

NORTHEAST OHIO REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT

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The history of sewers and the future
of clean water in Greater Cleveland



**Northeast Ohio
Regional Sewer District**

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Presentation available at
neorsd.org/sewerU

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1952 Cuyahoga River



Trivia Question...

*How many times did the
Cuyahoga River catch on fire?*



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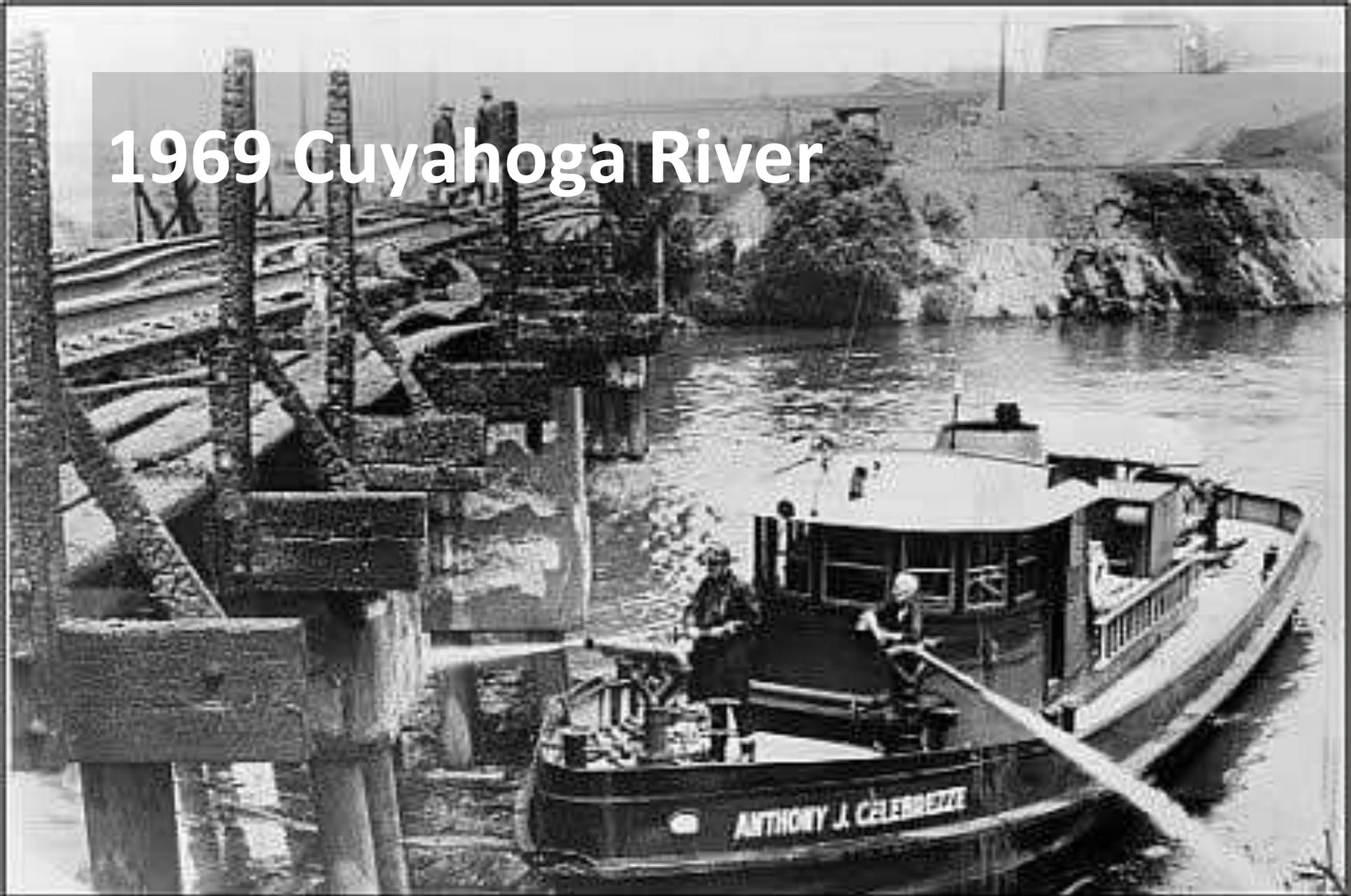


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1960s Cuyahoga River



1969 Cuyahoga River



*The aftermath of the June 22, 1969 fire as the fire boat continues to break up oil slicks.
(Photo courtesy of The Cleveland Public Library Photograph Collection.)*

Your SewerU syllabus

- Our place in the urban water cycle
- Sewers 101: History and challenges
- Solutions: Gray and green
 - Project Clean Lake
 - Regional Stormwater Management Program
- Green: Policy, past, present and future



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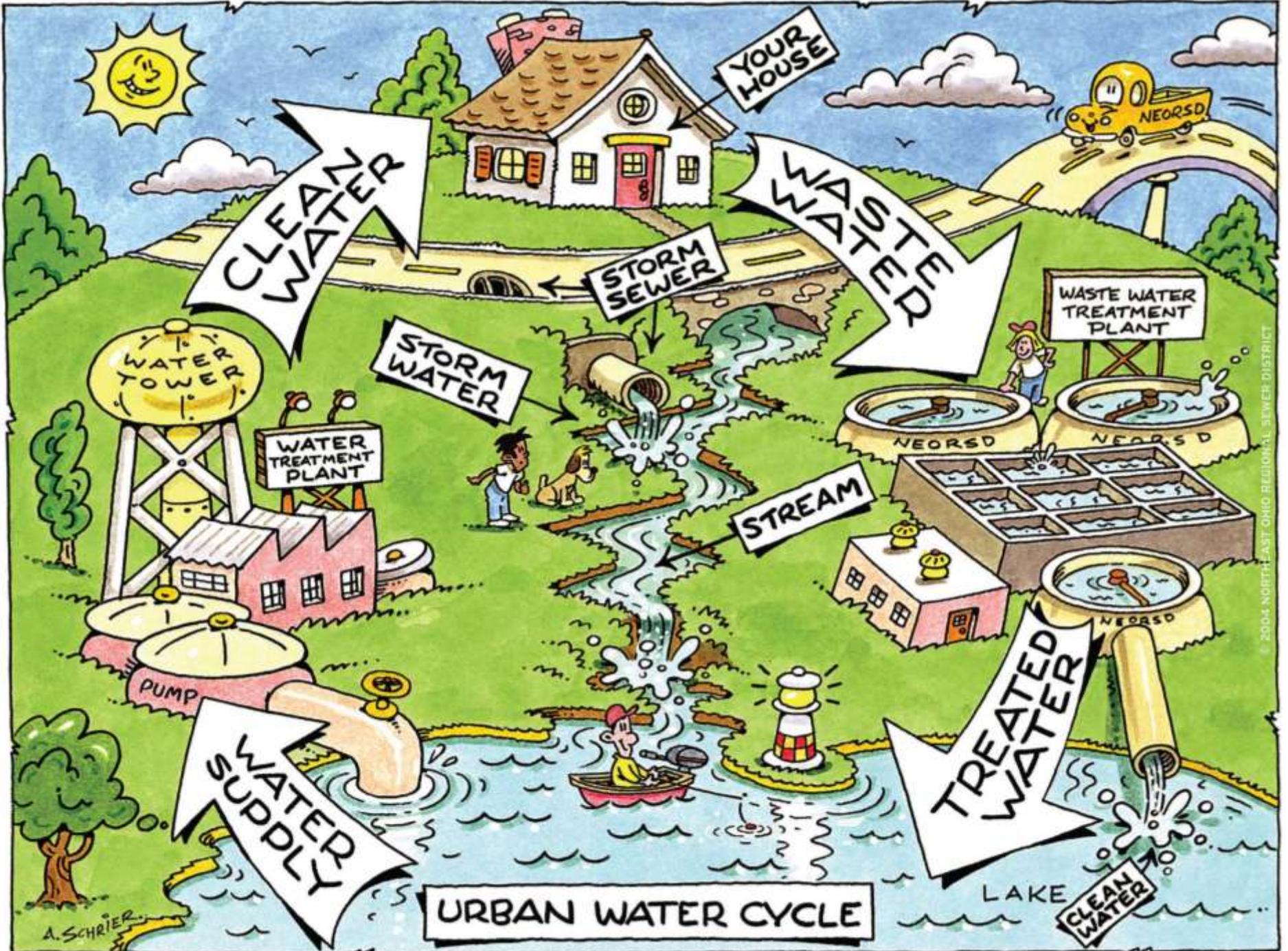


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URBAN WATER CYCLE

A. SCHRIER

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Trivia Question...

What is the place of origin for the word “sewer”?



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Who We Are...

- Created in 1972 by Court Order
- Servicing all or part of 62 communities
- 1 million customers
- 90+ billion gallons wastewater treated each year



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Key Responsibilities

- Wastewater treatment plants
 - Easterly, Southerly, Westerly
- Combined and separate sewers
 - Construction, Operation and Maintenance
- Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Control
- Regional Stormwater Management



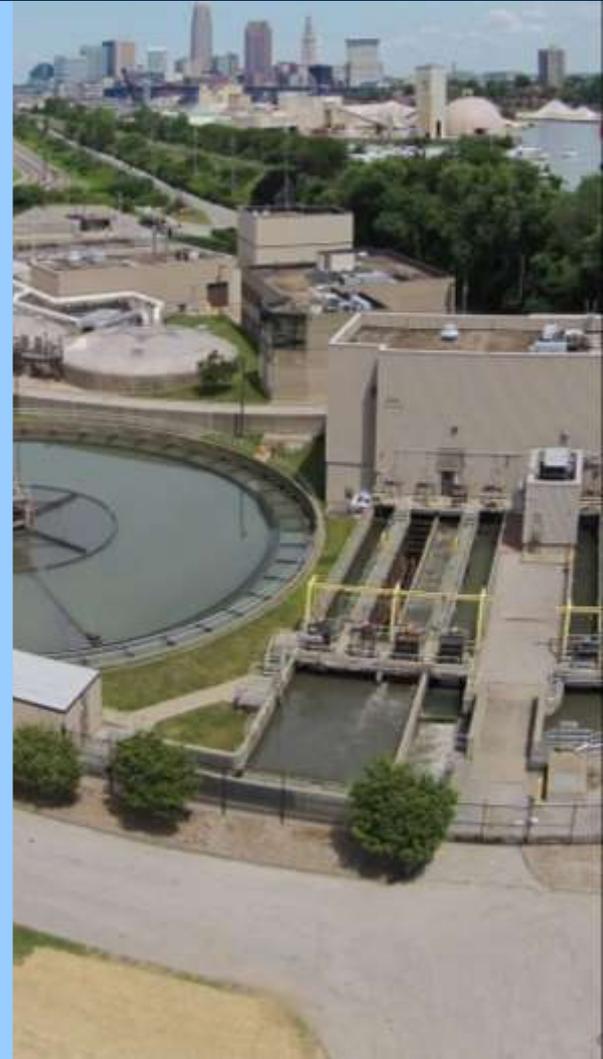
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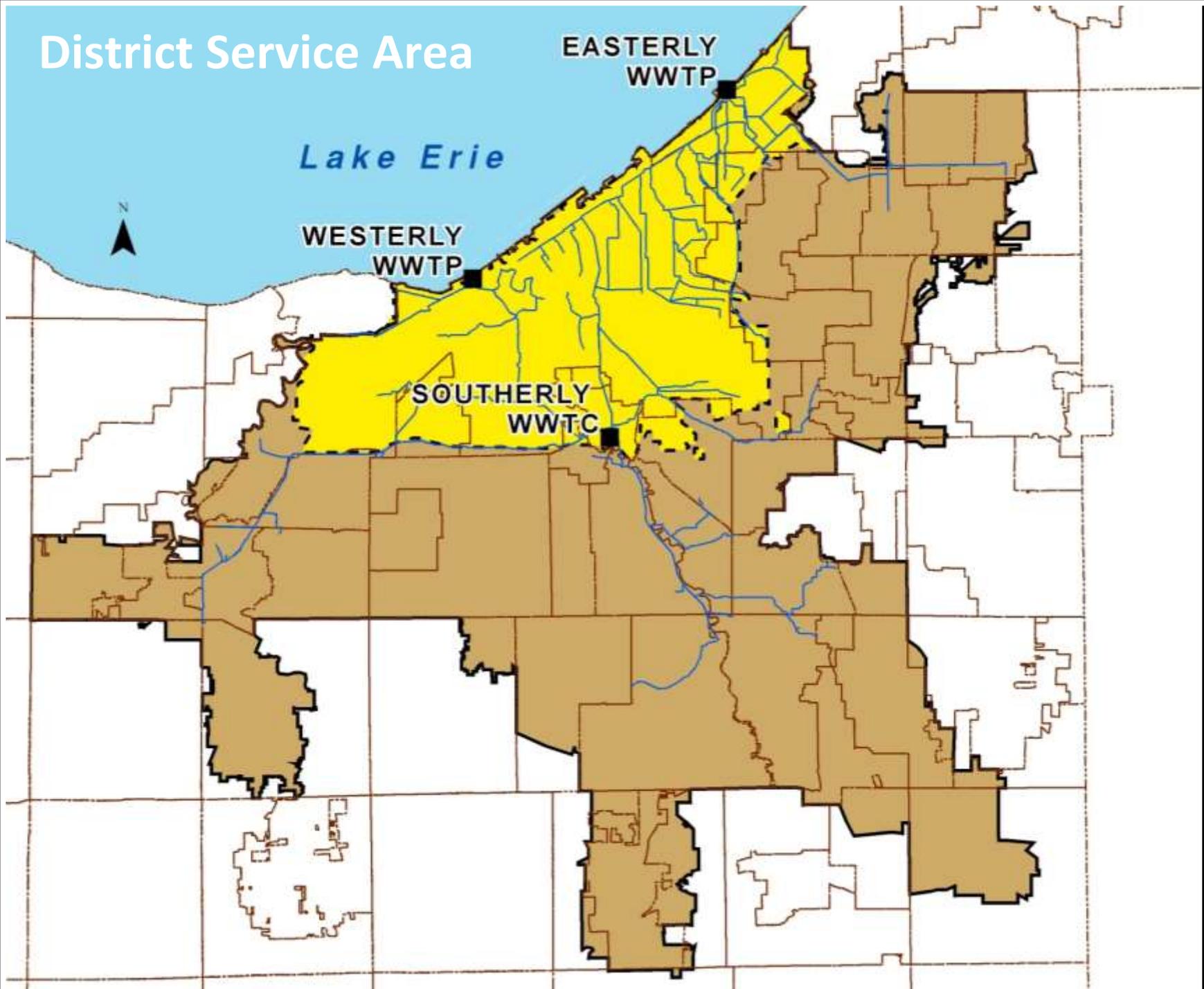


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Wastewater Treatment Plants



District Service Area



Over 40 years of investment

- Since 1972: **\$4+ billion**
 - Wastewater treatment plants
 - Interceptor and relief sewers
 - CSO control and interceptor rehab
 - Other facility upgrades



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Trivia Question...

What is the oldest historical time period sewers were recognizable infrastructure?

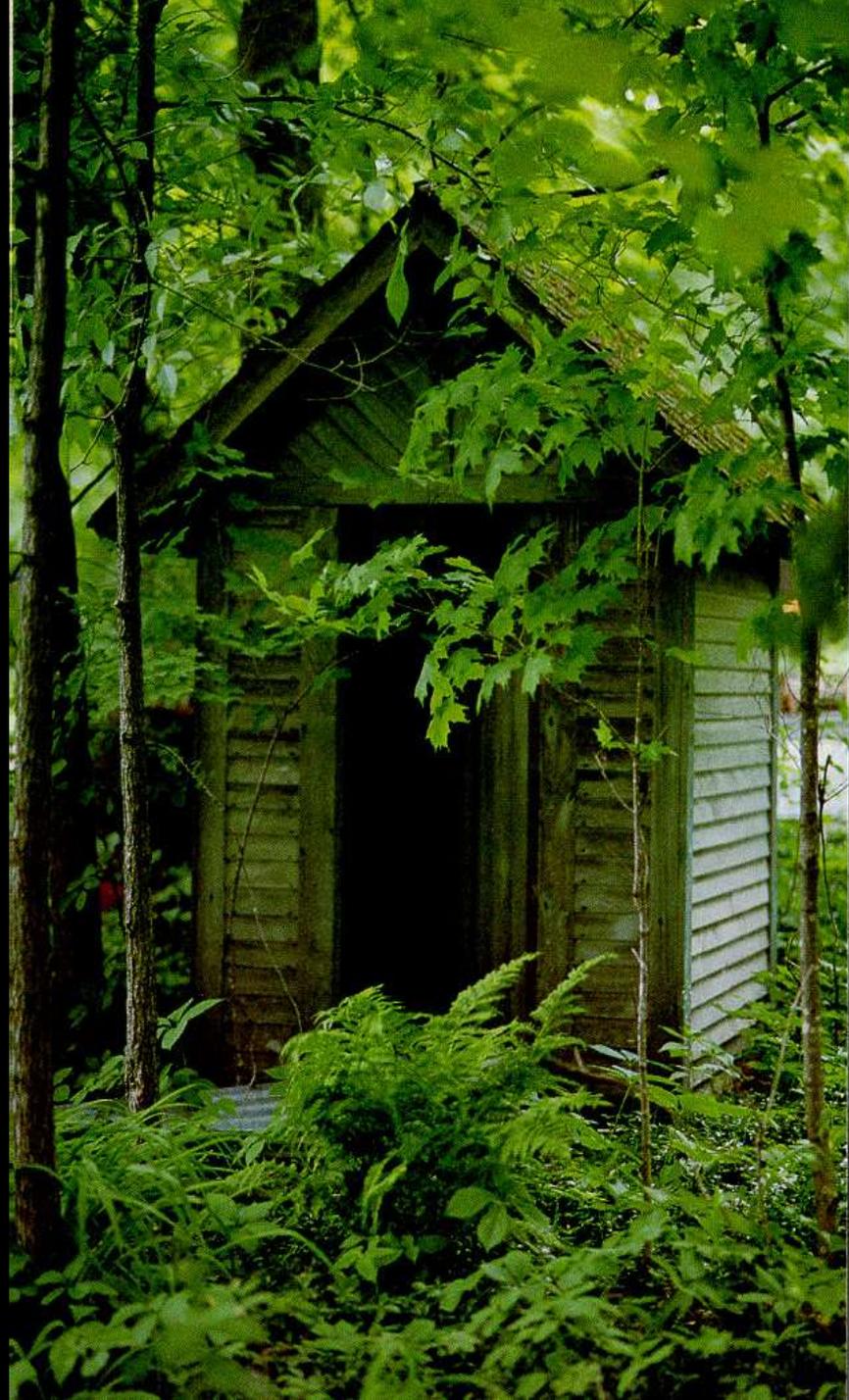


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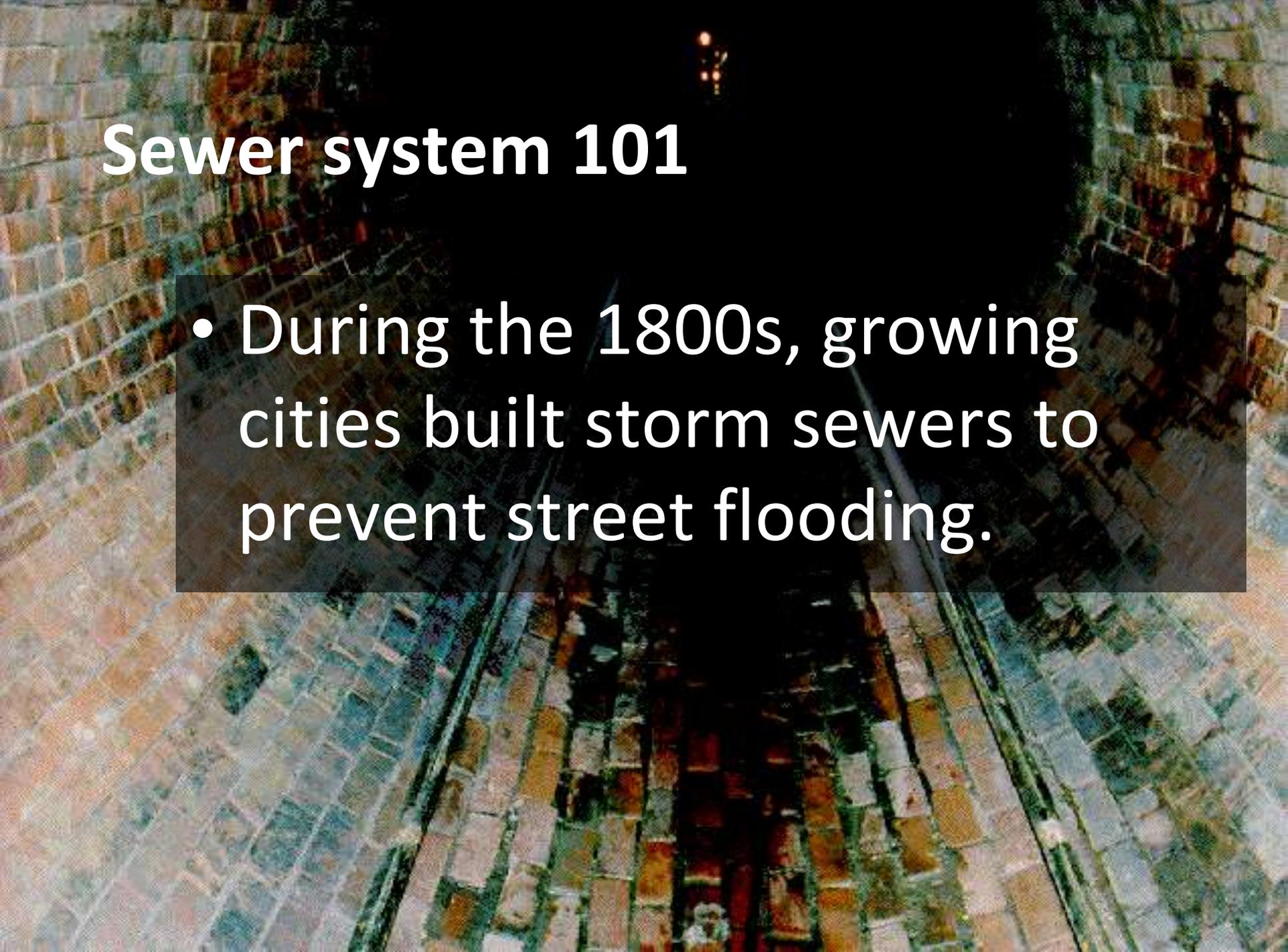
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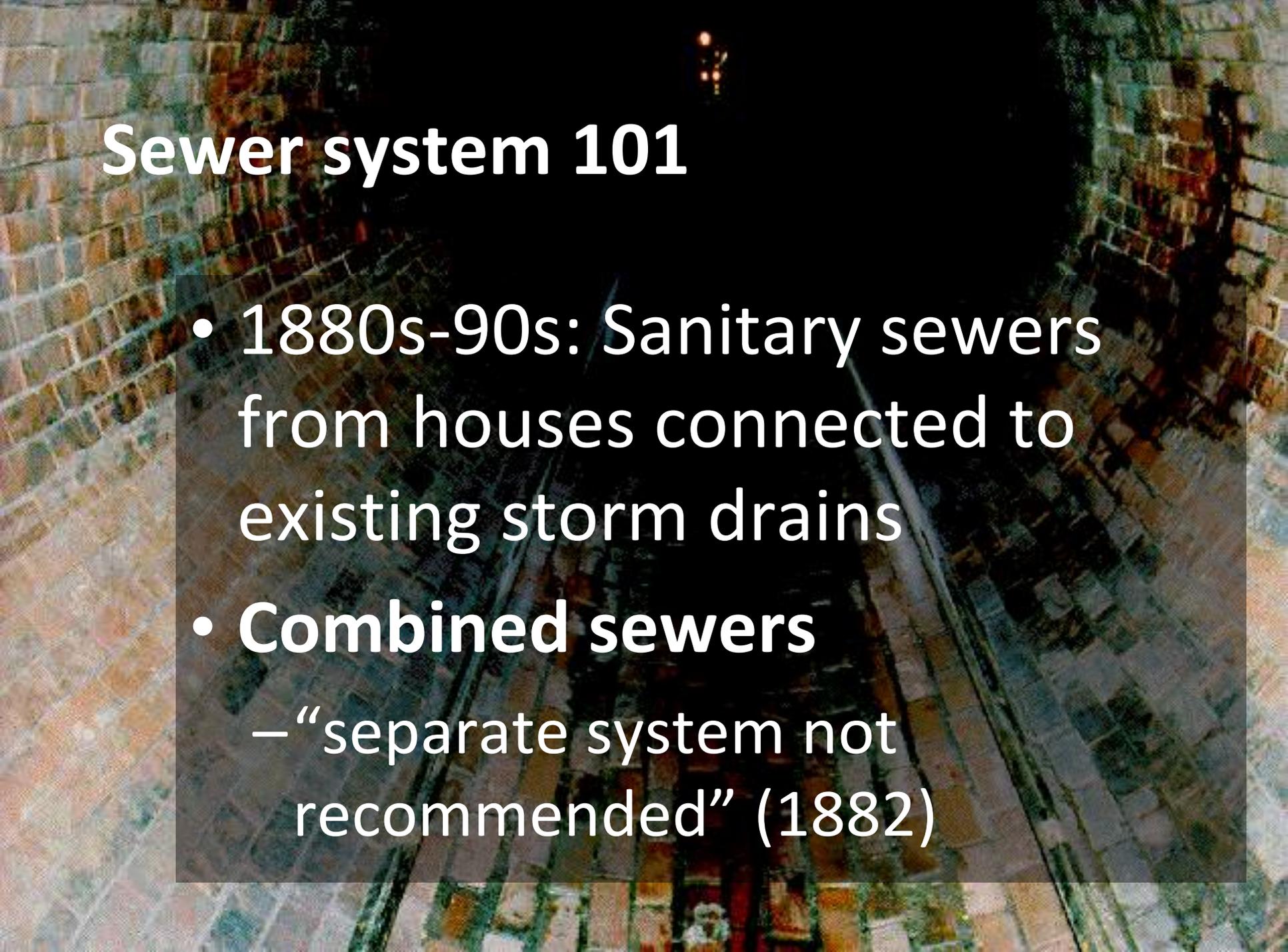


Sewer system 101

A photograph of a brick-lined sewer tunnel. The walls and floor are constructed from reddish-brown bricks. Two large, dark pipes run parallel down the center of the tunnel. The lighting is dim, with a few small lights visible in the distance.

- During the 1800s, growing cities built storm sewers to prevent street flooding.

Sewer system 101



- 1880s-90s: Sanitary sewers from houses connected to existing storm drains
- **Combined sewers**
 - “separate system not recommended” (1882)

Sewer system 101

- 1899-1939: “Intercepting Sewers” collect sanitary flow, deliver it to Lake Erie and Cuyahoga River at three outfall locations (consolidate water quality problems)



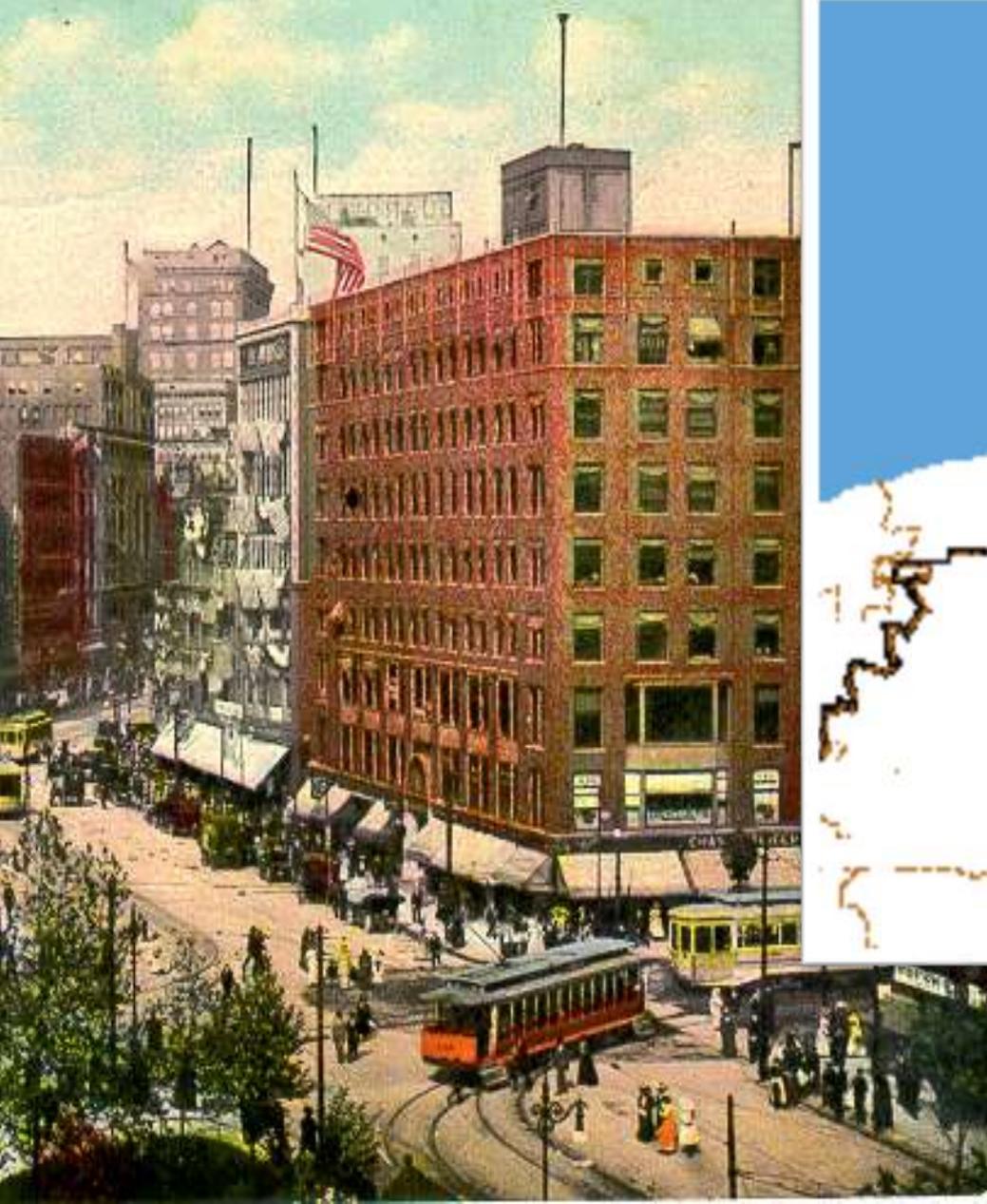
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Public Square, showing Euclid Avenue, Business Section, Cleveland, Ohio.



Interceptor sewers

- Collect wastewater from smaller sewers serving individual streets



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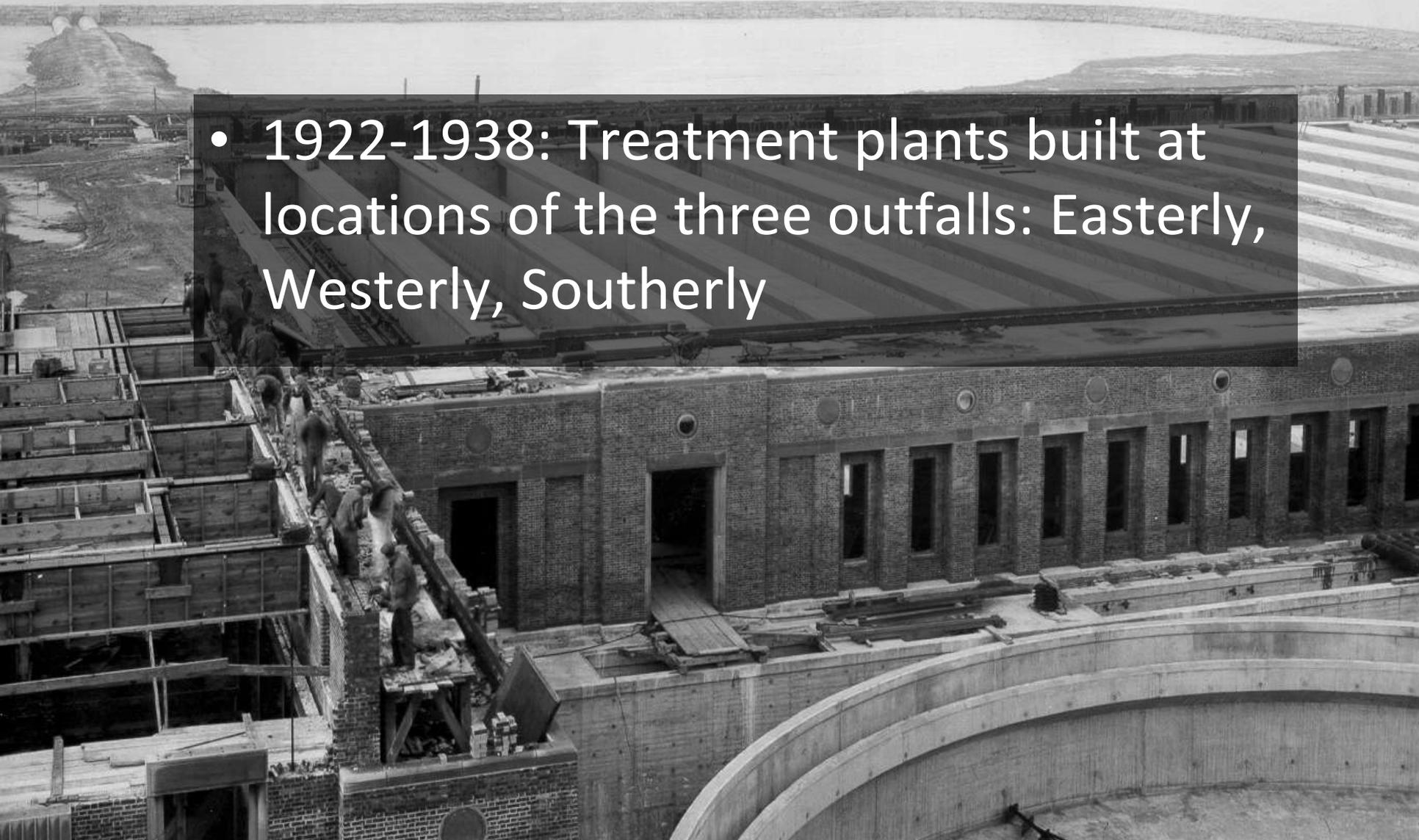
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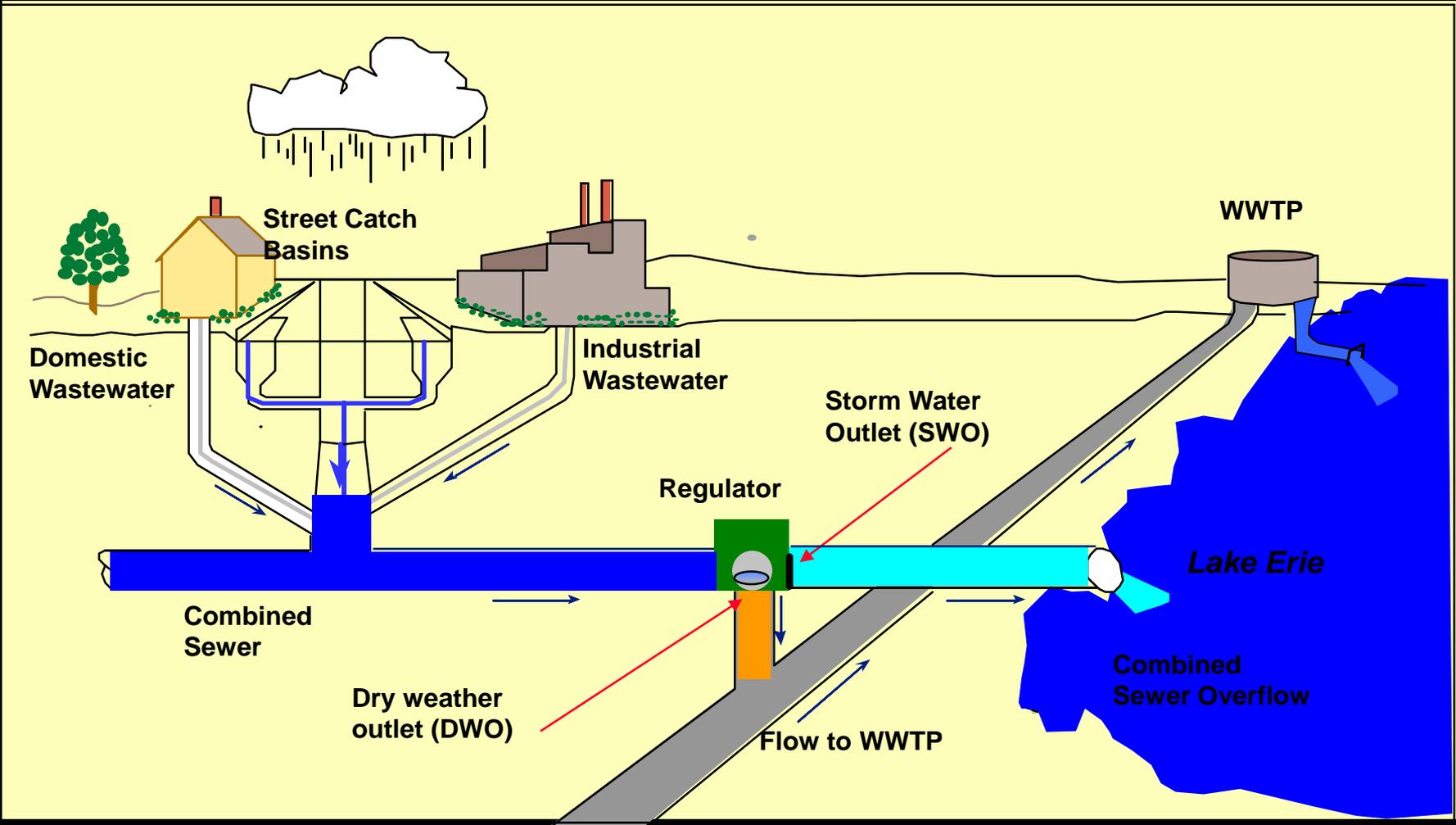
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Sewer system 101

- 1922-1938: Treatment plants built at locations of the three outfalls: Easterly, Westerly, Southerly



Combined sewer system

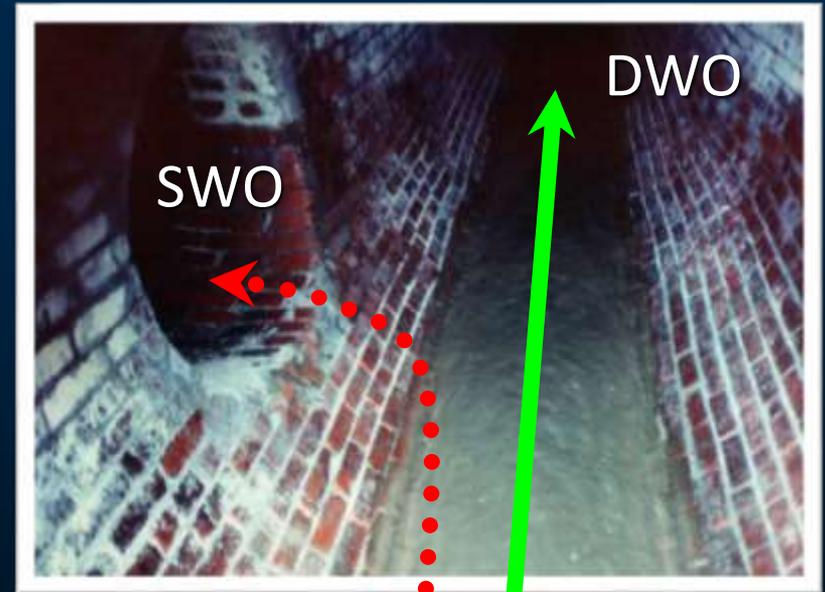


Combined sewer system

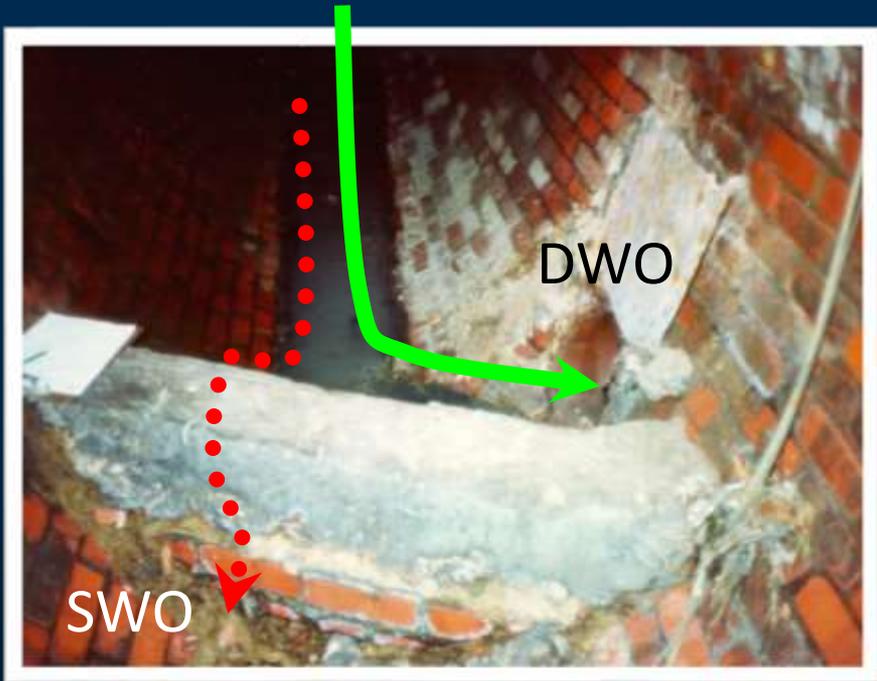
- Regulating structures allow excess stormwater to overflow



Side-spill weir

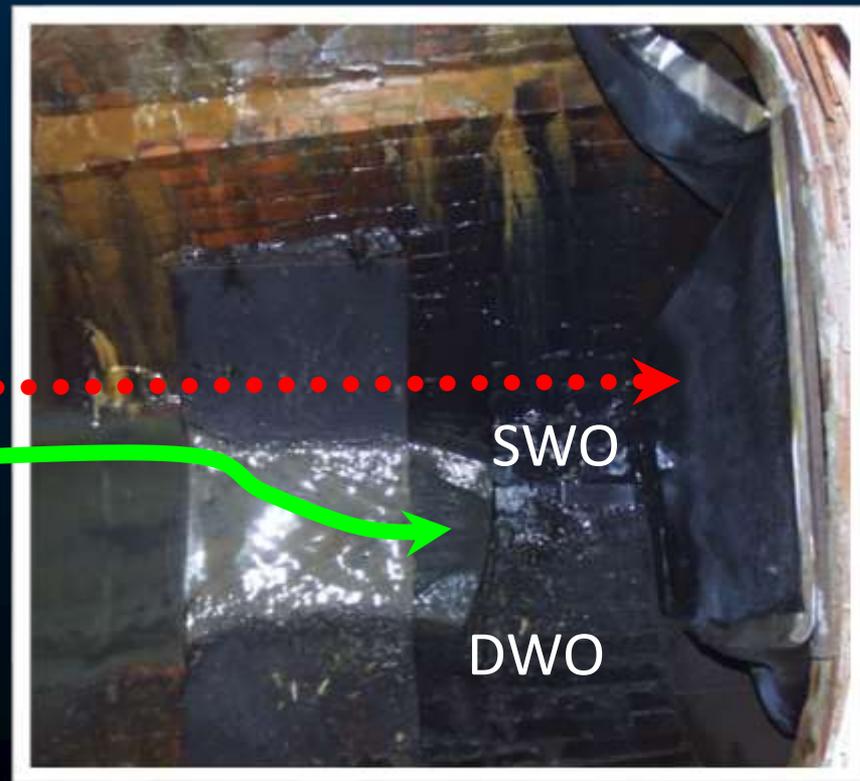


Overflow pipe

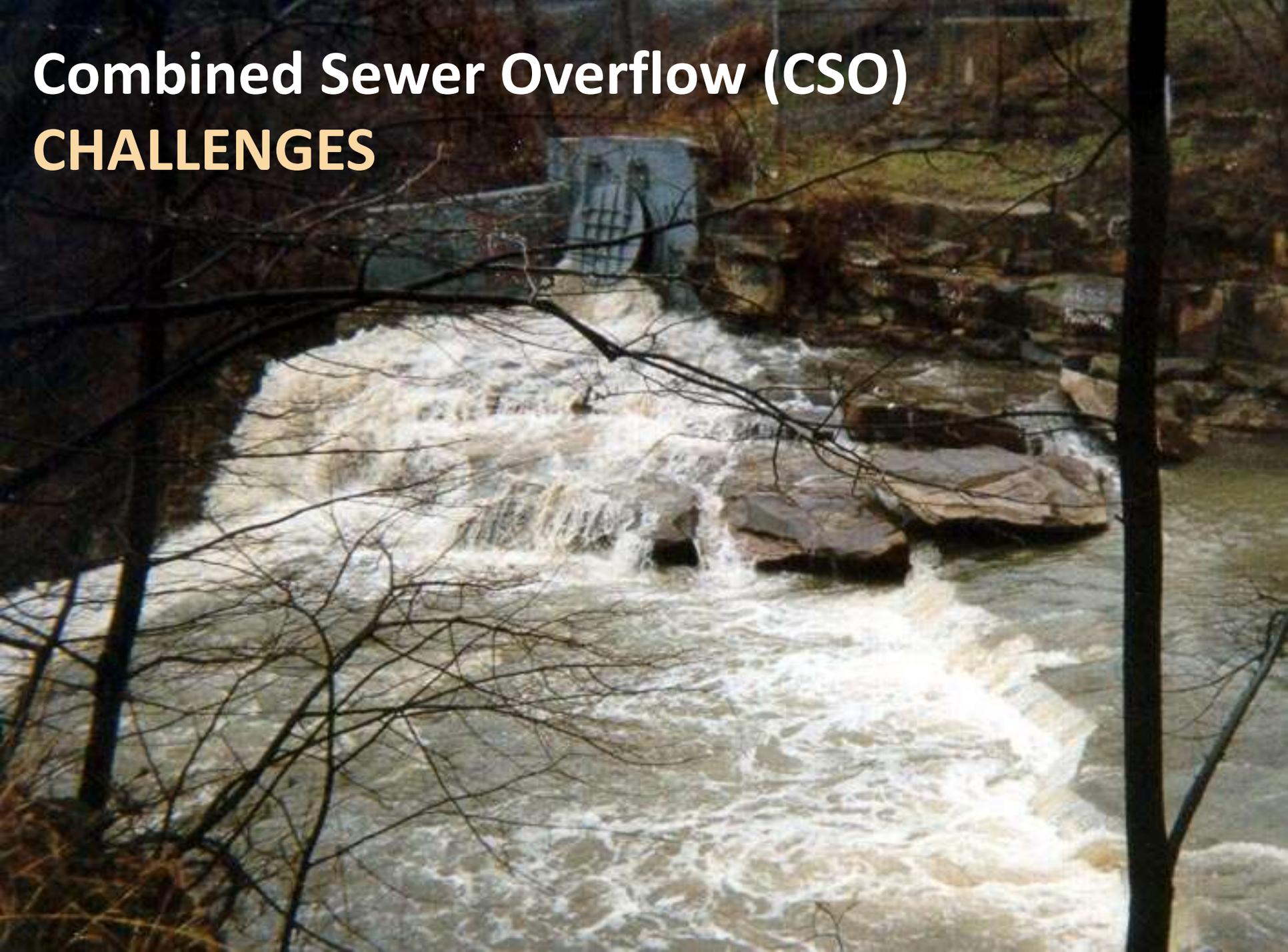


Perpendicular weir

Leaping weir



Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) CHALLENGES

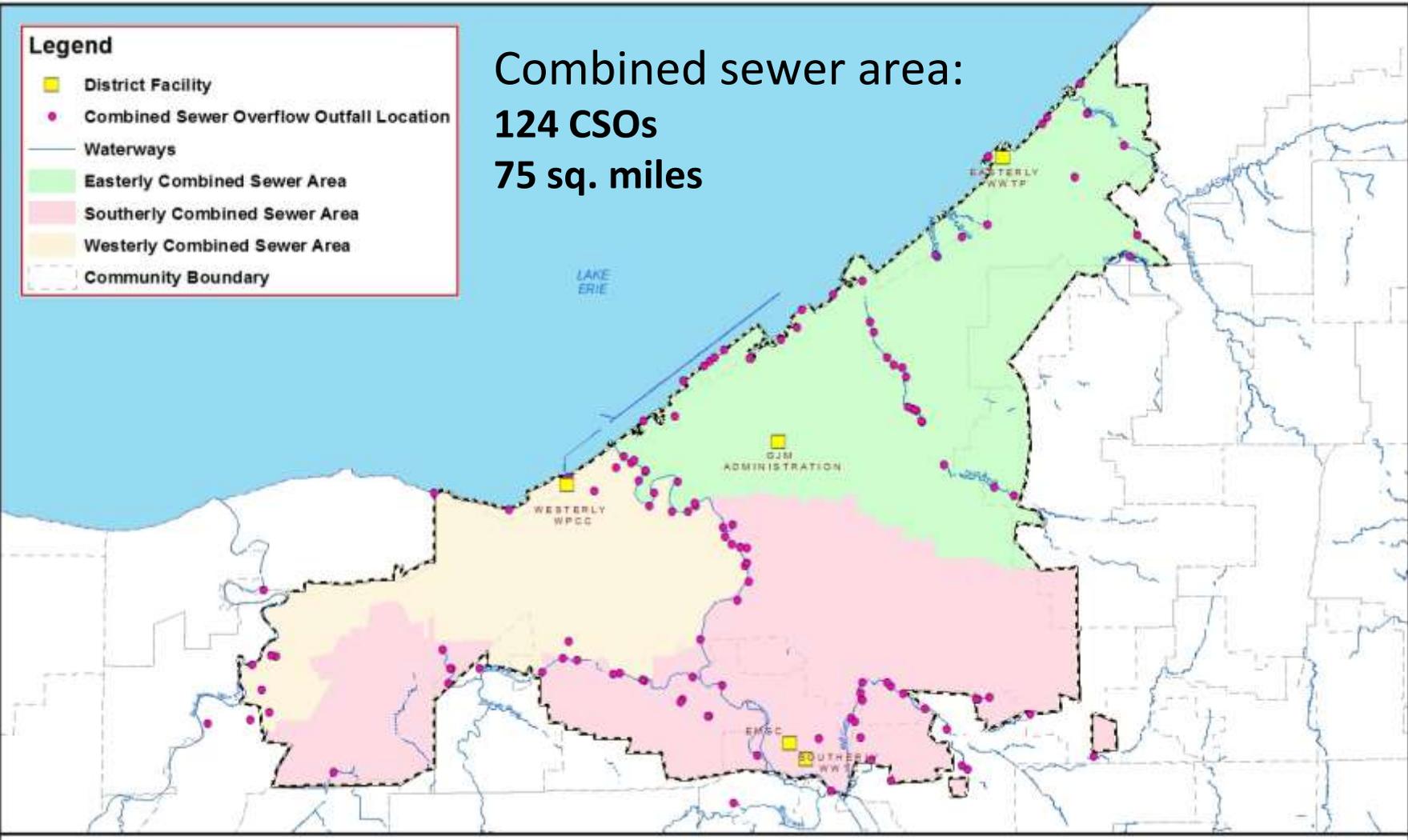


Path: H:\GIS\DATA\SERVICE_REQUEST\2015\SR_05222015\MAP_DOCUMENT\CcombinedServiceAreaMap_20150522.mxd

Legend

- District Facility
- Combined Sewer Overflow Outfall Location
- Waterways
- Easterly Combined Sewer Area
- Southerly Combined Sewer Area
- Westerly Combined Sewer Area
- - - Community Boundary

Combined sewer area:
124 CSOs
75 sq. miles



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CSOs impact water quality

- When it rains, the bacteria levels at local beaches and streams will be elevated



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Public notification

WARNING: OVERFLOW EVENT PUBLIC ADVISORY

STORMWATER AND SEWAGE OVERFLOWED TO THIS BEACH AREA ON _____ DATE & TIME

As a result, the beach area and water may have been affected. Visitors – particularly children, the elderly, and those in ill health – are advised to avoid contact with the water and debris.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOWS (CSOs):

NORTHEAST OHIO REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT
CSO INFORMATION HOTLINE
(216) 432-7330 | www.NEORSO.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
WATER-RELATED HEALTH CONCERNS:

CLEVELAND DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC HEALTH (216) 664-4292 OHIO DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH (614) 466-1390

THIS SIGNAGE IS PROVIDED AS A COURTESY OF THE NORTHEAST OHIO REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT

WATER QUALITY NOWCAST: POOR

A “Nowcast” system is being tested on this beach to predict bacterial levels that may be present in the water.

POOR WATER QUALITY IS PREDICTED TODAY

based on conditions observed this morning. This means that bacteria levels are likely to be high.

Swimming is not advised, especially for children, the elderly, and those in ill health. Full body water contact may result in illness.



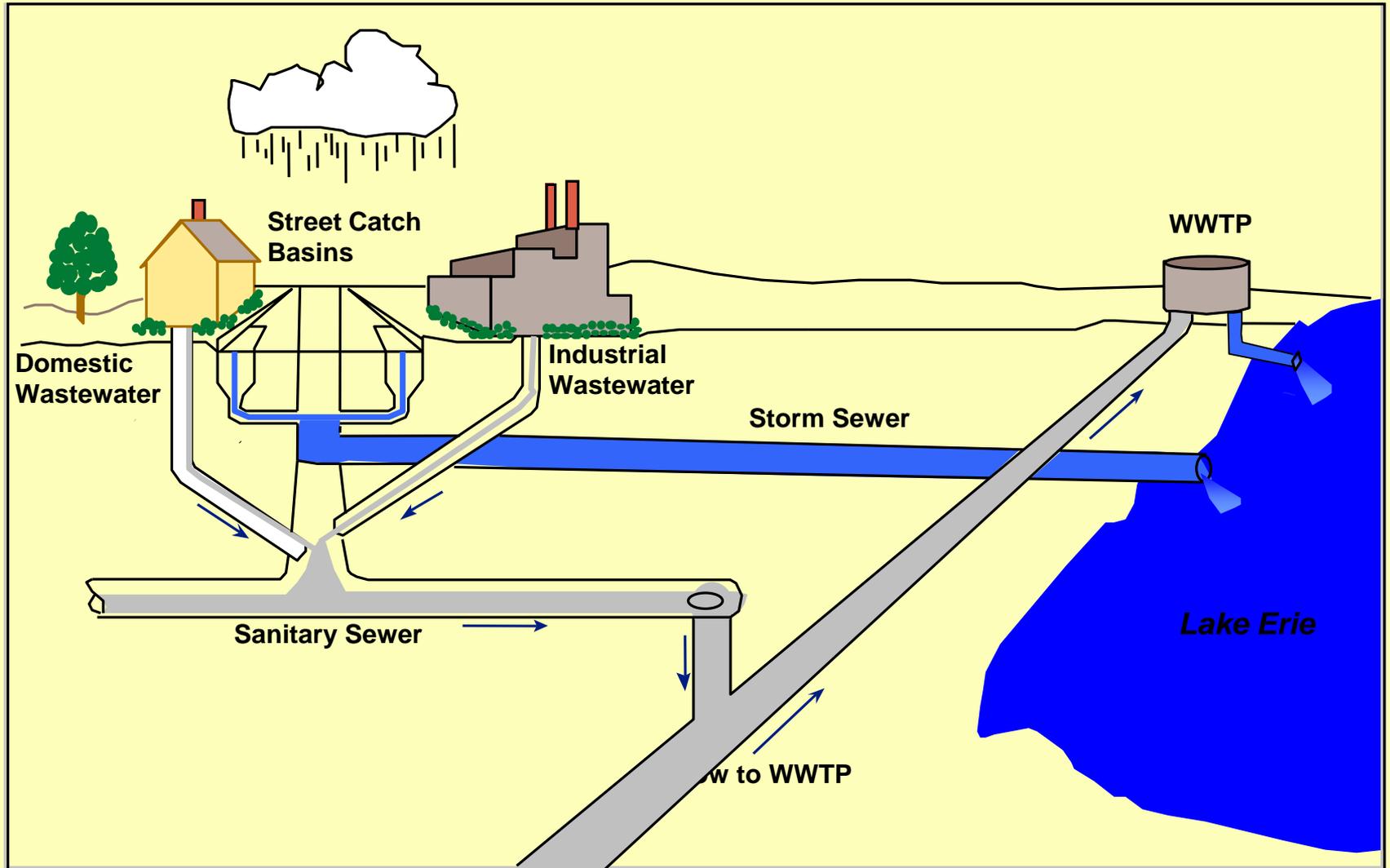
Cleveland Lakefront State Park • Cleveland Department of Public Health • United States Geological Survey

For more information, call (216) xxx-xxxx.



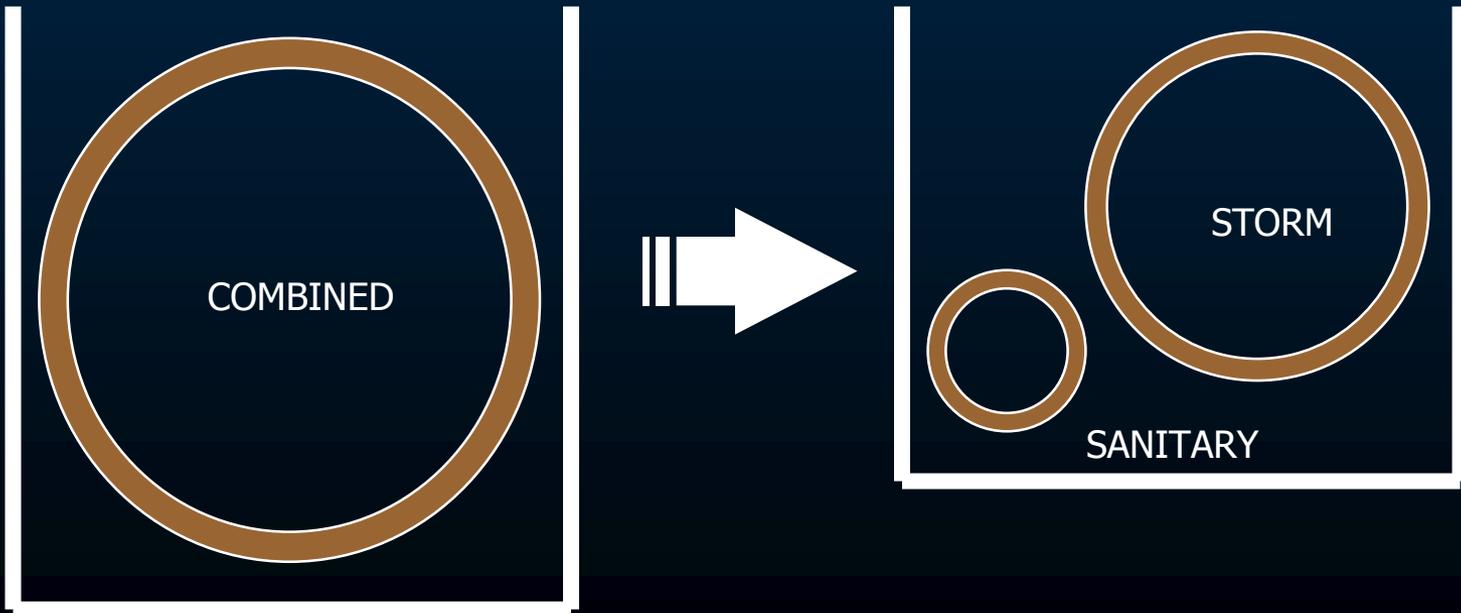


Separate Sewer System

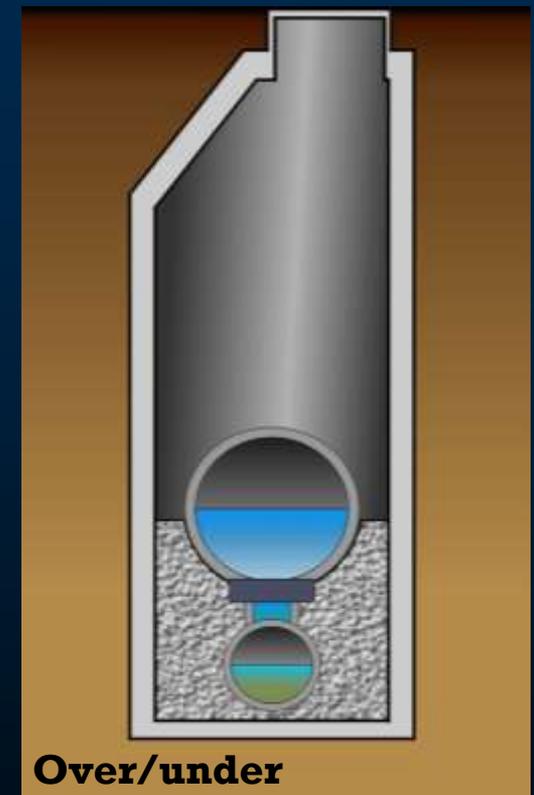
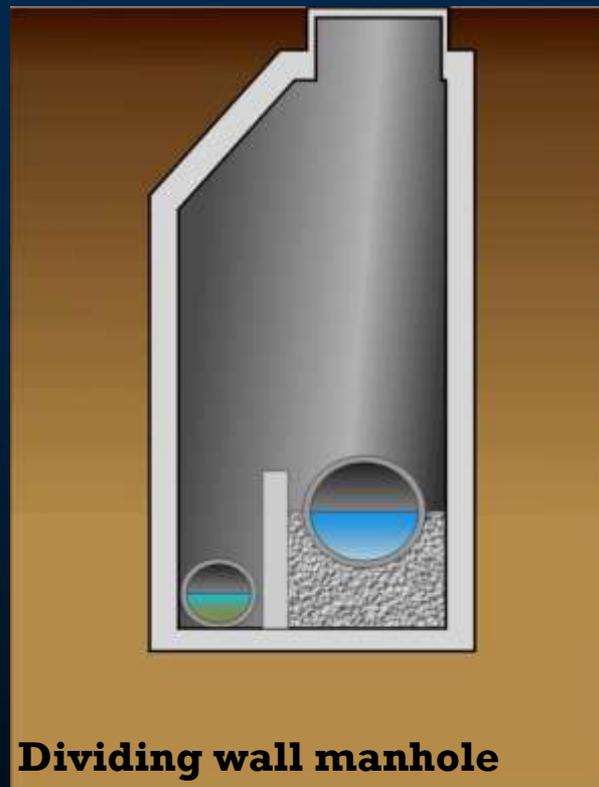
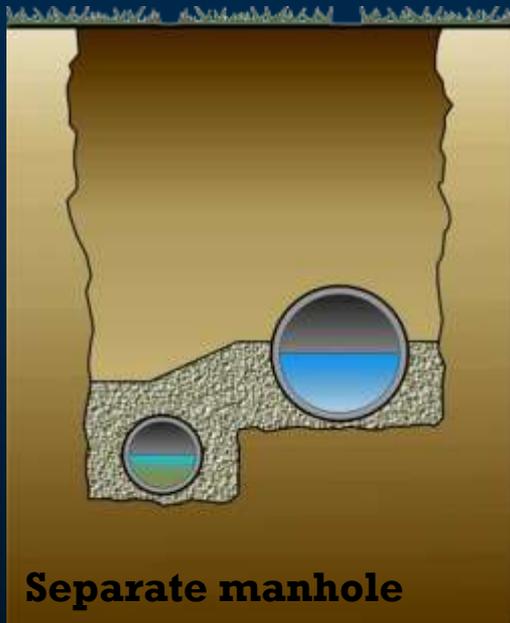


Combined vs. separate

- 1920s-1960s: evolution from combined sewers to separate sewers built in a common trench



Combined vs. separate



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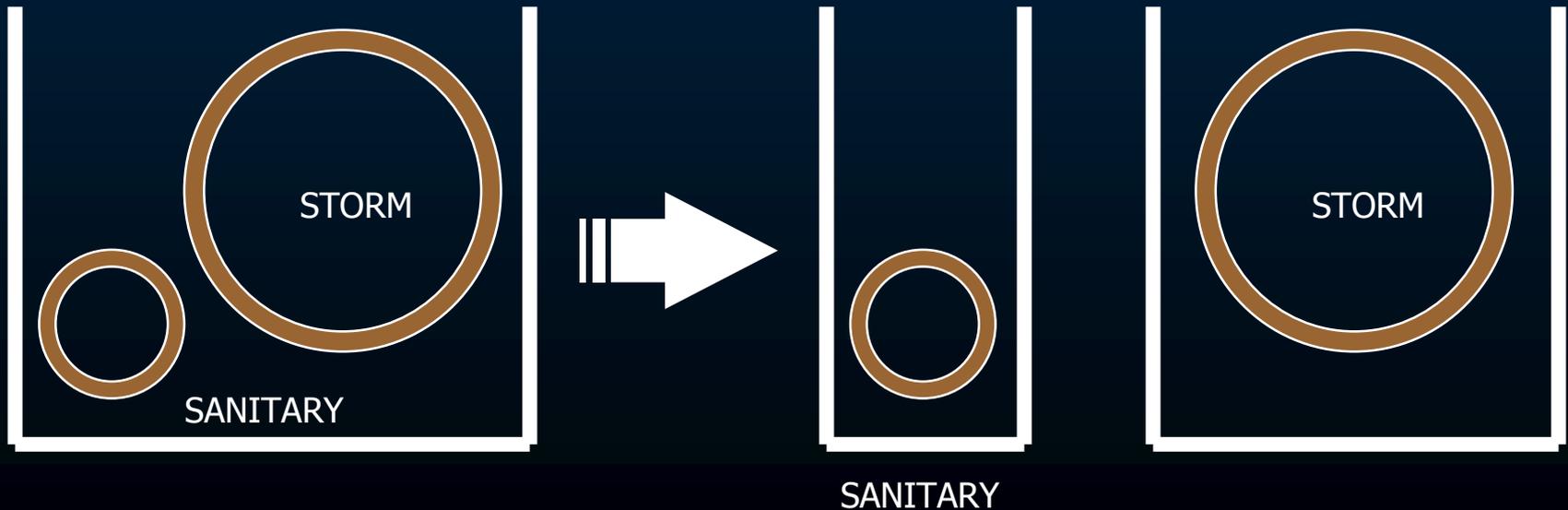
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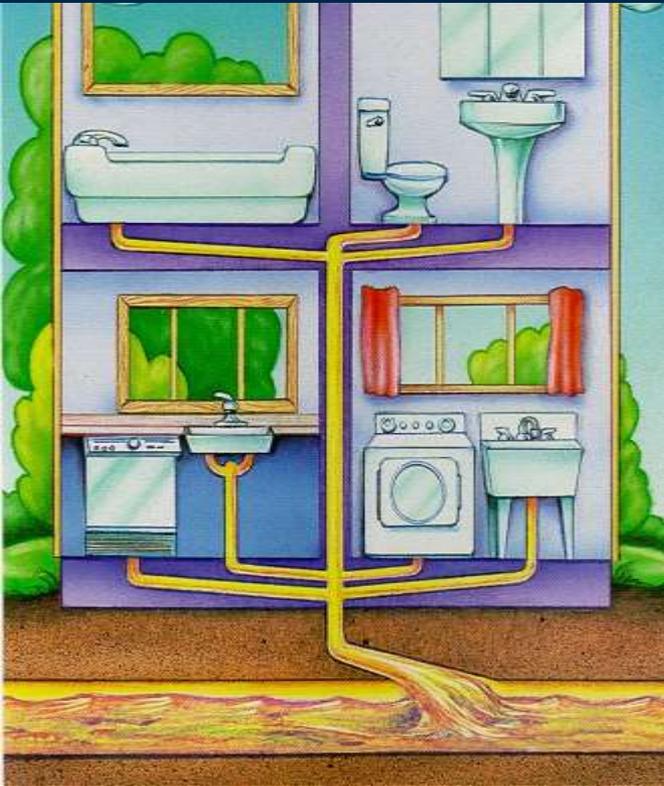
Combined vs. separate

- 1960s-today: evolution from common trench sewers to truly separate sewers in many areas



Separate sewer CHALLENGES

- Cross-connections (storm to sanitary or sanitary to storm)

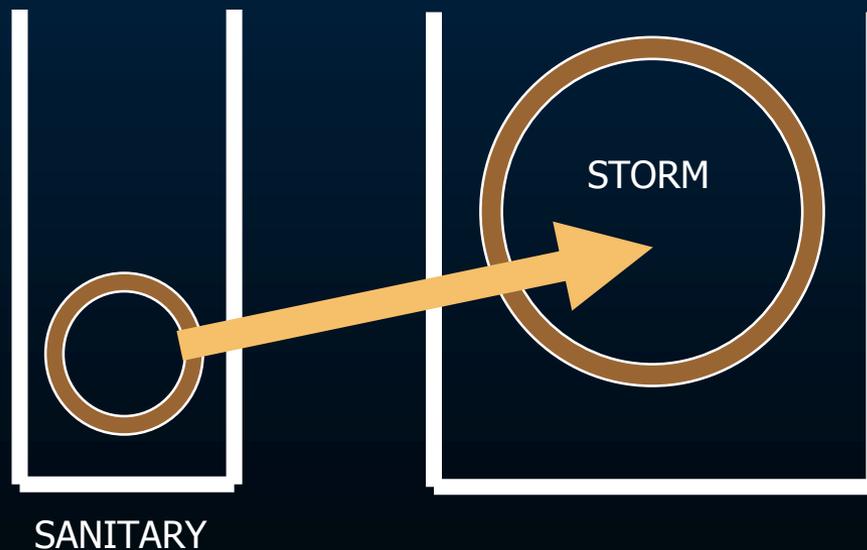


Illicit Connections



Separate sewer CHALLENGES

- Constructed sanitary sewer overflows to relieve full sanitary sewers during rain



Sanitary Sewer Overflows

- Structures
- Basement flooding
- Surcharged sewers
- Common trench sewers



Manhole Image



What is I & I

I & I stands for Inflow and Infiltration

Inflow

is the flow of stormwater into the sanitary sewer system through connections like roof drains, foundation drains, and basement sump pumps.

Infiltration

is groundwater seeping into sewer pipes, including private sewer laterals, through cracks and broken pipe joints.

Inflow



Uncapped Cleanout



House Lateral

Faulty Manhole Cover or Frame

Infiltration



STORM SEWER

Deteriorated Manhole

SANITARY SEWER MAIN

KEY

Inflow Source

Infiltration Source

maintained by village

maintained by homeowner

Trivia Question...

How many miles of local sewers are located in NE Ohio?



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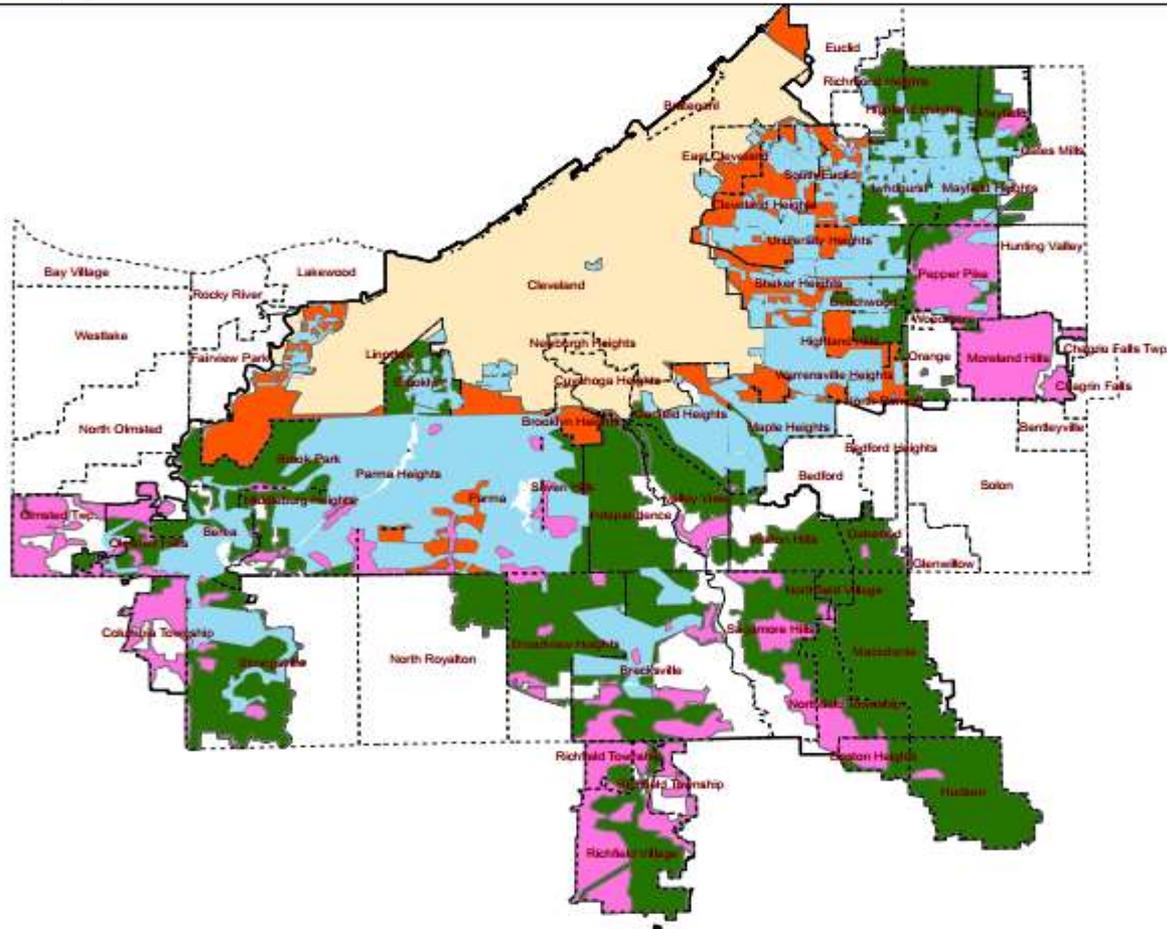
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Types of sewers

District service area



DISTRICT SERVICE AREA - SEWER TYPE COVERAGE AREA



Legend

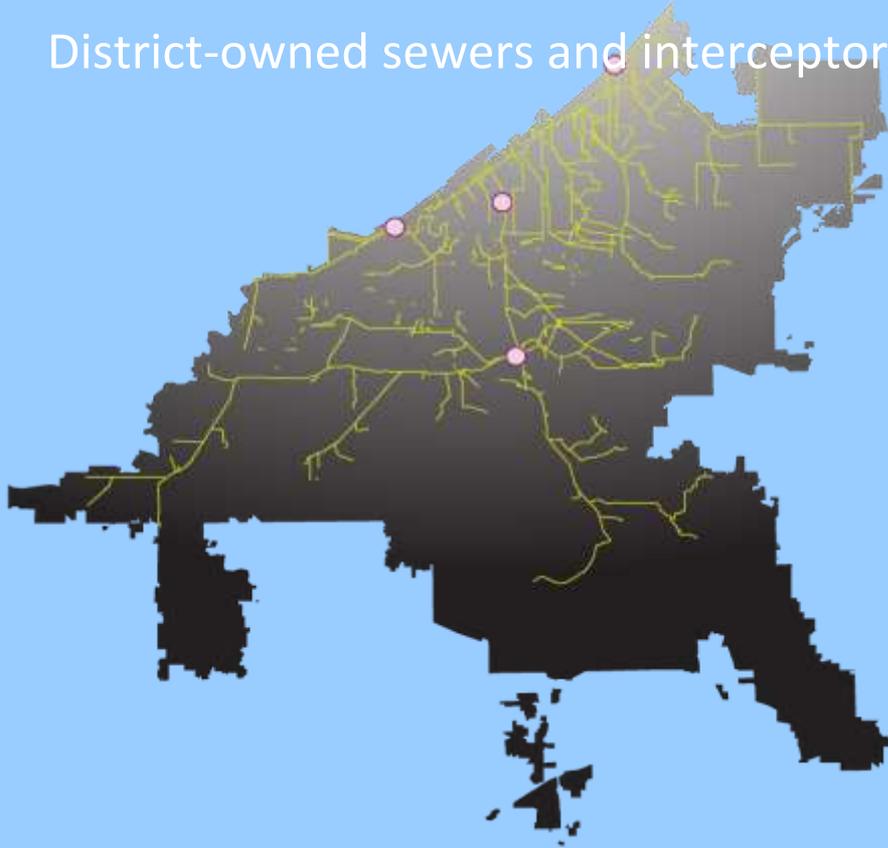
Service Area Type

- Combined
- Common Trench
- Separate Trench w/High Inflow
- Separate Trench w/Low Inflow
- Septic
- NEORSRD Service Area
- Community Boundary



312 miles

District-owned sewers and interceptors

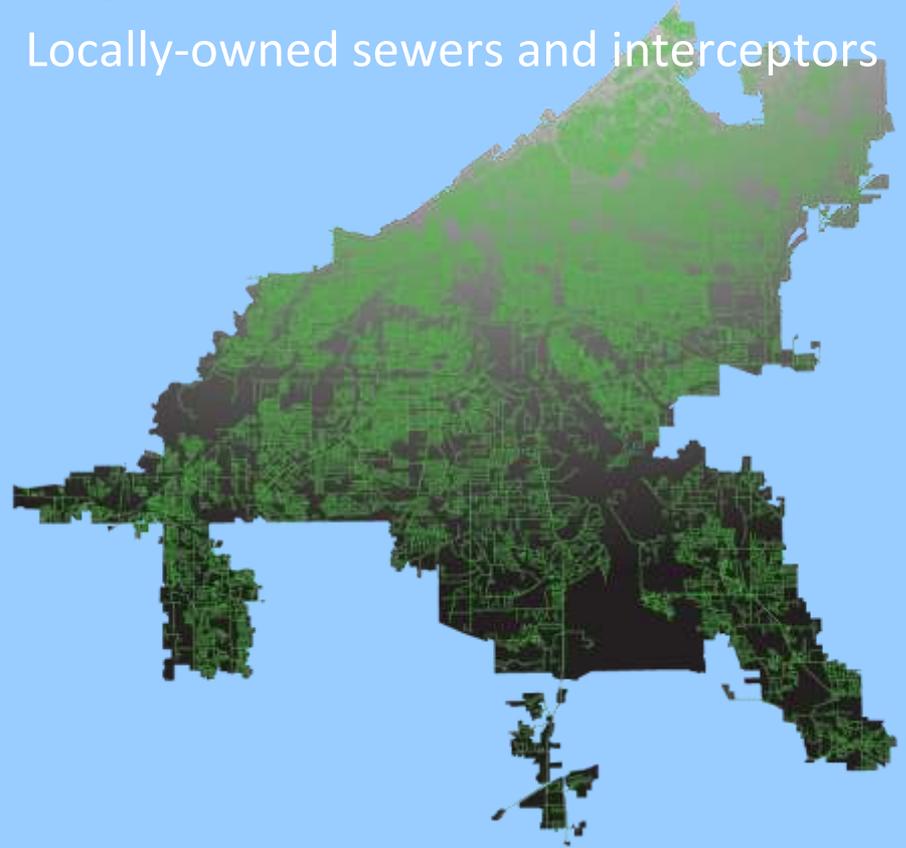


NEORSD Obligations:

- CSOs
- WWTPs

3,107 miles

Locally-owned sewers and interceptors



Local CWA Obligations:

- SSOs
- Illicit Discharges & Connections
- Stormwater Outfalls
- Septic Tanks

Your SewerU syllabus

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Real challenges

- Water quality
- Public health
- Aging sewer infrastructure
- More development, less green space
 - Increased runoff to streams and sewers



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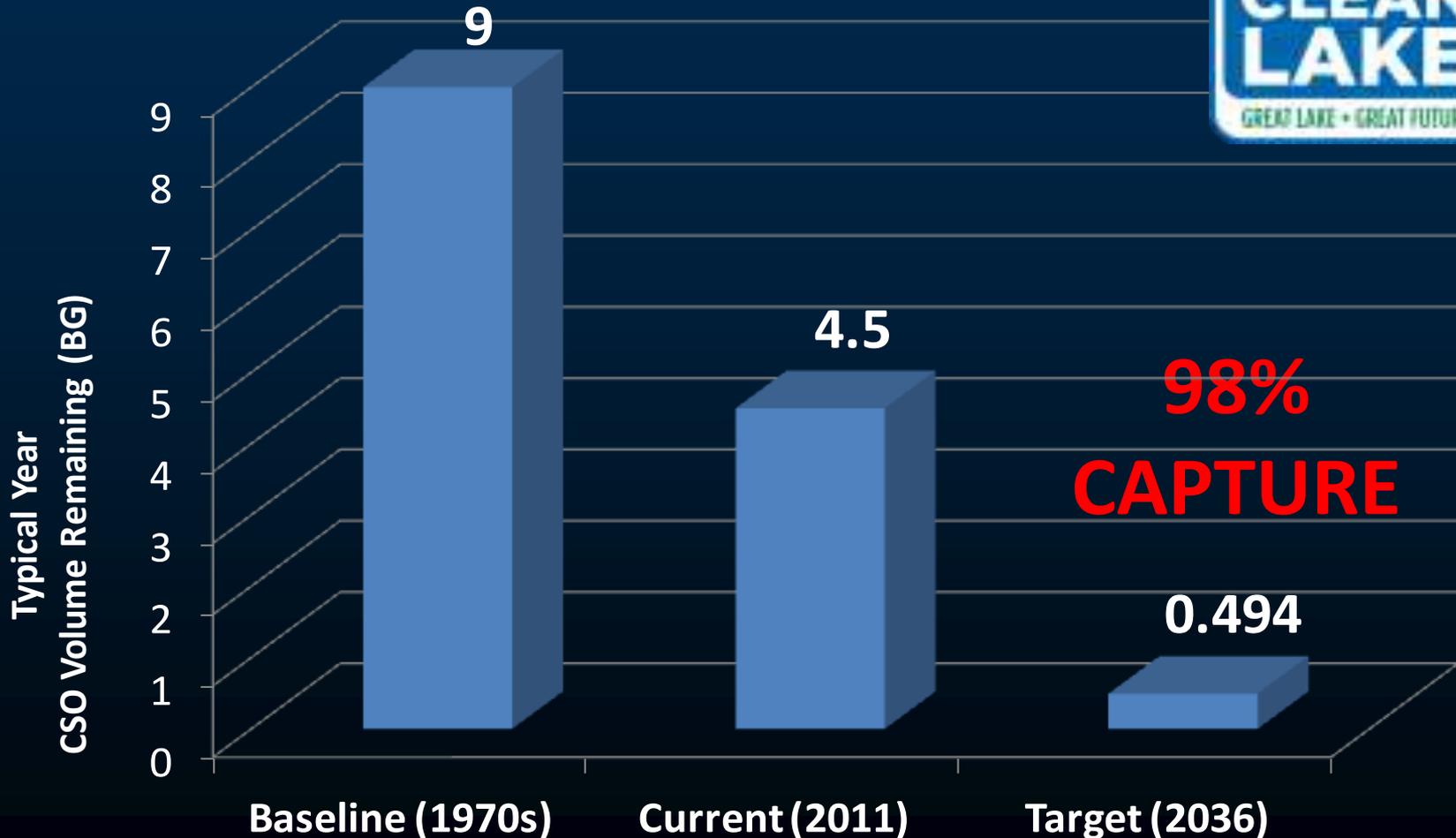
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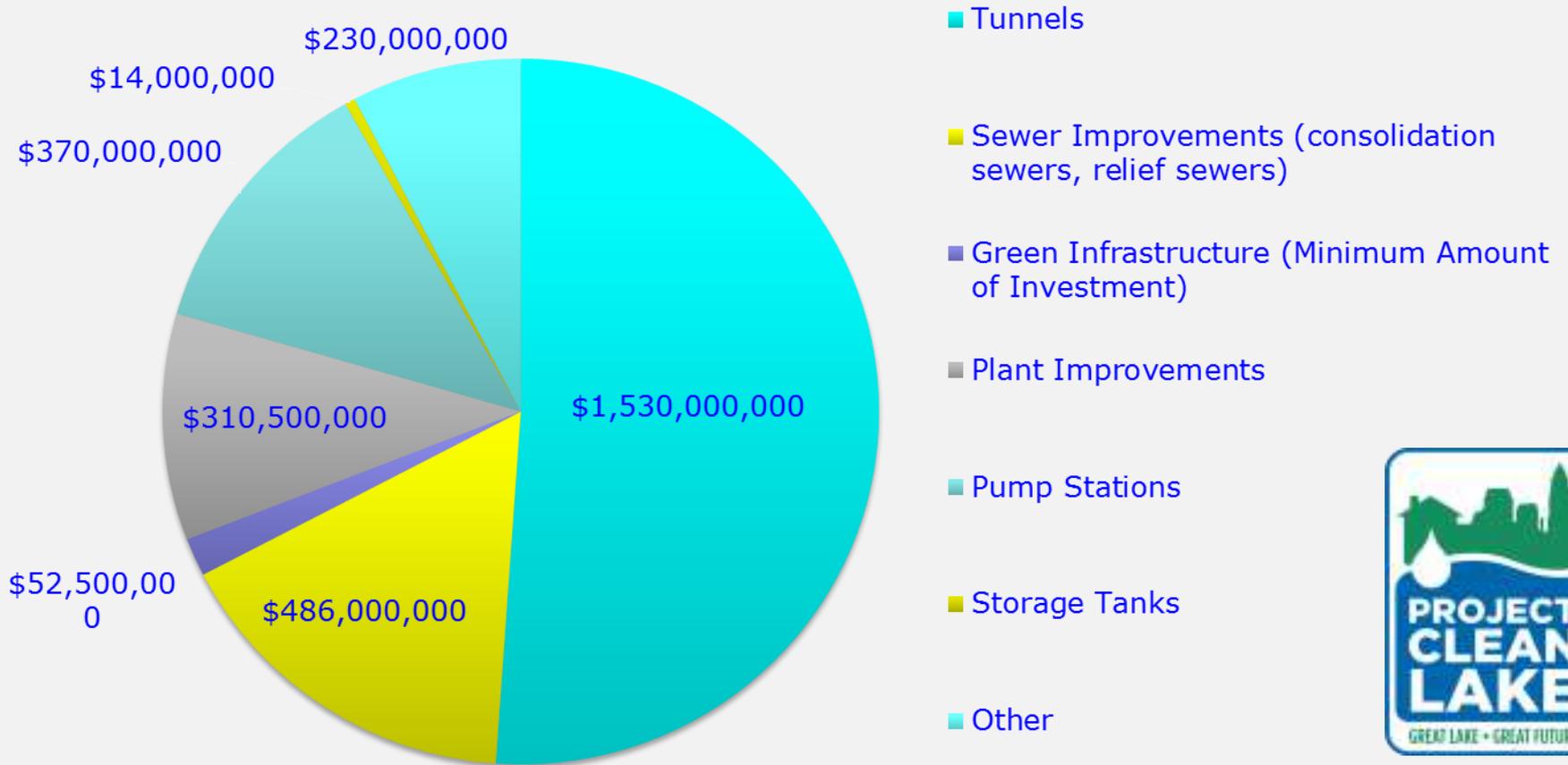
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Consent Decree to address combined sewer overflows



CSO Long-Term Control Plan Consent Decree

Estimated \$3B investment in CSO control measures over 25 years



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TUNNELS CONSTRUCTION



SHORELINE STORAGE TUNNEL

**21' DIAMETER
16,500' LONG**

**2019
ADVERTISE
FOR BID**

WESTERLY CSO STORAGE TUNNEL

**24' DIAMETER
11,500' LONG**

**2018
ADVERTISE
FOR BID**

EUCLID CREEK & DUGWAY STORAGE TUNNELS

**24' DIAMETER
33,000+ TOTAL FT.**

*Euclid Creek online 2016,
Dugway online 2019*

TUNNEL DEWATERING PUMP STATION

**200' DEEP
160 MGD**
Complete 2016

DOAN VALLEY STORAGE TUNNEL

**18' DIAMETER
10,000' LONG**

**2017
ADVERTISE
FOR BID**

BIG CREEK STORAGE TUNNEL

**18' DIAMETER
22,400' LONG**

**2029
ADVERTISE
FOR BID**

SOUTHERLY STORAGE TUNNEL

**23' DIAMETER
18,350' LONG**

**2024
ADVERTISE
FOR BID**

Euclid Creek Tunnel

\$195 million

(\$3 million under budget)





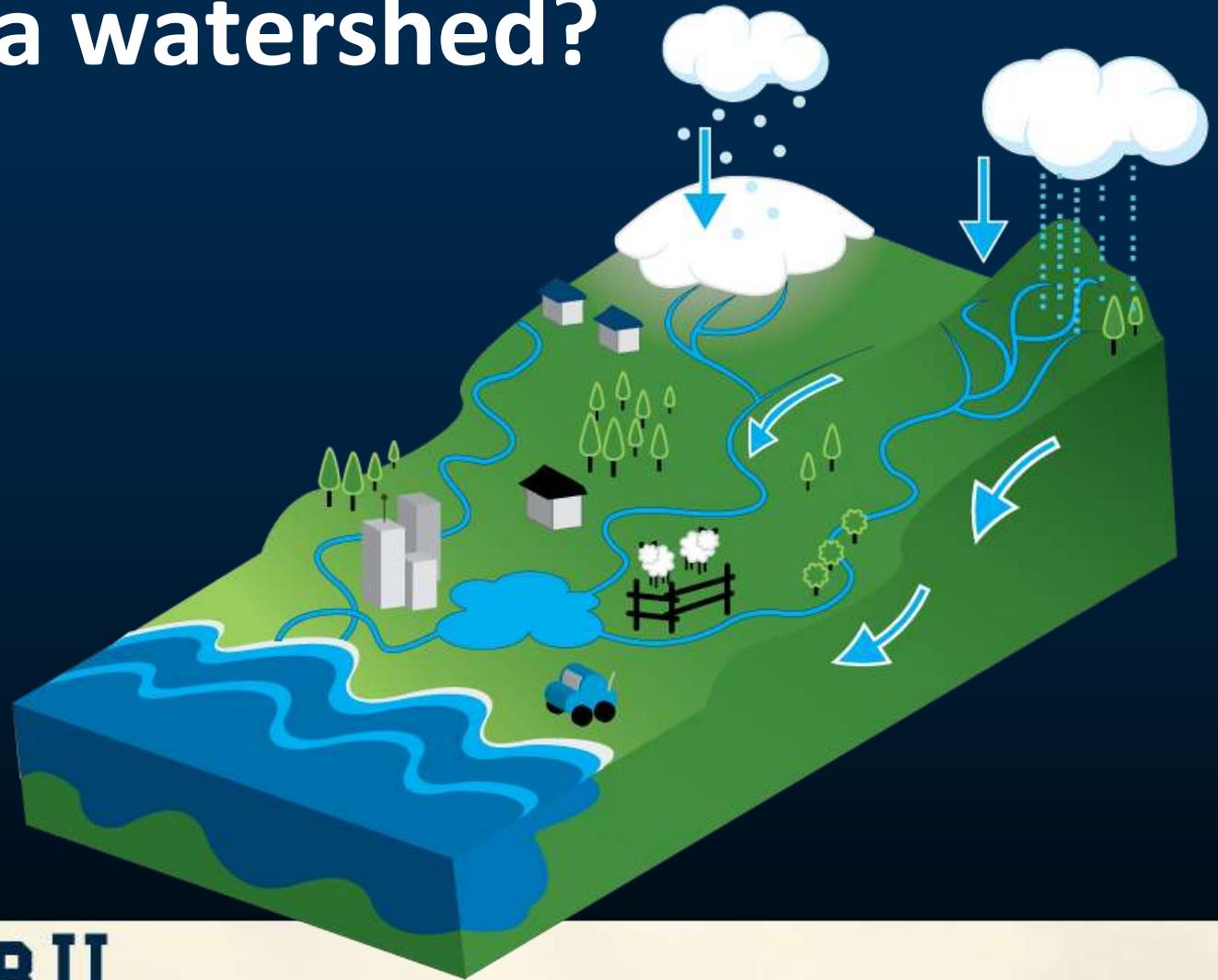
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What is a watershed?



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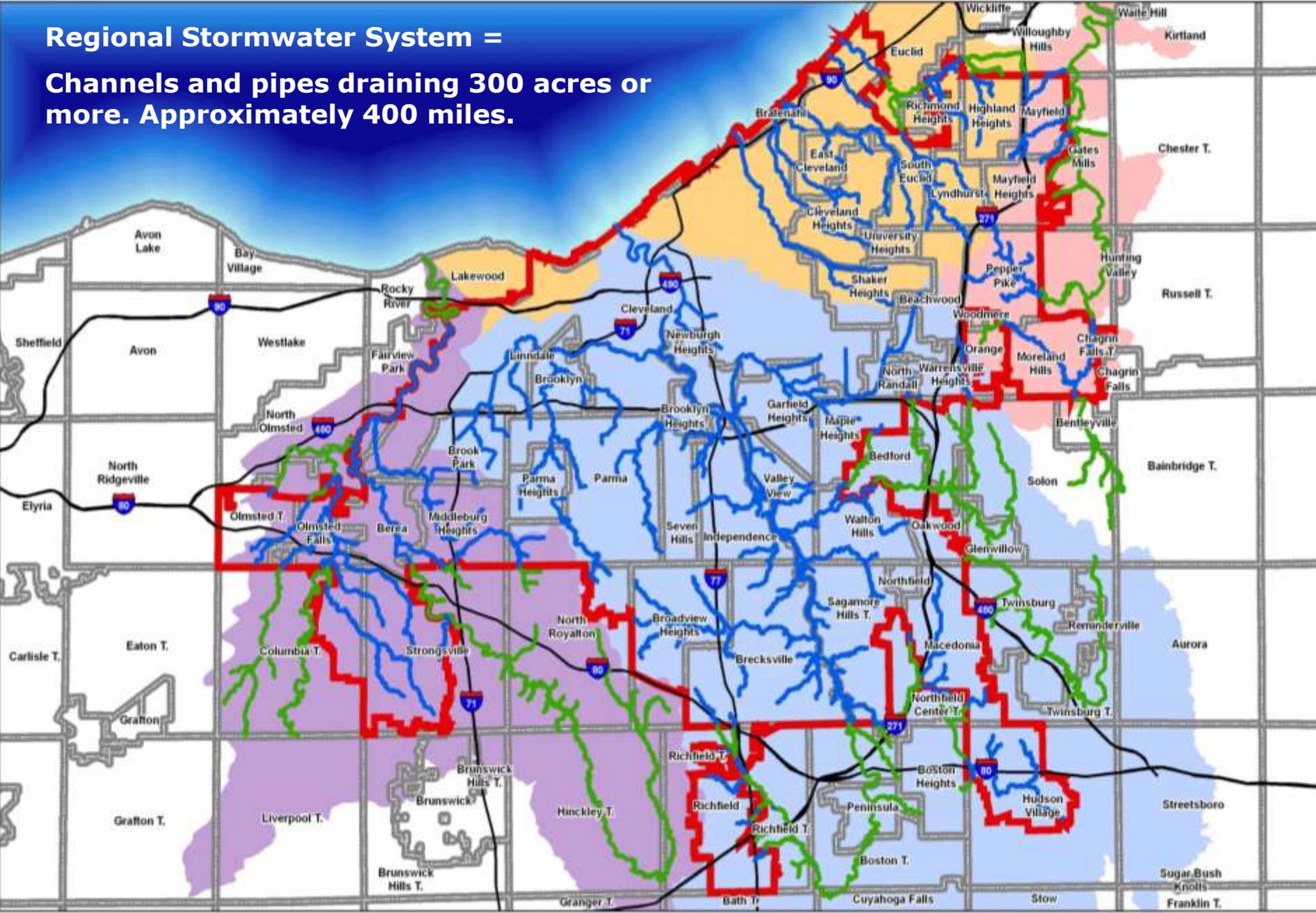


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Northeast Ohio *major* watersheds



**Regional Stormwater System =
Channels and pipes draining 300 acres or
more. Approximately 400 miles.**



Trivia Question...

How many culverted stream miles are located within the City of Cleveland?



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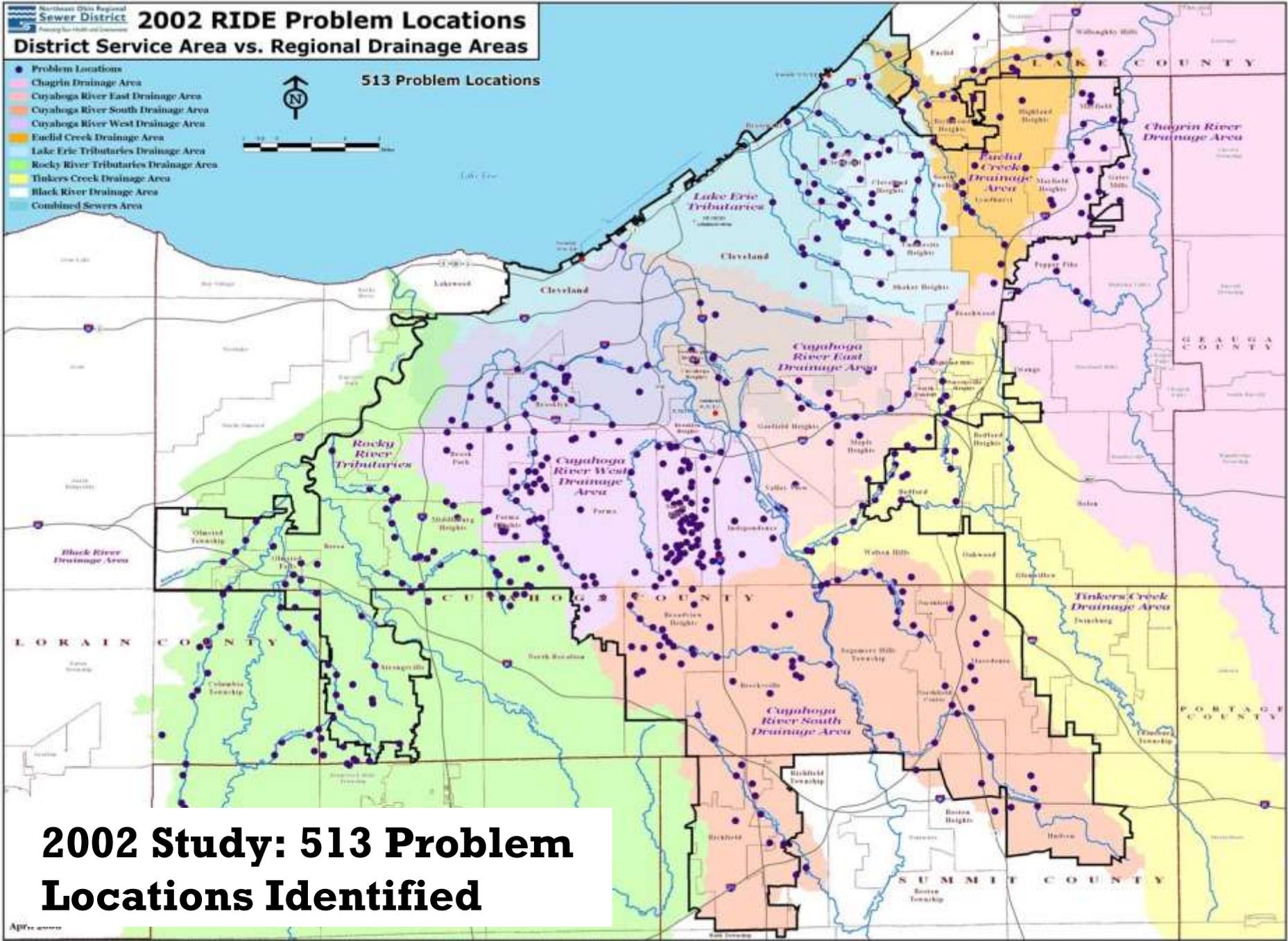
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2002 RIDE Problem Locations District Service Area vs. Regional Drainage Areas

- Problem Locations
- Chagrin Drainage Area
- Cuyahoga River East Drainage Area
- Cuyahoga River South Drainage Area
- Cuyahoga River West Drainage Area
- Euclid Creek Drainage Area
- Lake Erie Tributaries Drainage Area
- Rocky River Tributaries Drainage Area
- Tinkers Creek Drainage Area
- Black River Drainage Area
- Combined Sewers Area



513 Problem Locations



2002 Study: 513 Problem Locations Identified

Stormwater run-off

- Erosion
- Water Quality
- Flooding



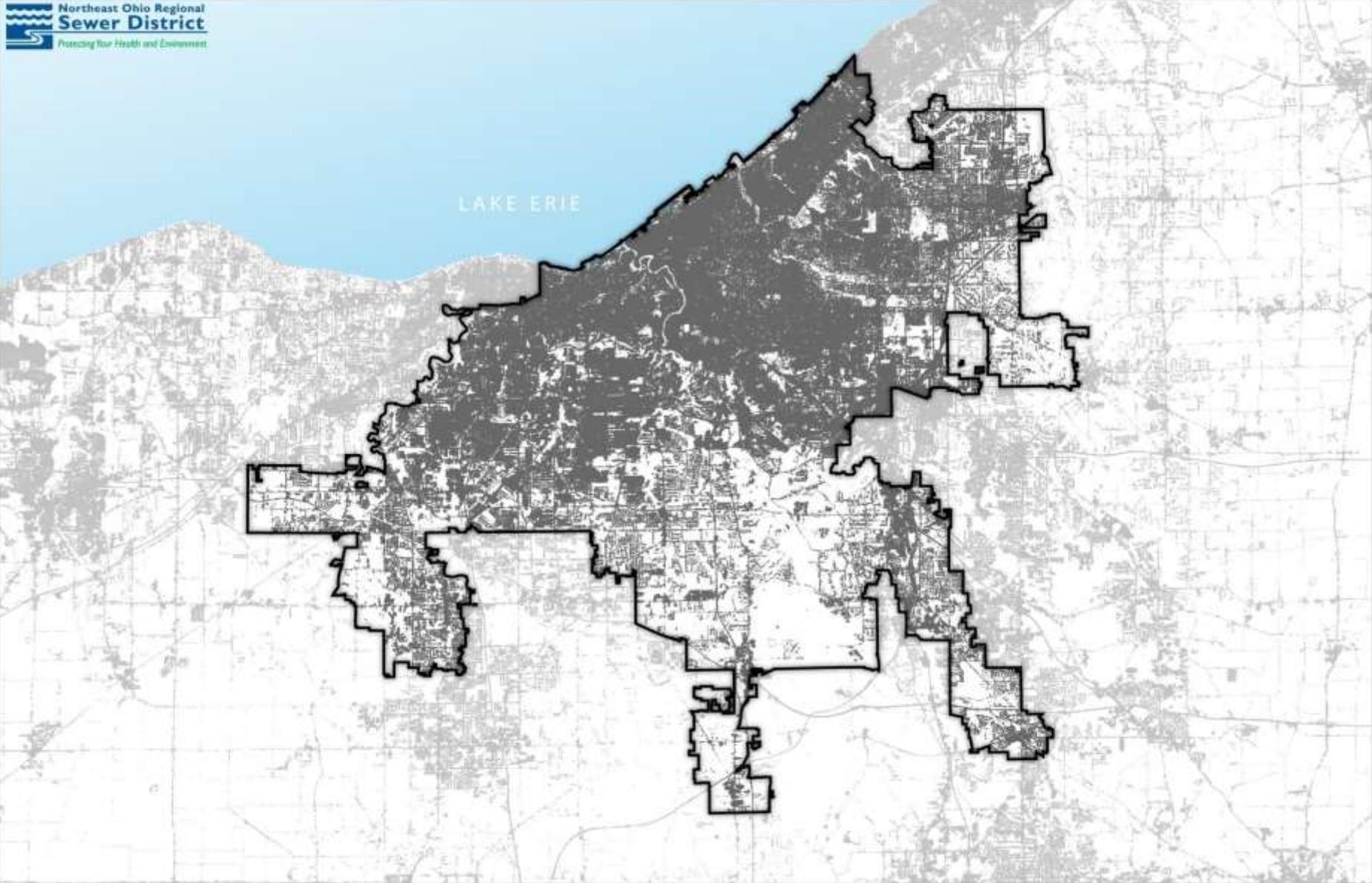
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Impervious Surfaces



Trivia Question...

How many street catch basins are located within the City of Cleveland?

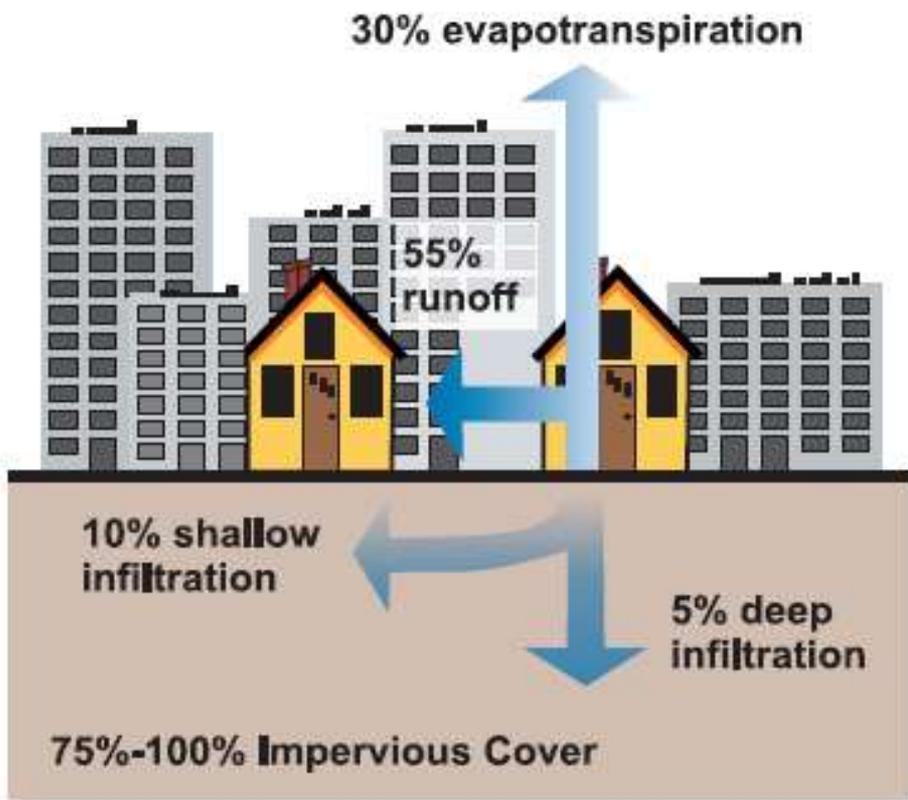
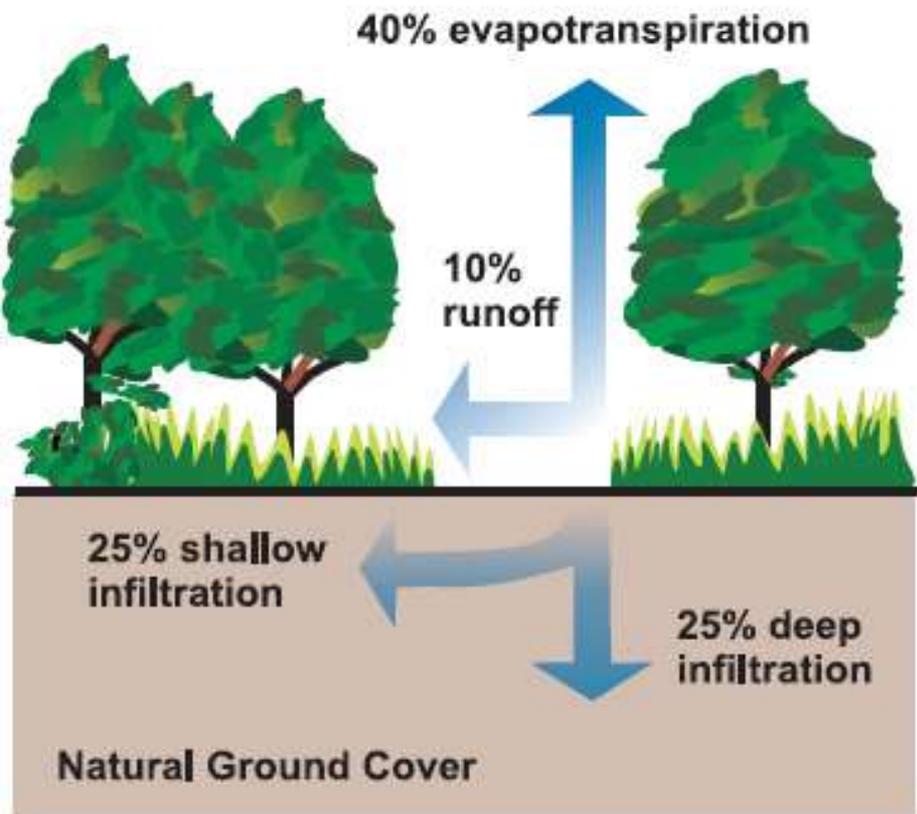


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Trivia Question...

What is the most common tree species in the United States?



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Middleburg Heights/Brook Park, Ohio
along Abrams Creek



**Streambank erosion on Mill Creek
threatens Warner Road
in Garfield Heights, Ohio**



Debris along Dugway Brook,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio



What Will We Do?



Master
Plans



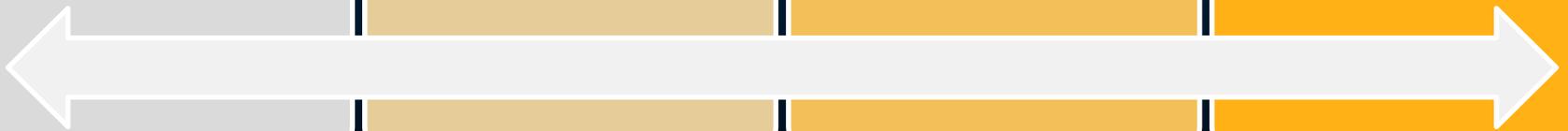
Inspect &
Maintain



Construct
Projects



Encourage
Good
Practices



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Green is a common theme

- What is green infrastructure?
- Where did it start?
- Why was it considered as a solution to...
 - Water quality challenges?
 - Public health concerns?
 - Increased runoff, stream problems?



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What is green infrastructure?

- Green infrastructure is a cost-effective, resilient approach to managing wet weather impacts that provides many community benefits.
– *US EPA*



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NEORSD Project Clean Lake

Green Infrastructure for CSO Control

Stormwater control measures that use:

- plant/soil systems
- permeable pavement, or
- stormwater harvest and reuse to

store, infiltrate, or evapotranspire stormwater and reduce flows to the combine sewer system.



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LID / Green Infrastructure Stormwater Source Control



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Highland Park Golf Course Mill Creek Stream Restoration

Video...



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Low Impact Development: Precursor to Green Infrastructure

- Infiltrating, filtering, storing, evaporating
- Hydrologic regime of watersheds
- Five Low Impact Development Principles:
 - Conserve natural areas
 - Minimize development impact on hydrology
 - Maintain runoff rate & duration
 - Decentralize controls
 - Implement pollution prevention



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☰ Puget Sound, Washington 🔍 ✕



Puget Sound
Washington
7 reviews
Inlet

📍 Directions

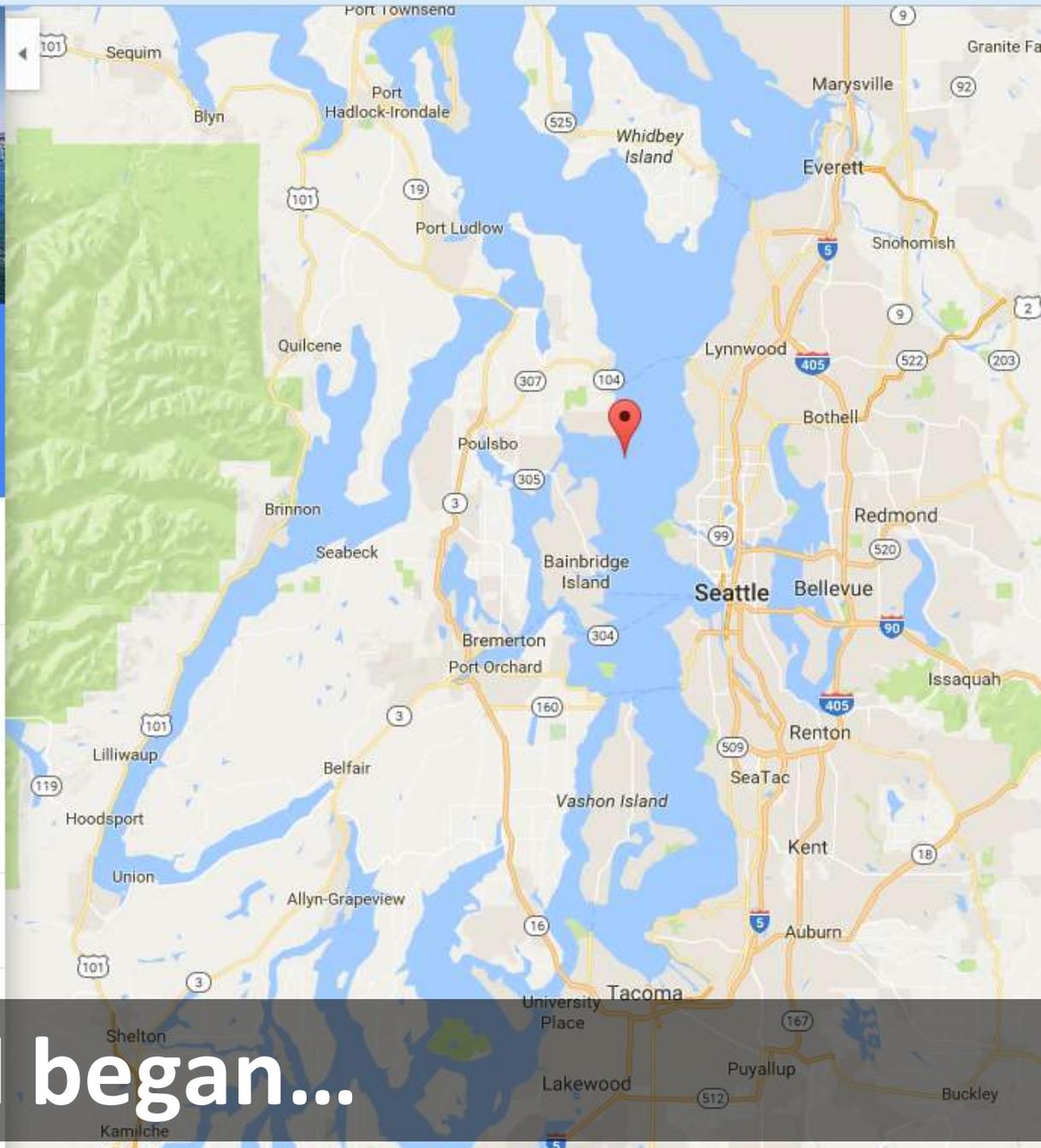
★ SAVE 📍 NEARBY 📱 SEND TO YOUR PHONE ➦ SHARE



📷 Add a photo

WRITE A REVIEW

Quick facts
Puget Sound is a large body of water on the western coast of the U.S. state of Washington, an inlet of the Pacific Ocean, and part of the Salish Sea. [Wikipedia](#)



Where it all began...

Low Impact Development Origins

- LID concept began in Prince George's County Maryland, 1990
- Rain gardens/bioretention emerge as best management practice in Prince George's County
- 1993 – 1st design criteria developed
- 1997 – pollutant removal studied for design optimization



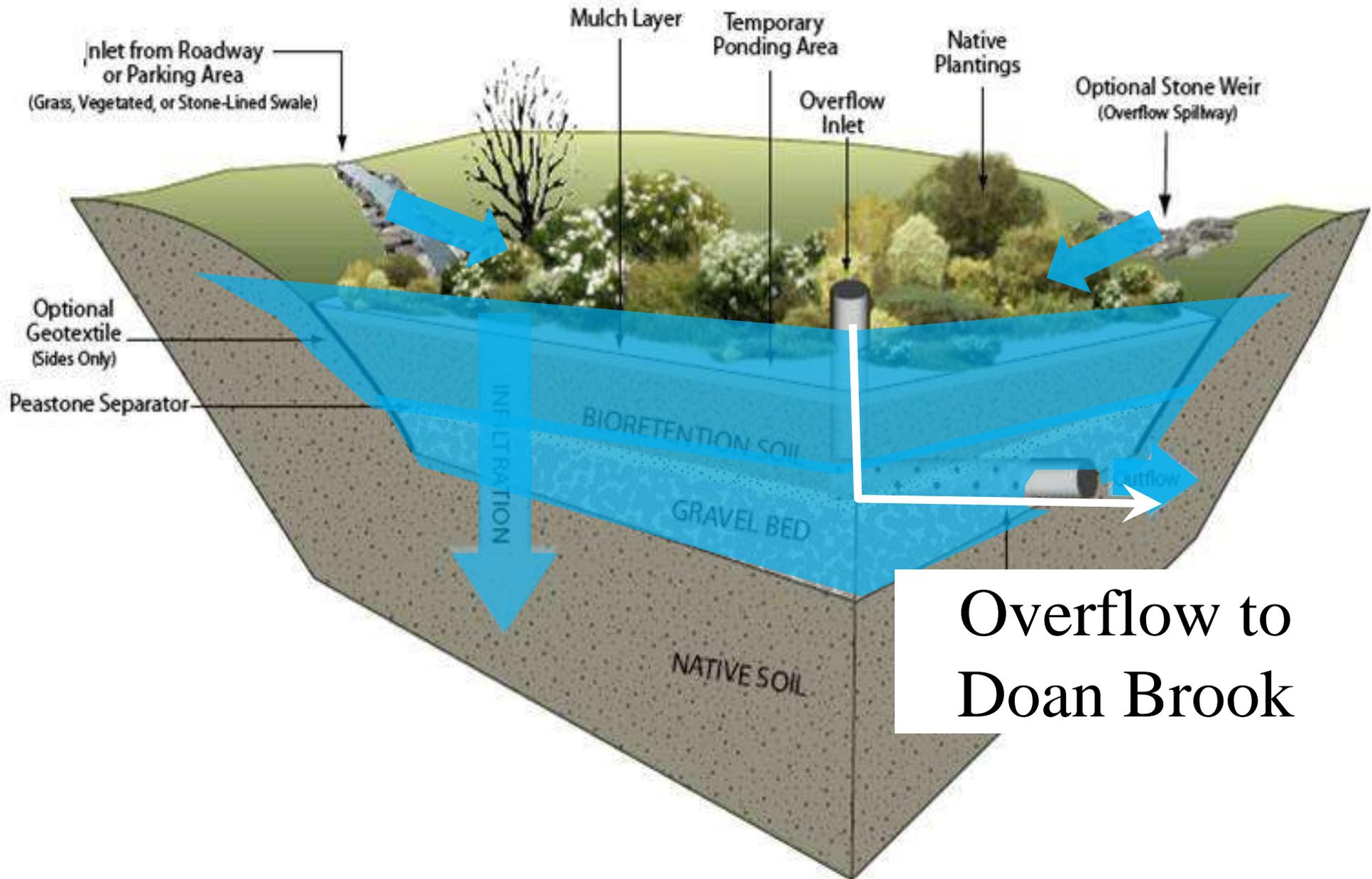
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Green Infrastructure Concept



Evolution Towards Green Infrastructure

- Stormwater management, climate adaptation & multi-functional greenspace
- Green infrastructure practices *reduce stress on drainage infrastructure*, i.e. storm sewers & combined sewers
- Shared stormwater control measures with low impact development



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How was GI the right solution?

- Flood control and water quality
 - Reduces runoff
 - Improves runoff quality
- Low-impact development
- Complement gray infrastructure



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- First agency to formally integrate GI in a consent decree

- Grants, expertise to empower property owners to embrace GI solutions



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- GI grants reduce runoff entering combined system

- Regional approach encourages collaboration between partners



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Green Infrastructure Policy



Defining Green Infrastructure: GI Policy expands beyond “GI for CSO” to “GI for source control”



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#ProjectCleanLake



Green Infrastructure Policy





Green Infrastructure Policy



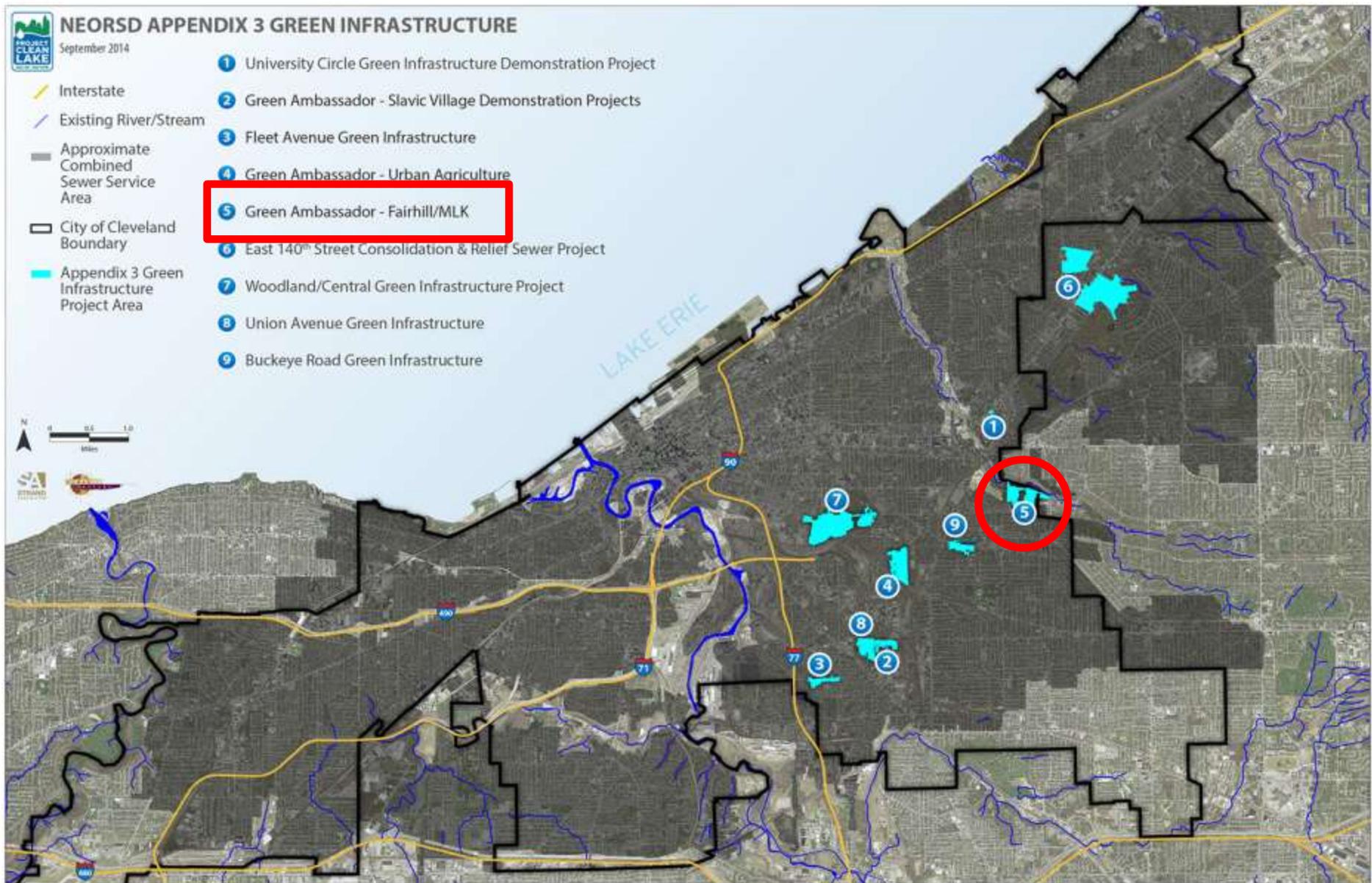


NEORSD APPENDIX 3 GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

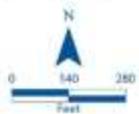
September 2014

- Interstate
- Existing River/Stream
- Approximate Combined Sewer Service Area
- City of Cleveland Boundary
- Appendix 3 Green Infrastructure Project Area

- 1 University Circle Green Infrastructure Demonstration Project
- 2 Green Ambassador - Slavic Village Demonstration Projects
- 3 Fleet Avenue Green Infrastructure
- 4 Green Ambassador - Urban Agriculture
- 5 Green Ambassador - Fairhill/MLK
- 6 East 140th Street Consolidation & Relief Sewer Project
- 7 Woodland/Central Green Infrastructure Project
- 8 Union Avenue Green Infrastructure
- 9 Buckeye Road Green Infrastructure



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- Legend**
- Combined Sewer
 - Sanitary Sewer
 - Storm Sewer
 - SWO Sewer
 - Appendix 3 Storm Sewer
 - Tributary Drainage Area

NORTHEAST OHIO REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT
GREEN AMBASSADOR
FAIRHILL/MLK DRAINAGE AREA

HUMAN NATURE

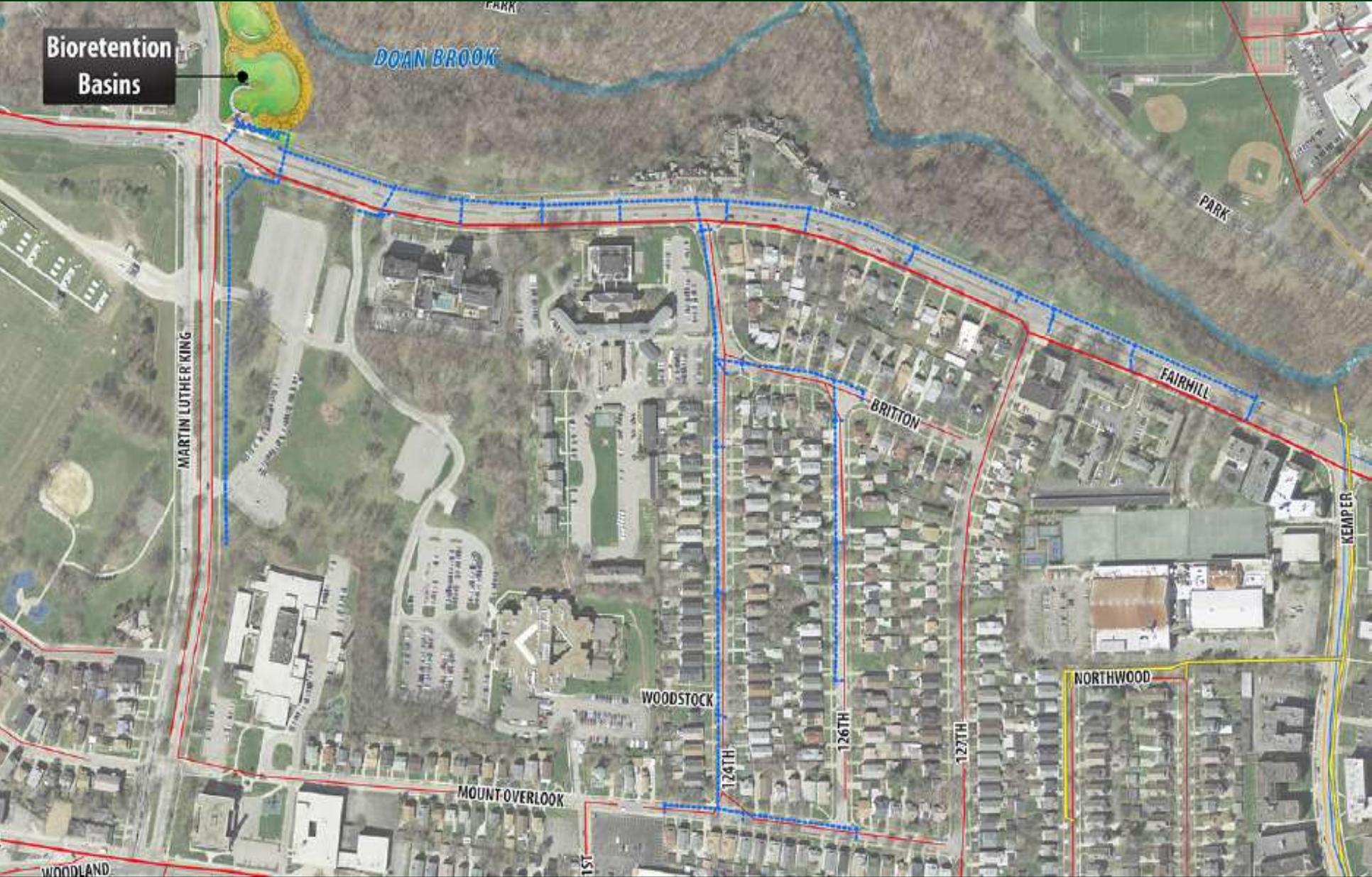


GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE DESIGN • SEPTEMBER 2014 • FINAL

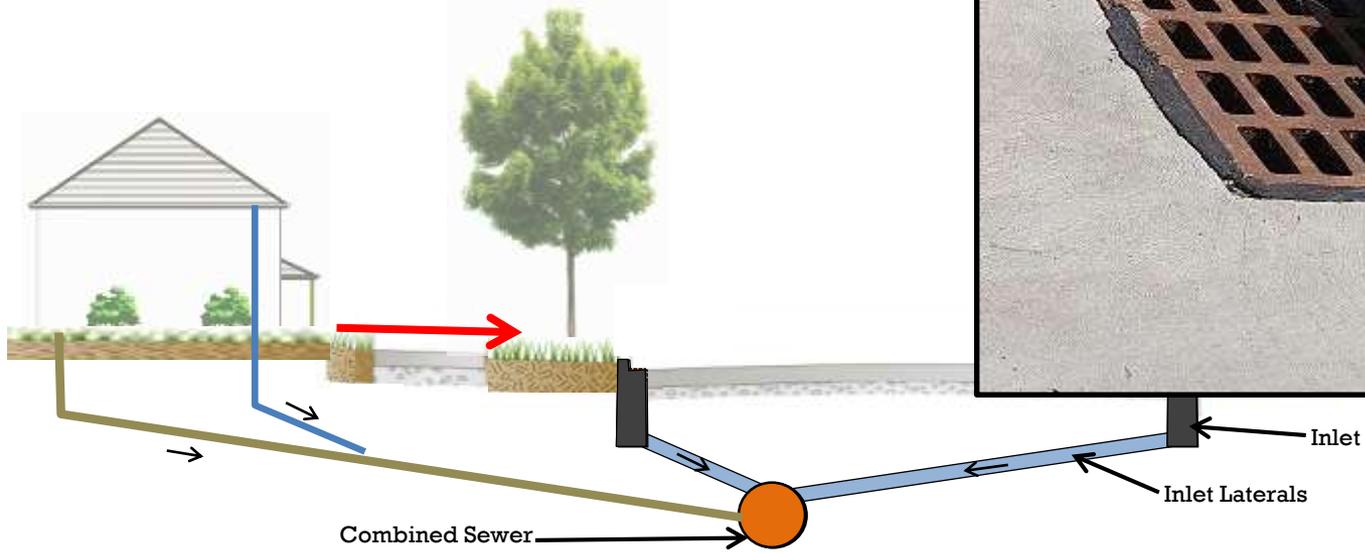


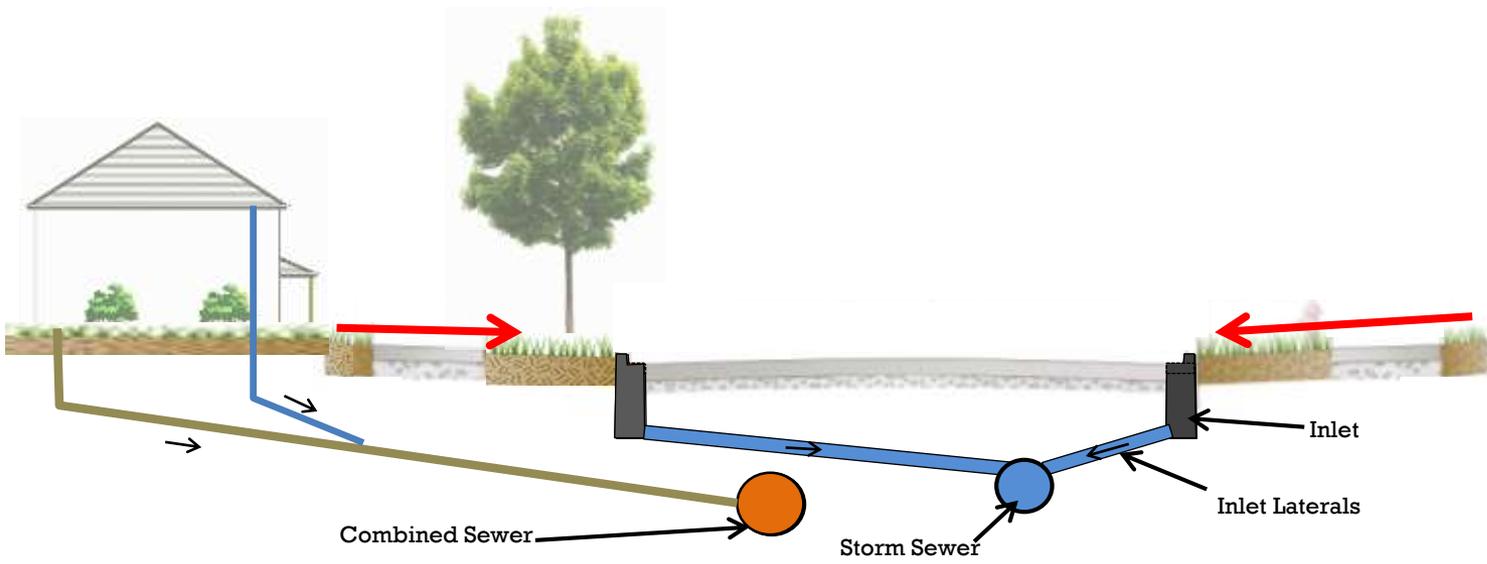
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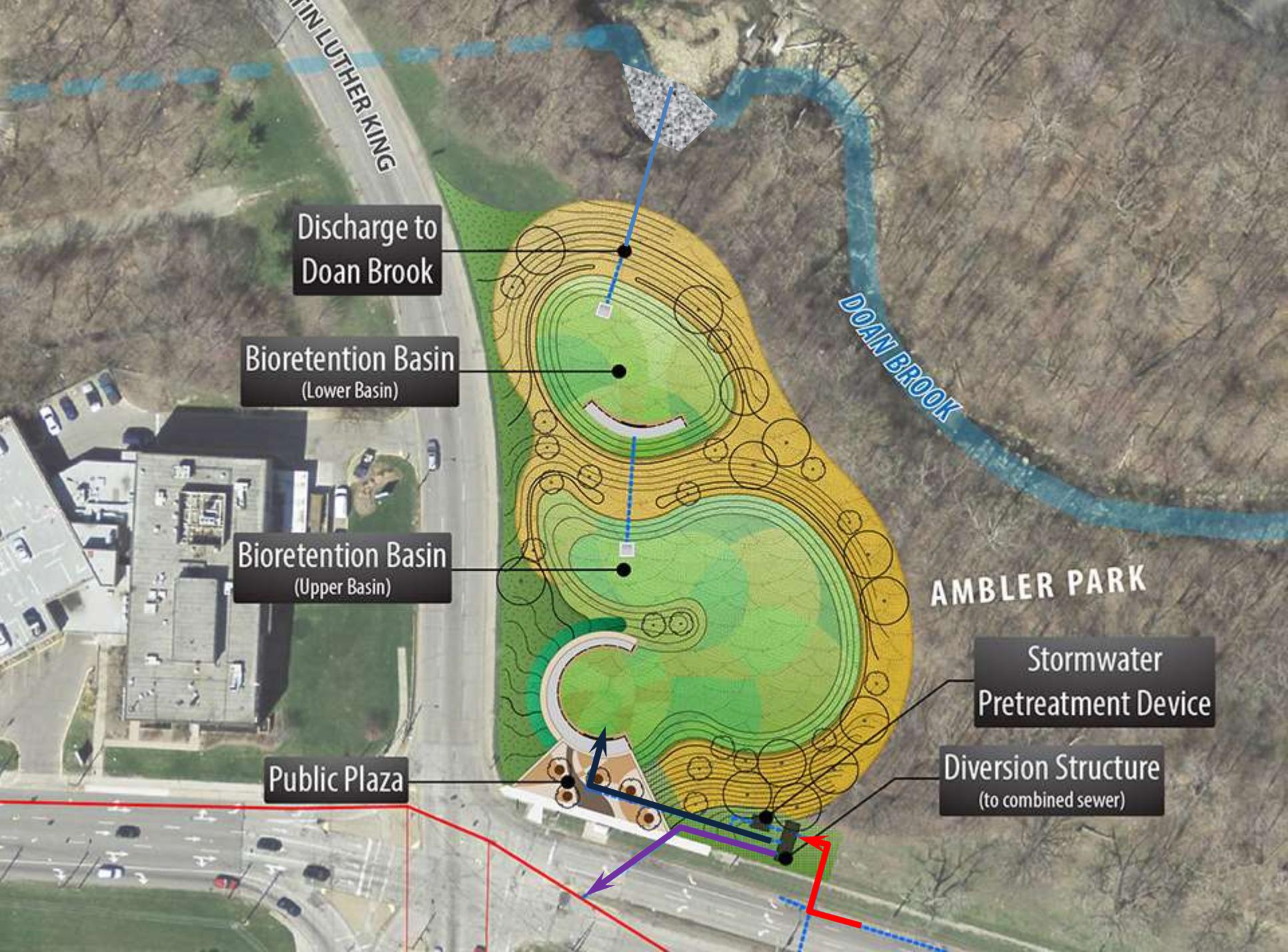
Bioretention Basins



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Discharge to
Doan Brook

Bioretention Basin
(Lower Basin)

Bioretention Basin
(Upper Basin)

Public Plaza

Stormwater
Pretreatment Device

Diversion Structure
(to combined sewer)

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING

DOAN BROOK

AMBLER PARK

A closer look: Fairhill/MLK

- 2-acre bioretention at an existing park
 - Manages 14+ million gallons/year
 - 2.4 million gallons out of combined sewers
- Restoration of eroding Doan Brook bank
- Expanded riparian corridor
- Partnership with RTA



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A closer look: Slavic Village

- Three bioretention areas
- 3-acre drainage area
- 39,000 square feet of new natural space
- Designed to manage 200,000 gallons
- Detailed USGS monitoring data



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Green Infrastructure Policy



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Implementing GI Policy through GI Grant Program: Western Reserve Historical Society Green infrastructure features



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Green Infrastructure Policy



Implementing GI policy through proposed Community Infrastructure Program: Address local water quality issues

- Sanitary sewer overflows
- Basement flooding
- Surcharged sewers
- Common trench sewers
- Illicit discharges



Proposed Community Infrastructure Program: Promoting Green Infrastructure to address local sewer issues



Rain Garden



Cistern



Bioretention



Pervious Pavement



Green Infrastructure =
Disconnection and distribution
to on-site stormwater practice

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Official blog of the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District

For the latest news about water, health, and our region,
subscribe to our monthly e-newsletter today.



Wednesday, January 18, 2017

NEWS: \$7.2 million to improve water quality by supporting local infrastructure investments

New program to fund community sewer projects that impact public health, environment



Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District Trustees recently awarded \$7.2 million to 12 communities as part of the agency's newly-launched Member Community Infrastructure Program (MCIP).

The MCIP assists communities with local infrastructure improvements – including new sewer infrastructure, repairs to

Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District



About our blog

The [Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District's](#) official blog home for news, updates, features and conversation that keep our Great Lake great. | [@neorsd social media comment policy](#)



Green Infrastructure Policy



Implementing GI Policy through Restoration and Protection: Water Resources Restoration Sponsorship Program for land conservation

\$50+ million

facilitated since 2005





Green Infrastructure Policy



Implementing GI Policy through Title IV: Opportunity Corridor On-site Stormwater Management Strategy



Green Infrastructure Opportunity Corridor

- Legend**
- NEORS D Green Infrastructure
 - Opportunity Corridor Alignment**
 - Proposed Right of Way
 - Center Line - Opportunity Corridor Alignment Detailed**
 - Proposed Centerline
 - Proposed Curb
 - Preliminary Right-of-Way
 - Bridge Outline

- NEORS D Appendix 3
Green Infrastructure Locations**
- 2 Green Ambassador Slavic Village Demonstration
 - 3 Fleet Avenue Green Infrastructure
 - 4 Green Ambassador Urban Agriculture
 - 5 Green Ambassador Fairhill/MLK
 - 7 Woodland Central Green Infrastructure
 - 8 Union Avenue Green Infrastructure
 - 9 Buckeye Road Green Infrastructure



* Base Map was provided by Marie Kittredge of The Opportunity Corridor

Project: NEORS D GI Projects
Sources: Parcels, Cuyahoga Co, 2011; Orthos, Cuyahoga Co, 2013; CMAA data, Cuyahoga Co, 2011

Opportunity Corridor On-site Stormwater

Management Strategy: Facilitates GI as redevelopment occurs

- Coordinate with redevelopment in the Opportunity Corridor area
- Evaluate sewer system to ensure can handle inflow from redevelopment
- Facilitate compliance with Title IV
- Promote removal of stormwater from the combined sewer system through GI





Green Infrastructure Policy



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Implementing GI policy through Regional Stormwater Management Program



Stormwater
Master
Plans



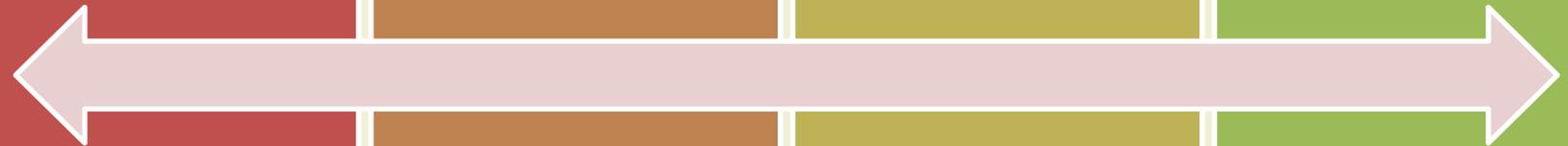
Inspect &
Maintain



Construct
Projects



Encourage
Good
Practices



Big Creek Spillway Restoration

Video...





Green Infrastructure Policy



Your SewerU syllabus

- Our place in the urban water cycle
- Sewers 101: History and challenges
- Solutions: Gray and green
 - Project Clean Lake
 - Regional Stormwater Management Program
- Green: Policy, past, present and future



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The history of sewers and the future
of clean water in Greater Cleveland



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