



Public Interest Center | P.O. Box 1049 | Columbus, OH | 43216-1049

**FOR RELEASE:** May 24, 2011  
**MEDIA CONTACT:** Mike Settles, (614) 644-2160  
**CITIZEN CONTACT:** Kristopher Weiss, (614) 644-2160

### **Ohio EPA Schedules Meeting Regarding Summit County Bridge Replacement Project**

Potential wetlands and stream impacts from a proposed bridge replacement project in Twinsburg Township will be the focus of a June 7, 2011, Ohio EPA public meeting. The information session and public hearing will begin at 3 p.m. at Ohio EPA's Northeast District Office, 2110 E. Aurora Road, Twinsburg.

The meeting will be an opportunity for citizens to ask questions and submit comments concerning an application submitted by the Ohio Department of Transportation to replace the existing bridge on State Route 82 over Pond Brook. The project would include the replacement of 100 feet of roadway approach and ditches.

To complete the project, ODOT is requesting to impact up to 0.31 acre of wetlands and 90 feet of the stream channel to Pond Brook. ODOT would be required to preserve, restore or replace wetland resources to mitigate any approved impacts. Ohio EPA also will consider other alternatives resulting in lesser or no impacts to water quality.

Anyone wanting to discharge dredged or fill material to waters of the State must first obtain a water quality certification from Ohio EPA and a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Ohio EPA's review is to ensure the project will comply with Ohio's water quality standards.

The proposed project may result in a change from the current water quality conditions of Pond Brook and Cuyahoga River watershed, but cannot violate Ohio's water quality standards that protect human health and the environment. Ohio EPA will consider the technical, economic, social and environmental aspects of the project before deciding to issue or deny a water quality certification.

Comments on the application may be presented at the hearing or submitted in writing to: Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water, attn: Permits Processing Unit, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049. The public comment period ends June 14, 2011.

The application (Ohio EPA ID #113753) and related materials are available for review by calling (614) 644-2001.