

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 34.5 full time employees and most employees received a one-time lump sum payment of \$250 and no permanent pay raises. Some management employees received a 1% mid-year raise.

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 2011 the Solid Waste District provided recycling opportunities for Erie County residents. In 2011 the District:

- Provided 6 drop-off sites where residents recycled 1,240 tons of aluminum, glass, plastic, paper, and cardboard.
- Removed the Services Center drop-off recycling location and implemented curbside recycling programs in the City of Sandusky and Perkins Township.
- Conducted an Appliance and Electronic Round-Up that recycled 6.11 tons of Appliances and 2.00 tons of Electronics.
- Provided twelve battery drop-off recycling locations to collect and recycle 8,148 pounds of household batteries.
- Partnered with five fire stations for ongoing mercury thermometer exchanges.
- Recycled 65.55 tons of scrap metal at the Landfill.
- A total of 33.02 tons of tires was recycled with the Tire Recycling program at the Erie County Landfill.
- Presented 20 educational programs about recycling and waste reduction for Erie County residents and students and displayed waste reduction information at 25 events.
- Held the fourth annual "Earth Day Extravaganza" with other environmental organizations to promote Earth Day at Osborn MetroPark, over 500 in attendance.

LANDFILL

In 2011, the Landfill received and disposed of 146,190.88 tons of solid waste; an 8.4 % increase from 2010. 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 2011 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

In addition,

- The Landfill Gas To Energy Program transported and sold 266,937,150.54 million cubic feet of Landfill Gas

(averaging 57.89% methane) to the Renewable Energy Sources of Ohio for the generation of electricity. The County received \$56,326.79 in gas sale revenue. The well field was balanced monthly and performed minor maintenance (trouble-shooting). Also re-drilled V 10 to attempt to unblock "kink" in line without success.

- Received \$109,675.90 for sale of 43,436 metric tons of CO₂ equivalents (Carbon Credits)
- 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 \$14 minimum for the first 2 CCF of water use and \$5/CCF for all additional water use.

The Erie County Sewer District consists of approximately 132 miles of sewer and 39 pumping stations plus 2 new lift stations on U.S.250. Projects included all pump stations asphalt areas were top coated (sealed); remote monitoring/alarm systems were bid and awarded and installations started; approximately 1,000 lineal feet of sewers and 7 pump station wet wells were cleaned; the US 250 Sewer extension to Mason Road was completed and Lake Erie Outlet Mall and EHOVE School wastewater plants were removed.

Mitiwanga-Ruggles Wastewater Treatment Plant in Berlin Township treated 43.8 million gallons of wastewater an average of 120,000 gallons per day and 80% of design capacity. This plant now discharges to Cranberry Creek per EPA approval.

The Sawmill Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant in Huron treated 343.1 million gallons of wastewater an average of 940,000 gallons per day and 78% of the design capacity. The parking lot repairs, crack sealing and a complete top coat seal was accomplished.

The Huron Basin Wastewater Treatment Plant in Huron treated 501.5 million gallons of wastewater an average flow of 1,374,000 gallons per day and 69% of the design capacity. During the year, 9,700 lab tests were analyzed on the plants' effluent to insure the best wastewater quality possible and for EPA compliance. 2011 projects included parking lot repairs, crack sealing and a complete top coat seal. The septic and grease revenue was up 20% from 2010 to \$402,587 for the year.

2011 Sludge totals (dry tons): Huron Basin 239.5 tons; Sawmill Creek 106.1 tons; Mitiwanga-Ruggles 5.8 tons. All treated sludge was land applied to approved farm fields or hauled to Huron Basin Wastewater Treatment Plant in liquid form.

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 1.5 billion gallons for the year.

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 over 9,000 customers, 1,745 hydrants, 1,550 valves, and 196.01 miles of water main. The Water Division repaired 59 water main breaks, 17 fire hydrants and performed 2,729 customer service orders. This year, fire hydrants were flushed in Perkins District and fire hydrants in all districts were checked and pumped in the fall.

District "B" is comprised of a network of distribution piping ranges in size from 4 to 16 inches in diameter, serving portions of Perkins, Huron, Margaretta, Groton, Oxford, Berlin, Milan and Vermilion Townships. There are approximately 1,200 customers, 208 hydrants, 258 valves, and approximately 115.0 miles of water main.

Projects included the S.R. 60 Water Tower cleaned and inspected and all pump stations and water towers asphalt drives were top coated (sealed).