or both. The permittee may also be subject to sanctions under State and/or federal law.

**R. Recovery of Costs Incurred**

In addition to civil and criminal liability, permittees violating any of the provisions of a permit or Sewer Use Ordinance or causing damage to or otherwise inhibiting the YCUA wastewater disposal system shall be liable to the YCUA for any expense, loss, or damage caused by such violation or discharge. YCUA shall bill the permittee for the costs incurred by the YCUA for any cleaning, repairing, or replacement work caused by the violation or discharge. Refusal to pay the assessed costs shall constitute a separate violation of the Sewer Use Ordinance.

**SECTION 6: GENERAL PROHIBITIVE DISCHARGE STANDARDS**

Permittees shall comply with all the general prohibitive discharge standards in the sewer use ordinance. Namely, the permittee shall not discharge to the sewer system:

- A. Any liquids, solids or gases which by reason of their nature or quantity are, or may be, sufficient either alone or by interaction with other substances to cause fire or explosion or be injurious in any other way to the sewage works or to the operation of the sewage works.
- B. Solids or viscous substances that may cause obstruction to the flow in a sewer or other interference with the operation of the wastewater treatment facilities.
- C. Any wastewater having a pH less than 5.0 or greater than 11.0; or wastewater having any other corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to structure, equipment, or personnel of the sewage works.

- D. Any wastewater containing toxic pollutants or of high chlorine demand in sufficient quantity, either singly or by interaction with other pollutants, to injure or interfere with any wastewater treatment process, constitute a hazard to humans or animals, create a toxic effect in the receiving waters of the sewage works, or exceed the limitation set forth in the EPA Categorical Pretreatment Standard, or any other Federal, State or County standards.
- E. Pollutants that result in the presence of toxic gases, vapors, or fumes within the POTW in a quantity that may cause worker health and safety problems. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, wastewaters, which contain liquids, solids, or gases that cause gases, vapors, or fumes from the discharge to exceed 10% of the immediately dangerous to life and health (IDLH) concentration. Discharges which contain more than one pollutant which may contribute to fume toxicity shall be subject to more restrictive limitations, as determined necessary by the Director. The more restrictive discharge limits shall be calculated based on the additive fume toxicity of all compounds identified or reasonably expected to be present in the discharge.
- F. Any noxious or malodorous liquids, gases, or solids which either singly or by interaction with other wastes are sufficient to create a public nuisance or hazard to life or are sufficient to prevent entry into the sewers for maintenance and repair.
- G. Any substance such as residues, sludge's, or scum that may cause the sewage works to be unsuitable for land application or reclamation and reuse or to interfere with the reclamation process.
- H. Any substance which will cause the sewage works to violate its NPDES Permit or the receiving water quality standards.
- I. Any wastewater with color or sufficient light absorbance to interfere with treatment plant process, prevent analytical determinations, or create any aesthetic effect on the treatment plant effluent, such as, but not limited to, dye wastes and vegetable tanning solutions.
- J. Daily maximum concentration or mass loading shall not be exceeded on any single calendar day. Where daily maximum limitations are expressed in terms of a concentration, the daily discharge is the arithmetical measurement of the pollutant concentration derived from all measurements taken that day. Where daily maximum limitations are expressed in units of mass, the daily discharge is the total mass discharged during the day. If a composite sample is required for a parameter, the determination whether the daily maximum limitation for that parameter has been exceeded on a single calendar day shall be based on the composite sample collected for that parameter on that calendar day. If grab samples are required for a parameter, the determination whether the daily maximum limitation for that parameter has been exceeded on a calendar day shall be based on the average of all grab samples collected for that parameter on that calendar day. If only one grab sample is collected for a parameter on a given day, the determination whether the daily maximum limitation for that parameter has been exceeded for the day shall be based on the results of that single grab sample. If the pollutant concentration in any sample is less than the applicable detection limit, that value shall be regarded as zero (0) when calculating the daily maximum concentration.
- K. Any wastewater having a temperature which will inhibit biological activity in the sewage works resulting in interference, but in no case wastewater with a temperature at the introduction into the sewage works which exceeds 60 degrees Celsius (140F) or is lower than 0 degree Celsius (32F).
- L. Any wastewater containing any radioactive wastes or isotopes of such half-life or concentration as may exceed limits established by applicable State or Federal regulations.
- M. Any wastewater that causes a hazard to human life or creates a public nuisance.
- N. Containing organic solvent extractable substances such as fats, wax, grease, or oils of petroleum origin, whether emulsified or not, in excess of 100 mg/l or containing substances which may solidify or become viscous at temperatures between 32 degrees F and at 140 degrees F.

- O. Gasoline, benzene, naphtha, fuel oil or other flammable or explosive liquids, solids, gases or other pollutants which cause the wastewater to have a closed cup flashpoint of less than 140 degrees F, or pollutants which cause an exceedance of 10 percent of the Lower Explosive Limit (LEL) at any point within the POTW, or containing gasoline, benzene, xylene or toluene which causes the wastewater to exceed the State of Michigan Surface Water Quality Standards.
- P. Any garbage that has not been ground by household type or other suitable garbage grinders.
- Q. Any ashes, cinders, sand, mud, straw, shavings, metal, glass, rags, feathers, tar, plastics, wood, paunch, manure, or any other solids or viscous substances capable of causing obstructions or other interferences with proper operation of the sewer system.
- R. Toxic or poisonous substances in sufficient quantity to injure or interfere with any wastewater treatment process, to constitute hazards to humans or animals, or to create any hazard in waters, which receive, treated effluent from the sewer system treatment plant. Toxic wastes shall include, but are not limited to wastes containing cyanide, chromium, cadmium, mercury, copper, and nickel ions.
- S. Solids of such character and quantity that special and unusual attention required for their handling.
- T. Any substance which would cause the treatment plant to be in noncompliance with sludge use, recycle or disposal criteria pursuant to guidelines or regulations developed under section 405 of the Federal Act, the Solid Waste Disposal Act, the Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act or other regulations or criteria for sludge management and disposal as required by the State.
- U. Any medical or infectious wastes prohibited from being discharged under Federal or State law and regulations.
- V. Any pollutant, including BOD pollutants, released at a flow rate and/or pollutant concentration which would cause interference with the treatment plant.
- W. Material considered a hazardous waste under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).
- X. Any commercial or industrial waste that may cause pass through of pollutants or interference with the wastewater treatment plant operations or that violates Federal, State, or local restrictions.
- Y. Trucked and hauled wastes, except at discharge points designated by YCUA.
- Z. Pollutants causing toxic gases, vapors, and fumes.
- AA. Any leachate from a hazardous waste landfill.
- BB. Any landfill leachate unless permitted and authorized under a written contract, within YCUA's sole discretion, between YCUA and the User.
- CC. Any pollutant discharge which constitutes a slug.