



Planning Progress

July - September 2017

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) APPLICATION PROCESS TO BEGIN

Now is the time to start thinking about future Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) projects in your community. CDBG staff is currently available to meet with your municipality, township, or non-profit to discuss potential projects in your area. An application workshop has been scheduled for Wednesday, August 30th for the next three fiscal years 2018, 2019, and 2020, but now is the time to begin the ground work on your application.

The workshop will be offered to municipalities, townships, and non-profit agencies & organizations interested in receiving CDBG funding for public facility or infrastructure projects between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2021. Applications for economic development and public service projects will only be accepted for the FY '18 funding cycle.

Applications for this 3-year funding round will be due in early November. Invitations will be mailed this summer to all Stark County CDBG eligible municipalities, townships, and previously funded non-profit organizations. Persons wanting a packet, but unable to attend the workshop, may contact Lynn Carlone, Assistant Chief of Community Development, at 330-451-7774 to receive the needed information. The packets will be sent out after the workshop has been held. Additional ranking points will be awarded to all applications in which the applicant attended the workshop.

Stark County Housing Rehab

Stark County Housing Rehabilitation Questions & Answers

What Is the Stark County Housing Rehab Department?

It is a department within the Stark County Regional Planning Commission which administers the Housing Rehab Program for the Board of Stark County Commissioners, utilizing funds from the US Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD).

What Does the Stark County Housing Rehab Program Do?



It provides a one time only combination grant/deferred loan for qualified homeowners to rehab their homes and bring them up to Residential Rehab Standards (code). Work can include electric, plumbing, roofs, windows, furnaces, siding, flooring, wall repairs, etc. Work that makes a house decent, safe, and sanitary usually qualifies. **General home remodeling does not qualify.** Projects may not go over \$25,000 to bring the house up to code.

How Do I Know If I Qualify For Assistance?

Homeowners qualify by income, based on HUD's most current median income limits for our area. A homeowner must be the owner of record for one year prior to applying for assistance. A homeowner must live within the participating political units of Stark County. This includes all areas of the county, excluding the cities of Canton, Massillon, Alliance, and the village of Hills & Dales.



Who Does The Work, And How Do I Know It Will Be Done Right?

Stark County Housing Rehab works only with local contractors from an approved list. An inspector from the Housing Rehab Program, with homeowner input, prepares a work writeup detailing work to be completed. The project will be put out for a competitive bid. The contractor is paid after the inspector approves each work item. Work is guaranteed for one year. All work is carried out in a lead-safe manner.

Who Pays For The Work?

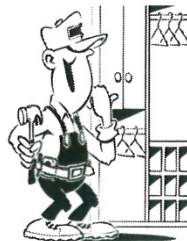
Homeowners meeting the current HUD low-to-moderate-income guidelines may receive a combination grant/loan. Funds are provided by HUD through the Board of Stark County Commissioners. Emergency grants are issued in extreme circumstances.

What Is Involved In Applying For Assistance?

Homeowners are required to provide detailed information for all income and expenses of the household. The housing rehab staff will obtain a copy of the homeowner's credit report, appraisal, title work, location survey, tax records, homeowner's insurance and income/asset verifications. These will then be reviewed for program eligibility.

How Long Does The Project Take?

The application and verification process may take anywhere from one-three months, or even longer if there is a credit problem. The bidding process takes two to three weeks. Actual rehab work usually takes 90 days to complete. Extensions are sometimes given due to weather or extenuating circumstances.



How Do I Apply?

Contact Stark County Housing Rehab at 330-451-7399 to find out if you qualify for assistance.

Before and After



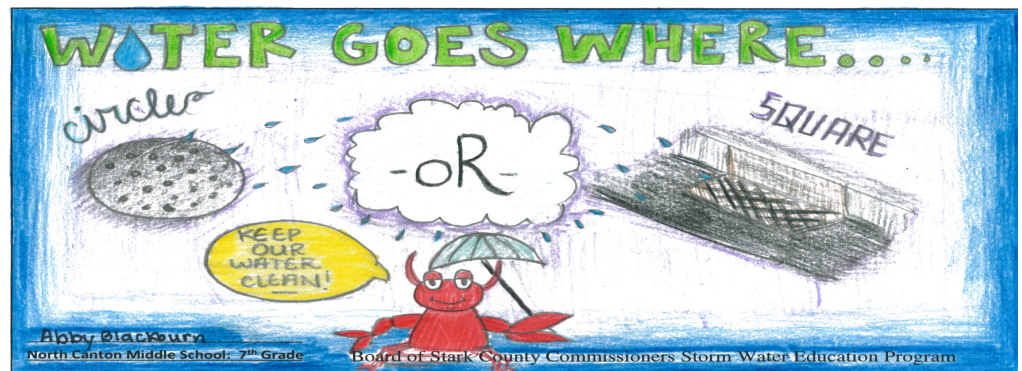
Stormwater Billboard Contest

As part of the Stormwater Education Program, middle and high school students had the opportunity to enter a Billboard Contest. The winning entries had their original artwork displayed on actual billboards throughout Stark County. This year's theme is "Water Goes Where....Circle or Square?" "Clawd," the county's stormwater mascot, is dressed as a professor and teaching kids about the differences between a storm sewer and a sanitary sewer.



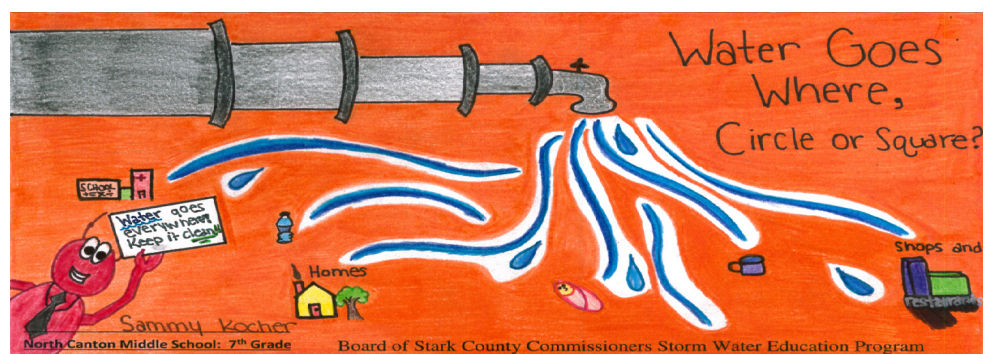
Emma Nocera
North Canton
Middle School

Abby Blackburn
North Canton
Middle School



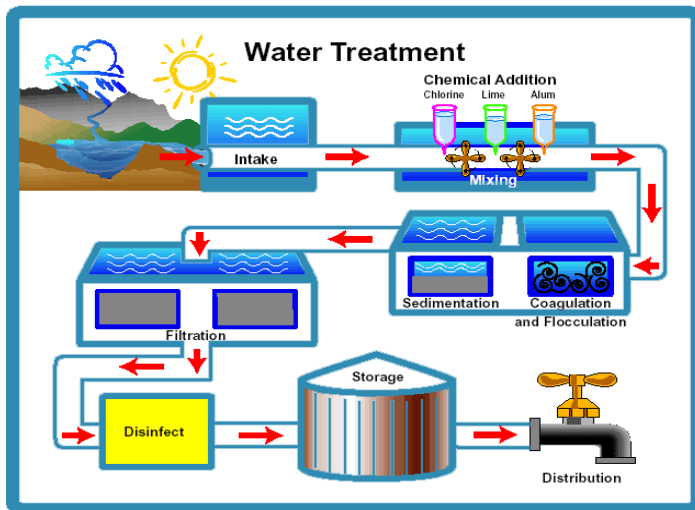
Odessa Pringle
North Canton
Middle School

Sammy Kocher
North Canton
Middle School



The Difference Between Storm Sewers and Sanitary Sewers

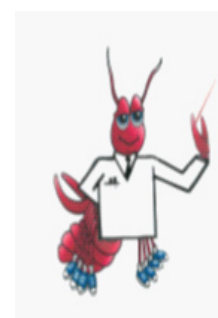
Waste water from your sinks, showers, toilets, and washing machines travel through the sanitary sewer system to a waste water treatment facility where the water is treated before being discharged.



Water Goes Where...
Circle or Square?



SANITARY SEWER WATER
CIRCULATES THROUGH A WATER
TREATMENT FACILITY BEFORE
ENTERING WATERWAYS



STORM SEWER WATER IS NOT
TREATED BEFORE IT ENTERS
DIRECTLY INTO WATERWAYS

Do your part to keep our water clean!

ONLY Rain Down the Drain!

Stormwater runoff is rain or snowmelt that flows over the ground. As it flows, it can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants that contaminate our water. Anything that enters a storm sewer is discharged untreated into waterbodies that we use for drinking, fishing, and swimming.



The Stock Pile's Look Back on the Neighborhood Stabilization Program

In 2009, the Stark County Board of Commissioners entered into an agreement with The Stock Pile, a non-profit building material reuse store to purchase, rehabilitate and re-sell abandoned and foreclosed homes under the federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP). These homes, which were required to be located in identified target areas, were sold or transferred to applicants meeting certain income eligibility requirements. ICAN Housing Solutions Inc., a local non-profit, was also the recipient of NSP homes, which were used as rental units for qualified low-income persons, with a focus on veterans.

The NSP program, which has been administered by the Stark County Regional Planning Commission (RPC), is now coming to an end after 8 years of successfully working to provide quality, affordable homes to low-to-moderate and middle income households. Through this program, The Stock Pile has purchased and rehabilitated 15 homes; 4 of which were transferred to ICAN to utilize as rental properties, and 11 were sold at a reduced rate to eligible applicants. Of the 15 total homes, 9 were located in Canton Township, 2 each were in Osnaburg and Plain Townships, and 1 each was in Nimishillen Township and the Village of Minerva. Thanks to this program, the county was able to help provide affordable housing opportunities for struggling households, while also improving the housing stock in targeted neighborhoods.



Before



After



FY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program Approved

At the May 22 meeting, the SCATS Policy Committee approved the FY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP is the document listing planned highway, transit, and bicycle/pedestrian projects in Stark County for the next four years.

This TIP includes significant safety improvement projects for areas that have experienced problems for a number of years. Two involve improvement to US 62:

- Intersection improvements and realignment at US 62 and Middlebranch as well as at Harrisburg and 30th St. in Plain Township at a cost of \$9.8 million. This will include creating a traffic circle at Harrisburg and 30th Street and realigning the intersection of US 62 and Middlebranch.
- Improvements to US 62 from SR 43 to the Nimishillen Creek will begin with right-of-way acquisition in FY 2019 with the project slated for construction in 2022.

Several major intersection improvement projects include access management:

- The Everhard Road and Whipple Ave. intersection project will replace the railroad crossing, repave Everhard from Main St. to Whipple Ave., extend turn lanes, limit left turn movements, replace signals, and improve the I-77 exit ramp at a cost of \$9.3 million.
- The Portage Street project from Frank Ave. to Whipple Ave. will improve signalization and incorporate access management to improve safety and traffic movement, costing approximately \$4.3 million.

Several road projects include widening and reconstruction:

- Pittsburg Ave. in Jackson Township between Shuffel St. and Orion Ave. will be rebuilt at a cost of \$6.3 million.
- SR 241 in Massillon will be widened from Lincoln Way to Taggart St. at a cost of almost \$7.7 million.

The TIP also includes a number of road repaving projects throughout the county, as well as the replacement of the Spangler Road Bridge over the Nimishillen Creek in Plain Township.



Stark County Regional Planning Commission
201- 3rd St. N.E.
Canton, Ohio 44702

Upcoming Events

July

10	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
11	SCRPC	7:30 PM
18	CAC	6:30 PM
24	SCATS	1:30 PM

August

7	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
8	SCRPC	7:30 PM
28	SCATS	1:30 PM

September

5	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
5	SCRPC	7:30 PM
12	CAC	6:30 PM
25	SCATS	1:30 PM

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