What is the Orphan Drum Program?

Division of Emergency and Remedial Response
The Orphan Drum Program is Committed to:

- Properly disposing of small quantities of abandoned waste
- Locating the responsible parties and making them pay

What is an Orphan Drum?

- Small quantity of any size or shape container
- Abandoned at location other than generation point
- No identifiable owner

What is not an Orphan Drum?

- Large quantity of containers
- Located at generation point
- Identifiable owner
- Property transfers/purchases

If you witness a dumping:

Try to obtain the following:

- license plate number
- description of vehicle
- description of dumpers
- time and place
If You Locate Orphan Drums:

Call Ohio EPA’s Emergency Response Hotline 24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

1-800-282-9378 within the State
1-614-224-0946 outside the State

Call local fire department if the containers are leaking or are in a creek, river or lake, then call the Ohio EPA Hotline

Because:

- drums may be under pressure
- contents may be shock sensitive, reactive or toxic
- this is a crime scene and dumping is illegal

Division of Emergency and Remedial Response

Don’t

- Kick
- Move
- Open
- Touch
- Remove
What Happens to Orphan Drums?

- Drums are sampled

  The drums are sampled and secured prior to pickup. The Orphan Drum Program relies heavily on local agencies such as fire departments and trustees to protect local citizens by securing the drums pending their removal.

- Contents are analyzed.

- Waste is characterized as hazardous or non-hazardous.

  Nonhazardous waste disposal is the responsibility of local officials. Ohio EPA will assist in the proper disposal of these containers.

- Ohio EPA picks up hazardous waste containers from secure locations 2-4 times per year.

- Waste is disposed using Ohio companies.

  Waste is handled in this order:
  - reuse
  - recycle
  - use as a fuel
  - treat
  - incinerate

- Case is investigated to determine who is responsible

- Enforcement action is taken to prosecute dumpers

1-800-282-9378
(in Ohio)

1-614-224-0946
(outside Ohio)

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