



Improving the Quality of Life in Rural Ohio

2017 Second Quarter Report

THE OHIO RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION PROVIDED OVER \$1.4 MILLION IN BENEFITS TO RURAL COMMUNITIES DURING THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2017

Zanesville, Ohio: The Ohio Rural Water Association (ORWA) reviewed our work for the second quarter of 2017 (April 1 to June 30) and determined that the **organization provided over \$1.4 million in benefits to Ohio's rural water and wastewater utilities**. These benefits included training operators, detecting water leaks, protecting drinking water sources, providing energy audits, 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 \$1.2 million 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 \$9.64 in benefits to rural Ohio.

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

A wastewater treatment plant in eastern Ohio performs in-house many of the laboratory tests required by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. Some of the advantages of doing their own lab analysis are cost savings, process control and quick results. The plant personnel are looking to expand their laboratory analysis to include ammonia nitrogen. The ORWA Wastewater Technician was asked to assist the operator in the proper method for the test.

The lab already had the required millivolt reading meter. The appropriate ISE (Ion Selective Electrode) probe and calibration standards were purchased. After the technician reviewed the overall procedure for the analysis, actual standards were prepared and a calibration was performed. Plant samples were collected and analyzed.

As a result of this contact, the plant personnel can perform their own tests for process control and permit reporting. Rapid results and contract lab cost savings will benefit the 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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