



John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Craig W. Butler, Director

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AVAILABILITY NOTICE

The Ohio EPA, through the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) program, is considering funding a project which is subject to environmental review requirements. The Village of Williamsburg's proposed Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Phase 3 project consists of expanding its WWTP to provide a 20-year solution to its wastewater treatment needs. More specifically, the project's primary focus is on replacing obsolete electrical equipment, adding two new final clarifiers, installing a recycled effluent system for non-potable onsite water use and a SCADA system for plant monitoring, and converting the activated sludge treatment system to a bio-nutrient removal process. This treatment process is expected to create a cleaner effluent, with reduced nutrient loads, and so benefit both the water quality in the exceptional warmwater habitat designated East Fork of the Little Miami River, as well as Harsha Lake's drinking water supply and recreational use designations. Finally, completing the Phase 3 project will increase the capacity of the plant to 1 million gallons per day (GPD) from the current 500,000 GDP, and allow the Village of Williamsburg to pursue residential development opportunities.

To address the potential water quality concerns associated with an expanded WWTP, the village has begun to consider ways that it can develop recently annexed areas, while still supporting the exceptional warmwater habitat in the East Fork of Little Miami River upstream from Harsha Lake. Ohio EPA expects that the village's WWTP construction project will take about 15 months to complete. The village has indicated that the proposed project's primary benefit will be the expanded capacity, as well as better and more consistent compliance with its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit levels.

As Ohio EPA will be issuing a Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) and an accompanying Environmental Assessment (EA) on this project in the near future, this notice is to advise the public that it will have a 30-day period in which to review the EA and provide comments to the Ohio EPA contact named at the back of the document. This public comment period will begin with the release of the EA document to the public through Ohio EPA's web site and distribution of the document to interested parties. Upon its release, the EA document may be viewed at either: the village's main offices located at 107 West Main Street, Williamsburg, Ohio 45176; Williamsburg's website; or on Ohio EPA's Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance (DEFA) website at:

<http://www.epa.ohio.gov/defa/ofa.aspx>

Once there, please scroll down to the "Documents Available for Review and Comment" heading at the bottom of the linked page. Then, please click on the WPCLF Documents for Review and Comment heading to see a list of documents available for downloading. A copy of the referenced EA will be posted there.

On the other hand, if you would like to receive either an electronic copy via email, or a paper copy of the document via U.S. mail, please contact Kevin Hinkle of Ohio EPA at either: kevin.hinkle@epa.ohio.gov or (614) 644-3712.