



Great Lakes
COMMUNITY ACTION
PARTNERSHIP

RCAP's Water and Wastewater Resources

*Technical Assistance, Training and Services
for Small Systems*



Often in small communities, employees have to wear multiple hats, many are under paid, and some volunteer their time.

The do not need and cannot afford full time professional staff that large cities and counties are able to support in dedicated positions to manage individual utilities and develop projects.

RCAP brings the professional staff and expertise to help small communities fill these gaps.

Who We Are

Ohio Team



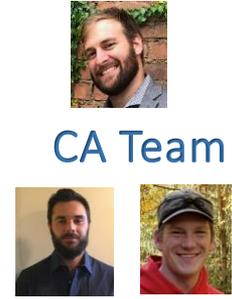
Regional Team Leaders



GIS Team



CA Team





What We Do



RCAP provides technical assistance to communities to build *technical, managerial, and financial capacity* to construct and sustainably operate water and sewer infrastructure. This is the core of our program.

In Ohio, we have expanded to offer many other small utility and community development services in pursuit of this mission.

Rural Community Assistance Program (RCAP)

RCAP is operated by a national network of non-profit organizations working to ensure that small and rural communities throughout the United States have access to safe drinking water, and sanitary wastewater and solid waste disposal.

This is coordinated through the national **Rural Community Assistance Partnership**, which secures federal funding for the entire network through USEPA, USDA Rural Development, and the Dept. of Health and Human Services.

RCAP has served communities in Ohio since 1980.



*Great Lakes RCAP is operated by GLCAP,
headquartered in Fremont, Ohio*

RCAP

Rural Community Assistance Partnership



RCAP National Office



Our Funders



**Division of Drinking
and Groundwaters**

Ohio Water
Development Authority



CSBG

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM



Our Mission

- Improve public health, surface water protection, environmental compliance, economic readiness and quality of life in small communities and rural areas.

How We Achieve This

- Help small and rural communities access funding for water and sewer projects.
- Improve the technical, managerial and financial capabilities of water and sewer systems through technical assistance and training.
- Promote shared services and regionalization projects to increase efficiency, reduce end-user costs, and ensure long-term sustainability.

Who do we help?

Communities with a service population under 10,000 population can receive free assistance under our grant funded programs.

This can include rural county districts with specific projects serving fewer than 10,000.

We also provide affordable professional services not covered under our grant programs, and for cities over 10,000.

Aberdeen
Ada
Adelphi
Albany
Alexandria
Bailey Lakes
Bainbridge
Belle Plaine
Bowling Green
Bremen
Bridgeport
Carrollton
Chambersburg
Cloverdale
Coalton
Columbiana County
Continental
Craig Beach
Crawford County
Crestline
Dexter City
Doylestown
Dupont
Earnhart Hill Water & Sewer District
Edison
Fort Recovery
Frankfort
Gallipolis

Jackson
Jefferson County
Kenton
La Rue
Lakemore
Laurelville
Leetonia
Lisbon
Lorain County Wastewater District (LORCO)
Lowell
Madison County
Madison Water District
Marion County
Maysville Regional Water District
Meigs County
Millersburg
Morral
Mount Eaton
Nelsonville
New Concord
New Holland
New Madison
New Marshfield
New Straitsville

Powhatan Point
Preble County
Rio Grande
Rochester
Sabina
Scioto County
Sebring
Shawnee
South Salem
St. Clairsville
Stewart - Athens, County
Syracuse Racine Regional Sewer District
Trotter
Trimble Township Wastewater Treatment District
Twin City Water & Sewer District
Verona
Vinton
Walnut Creek Sewer District
Warren Water Authority
Warsaw
Washington County
Wayne County
Wayne Lakes
West Alexandria

Last year we assist more than 290 communities with project development and funding, Asset Management Plan development, rate studies, on site technical assistance, GIS services, sewer collection and water distribution condition assessment services, and loan refinancing applications.

Many of these communities have more than one project enrolled.



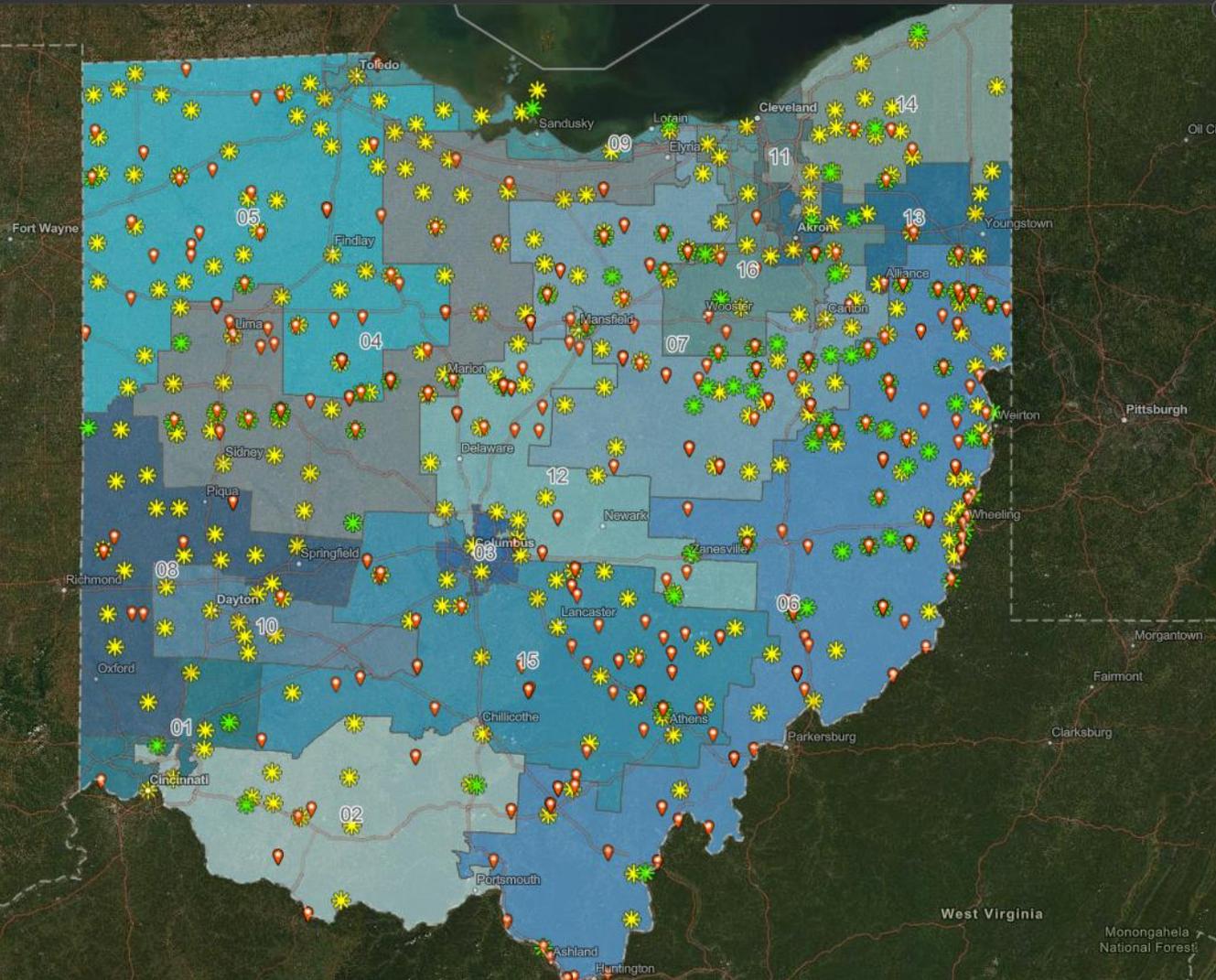
Holmes County
Holmesville



Perrysville
Portage County - Mantua



Our combined attendance for 81 virtual training events was almost 3,000. Over 600 people across the state participated, most of whom attended multiple classes.



Community Projects

 407

[Indicator](#) [Details](#)

GIS Projects

 91

[Indicator](#) [Details](#)

 264

Community Received Training

A suburban street scene with houses, trees, and a speed limit sign. The street is paved with asphalt and has a white line on the right side. There are houses on both sides, some with white siding and some with brown siding. There are trees, some bare and some evergreen. A speed limit sign is visible on the right side of the street.

Who can make referrals to RCAP?

ANYONE

How We Help

Foster Vision

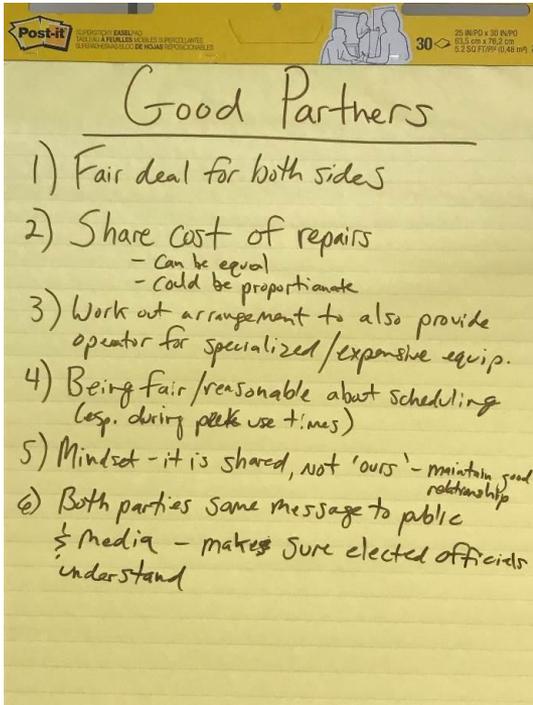


Leverage Funds

Achieve Sustainability

Facilitate Environmental Compliance

Fostering Vision



Board Training

System Assessments

Strategic Planning Facilitation

Regionalization & Shared Services
Facilitation

In the last program year, we leveraged

\$118,413,212 in grants and \$43,678,168 in low-interest loans

*This includes 117 awards for 72 water and sewer projects serving communities
under 10,000 population in Ohio.*



*LORCO – Cinnamon Lakes Ohio BUILDS Grant Announcement
by Lieutenant Governor Jon Husted in October 2021*



*The Village of Morral receives \$5M to fully fund
the construction of a new wastewater treatment system*

Leveraging Funds



We assist well over 100 communities each year with project planning, development and funding, striving to secure the lowest cost loans and maximum grant dollars.

Often in the process, we work with communities to evaluate their rate structures and financial capacity.

Planning, Project Development & Funding

Building Support

- Community Interest Surveys
- Facilitate planning committee meetings
- Conduct appropriate public hearing and meetings

Procuring Services

- Develop scope of services for engineers
- Qualifications Based Selection process to hire an engineer
- Assist in procuring other professional services

Funding Strategy

- Planning loans
- Income surveys
- Determine eligibility for potential funding sources
- Scenario building
- Write grant & loan applications
- Administration of grants* (CDBG, ARC, OPWC, USDA RD, USACE)
- Assist in completing financial reports to funding agencies

Environmental Compliance

- NEPA Environmental Reports (USDA, HUD/CDBG, Ohio EPA, US EPA, US Army Corps of Engineer)

Project Coordination/ Facilitation

- Among community representatives, funders, regulators & consultants



*Download from
Ohiorcap.org*

 FUNDING AGENCY ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS								
Type of Utility	ARC	CDBG	EPA Water	EPA Waste	OPWC	OWDA	USDA	WSOS SWF
Village	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
City	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Township	1	2			X			
6103 Water District	X	X	X		4	X	X	X
6117 Sewer District	X	X		X	4	X	X	X
6119 Regional W/S District	X	2	X	X	X	X	X	X
501c3 Not-for-Profit Company	2	2	X		4		X	X
Conservancy District	X	2	X	X		X	X	X
Private-For-Profit System		2	X	3				X

- 1 ODSA will not allow a township to apply for ARC funding if the funding is state ARC funds or state administered but a county can apply on behalf of township.
- 2 County can apply on behalf of entity.
- 3 Non-point source entities only.
- 4 County and/or township can apply on behalf of entity if they own, operate, and maintain the infrastructure.

The logo for Rural Community Assistance Partnership (RCAP) features the letters 'RCAP' in white, bold, sans-serif font. The letters are set against a background of two overlapping curved shapes: a light green one on the left and a light blue one on the right.

Rural Community
Assistance Partnership

Let's Get the Lead Out!

Leading Small Drinking Water Systems Through
Lead Service Line Inventories, Replacement Plan
Development & Funding

Great Lakes RCAP received special funding through H2Ohio and Ohio EPA to help over 20 small systems inventory their lead service lines.

Do you need help? Talk to us!

Facilitating Environmental Compliance



Achieving Sustainability



AM Plan Development

Asset Management Plan Development
For Drinking Water Systems

An Asset Management Plan incorporates many of the standard operation and maintenance activities your drinking water system personnel are already doing.

The process of developing a formal Asset Management Plan helps operational staff and decision makers in a number of ways:

- A plan to shift maintenance activities from 'Reactive' to 'Proactive'
- A method to prioritize assets, tasks and projects
- A schedule of maintenance, inspection, and capital projects
- A plan to pay for these activities and documentation to support reserve funds
- Better informed decisions about how to allocate money and resources
- Peace of mind knowing the current state of the system and having a detailed plan moving forward







Great Lakes RCAP has several experienced operators on staff, with two dedicated to serving Ohio, to provide on-site technical assistance.



CHICORY
The
Pride
of
shadyside



Like small systems, our staff often wear multiple hats. If they don't know how to help you, they will find an experienced co-worker who can!

RCAP Condition Assessment Team





Our Condition Assessment Team helps communities investigate their sewer systems, exercise valves, detect leaks, and inspect water towers.

This work includes processing and coding imagery and preparing reports to aid in project planning and hiring contractors for repair and rehab projects.



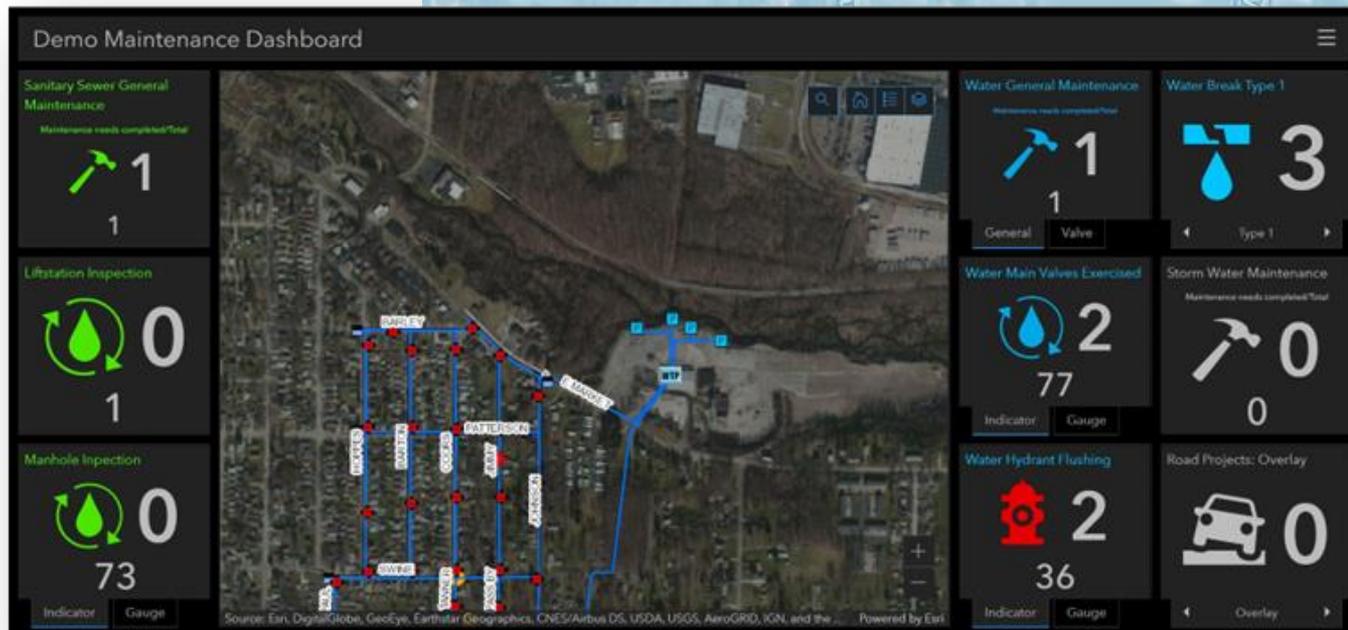


Seven Ohio RCAP Staff are NASSCO Certified to identify and properly code defects during manhole, sewer main and lateral investigations.



RCAP GIS Team

The RCAP GIS Cooperative serves over 75 communities to help them access, use and maintain their data. They bring the technical expertise of a large city GIS Department to small systems.



The GIS Team is currently helping all its members update their 2017 lead maps for Ohio EPA ahead of the December 2022 deadline.

Our GIS Team has helped over 150 communities with GPS data collection and GIS mapping of their water, sewer and storm water systems.
(We've also done a few municipal electric systems!)



esri

ArcGIS



RCAP Consulting Services



We also offer affordable professional services to small and moderate-sized systems.

Rate Studies

We are a neutral third party offering the best advice to operate a sustainable system!

Asset Management & CMOM

We also offer extensive free training and guidance through a combination of virtual and on-site sessions in small cohorts. Available to systems under 10,000 population.

Environmental Assessments

We are the experts in completing USDA Rural Development Environmental Reports and CDBG Environmental Assessments for NEPA Compliance

Delinquent Accounts Reduction



Policy and Procedures Guidance

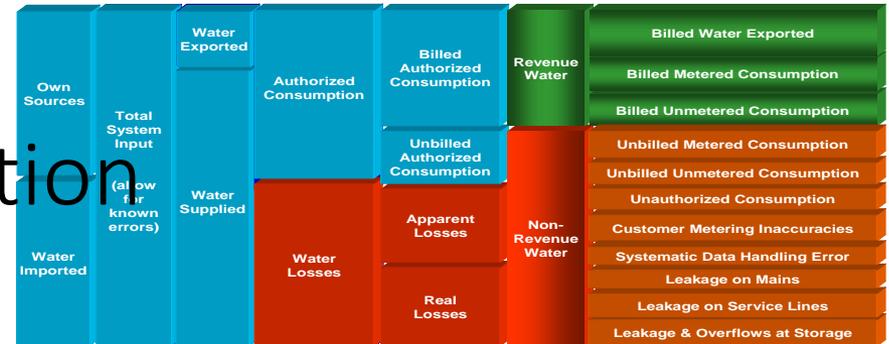
Adherence to existing policy and procedures

Timely shut-offs

Sewer 'shut-off' legislation and implementation guidance

Tackling Unaccounted Water

RCAP can help conduct AWWA Water Audits



Water Audits & Validation

Leak Detection

Water Loss Control Plans





Free facilitation and negotiations assistance for Shared Services and Regional Solutions

For more resources, visit rcap.org and look for the Regionalization page.



Rural community leaders, operators and managers of small water and wastewater systems balance a variety of tasks and challenges on a daily basis. For more than 46 years, the Rural Community Assistance Partnership (RCAP)* Network's technical assistance providers (TAPs) have been on the ground, working directly with small, rural and tribal community leaders and observing those challenges first-hand. Common challenges include:

- Overbuilt or underbuilt systems,
- Insufficient rates that are already too high for customers,
- Operator retirements,
- Changing federal and state regulations that a community cannot meet, and
- Economic transitions.

Depending on the nature of the challenges a community faces, partnering with others - or regionalizing - may be a solution.

RCAP spoke with community leaders and/or water and wastewater system operators and managers as well as TAPs from across the country to learn what they think other community leaders and members should know about the process of partnering. Many interviews revealed ways leaders can take a role in the regionalization process personally, starting with commitments they should make to both themselves and to the communities they serve. RCAP synthesized these observations into ten lessons. A full report on www.rcap.org features the ten lessons summarized here.

Regionalization simply means any type of partnership between multiple utilities, from informal agreements in case of an emergency or sharing of heavy equipment, to more formal partnerships such as the formation of a Joint Powers Authority to develop a new water source or a full physical and/or managerial consolidation.

Some systems are using regionalization as a solution to build capacity and become more resilient, enabling them to successfully sustain their systems not only financially, but technically and managerially, for years to come.

10 LESSONS ON WATER/WASTEWATER SYSTEM PARTNERSHIPS

1	DETERMINE WHETHER A PARTNERSHIP MAY BE RIGHT FOR YOUR COMMUNITY	6	KEEP A PATIENT MINDSET, AND KNOW THAT THIS IS A LONG-TERM DISCUSSION FOCUSED ON SUSTAINABILITY
2	FIND OUT WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE AND BUILD YOUR TEAM	7	BE REALISTIC ABOUT LONG-TERM COSTS AND CAPACITY TO KEEP UP ANY NEW INFRASTRUCTURE
3	COMMIT TO TRANSPARENCY FROM THE START	8	HELP SYSTEM LEADERSHIP AND BOARDS DEVELOP AN UNDERSTANDING OF THEIR ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
4	COMMIT TO A WILLINGNESS TO LISTEN, BE RESPECTFUL AND FIND MUTUAL BENEFIT	9	KEEP YOUR GOAL IN SIGHT, BUT BE OPEN TO POSSIBILITIES
5	RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF THINKING THROUGH, AND REACHING AGREEMENT ON, GOVERNANCE	10	ENSURE BUILDING AND EARNING TRUST IS PRIORITIZED THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS

Training



Over 50 Free Classes Each Year!

For elected and appointed officials and operational staff

Virtual Instructor-Led

In-Person

Self-Paced Online

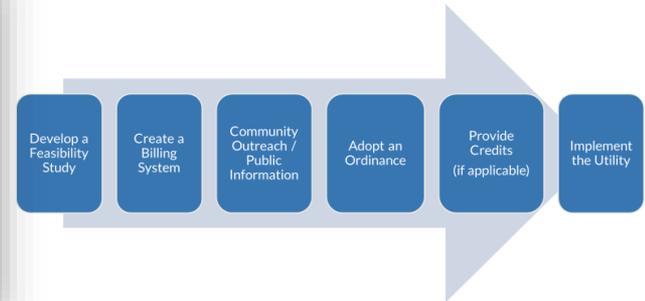
On-Site

Field Days

Most of our classes offer operator contact hours.



Steps to a Stormwater Utility



Are you on our list?

Sign up today to receive our monthly e-bulletins about upcoming training opportunities or visit our website at <http://ohrcap.org>



Sign Up to Stay Up on the Latest RCAP Training News!

Sign up for our monthly Ohio events emails to learn about upcoming virtual, in-person and new self-paced training opportunities.

* Email

* First Name

* Last Name

* City

* State/Province

Postal Code

* Company

You Asked For It – You Got It!

We often hear operators wish their boards and councils could receive training.

RCAP offers several classes each year specifically for your decision-makers.

Help us connect with them! Be sure to tell them about us and sign up someone from your organization to receive notices about our training.

- 101 Utility Management for Local Officials
- 201 Financial Management for Local Officials
- Sustainable Management of Small Systems
- Bring Your Board Together
- How to Fund Your Project
- Project Development and Funding Short Courses
- Basics of Budgeting
- ...and many more!



RCAP is sponsored by ODWA, Ohio EPA Division of Drinking & Groundwaters, US Dept. of Health & Human Services, and USEPA. 

Free Training for Water and Sewer System Managers, Administrators and Decision Makers

Registration for all events is free, but space is limited. Sign up today!

Bring Your Board Together A Virtual Workshop

Special Evening Event – April 20th 6:30 – 8:45 PM

Does your board or council work from a shared set of values, a common vision, and a stated mission for your utility? Bring your whole board together for this special virtual workshop! We'll discuss approaches and best practices to develop a utility's values, vision, mission statements, and level of service goals to meet the community needs and achieve customer satisfaction. Learn techniques to engage fellow decision makers to set your utility up for success for many years to come. This event is intended for local officials and will not offer operator contact hours.

Create and Fund a Storm Sewer Utility Virtual Class

April 29th 10 – 11 AM

This 1-hour webinar is especially for village officials in Ohio who are interested in establishing a storm water utility to improve storm sewers and other storm water management infrastructure. We'll review basic information needed for village elected officials, administrative and technical staff to begin the process of establishing a storm water utility and setting rates. Basic concepts and key considerations during the process will be discussed, including Equivalent Residential Units (ERU's) as a preferred basis for rates. RCAP will apply for 1.0 X wastewater contact hours for interested operators.

Shared Services & Regional Solutions In-Person Workshops

Two Opportunities to Join Us! May 18th in Kent or May 19th in Defiance

Local decision-makers, systems managers and operational staff, come join us for good food, networking and a great training to explore ideas for shared services and regional solutions in providing the best water and wastewater services for your residents. We'll explore ideas and examples to share equipment, personnel, and infrastructure, and discuss how to look for opportunities and challenge participants to think outside the box in brainstorming solutions. Learn how to overcome hurdles, develop fair contracts, and how to be a good partner in sharing, providing or receiving services across boundaries. RCAP offers 4.0 X wastewater contact hours for interested operators.

Visit ahrcap.org for all of our upcoming virtual and in-person training events!

Save the date

The Art & Science of Bulk Rate Setting – June 9th 10 – 11 AM

Join Willyne Cannon and Nathan Davis for this new 1-hour webinar about setting fair bulk water or wastewater treatment fees with confidence your costs are fully covered.

Field Days are back! June 14th St. Clairsville and June 16th Lewisburg

Are you curious to learn more about water distribution and wastewater collection system best practices and equipment? We love to see board and council members attend these events along with their operators. Free food and up to 5 contact hours are provided for operators.



Join us for In-Person RCAP 101 Workshops

Utility Management for Governing Boards Workshops

9 AM - 3:30 PM

Be sure to encourage your local officials and management to join us for a great day of learning and networking!

RCAP 101: Utility Management for Governing Boards is a foundational class for oversight board and council members to understand their role and responsibilities in overseeing public water and wastewater system operations, management, planning and financing. Adequate oversight and good decision making are vital to adequately operate and maintain infrastructure, ensure public health and compliance, effectively respond during emergencies, and plan for long-term sustainability.

Organized into three sections covering Technical, Managerial, and Financial Capacity, a wide range of topics are explained including rules and regulations, staffing, budgeting, record keeping, planning, open meetings, customer outreach, financial management, project funding, and more.

Elected and appointed officials, administrators, fiscal officers, directors and managers are encouraged to attend. Operators in attendance can receive 5.0 'x' contact hours for drinking water and wastewater.

Registration is free. Lunch is on your own. Sponsored by Ohio EPA Division of Drinking and Groundwaters

Athens, Ohio - October 25th, 2022

Athens Community Center
701 E State St, Athens, OH 45701

Hillsboro, Ohio - November 15th, 2022

Southern State Community College
100 Hobart Dr., Hillsboro, OH 45133

Youngstown, Ohio - November 22nd, 2022

Eastgate Regional Council of Governments
100 E Federal St, #1000
Youngstown, OH 44503

Bowling Green, Ohio - December 8th, 2022

Bowling Green Community Center
1245 W. Newton Road
Bowling Green, OH 43402



Improve & Exercise Your Contingency Plan Workshop

Athens, Ohio - November 17th, 2022

9:45 AM - 3 PM

At the Athens Community Center

This course highlights some of the most important aspects of a contingency plan and shares ideas on how to improve them. We've included brief overview of contingency plan rules and a discussion of how the plan document is tied to other operational guidance such as SOPs and Asset Management Plans.

Attendees will see examples of decision flow models, supporting mapping, and embedded images used in contingency plans. The course content is built around Ohio EPA's regulations and available templates. Operators will be advised to thoughtfully record procedures that objectively lay out steps for dealing with foreseeable emergency and non-typical events. At the end, we will walk through at least one tabletop exercise.

This course is approved for 4.0 O&M Contact Hours. Registration is free, but space is limited. Lunch is on your own.

Sponsored by Ohio EPA Division of Drinking & Groundwaters

We still have classes scheduled in 2022 and lots will be offered in 2023.

Visit www.ohrcap.org to register.



Great Lakes
COMMUNITY ACTION
PARTNERSHIP

WELCOME

RCAP **FIELD DAY**

We were thrilled to return to in-person Field Days earlier this summer with great events in St. Clairsville and Lewisburg!



North-Central Ohio – we are coming your way in June 2023 for our next Field Day. We hope to see you there!







How can we help you?



www.glcap.org/rcap

