

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2018 - 7:30 P.M.  
MAYOR WILLIAM G. KOONS PRESIDING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Canton, Carroll, Galicki, Nairn, Porter, Schloss

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Fiscal Officer Romanowski, Solicitor Matheney, Engineer Haibach

**VISITORS:** Kate Jacob McClain, Foxhall Dr.; N.D. Howard, Manorbrook Dr.

Mayor called the Regular Council meeting to order. Mayor spoke about the significance of Veterans Day and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Fiscal Officer read the roll. Porter made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2018 Budget Work Session Special meeting, seconded by Canton. Voice vote – ayes, all. Motion carried. Porter made a motion to approve minutes from the October 22, 2018 Council meeting, seconded by Nairn. Voice vote- ayes, all. Motion carried.

Mayor introduced Charles Hart from the United States Geological Survey (USGS), Columbus, OH. Hart gave a presentation relative to the renewal of the Village's contract for well water monitoring. Porter asked what Geauga County is doing in terms of water monitoring. Hart explained that USGS is monitoring four non-domestic wells on an hourly basis to track water levels. USGS has also been doing bimonthly well monitoring of domestic wells. The information gathered from the monitoring is accessible to the public. Porter asked if the Geauga County Commissioners were going to pay for USGS services in 2019. Hart stated the Commissioners are trying to decide. Porter asked if South Russell is the only community committing to USGS, and Hart replied that it is. Hart's USGS presentation is attached as Exhibit (A). Porter asked to clarify the amount of the contract, and Hart said it was \$8,000. Schloss asked if there were any reports of dry wells, and Hart was unaware of any. Schloss asked what the reporting procedure is for residents with dry wells, and the Mayor stated he did not know but would find out. Schloss stated there were two residents on Southwyck Drive that experienced dry wells during the summer. Schloss added that as a former resident of Chagrin Lakes, there were many incidents of wells going dry. He asked how the USGS services would help with this, and the Mayor responded that it would not identify individual issues because it was general information. Carroll asked Hart for clarification about the Village obtaining information to help residents with dry wells. Hart answered that information could be obtained from the readings on the website about water usage. Carroll asked Hart if he wanted to put a recorder back in the Fawn Court well, and if there would be an additional fee. Hart stated this would be negotiable. Carroll asked whether there were grants available to help cover the costs of the USGS services, and Hart speculated that a watershed organization might be able to help, but he was not certain.

N.D. Howard addressed Council about the importance of displaying the Missing in Action (MIA) and Prisoner of War (POW) flags by the Village to honor Veterans. He stated he provided a First Responders Flag to the Village in May 2018 and emphasized the importance of

displaying this flag. He noted it was flown for a while, but not recently. He offered to replace it if it was damaged or stolen if that was the reason it was not being flown. Mr. Howard provided the Mayor with a document to enter into South Russell's permanent record.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor asked Solicitor Matheney to ensure that Solicitor Ondrey is present at the December 10, 2018 Council Meeting, which will be his last meeting. The Mayor proposed having a reception to include past Mayors and Council Members to acknowledge Ondrey's 23 years of involvement with Council.

Mayor attended the Paw Paw Lake Homeowners' Association (HOA) meeting and stated the primary concern of residents is stormwater filling their lake with silt and blaming the installation of the gas line. Mayor stated he would get some information and get back to the HOA in January.

Farmers' Market is getting organized for another year.

Service Department employees conducted dye tests on a number of the eight properties in Kensington Green that had stormwater in their houses on July 4, 2018. Dye was put in a downspout and flushed with hose water to see if it entered the stormwater system which would let the Village know that the system is working. The Mayor thought the Village stormwater system was the problem, but given the results thus far, it does not appear to be. However, there are more homes to test. One resident had already fixed his issue. Another resident found that the clay in the ground tends to harden and flattens the pipe, preventing adequate drainage. There were 27 people west of Chillicothe Road and 37 people east of Chillicothe Road who reported they had stormwater issues on July 4, 2018.

The weather station is still being discussed with the Park Committee.

The Jaycees and Dad's Club are having a Poker Night on December 7, 2018, at Chagrin Falls Town Hall. The profits will go to the South Russell Village Park playground.

No decision has been made about people who want memorial trees or benches in the park.

Regarding stormwater, Mayor has asked the Engineer to discuss the ditch that runs from West Bel Meadow Road to Chillicothe Road. The Mayor also met with the Chagrin River Watershed Partners (CRWP) to discuss the water from Chillicothe Road running under the road and the question of what will happen when it gets to Manorbrook, Dr., which is private property. If it were public property, a retention pond could be installed, but private property is much more difficult because of the determination of the financial responsibility.

Regarding the Section 319 Grant, two meetings were held Sunday, November 11, 2018. Four people from Chagrin Lakes attended and were happy that they did not have to do anything to resolve their water issue. They reported that they spent \$15,500 on their rock channel that takes the water from their lake and lowers it down to the next lake. They also spent between \$10,000 and \$12,000 to repair the dam. There were 22 residents from Kensington Green HOA at the second meeting. There were discussions about the implications and alternatives to giving up

common land for a wetland. Suggestions included the use of public property behind the Police Department or use of Bullfrog Pond instead of the proposed .4 acre on Kensington Green common property. Bullfrog Pond was considered in the original study but removed because the Section 319 Grant would not be awarded to renovate a private pond.

Canton, who attended the Kensington Green HOA meeting, stated it would be difficult to get the residents to vote on the use of common property for a wetland, and it might be best for Council to concentrate on having the project completed on Village property. He further stated the residents seemed to have a lot of opinions. Canton added that there did not seem to be much water coming from the Kensington Green property. The Mayor stated that there was not, but it was just a chance to stop and filter the water. He thought it was desirable because it is right on the stream and is land that is not mowed. He speculated that most residents did not know they owned the land until the issue came up. Canton stated that he supported getting the best result with the least amount of friction from Kensington Green, and if the Village can do the work on Village property, this would be preferable. Mayor asked Schloss for his comments. Schloss asked where the work would be done on Village property, and the Mayor explained it would be just south of Village Hall and across from the Dental Office. Schloss further questioned whether the Village would receive the Section 319 Grant money if the work were done in accordance with a revised plan. Mayor stated that the Village will get the money if it follows the plan that was presented in the proposal, which included the .5 acre in Kensington Green. He will meet with CRWP on November 13, 2018 to contact Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) about the possibility of the removal of the Kensington Green property from the plan, and to determine how this affects the eligibility for the funds. He stated that the advantage the Village has is that Martha Spurbeck, Ohio EPA, has a family emergency and won't be available until after Thanksgiving, which gives the Village time to consider the issue.

Mayor stated that there was another suggestion, which Porter clarified was offered by Kensington Green resident Joe Franzese to potentially use the old leach field behind the Police Department as a secondary retention pond which would make a total of two to split the runoff from Bullfrog pond. Porter stated that this would require an easement with Kensington Green to go into Bullfrog Pond. Porter stated that with this configuration, the amount of water going into Chagrin Lakes would be dramatically reduced. He asked whether the Engineer could address how much of a reduction could be expected from two retention ponds of the same size. The Engineer stated it would depend on the grade, and without knowing grade differential he would be hesitant to say how much water could be stored at each location. Porter asked the Engineer simply if it would help, and the Engineer replied he believed it would, but could not quantify it. Carroll stated he would want to know the impact this would have to be sure it is fiscally responsible, and that Council perhaps should be looking at other options. He said according to Kim Brewster, CRWP, there would be minimal impact with the plan as it stands.

The Mayor asked Galicki for his comments from the Kensington Green HOA meeting. Galicki stated that based on the residents' comments, it would be difficult to obtain acceptance of the proposal by the HOA. There were many questions about the option of using public property, and overwhelmingly the people attending the meeting were in favor of utilizing public land for the mitigation of waterflow. He also stated that questions were directed to Brewster relative to quantifying the amount of water coming from the property and how much water could be

mitigated. It appeared that no data existed to address those questions, nor was there a quantifiable measure of success as the project is currently structured. Questions were also posed to Brewster about the implication of the Village accepting the grant without the use of the Kensington Green property. She responded that the Village would be responsible for coming up with the required acreage. Brewster indicated that with some of the alternate choices, the grant might still be valid. Galicki advised that there were issues that still needed to be addressed before going forward with acceptance or declination of the grant funds. Porter stated that it seemed the Kensington Green residents present at the HOA meeting were in favor of helping their downstream neighbors but had questions that needed to be answered first before a vote could be taken. He stated that 70 homeowners would be required for an easement to be granted to the Village. Porter stated that his impression was that there is not a lot of water coming into the Kensington Green area identified by the plan for a wetland. Porter asked Brewster how important this piece of the plan is and was told that evidently it is not that important; the retention pond is much more important than the small amount of water that goes into Bullfrog Pond from the Kensington Green property. Galicki agreed. Porter advised that the area in question is 0.4 acres and there are 6 acres behind Village Hall and to the south, and he speculated that the Engineer could add 0.4 acre to the retention pond and have a much greater impact than the small piece in Kensington Green. The Engineer stated there is a difference between a retention pond and a wetland, and a wetland can slow the flow of water but not like a retention pond, which is designed expressly to retain water after a rain event and slowly meter it back out after the rain stops. A wet meadow does not function like this. Carroll asked how large the retention pond is on the Section 319 Grant plan. Porter answered it was 0.65 acre. Porter stated that once the Village has obtained in writing the Ohio EPA's agreement with proceeding with the project without the Kensington Green piece, he would support accepting the grant. Carroll reiterated the need for understanding the impact. Galicki added that it seemed CRWP had a difficult time quantifying what the overall impact of the entire project would be in terms of reduction of the stormwater that flows to the road. He questioned what hydrodynamic studies were done and added that although the Village would be receiving funds for the project, it would also have to contribute Village funds for it. This being the case, it would be important to determine that the project had a significant impact on the stormwater issue. Porter stated that his understanding from Brewster's comments was that this type of study is done after the award of the grant, which seemed backward.

Schloss stated that the stormwater problem in Chagrin Lakes is the result of the Wembley Development in Bainbridge. He wanted to know if they had been contacted. He stated that they need to put in some sort of drainage or engineering feat to stop the water which rushes through. Schloss said the proposed retention pond will help, but not completely. Porter referred to a drainage ditch that is filled in with debris, which would be helpful for Bainbridge to clean out. Schloss emphasized that South Russell should not take the entire blame for the stormwater issues. The Mayor proposed that by the next Council Meeting in two weeks, it should be determined whether the EPA will give the Village the grant excluding Kensington Green; and/or the Village could instead put some type of water retention behind the Police Department. He added that while speaking to Kim Brewster after the HOA meetings on November 11, 2018, she said the area behind the Police Department is considered off line, which would mean the water would be diverted as opposed to just handling the water as it flows. This may or may not be an issue. Carroll also asked the Engineer to look at the project and report on the impact.

Porter suggested Council accept the grant pending receipt of notification from the EPA relative to eliminating the Kensington portion. If the EPA said the Village would not qualify for funds, then the issue would be done for the time being. If they say yes, then the Mayor and the Fiscal Officer can proceed. Carroll stated there is no rush, and Porter said that the Village is in a better position if the grant is accepted since it has been awarded. He emphasized that the question about the omission of the Kensington Green property needed to be answered first. Galicki stated that without this answer as well as without knowing whether the alternate plan is acceptable to the EPA, there would be no reason to go forward. Carroll questioned the rush to accept the grant, and the Mayor stated that no work would begin until 2020. The Mayor stated he received an email asking whether the Village planned to accept the grant but did not state what the deadline for accepting it was. Carroll stated the acceptance timeframe also needs to be determined. The Mayor stated that this question would be added to the list of questions for the EPA.

Canton made a motion to accept the Ohio EPA Section 319 Grant awarded to South Russell Village as long as the Village receives in writing from the EPA a notice that the grant is secured without Kensington Green's involvement and the project be started and completed on Village property. Porter seconded. Carroll stated he believed the motion was premature because there were too many unanswered questions to accept the grant. The deadline was unknown, and there were questions about the original application for the grant. He said he did not support the decision being made at this time. Porter stated that a number of residents had been in contact with the Village over the last six months seeking action, whether the problem was north of Bell Road or south. The southern part has the grant available, but the northern part will be much more difficult. Porter added he would like to start with the easier part and is in favor of the motion. Galicki stated that for public record purposes, he most strongly concurred with Carroll and did not believe there was any particular reason that Council needed to go forward with the motion. Roll call – aye, Canton, Porter, Schloss; nay, Carroll, Galicki, Nairn. Given it was a tie, Mayor voted - aye. Motion carried.

Mayor stated he does not know the process. A company was paid to come in with a concept and this was the proposal given to the EPA and the EPA said yes. A year from now, the plan might look different and say that the Village wants 0.8 acre from Kensington, or something much different when they really get down to what is going to happen. Carroll stated that this reinforces the fact that Council made and accepted a motion with lack of information. Nairn stated she is very uncomfortable with the ambiguity. Mayor stated there comes a time to put a little trust in them and to say that this was what the proposal was and people smarter than the Mayor and Council said it was a good proposal. Galicki stated that it was the only proposal and he took exception with the fact that no other proposals were even investigated. There was no buy in extended to the Kensington Green HOA prior to its submission. With its roll call vote, Council has committed the Village to the total amount of acreage dedicated to wetland use. If the Kensington Green HOA were to vote not to participate, this would mean the land comes out of the public property. The Mayor stated he disagreed. Galicki asked him to explain. Mayor stated that the Village will find out if the EPA determines the Village can't have the grant. Galicki stated that Council should have asked the EPA before taking a roll call vote, and now the result is that acreage has been committed. Porter disagreed and stated that the motion was to authorize the Mayor and Fiscal Officer to accept the grant if an affirmative response is received from Ohio

EPA that the Kensington part can be dropped from the plan and still proceed. If the answer is no, then the Mayor is not authorized to take the grant.

Kate Jacob asked what the course of action would be if the EPA declines the change to the original proposal and omits the Kensington Green property. Porter stated that Council would not accept the grant. She asked whether this was part of the motion that had just carried. Mayor stated that if the EPA says no he is a complete optimist and would bet he could get 71 votes out of Kensington Green HOA. Jacob stated she believed this would be a miracle, and Porter agreed that the Mayor is quite optimistic. Jacob stated it would be hard to get that many to vote, and she thought it would involve people going door to door to vote, based on what she heard at the Kensington Green HOA meeting the previous night. The Mayor said he would not have the chance to go door to door. She was concerned about the treatment of the matter by the Village.

Carroll stated he had a question of the Solicitor. Porter asked if the question could wait until the Solicitor's report. Carroll stated it was related to the topic at hand, but he would wait.

**FISCAL OFFICER:** The Fiscal Officer distributed her monthly report to Mayor and Council. The South Russell newsletter is being worked on over the next few weeks, so if there are any ideas or articles to contribute, please forward them to her administrative assistant. Mayor asked if the newsletter could go out before the December 7 Poker Night event. The Fiscal Officer asked if the Mayor wanted her to post the Poker Night on the Village website and in the newsletter. The Mayor said yes.

Fiscal Officer said regarding USGS, \$11,400 was put in the budget, but the cost is actually \$8,000 - she will make this adjustment to the proposed budget before the next meeting.

The Mayor asked why Council received the Police Overtime Report. She explained that according to Ohio Revised Code, it should be provided to Council each month. Previously, without administrative help, she was unable to provide it.

**FISCAL AUDITOR:** Not present.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:** Porter said the Finance Committee met on November 8, 2018. The proposed budget was provided in Council packets. Porter stated the projected deficit for 2019 is \$631,000. The Village has a cash balance of approximately \$3,000,000, and the County has made inquiries about the budget surplus, which exceeds the allowable amount for a Village the size of South Russell. Porter stated that this money would be spent on stormwater issues. In years past, revenues have been such that the deficits have not come to pass as projected. Carroll asked why the Street Commissioner's truck appears on the report, since there was no decision made about it. Porter stated it was a recommendation by the Finance Committee to add the truck for the next year. Fiscal Officer stated that in the budget work session, Council recommended putting the truck in the budget but not acting on it until spring. Fiscal officer said it can not be put in the budget because the Village is limited by the tax budget; if it is to be added, it would have to be an amendment in January. Porter said it could be put into the budget next year. Porter stated that the Chair of Finance recommended reconsidering placing the truck in the budget in January. The Mayor stated that the truck is dying but can last a couple more years.

The Mayor asked the Fiscal Officer if the Village was being too tight with the budget whereby it was necessary to amend the budget already. Fiscal Officer explained that the restriction is based on the tax budget, which is done in July when the revenues are estimated. The truck was not in question in July when the tax budget was submitted. In January when the balances are certified, and it appears there will be more money than previously thought, it can be put in the budget. Nairn asked about the odometer reading on the truck, and Porter replied that there are 55,000 miles. Nairn did not understand why it was failing with such low mileage and said she was not in favor of replacing the truck at this time. Porter stated the Street Commissioner's report reflected the truck's brake power steering hydraulic booster failed and was replaced. The Mayor stated that plowing is done with the truck, but it is easy plowing.

The Mayor stated that the Village is supposed to finish \$294,000 in the red after this year and asked the Fiscal Officer what she expected. She explained that the Fiscal Auditor would have this analysis at the next meeting.

The Fiscal Officer stated that the budget would need to be amended in January for the Lake Louise Bridge project. It is a 50-50 project, so the entire amount, \$246,000, must be budgeted, and then the Village will get half back.

The Mayor asked if it is normal for State Governments to offer money but limit the time to apply for it. The Engineer stated it is normal and that the Village has been counting on the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) grants to be available yearly, but they may not be in the future. It is wise to take advantage of them while they are available. The timing was right for the Lake Louise Bridge project. The Mayor stated that his concern related to the receipt of the NatureWorks grant for the playground with the Village's need to raise \$50,000 for the project. The Engineer stated he is less well versed on this topic. The Mayor stated he had not expected to be awarded the NatureWorks grant.

The Fiscal Officer stated that she would make the change for the USGS contract from \$11,400 to \$8,000. She advised that the budget is usually adopted at the second meeting in November, so if Council is considering raises, this should be addressed at the next meeting.

Porter made a motion to allow the Mayor and Fiscal Officer to enter into a contract with the USGS with a provision of water well monitoring in the Village of South Russell with a cost not to exceed \$8,000. Seconded by Carroll. Carroll stated that considering the Pottsville aquifer, dry wells, and the Lantern, which is not yet at capacity, it would be prudent to maintain the service a little longer. Porter stated that given that the contract amount is only \$300 more than last year, as well as the availability of information for residents, it would be worth keeping. Carroll suggested that there be an article in the newsletter about this service for residents. Voice call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

**SOLICITOR:** Solicitor reported that regarding the West Bel Meadow Road ditch, South Russell Village has a 30' easement to repair, replace, etc. for surface water. It is required for the Village to give the four owners 10-day advance notice of what is planned. Under codified ordinances, the Village has authority to clean out the ditch, especially if it is causing an obstruction to water flow. The cost can be charged to the homeowners. There are a number of

legal opportunities for the Village with regard to the ditches. The Bel Meadow Road easement is 30', 15 feet on either side of the dividing property line. The one in Pleasant Acres (Chillicothe Road), is split on the property line and is 30.55' in total width. Porter asked if the Village can make the ditch deeper. Solicitor stated the Village can do this and reconstruct it/reshape it. The Mayor stated that he had the Street Commissioner find the records. Previously Radick's Landscaping was hired to clean out the ditch in the 1990's and then insecticide was put in each year, but nothing has been done since the 1990's. According to the Mayor, the Street Commissioner recommended hiring someone to clean out the ditch in the summer when it is hard and dry. The Mayor asked the Street Commissioner to get some quotes. The Engineer cautioned against digging the ditch too deep because of water accumulation.

In light of the ruling on the easement, Carroll suggested the possibility of tying in a retention pond or other water retention on the property of the red ranch.

Solicitor stated that an easement also exists on the Manorbrook Dr. property to construct a drainage ditch in Manorbrook Gardens. The purpose would be to improve the drainage of surface water in the area around the box culvert on Chillicothe Road and to construct a drainage ditch within the easement. It too requires 10-day notice to the owners and is a 40' wide drainage easement. It is located where the mounding is. The Mayor asked about the owner of the property, and the Solicitor stated Thomas and Thomas are reflected as the owners. The Mayor stated this was an error.

The Solicitor was not able to find a tree ordinance. She did determine that if there is a dead tree in the road right-of-way, and the tree is dangerous to any users of the street, it is the Village's duty to remove the tree. Under certain sections of the Ohio Revised Code, the Village can assess the cost of the removal against the property owner. The Village is obligated to keep the road safe, open, and clear of nuisance. Nairn asked if this meant "tree lawn," and the Solicitor stated yes. Engineer explained that the public right-of-way is 30' on either side of the center line. Nairn asked which homeowners own the trees. Canton stated the trees in the past were the responsibility of the HOA. Canton questioned whether this meant that the HOA had taken this responsibility away from the Village. The Solicitor stated no. Depending on which trees were an issue would determine which HOA was responsible. According to Canton, the trees from Chillicothe Road to the water plant would be the responsibility of the HOA that takes care of the water plant and the entrance of Manorbrook. If the trees are from the water plant to Whitetail Dr., these would be the responsibility of Manorbrook Gardens. From Whitetail Dr. to the power lines, the responsibility belongs to the Manorbrook Condominium Association. Canton was a member and President of this board and stated that they maintained these trees. The Mayor met with Bob Royer and planned to also meet with Chris Burger to offer that the Village would take care of their trees in return for permission to build a retention pond at Chillicothe Road and Manorbrook Dr. The Mayor stated he had a meeting with CRWP and CT Consultants, and it was determined that obtaining money to build a retention pond on Manorbrook Drive and Chillicothe Road on private land is not easy. There is an existing retention pond west of Chillicothe Road in Manorbrook that could possibly be used to divert water. The Mayor stated that the Village might not want to get into swapping. Conversations he has had with Kensington Green about bad catch basins and trading repair of them for the 0.4 acres needed for the Section 319 Grant might be a legal nightmare but could be a way to get what each party needs.



Regarding the duty by the Village to replace the trees, the Solicitor was unaware of any such agreement.

Regarding the Manorbrook drain, the Solicitor was unsure about its location and whether it is on private property. The Mayor explained that the drains do not appear on Village records and may have been put in by landscapers. The homeowner wanted the Village to repair them. The Solicitor advised that if they were causing an obstruction, the same statutes used for the ditches could be used.

**ENGINEER:** Engineer reported that the drainage channel on West Bel Meadow Road to Chillicothe Road has an easement and maintenance can be done by the Village. He will coordinate the ditch maintenance with the Street Commissioner.

When CT Consultants conducted the North Central Drainage Study, a critical hot spot was identified. It is a 12-inch culvert just south of the big culvert that goes under Chillicothe Road. It serves 30 acres. The culvert should be 36", not 12". The 12" culvert flows under Chillicothe Road into an 18" culvert that passes under landscape mounds westward to the channel. This culvert needs to be replaced with a 36" culvert. A preliminary estimate of the project would be \$120,000 plus \$15,000 engineering, design, and bidding. The flow would transition to the 18-inch culvert on Manorbrook Dr., which is on private property. The Engineer advised that the Mayor had an idea to combine this with stream restoration, widen the flood plains to slow the water down stream like Fox Trail, Fox Run, and Sugarbush. If the Village delayed replacing the culvert until the grand plan and getting an easement were complete, it could take years. In the meantime, the Village should design and possibly prepare to bid the replacement of the 36" culvert. This would produce immediate beneficial results. Although it would be necessary to choke down the 36" culvert to an 18" inch, there would be a measurable increase, still giving consideration to creating a place downstream for flood water to spread out and settle down before heading further downstream. Engineer thought it was the right thing to move ahead on this project. Carroll asked whether this will negatively impact properties downstream. The Engineer stated that it would not be 36" the entire way, that it would narrow to an 18". The culvert under Chillicothe Road now is in bad shape and doesn't allow water to effectively enter it. If everything were opened up, all the culverts downstream are designed to handle that amount of water. This would give the people upstream some relief. The Mayor stated that in the area where the big culvert crosses Chillicothe Road, it turns and goes down to Manorbrook; he discovered that the Village mows this property. He asked if this ditch could be expanded to hold more water. The Engineer stated that this area is off the roadway quite a bit. He would be interested in looking at this. Canton asked who owns this, and the Engineer stated he would find out. The Street Commissioner told the Mayor that the Village mows this area. Engineer cautioned that just because the Village takes care of it does not mean it can go through and make changes. He would look into this.

**STREET COMMITTEE:** Canton stated the 20' by 90' area of concrete outside of Village Hall is cracked. It is a potential hazard and Canton suggested filling the holes with blacktop and then in the spring covering it with new asphalt. The Mayor said he would talk to the Street Commissioner and report to Council on November 26<sup>th</sup>.

**BUILDING COMMITTEE:** Porter reported that the committee met November 8<sup>th</sup> with the Building Inspector and discussed the resignation letter received from Lorraine Sevich. Building Inspector is in the process of interviewing for the Board Secretary position.

The Mayor asked whether Council needed to accept the resignation letter again, and Fiscal Officer stated acceptance of the previous letter had been rescinded by Council so Sevich is still an employee. Council needs to accept the current resignation letter. Porter made a motion to accept Lorraine Sevich's resignation as the part-time clerk for the various boards, seconded by Schloss. Voice vote – ayes, all.

Schloss stated that there are currently an American flag, Marine Corps flag, and a Coast Guard flag displayed throughout the Village on Bell Road and Chillicothe Road. The American Legion and VFW members asked Schloss why the other services are not represented in the Village. Schloss hoped to have all five services represented by Memorial Day and Veterans Day each year and amend the flag ordinance to allow this to happen. According to Porter, the ordinance requires Council to designate the flags that will fly in the Village by April 1<sup>st</sup>. The ordinance allows Council to do this by motion rather than by amending the ordinance. The Mayor proposed putting up flag poles at the corner. Porter explained that this is an expense that has not been budgeted but is worthy of consideration.

**SAFETY COMMITTEE:** Nairn stated that Officer Kramer would be officially retiring, with his last day of work being March 23, 2019, and official last day will be May 2, 2019. The Chief will be initiating the process to replace Officer Kramer.

The final refund from the Chagrin Valley Dispatch of \$2,915 was received. Annual dispatch costs will drop approximately \$3,000.

Shop with a Cop will take place Saturday, December 1, 2018. Ten area children from five families will be sponsored.

The Turkey Trot Run will take place on Thanksgiving morning, November 22, 2018. The Chief will be supervising all the road closures for the run. There are currently 1,600 runners registered.

The Chief is preparing a list of items for govdeals.com.

The next Safety Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 4, at 8:00 a.m.

The Mayor also proposed that consideration be given to observing Halloween the Saturday before the actual date for safety reasons.

**HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE:** Carroll reported that Paychex provided a presentation November 12<sup>th</sup> to demonstrate a time and attendance tracker to track comp time/sick time/vacation time. The set-up fee is \$750 and would cost \$111 per month for the service. There is money in the Fiscal Officer's budget to implement it this year. Fiscal Officer stated that this system would replace the cumbersome time-consuming process that is currently in place. It also helps with reporting and scheduling and would make the Village's system more current.

The goal would be to have the system in place by January 1, 2019. Carroll made a motion to allow the Fiscal Officer to enroll in the Paychex system for implementation on January 1, 2019. Nairn seconded. Mayor asked about the contract requirement and Galicki stated that the contract is month to month. Voice vote – ayes, all. Motion carried.

HR Committee does not have another meeting scheduled but will be meeting in early December 2018 for final review of job descriptions. The pay range evaluations survey should be completed by then as well. With the comparative analysis, it will give Council a better basis for pay range adjustments.

**PROPERTY COMMITTEE:** Canton made a motion to allow the Mayor to accept the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Grant for the South Russell Village Park playground. Porter seconded. Roll call, ayes Galicki, Nairn, Porter, Schloss, Canton, Carroll. Motion carried.

Canton made a motion to hire an insurance appraiser to assess the Gurney playground equipment for possible use in the park playground. Porter seconded. Carroll asked for clarification. Canton stated that the playground equipment is from the Intermediate School. The Mayor clarified that most of it is from/at Gurney now. Canton said there is a swing set and monkey bars that are not being used and are in very nice shape. Canton stated that the question is whether the Village's insurance will insure it. Fiscal Officer stated that the Village's insurance company can be called about this. Porter stated that Council needs to agree to have an appraiser check the equipment for safety because ultimately it might be included in the South Russell Village Park. Canton stated that Auburn Township did this but discovered that the insurance company would not insure the equipment. Nairn asked whether Council really wanted to spend money having an appraisal conducted for equipment children have no interest in using. Canton stated that the equipment is not being used because of its location. Nairn questioned how this equipment will look. Canton stated he questioned the same issue and has concerns about how the old equipment will look next to the new equipment. Canton stated that the school offered the equipment to the Village, but the Village does not have to take it. Carroll asked if there is a cost to have it appraised. Porter stated that normally the insurance adjuster will come out for free. Porter stated that this issue was really the Park Committee's, and the Mayor responded it was really the Mayor because he heard about free equipment. Galicki stated that he has reservations about accepting used equipment. Roll call – ayes, Galicki, Porter, Canton. Nay, Nairn, Schloss, Carroll. Given the vote was a tie; Mayor voted – aye. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES:** USGS presentation only.

**BILLS LIST:** Porter made a motion to ratify the bills dated October 16, 2018 in the amount of \$54,653.99, Carroll seconded. Voice vote – ayes, all. Motion carried.

**NEW OTHER:** Galicki, Porter, and Schloss had no new business.

Nairn asked what has happened with Katie and the Tame Rabbit with her desire to put up an "Open" sign particularly when it is dark in the winter, and the fact that the Building Department made her remove it. Porter stated the ordinance in question prohibits the use of banners. She

had a flag that said, "Open", which is a banner under the ordinance. It may be time to modify the ordinance. He will address it at the next Building Department meeting and possibly bring an amendment to the ordinance before Council. Nairn emphasized that Council should be in support of this business. Schloss stated that the Building Inspector planned to meet with the owner of the property, all the businesses, and work out something amicably with them. Schloss stated that the Building Inspector did not feel she could enforce this ordinance because she does not feel it is right. The business is Veteran operated, and she needs help. Porter stated that Building Inspector is willing to work with people.

Canton stated that Street Committee will not meet in November. The next meeting will be in December.

At 10:17 p.m. Carroll stated that in comparison to the Village's health care increase of 1.19%, Lyndhurst had a 17% increase. He pointed out that the Village employees use their health care well. Carroll made a motion to go into Executive Session for personnel compensation and asked that the Solicitor attend. Porter seconded. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Council exited Executive Session at 11:08 p.m.

Carroll made a motion that a 3% raise be given to all employees full and part-time for fiscal year commencing January 1, 2019. Canton seconded. Roll call – ayes, Nairn, Carroll, Porter, Canton, Schloss. Galicki recused himself because his wife is a part-time employee.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Being that there was no further business before Council, Carroll made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Porter. Voice vote - ayes, all. Motion carried.



William G. Koons, Mayor



Danielle Romanowski, Fiscal Officer

Prepared by: Leslie Galicki

# Long-Term Monitoring of Ground- Water Levels, South Russell Village

Charles P. Hart

U.S. Geological Survey,  
Ohio Water Science Center,  
Columbus, Ohio

November 2018

# Why was groundwater monitoring initiated?

USGS was asked to submit a proposal for long-term monitoring to the Village Council in 1999 because:

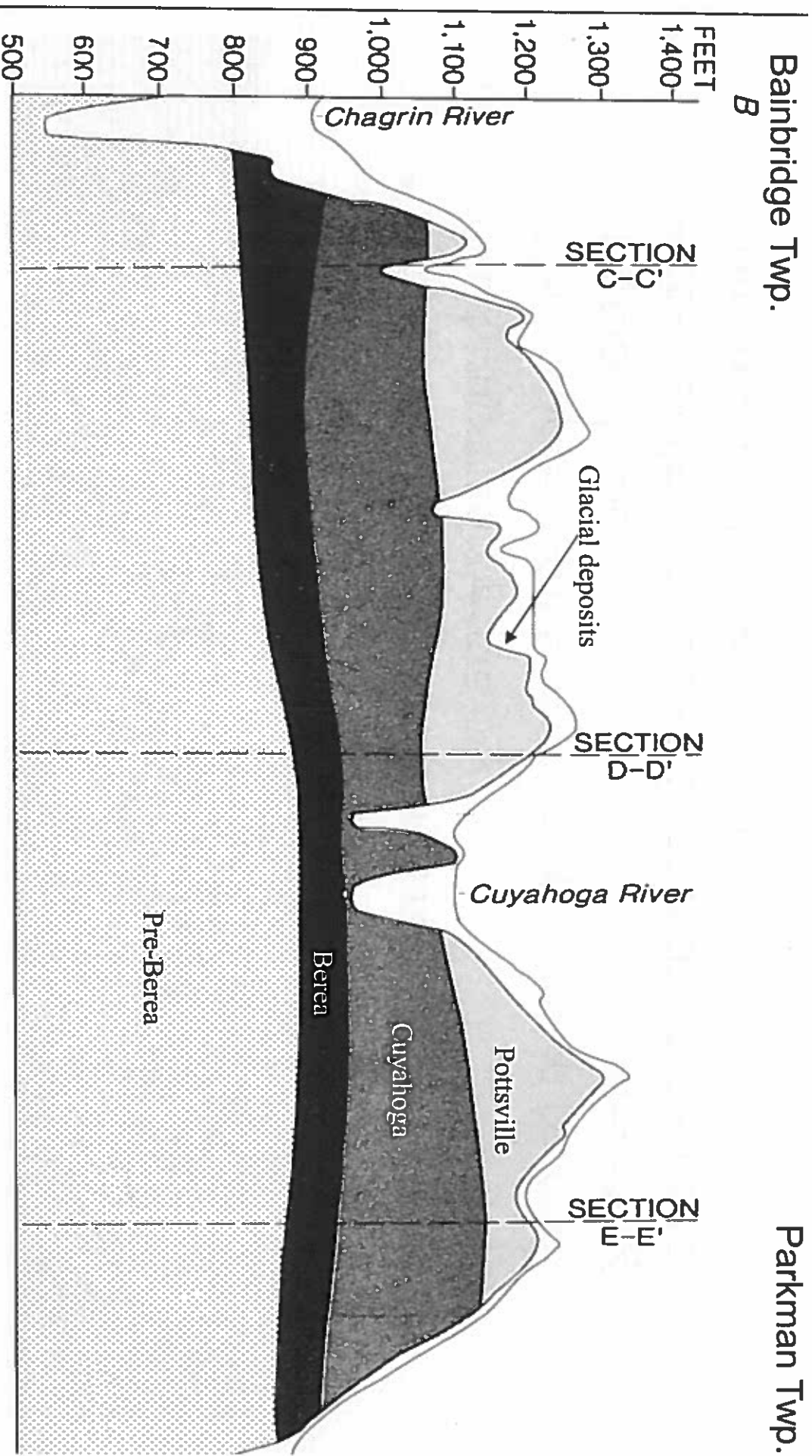
- \* Residents in the Village depended on groundwater as their source for their drinking water.
- \* Water levels in wells that were flowing in 1968 had dropped below land surface.

# Why was groundwater monitoring initiated (cont.)?

- \* During drought periods, some residential wells had temporarily gone dry.
- \* Water-supply problems had occurred in certain neighborhoods. In one neighborhood, declining water levels in the Berea Sandstone had forced homeowners to lower the pumps in their wells.

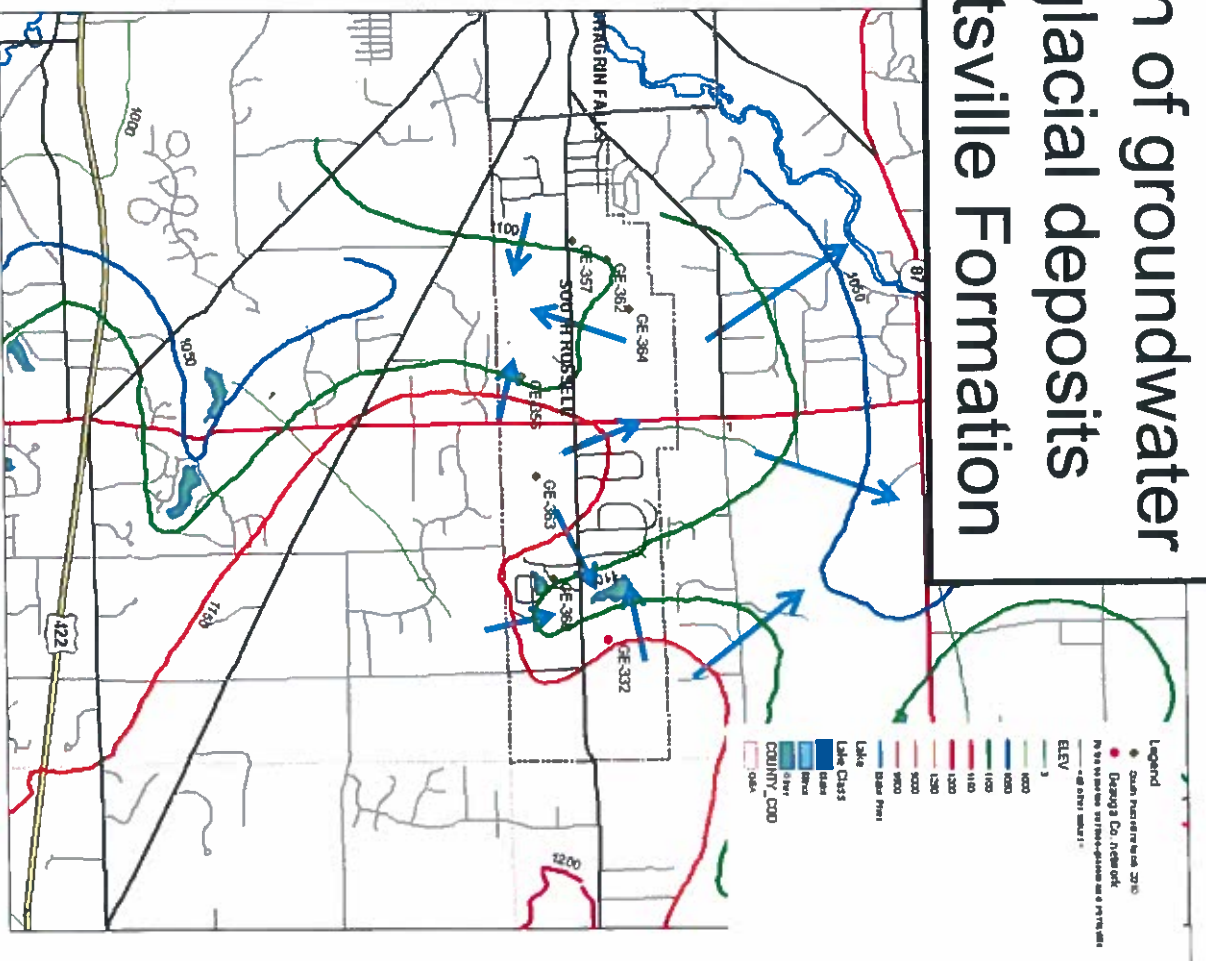


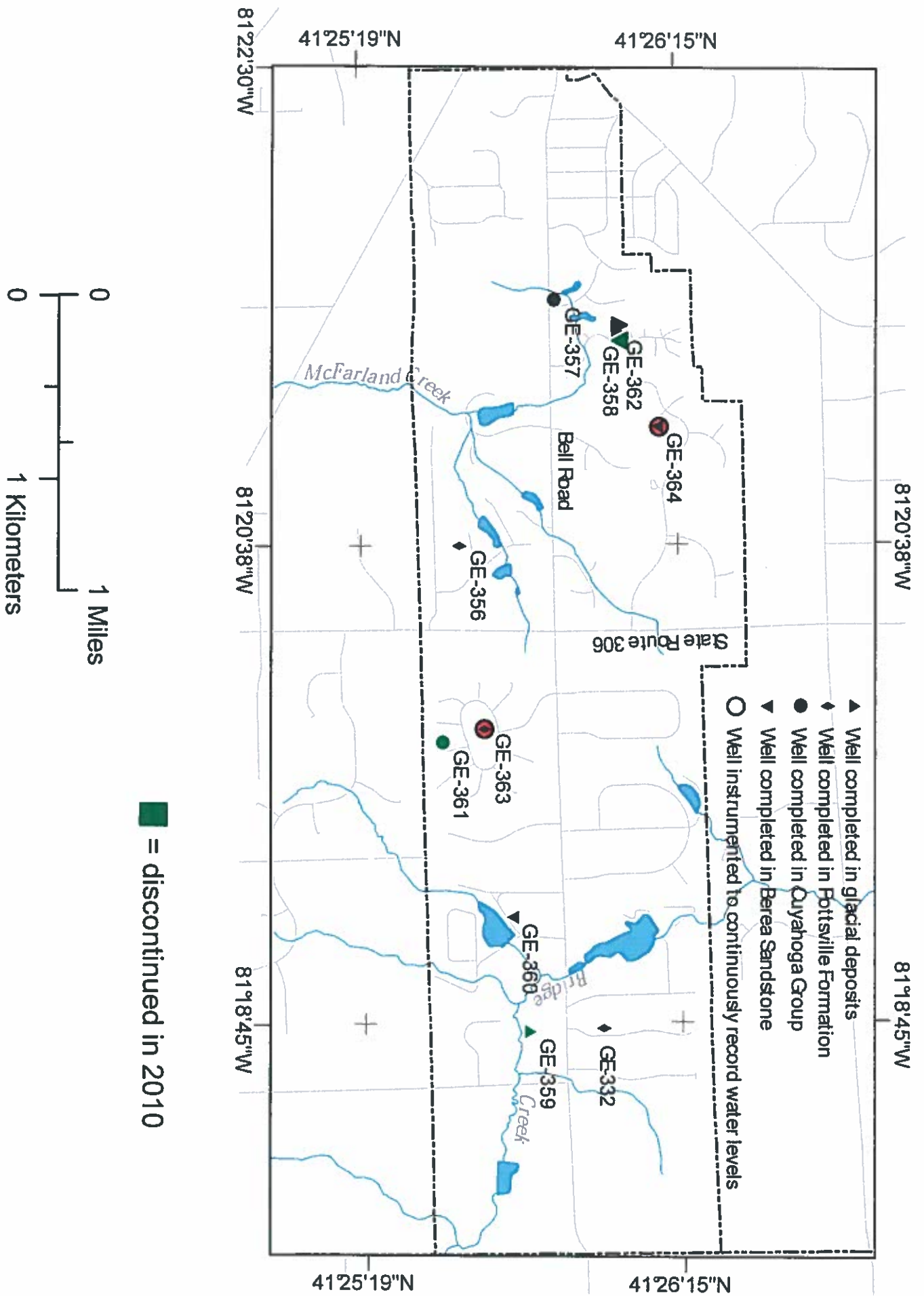
# Generalized geologic section





# Direction of groundwater flow in glacial deposits and Pottsville Formation





# The Network 2000-2018

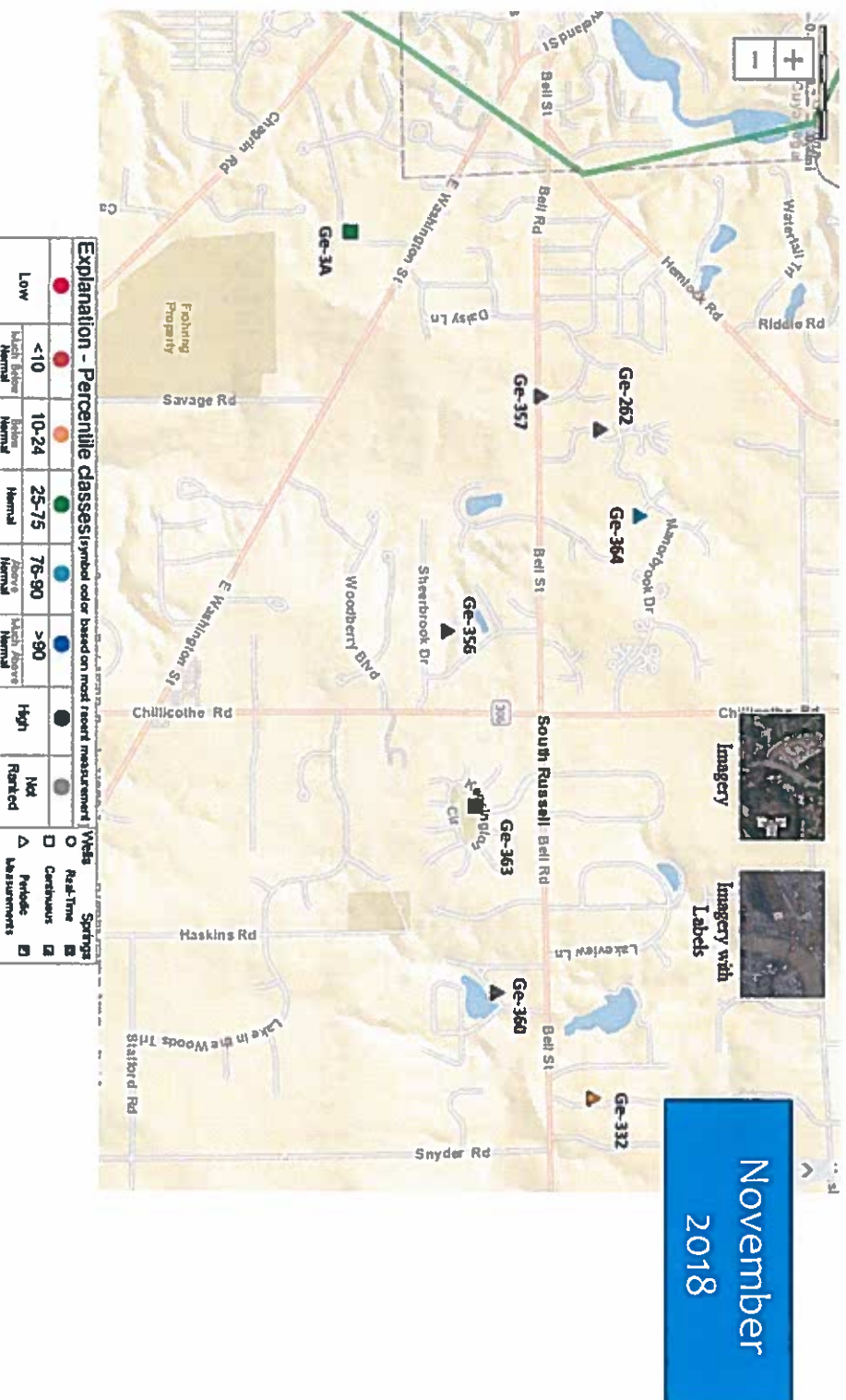
- 1 completed in glacial deposits
- 2 completed in Pottsville Sandstone (plus one from the Geauga County network- Ge-332)
- 1 completed in Cuyahoga Shale
- 2 completed in Berea Sandstone

We began measuring water-levels in 2000. One well (Kensington Green) is instrumented to continuously record water levels. Other wells are measured manually 4 times/year.

# Water levels in most wells were normal to above-normal in WY2018

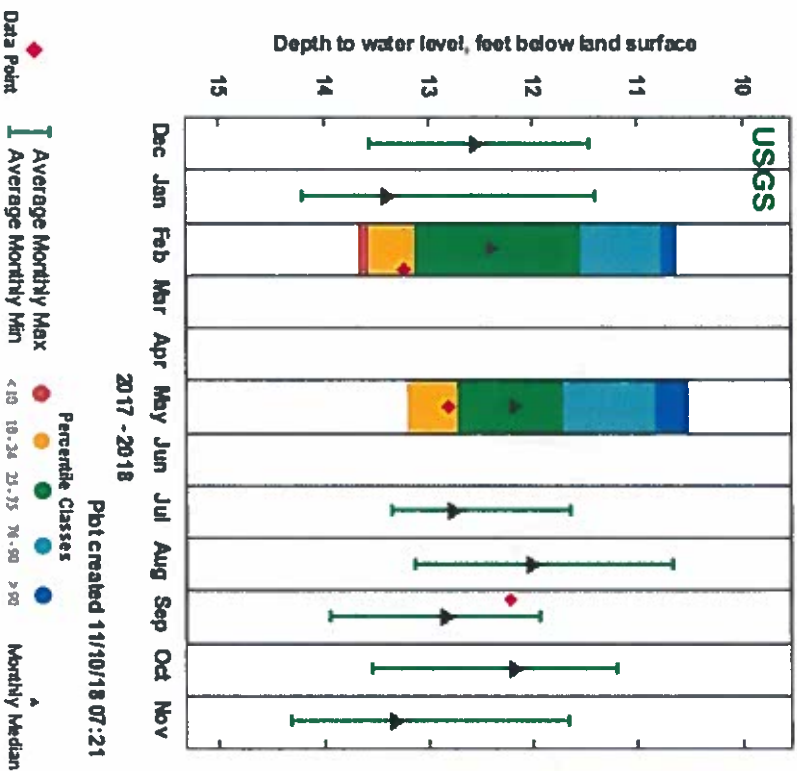
Geauga County, Ohio

Click site symbol to open information pop-up. Click Station ID in pop-up for information and data. Map loading slowly? Try a different browser. Web browser performance varies significantly.



Active Water Level web page mapping application for groundwater levels in South Russell Village (<http://groundwaterwatch.usgs.gov/countymap.asp?sa=OH&cc=055>).

41253081213500 - GE-357



Most recent data value: **12.23** on 9/5/2018  
 Period of Record Monthly Statistics for  
 41253081213500  
 Depth to water level, feet below land surface  
 All Approved Continuous & Periodic Data Used In  
 Analysis

Note: **Highlighted** values in the table indicate closest statistic to the most recent data value.

Month	Lowest	10th	25th	50th	75th	90th	Highest	Number of Years
Jan	14.21	-	-	-	-	-	11.41	6
Feb	13.68	13.59	13.15	12.41	11.56	10.79	10.64	11
May	13.22	13.21	12.74	12.19	11.73	10.83	10.53	15
Jul	13.36	-	-	-	-	-	11.65	8
Aug	13.15	-	-	-	-	-	10.68	7
Sep	13.96	-	-	-	-	-	11.95	9
Oct	13.55	-	-	-	-	-	11.20	5
Nov	14.32	-	-	-	-	-	11.66	9
Dec	13.56	-	-	-	-	-	11.47	6

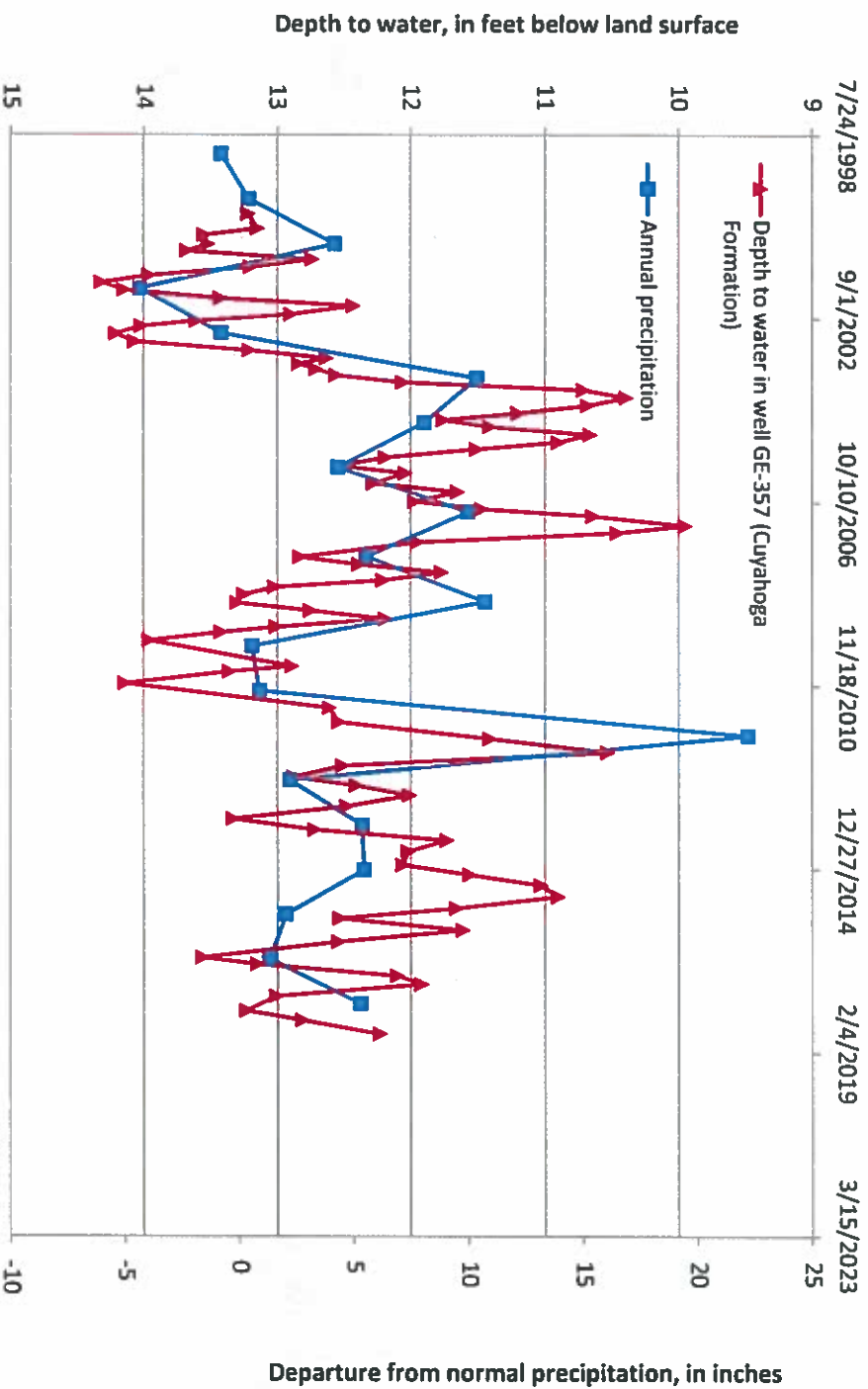
As of 11/9/2018 23:02:2

[View monthly statistics](#)

Water-level measurements in 2017-2018 (shown as red diamonds) compared to monthly statistics for the period May 2000 to present, at well GE-357 on Spring Drive (completed in the Cuyahoga Formation).



# In most wells, water level variation mimics variation in annual precipitation



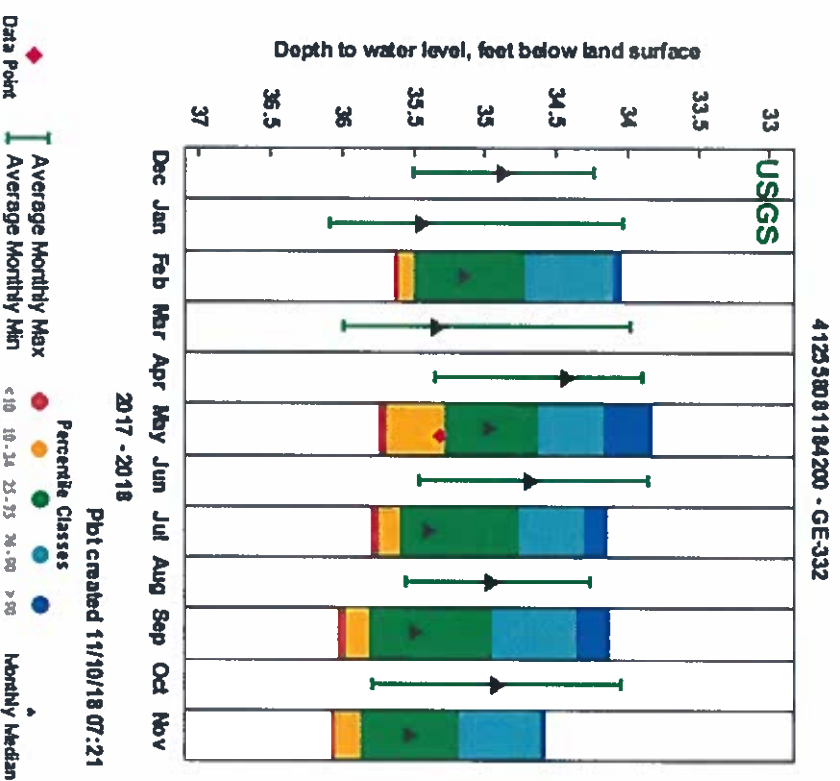
## Gauga County, Ohio

Map loading slowly? Try a different browser. Web browser performance varies significantly.



Russell Village (<http://groundwaterwatch.usgs.gov/countymap.asp?sa=OH&cc=055>).

# Introduce to the S. Russell network – Ge-332



Most recent data value: **35.32** on 5/17/2018  
 Period of Record Monthly Statistics for  
 412558081184200  
 Depth to water level, feet below land surface  
 All Approved Continuous & Periodic Data Used In  
 Analysis

Note: **Highlighted** values in the table indicate closest statistic to the most recent data value.

	Lowest	10th	25th	50th	75th	90th	Highest	Number of Years
Month	Median	%ile	%ile	%ile	%ile	%ile	Median	
Jan	36.10	-	-	-	-	-	34.04	9
Feb	35.65	35.62	35.51	35.16	34.73	34.11	34.06	13
Mar	36.00	-	-	-	-	-	33.99	7
Apr	35.36	-	-	-	-	-	33.91	6
May	35.76	<b>35.70</b>	<b>35.29</b>	34.98	34.64	34.18	33.83	15
Jun	35.47	-	-	-	-	-	33.86	7
Jul	35.81	35.75	35.60	35.40	34.77	34.31	34.15	12
Aug	35.57	-	-	-	-	-	34.27	9
Sep	36.04	35.99	35.82	35.49	34.96	34.36	34.13	12
Oct	35.79	-	-	-	-	-	34.06	9
Nov	36.08	36.06	35.88	35.53	35.20	34.61	34.58	10
Dec	35.51	-	-	-	-	-	34.25	7

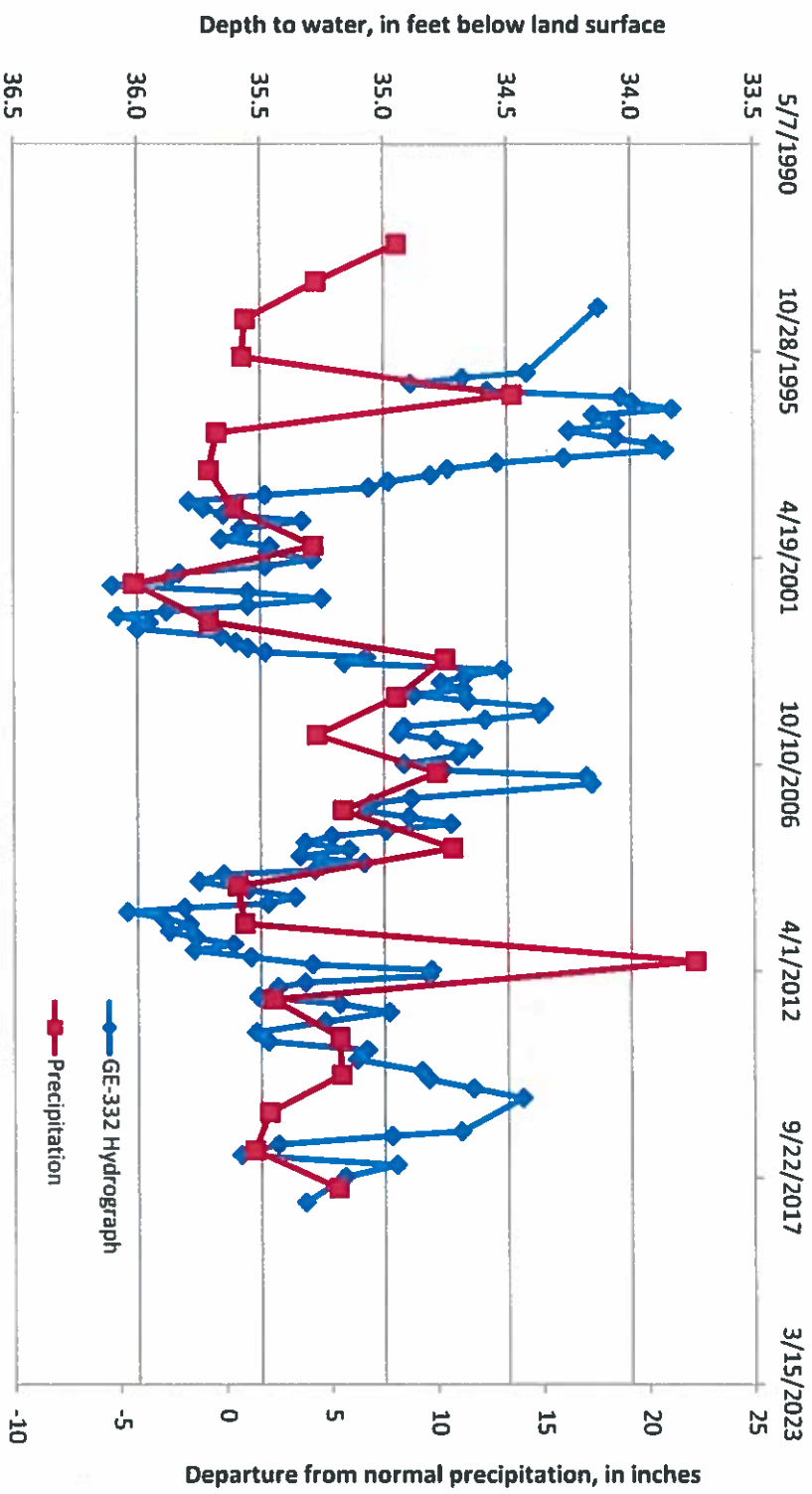
As of 11/9/2018 23:02-2

Statistics Options

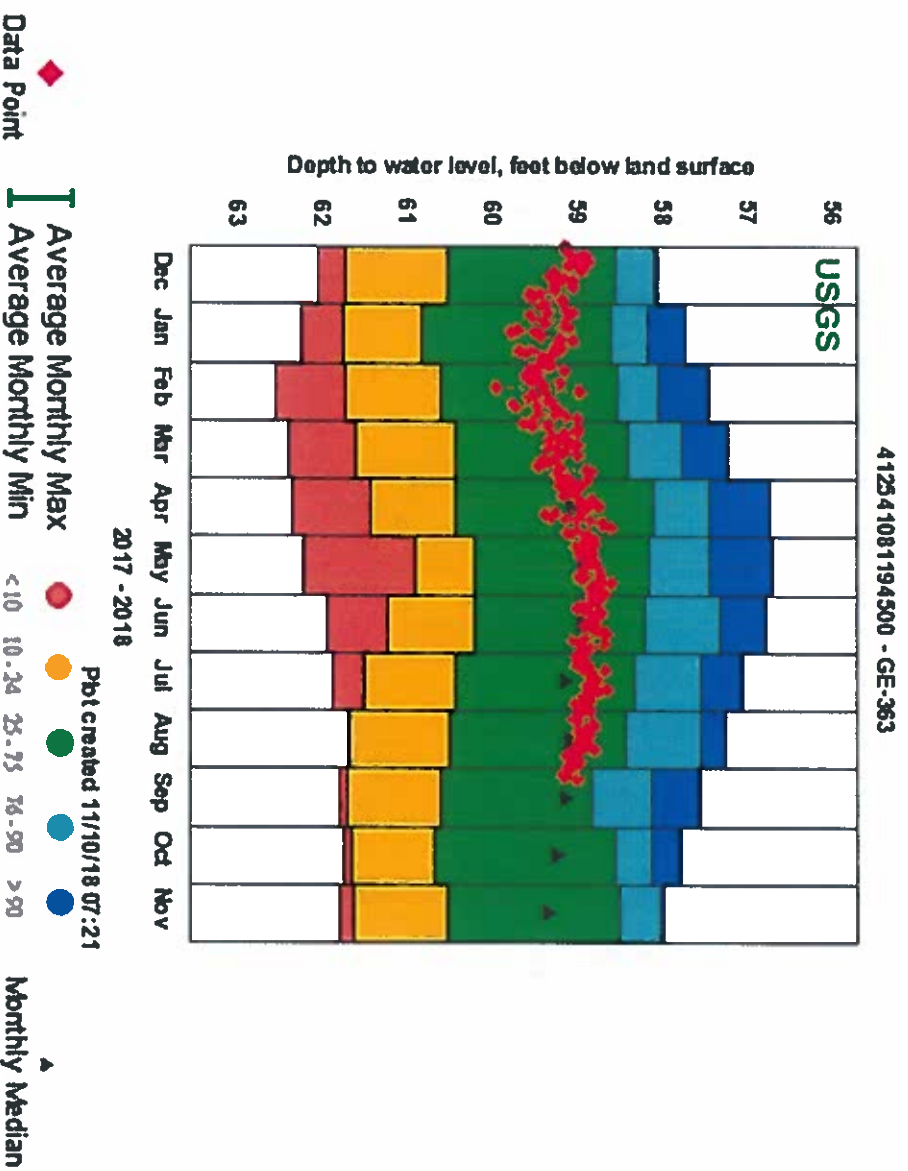
Well GE-332 on Silver Springs Drive (completed in the Pottsville Sandstone) – 24 year Period of Record. Most recent measurement below normal range.



# Water levels in GE-332 track precipitation



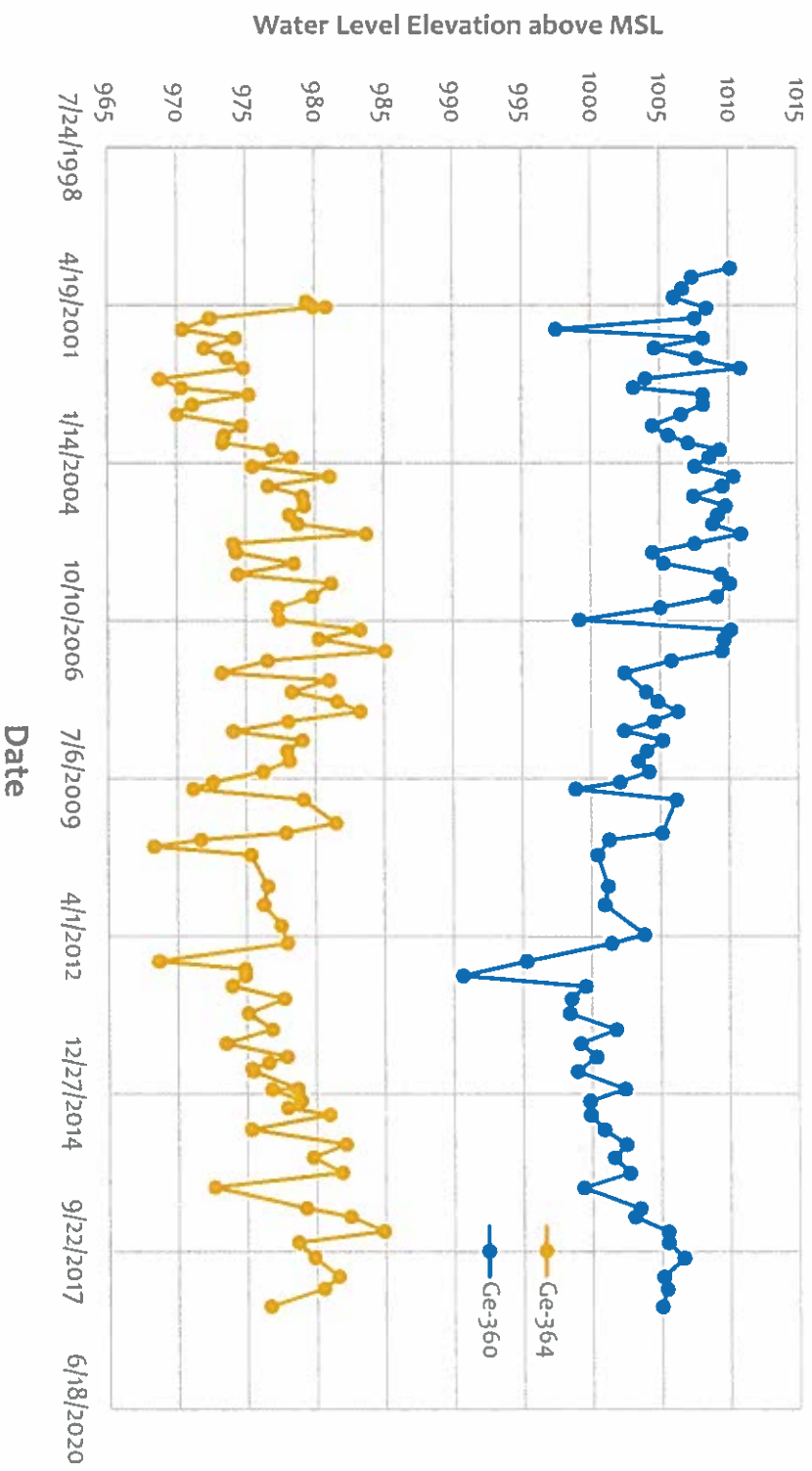
# Water levels in GE-363 were below normal in WY2018



Well GE-363 in Kensington Park (completed in the Pottsville Sandstone).  
Water levels are well within normal range.

# Deep wells in Berea Sandstone

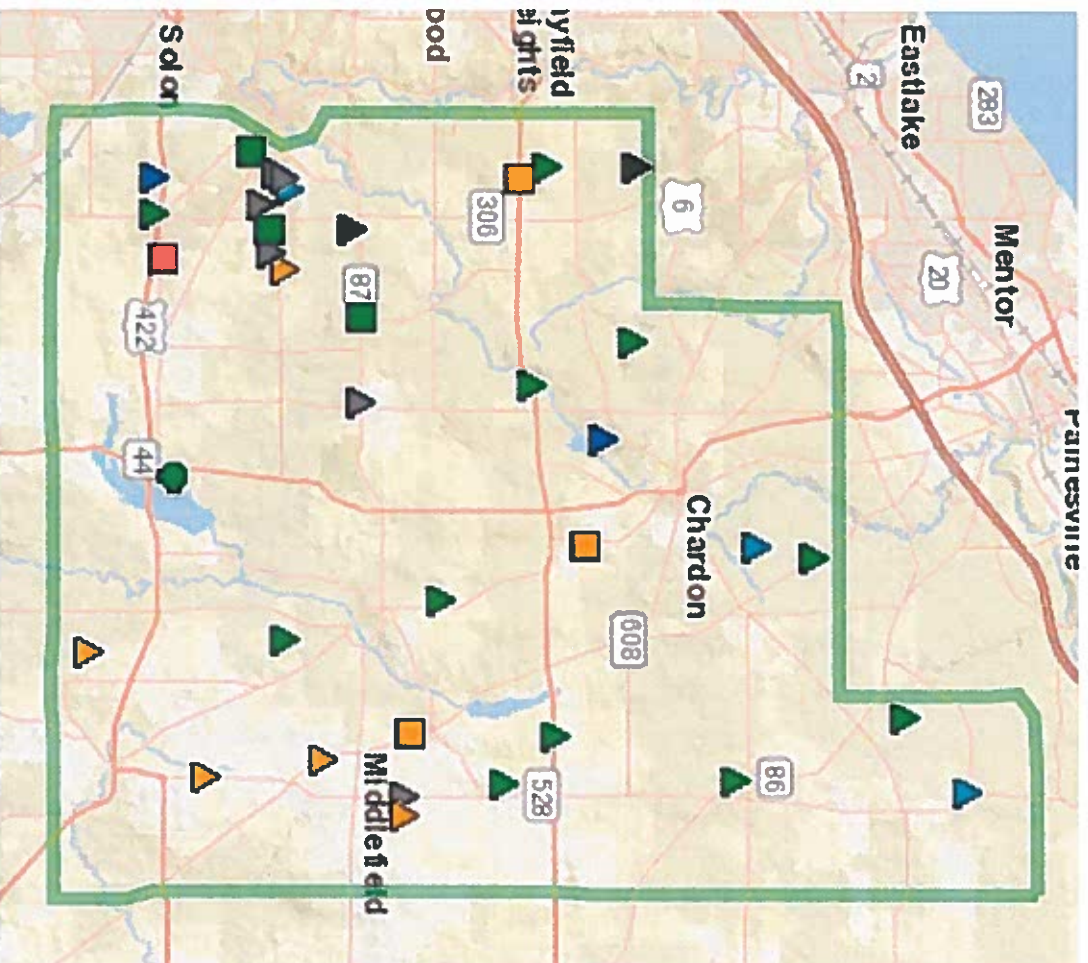
Berea SS Wells



Wells at similar elevation. Ge-364 is observation well at Fawn Ct.

Ge-360 near Lake Louise.

# Water levels in Geauga County 2018



Water levels are well within normal range in many parts of Geauga County. Draw down in water levels recorded in Middlefield Twp. Some wells in Pottsville also show below normal water levels.

# Long-term groundwater level network-- what we have learned county-wide

- \* Since the mid-1990s, water levels in most of the network wells have held fairly steady and have mimicked variations in annual precipitation for northeastern Ohio.
- \* Water levels in 6 of 37 wells in the county (16%) have declined due to an increase in nearby water use. Well GE-360 in South Russell Village has recorded slight declines.
- \* Generally, declines have lasted <1 year to 8 years before reaching a new equilibrium level 0.85 to 7.5 feet lower than the previous water level, but declines are ongoing in two wells (not in South Russell Village).



## Preparation for possible new development and demands on well water

- Large lot zoning.
- Have wells in adjacent houses tap alternating aquifers.
- Do **not** design supply wells to be open to both the Pottsville and the Berea aquifers.
- To document pre-development water levels, do a synoptic water-level survey to measure water levels over a broad area during a snapshot in time. Water-levels in the Pottsville and Berea aquifers must be mapped separately.

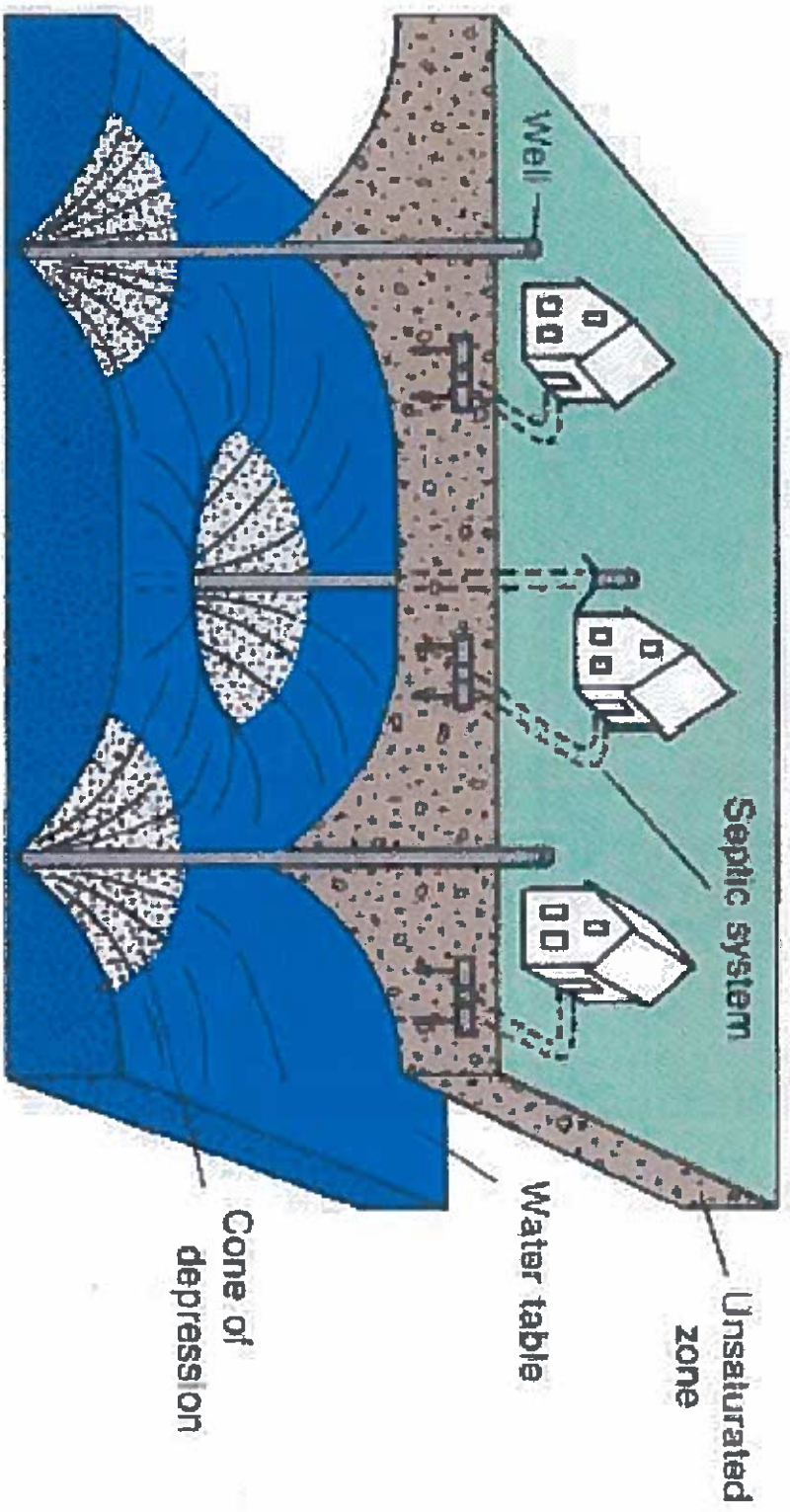
## Preparation for possible new development and demands on well water

- Do long-term monitoring of water levels to be aware of changes occurring over time and to assess whether planning is adequately protecting water resources.
- Water-level drawdown at various distances from a proposed well can be estimated (would have to assume a constant pumping rate and a range of aquifer characteristics as reported in Eberts and others, 1990). Would need to know the targeted aquifer for the supply well. (Is this the aquifer(s) used by neighbors?)

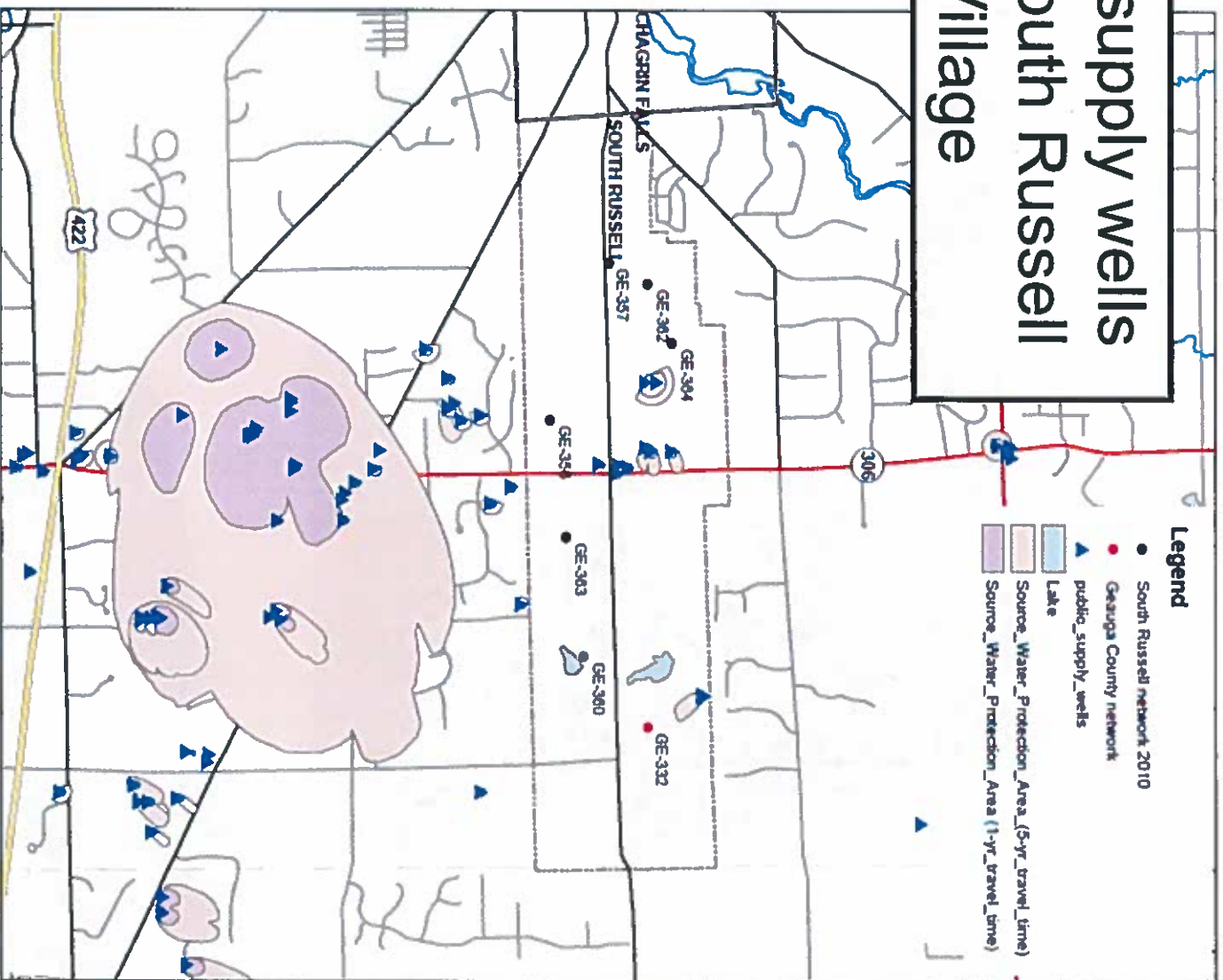
## Preparation for possible new development and demands on well water

- An aquifer test (pumping test) can be done once a well is installed to observe drawdown at various distances from an installed well. May need to install observation wells.
- Ponds to induce recharge to the shallow aquifers (glacial deposits or Pottsville Formation) could potentially help offset water withdrawals from these aquifers and reduce water-level declines.





# Public-supply wells near South Russell Village



## South Russell Network Budget FY2019

Monitoring Plan	South Russell Village	USGS	Total
Six wells measured 4x/year and one well measured hourly at current locations.	\$8,000	\$3,400	\$11,400

# Contact Information

Charles Hart

U.S. Geological Survey

6460 Busch Blvd.

Columbus, Ohio 43219

614-430-7745

[cphart@usgs.gov](mailto:cphart@usgs.gov)

<http://oh.water.usgs.gov/>



# ERiN Well Log Application

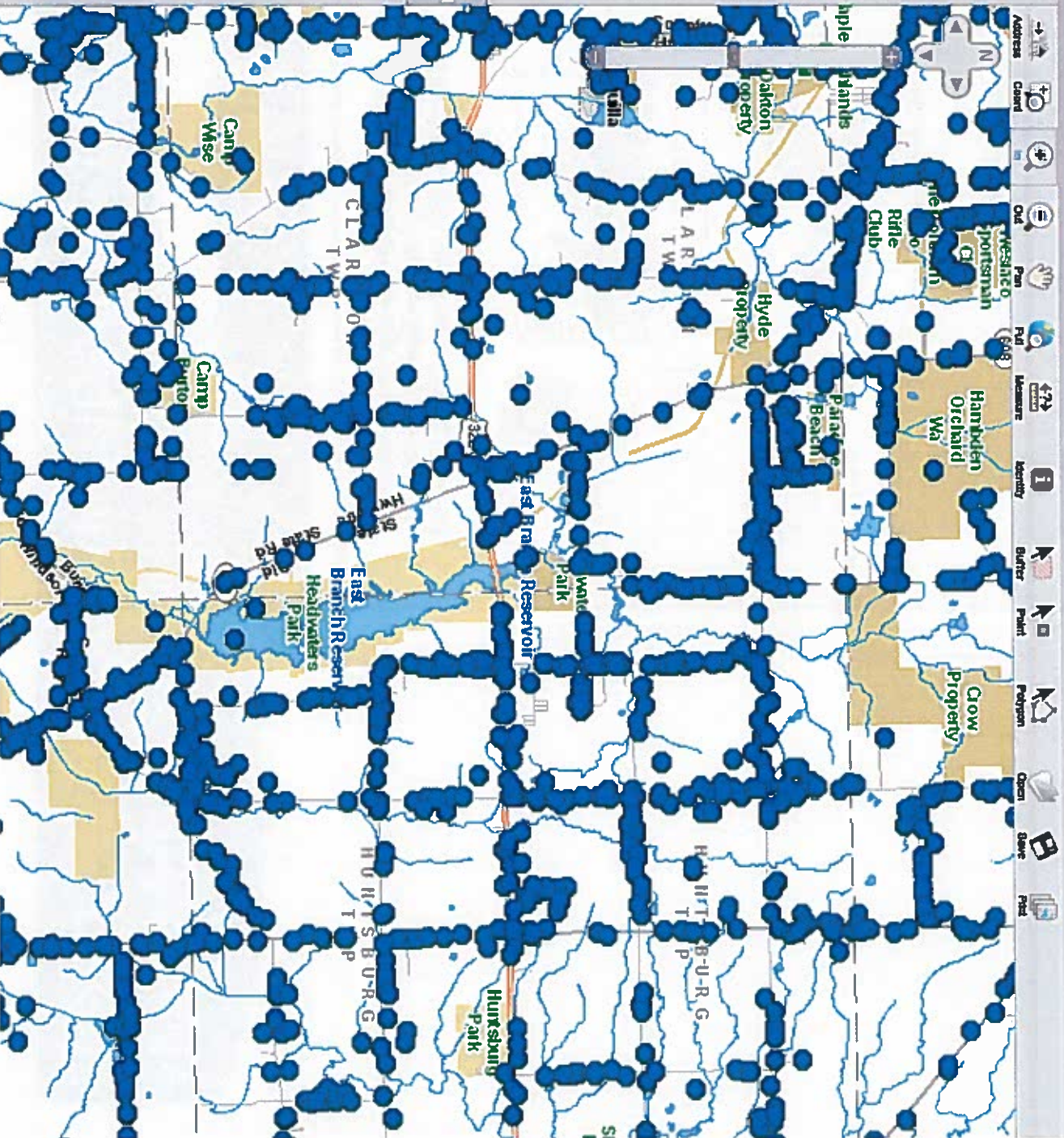
## Layer List

- ☒ Well Logs
- ☐ Base Map Data
- ☐ Aerial Image
- ☐ Base Map
- ☐ Topographic Map

Show Legend

## Selection

No features are currently selected. You can select features from one or more layers using the selection tools.

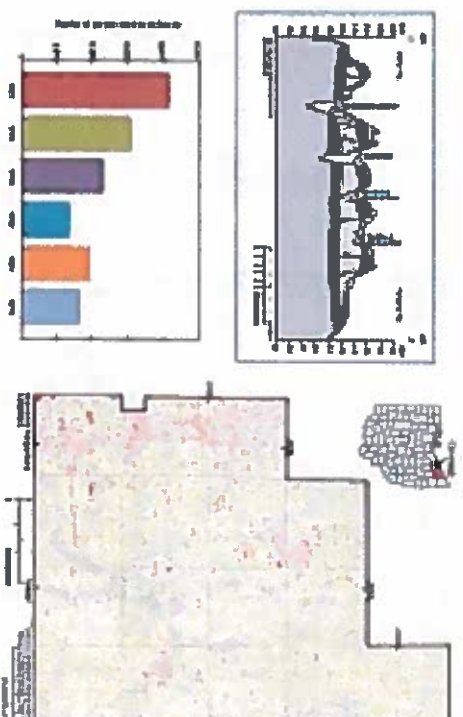


# County-wide water quality study has been published



Prepared in cooperation with the Georgia Ecology Planning Commission and Board of Conservation

## Groundwater Quality in Georgia County, Ohio Status, Including Detection Frequency of Methane in Water Wells, 2009, and Changes During 1978–2009



Scientific Investigations Report 2015–5032

U.S. Department of the Interior  
U.S. Geological Survey

<http://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/sir20155032>



Since the ~~county~~-wide water-level network began, water levels in 4 wells have declined, then re-equilibrated at greater depths

Well	Aquifer	Number of years to re-equilibrate	Approximate change in water-level (ft.)	Likely cause
GE-136	Cuyahoga	8	2.5	Unknown, Middlefield Twp.
GE-349	Pottsville	<1	0.85	New house next door, Aquilla Village
GE-352	Glacial	2	7.5	Three new production wells drilled ~2000 ft away, Middlefield Twp.
GE-360	Berea	5	7	New domestic well drilled ~1100 ft away, South Russell Village

