

# Pipelines

FALL 2023

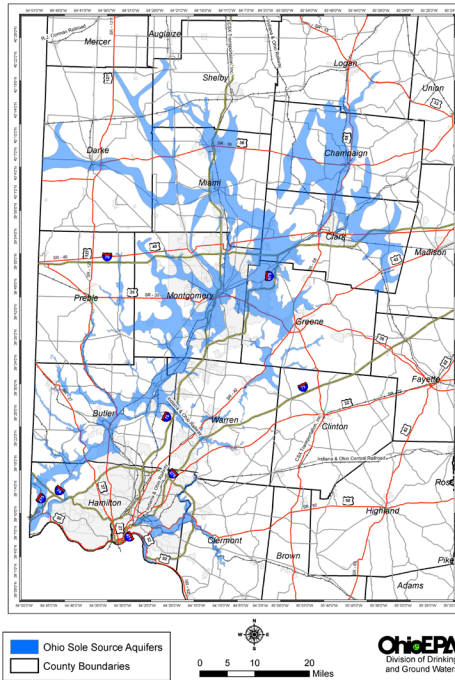


## The Great Miami Buried Valley Aquifer

Our water is sourced from the Great Miami Buried Valley Aquifer. An aquifer is comprised of water particles that can move freely within layers of sand, gravel, clay, and more roughly 250 feet below the soil. It spans from the north in Logan County to the south in Hamilton County and stretches from the east in Clark County to the west in Darke County.

The Great Miami Buried Valley Aquifer has an approximate storage capacity of 1.5 trillion gallons of groundwater. Wells near large streams can produce approximately 2,000 gallons of water per minute. This is the principal drinking water source for an estimated 2.3 million Ohioans and continues to support the region's economy and quality of life.

In 1988, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency designated it as a sole source aquifer. This designation means the aquifer serves as the principal (or sole) source of drinking water for an area. This also means contamination of the aquifer would be detrimental to public health and construction projects in the area are highly scrutinized. Regulations were put in place to prevent pollution, implement best practices



in industrial and agricultural operations, and promote public awareness about responsible land use.

Water sourced from aquifers generally exhibits high quality and often provides a consistent, reliable source of water. When the rain falls or the snow melts, the water naturally soaks into the earth to replenish the aquifer. As the water particles move through the different layers of soil, sand, gravel, and clay the action itself provides a natural filter. This natural filtering helps to ensure that the aquifer is being replenished with a cleaner resource by reducing the possible contaminants. Although this filtering reduces contaminants, our aquifer is not completely safe from contamination.

To preserve this vital resource for future generations, it's imperative that we take proactive steps to protect and conserve our aquifers. This includes responsible land use, strict adherence to pollution prevention measures, and fostering a culture of environmental awareness and sustainability. By safeguarding our aquifers, we ensure the continued well-being and prosperity of our communities while respecting the natural processes that sustain these underground treasures.

## Recycling Lithium Batteries

Lithium-ion batteries are essential components in our modern lives, powering everything from smartphones to electric vehicles. These batteries contain valuable materials like lithium, cobalt, and nickel, which are finite resources. Recycling allows us to recover and reuse these valuable metals, reducing the need for environmentally damaging mining operations and conserving precious resources.

Lithium batteries can pose a serious fire hazard when disposed of improperly in trash and recycling trucks. These batteries, commonly found in devices like smartphones and laptops, contain highly reactive lithium that can become unstable if damaged or exposed to heat. When discarded with regular waste, they can be crushed or punctured during compaction processes in garbage trucks, leading to short circuits and thermal runaways. This can result in spontaneous fires that pose risks to both waste collection workers and the environment. It's essential to recycle lithium batteries through designated collection points to ensure their safe disposal and prevent such hazardous incidents.

Failing to recycle lithium batteries poses significant environmental risks. When disposed of improperly, these batteries can leach hazardous chemicals into the soil and groundwater, posing serious threats to ecosystems and public health. Additionally, the incineration of lithium batteries releases harmful pollutants into the air. Recycling not only prevents these environmental hazards but also reduces greenhouse gas emissions associated with mining and manufacturing new batteries, aligning with sustainability and climate goals.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plays a pivotal role in monitoring water quality. The Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) is a program by the EPA to assess the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water. While lithium is not currently regulated under the UCMR, the increasing prevalence of lithium-ion batteries may prompt the EPA to consider it in future iterations of the program.



In essence, lithium battery recycling promotes resource conservation, reduces environmental harm, and aligns with the principles of a more sustainable and eco-friendly future. It's a crucial practice that supports both environmental protection and responsible resource management. And Environmental Services has you covered. We have FREE battery recycling (all battery sizes and types) for all of our county residents.

## Advantages With WaterSmart

In today's world, where water conservation is of paramount importance, the WaterSmart app emerges as a powerful tool that offers numerous benefits to customers seeking to manage their water usage more efficiently.

WaterSmart provides customers with near real-time insights into their water consumption. By connecting to their water meter, users can track their usage on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis. This visibility empowers them to identify patterns, set conservation goals, and ultimately lower their water bills.

Furthermore, the app sends timely alerts and notifications, helping customers detect leaks and abnormal usage promptly. This proactive approach not only saves money but also contributes to the conservation of this precious resource.

The WaterSmart app also educates users about water-saving tips and techniques. It provides personalized recommendations based on their consumption history, encouraging more eco-conscious behaviors like fixing leaks, installing

water-efficient appliances, and adjusting irrigation schedules.

Another advantage is the convenience it offers. Customers can pay their water bills directly through the app, eliminating the hassle of traditional payment methods. Moreover, the app fosters a sense of community by allowing users to compare their water usage with neighbors and participate in local conservation efforts.

WaterSmart empowers customers with knowledge, tools, and incentives to become responsible stewards of water. It not only saves money but also contributes to a sustainable future by promoting water conservation and fostering a sense of environmental responsibility. So, whether you're a homeowner or a renter, this app is a valuable asset for anyone looking to make a positive impact on their water usage and the planet.

It's FREE! Sign up today!  
[www.greencountyoh.watersmart.com](http://www.greencountyoh.watersmart.com)

## 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, October 14th - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm  
Tuesday, October 24th - 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm  
Tuesday, November 14th - 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm  
Tuesday, December 12th - 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm

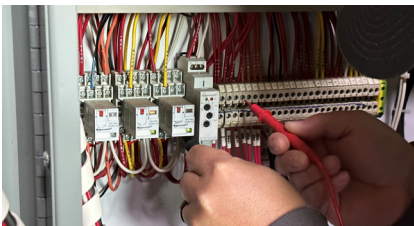
Location: 2145 Greene Way Blvd, Xenia, Ohio 45385

Effective October 9th, GCSED office hours will change to Monday - Friday 7:30am - 4:00pm. The payment dropbox will continue to be available for after hour bill payments.

## GCSED Spotlight: Vehicle and Central

At GCSED, our Central and Vehicle Maintenance divisions play a pivotal role in the efficient and reliable operation of our systems. These divisions are the unsung heroes that ensure that all the machinery, equipment, and vehicles, that are crucial to delivering clean water and managing wastewater, function optimally.

We rely heavily on various pieces of equipment, such as pumps and generators, to maintain a continuous supply of clean water and proper wastewater management. Central Maintenance is responsible for routine inspections, repairs, and preventive maintenance to ensure that these critical components function reliably. A breakdown in any part of the system can lead to service interruptions and public health risks, underscoring the importance of well-maintained equipment.



Department vehicles are essential for conducting inspections, repairs, and maintenance throughout our service area. Vehicle Maintenance ensures that these fleets are in excellent working condition. Regular servicing and repairs not only

extend the lifespan of the vehicles but also enhance the safety of the employees who operate them. Timely maintenance helps prevent costly breakdowns and downtime, allowing employees to respond promptly to emergencies and maintain uninterrupted service.



Efficient maintenance practices help manage our budgets effectively. By investing in preventive maintenance, we can extend the life of our equipment and vehicles, reducing the need for expensive replacements. Moreover, proactive maintenance helps identify and address issues before they escalate, saving us costly emergency repairs.

Our Central and Vehicle Maintenance divisions are the backbone of our daily operations. Their work directly impacts the reliability, safety, and cost-efficiency of our water and sewer services. They are vital for allowing us to continue to safeguard public health and ensure the sustainable delivery of clean water and wastewater management.

## Ways to pay your bill

Online or to set up automatic payments:  
[greencountyohio.gov/sanitary](http://greencountyohio.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 4:00 pm  
667 Dayton-Xenia Road  
Xenia, OH 45385

After-Hours Emergencies  
937-562-7450

Billing/Bill Payments  
937-562-7457

[greencountyohio.gov](http://greencountyohio.gov)

