



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

March/April 2012

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

By: Robert J. Berner

Spring is in the air. Even though it has been a relatively mild winter I am still anxious for spring. I can't wait for; Opening Day at Cleveland Stadium, grass getting greener, crops being planted and residents connecting to new sanitary sewers. Yes, it is that time of the year again, time for renewing your internal engine and taking a deep breath of fresh spring air.

The last several weeks I have been doing quite a bit of research on home sewage treatment systems. Keep in mind, I'm a sewer guy, and home treatment systems by all practical appearances would tend to be contrary to how a sewer guy thinks. But, I believe it is very important to have a good understanding of just what it is people in the rural areas of our county deal with on a day to day basis when they "flush."

I was very surprised to find out just how much information is available concerning home sewage treatment systems. There are several bulletins published by the Ohio State University Extension. These bulletins range from choosing the right type system to evaluating the soil to proper maintenance and repair. There is also information from the Ohio Revised Code and the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). I also found a great deal of information provided by private installers who recommend a variety of information concerning proper maintenance, servicing and pumping.

Over the next few months I will be focusing LORCO's attention on helping residents understand the true impact of the cost associated with maintaining a home sewage treatment system.

For the last few years the biggest objection I have heard is the cost associated with connecting to sanitary collection sewers. The arguments tend to be how expensive sanitary sewers are compared to what property owners pay now. LORCO's goal is to fully understand and evaluate the cost associated with maintaining and replacing home sewage treatment systems. In addition, homeowners may soon be encountering additional cost with the new state regulations requiring inspections of their home systems.

My hope is to help people understand the best alternatives to meet their individual wastewater treatment needs. We understand sanitary sewers might not be suitable for all the communities we serve. We also believe for many a central collection system is a good value alternative to the expenses associated with maintaining their home sewage treatment systems.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

By: James McConnell

I am looking forward to our new education initiatives for 2012. I fully believe we can better serve our members and the environment by helping people understand better the purpose for which we were formed.

Our trustees have been very dedicated over the years to the concept of providing cost effective alternatives to the unsewered areas of Lorain County where it is economically feasible. We also recognize these alternatives give our member communities the freedom to initiate planning and zoning codes, which will better preserve green space and control growth, while still maintaining the rural qualities we appreciate. Please be assured, the LORCO Board is here to serve our members.