Geauga County Health Environmental Health Health Services

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District

"Helping to maintain a healthy community"

Robert K. Weisdack, R.S., M.A., M.P.H. **Health Commissioner** 

March 5, 2015

Russell Township Trustees Administration Building P.O. Box 522 Novelty, OH 44072

Dear Township Trustees:

On January 1, 2015, new sewage treatment system rules became effective throughout the state of Ohio. In these rules, section 3701-29-16 (G) (6) of the Ohio Administrative Code states the following:

"Written permission shall be obtained from the owner, agency or other controlling entity for placement of a drain outlet within a right-of-way or legally established public drainage improvement."

This section of the code requires that a homeowner obtain permission from the agency/entity to install or place a drain line in the right-of-way. Based on this rule, the Geauga County Health District will require owners to obtain permission to place a pipe or any discharge, including surface water, from any part of the sewage treatment system within the right-of-way of any road. This will require that each homeowner request and obtain permission and approval before a sewage permit can be issued by the health district.

The Geauga County Health District is asking each political subdivision to decide how they would like to address each of these requests. One option would be for each request to be addressed by your office individually. Another option would be for your office to give the Geauga County Health District blanket authority to allow these discharges to the road ditch.

We are requesting that you respond to this office in writing indicating how you would like to handle these situations within 45 days. If the health district does not received a response, we will require the property owners in your political subdivision to obtain permission from your agency to place a drain line in the road right-of-way before obtaining a sewage treatment system permit. If you have questions, feel free to contact me at 440-279-1910.

Respectfully.

Michael Tusick, RS

Geauga County Health District

MPT/jh

470 Center Street, Bldg. 8 · Chardon, Ohio 44024 · 440-279-1900

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