

History of TLRSD

On May 29, 1973, the Stream Pollution Control Board of the State of Indiana accepted the Petition of the Board of Commissioners of White County, Indiana and resolved that the Final Order be issued. This action authorized the formation of the Twin Lakes Regional Waste District later changed to the Twin Lakes Regional Sewer District.

Over the years District Trustees were appointed, engineering studies were done and various plans were considered to improve the water quality in and around the lakes. Notwithstanding the findings and recommendations in the various studies little was done and from 1979 to 1994, the sewer district was inactive.

Things began to change in the early 1990's. Residential complaints to the Health Department and to County Government were on the rise. Poor water quality, failing septic systems, poor soil conditions and other septic system problems left home owners in many cases struggling to find a solution. In some cases, people were told that there was little that could be done. In other cases people found that they could not build or rebuild on their property.

To combat these growing problems, the White County Board of Commissioners commissioned a Wastewater Collection and Treatment Feasibility Study for the Lake Shafer and Lake Freeman areas. An Advisory ten (10) member task force was appointed to complete specific activities and make recommendations to the Commissioners and the White County Council on proceeding with project implementation.

Out of this effort the Twin Lakes Regional Sewer District was reactivated with the appointment of five trustees. Two additional trustees were added in 1995. The first meeting of the new Trustees was held on April 11, 1994.

Working with the White County Health Administrator and members of the Shafer and Freeman Lakes Environmental Conservation Corporation, studies of past data and citizens concerns were reviewed as well as new incoming data from water sampling, property owner, and visitors.

Further study by the Trustees of the Wastewater Collection and Treatment Feasibility Study revealed fourteen (14) areas where the installation of sewers would improve the water quality. The areas were prioritized and in May, 1995 the three areas deemed most critical (Buffalo, Big Monon Bay, and the Isle of Homes), were submitted to the Rural Development Agency (RD) (formerly Farmers Home Administration) for grant and loan funding.

In 1995, the District territory was expanded to include the Tippecanoe River, and the Lake Shafer and Lake Freeman corridors from the north White County line to the south White County line. In 2000, per request of the Carroll County Commissioners, the District territory was expanded to include the east side of Lake Freeman from the south White County line to CR 725 N Carroll County.