

# Monthly Utility Tips

## From your hometown utilities

# ENVIR-O-NEWS

April, 2014

## Earth Day Clean Up

The City of Hamilton is sponsoring a clean up **April 26** from 9 a.m.-Noon. Rain or shine. Volunteers can sign up at the following locations: Bailey Square (2nd and Chestnut); Northend Ball Fields (Joe Nuxhall Blvd); Carriage House German Village; Crawford Elementary (Hensley and Hancock); Partners in Prime (Ross and S B); Old Roosevelt School (S. 12th St); Lindenwald Station



(Pleasant Ave) and Lowes (Main St). Volunteers are encouraged to wear a yellow or orange shirt. Bags and gloves will be provided.

**This is a litter only clean up** and there will be NO curbside pick ups. Tires can be taken to Bailey Square. Tree Limbs up to 4 inches can be taken to Northend Ball Fields or Bailey Square for chipping.

To volunteer call 844-8050. Other inquiries call 785-7229.



**City of Hamilton  
Utilities**

## 2014 Volunteer and Recycling Programs

**Storm Drain Labeling**— pm - 7 pm.  
Hamilton has over 6000 No drop off permitted outside service days/posted hours.  
As part of the storm water management program Hamilton needs to label each one of these drains—your help is needed—called 785-7280 to volunteer.



**Freon Appliance Collection**—Freon appliances to be collected, recycled, and Freon removed by a certified technician. The program is open to all Butler County residents at no cost. There is a limit of (2) like appliances per household. Call Unwanted Appliances at 1-888-886-9268 to schedule a pick-up

**Yard Waste:** Yard waste can be set out with your weekly

garbage collection when bundled in 4 foot lengths. Free chipping services for tree limbs and brush clippings only is offered every second Saturday from April to October at the City's Water Reclamation Facility at 2451 River Road; 8:00 a.m. to Noon.

**Monitors or TVs:** Televisions (with tubes up to 32" and LCD and Plasma televisions up to 60") and computers can be recycled at Best Buy in Bridgewater Falls at no charge. Cohen Hamilton will accept computer towers call 863-3474 for details. Habitat for Humanity ReStore, 896 Fairview Ave, will accept computer towers and monitors; call 893-1102 for details.



**At Work for You!**

345 High Street  
Hamilton, Ohio 45011

City Garage/Emergency  
Phone: 785-7550

Customer Service  
Phone: 785-7100

# Storm Water Pollution from Erosion



Storm water and erosion of soils can complicate life for everyone. If left unmanaged, they threaten water quality, health and safety of the public, and the economy. Pollutants carried by eroded soils (sediment) and water can contaminate surface water resources, destroy fish habitat, make recreational surface waters undesirable, and in large amounts, can destroy homes and endanger lives. Erosion and sedimentation can be reduced by establishing vegetation using desirable plant species. This practice uses native plants that will hold the soils, re-

duce storm water runoff and act as a filtering system on long-term basis. \*Temporary seeding should be considered as slope protection and an erosion control practice for construction sites. \*Permanent seeding should be considered for any disturbed area where all construction or maintenance activities have ceased. \*Planting is the preferred method to establish new growth:
 

- Any finished slope that will remain undisturbed for at least ten years, especially if the area is bordered by forests, wetlands or other naturally occurring woody vegetation
- Extremely rocky slopes

or sites
 

- All types of landscaping, including urban thoroughfares and interchanges, and residential streets where landscape aesthetics are a concern
- Permanent seeding should be conducted in conjunction with various forms of mulching, matting and annual grass (cereal grain) as a nurse crop.
- Make sure that planting sites are adequately graded and that tree locations and planting areas are marked and approved before planting begins.

For a list of native plants visit <https://ohiodnr.com/tabid/20386/Default.aspx> or call the OSU extension office at 887-3722.

# EARTH DAY

Hamilton is hosting an Earth Day Celebration on April 22 from 11:00 to 1:00 downtown at 345 High Street. Join us to find out how you can help improve and protect our environment by: Planting a tree; Recycling, reducing and re-using; protecting our drinking water; monitoring water quality and getting involved in local clean up efforts. Free Hotdogs, burgers and more will be offered while supplies last.

## Natural Gas Safety

It's important for you to do your part to make a safe fuel even safer.

**DO:**

- Use your nose. If you ever detect even a small amount of the odor of natural gas in the air, don't stay—leave the building. Then, contact City of Hamilton Gas Department at 785-7550 or call 911.
  - Look for the blue flame. If pilot lights and burners have a steady, blue flame, they are operating correctly.
  - Keep the areas around all appliances and equipment clean and unblocked to allow for proper air flow.
- DON'T:**
- Ever let small children play with or near natural gas appliances or pipes, even the knobs on the oven or cook top.
  - Use your stove or oven for anything other than cooking (for instance, to heat your home, under any circumstances.)
  - Move or install a gas appliance or change the connector in any way without professional assistance.
  - Ever store household chemicals or combustible materials near gas appliances.
  - Above all, don't forget to learn what to do if you ever smell natural gas in the air: SMELL GAS? ACT FAST!

## Fat Free \*\*Drug Free Sewers

Fat Free Sewers Means NO FOG. FOG is what EPA calls Fats, Oils and Grease. The easiest way to solve the grease problem and help prevent overflows of raw sewage is to keep this material out of the sewer system in the first place.

*Freeze the Grease—Save the Drain*—Rather than pouring that grease or oil down the drain, put it in a disposable container such as, an old milk carton,. Put the container in the freezer until it sets and then throw it away

with the trash. Drug Free Sewers—means no medications should be flushed down the toilet. The Hamilton area has 2 drop off locations located in the lobbies of the Police Dept 331 S Front or Butler County Sheriff's Dept. at 705 Hanover St. If a take back program is not available:

- 1) Take the drug out of their original containers.
- 2) Mix Drugs with an undesirable substance such as cat litter or coffee grounds.

- 3) Put mixture into disposable container with a lid or into a sealed bag.
- 4) Remove any personal information, including Rx number, on the empty containers or conceal by using permanent black marker or duct tape.
- 5) Place the sealed container with the mixture, and the empty drug containers in the trash.



## What is Being Done Locally to Protect Your Drinking Water Supply?

The City of Hamilton is a member of a Consortium or Group of local Groundwater Suppliers. The Consortium is implementing a variety of drinking water protection program-related activities geared toward protecting your drinking water supply. This includes installation and sampling of monitoring wells to measure groundwater quality, development of public education materials including a website ([gwconsortium.org](http://gwconsortium.org)), school and civic group presentations and administration of locally developed source water protection ordinances that include facility inspections and emergency spill responses. Upcoming events for this year include Earth Day Celebration at the Government Services Center April 22, Great Miami River Sweep on October 25 and the Butler County Children's Water Festival October 10 at Miami University Hamilton. For more information visit the Consortium Website or contact the Administrator Tim McLelland at 513-785-2464