



**FOR RELEASE:** April 20, 2011  
**MEDIA CONTACT:** Dina Pierce, (614) 644-2160  
**CITIZEN CONTACT:** Darla Peelle, (614) 644-2160

## Crestline Agrees to Improve Sewer System

In a [settlement](#) with Ohio EPA, the city of Crestline will make sewer system and wastewater treatment plant improvements to eliminate overflows of untreated sewage and comply with effluent contaminant limits set in its discharge permit.

While the city works on upgrading the sewer plant, Ohio EPA has imposed a ban on adding new connections to the sewer system.

Crestline's wastewater treatment plant is located at 100 N. Seltzer St. and discharges to Westerly Creek. The city has separated its sanitary and storm sewers to eliminate combined sewer overflows. However, it continues to have overflows of untreated wastewater from the sanitary sewer. The city also has violations related to effluent pollution limits, sampling requirements, sewage sludge handling, installing a sewer line without a permit and failing to follow its approved compliance schedule for wastewater treatment plant improvements.

Part of the problem is caused by the wastewater treatment plant processing more sewage than it is designed to handle. Its design capacity is 950,000 gallons per day, but flow into the plant is averaging 970,000 gallons per day.

The city is working to eliminate the sewer overflows by creating a general plan to address sewer system and treatment plant improvements. This can include reducing the inflow and infiltration of storm water into the system and/or increasing the plant's capacity. The city has until Dec. 31, 2011, to submit a plan to Ohio EPA for approval.

During this time, the city must track and report sanitary sewer overflows to Ohio EPA, create a written procedure for managing sludge, train plant personnel and conduct all sampling and monitoring as required by the wastewater discharge permit. The city also will pay a \$13,905 civil penalty to Ohio EPA, which will be split equally between the Ohio Environmental Education Fund and the administration of surface water programs.