



Improving the Quality of Life in Rural Ohio

2016 Second Quarter Report

THE OHIO RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION PROVIDED ABOUT \$740,000 IN BENEFITS TO RURAL COMMUNITIES DURING THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2016

Zanesville, Ohio: The Ohio Rural Water Association (ORWA) reviewed our work for the second quarter of 2016 (April 1 to June 30) and determined that the **organization provided over \$740,000 in benefits to Ohio's rural water and wastewater utilities**. These benefits included training operators, detecting water leaks, protecting drinking water sources, and inspecting sewer systems.

Taking into account our federal grant income of about \$150,000 this quarter, ORWA estimates that we provided an **overall benefit of over \$590,000 to rural water and wastewater systems** during these three months.

Put another way, ORWA's grant management is extremely effective and efficient as for every dollar of federal assistance we were given, ORWA provided \$3.93 in benefits to rural Ohio.

To illustrate the work of the Ohio Rural Water Association through an example:

The wastewater treatment plant operator at a village in Ashland County contacted the Wastewater Technician for assistance with sludge wasting and solids management. Lack of proper sludge wasting is causing problems at the treatment plant including ammonia and dissolved oxygen values close to permit parameters. If operational changes are not made the treatment plant may become out of compliance.

The Technician inspected the treatment facility and review existing sludge wasting procedures and noticed several problems. Proper wasting methods were reviewed with the operator. Detailed methods and calculations were then employed by the operator and plant conditions improved greatly.

As a result of this contact, the operator has the knowledge and tools required for proper process control of the activated sludge process. The Wastewater Technician will make a follow up visit to ensure continued compliance.

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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