



clean waters | clean neighborhoods

# Earlham Drive/Thompson Road STEP Project

Citizens Energy Group is working to replace failing septic systems with sanitary sewers in the Earlham Drive/Thompson Road area on the city's southeast side as part of the Septic Tank Elimination Program (STEP).

## The Problem

Septic systems have a limited life and eventually fail. In addition, the soil types in Marion County are poor for septic waste absorption. As a result, human waste leaches into groundwater, backyards and neighborhood ditches and streams. Failing septic systems are linked to unsafe levels of E. coli in many neighborhood streams and ditches.

## The Solution

Approximately 100 properties are part of the Earlham Drive/Thompson Road project, as shown on the map on the reverse side. This project will include the installation of new sanitary sewers.

To address health hazards in our neighborhoods, the Septic Tank Elimination Program (STEP) was implemented to convert many neighborhoods on septic systems to the sanitary sewer system. STEP will bring sewers to hundreds of homes annually to address a majority of the approximately 25,000 Indianapolis homes still on septic systems. Projects are prioritized based on several criteria, three of which are septic system failure rates, housing densities and proximity to a floodplain.

## How You Can Help

Everyone has a role in protecting our waterways. You can help by adopting the following environmentally friendly practices:

- Disconnect downspouts and sump pumps connected to the sewer system. Their flow takes up capacity we need to carry sewage.
- Don't send fats, oils and grease down the drain.

They can clog our sewers and cause overflows and costly repairs.

- Clear gutters and storm sewer drains of leaves and debris.
- Never dispose motor oil, antifreeze, battery acid and household chemicals down the drain. Properly dispose of these materials through the city's ToxDrop program. Log on to [www.sustainindy.org/ToxDrop](http://www.sustainindy.org/ToxDrop) to learn how.
- Reduce water use in your homes and businesses.
- Sign up to receive e-mail warnings of sewer overflows at [www.citizensenergygroup.com](http://www.citizensenergygroup.com).
- Pick up your pet's waste. It can end up in our waterways.
- Reduce or eliminate insecticide, herbicide and fertilizer use. These chemicals also can end up in our waterways.

## Project Status

**Project Status:** In Design

**Anticipated Construction Period:** Spring 2015 to Winter 2015

**Designer:** Burgess & Niple

**Estimated Project Costs:** \$2.5 million

**Approximate Number of Properties In The Project:** 100

**Project Manager:** Aaron Goslee,  
[agoslee@citizensenergygroup.com](mailto:agoslee@citizensenergygroup.com), 317-341-3794

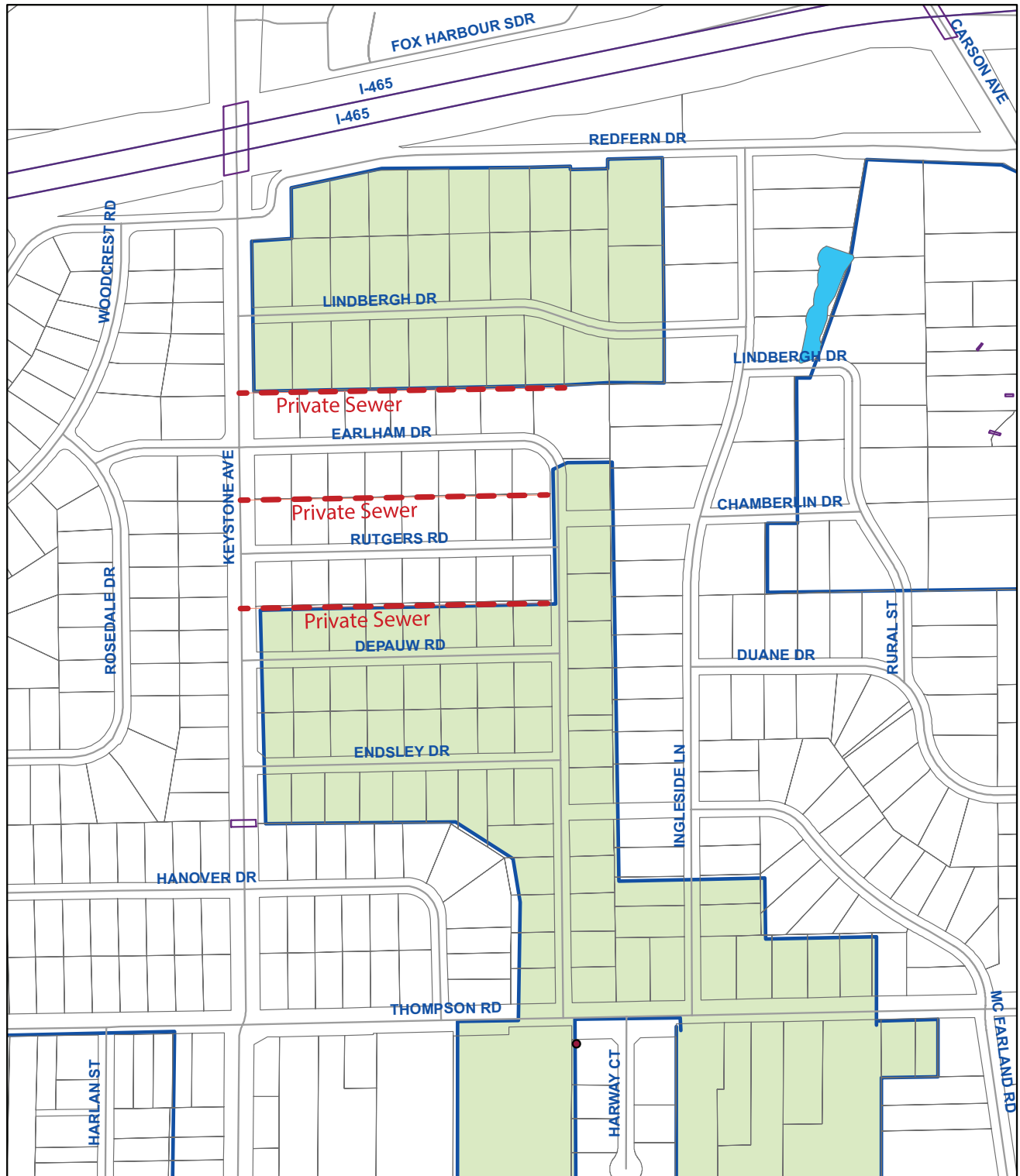
**STEP Information Line:** 317-927-4328

**Marion County Health Department:** Mike Goodin,  
317-221-2147

Project Schedules And Costs Are Subject To Change.

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# Earlham Drive - Thompson Road STEP Project #92SP00390 . BL-39-007



0 0.05 0.1 0.2 Miles

