

Pipelines

WINTER 2006

Telephone Numbers

**Greene County
Sanitary
Engineering
Department**

**Administration
Building**
562-7450

**Emergency
Number**
562-7450
(after business
hours)

Billing
562-7457

Customer Service
562-7495

Public Relations
562-7679

**Environmental
Services**
562-5925

Web Address:
www.co.greene.oh.us/saneng/

Construction bids come in lower than expected

A competitive construction environment brought in bids for the improvements to the Sugar-creek Water Resource Reclamation Facility far under estimates. County officials anticipate the excellent bid price will enable them to keep future rate increases at a minimum.

Engineering estimates for the project were \$43.92 million while the actual bid was \$34.007 million.

Peterson Construction was the low bidder on the project, with Lake Erie Electrical the low bidder on the electrical work.

The loan rate for the project was 3.25 %, plus a 0.10 % reduction for the County's participation in the Water Resource Restoration Sponsorship program, bringing the rate to 3.15%. The County anticipates a December loan award.

Because the bids for the Sugarcreek facility improvements

were so competitive, all the add alternates are being recommended, including demolition of outdated on-site buildings and the demolition of the pre-treatment facility in Bellbrook.

Work should begin early next year and the project is scheduled to take 30 months to complete, but the County anticipates the contractor will not take that long.

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Water/Sewer rates for 2007-2008

Greene County Commissioners are keeping water rates the same for the next two years, but plan on slight increases in 2007 and 2008 for sewer rates.

Sewer rates will increase 1 percent in 2007 and another 1 percent in 2008 to

minimize the impact major sewer infrastructure improvements will have on the budget.

According to the Board of County Commissioners, they have taken the action to increase sewer rates "in accordance with their 2003 Rate Stabilization

Policy that mandated no water rate increases for calendar year 2004 through 2008 and a maximum of 1 percent per year sanitary sewer rate increases for calendar years 2004 through 2008.

Water rates have not
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**Solid Waste
News briefs**

If you have old, unused cell phones, don't forget you can drop them off at the Greene County Environmental Services Division, 2145 Greene Way Blvd, Xenia.

The County donates all working phones to the Family Violence Prevention Center, where they are programmed to dial only 9-1-1 and given to women and families in need. Those not working are recycled. Thus far this year, the County has donated 147 cell phones to the Center.

Don't forget that after Christmas you can drop off old Christmas trees at the Yard Waste site in Xenia. Hours of the site will change in January and February **only** to 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

The satellite yard waste sites in Beavercreek, Fairborn and Bellbrook are closed for the winter. An opening date for 2007 will be announced later.

The County plans to hold monthly drop-off events again in 2007.

Items accepted will include household hazardous waste (except oil and paint), appliances, scrap metal, and electronics. Dates will be announced later.

Construction bids --

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The bids for Sugar-creek did not include the additional force main from the proposed intermediate pump station to the plant, which is estimated to cost \$4 million and will be bid sometime next year.

The Board of County Commissioners has also issued a notice to proceed on the improvements to the Beavercreek Water Resource Reclamation Facility. Engineering estimates were \$6.7 million for

construction and the bids came in at just over \$6 million. Peterson Construction was again the low bidder for the contract, with ESI Electric, Inc. the low bidder for the electrical work.

Improvements at the plant include phosphorus removal and a change in handling biosolids so they can go to a landfill. The loan rate on the project was 3.34 % over 20 years.

As part of the improvements to the Sugarcreek plant, Greene County is

participating in the Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program (WRRSP), providing over \$7 million in grants for restoration work to the Little Miami River and some of its tributaries.

If the improvements to the stream and its tributaries can keep in-stream phosphorus counts down, the EPA will not be forced to target area wastewater treatment plants to remove more phosphorus from their effluent.

Water Rates hold steady—

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increased since calendar year 2002 and sewer rates have not increased since calendar year 2003. The increases in sanitary sewer rates of 1 percent for 2007 and 1 percent for 2008 are intended to prepare for upcoming sanitary sewerage improvements in the

Beavercreek and Sugarcreek Sewer Improvement Areas.”

The new increases mean that in 2007 the monthly minimum charge for sewer use up to 3,000 gallons will be \$19.16. The fees will increase to \$5.98 for every 1,000 gallons used over the monthly

minimum. The current charge is \$18.97 monthly minimum and \$5.92 per 1,000 gallons.

In 2008, the monthly minimum will go to \$19.35 for up to 3,000 gallons, with a cost of \$6.04 for each 1,000 gallons used above the minimum.

Tap-in fees to rise

Greene County Commissioners recently approved an increase in tap-in and connection charges to be phased in over the next three years. The charges will increase from \$2,500 for a domestic 5/8 inch meter to \$3,000 effec-

tive January 1, 2007; to \$3,250 effective January 1, 2008, and to \$3,500 effective January 1, 2009. Fees for larger commercial and industrial meters will increase by the same percentage.

These additional charges bring the County more in line with charges in surrounding counties and will ensure that those new to the system help pay off the debt incurred in building and improving the infrastructure.