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## Running a Nail or Hair Salon? Know Your Ohio EPA Regulations

If you are running a nail salon, beauty shop or barber-shop, you need to be aware of the Ohio EPA regulations that apply to your business. If you have wastewater discharges from your business or generate other wastes, Ohio EPA may regulate these activities. It is important to understand and comply with the regulations to help avoid violations.

This fact sheet highlights some of the major Ohio EPA requirements that could apply to your salon. It may not cover every requirement, but will provide you with a starting point in identifying where you might be subject to regulation. You will also need to contact other agencies such as the Cosmetology Board, local building department, fire department, health department, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and others to find out what additional requirements apply to your business.

### Managing Wastes

Under Ohio's regulations, any business that generates a waste needs to evaluate it to see if it is hazardous waste. Nonhazardous wastes that you generate include clippings, packaging, paper and empty containers that you put in the trash.

Products you use in your business include tints, coloring, peroxide, toners, lighteners, relaxers, polish removers and other chemicals. Some of these may contain acids, alkalis or flammable solvents. You are trained to protect you and your customers from any harmful effects from these chemicals. These same harmful properties may make these products become hazardous wastes when you can no longer use them. A waste that is ignitable, corrosive, reactive or toxic is defined as a characteristic hazardous waste. In addition, there are specific lists of hazardous wastes in Ohio EPA's regulations.

Outdated products, partially full containers or unwanted products are considered wastes. And, these may be hazardous wastes. Spent solvent from processing nails may also be hazardous waste. Under the regulations, hazardous waste

must be sent for disposal at a permitted hazardous waste disposal facility. Hazardous waste CANNOT be disposed of in the trash. To help reduce hazardous waste generation, use up all of the products that you purchase and consider reusing solvents where possible. *You can call your local Ohio EPA district office, Division of Hazardous Waste Management for more information on the hazardous waste regulations.*



### Wastewater

Are the sinks in your salon connected to a public wastewater treatment plant? If so, you may be able to discharge your process wastewater to the treatment plant. Many wastewater treatment plants (also called POTWs) are operated by the city. Before you discharge wastewater to the POTW though, you need to contact the POTW to see if they can handle the type of wastewater your shop will generate. Depending on the size and nature of your business, you may be required to get a permit before you can discharge your wastewater to the POTW.

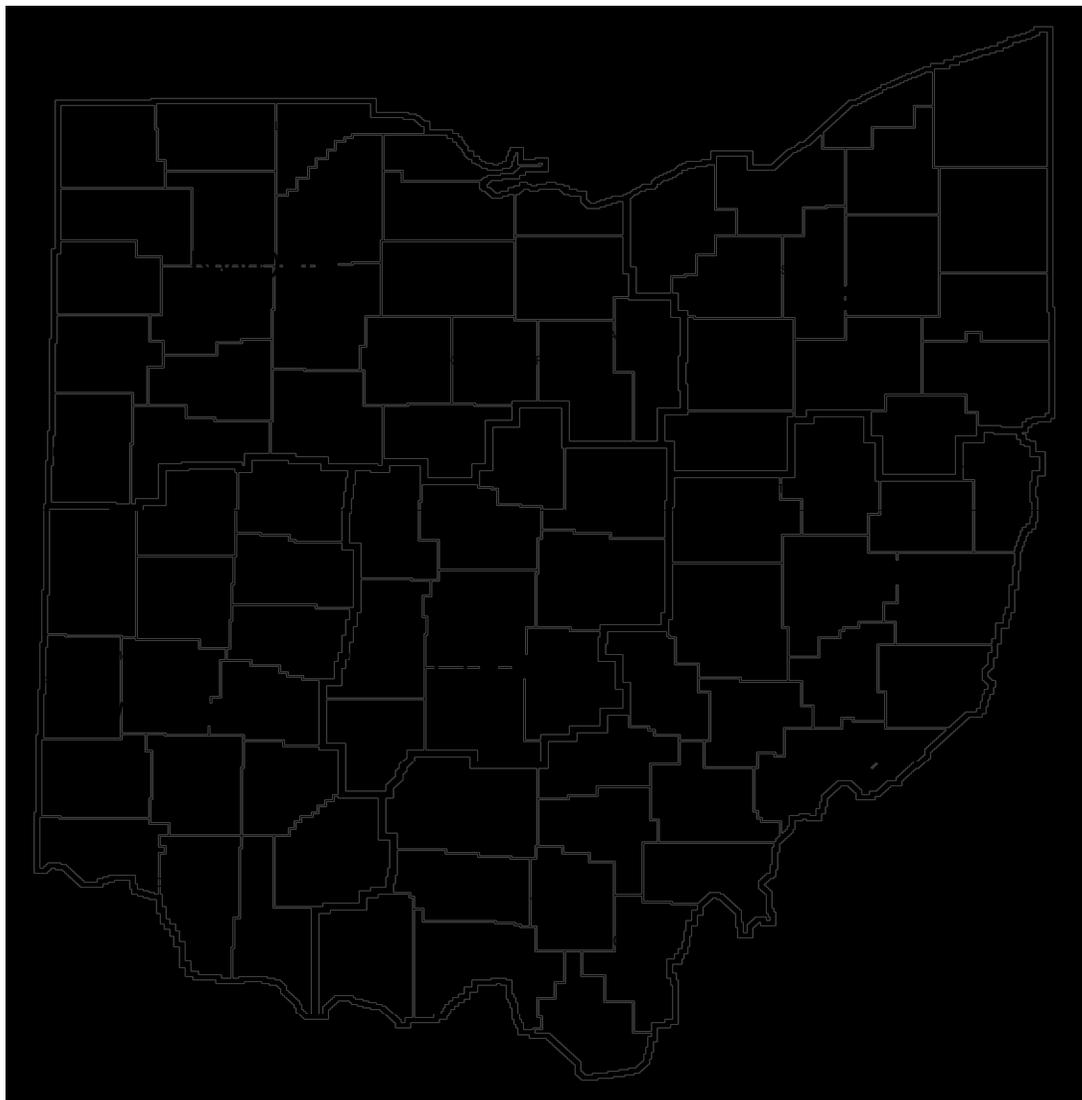
It is important to know that Ohio EPA's regulations DO NOT allow for the discharge of process wastewater or chemicals into an on-site sewage treatment system, like a septic tank and leach field. Discharging chemicals into an on-site septic system can kill the helpful bacteria that break down sewage wastes. In addition, chemicals can leach from the system into nearby groundwater. If you want to run a salon from your home or from a business location that is connected to an on-site sewage treatment system, contact Ohio EPA to discuss options for managing your wastewater. *You can contact your local Ohio EPA district office, Division of Surface Water for more information on the wastewater discharge and permitting requirements. If you are unsure of who your local POTW contact is, you can also call the Division of Surface Water for assistance.*

### Drinking Water

If your business has its own well that supplies water for drinking, cooking, washing hands, washing dishes, or bathing, it may meet Ohio EPA's definition of a public water system. A public water system is one that has at least 15 service connections or regularly provides water to 25 or more people for 60 or more days a year. Under these regulations, you must submit plans for installing or changing a well. In addition, well systems must be tested periodically and the test results reported to Ohio EPA. *Contact your local Ohio EPA district office, Division of Drinking & Ground Waters for more information on well system requirements.*

### Need Additional Help?

If you have additional questions about Ohio EPA's regulations, please contact the Ohio EPA, Small Business Assistance Office for FREE and CONFIDENTIAL help at 800-329-7518 or 614-728-8573. You can also contact your local Ohio EPA District Office for assistance. See map for the District Office which covers the county your business is located in.



**DISTRICT OFFICES**

**CDO**      **Central District Office**  
3232 Alum Creek Drive  
Columbus, Ohio 43207-3417  
(614) 728-3778 FAX: (614) 728-3898  
1-800-686-2330

**SEDO** **Southeast District Office**  
2195 Front Street  
Logan, Ohio 43138  
(614) 385-8501 FAX: (614) 385-6490  
1-800-686-7330

**NEDO**      **Northeast District Office**  
2110 E. Aurora Road  
Twinsburg, Ohio 44087  
(216) 425-9171 FAX: (216) 487-0769  
1-800-686-6330

**SWDO** **Southwest District Office**  
401 East Fifth Street  
Dayton, Ohio 45402-2911  
(937) 285-6357 FAX: (937) 285-6249  
1-800-686-8930

**NWDO**      **Northwest District Office**  
347 North Dunbridge Road  
Bowling Green, Ohio 43402  
(419) 352-8461 FAX: (419) 352-8468  
1-800-686-6930