

## MCSE Projects: Extending Service to New Areas, Improving Existing Service

Beyond the day-to-day work of treating wastewater and returning it to nature in an environmentally responsible manner, your Sanitary Engineering Department has two important ongoing missions:

1. Making sure the existing sewer system operates at the highest level of performance, supported by a plan for regular maintenance, replacement and rehabilitation.
2. Ensuring the capability of the sewer system to accept new users.

Both of these missions have a tremendous impact on the health and environmental quality of our area and promoting the county for economic development.

Here are some of the many projects MCSE is working on in 2013:

### Selected MCSE Projects, 2013

PROJECT	COMPONENTS	BUDGET	STATUS
Lake Milton Project	Extension of sanitary sewer and water lines along the southwest side of Lake Milton.	\$7,241,155	Planning, preliminary engineering
I.S.L.E./Rte. 422/McCartney Rd.	Extend sewer lines to the I.S.L.E. facility along Rte. 422 in Coitsville Twp.	\$599,040	Design phase
Western Reserve Rd./Boardman Treatment Plant upgrade	Five Points pump station in Springfield Twp., Western Reserve Pump main in Beaver Twp., treatment plant upgrade in Boardman Twp.	\$9,578,135	Planning, preliminary engineering
Poland Woods/I-680	Replacement of Sanitary Sewer in Boardman Twp., under I-680, and through Poland Woods and Poland Twp.	\$719,400	Preliminary engineering, design phase
Jackson-Milton water system	Replacement of 12-inch water line from Mahoning Ave. (Austintown) to Lipkey Rd (Jackson Twp.)	\$626,472	Under construction
Campbell Industrial Park	Replacement of pumping station, force main and sanitary sewer	\$1,055,560	Final design phase

## Visit Us at the Canfield Fair

Look for our booth located in the Government Building at this year's Canfield Fair.



MCSE personnel will be on hand to answer all of your questions about your wastewater treatment services.

# Pipelines

www.mc-se.com

SUMMER 2013



THE NEWSLETTER FOR CUSTOMERS OF THE MAHONING COUNTY SANITARY ENGINEERING DEPT.

## Reopening the Pipeline

We're very glad to be back and communicating with the 40,000 customers of the Sanitary Engineering Department of Mahoning County. We're proud of the work we perform every day that makes Mahoning County an environmentally friendly and healthful place to live.

As we've often said over the years, though — the vast majority of this work takes place behind the scenes. The biggest part of our system — our 800 miles of sewer pipes — is underground and out of sight. The only time you're aware of them may be if you see our service trucks and their crews performing maintenance and repair in a neighborhood.

And of course, our treatment plants don't routinely attract visitors! So you don't see the important work that takes place there that transforms wastewater into clean water so

it can be returned to nature. Furthermore, the system isn't static. Not only must we maintain and repair the system, we look to expand service into new areas, so that more customers can be served. The planning necessary for this to take place isn't visible, either.

So our goal with *Pipelines* is to give you a closer look behind the scenes into what goes into making wastewater treatment service something you don't even have to think about. We also have a second goal — we want to help you save money on your sewer bill. See the next article for more information that can help you do just that.

As always, we stand ready to answer any questions you have about your sewer service. Just call (330) 793-5514 Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

## How to SAVE Money on Sewer Services

### Homestead/Disability Fixed Sewer Rate Reduction

**Eligible:** Customers at least 65 years of age (or permanently handicapped of any age) who own their own home AND are served by MCSE.

#### The program offers:

A reduction on your monthly sewer bill.  
Call 330-793-5514 for the current rate.

*continued on next page*



#### Mahoning County Commissioners:

Anthony T. Traficanti • David C. Ditzler • Carol Rimedio-Righetti  
Sanitary Engineer: Patrick T. Ginnetti, P.E., P.S.

#### Inside:

- How We Serve You
- Problems with Sewer Service, call MCSE
- MCSE Projects

Pre-sorted Standard  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 422  
Youngstown, OH

Mahoning County Sanitary  
Engineering Department  
761 Industrial Road  
Youngstown, Ohio 44509



# How We Serve You

From the moment wastewater leaves your home or place of business until it's discharged in treated form back to nature, its journey takes place almost completely out of sight.

So we take it for granted that wastewater treatment just kind of "happens," because we rarely see what's behind it.

In fact, what's behind wastewater treatment in the Mahoning County is a \$25 million department that comprises:

- 90 employees
- 800+ miles of sewer pipe (enough to make a round trip from Mahoning County to New York City)
- 78 pumping stations
- over 12,000 manholes
- modern, sophisticated treatment systems at seven plants serve the county 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

The rates you pay for wastewater treatment service are what make this journey from wastewater to clean water possible, while helping to make Mahoning County a safe, environmentally friendly place to live and work.



Our residential, commercial and industrial customers help fund these crucial activities:

## Wastewater Treatment

The actual cost of treating wastewater at the plant and returning it to nature in pure form. Included are the cost of utilities to operate the plant, chemicals and other materials used in the processing, maintenance on the equipment, laboratory testing, and plant personnel costs.

## Operations and Maintenance

The cost of maintaining, repairing and replacing the over 800 miles of sewers and 78 pumping stations that make up your Mahoning County wastewater treatment system, including materials, utilities and labor costs.



## System Replacement Capital

Costs associated with keeping facilities and sewers operating as designed and intended to keep pace with the changing needs of the community.

## Engineering

Costs associated with planning, review and inspection of new sanitary sewer construction, as well as rehabilitation and replacement of the existing sanitary sewer system.

## Administration

Coordination of department responsibilities. Ensuring compliance with all regulatory agencies. Financial management, purchasing, contract bidding, management of personnel and services, and maintaining a program to provide customers with current information about wastewater treatment.

## Contractual Billing Services

The cost of meter reading, processing, billing and mailing for the district's 40,000 MCSE customers.

## Debt Service

The continuing cost of principal and interest payments we must make to permit construction of new facilities and capital improvements to existing ones.

It's never a pleasant thing when something goes wrong with any of your utility services. Certainly your sewer service is at the top of the list of utilities you want to get working again quickly.

## Problem With Your Sewer Service? The FIRST Call You Make Should be to MCSE!

Generally, there are three possible sources of problems with your sewer service. The problem could be with:

1. The main sanitary sewer line in the street, which serves your home and others in your neighborhood, or
2. The lateral sewer line, which runs from the main line to your home, or
3. Your home's internal plumbing

If this happens to you, you need to try to identify the location of the problem that's interfering with your service. It could be a matter of internal plumbing — a problem with your shower, tub, sink, toilet and/or the drains that run from them. Or it could be your basement floor drain is clogged. In this case, you'll need to contact a plumber or drain service.

However, if the problem manifests itself at more than one location in your home, it's possible that either the main sanitary sewer line or the lateral sewer line is the culprit. If that's the case, it's very important to find the specific source and location of the problem.

To do this, we urge you to call MCSE first at (330) 793-5514. We will send a crew that is fully equipped to diagnose and assess the cause. MCSE is responsible for service, maintenance



The homeowner is responsible for repairs to the lateral that connects the home's plumbing to MCSE's collection system beneath the street

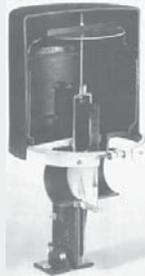
MCSE is responsible for repairs to the pipes that run from neighborhoods to its wastewater treatment plants.

and repairs to the main sanitary sewer line. So if the problem lies there, our crews will begin removing any causes within the main sewer.

The homeowner is responsible for any repairs to the lateral sewer line. If that's where the problem lies, MCSE can advise you as to the nature of the problem and what will be needed to address it. While we won't recommend a specific contractor, plumber or drain service, we do maintain a list of approved, bonded contractors that are qualified to do the work if it's necessary to replace your lateral.

As always, it's best to get more than one estimate for the work done, and then make the best choice for your needs. The important thing to remember is to get an expert, unbiased assessment from MCSE professionals FIRST — before calling anyone else!

How to SAVE Money on Sewer Services Continued



## GATE VALVE PROGRAM

### Eligible:

Customers, particularly those with older homes, who experience basement flooding during heavy rain events because their storm water and sewer systems are interconnected.

### The program offers:

Financial assistance to offset some of the costs of installing a backflow control device (gate valve) to separate these systems. In some cases the work may also involve the installation of a sump pump. You can receive up to \$2,500 in assistance for this work.

## SECOND/DEDUCT METER PROGRAM

### Eligible:

Customers who frequently water their lawns, wash their cars or have swimming pools.

### The program offers:

A second water meter, which allows water used outside of the home to be metered separately. In this way, your sewer bill will be based solely on the water that actually enters the wastewater treatment system.



## TAP-IN FUND

### Eligible:

Customers in areas that have recently received sanitary sewer service for the first time and are required to tap in to the system.

### The program offers:

Up to \$9,000 to help defray the costs of mandatory tap-ins for any single household. The Mahoning County Commissioners established the Water and Sewer Tap-in Fund to make these funds available to county residents.

Call (330) 793-5514 between 8:00 am and 3:30 pm weekdays to learn more about any of these programs.