2016 Second Quarter Report
CASE STUDY:
OHIO RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION WASTEWATER TECHNICIAN
AND
THE VILLAGE OF SEBRING

Zanesville, Ohio:

The Village of Sebring contacted the ORWA Wastewater Technician for assistance preparing two of their operators for Ohio EPA wastewater certification exams. The Technician arrived to find two operators from a nearby city were also there needing help preparing for the exams.

Although this contact did not meet the criteria for a formal training session, it was conducted in a similar way. Example math problems were explained and completely worked out for the operators. Major topics of the problems worked were MCRT, Sludge Age, and F:M ratios. A thorough explanation and discussion of the nitrification cycle as it pertains to activated sludge was conducted to help operators understand this very important process. This session was completed with review and explanation of general theory questions.

As a result of this contact, multiple operators have the tools and knowledge to pass their wastewater certification exam. Having more operators in Ohio certified saves many systems the cost of contract operations when operators retire or move to another system.

The Ohio Rural Water Association was founded in 1976, with the goal of improving the quality of life in rural Ohio. With funding primarily through membership dues and federal grants, ORWA offers free on-site technical support to water and wastewater systems, both large and small. This includes: assistance with the operation and maintenance of water and wastewater treatment plants; source water protection planning; and distribution system troubleshooting such as leak detection, smoke testing, line locating, and sewer line inspecting. ORWA also offers training opportunities on the operation, management, finance, and governance of water and wastewater utilities.

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