



Sewer System Capacity, Management, Operation, and Maintenance (CMOM) Program

What is a CMOM Program?

The City of Gahanna has created a sewer system Capacity, Management, Operation, and Maintenance (CMOM) program to allow us to better manage, operate and maintain the wastewater collection system (sanitary sewers) in our community, as well as to be better prepared for emergency situations. In February 2009, Gahanna agreed to and signed an Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) Director's Findings and Orders that require a CMOM program for communities that contract with the City of Columbus for sewage treatment. Some of the OEPA required tasks in this program have already been completed and others are in progress.

How does Gahanna's CMOM Program affect me?

In many central Ohio communities, and throughout the country, sanitary sewers have been known to overflow into the surrounding streams, rivers, and lakes. This usually occurs during heavy rains when rainwater enters the sewers through faulty manholes or broken sewer pipes, filling the sanitary sewers with rainwater, leaving no room for sanitary sewerage and so it overflows. Overflows can also result from pipes being blocked by tree roots, grease, debris, and other items that find their way into the sewers. When a Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) occurs, it poses a health risk to the public, as well as the environment. This is why maintaining our sewer system is so important. There have been no SSOs in Gahanna, and the City would like to continue that outstanding trend. As such, during the next few years, the City of Gahanna Service Department will be working on a sanitary sewer system evaluation to ensure that the system is operating efficiently.



Throughout this evaluation, the City Service Department will physically inspect and assess the sewer system so that the City can plan for future development in Gahanna. The City will continue doing as much as possible to minimize the likelihood of the occurrence of future SSO discharges into the Big Walnut Creek, Rocky Fork Creek and other waterways around Gahanna so that the community can enjoy all that Gahanna has to offer for years to come. This CMOM Program will allow the City Service Department engineers to develop a more proactive sanitary sewer maintenance program and more efficiently plan for Capital Improvement Projects. This Program will also help our Public Service Department improve Operations and Performance of the entire Wastewater Collection System. Gahanna has also developed an

emergency response plan and a public notification program in case an overflow would take place.

How will my utility dollars be used?

You may notice City employees or contractor's employees in your neighborhood performing work as part of Gahanna's CMOM program. This work may include the following:

- Sewer cleaning
- Installing or maintaining sanitary sewer flow meters
- Hydraulic modeling of the sanitary sewer system
- Manhole inspections or rehabilitation

For more information on the City of Gahanna's CMOM Program, please contact Jeff Feltz, Water Resources Engineer, by phone 614-342-4005 or by email at Jeff.Feltz@gahanna.gov.

