

Stark County Off-Road Ditches / Drainage Program

Isabelle Bruder | **Drainage Specialist**
Stark Soil & Water Conservation District



2021 District of the Year



WHO IS STARK SOIL & WATER?

- A political subdivision of the State of Ohio, Ohio Department of Agriculture, Division of Soil & Water Conservation.
- Each of Ohio's 88 counties has a local office.
- Mission: *We are dedicated to conserving natural resources by educating, guiding and assisting the citizens of Stark County*

WHAT DOES STARK SOIL & WATER DO?

- Agriculture, Forestry, & Wildlife
 - Assists farmers with erosion, manure storage and cover crop program
 - Investigates agricultural pollution complaints
 - Develops grazing management and wildlife plans
- Storm Water
 - Reviews and approves Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan: plans outlining conservation/BMP for soil-disturbing activity $\geq$ one acre
 - Inspects active and post-construction sites
 - Investigates potential illicit discharges

WHAT DOES STARK SOIL & WATER DO?

- Education
 - Provides education on storm water and natural resource conservation
 - Presents workshops
- Drainage

Stark SWCD Winter 2022 Programming

WHAT TO DO WITH A WET YARD

February 17th 2022 @ 1PM

Explore and learn how to deal with drainage issues around the home. Find out about green infrastructure practices and concepts that can benefit your home, how they can be applied, and which options are the most cost effective for managing water drainage issues.

COMPOSTING AND RAIN BARRELS

March 22nd 2022 @ 6PM

Have you ever wanted to learn how to compost or set up a rain barrel? Join us to learn more about incorporating these conservation practices to enhance the sustainability of your backyard.

VIRTUAL POND WORKSHOP

March 29th 2022 @ 6PM

Learn tips and tricks when it comes to managing your pond. We will cover pond management as it relates to fish stocking and managing excessive aquatic vegetation.

ALL WORKSHOPS WILL BE AVAILABLE VIA ZOOM.
REGISTER BY VISITING STARKSWCD.ORG

How Can I Learn More?

Visit our website for more details:
www.starkswcd.org

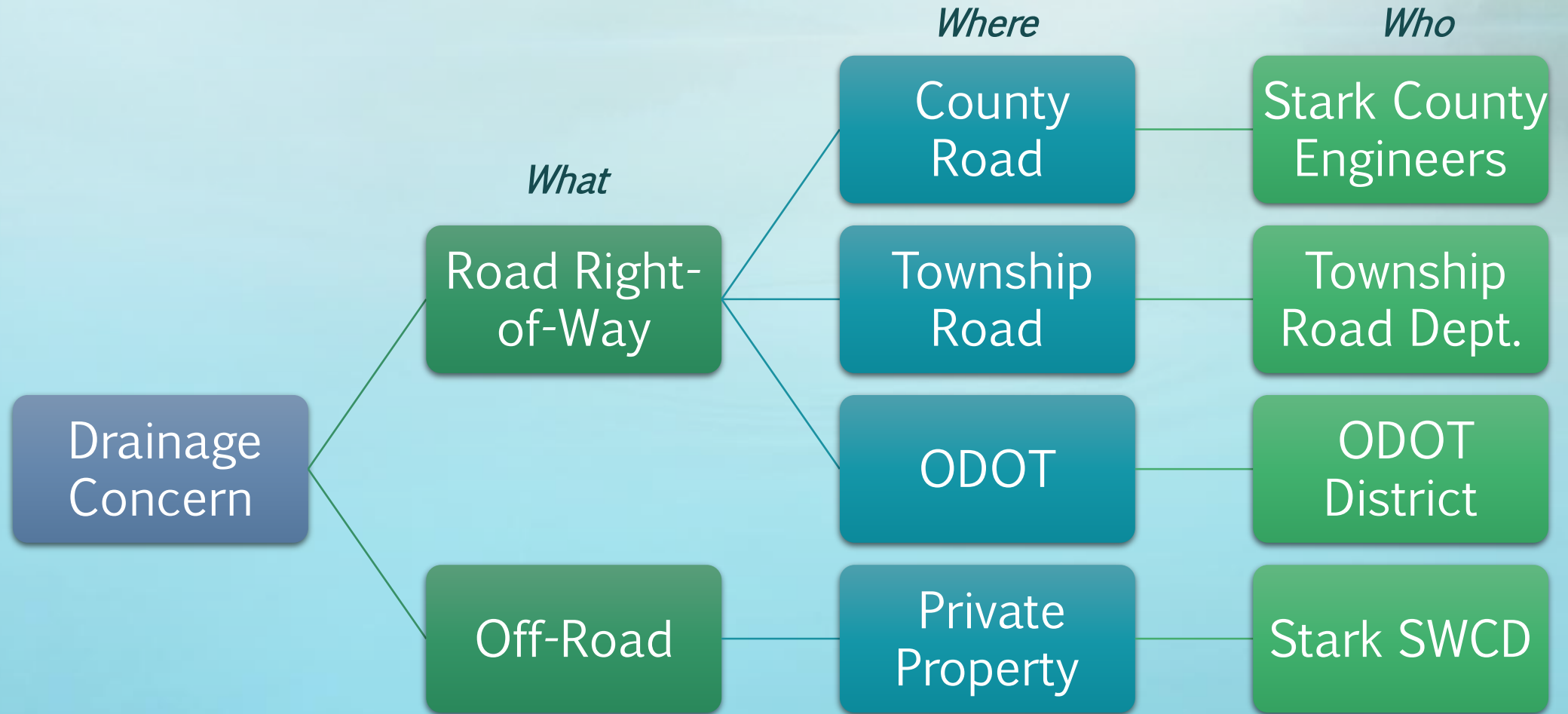
Drainage Definition – ORC 6117.01

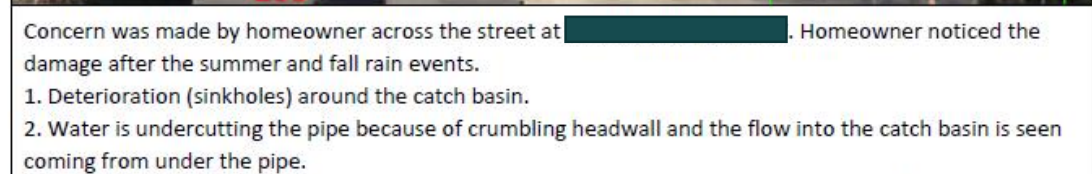
- The flows from rainfall or otherwise produced by, or resulting from, the elements, storm water discharges and releases or migrations of waters from properties, accumulations, flows, and overflows of water, including accelerated flows and runoffs, flooding and threats of flooding of properties and structures, and other surface and subsurface drainage.

How Are Drainage Concerns Handled?

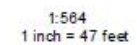


Who Handles What?





January 2020



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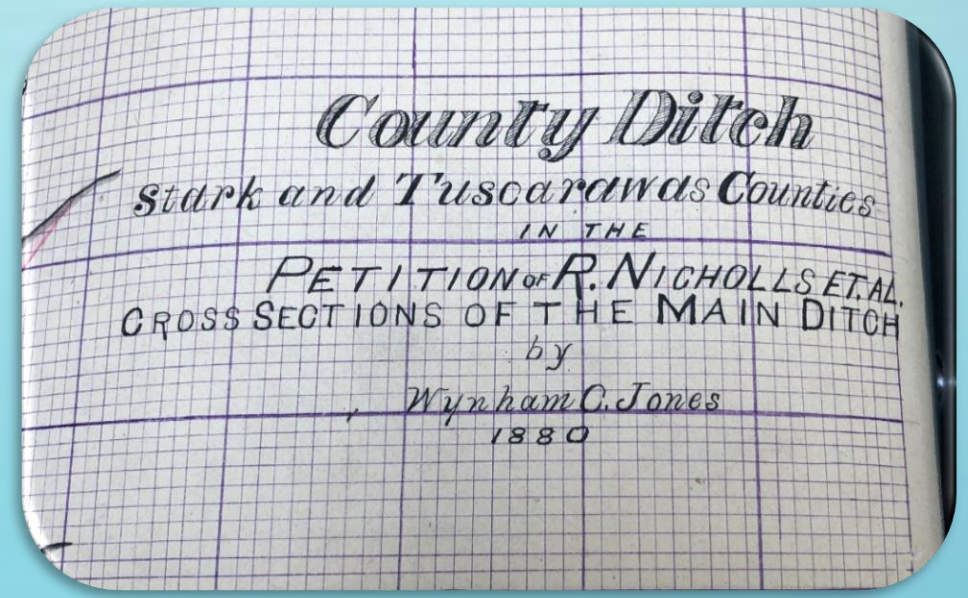
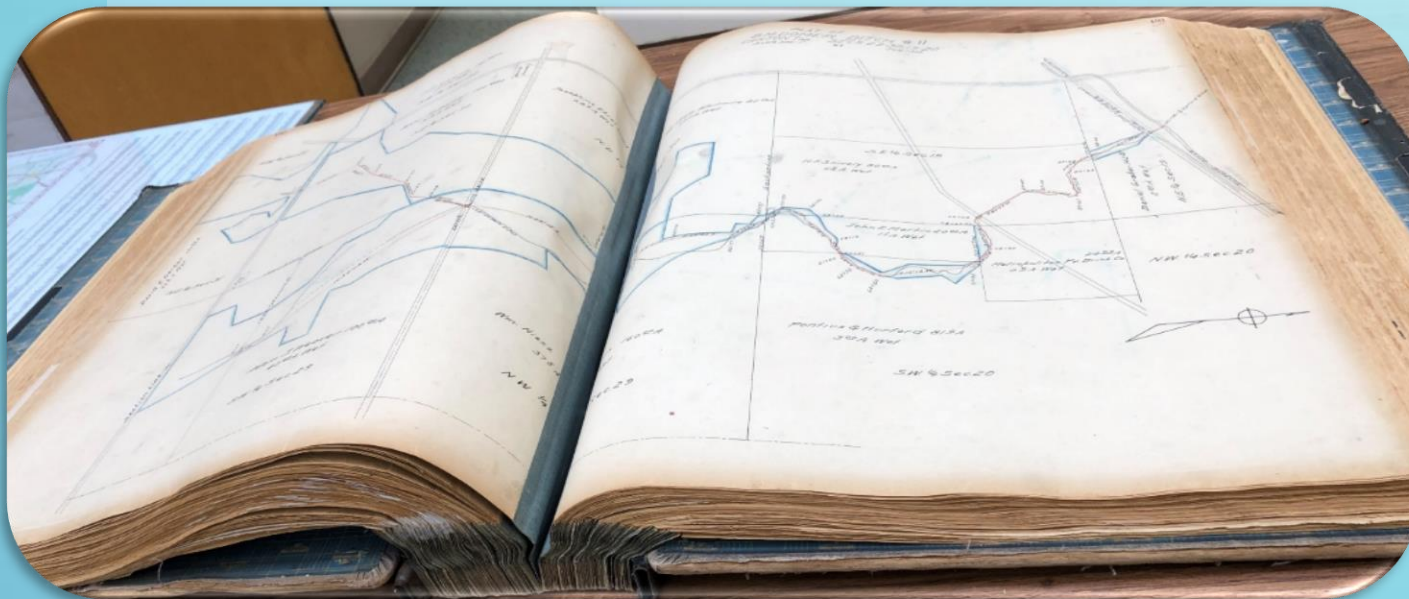
Credit: Stark County Tax Map, Stark County GIS

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR OFF-ROAD DRAINAGE?

- Under Ohio law, maintenance and improvement rests entirely upon the landowners affected and/or benefitted
- County does not have any obligation
- Why?
 1. Private Property
 2. Liability category of property ownership

LEGALLY ESTABLISHED COUNTY DITCHES: WHO MAINTAINS & IMPROVES?

- August 23, 1957 – ORC 6137 (Ditch Maintenance Fund)
- If established BY PETITION prior to August 23, 1957 then possibly (ORC 6137.051)
- After August 23, 1957 without a petition then NO (1958 OAC 2511)



INDEX

STARK COUNTY

"DEDICATED"

DITCH MAP

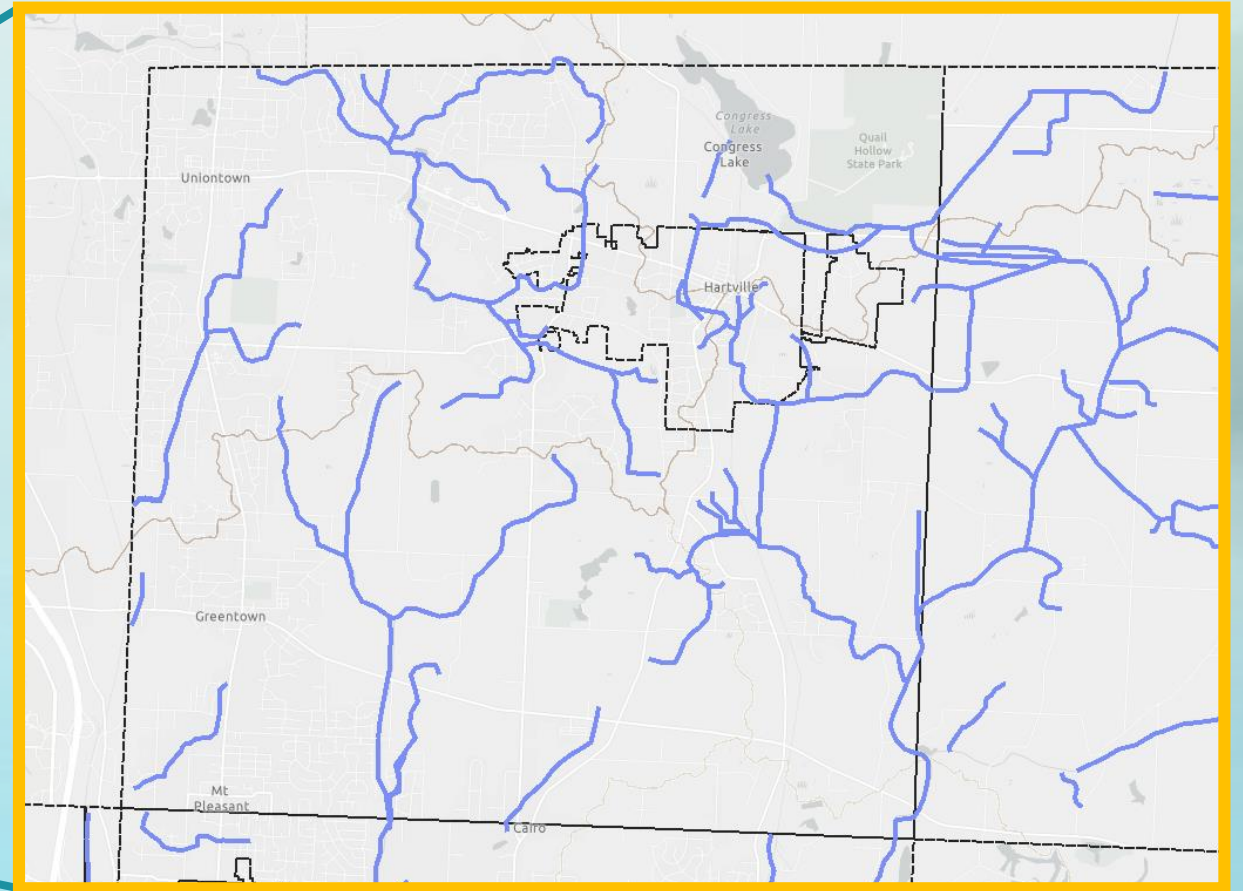
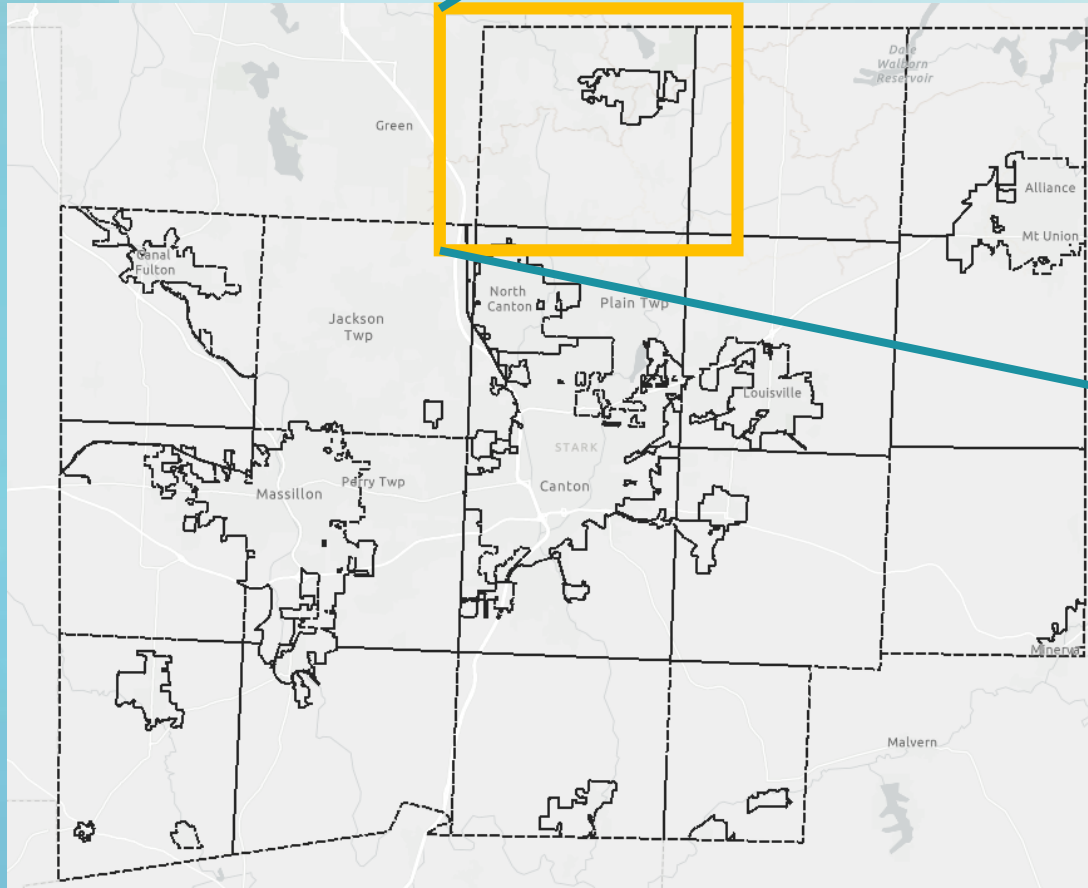
NO.	NAME	CD-ORD.	DATE	VOL.	PAGE	D.R. PAGE	FILE NO.
98.	PRICE	C-10	8-31-14	A	224		
99.	TROVER	B-11	6-11-13	A	214		
100.	LAFFE	I-7	4-25-06	A	102		
101.	THOMAS	H-9	10-18-06	A	114		
102.	BOYD FRIEDMAN	C-7	3-22-13	A	180	243	124-133
103.	GEIS	H-8	1-11-09	A	136		123
104.	STIGAT	H-9	7-23-13	A	198		
105.	ADAM ROHR	D-6	1-28-14	A	218		124
106.	CLAY (HIDAMSI)	H-7	11-7-14	A	245		131
107.	RENNER	H-8	4-13-39				129
108.	KARY	E-6	2-15-39	E	97	241	124
109.	LONG	L-21	1-8-39				126
110.	HIXLER	H-14	1941			285	
111.	RENNERVOER	H-10	4-6-05	C	68	107	129
112.	TAGGART COAL SWITCH	C-3	9-8-08	C	335	136	
113.	WILEY	C-14	5-23-11	C	527	187	
114.	CORRELL	H-12	1-11-67	A	44	18	
115.	WYNNE	D-12	12-1-26	D	365	245	
116.	WALKS	C-13	1-3-30	D	463	91	
117.	RUBRIGHT	C-13	7-24-36	D	434		129
118.	STEINER	G-13	10-11-35	D	573		130
119.	F.J. HINKLE	F-9	5-17-22	D	249	235	
120.	OTTO KOHN		4-10-18	D	159	201	
121.	SWOLLEN	J-19	10-6-89	A	74		
122.	WILSON	F-21	3-28-93	A	94		
123.	UNGER	H-21	10-14-99	A	164		
124.	A.J. SMITH	E-12	8-5-12	A	200		
125.	WEARSTLER	E-13	1-10-15	A	86		124
126.	IMMEL	E-14	11-11-80	C	79		
127.	WERNER, D.W.	D-15	4-27-82	C	160		
128.	SNYDER	E-15	5-2-83	C	115		
129.	WYMER	C-15	7-25-84	C	126		
130.	TAYLOR	C-18	10-24-85	C	142		124
131.	FREDERICK	E-17	9-24-87	C	257		
132.	READER	B-18	4-11-88	C	166		
133.	TAYLOR, LEVI	C-18	1-28-90	C	173		
134.	ADAMS	C-16	4-8-90	C	179		
135.	CHAPMAN	A-18	11-10-97	C	269		
136.	WERNER, DAVID	D-15	8-20-91	D	100		
137.	WILHELM	D-4	8-5-89	B	246	64	128
138.	KADSMORIN	H-24	11-11-90	B	280		
139.	WARRICK	G-1	1875		23		
140.	WARTH	C-1	1890		74		
141.	WHITTACE	C-18			305	131	
142.	BORN	H-20	1882		144		123
143.	WRESTSTONE-LAHN	C-19	1899		5-6 2583		
144.	HAUSTEINE	K-1	5-11-44		305	125	
145.	LINDSAY	L-5	9-20-42		307	126	
146.	REUGA	G-5	10-22-42		311	127	
147.	WILKINSON	H-10	7-1-48		315	127	
148.	LUNDEN	L-9	8-1-48		321	128	
149.	CUNNINGHAM	L-11			328	128	
150.	BAKER	I-9				123	
151.	REILLY	G-9			345	119	
152.	WINLOW CREEK	H-1				128	
153.	MANN	K-1			324	130	
154.	REICHENBACH	C-1				129	
155.	WUJICKA	L-12				124	
156.	TAYLOR	H-9				124	
157.	BRANDON	G-9				124	
158.	PHILLIPS	I-11				124	
159.	HANK	Q-2	48			129	
160.	GETZ	H-2				125	
161.	BROCKFIELD	K-3				123	
162.	BLARE	J-9			322	129	
163.	BUCKWALTER	K-1				123	
164.	OSBORN, J.E.				313		
165.	PERRY-TRIGGA						
166.	Fred Schmidt				331		
167.	Pershing Ave Ditch				337		

STARK COUNTY DITCH MAP

- 167 "dedicated" ditches indexed
- 97 recorded in the book
- Considered more as projects than county ditches
- Is currently kept by the Stark County Engineer's Office.
- A public records request is necessary to access it.

47.	ZIMMER	F-10	8-8-08	C	285	112	134
48.	HAMBEUCHEN	J-8	4-25-13	D	79	213	135
49.	FOHL	H-8	4-12-00	B	523		124
50.	SHLENY	L-9	3-4-21	D	219	228	130
51.	KOCHER	L-11	3-1-98	B	432	80	126
52.	TEMPLE	H-21					131
53.	CONRAD	H-14				234	
54.	SCHIRANTZ-SLOOSER	E-10	8-7-25	A	90		130
55.	VAUGHN	D-15	2-1-07	C	233	138	
56.	SWETTER	C-16	4-30-03	C	74		
57.	BLACK SMITH (GIBSON)	C-15	1-15-44	C	220	212	137
58.	HINKLE	H-21	6-21-37	E	84		125
59.	SCHUCKERS	H-2	8-15-06	C	186	124	
60.	NEIZE	L-13	6-7-33	I	170	265	127
61.	DECKER	F-20	12-29-33	I	160		123
62.	DRIAN BRUMBAUGH	C-15	6-28-02	D	124		
63.	PIRESTONE	G-13	4-28-24	D	278	239	127-128
64.	LESTER FOX	B-18	3-16-38	E	60	247	124
65.	HATCHER	C-17	5-19-80	C	188		125
66.	BRUMBAUGH-REED	H-16	3-13-97	C	258	246	123
67.	WITKAMP	H-17	1-23-74	A		26	
68.	RICKSECKER	F-2	1925	I	162		124
69.	MOORE-PHILLIPS	A-12					127
70.	SCHRIFF	F-7	6-27-37	E	133		130
71.	DEET	H-14	5-22-29	D	411	43	
72.	CLAYE	J-7	1-8-78	A	231	36	131
73.	CHERRAN	K-8	11-19-20	D	207	228	
74.	DANNEHILLER	K-9	3-17-92	B	393	250	129
75.	DOCKUS (HUBEN ESTE)	D-10	5-6-32	D	510	293	123-137-127
76.	DEKARD	L-14	9-7-31	E	42	244	123
77.	BOGENSEHWEYLER	G-1	10-24-71		74		
78.	STAY	C-14	1-31-86	C	94	113	137
79.	EDGEFIELD	I-11	5-24-27	D	262	234	124
80.	ETTER	C-15	6-13-99	D	86	33	
81.	ECKROATE	I-9	11-22-13	A	206		123
82.	FOX	H-20	5-12-88	B	173	58	124
83.	FULFON ROAD	I-10	11-27-29	D	443	296	129
84.	WACKERLY	I-10	4-8-22	B	38	92	
85.	FAIR	F-11	5-13-35	A			124
86.	FRY	F-12	5-1-21	A	62		124
87.	GRANT	H-22	4-8-87	A	80		
88.	KAMMER-GLASS	C-13	4-21-06	C	168	117	
89.	KING	B-12	3-4-88	A	114	119	128
90.	LEONARD	K-9	7-14-08	D	195	202	126
91.	LYNCH	K-8	6-29-28	D	345	244	133
92.	LANBERTSON	K-7	10-26-85	A	86	247	
93.	RAHLBORG VILLAGE	C-18	9-17-77	A	89	115	
94.	HICHOLES	K-5	8-3-80	A	102	41	128
95.	RENNAN	L-2	9-18-97	E	456	91	124
96.	CANDALE	I-7					127
97.	PORTIUS	J-3	9-18-12	D	151	211	124
1.	PATTON	G-10	2-11-25	D	305	242	128
2.	SHITT	K-8	7-14-37	E	74	292	130
3.	WINDLEY	C-13	1-28-38	E	25	216	124
4.	SENER	H-14	4-6-11	C	501	124	126
5.	DOUBLETTE	H-15	11-18-38				123
6.	MEYER	C-10	8-17-18	B	148		127
7.	KEITH	F-2	2-8-37				126
8.	STARK-PORTAGE	H-14	5-19-08	C	351	130	130
9.	POPPER	J-20	10-9-27	A	218	34	
10.	MURPHY-AARON	I-20	4-8-13	D	38	56	124
11.	DOMER	H-10	4-21-13	D	117	130	137
12.	DAVIDSON	H-9	6-23-13	TEMP	413	249	
13.	MACHIN	D-9	3-26-11	A	158		127
14.	KEFFIC	F-9	8-9-38	E	1	243	129
15.	GUILLEY	D-13	4-7-88	C	474	166	
16.	MACHMER	C-12	9-2-17	E	112	232	127
17.	STICKLER	H-11	8-17-10	D	1	176	130
18.	VOGER	B-11	1-26-39	26	92	140	131
19.	FOX LANK	G-1	7-26-04	C	110	105	124
20.	MORRIS	J-2	7-10-37	25	102		127
21.	FLUM RUN	F-4	5-17-39	E	109		128
22.	BEQUE-BRINERUSH	C-17	10-18-87	C	163		125
23.	REED	H-16	8-26-28	D	477		129
24.	SWARZE, BIG	D-14	6-6-88	10	130		
25.	WISER	C-17	10-25-37	25	192		131
26.	WARTIC	F-18	4-19-37				127
27.	OSKABORG	L-15	12-12-11	D	134	217	137
28.	DOYL	L-1	7-17-37	25	88		123
29.	DESS	J-7	7-25-13	D	97	220	125
30.	JOHNNY	J-8	7-27-80	A	325	36	126
31.	BRINERICH	F-13	9-8-37	25	141		123
32.	STEINMETZ	G-13	9-15-37	25	148		130
33.	HOOPER	G-11	6-23-36	C	253	129	133
34.	KLETT	L-2	10-16-15	E	17		126
35.	GRABER	H-19	9-10-38	C	416	156	133
36.	ROOLE	D-20	6-24-89	B	232	155	129
37.	F.N. SWARTZ	C-14	6-16-05	C	44		
38.	KUETE	C-13	4-23-13	D	584	102	126
39.	MONARCH RUBBER	C-13	4-25-28	D	333	91	130
40.	THORNTON CREEK	B-11	12-14-09	C	440	168	131
41.	GRUBB	D-12	10-1-26	D	315	237	133
42.	STRIPE	E-10	8-6-18	D	475	204	128
43.	ROYER	D-13	8-18-05	C	103	111	
44.	BRETZKOSCH	I-7	3-28-06	C	161	116	131
45.	MC DONELL	G-8	8-18-77	A	245	38	127
46.	OPAVES	G-6	10-13-07	A	126		123

HOW IS HISTORICAL INFO USED?



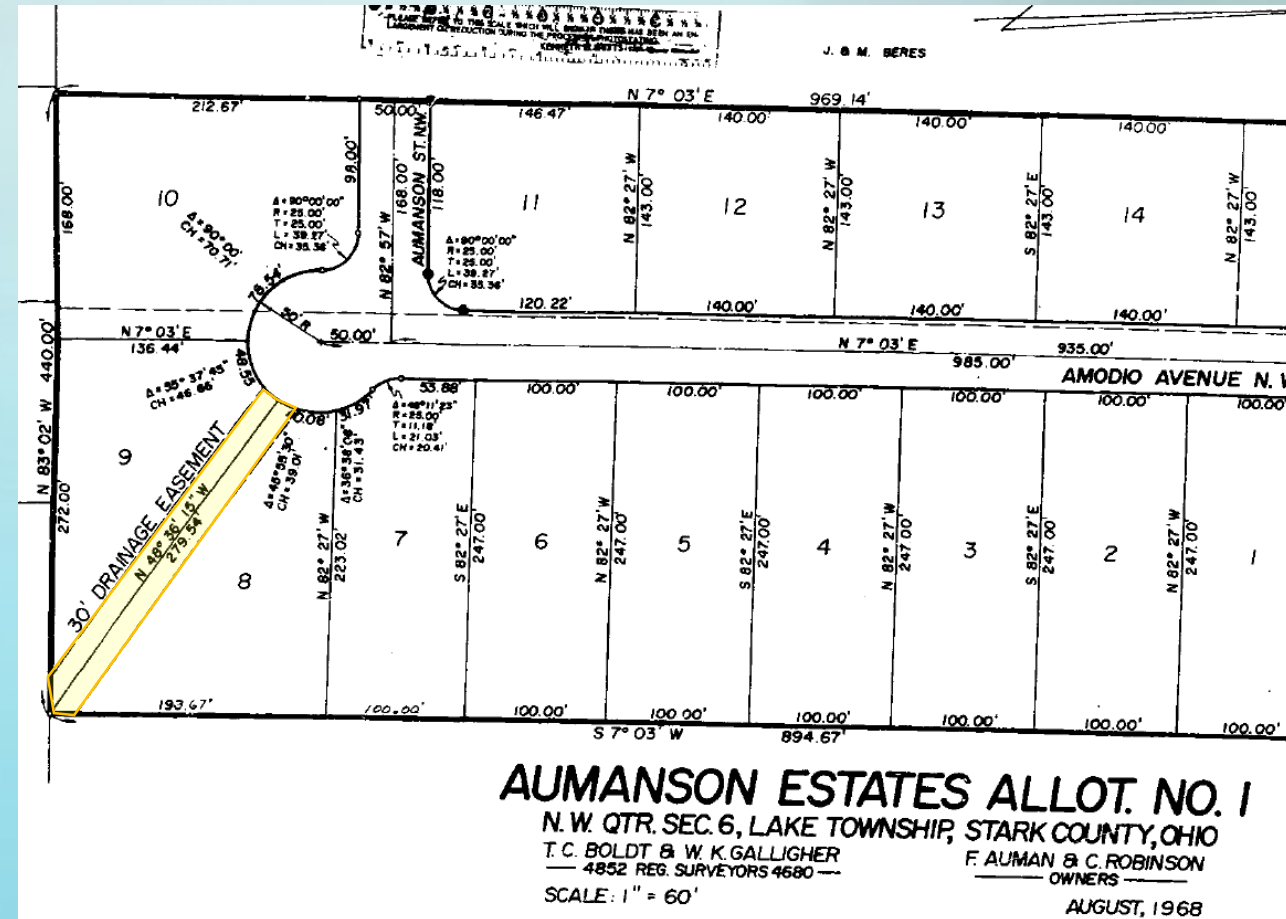
- County Ditch Record transformed into GIS layer

WHAT IS AN EASEMENT?

- A **legal relationship** between a property **owner** and property **user** and can be different in every circumstance
- Easements vary and have different purposes (drainage, utilities, road, flowage)
- Consult an attorney to best understand a particular easement

PLATTED EASEMENTS

- An area that has been conveyed to the County for water runoff drainage, flood control, or access to a storm sewer
- **Allows** government to maintain improvements (but does **not** mean it is **required**)
- The ownership and routine maintenance of these easement areas rests with the property owner (“buyer beware”)



Storm Sewer (Drainage) Easements

- Existing storm drainage facilities **CANNOT be closed, obstructed,** or **altered** in a way which would reduce the capacity for conveying the storm water across or onto private property.
- Property owner liability (damage upstream or downstream)



OHIO DRAINAGE LAW EVOLUTION

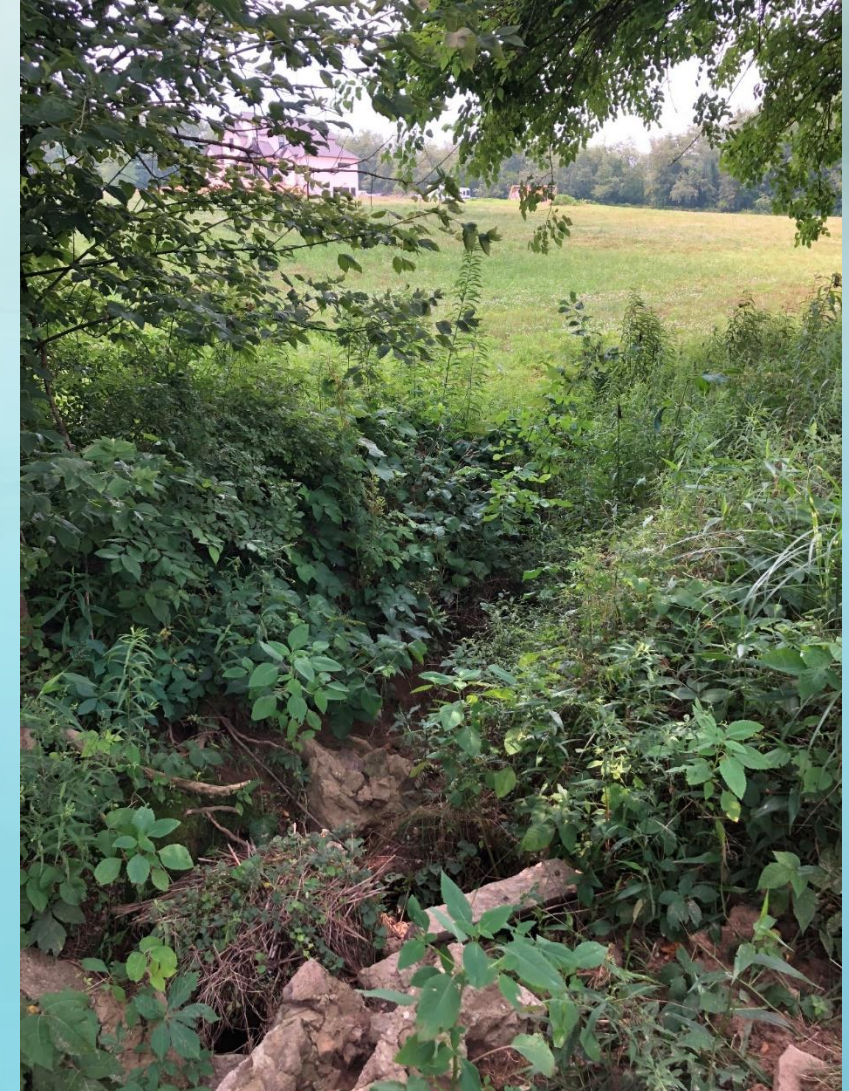
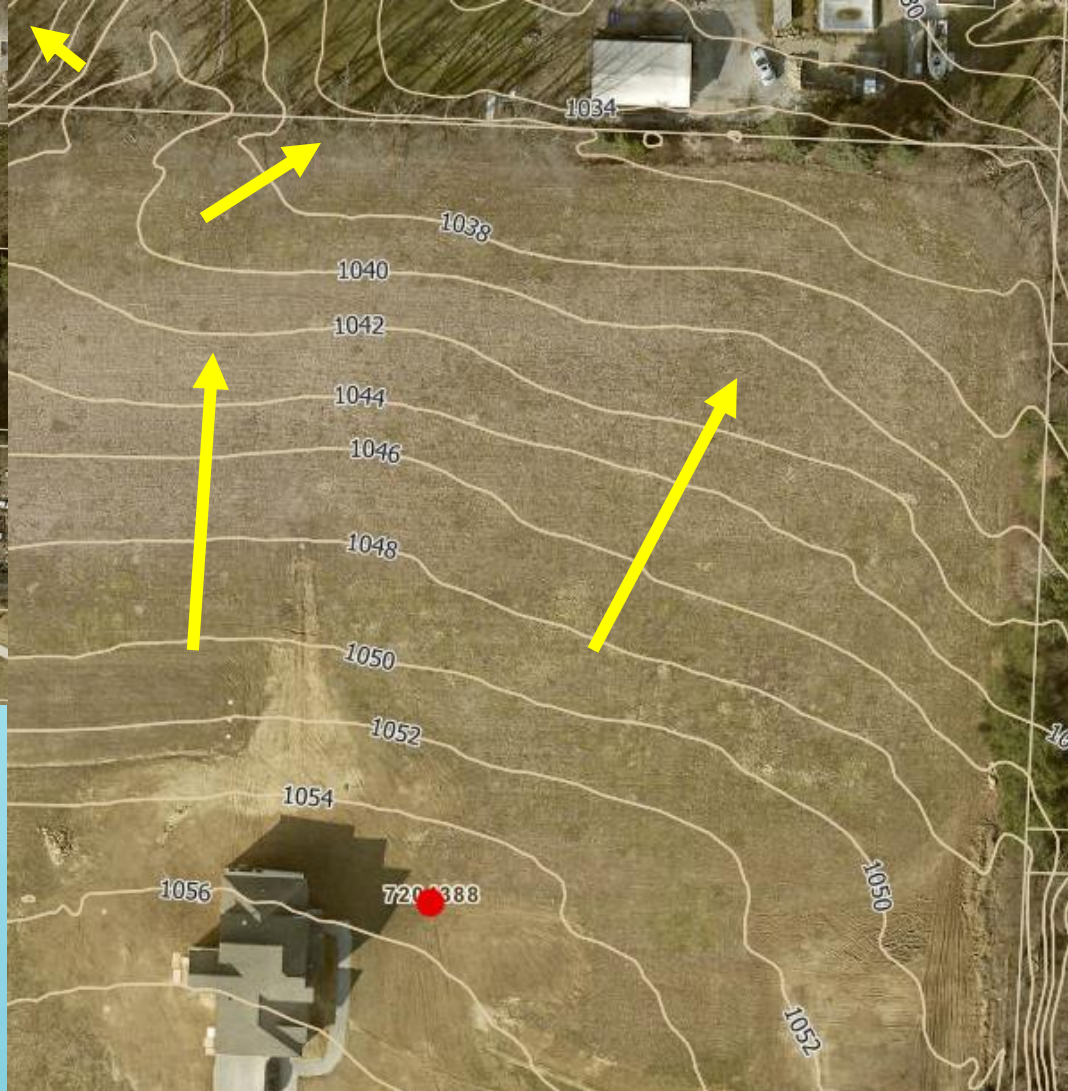
- Surface water drainage was viewed from two doctrines:
Common Enemy and Reasonable Use
- 1980, ORC 1521.17 – Ohio adopted the “reasonable use” doctrine
- A landowner may drain surface water from his/her property in a *reasonable manner*.
- When attempts to drain surface water seems to result in harm to another’s property, legal issues can arise.
- Courts and juries evaluate many factors that are used to determine if a landowner acted reasonably.

OHIO DRAINAGE LAW: A Landowner is...

- Entitled to the reasonable use of the water that flows across their land as long as the water is returned to its natural water course.
- Generally required to accept the water that flows onto their property in a natural water course.
- Generally obligated to outlet a natural water course onto their downstream neighbor at the same point the water left the property prior to any development of the site.

An example of off-road drainage concern:

- Southern, uphill neighbor built house (previously corn field)
- Northern, downhill neighbor experiences runoff (correlation vs causation)
- Northern neighbor ditched west to east (“previous landowner allowed”)... but on whose property?



Resources provided:

1. Contours Map
2. Conceptual Designs
3. Drainage Law
4. Neighbor-to-neighbor conflicts

How Does the Drainage Program Help Residents?

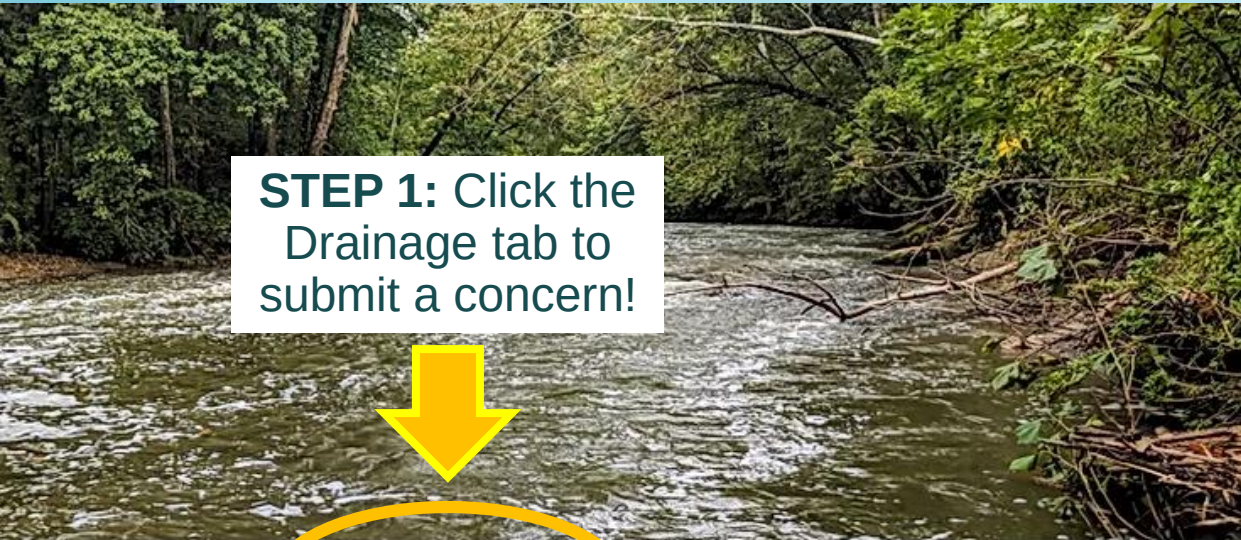
- Available by phone or online access: www.StarkSWCD.org
- Arrange site visit
- Provide resources, education, technical advice
- Record information

[illegible]

Reporting a Drainage Concern

- ALL communications are entered in to a Drainage Concern / Complaint Form that can be accessed through our website: www.starkswcd.org

STEP 1: Click the Drainage tab to submit a concern!



2021 District of the Year

HOME

DRAINAGE

AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, & WILDLIFE

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

STORM WATER

ABOUT US

Off-Road Drainage

Ohio's Drainage History

Ohio's early settlers relied on constructing drainage ditches to create productive homesteads from wilderness and creating drainage required cooperation with other landowners.

Starting in the 1840s, the State Legislature began passing drainage laws to guide the construction and financing of drainage projects that would benefit multiple landowners. By 1884, an estimated 20,000 miles of ditches had been built, draining 11 million acres or over 40% of Ohio's land.

Today, Ohio's drainage infrastructure includes open ditches as well as buried tile lines and streams that have been reshaped to enhance drainage. At least half the state's land is affected by this public drainage infrastructure.

Ohio's drainage laws have been updated many times as the state has grown and developed. Drainage systems that were originally built to enhance agricultural production have also made former wetlands suitable for communities, home sites and industrial development. Unfortunately, one flaw in the early ditch laws was that they didn't include provisions for ongoing maintenance. In 1957, legislation was passed requiring maintenance provisions for new drainage projects, but many of today's rural land uses depend on the drainage infrastructure constructed a century ago or even earlier. As older projects continue to age, many of them will need to be re-constructed to continue providing the drainage landowners and homeowners rely on.

Today, most drainage projects involving multiple landowners are organized under Ohio's Petition Ditch Law (Ohio Revised Code 6131), a legal process that funds projects with assessments on affected landowners and require that the financial benefits of a project exceed its cost.

Ohio Drainage Laws

Drainage is defined in the Ohio Revised Code (ORC 6117.01) as the flows from rainfall or otherwise produced by, or resulting from, the elements, stormwater discharges and releases or migrations of waters from properties, accumulations, flows, and overflows of water, including accelerated flows and runoffs, flooding and threats of flooding of properties and structures, and other surface and subsurface drainage.

Ohio laws governing water rights are complex. Most drainage complaints involve private property and are managed as civil matters. **No county or township agency has the authority to maintain or improve storm drainage facilities across an individual's property.** At this time, the authority to issue orders or resolve conflicts over water rights or drainage problems between neighbors lies with the common pleas court.

Stark Soil and Water Conservation District is not a regulatory agency in this matter; therefore, we do not have the legal authority to make requests of property owners. Stark Soil & Water can provide guidance on drainage issues for individual landowners. The District will not mediate conflicts between neighboring landowners.

The County does not administer storm drainage facilities for private properties outside of the petition process which requires a bond with filing and property tax assessments to benefiting properties. The county petition ditch process provides a mechanism for landowners to cooperate with the Stark County Commissioners to solve drainage problems.

But wait... there's more!
Find additional resources located at the bottom of this page!

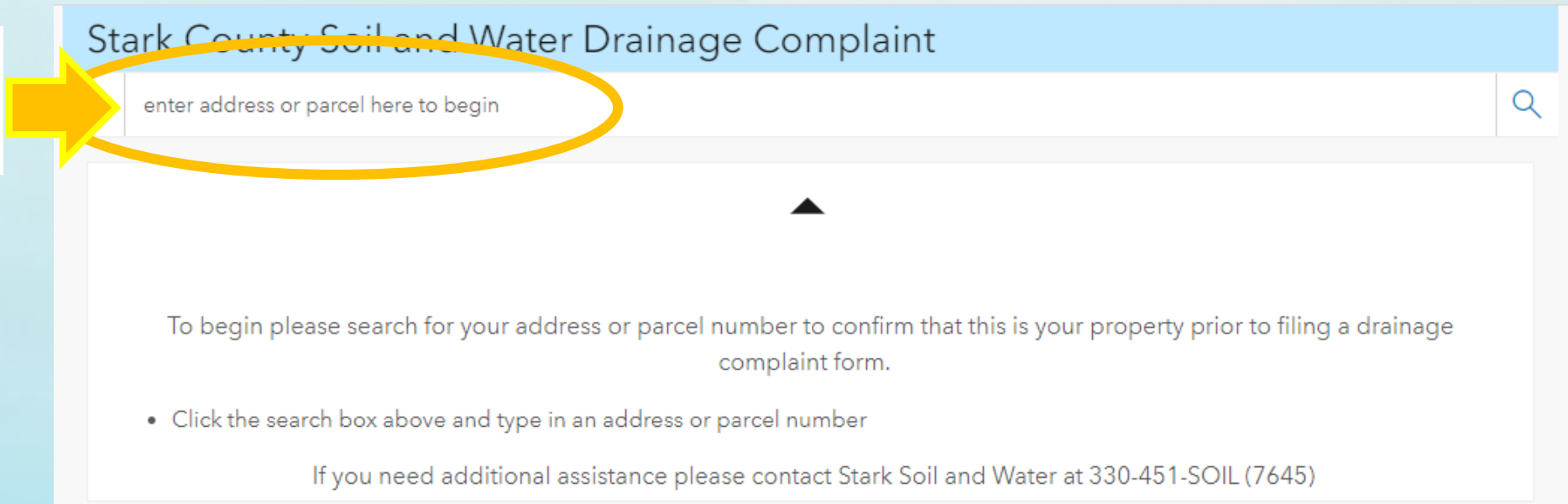
Stark Soil & Water Conservation District provides guidance and technical assistance for off-road drainage concerns.

To contact the District, please click the Drainage Concern/Complaint Form button below. Once submitted, a staff member will contact you for further details and possibly schedule a site visit.

Drainage Concern / Complaint Form

STEP 2: Locate and click the Drainage Concern button

STEP 3: Enter your address or parcel number



Stark County Soil and Water Drainage Complaint

enter address or parcel here to begin

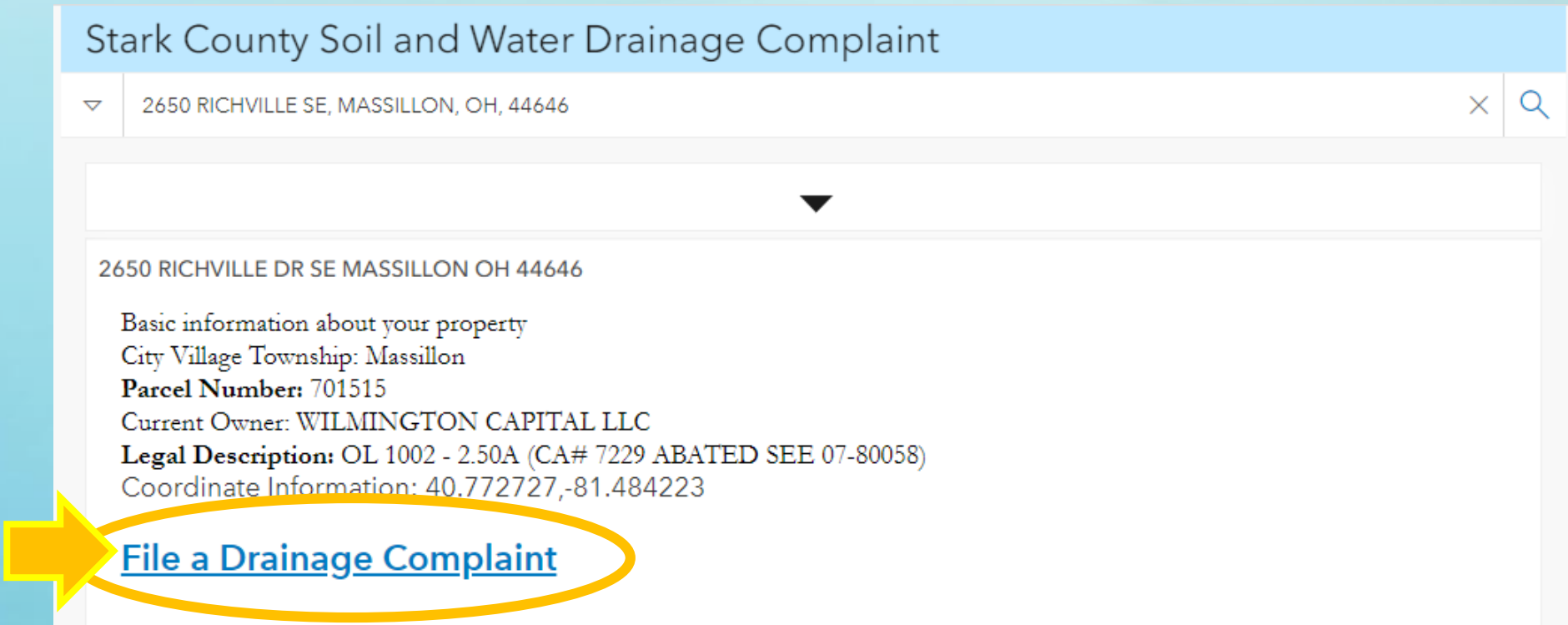
▲

To begin please search for your address or parcel number to confirm that this is your property prior to filing a drainage complaint form.

- Click the search box above and type in an address or parcel number

If you need additional assistance please contact Stark Soil and Water at 330-451-SOIL (7645)

STEP 4: Once your information generates, confirm by clicking “File a Drainage Complaint”



Stark County Soil and Water Drainage Complaint

▼ 2650 RICHVILLE SE, MASSILLON, OH, 44646 × 🔍

▼

2650 RICHVILLE DR SE MASSILLON OH 44646

Basic information about your property
City Village Township: Massillon
Parcel Number: 701515
Current Owner: WILMINGTON CAPITAL LLC
Legal Description: OL 1002 - 2.50A (CA# 7229 ABATED SEE 07-80058)
Coordinate Information: 40.772727,-81.484223

[File a Drainage Complaint](#)

STEP 5: Provide some additional information.

Answer 6 – 8 short, general questions to the best of your ability & tell us briefly about your concern(s).

SWCD Drainage Complaint

The Stark County Drainage program is primarily intended to help alleviate "off-road" drainage problems throughout unincorporated areas of the County.

To submit a Drainage Complaint, please fill out the following form with as much detail as possible.

Once your form is received, a Stark County representative will be in contact with you to review and investigate your complaint. Thank you for your cooperation.

Enter Information

Parcel ID

If this is not the correct parcel click [here](#) to start over again

701515

Name

Information generated using Auditor Data please correct if incorrect

WILMINGTON CAPITAL LLC

Address

Information generated using Auditor Data please correct if incorrect

2650 RICHVILLE DR SE MASSILLON OH 44646

Which township, village, or city do you live in?

Information generated using Auditor Data please choose from drop down if incorrect

Massillon

Date

1/26/2022

08:44 AM

Email

Confirm Email

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Other Phone

Have you ever filed a Drainage Complaint Form in the past?

☐ Yes

☐ No

How long has the problem existed?

Is the situation chronic or does it only occur after a very severe storm?

☐ Chronic

☐ After Severe Storms

Does the source of the drainage problem exist on your property?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Do you give permission for county representatives to enter onto your property?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Please describe the problem in as much detail as possible.

1000

Drainage Complaint Case ID

220126-701515-DRAINAGE

– Location Confirmed 



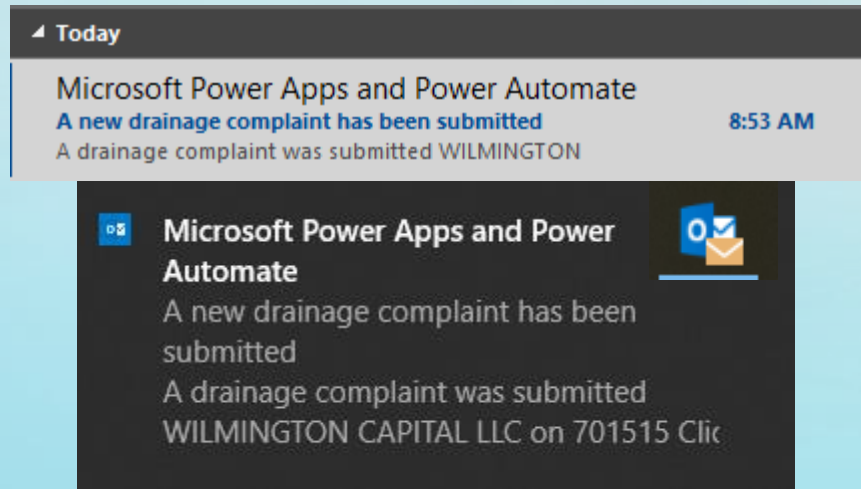
Submit

Step 6: Click
“submit”.

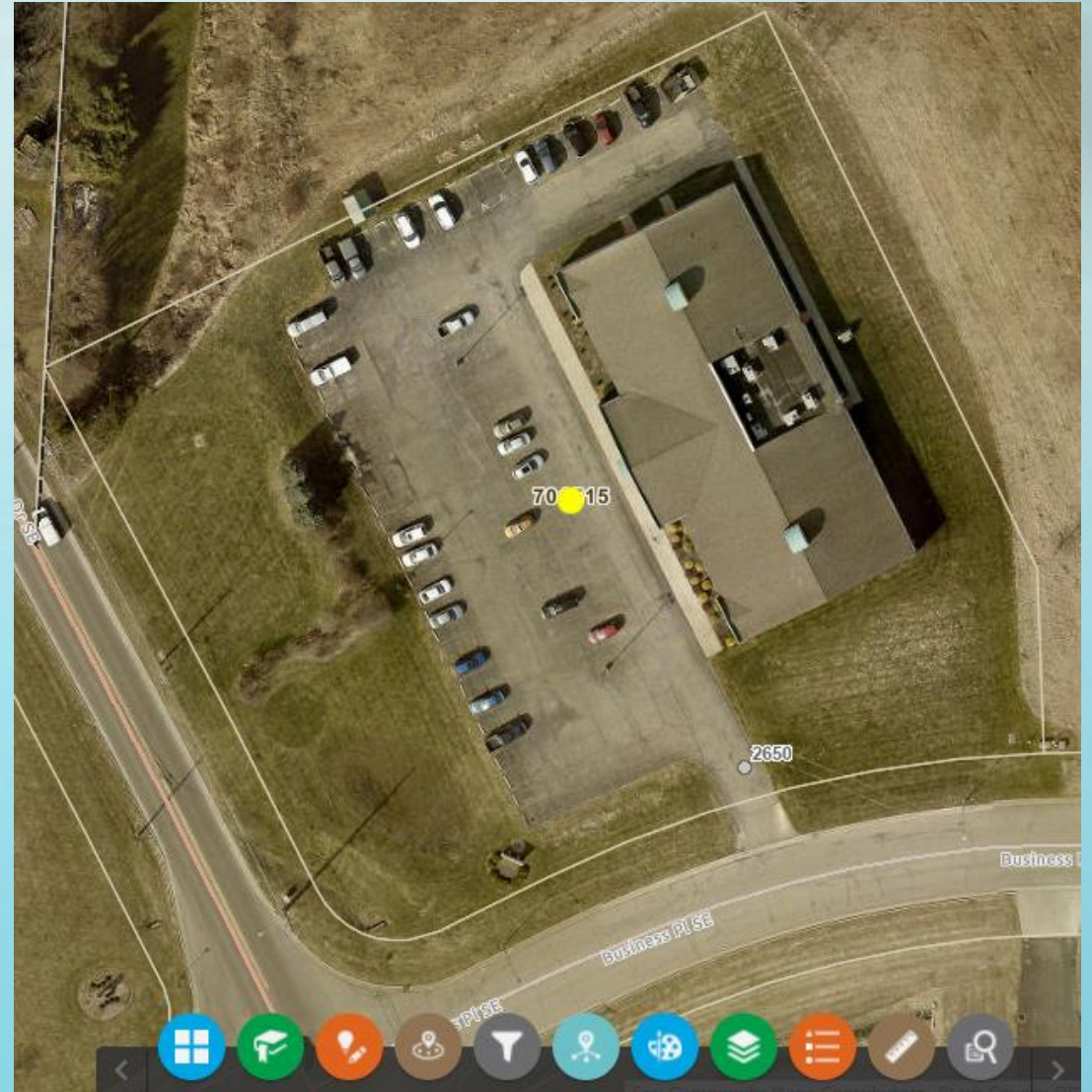
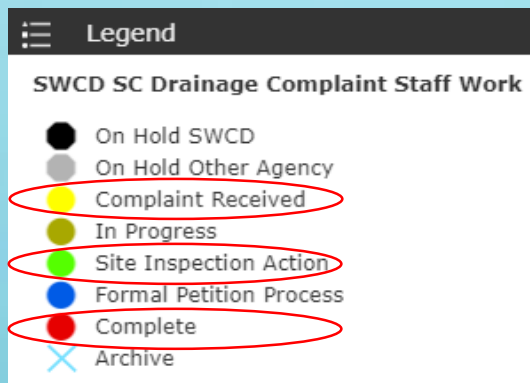
Within 48 hours,
we will reach out
to you.

What Happens After a Concern is Submitted?

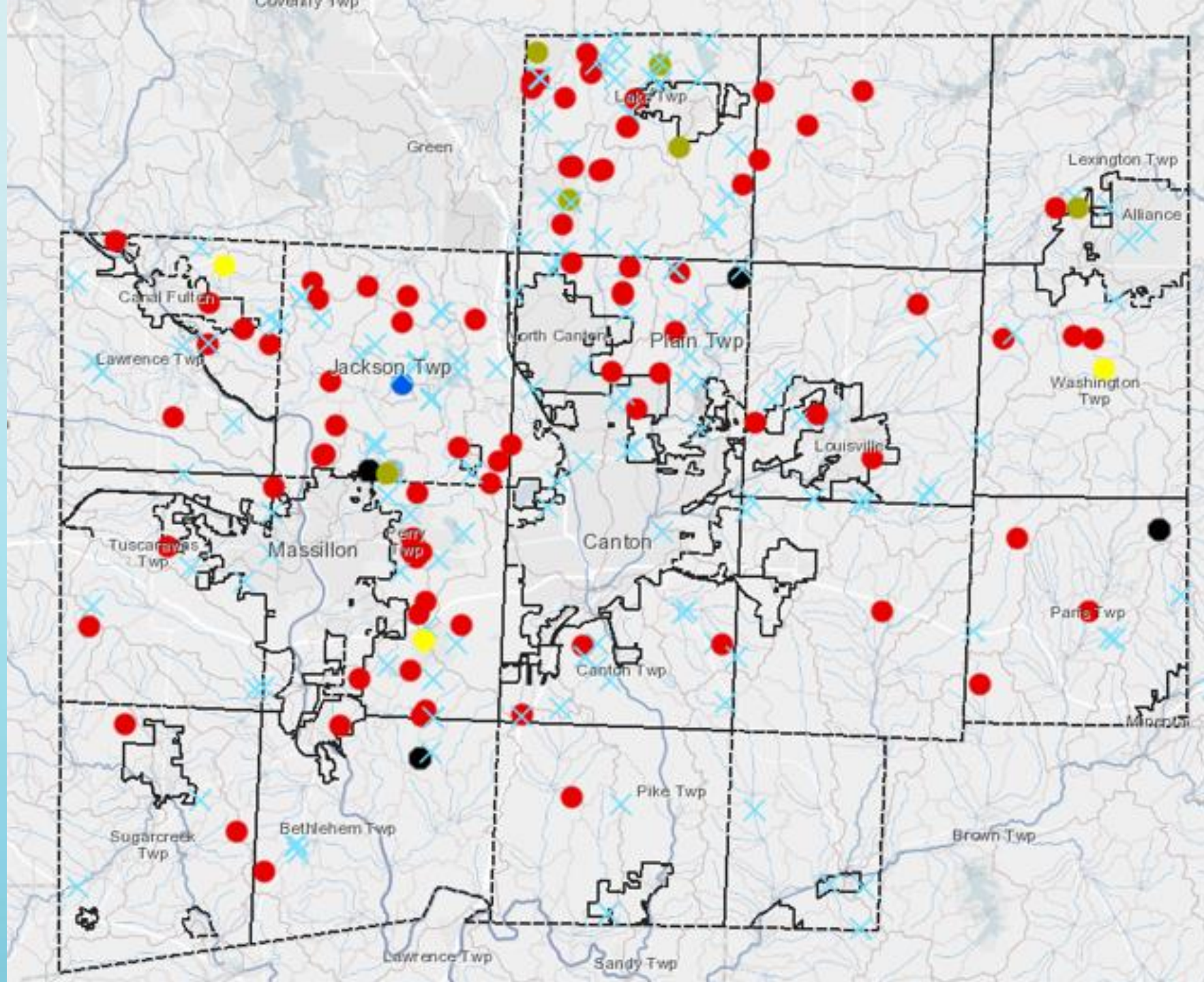
- Drainage Specialist receives email



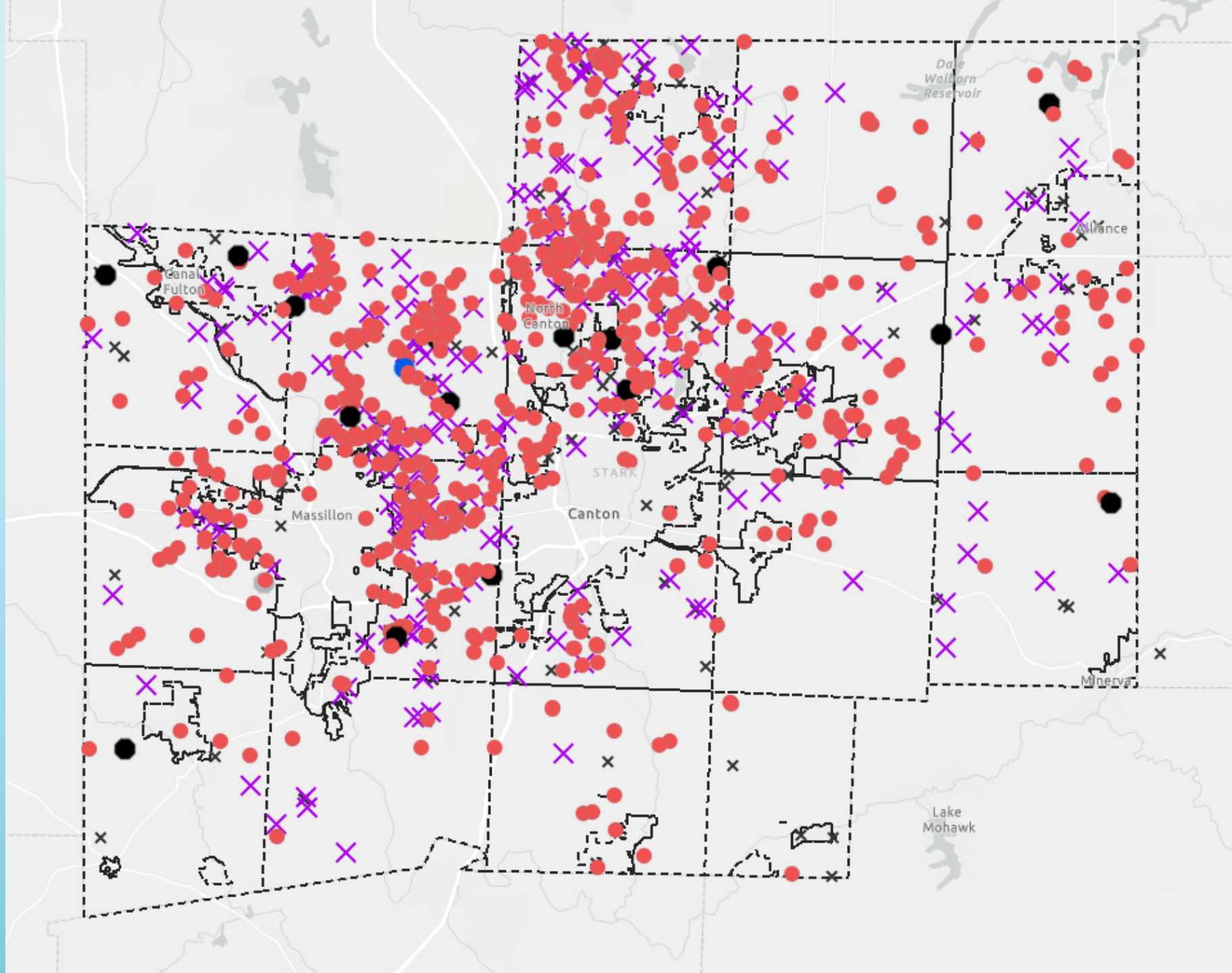
- GIS pin auto generated



2019

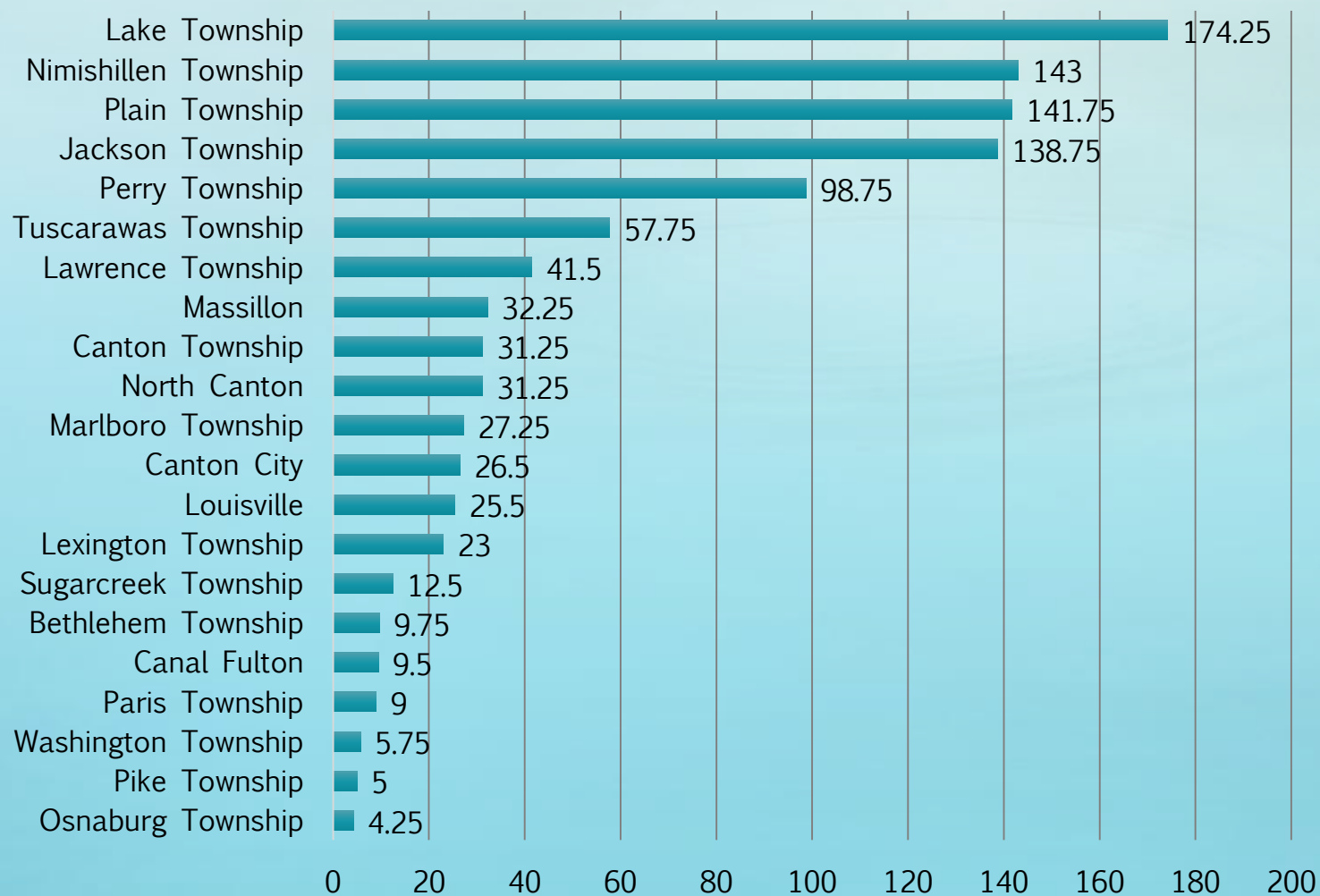


2024



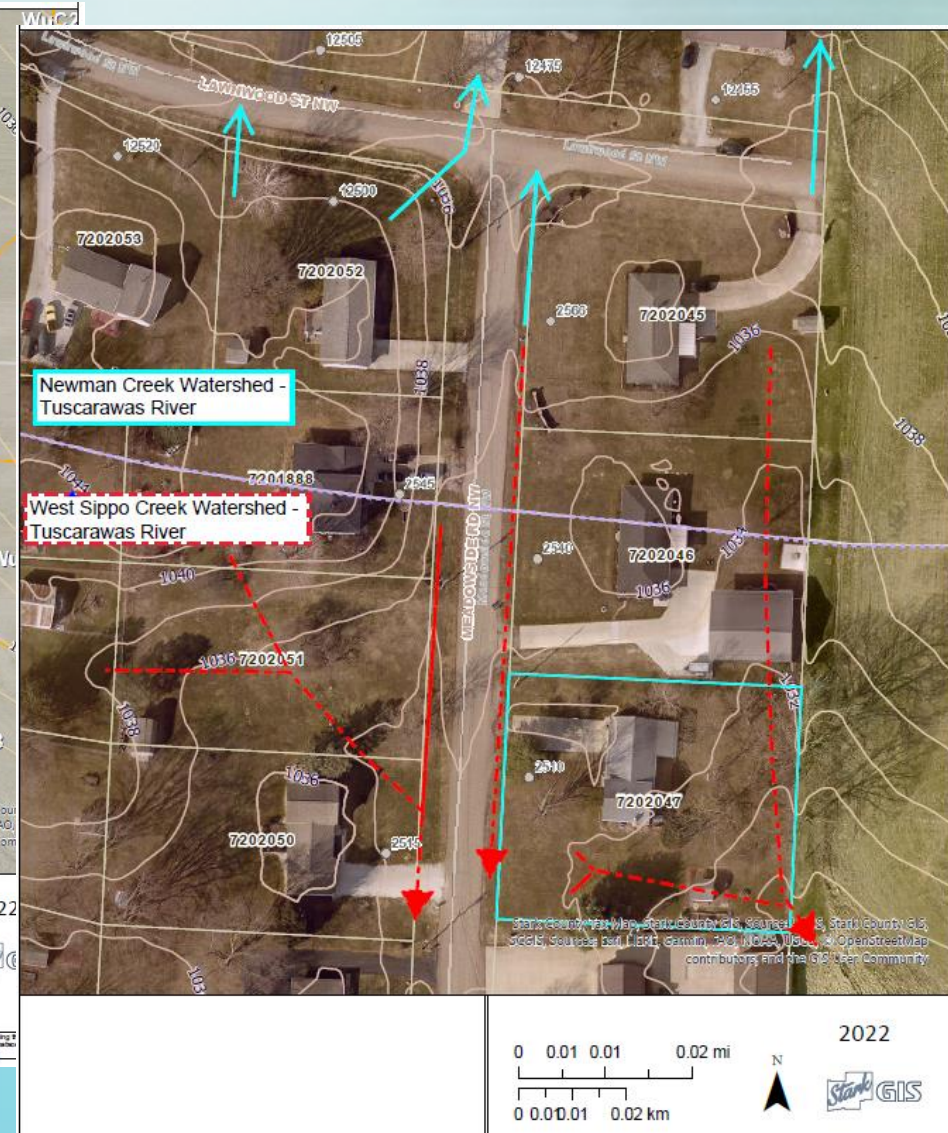
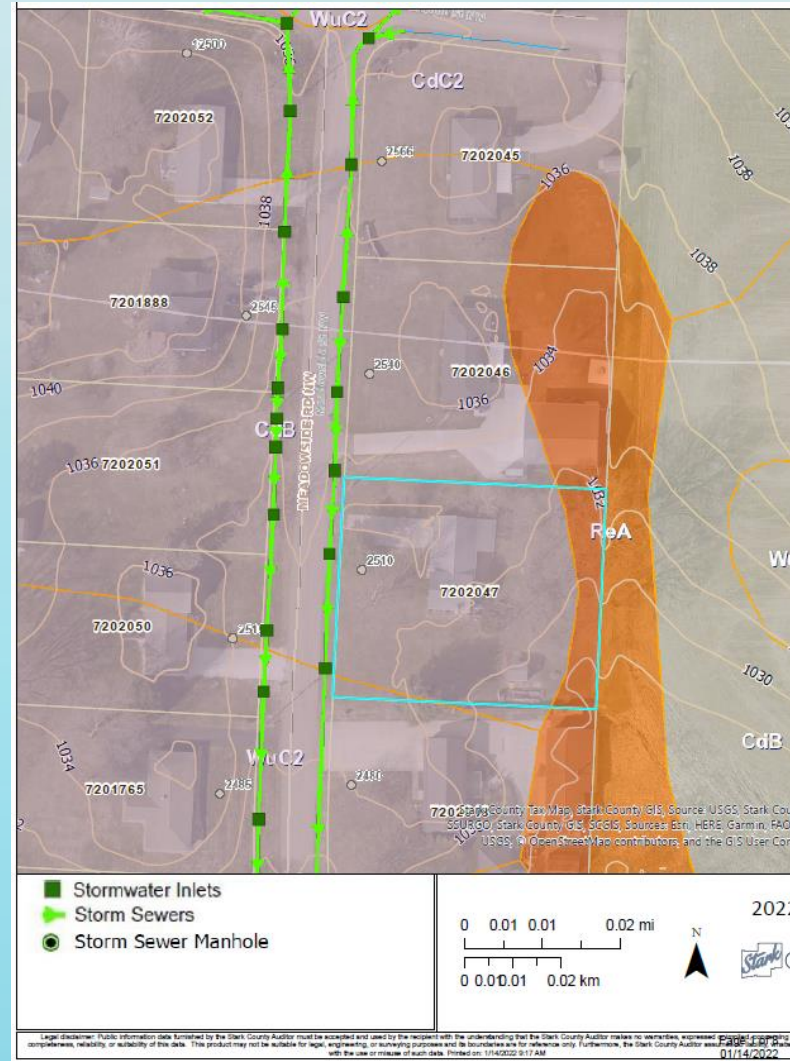
Who Is Calling Us?

Drainage Hours Per Community (2023)



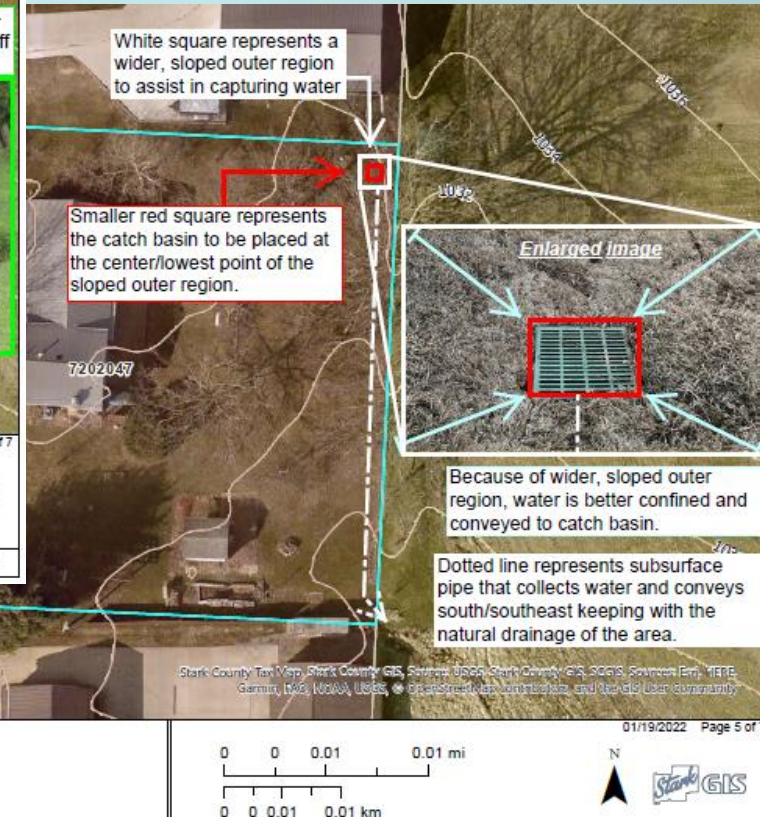
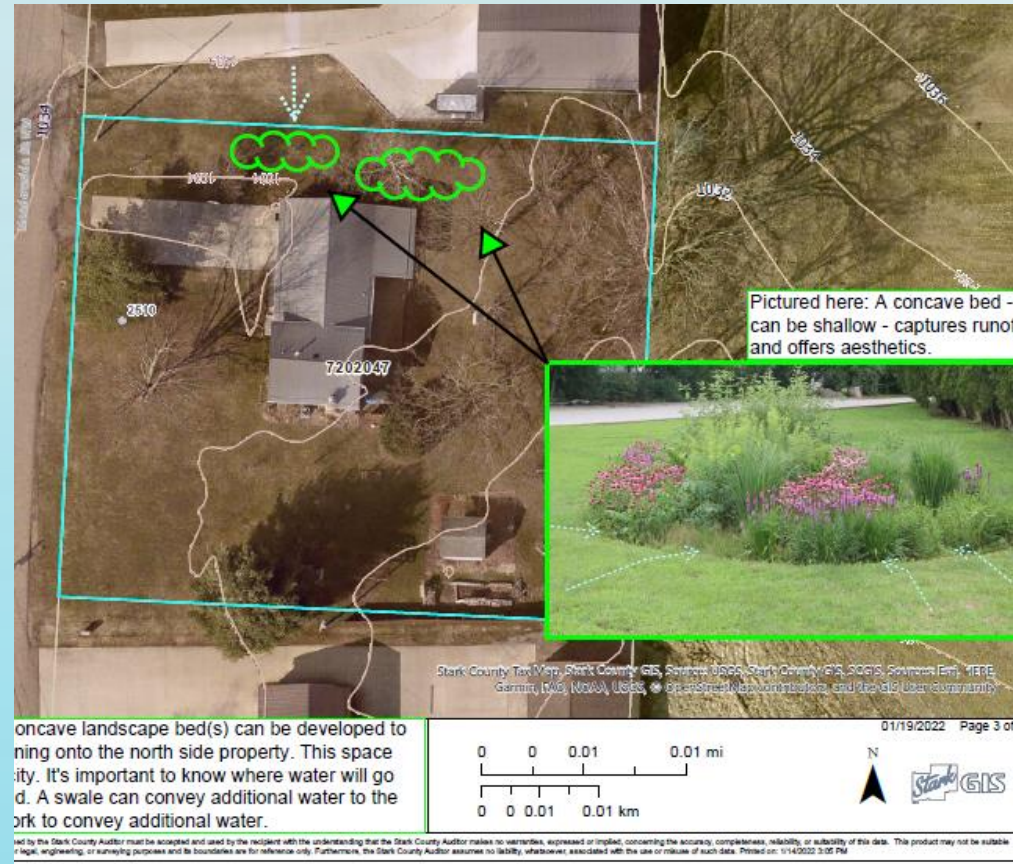
What Does Stark SWCD Provide?

- Soil reports
- Final plats
- Contour maps
- Design concepts
- Handouts
- Drainage report
- EDUCATION



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2650 Richville Dr. SE., Suite 100, Massillon, OH 44645 • (330) 451-SOIL (7645) • info@starkswcd.org

Tuesday, January 18, 2022

Mrs. Sandy Malinak
2510 Meadow Side St. NE
Massillon, OH 44647

Parcel: # 7202047 – Tuscarawas Township
RE: Conceptual Design Plan

Complaint / Concern: *The northern, uphill neighbor constructed an approximately 2,000+ sq ft pole barn and expanded the concrete driveway. These additions to the neighboring property has increased the amount of impervious surfaces and, therefore, the amount of storm water runoff. The downspouts from both the pole barn and the house drain onto parcel 7202047 (the southern, downhill neighbor). The amount of runoff inundates Mrs. Malinak's property. Foundation issues, ponding water, and a soggy backyard are of the concerns Mrs. Malinak has.*

This report is based on the concern within your property that was reported to our office by phone call on January 13, 2022. Stark Soil & Water office personnel, Rome Marinelli (Drainage Specialist), made a site visit on January 14, 2022 to your property to assess the site.

DRAINAGE SITE VISIT / INVESTIGATION PHOTOS:

During the site visit of the property several areas of concern were identified. Please refer to the attached Conceptual Design Map for a comprehensive understanding of the design/practices discussed during the site visit. Below are the recommendations provided during the site visit:

Location: North side of home (looking east)	
Type: Ponding water & foundation susceptibility Issue: Water is conveyed from northern neighbor's property through downspouts and under-driveway piping. This water follows the natural drainage of the area. However, this water occupies low spots on the property and may add susceptibility to the foundation – especially during large rain events. Recommendation: Work with a professional to develop a positive slope along the foundation of the house. This positive slope is a mild grade that helps deflect runoff away from the house, better armoring the foundation.	NOTE: Achieve a positive slope along foundation.  Please reference Appendix A of the Conceptual Design Plan.



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Location: North side of house (looking east/southeast)	
Type: Runoff & ponding water – option 1 Issue: Runoff from northern neighbor's property. Runoff occupies low spots on the property and may add susceptibility to the foundation – especially during large rain events. Recommendation: Regrade yard to fill low spots and discourage ponding water. Develop a swale (whether grassed, rock-lined or landscaped). Swale to connect to existing system – keeping with the natural drainage of the area. OR design concave/bowl-shaped landscape bed(s). Either concept will capture runoff from the north, detain the water, and keep it from occupying areas of the backyard.	NOTE: Develop a swale along northern edge of property.  Please reference Appendix 1B of the Conceptual Design Plan.

Location: North side of house (looking east/southeast)	
Type: Runoff & ponding water – option 2 Issue: Runoff from northern neighbor's property. Runoff occupies low spots on the property and may add susceptibility to the foundation – especially during large rain events. Recommendation: Regrade yard to fill low spots and discourage ponding water. Develop concave landscape bed(s). Concave/bowl-shaped landscape bed(s) will capture incoming runoff from the north, detain the water, and keep it from occupying areas of the backyard. Beds will have limited storage. Additional conveyances may be required. Swale or pipe recommended for conveyance.	NOTE: Develop concave landscape bed(s) along northern edge of property.  Please reference Appendix 2B of the Conceptual Design Plan.

WHAT CAN I DO AS A LANDOWNER?

- Do nothing.
- Fund the project and do the work.
- Work in conjunction with neighbors to fund the project.
- Consult a qualified attorney to present a case for resolution in a court of law.
- Ditch petition process (ORC 6131).

STARK COUNTY: DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PETITION PROCESS

- ORC 6131 (with HB 340 updates)
- A mechanism for landowners to cooperate with the County Commissioners to address drainage improvements.
- *Is the improvement necessary, more beneficial than costly, conducive to public well-being?*

STARK COUNTY: DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PETITION PROCESS

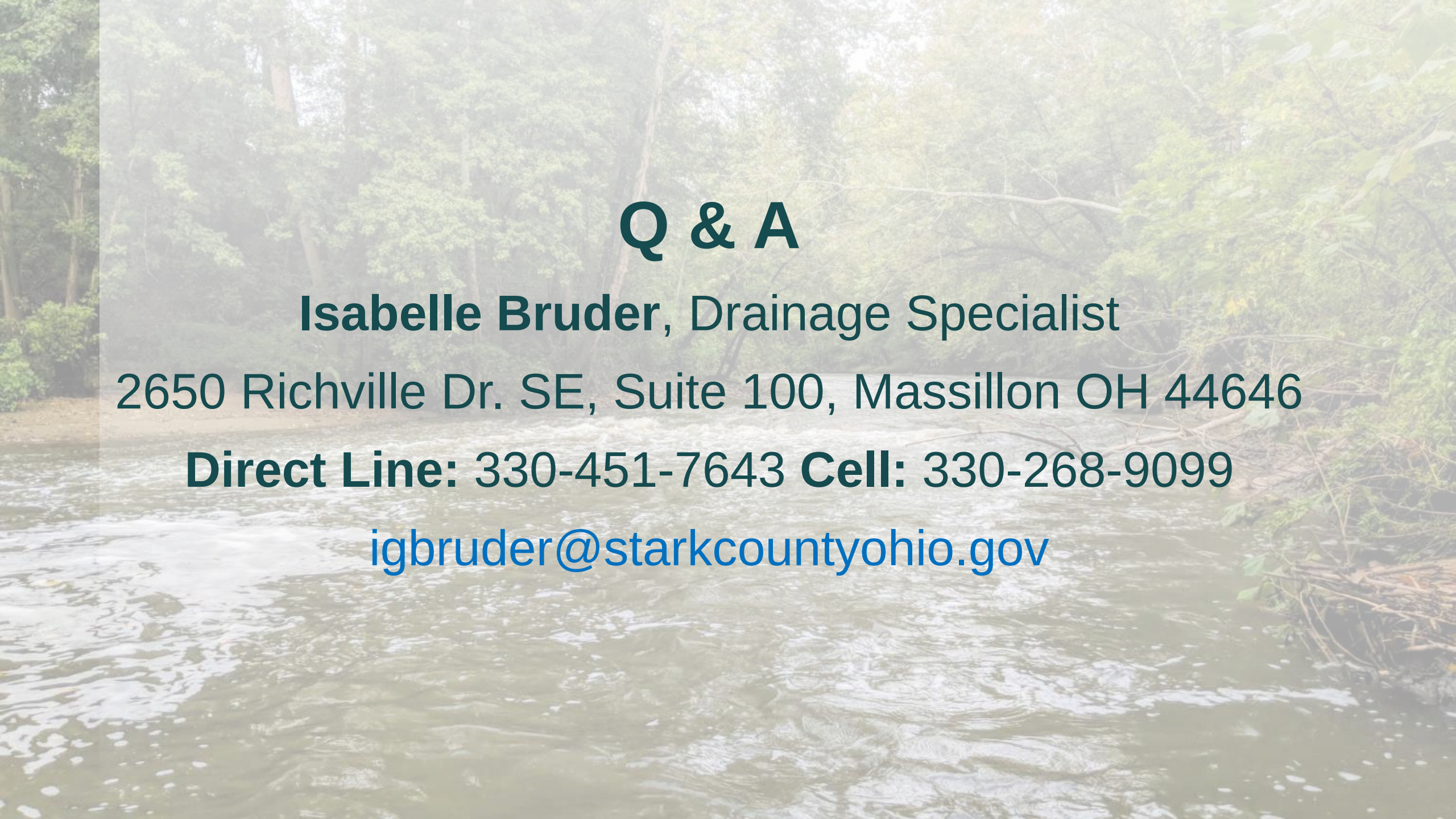
- Landowner(s) request petition form from Stark SWCD
- Landowner(s) consults with the Stark County Engineers before formal submission
- Landowner(s) file a petition with the County Commissioners and pay a \$1500 bond to initiate a legal process

STARK COUNTY: DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PETITION PROCESS

- In this process, the Commissioners hold hearings, County engineer's office assesses the improvement and the Commissioners approve/deny a petition
- The cost of the improvements is placed on the property taxes of those who benefit from the improvement
- **Landowners in a watershed pay for the construction and continued maintenance based on their proportion of benefit derived from the drainage improvement**

Off-Road Drainage Program Takeaway

- Ohio governs water rights via reasonable use doctrine
- County wide off-road drainage program is available
- Concerns can be filed online at www.starkswcd.org
- Program provides resources, technical advice, & site visits (FREE)
- County has a drainage improvement petition process available to property owners
- Off-road drainage improvement is ultimately the responsibility of the property owner



Q & A

Isabelle Bruder, Drainage Specialist

2650 Richville Dr. SE, Suite 100, Massillon OH 44646

Direct Line: 330-451-7643 **Cell:** 330-268-9099

igbruder@starkcountyohio.gov