

Comparative Analysis of Opportunities for Small and Medium Private Sewage Treatment Plants in Wayne and Geauga Counties

Thursday, October 23, 2025 2:00 PM (20 minutes)

Sanitary sewer systems provide a cost-effective and environmentally sound alternative to decentralized wastewater management methods such as septic tanks and leach fields. Centralized ownership and operation distribute maintenance costs across users, creating both economic and ecological benefits. However, the development and expansion of sewer infrastructure face constraints related to physical conditions as well as cultural and social considerations. This study compares Wayne and Geauga Counties in Ohio to explore the potential for small- and medium-scale private sewage treatment plants. While Wayne County currently maintains 12 Facilities Planning Areas (FPAs) with established sewer systems, Geauga County has only 7 FPAs and limited small-scale, single-business wastewater treatment facilities. Additional cultural dynamics, such as resistance to rural development and the presence of a large Amish population, further shape Geauga's wastewater infrastructure landscape. By examining these differences, this analysis highlights opportunities and challenges for expanding private sewage treatment solutions in regions where centralized sewer systems face physical and social limitations.

Is there a SINGLE day you are unavailable to present?

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Organized Session Details

Author: HARNAR, Henry (Youngstown State University)

Presenter: HARNAR, Henry (Youngstown State University)

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