

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 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 drop box program along with other recycle/ reuse/disposal programs.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

The Solid Waste District provides recycling opportunities for Erie County residents. In 2008 the District:

- Provided 14 drop-off sites where residents recycled 2,340 tons of aluminum, glass, plastic, paper, and cardboard.
- Conducted an Appliance and Electronic Round-Up that recycled 10.73 tons of Appliances and 12.70 tons of Electronics.
- Partnered with four retailers, three school systems, and BGSU-Firelands Campus to collect and recycle 4,950 pounds of household batteries.
- Dispensed \$1,080 for grant money to aid Erie County Communities in their clean-up efforts to recycle and compost materials from their residents.
- Partnered with five fire stations for ongoing mercury thermometer exchanges.
- Recycled 27.75 tons of scrap metal at the Services Center drop-off site and 32.43 tons of tires at the Landfill.
- Presented 67 educational programs about recycling and waste reduction for Erie County residents and students and displayed waste reduction information at 15 events.
- Held the first ever "Earth Day Extravaganza" with other environmental organizations to promote Earth Day at the Sandusky Mall, over 1,700 in attendance.

LANDFILL

In 2008, the Landfill received and disposed of 92,291 tons of solid waste (a 14% decrease from 2007, the lowest tonnage in this decade). The Landfill is located on approximately 230 acres. The Landfill opened in 1969 and is permitted to receive a maximum of 800 tons of non-hazardous solid waste per day. The Landfill's disposal fees for 2008 were:

- \$45.25/ton for municipal solid waste
- \$39.10/ton for exempt waste
- \$20.00 for pick-up trucks for first 880 lbs.
- \$10.00 for cars for first 440 lbs.

In addition,

- A flare was installed to burn LF gas on an on-going basis in June.
- Installed connections to the active LF cells to allow additional gas to be collected and burned at the flare.
- Rezoned 3.7706 acres of Hoover Road Property for generator.
- Hired Mannik & Smith for engineering oversight.

SEWER DISTRICTS

The Erie County Sewer System is divided into two areas: the Erie County Sewer District and the Huron Area Sewer District.

The Erie County Sewer District consists of approximately 85 miles of sewer and 22 pumping stations. Approximately 48,857 lineal feet of sewers and 12 pump station wet wells were cleaned and vactored. The Outlet Mall Package Plant treated an average flow of 3,000 gallons per day. Mitiwanga-Ruggles Beach Treatment Plant in Berlin Township treated an average flow of 117,000 gallons per day (78% of design capacity). Improvements continued to the sewer system of the Sulfur Brook trunk sewer and tributary subdivisions. An automatic generator transfer switch at Cleveland Road West, a re-built channel monster at the Plumbrook/Hindes, and a new electrical panel at St. Rt. 60 pump stations were also installed. The planning for a possible new flow equalization tank at Plumbrook/Hindes has started. Improvements to the Plumbrook/Hull Road and TimberLake, and Nielsen Ave. pumps stations are now in progress.

The Huron Area Sewer District consists of approximately 47 miles of sewer and 15 pumping stations. Approximately 24,428 feet of sewers and 14 pump station wet wells were cleaned and vactored. Repairs were made to the Adams and "A" Street VFD units, and to the ruptured Adams Ave force main.

The Sawmill Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant had an average flow of 877,000 gallons per day (73% of the design capacity).

The Huron Basin Wastewater Treatment Plant had an average flow of 1,108,000 gallons per day (55% of the design capacity). The construction of a new headworks building, five additional rotating biological contactors, and remodeling of all three primary clarifiers are now completed. The improvements now allow Huron Basin to treat additional peak wastewater flows. During the year, 9,500 lab tests were analyzed on the plants' effluent to insure the best wastewater quality possible and for EPA compliance.

WATER DISTRICTS

The Erie County Water District is divided into two Districts, called "A" and "B" Districts.

District "A" is comprised of a network of distribution piping ranging in size from 4 to 24 inches in diameter, which serves portions of Perkins, Huron, Margaretta, Oxford, Berlin, Milan and Vermilion townships; including the Villages of Castalia, Bay View and Berlin Heights. There are approximately 9,000 water services, 1,745 hydrants, 1,550 valves, and 196.01 miles of water main within Water District "A".

In 2008, the Water Division repaired 84 water main breaks, 43 fire hydrants and performed 2,586 customer service orders. This year, fire hydrants were flushed throughout the Perkins Water District. Water Division employees responded to 81 emergency call-outs and 758 underground locate requests.

District "B" This network of distribution piping ranges in size from 4" to 16" diameter waterlines serving portions of Perkins, Huron, Margaretta, Groton, Oxford, Berlin, Milan and Vermilion Townships. There are approximately 918 water services, 208 hydrants, 258 valves, and approximately 115.0 miles of water main within the Water District "B".

The total combined water consumption for Districts "A" & "B" in 2008 was 1.727 billion gallons or 4.732 million gallons per day.