



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

September/October 2011

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

By: Robert J. Berner

The summer is drawing to a close and as I look back at the past few warm months I always think the summers are way too short. The Labor Day holiday marks the end of summer and the beginning of the fall season. We soon will be watching football and hoping the Indians will make the playoffs. Most will not be thinking about sewers. That's okay. The LORCO Board of Trustees and I will be concerned about these issues.

This past summer involved some very promising and interesting developments concerning wastewater treatment for Lorain County. A serious effort was made to actually study the merits and develop a working model of how to build a regional treatment system for wastewater treatment in Lorain County. There is much left to be done on this project but the fact that it has been started is very encouraging.

The next step in the study of regional wastewater treatment is to present the model and the economics to the individual communities who might be interested in participating. As many of you know, LORCO has been a regional advocate for years. Unfortunately, not everyone in the county agrees regional projects are beneficial. The challenge will be to first have a good plan with well developed numbers and projections. The second challenge will be to demonstrate the savings and advantages for communities to participate. We all hope this will work out for improved availability and efficiencies in wastewater treatment for Lorain County.

LORCO has a very strong interest in the development of a regional wastewater

treatment plan. Currently we must negotiate rates with other communities for treatment. The alternative would be to build our own treatment center which has not been cost effective. Participating in regional treatment will allow LORCO to be a member of a treatment center. By being a participating member our rates will be for treatment only as we develop new systems. Another advantage is the ability to provide service to unsewered areas of the county at lower costs. The biggest challenge we have faced in developing new sewer projects has been finding a treatment center to convey wastewater efficiently. Initial studies show the regional plan will solve this issue for a good part of the LORCO district.

I will try to keep everyone informed in the coming months as this process progresses.

If you have any questions or wish to comment on any sanitary sewer issues, please contact LORCO at: 440-647-4882 or you can email me at: rberner@lorco.org.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

By: James McConnell

The start up of our Phase I project has been a work in progress all summer. It is encouraging to see the number of customers connecting to the new system. We still have a few small items to complete and I want to assure everyone we are working diligently with ALMU to complete the punch list items left on the project for our residents. The collection system has been operating all summer. Unfortunately we have had some set backs with the transmission main. We hope this will be completed in a few more weeks and we will be able to certify the system. I want to thank all of you for your patience and cooperation.