



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Cuyahoga Valley National Park
15610 Vaughn Road
Brecksville, Ohio 44141-3097

IN REPLY REFER TO: L7617

PUBLIC INPUT SOUGHT ON BOSTON MILLS HISTORIC DISTRICT SANITARY SEWER AND TREATMENT SYSTEM

The National Park Service (NPS) is in the process of preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to upgrade the Boston Mills Historic District sanitary sewers and treatment systems which collect and treat wastewater generated from park service owned buildings. The EA will include discussions of the proposed project's potential impacts on the environment. This document is being prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act and the regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR 1508.9).

We cordially invite you to provide input regarding alternatives, environmental impact topics and the scope of this EA. Your participation ensures that we fully understand the interests and needs of our friends and neighbors as part of our natural heritage, cultural traditions, and community surroundings.

The NPS preserves outstanding representatives of the best of America's natural, cultural, and recreational resources of national significance. Historic structures including buildings and their associated outbuildings are an important component of Cuyahoga Valley National Park's cultural resources. The Boston Mills Historic District is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as a significant, intact example of a 19th-century "canal village" and for its concentration of intact 19th century architecture. Maintaining occupied buildings is critical to preserving the historic character of the Boston Mills Historic District. The NPS currently owns and maintains eleven structures in the District and surrounding area. Only four buildings have properly functioning sanitary systems. Although no existing systems have failed, several have been identified for replacement within the next five years.

In order to develop a permanent solution for providing sanitary services to the park-owned structures, the NPS is undertaking an Environmental Assessment to analyze feasible alternatives. For this assessment, the NPS has identified two feasible "Action" Alternatives as well as a "No Action" Alternative. Action alternatives would be constructed on NPS-owned land located between Interstate 271 and the Ohio Turnpike.

- **Alternative 1:** Construction of a Subsurface Drip Irrigation System. Primary treatment would be completed in the existing septic tanks, where suspended solids and grease are separated from the wastewater. A small package plant is proposed for secondary treatment.
- **Alternative 2 (Preferred Alternative):** Constructed wetland system which would consist of a combination of a subsurface wetland and a surface wetland.

- **Alternative 3 (No Action):** A continuation of the status quo which involves replacing the failing individual leach or evapotranspiration systems with similar on-site systems.

Several other alternatives, including connecting to a municipal system, were evaluated and found not to be feasible. The EA will identify and analyze potential impacts to the natural and man-made environment resulting from these alternatives.

Additional details and information, including an aerial photo of the project area and preliminary plans for the two action alternatives can be found on the National Park Service's Planning Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/cuva>. Comments can be submitted via PEPC regarding this project through **August 20, 2009**.

We encourage you to provide comments via the PEPC web site. However, written comments can be mailed to the address below:

Janet Popielski, P.E.
Civil Engineer
Cuyahoga Valley National Park
15610 Vaughn Road
Brecksville, OH 44141

We also invite your attendance at a **public open house on August 11, 2009** from 7pm to 9pm at Boston Store located at 1548 Boston Mills Road, Boston Township, Ohio.

Our practice is to make comments, including names, home addresses, home phone numbers, and email addresses of respondents, available for public review. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their names and/or home addresses, etc., but if you wish us to consider withholding this information you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. In addition, you must present a rationale for withholding this information. This rationale must demonstrate that disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy. Unsupported assertions will not meet this burden. In the absence of exceptional, documentable circumstances, this information will be released. We will also make submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives of or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

We look forward to your comments and response to this request. If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project, please contact Janet Popielski, P.E. at (440) 546-5979.