



**DEFIANCE COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY / EMA**

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For Immediate Release

February 20, 2017

Contact: Julie Rittenhouse, EMA Director  
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### Coordinated Response to Sewage Discharge

A coordinated response was utilized to respond to a sewage discharge incident last evening. The Defiance County Sheriff's Office, Defiance County EMA, Noble Fire Department, HAZMAT and Defiance County Public Health responded to remedy the issue.

A report was called in last night, February 19<sup>th</sup>, of water on the roadway at Christy Road. The Defiance County Sheriff's Department dispatched a Deputy. Upon arrival, the deputy noticed a foul odor. Interviews with nearby homeowners revealed that sewage was being discharged from a home septic system. The discharge was running down Christy Road into a catch basin and culvert towards Tiffin River.

Julie Rittenhouse was notified of the situation and called the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, EPA. "In talking with the EPA, they advised to have the fire department dilute the sewage by flushing with water. Hazmat and Noble Fire Department were dispatched; they took care of flushing the area. Defiance County Public Health was notified and the situation has been turned over to them."

Kimberly Moss, Defiance County Health Commissioner, relays, "Defiance County Public Health is working with the homeowner to ensure safe septic practices."

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