

Erie County Department of Environmental Services

The Erie County Department of Environmental Services was created by the Board of County Commissioners of Erie County, Ohio, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 6117 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Department is under the supervision of the Board and in the charge of a registered professional engineer, the County Sanitary Engineer, who is appointed by the Board for the purpose of aiding it in the performance of its duties under Section 6117.01 to 6117.45 of the Revised Code.

The Department of Environmental Services (DOES) is responsible for planning and construction of new water, wastewater and solid waste facilities, implementation and compliance with new solid waste regulations, compliance and enforcement of constantly changing environmental requirements that impact operation of County water, wastewater and solid waste facilities, as well as the day-to-day routine of operating and maintaining these same facilities and administers the County recycling program along with other recycle/reuse/disposal programs.

DOES staff was at 37 full time and 1 part-time employees. Management employees received a 1% raise at year's end.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Ohio EPA approved the Erie County Solid Waste Management District Plan update on September 28, 2010. The Plan forecasts 15 years of solid waste management including, but not limited to; landfill capacity, recycling opportunities, education, and waste reduction. The Plan is required to be updated every five years.

The updated Plan goals include self-funded curbside recycling in Cities and Perkins Township where populations are over 5,000 and to establish self funded efficient drop off sites in area with less than 5,000 population by 2015.

In 2012 the Solid Waste District provided recycling opportunities for Erie County residents. In 2012 the District:

- Provided 5 drop-off sites where residents recycled 860 tons of aluminum, glass, plastic, paper, and cardboard and through the curbside program collected 1,371 tons of recyclables.
- Collected 40.25 tons of recyclables from our school recycling program and 17 tons of recyclables from 9 Erie County businesses through our partnership with Christie Lane Industries.
- Conducted Electronic Round-Up that 9 tons of Electronics.
- Provided twelve battery drop-off recycling locations to collect and recycle 4 tons of household batteries.
- A total of 33.02 tons of tires was recycled with the Tire Recycling program at the Erie County Landfill.
- Held the 5th annual "Earth Day Extravaganza" with other environmental organizations to promote Earth Day at Osborn MetroPark, over 1,750 in attendance.
- Held three household hazardous waste material collections from July through September and collected 17 tons of hazardous materials from Erie County residents.

LANDFILL

The Landfill received and disposed of 143,492 tons of solid waste; a 1.9% decrease from 2011. Buried waste was compacted to a density of 0.83 tons per cubic yard (1,660 lbs/cu yd). At EPA permit maximum disposal of 800 tons per day, the EPA permitted remaining life is 17.4 years and at 2012 receipts of 143,492 tons per year is 30.1 years. These figures assume the EPA approval of a pending Vertical Expansion Permit. The Landfill is located on approximately 230 acres. The Landfill opened in 1969 for the disposal of non-hazardous solid waste. The Landfill's disposal rates for 2012 were:

- \$52.00/ton for municipal solid waste
- \$30.00/ton for EPA ordered contaminated soil and wastewater municipal sludge; \$20/ton for road base quality
- \$10.00 for small vehicles up to 400 lbs and \$20 for 400-800 lbs
- The Landfill Gas-to-Energy Program transported and sold 278,764,300 cubic feet of Landfill Gas to the Renewable Energy Sources of Ohio for the generation of electricity. The County received \$53,966.89 in gas sale revenue. The

Green House Gas emissions were reduced by 52,892 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent and the Landfill received \$88,723 for Carbon Credit Sales.

- Purchased a new 2012 CAT D6T Dozer and a 2009 CAT 740 Articulating 40 ton dump truck.
- Performed two ground water events including re-samples and field measurements as indicated in groundwater sampling and analysis sampling plan.
- Maintained roads and access to working face and installed new access and turn around areas.

SEWER DISTRICTS

Erie County Commissioners combined the Erie County Sewer District and the Huron Area Sewer District into one district called the Erie County Sewer District and established a common sewer rate for all customers of \$14 minimum for the first 2 CCF of water use and \$5/CCF for all additional water use. Note 1 CCF = 748 gallons.

The Erie County Sewer District consists of approximately 132 miles of sewer and 42 pumping stations.

Wastewater Collection Division projects include, remote monitoring/ alarm systems were installed at 42 pump stations; 27 pump station wet wells were cleaned, 86,825 lineal feet of sewers were cleaned that includes 16 subdivisions; 10 ton of debris was removed from the sewers and pump stations and disposed of at the Landfill. Acknowledged 609 alarms, 21 sewer calls, plugs or possible plugs, 2 sewage in basement due to County line blockage. Assisted Water, Treatment and Landfill Divisions with various projects.

Mitiwanga-Ruggles Wastewater Treatment Plant in Berlin Township treated 33.2 million gallons of wastewater an average of 91,000 gallons per day and 61% of design capacity. Beulah Beach tied into Erie County's sewer system and demo'd their wastewater treatment plant. We now receive additional wastewater flow to this plant.

Sawmill Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant in Huron treated 228 million gallons of wastewater; an average of 624,000 gallons per day and 56% of the design capacity. The raw fine screen was taken out of service for total rebuild due to failure.

Huron Basin Wastewater Treatment Plant in Huron treated 378 million gallons of wastewater an average flow of 1,030,000 gallons per day and 52% of the design capacity. During the year, lab tests were analyzed on the plants' effluent to insure the best wastewater quality possible and for EPA compliance. Projects include...replaced 3 rotating biological contactor bearings, extensive painting on all buildings, safety railings and digester covers. The septic, grease and leachate revenue was down 43% from previous year to \$228,000. Sludge totals (dry tons): Huron Basin 317 tons; Sawmill Creek 92.2 tons; Mitiwanga-Ruggles 8.6 tons. All treated sludge was land applied to approved farm fields or hauled to Huron Basin Wastewater Treatment Plant, City of Sandusky's Wastewater Plant or the City of Bellevue's Wastewater Plant.

WATER DISTRICTS

The Erie County Water District is divided into two Districts called "A" and "B" Districts. The total combined water consumption for Districts "A" & "B" was 1.7 billion gallons for the year.

The Water Division repaired 57 water main breaks, 22 fire hydrants, performed 2,593 customer service orders, and installed 28 new water service taps (of which 5 are in District B) and turned on 56 new water services (of which 22 are in District B). 255 fire hydrants were flushed in Perkins District and 55 fire hydrants were flushed in Bay View. Fire hydrants were inspected and pumped down in the fall in all districts. In addition, 74 miscellaneous work orders were performed which included raising and lowering meter pits, repairing check valves and repair/replace leaking shut-off valves. Five (5) side taps were installed and 2 valves were repaired. Meter reading and meter repairs occur monthly. 2,071 meters were physically checked and/or repaired by replacing batteries, reprogramming, and replacing meter registers.

Projects performed this year included a leak detection study, which resulted in the discovery of several water main, valve and fire hydrant leaks; installed a master meter at Miller Road; cut in a valve at Strub and Milan Road; cleaned and painted the State Route 60 elevated water tank; and pressure washed the River Road elevated water tank.