

# Pataskala Utilities Department

## Water Reclamation Facility

Did you know that the City of Pataskala operates and maintains a Water Reclamation Facility that treats the wastewater of our customers? It has a design daily capacity of 1.1 million gallons per day (MGD).



The original Sewage Treatment Plant was constructed in 1967 and consisted of two lagoons that used a settling process to remove solids from the wastewater. It was replaced in 1989 with a more effective mechanical treatment system that uses a biological treatment process. Some additional storage space and influent screening was added in 2011.

The current process uses microbial organisms to digest and process the contaminants found in the wastewater. These organisms are very effective at what they do, provided they are given the right environment to thrive in. This is where the mechanical portion of the treatment process comes in to play. We use several rotating discs to force air into the wastewater in our Oxidation Ditch. These discs also keep the wastewater well mixed and allow the microbes to thrive in this food rich environment.

After being given time to process the available contaminants, the wastewater is sent to two Clarifiers, where the heavy solids settle to the bottom and the clear water floats to the top. The clear water is sent to an area to be disinfected by Ultra Violet radiation and then discharged into the Licking River. The solids are either sent back to the Oxidation Ditch to continue the life cycle of the microbes or are sent to the Digester Tanks to be removed and then disposed of.

In the Digester Tanks, the microbes are given no additional food sources, so that they will consume all the contaminants available. This liquid solution is then run through our solids press where the dewatering takes place. This press cost the department just under \$400,000. The remaining solids are then used locally by a farmer to help fertilize his fields. If not used in this way, the solids must be taken to a landfill for disposal at an annual cost to the department of \$50,000.



The department has about 3,000 laboratory tests run every year to ensure that the water that we discharge into the Licking River is in compliance with all EPA regulations at an annual cost of \$30,000.

**We would be happy to answer any questions at: Utilities Department, 621 W Broad St, 740-964-6275**

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