

Pipelines

SPRING 2023



Unidirectional Flushing Has Commenced

On March 27th, 2023, Greene County Sanitary Engineering Department (GCSED) began the implementation of Unidirectional Flushing (UDF). System flushing is needed prior to bringing online some of the water treatment process improvements that are currently under construction.

UDF is a proactive method of cleaning our water distribution pipes to improve water quality by removing mineral deposits and sediment that accumulate in water mains. This will also restore system capacity in your neighborhood. A UDF program involves closing valves in a specific sequence to create water movement in one direction while opening specific hydrants at the end of that sequence.

Residents will see a significant amount of water flowing from fire hydrants for long periods of time. While this may appear wasteful, it is the most effective way to maintain our pipes and keep our water safe and clean. The expelled water is returned back as surface water runoff and ultimately recharges the aquifer from which it came.

While UDF is happening in your neighborhood, residents may experience a drop in water pressure. If at all possible, we ask you to minimize water use until flushing in your area has ended. This will keep possible particles from entering your home/business piping.

Residents may experience discolored water after their area has been flushed. To clear this, simply run COLD water in your bathtub on the lowest level of your home or all faucets on the lowest level of the business. Run the COLD water until it runs clear, which should take roughly 5-10 minutes. If the water does not clear up after 10 minutes, please call our Utility Maintenance crew at 937-562-7108 during business hours (M-F 7:00am-3:30pm) or 937-562-7450 outside of business hours.

Discolored water is caused by mineral deposits in the pipes. While the water does not look aesthetically pleasing, it is safe for consumption. We do advise NOT washing white laundry in discolored water as it will stain. If this happens, DO NOT DRY your laundry. Simply rewash after clearing your lines.

Our crews will be flushing only between the hours of 8 am and 4pm. Flushing areas will be broken down into flushing zones and it is anticipated that flushing will occur in one zone per day. Maps of flushing areas will be posted to the GCSED's website and Facebook page on Mondays to show our residents where we are expected to be for that week. UDF is expected to occur throughout the spring and summer of 2023 and 2024.

GCSED understands that this may cause some inconvenience. However, UDF is essential for maintenance of our system as well as ensuring that we deliver safe and clean water to your homes. Water is essential and our mission is clear: To protect the quality of life in Greene County through effective, sustainable and affordable water and recycling services.



Tire Recycling

Recycling old tires has many benefits. One being that it conserves space in landfills. Tires take up a lot of space due to their round and hollow shape. Eliminating tires in landfills provides more space for other things that can't easily be recycled.

Old tires can bring to life new products! Rubberized asphalt, flooring, railroad ties, and playground turf just to name a few. These products aren't just a good way to reuse old tires; most of them are better than their normal alternatives. Playground turf made from recycled tires provides a softer crash pad for children over traditional mulch, gravel or pavement. Another product produced is tire-derived fuel which is more energy efficient than normal fuel from coal and releases fewer harmful emissions.

It also has an environmental and health impact. Discarded tires provide homes for disease-carrying pests and collect stagnant

water which breeds mosquitoes. They are also potential fire hazards that can contaminate water and soil of surrounding areas.

So next time you change your tires or see one discarded, please make a point to recycle them. If we don't have a drop-event around the time you need to get rid of a tire, you can take them to a local tire retailer or call your waste management provider.

Greene County Environmental Services strives to give our residents an easy way to recycle. One of the recycling programs we have is our Tire Drop-Off Events. Our next event dates are Thursday April 27th and May 25th from 9am to 11am. Through the use of an environmental grant, we are able to collect tires for a very low cost.

Participants **MUST** register in advance with the Greene Soil and Water Conservation District at

1363 Burnett Drive, Xenia, OH 45385; by phone: 937-416-6906; or e-mail: greeneswcd@outlook.com

Car or Light Truck = \$1.00 per tire
Semi-Truck = \$2.00 per tire
Agricultural = \$5.00 per tire

- Tires on or off rims will be accepted.
- Limit of 10 tires per vehicle or trailer.
- Tires accepted at the discretion of Environmental Services.
- Tires accepted from Greene County residents and properties only.
- Businesses are not eligible to participate.

If you have any questions, please contact Environmental Services at 937-562-5925.

Funding Provided by:



Impacts of Heavy Rainfall on Sewer Systems

You know the old saying, “April showers bring May flowers?” Well, heavy showers can bring much more than just flowers. They can cause issues within sewer systems. Heavy rainfall can lead to an excess amount of flow, which can overwhelm residential sewer systems, main sewer pipelines and even a treatment facility’s capacity limit.



The sewer system in Greene County is known as separate sewers, which consists of separate piping for storm water and wastewater. Though, this doesn’t mean that storm water can’t make its way into the sewage system. Inflow and infiltration (referred to in the business as I&I) is an excess of water that has leached into the sewer pipelines through loose manholes, cracks in pipes and other means such as sump pumps and downspouts. The result of too much I&I

during a heavy rain event can be backups and sewer overflows.

There are a few things residents can do to try to minimize the risk of a backup into homes. First, you can hire a plumber to inspect and clean your sewer lateral (the sewer pipe that connects the home to the sewer mainline). This is especially important if you have trees near lateral pipes, as the tree roots can grow root balls inside the pipe.

Next, if you have a sump-pump, make sure the sump-pump is not connected to your sewer lateral. Another option would be to hire a plumber to install a check valve. The check valve allows the flow out, but prevents it from flowing back into the drain. If you live in the Shawnee Hills area, inspect the lid of the grinder pump. If you notice a crack or the alarm turns on, give our Utility Maintenance a call at 937-562-7450 and we will send a crew out to inspect.



Employee Spotlight

We added a new teammate to our upper management staff! Please meet Corina Damigo. Corina is our new Deputy Director of Finance and has been with us for 5 months. She manages our finance office, cashier, billing and customer service. She brings with her over 25 years of experience in the utility field and a Master’s degree in Management with an emphasis in Human Resources

The opportunity for professional growth as well as the potential to use more of her skills and abilities are what led Corina to join Greene County. Corina hopes to use her knowledge to help improve the department in any way she can.

What does Corina like most about working for GCSED? Many things! The leadership is great and they are involved in all aspects of what is going on within our department. There is great camaraderie. The staff are encouraged to come together and bounce ideas off each other to come up with the best solutions and work effectively. The flexibility

in our work schedules lends to a better work life balance. And lastly, GCSED encourages both personal and professional development and growth.

Corina’s hobbies outside of the workplace include going to conferences, especially Christian conferences, being involved with her community and giving back and really loves anything that helps her to be a better person. She and her husband have a big, loving family with four daughters and twelve grandchildren. Fun Fact: Corina was born in Oahu, Hawaii, raised in Maui, Hawaii and has lived on 4 of the 8 islands.

We are very thankful to have Corina join our team and can’t wait to see what’s in store for her future with us! Thank you for your hard work and the positive attitude you bring!

Corina Damigo
Deputy Director of Finance

Greene County Environmental Services

Household Hazardous Waste

Accepted :

- Acids & Cleaners
- Aerosol Spray Cans
- Antifreeze
- < 5 Gallons of Fuel - Gasoline & Kerosene
- Herbicides & Pesticides
- Putty & Adhesives
- Stains, Varnishes & Paint Thinner
- Oil Based Paints

Not Accepted :

- Motor Oil
- Electronics
- Small Household Appliances
- Computers & Accessories
- Televisions
- Pharmaceuticals
- Ammunition
- Explosives



Household Hazardous Waste Drop off Dates/Times:

- Saturday, April 15th - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
- Tuesday, April 25th - 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm
- Saturday, May 13th - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
- Tuesday, May 23rd - 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm
- Saturday, June 10th - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
- Tuesday, June 27th - 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm

Ways to pay your bill

Online: greenecountyohio.gov/sanitary

By Phone: 855-925-1665 (24 Hr. Service)

By Mail:
Greene County Sanitary
Engineering Department
P.O. Box 340
Xenia, OH 45385-0340

Remember to update your GCSED online banking vendor address. Some banks send your payment via USPS rather than ACH transaction.

Greene County Sanitary Engineering

Administration Building

937-562-7450
Monday-Friday, 7:30 am to 4:30 pm
667 Dayton-Xenia Road
Xenia, OH 45385

After-Hours Emergencies

937-562-7450

Billing/Bill Payments

937-562-7457

greenecountyohio.gov

