

# Mahoning County Wastewater Treatment Planning Prescriptions and Options

Updated June 2021

## Areas currently sewered - YELLOW

Lands are included in this category because an adequate collection system is in place to transfer wastewater and capacity exists at a Publicly-Owned Treatment Works (POTW) to accept and treat wastes generated by the area. These areas are served with operational, sanitary sewers and/or county owned, operated, and maintained Package Plants. However, there may be individual residential properties, undeveloped tracts of land, and vacant lots subject to improvement.

### 1. New Development:

All new development and construction will be required to connect and/or provide sanitary service to ensure wastewater will be transported to and treated at an existing POTW. The cost to connect and/or develop the infrastructure shall be borne by the developer.

### 2. Existing Development (previously developed properties not originally required to tie into sanitary sewer when originally constructed):

a. As sanitary sewers become available and accessible, as determined by the Mahoning County Public Health, and/or Ohio EPA, and/or the Primary/Secondary Management Agency\* (MA), properties served by existing home sewage treatment system (HSTS) or semi-public sewage disposal system (SPSDS)/private wastewater treatment system will be required to connect to the sanitary sewer infrastructure or provide sanitary sewer service to ensure wastewater will be transported to and treated at a POTW. Any HSTS or SPSPDS/private wastewater treatment system shall be abandoned in accordance with [OAC 3701-29-21](#).

b. Properties with failing HSTS's or SPSPDS's/private wastewater treatment systems and those transferred or sold with HSTS's or SPSPDS's/private wastewater treatment systems shall abandon their systems in accordance with [OAC 3701-29-21](#). Such properties will be required to provide sanitary sewer infrastructure to ensure wastewater will be transported to and treated at an existing POTW. The cost to connect and/or provide the necessary sanitary sewer infrastructure shall be borne by the property owner.

When determining the accessibility of a sanitary sewer system, the Mahoning County Public Health department, in concert with [ORC 6117.51](#), may consider the type of connection, local or state ordinances or rules prohibiting or requiring connection, the technical feasibility of connection, the ability of the sanitary sewerage system and associated treatment facility to accept additional flows, and the distance from the foundation wall of the structure from which sewage originates to the nearest boundary of the right-of-way within which the sewer is located.

## Areas programmed for Sewers Only by connection to an existing POTW – ORANGE

Lands are included in this category because capacity exists, or capacity can be added at an existing POTW to accept and treat wastewater generated by the area; and demand exists to extend sanitary sewer infrastructure to the area in question. These transitional areas contain individual residential properties, undeveloped tracks of land, and vacant lots subject to improvement. These transitional areas are projected to receive sewers but are not sewered yet. Projected wastewater flow from these areas is accounted for within the system.

### 1. New Development<sup>1</sup>:

- a. Major and minor residential subdivisions, multi-family, commercial, industrial, and institutional development will be required to connect to an existing POTW. The cost to connect and/or provide the necessary sanitary sewer infrastructure shall be borne by the developer.
- b. Individual, undeveloped residential lots in established subdivisions served by functioning individual HSTS's, and remote residentially zoned metes-and-bounds parcels, where sanitary sewer is not available and accessible, may be improved with new HSTS's, provided Mahoning County Public Health approves a suitable treatment system design and installation meets state and local requirements assuring no off-lot discharge of effluent. Spray irrigation is permitted on a case-by-case basis and as per Mahoning County Public Health.

### 2. Existing Development:

- a. Existing multi-family, commercial, industrial, institutional properties, major and minor subdivisions, as well as single family HSTS's within this area shall be required by the Ohio EPA, and/or the board of health, and/or the Primary/Secondary MA, to connect to sanitary sewer, as it becomes available and accessible for the removal and treatment of sanitary wastewater at the property owner's expense.
- b. SPSDS's/private wastewater treatment systems failing to operate properly will be required to connect and/or provide sanitary service to ensure proper wastewater treatment at an existing POTW. This may require the extension of public sewer from existing sanitary sewer infrastructure to the failing treatment system. Replacement or repair of existing HSTS's shall be considered appropriate by Mahoning County Public Health if publicly owned sanitary sewer infrastructure is not available and accessible. Failing HSTS's serving single family homes shall be abandoned in accordance with [OAC 3701-29-21](#) and Mahoning County Public Health's regulations when tying into sanitary sewer infrastructure.

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<sup>1</sup> New development shall also include expansion proposals for existing developed properties.

When determining the accessibility of a sanitary sewer system, the Mahoning County Public Health department, in concert with [ORC 6117.51](#), may consider the type of connection, local or state ordinances or rules prohibiting or requiring connection, the technical feasibility of connection, the ability of the sanitary sewerage system and associated treatment facility to accept additional flows, and the distance from the foundation wall of the structure from which sewage originates to the nearest boundary of the right-of-way within which the sewer is located.

**Areas that will be served by a POTW or by on-site non-discharging systems - GREEN**

These areas may be served by either individual on-site non-discharging systems or new sanitary sewer infrastructure, if determined available and accessible, that connects and/or provides sanitary service to ensure that wastewater will be transported to and treated at the existing POTW.

**1. New Development<sup>2</sup>:**

- a. Major and minor residential subdivisions, multi-family, commercial, industrial, and institutional development will be required to connect to an existing POTW. If the extension of sewers is not possible, an on-site non-discharging system may be considered if on-site soil and property conditions are appropriate and in accordance with Ohio EPA and/or Mahoning County Public Health rules and regulations. The cost to connect and/or provide the necessary sanitary sewer infrastructure shall be borne by the developer.
- b. Individual, residential dwellings undergoing an expansion, shall be required to connect to sanitary sewer infrastructure if the existing HSTS is malfunctioning and a publicly owned sanitary sewer system is not available and accessible. The cost to connect and/or provide the necessary sanitary sewer infrastructure shall be borne by the developer. Replacement or repair of existing HSTS's shall be considered appropriate by Mahoning County Public Health if a publicly owned sanitary sewer system is not available and accessible

**2. Existing Development**

- a. Existing commercial, industrial, or private businesses with an existing sewage system designed for a discharge may be expanded according to Ohio EPA's regulations and if treated effluent is improved to ensure that there will be no additional pollutant loads discharged as a result of the proposed expansion.
- b. Individual unimproved, residential lots in established subdivisions served by functioning individual HSTS's, remote residentially-zoned metes-and-bounds

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<sup>2</sup> New development shall also include expansion proposals.

parcels, where sanitary sewer is not available and accessible, may be improved with an approved on-lot system, provided Mahoning County Public Health and/or the Ohio EPA finds a suitable treatment system design and installation that meets state and local requirements and assures that there will be no off-lot discharge of effluent. Failing SPSDSs, located where sewers are not available and accessible and an on-lot replacement is not viable, may be replaced with a discharging system that meets water quality standards and in accordance with Ohio EPA.

When determining the accessibility of a sanitary sewer system, the Mahoning County Public Health department, in concert with [ORC 6117.51](#), may consider the type of connection, local or state ordinances or rules prohibiting or requiring connection, the technical feasibility of connection, the ability of the sanitary sewerage system and associated treatment facility to accept additional flows, and the distance from the foundation wall of the structure from which sewage originates to the nearest boundary of the right-of-way within which the sewer is located.

## Management Agency Roles Defined

A **Primary Management Agency (MA)** is typically the county or municipality that owns and operates a POTW that accepts and treats wastewater within their respective FPA. In addition, the Primary MA has the authority to refuse to allow an expansion as well as:

- have legal authority to provide service to its area;
- carry out appropriate portions of an area wide waste treatment management plan;
- manage waste treatment works and related facilities effectively in order to serve such areas in conformance with the 208 Plan and effectively manage POTW and related point and nonpoint source facilities and practices in conformance with the plan;
- directly or by contract, design and construct new works, and operate and maintain new and existing works as required by the plan;
- accept and utilize grants, or other funds from any source, for waste (water) treatment management purposes or nonpoint source control purposes;
- raise revenues, including the assessment of waste treatment charges or other necessary funding, to implement its assigned portion of the plan. Needed revenues may include staff funding, or for DMAs that own or operate POTWs, assessments of wastewater treatment charges;
- cooperate with and assist the Eastgate staff in performance of Plan responsibilities;
- incur short- and long-term indebtedness;
- assure implementation of an areawide waste treatment management plan that each participating community pays its proportionate share of treatment costs; and
- accept treatment of industrial wastes (wastewater).

A **Secondary MA** is the county or municipality sewer district that owns and maintains sanitary sewer infrastructure where the wastes are transported to a POTW owned by another county or municipality.