



## Managing Leachate and Condensate

### Applicable Statutes

MSW: ORC 3734  
ISW: ORC 3734  
RSW: ORC 3734  
Tires: ORC 3734  
C&DD: ORC 3714

### Purpose

This educational guideline addresses an owner or operator's (generator's) responsibility for determining whether leachate and condensate generated at their facility is a hazardous waste.

### Applicability

This guidance document is applicable to owners and operators of solid waste landfill facilities and construction and demolition debris (C&DD) landfill facilities.

### Definitions

Leachate [OAC 3745-27-01(L)(1)] means liquid that has come in contact with or been released from waste.<sup>2</sup>

Condensate is the liquid generated as a result of the gas collection and recovery process. Condensate includes the liquid that is inadvertently generated from the gas collection system, as well as what is generated from the gas recovery process.<sup>3</sup>

### Detailed Discussion

Leachate and condensate are two separate waste streams generated at landfills. Leachate and condensate from landfills can contain hazardous constituents either as a direct result of the wastes disposed in the facility (e.g., household hazardous wastes) or as a result of the breakdown of the chemical compounds found in waste (e.g., leachate derived constituents).

Owners and operators of solid waste and C&DD landfills are responsible for determining whether any waste generated at their site is hazardous waste, including the leachate and condensate produced at their facilities.

Leachate does not need to be evaluated in accordance with OAC 3745-52-11. However, if leachate recirculation is authorized, the leachate is not subject to hazardous waste characterization while it is being recirculated.

Condensate, including that which is generated through the gas recovery process, does need to be evaluated in accordance with OAC 3745-52-11. However, condensate formed in the gas collection pipe network and routed directly back into the landfill, or condensate that is authorized to be recirculated back into the landfill, is not subject to hazardous waste characterization while it is being recirculated.

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<sup>1</sup> Note: This document was originally published on the date noted above. DMWM re-issued the document to make it consistent with current formatting and publication standards after evaluating the content and determining it is still relevant and appropriate. No substantive changes were made to the document.

<sup>2</sup> The hazardous waste program also has a definition for leachate found in OAC 3745-50-10(A). *Leachate means any liquid, including any suspended components in the liquid, that has percolated through or drained from hazardous waste.* For this document, the solid waste program definition is used.

<sup>3</sup> This definition differs from the definition of condensate in Subtitle D, which is limited to what is generated by the gas recovery process and is applied only when condensate is to be recirculated.

## Managing Leachate and Condensate

An owner or operator with questions about whether the leachate or condensate is characteristically hazardous or if it could be a listed hazardous waste, should contact the Division of Materials and Waste Management at (614) 644-2621.

If, after evaluating the leachate or condensate sample, the owner or operator determines that the leachate or condensate is non-hazardous, then it should be managed and disposed in accordance with the landfill operation rules and Chapter 6111 of the Revised Code. The generator must retain documentation demonstrating how it was concluded that the waste is not hazardous.

### Contact

If you have questions regarding this document or would like additional information, please contact:

Central District Office DMWM Supervisor (614) 728-3778

Northeast District Office DMWM Supervisor (330) 963-1200

Northwest District Office DMWM Supervisor (419) 352-8461

Southeast District Office DMWM Supervisor (740) 385-8501

Southwest District Office DMWM Supervisor (937) 285-6357

Central Office Authorizing Actions and Engineering Unit (614) 644-2621

### Contact

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