PRIVATE SEWAGE COLLECTION TILE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Private Sewage Collection Tiles play an important role in managing wastewater from individual properties. Because these systems are privately installed and privately benefited, Ohio law places responsibility for their maintenance on the property owners who use them. The following summary outlines key requirements under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 521, along with guidance for communities seeking support through the Storm Water Management District's Community Partnership Funds (CPF).

Program Requirements

- **Ownership & Maintenance Responsibilities:** Tiles, ditches, pipes, or other improvements installed by private individuals to convey sewage or sewage effluent must be maintained by the property owners served by the system. Property owners experiencing issues with a Private Sewage Collection Tile are expected to resolve the issue themselves or work collaboratively with other users of the shared system.

- **Township Authority:** Upon a petition filed with the township fiscal officer by one or more property owners whose property is served by a private sewage collection tile, or upon the board's own initiative through adoption of a resolution, the board of township trustees may:
  - Improve or maintain a Private Sewage Collection Tile system located within a township road right-of-way
  - Assess benefiting property owners for the costs of those improvements or maintenance activities

- **Use of Community Partnership Funds:** Since sewage collection tiles are not intended to convey surface water, costs incurred by the township during the process of implementing a Private Sewage Collection Tile improvement or maintenance assessment is not an eligible CPF expense.

*More detailed statutory guidance is available in **Ohio Revised Code Chapter 521**. This Chapter provides the full legal framework for township involvement, including right-of-way maintenance authority, petition requirements, and the assessment process for improvements.*