



**Lorain County
Rural Wastewater District**
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MONTHLY NEWS LETTER

July/August 2012

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

By: Robert J. Berner

The sweltering heat of summer is upon us along with the occasional severe storm. Severe storms often lead to power outages. What happens to our sewer system when the power goes out? The answer is simple; it continues to operate as designed. Our system was built with back-up capacity for those who have grinder pumps. The system also has back-up generators at the main pump stations along with connections for back-up power at our smaller pump stations. Power on or power off, our system still operates as normal.

This month we continue our education efforts on the cost associated with home sewage treatment systems.

The cost of properly maintaining your home sewage treatment system is relatively low. On average the monthly electrical cost to keep the aeration pump operating ranges from \$10 to \$20 per month. In addition, systems should be pumped annually or at a minimum of once every two years if you live alone. Pumping ranges from \$150 to \$200 for the average family. Also, filters should be replaced every year. Filters range from \$200 to \$280. If you combine all of these costs and average them monthly the cost to properly operate a home system averages between \$39 and \$60 per month for the average home.

The long term investment in a Home Sewage Treatment System is more involved. Replacement of parts and even the entire system might be necessary. It is recommended aeration pumps should be serviced annually and replaced every 10 years. Older tank systems have a useful life of 15 years. The average home should set aside \$35 to \$75 per month to cover the cost

associated with replacing parts and equipment every 10 to 20 years.

Knowing the true cost to properly operate and maintain a home sewage treatment system is important to home owners. Combining Operating and Maintenance will cost a home owner between \$74 and \$135 per month. These estimates were provided to us by The Lorain County General Health District, in a March 1, 2010 News Release.

For comparison sake, our Phase I Project has an average monthly sewer bill of \$52.00 per month. Their capital investment was \$5,000 for their tap fee. This breaks down to \$33.18 per month for 20 years. They also would have a connection cost on average of \$2,000 or \$8.34 per month. The total cost to a homeowner comes to about \$93.53 per month. You can see, this puts the cost of being connected to a sewer system just below the average of having an on-site system.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

By: James McConnell

The mission and goals of LORCO have been a central issue for our board for the past several years. My goal is to help everyone in Rural Lorain County understand the importance of how LORCO operates and how we are here to serve our constituents. Our goals of; guarding against annexation, providing collection and treatment to communities with a population to support a system, replace existing on site systems which are detrimental to our ecology and to assist our communities in logical development have been and remain the core goals of LORCO. We are committed as a board to continually reinforce these goals and hope all of our member communities understand our purpose.