



YPSILANTI COMMUNITY UTILITIES AUTHORITY

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Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority (YCUA)  
Wastewater Treatment Plant  
2777 State Rd.  
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198  
(734) 484-4600 ext 121 or ext 119

The YCUA Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) is a receiving facility for septage waste. The YCUA will continue to receive septage waste. To comply with Part 117, Septage Waste Servicers, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, the YCUA developed a proposed Operating Plan for Septage Receiving.

The Operating Plan is available for review during normal business hours at the YCUA WWTP Administration Office: Monday- Friday 8AM – 4PM.

YCUA is requesting written comments on the proposed operation of the receiving facility. The deadline for receipt of written comments is October 9, 2005 at 4PM.

YPSILANTI COMMUNITY UTILITIES AUTHORITY

Environmental Leaders



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Water and Wastewater Services to Our Customers

# **Standard Operating Procedure**

**Date: August 2005**

**2777 STATE ROAD  
YPSILANTI, MI 48198-9112  
Telephone No.: 734.484.4600  
Fax No.: 734.544.7149**

## **SEPTAGE RECEIVING**

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**STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR**  
**SEPTAGE ACCEPTANCE AT THE**  
**YPSILANTI COMMUNITY UTILITIES AUTHORITY**  
**WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

**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. To comply with Part 117, Septage Waste Servicers, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, a Receiving Facility must develop an Operating Plan for Septage Receiving.

**Applicability**

A Wastewater Treatment Plan (WWTP) that accepts domestic septage are now defined as a “receiving facility” in Part 117, Septage Waste Servicers, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended. Receiving Facility must develop an Operating Plan for Septage Receiving.

The Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority (YCUA) Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) is currently a receiving facility and will continue to be a receiving facility.

The YCUA WWTP has developed and adopted this Operating Plan for Septage Receiving.

**Domestic Septage**

As defined below is the category of septage that YCUA will accept for treatment.

Domestic Septage – The septage pumped from home septic tanks, recreational vehicles (RV), cesspool, portable toilet, type III marine sanitation device, or similar storage or treatment works that receives only domestic sewage.

**Service Area**

The Service Area can be up to fifteen (15) radial miles from the receiving facility beginning October 12, 2005 through October 12, 2010. On October 12, 2010, the receiving facility’s service area can be as large as twenty-five (25) radial miles from the center of the wastewater treatment plant. **Exhibit I** shows the area encompassed by a fifteen (15) mile radius around the receiving facility (YCUA WWTP). The encompassed area is the **service area** for the YCUA receiving facility. The Septage Haulers must discharge into a WWTP Receiving Facility if the septage is collected within this service area. The Septage Hauler do not have to discharge into the YCUA Receiving Facility, but because there is a receiving facility within this area, the Septage Haulers cannot land apply septage that is collected within the fifteen mile service area.

**YCUA Wastewater Treatment Plant Location**

The Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority (YCUA) Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) is located at 2777 State Road, Ypsilanti, Michigan. The attached map, see **Exhibit I**, shows the location of the YCUA WWTP.

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The YCUA WWTP is located in the center of the service area and is marked with the label “YCUA”.

YCUA WWTP Septage Receiving Station Location – The location of the Septage Receiving Facility at the YCUA WWTP is marked on Exhibit II. A zoomed-in view of the Septage Receiving Station location at the YCUA WWTP is shown on Exhibit III. In the event that the Septage Receiving Station is inoperable an alternative facility for discharging septage is available.

### **Hours of Operation**

Delivery of all septic waste at the YCUA WWTP shall occur Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 3:45 P.M. (No septic deliveries on Holidays). Drivers bringing loads before or after these hours will be turned away unless pre-arrangements have been made. Any driver found discharging outside of these times would forfeit the company’s privileges for future discharge.

This information must be presented to all of drivers that bring septage to the YCUA WWTP.

### **Volume Restrictions**

The YCUA Wastewater Treatment Plant will accept seventy-five thousand (75,000) gallons of septage per week (Monday – Friday). There is no daily volume limitation for septage waste. The running total of gallons discharged at the WWTP for the day and week is maintained by the Maintenance Stockroom Personnel. If and when thirty thousand (30,000) gallons are received in a day or seventy-five thousand (75,000) gallons are received in a week, no additional septage is accepted unless authorized by YCUA Management.

### **Fee Structure**

The current charge for septage discharged to the YCUA Wastewater Treatment facility is **\$0.07 per gallon**.

### **Invoicing**

All permitted Septage Haulers will have an account established with the YCUA Accounts Receivable Department. The information necessary for monthly invoicing of the Septage Hauler will be maintained and updated as necessary.

Maintenance Stockroom personnel forwards YCUA WWTP Septage Hauling Records to the Industrial Pretreatment Supervisor monthly for review.

Industrial Pretreatment Supervisor totalizes the gallons discharged by each company monthly and provides the YCUA Accounts Receivable Department with a monthly summary.

YCUA Accounts Receivable Department invoices each Septage Hauler monthly.

Failure by the Septage Hauler to compensate the YCUA within **thirty days of invoice date** may result in loss of unloading privileges at the YCUA WWTP or be required to maintain a deposited amount with the YCUA equal to the largest outstanding balance on YCUA records.

### **Acceptance Procedure**

The YCUA utilizes a formal application (see Exhibit IV) and permitting process to authorize a Septage Hauler Company to discharge septage waste into the YCUA WWTP. The YCUA Industrial Pretreatment Program (IPP) administers the Septage Acceptance Program at the YCUA.

Septage Haulers with a current Septage License from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) is eligible to complete an application for a YCUA Septage Permit. The IPP Supervisor evaluates the permit applications and verifies the authenticity of the Septage License. If all of the credentials are acceptable a YCUA Septage Permit is generated. The Septage Hauler is scheduled for an orientation at the YCUA WWTP Administration Building and the Operating Plan for Septage Acceptance is presented.

### **Unloading Procedure**

The Licensed Septage Hauler arrives at YCUA WWTP and goes to the Maintenance Department Stockroom. The Stockroom Personnel oversee the Driver's entry of information onto the Septage Hauler Record Form, whereby the date, time of arrival, truck ID number, gallons to discharge, and signature are recorded.

Failure by driver to properly fill out Septage Hauler Record Form may result in loss of unloading privileges.

The Driver obtains an empty sample bottle from Maintenance Stockroom, labels bottle with date, time, and Driver's name and proceeds to septage unloading station.

YCUA personnel may perform an audit, which involves inspecting the septage load during delivery for verification of volume and content of discharge. Verification of Truck Identification Number and Drivers Signature may also be required. Discrepancies from volume or any other information provided on Septage Hauler Record Form may result in loss of discharge privileges at the YCUA.

Driver unloads at septage unloading station. A representative sample is obtained from load approximately halfway through discharge.

After completion of discharge, driver hoses off back end of truck and receiving area as necessary to reduce unsanitary conditions.

Filled, properly labeled sample bottle is returned to sample refrigerator near Maintenance Stockroom for analysis by the YCUA.

## **GENERAL CONDITIONS**

### **Severability**

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

### **Duty to Comply**

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

### **Duty to Mitigate**

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

### **Permit Modification and Termination**

This permit 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. Material or substantial alterations or additions to the discharger's operation, or discharge volume or character, which were not considered in drafting the effective permit
- C. 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
- D. Information indicating that the permitted discharge poses a threat to the Control Authority's collection and treatment systems, POTW personnel or the receiving waters
- E. Violation of any terms or conditions of the permit
- F. Misrepresentation or failure to disclose fully all-relevant facts in the permit application or in any required reporting
- G. Revision of or a grant of variance from any federal, state, or local laws, standards, or ordinances

- H. To correct typographical or other errors in the permit
- I. To reflect transfer of the facility ownership and/or operation to a new owner/operator
- J. Upon request of the permittee, provided such request does not create a violation of any applicable requirements, standards, laws, ordinances or rules and regulations
- K. Falsifying any reports
- L. Refusing to allow timely access to the facility premises and records
- M. Failure to meet discharge limitations
- N. Failure to pay fines
- O. Failure to pay septage-billing charges
- P. Failure to meet compliance schedules

The filing of a request by the 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.

### **Permit Appeals**

The permittee may petition to appeal the terms of this permit within thirty (30) days of the notice. 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 this permit shall not be stayed pending 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.

### **Property Rights**

The issuance of this 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.

### **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 (30) days advance notice to the Director
- C. 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 existing permit.

### **Duty to Reapply**

If the permittee wishes to continue an activity regulated by this permit after the expiration date of this permit, the permittee must submit an application for a new permit at least ninety (90) days before the expiration date of this permit.

### **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 (90) days prior to the expiration date of the users 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.

### **Dilution**

The permittee shall not increase the use of potable or, in any way; attempt to dilute to achieve compliance with the limitations contained in this permit.

### **Compliance with Applicable Pretreatment Standards and Requirements**

Compliance with this permit does not relieve the permittee from its obligations regarding compliance with any and all applicable local, State and Federal pretreatment standards and requirements including any such standards or requirements that may become effective during the term of this permit.

### **Representative Sampling**

Samples and measurements taken as required herein shall be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored discharge. All samples shall be taken at the monitoring points specified in this permit. Monitoring

points and procedures shall not be changed without notification to and the approval of the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority.

### **Volume Measurements**

If this permit requires volume measurement, the appropriate volume measurement devices and methods consistent with approved scientific practices shall be selected and used to ensure the accuracy and reliability of measurements of the volume of monitored discharges. The devices shall be installed, calibrated, and maintained to ensure that the accuracy of the measurements is consistent with the accepted capability of that type of device. Devices selected shall be capable of measuring volumes with a maximum deviation of less than 10 percent from true volume rates throughout the range of expected discharge volumes.

### **Analytical Methods to Demonstrate Continued Compliance**

All sampling and analysis required by this permit shall be performed in accordance with the techniques prescribed in 40 CFR Part 136 and amendments thereto, otherwise approved by EPA, or as specified in this permit.

### **Inspection and Entry**

The permittee shall allow the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority, or an authorized representative, upon the presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:

- A. Enter upon the permittee's premises where a regulated activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
- B. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
- C. Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment, including monitoring and control equipment, practices, or operations regulated or required under this permit;
- D. Sample or monitor, for the purposes of assuring permit compliance, any substances or parameters at any location; and
- E. Inspect any production, manufacturing, fabricating, or storage area where pollutants, regulated under the permit, could originate, be stored, or be discharged to the sewer system.

### **Retention of Record**

All records that pertain to matters that are the subject of special orders or any other enforcement or litigation activities brought by the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority, 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.

### **Falsifying Information**

Knowingly making any false statement on any report or other document required by this 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.

### **Planned Changes**

The permittee shall give thirty days notice, to the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority, 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.

### **Anticipated Noncompliance**

The permittee shall give advance notice to the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority of any planned changes, which may result in noncompliance with permit requirements.

### **Duty to Provide Information**

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

### **Signatory Requirements**

All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority must contain the following certification statement and be signed by the owner(s) of the septic hauling company.

"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."

**Civil and Criminal Liability**

Nothing in this 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.

**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 for 90 days(s), or both. The permittee may also be subject to sanctions under State and/or Federal law.

**Recovery of Costs Incurred**

In addition to civil and criminal liability, the permittee violating any of the provisions of this permit or sewer use ordinance or causing damage to or otherwise inhibiting the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority wastewater disposal system shall be liable to the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority for any expense, loss, or damage caused by such violation or discharge. The Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority shall bill the permittee for the costs incurred by the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority 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.

**GENERAL PROHIBITIVE DISCHARGE STANDARDS**

The permittee shall comply with all the general prohibitive discharge standards in the sewer use ordinance. Namely, the septage hauler shall not discharge to the YCUA WWTP:

- 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, which may cause obstruction to the flow 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 YCUA WWTP.
- 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 YCUA WWTP, or exceed the limitation set forth in the EPA Categorical Pretreatment Standard, or any other Federal, State or Local standards.
- E. 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 any YCUA WWTP process for maintenance and repair.
- F. Any substance such as residues, sludges, or scums, which may cause the sewage, works to be unsuitable for land application or reclamation and reuse or to interfere with the reclamation process.
- G. Any substance, which will cause the sewage, works to violate its NPDES Permit or the receiving water quality standards.
- H. 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.
- I. 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).

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- J. 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.
- K. Any wastewater that causes a hazard to human life or creates a public nuisance.
- L. Containing Freon 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.
- M. 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.
- N. Any garbage that has not been ground by household type or other suitable garbage grinders.
- O. 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.
- P. 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 that 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.
- Q. Solids of such character and quantity that special and unusual attention required for their handling.
- R. 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.
- S. Any medical or infectious wastes prohibited from being discharged under Federal or State law and regulations.
- T. Any pollutant, including BOD pollutants, released at a volume rate and/or pollutant concentration, which would cause interference with the treatment plant.
- U. Material considered a hazardous waste under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

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- V. 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.
  - W. Trucked and hauled wastes, except by permit and only at discharge points designated by YCUA.
  - X. Pollutants causing toxic gases, vapors, and fumes.
  - Y. Any untreated landfill leachate from any site classified as a 201 Site by the DEQ.
  - Z. Any leachate from a hazardous waste landfill or one containing polychlorinated biphenyls.
-