

A publication of the Board of Municipal Utilities

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Avon Lake  
Regional Water

## SAVE THE DATE

Lake Erie WaterFest, Saturday, August 8, 2015  
Miller Road Park



### ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS: ENTER THE 2015 WATERFEST FISH DESIGN CHALLENGE

Do you have students in Avon Lake elementary schools? Encourage them to enter the WaterFest Fish Design Challenge. Winning fish will be featured in an art installation at Avon Lake Public Library, as well as at WaterFest. Download the entry form (or learn more about the family-friendly event) at [avonlakewater.org/waterfest](http://avonlakewater.org/waterfest).



### INSPIRING AVON LAKE HIGH SCHOOL ENGINEERS

For Engineers Week® 2015, Avon Lake Regional Water's Engineering Services Manager Jack Gaydar served as expert-in-residence at Avon Lake High School for the day, encouraging Justin Lestock's 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th-grade engineering students to parlay their love of math and science into engineering or surveying careers. In Jack's words: "Engineers solve problems."



ALHS engineering students gather around Jack Gaydar and teacher Justin Lestock as they examine biomedical devices.

This year's challenge: Design a device to help physically challenged individuals get from a wheelchair into a car. Students' ideas ranged from the common-sense to the fantastic ... both of which today's engineers use as inspiration for real-world solutions. After the presentations, students were invited to check out engineering innovations Jack brought from The University of Akron, where he is an adjunct professor. Students were able to see and touch the engineered inventions used in today's orthopedic surgeries, including a hip-ball joint implant, and discussed a wide range of engineering- and surveying-related career options. Mr. Gaydar underscored the extreme need for engineers and surveyors in today's job market, and encouraged students to consider pursuing careers in engineering, surveying, or mapping. 💧

### EARTH DAY IS APRIL 22: START WITH YOUR YARD

Look: Grass! Now that we're starting to see some green again, it's a good time to start thinking about spring. With Earth Day just around the corner, remember that lawn care impacts Lake Erie (and your water bill), especially given the toxic algae event near Toledo last August—the phosphorus in fertilizer run-off contributes to algae in Lake Erie.

#### Conservation begins in your back (and front) yard

- **Irrigation.** Northeast Ohio gets plenty of rain to keep grass alive. Irrigate 10 minutes per zone, 2-3 times per week, early in the morning to maximize your irrigation investment. (Less irrigation means lower water bills.)
- **Go phosphorus free.** When buying fertilizer, choose a no-phosphorus formulation. The best time to feed your grass is in the spring and fall—and make sure you've got a side-guard for your rotary spreader to keep fertilizer pellets out of storm drains.
- **Clip-your-own fertilizer.** Grass clippings returned to the soil break down, adding nutrients and organic matter to the soil.
- **Long means strong.** Set your mower at its highest setting: The longer the blade of grass, the longer the root, which enables the plant to reach more nutrients and better withstand drought. 💧



## PARDON OUR DUST IN 2015

You know that we clean water from Lake Erie, pump it to your home, then take it back from you, recycle it, and put it back into Lake Erie. But did you know, we started installing water and sewer pipes underground as early as the 1920s? In addition to maintaining and fixing these underground pipes when they break, we also proactively replace the infrastructure under your streets and yards to protect your water and wastewater service from being disrupted unexpectedly. How do we do that? We keep detailed data about the age and break history of the pipes carrying your water. There's always a "must replace" list each year. The table below shows what we're working on in 2015.

### PLEASE RECYCLE FLUORESCENT LIGHTBULBS

CFLs (compact fluorescent lamps), the popular, energy-efficient bulbs you may have in your home, contain mercury vapor. To keep mercury out of Lake Erie, do not dispose of these bulbs in your home garbage or recycling bins. Instead, drop them off at CFL recycling locations at the front of home improvement stores such as Lowe's or at Lorain County Solid Waste District, 540 Abbe Road open Monday and Wednesday from noon until 6 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m.



| What                          | Where  | When                  | Impact on residents |
|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------|---------------------|
| New water main                | Harvey Parkway, Yoder  | May-September '15     | Minimal             |
| New water main                | Walker Road from 83 to Jaycox  | Summer-Fall '15       | Minimal             |
| New water main                | Inwood-Fairfield-Berkshire   | Summer-Late fall '15  | Minimal             |
| Sanitary sewer rehab          | Mull Avenue, Norman Avenue   | Late summer-Early '16 | Significant         |
| Clean water storage additions | Near Lake and Moore intersection, across Lake Road from our filtration plant                 | Late '15-Early '18    | Negligible          |
| Wastewater plant rehab        | Just north and west of our wastewater plant, which is across Lake Road from Miller Road Park | Summer '15-Summer '17 | Negligible          |

**For a detailed list of addresses involved in each project, go to [avonlakewater.org](http://avonlakewater.org)**

### NOW HIRING SUMMER HELP

*High school grads/college students  
get 40-hour work weeks.*

Get applications at [avonlakewater.org](http://avonlakewater.org) or our office at 201 Miller Road, Avon Lake, weekdays between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.



The Avon Lake Board of Municipal Utilities meets at our administration building, 201 Miller Road, at 6:30 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, except for our next meeting which has moved from 4/7 to 4/1. As always, all are welcome to attend.

### IS YOUR HOME ON A FORMERLY OR CURRENTLY COMBINED SEWER?

If so, you must assure your home's outgoing water (storm and wastewater) are separate by February 1, 2018. Call us at (440) 933-6226 to schedule your free inspection to confirm your home's compliance.

### Save a tree while keeping your costs down.

Sign up for AutoPay and/or eBill delivery at:  
[avonlakewater.org](http://avonlakewater.org)

#### Stay connected with us.

Don't forget to Like us on Facebook, Follow us on Twitter, and register your home for the CodeRED emergency alert system at [avonlakewater.org/get-connected/](http://avonlakewater.org/get-connected/) for the latest in water-related tips and updates.

