CHAPTER VI
COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Lewis and Clark County Sheriff's Department

The Lewis and Clark County Sheriff's Department is responsible for law enforcement activities within the county. Activities are directed by the sheriff, who is elected by a majority vote every four (4) years. The Sheriff's staff consists of 68 employees, including sworn officers, detention officers, and professional support staff (2005). There are an additional 23 volunteer auxiliary deputies. In addition to the "normal law enforcement activities", the sheriff's department is responsible for The Lewis and Clark County Volunteer Fire Department. As of 2005, two resident deputies are stationed in Lincoln. Their patrol area covers the entire northern portion of the county, including Augusta, Wolf Creek, and Craig. An additional deputy is stationed in Augusta, and another is stationed in Wolf Creek. These four deputies assist each other as needed.

Montana Highway Patrol

Highway Patrol Officers are authorized under Title 44, Chapter 1, part 10 of the 2003 Montana Codes to make arrests for all offenses occurring on highways, highway rest areas, state highway property adjacent to the highway or involving the use or registration of a motor vehicle. In rural areas or towns with populations less than 2,500, Highway Patrol officers can make arrests for offenses at the request of other peace officers or the mayor of the town. Officers can also make arrests for any felony offense. If an arrest is made, the officer is required to transport the offender to the nearest county jail.

In 2005, one (1) resident Highway Patrol officer was permanently stationed in Lincoln. His Patrol area is generally defined as a 70 to 80 mile radius around the Lincoln Townsite. An additional Highway Patrol officer is stationed in the Seeley Lake area. These officers assist each other as needed.

Fish, Wildlife and Parks Game Warden

Game wardens or State Conservation officers are authorized under Title 87, Chapter 5 of the Montana Code to act as law enforcement personnel. Their main duties consist of enforcing Federal and the State of Montana's laws and regulations dealing with the protection, conservation and propagation of wildlife, game, fur-bearing animals, fish and game birds. Game wardens are empowered to serve subpoenas issued by the court for the trial of violators of the fish and game laws; search without a warrant, any tent not used as a residence, any boat, vehicles, containers, and packages, or their contents upon probable cause that fish and game rules have been violated; and with a search warrant, search homes or structures and take possession of them if violations of Fish & Game

department rules have occurred. In addition, game wardens have the same authority as other peace officers to enforce all State regulations dealing with crimes against persons and private property.

Currently (2005), there is one full time game warden stationed in Lincoln. His primary patrol area extends from Ovando east to Rogers Pass and north of Avon to the Continental Divide, inclusive of the Scapegoat Wilderness Area. His main function is to enforce wildlife regulations. In the past, the Lincoln community has expressed concern over the harassment of wildlife, particularly white tailed deer by free roaming dogs. The game warden is authorized to shoot any unconfined dogs he witnesses harassing livestock or wildlife.

FIRE PROTECTION

Lincoln Volunteer Fire Company

In May 1951, the Lincoln Volunteer Fire Company was formed. The Fire Company was formed in response to the loss by fire of several businesses in the community. The original Fire Company was completely volunteer and was completely financed by local fundraisers and contributions. At the initial organizational meeting held May 2, 1951, the newly elected officers approved the purchase of a truck and the construction of a Fire Hall. Arrangements were made to purchase a new, 1951 one ton Dodge Power Wagon for the price of $2,730. The truck was modified and fitted with a front mount 3" p.t.o. drive pump, carbon dioxide fire extinguisher and 400 feet of canvas hose. The same truck with some additional modifications is still in use by the Fire Company. The original Fire house was constructed by volunteers in 1951, using donated materials, on property donated by the Lincoln Community Hall and Leonard Lambkin.

In September of 1956, the Lewis and Clark Board of County Commissioners established an official Fire District to be served by the Lincoln Volunteer Fire Company. The establishment of the Fire District permitted the Fire Company the opportunity to collect annual fee payments from the beneficiaries of the fire protection service. The original Fire District encompassed the townsite of Lincoln. Since that time the district has expanded to include fragmented areas containing some of the structures and properties in the Lincoln valley. In 2005, the district covered approximately 105 square miles. Figure 8 shows the boundaries of the Lincoln Fire District

Table VI-1 summarizes the district's revenues and expenditures from 1995 to 2005. Revenues, less any refunds, include all special assessments, non-tax revenues, transfers, and cash on hand. Expenditures include operation and maintenance costs; debt service, such as payment of principle and interest on construction loans; capital outlay; and operating reserve.

TABLE VI - 1:
LINCOLN FIRE DISTRICT REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
BY FISCAL YEARS
1996 THROUGH 2005

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total Revenues	$19,092.97	$23,780.77	$28,790.83	$28,026.68	$51,263.84	$108,473.28	$64,844.56	$109,796.04	$306,974.18	$65,023.52
Total Expenditures	$27,627.29	$24,735.39	$21,171.45	$24,831.86	$38,810.20	$108,539.84	$69,656.87	$67,393.59	$319,766.91	$71,941.40
Net Income (loss)	$(8,534.32)	$(954.62)	$7,619.38	$3,194.82	$12,453.64	$(66.56)	$(4,812.31)	$42,402.45	$(12,792.73)	$(6,917.88)

(Source: Lewis and Clark County Treasurer's Office, 2005)

By April 1972, the Fire District required a larger fire hall to accommodate the storage of additional equipment. The present day facility, located on Stemple Road, south of Highway 200, was sold to the Fire District by the Stoner Family for the sum of one dollar and "valuable considerations". The facility accommodates three emergency vehicles in a heated garage and also contains a meeting and training room plus limited equipment storage.

Also in 1972, the District purchased a 1970 Ford pick-up equipped with a 300-gallon water storage tank and pump. The addition of this vehicle permitted faster response times and the ability to shuttle water to the fire site, while the other pumper remained at the fire scene.

In 1987, a water tender with a 3,800 gallon capacity tank was purchased. This allowed volunteer fire personnel to run four to six 1 ½" hoses simultaneously. In 1993, the district purchased a 1973 Duplex-Howe engine from the Billings Fire Department. The new engine has a 1,250-gallon per minute (GPM) discharge capacity and greatly increases the fire fighting capability of the department.

As of 2005, the apparatus inventory located in the stations of the fire district consists of the following:

Engines:

2004 Freightliner FL80 4X4, 1250GPM with a 750-gallon tank
1980 American LaFrance, 1500 GPM with a 750-gallon tank
1994 Chevrolet 1 Ton 4X4, 50GPM at 235 PSI with a 200-gallon tank
1989 Ford 1 Ton 4X4, 50GPM at 150 PSI with a 210-gallon tank
1951 Dodge 4X4 Pumper with no tank

Water Tenders:

1994 International 600 GPM with a 2000-galllon tank
1981 Peterbuilt 850 GPM at 150 PSI with a 3700-gallon tank

Rescue:

Rescue with 'Jaws of Life'
2000 H&H Flat bed trailer
2 Ski Doo 440cc 2 up snowmobiles
4 Rescue/Evacuation snowmobile sleds

Ambulance:

2003 Ford 4X4 ALS ambulance
1989 Collins 2X4 ALS ambulance

Command:

1993 Chevrolet Suburban with page capable VHF radio

Lincoln Rural Fire District is growing and continually striving to upgrade equipment, but at the same time experiencing 'growing pains' as far as housing apparatus.

There are three Fire Stations in Lincoln. Two of the stations are located in the actual town of Lincoln, and one station is located approximately five miles east of town. Three firefighters live around the station east of the townsite and are responsible for responding from that station. The Lincoln Rural Fire District has a Fire Chief and an Assistant Chief.

In 2005, there were seventeen (17) members serving as firefighters and ten (10) members are certified as EMS. All members are unpaid volunteers that live and work in the fire district.

In late 1993, the Lincoln Volunteer Ambulance petitioned the Fire District's Board of Directors to become part of the Fire District. The impetus for this request was that the Volunteer Ambulance Service was not eligible for government funding without being a part of a district or its own district. The petition stated that the Ambulance service would continue to operate in its present manner and be responsible for its own revenue and debts. In early 1994. the fire district's Board approved the merger of the Ambulance Service and the Fire District. The Board of County Commissioners officially sanctioned the merger by resolution. The Ambulance Service will be discussed in more detail in the Emergency Medical Service section.

<u>Lewis and Clark County Volunteer Fire Department</u>

The Lewis and Clark County Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) is one of fourteen (14) VFD's located within Lewis and Clark County. The Lewis and Clark VFD is charged with providing fire protection for all areas of the county that are not covered by other fire jurisdictions or federal/state protection. The Lewis and Clark VFD have a volunteer staff of fourteen (14) individuals.

The Lewis and Clark County VFD is dispatched by the 911-dispatch center operated by the Lewis and Clark County Sheriff's office in Helena. The Lewis and Clark County VFD operates out of three stations, one at Cooney Public Works, one in the North Hills, and one at the Lewis and Clark County Fairgrounds.

United States Forest Service

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS), has a District Ranger Station located approximately one mile east of the Lincoln Townsite on Highway 200. The USFS is responsible for fire suppression on forest service lands, and through interagency agreements on lands administrated by Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC). The United States Forest Services objective is to suppress wildfires safely at minimum cost and be consistent with adopted land and resource management objectives and fire management direction as stated in fire management action plans.

The District Ranger, who is stationed in Lincoln, is the line officer responsible for the prevention and detection of wildfires and assuring that appropriate, safe and effective fire suppression measures are under taken.

Suppression strategies that are utilized range from direct control, minimizing areas burned, to indirect methods of containment and confinement. Confinement is defined by the Forest Service as an effort to limit wildfire spread within a predetermined area, principally by the use of natural or pre-constructed barriers. or environmental conditions. Suppression action may be minimal and limited to surveillance under certain conditions. Containment is an effort to surround the wildfire, and any spot fires within the control lines as needed. All reasonable measures necessary to keep the fires ~~spread~~ within a predetermined area under prevailing and predicted conditions will be used.

The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

The DNRC maintains a local facility with two full-time employees. One Forester is responsible for the timber harvest on state owned lands in the valley and one Fire Forester manages the fire crew and manages special uses. The Lincoln DNRC maintains a seasonal fire crew that consists of two fire engines with two people each and a dispatcher.

The Lincoln DNRC field office, located on Sucker Creek Road, was constructed in 2000. The facility is used as a wildland fire dispatch center and has the capability of expanding into an Emergency Operation Center (EOC) with 25 phone lines, generated electricity, four (4) computers with internet access and multiple radios. The Lincoln DNRC office is the location where residents of the Lincoln valley can obtain their burning permits, which are required by state law from May 1st to September 30th. Lincoln DNRC writes an average of 300 burning permits a year.

The DNRC and the other signatory agencies may conduct fire suppression activities on private land without the permission of the landowner when it is necessary to protect the National Forest or other federal, state and private lands, or in the execution of a mutual aid agreement with local fire departments. Permission should be obtained from the landowner where feasible ~~and~~ if suppression action would not be delayed. Neither the USFS nor the DNRC is required to take fire suppression action on structural or hazardous material (hazmat) fires. They may however, take appropriate measures to keep structures on forested lands from being destroyed by wildfire and will notify the agencies responsible for hazardous materials (hazmat) incidents.

The Lincoln DNRC works very closely with the USFS fire crews as well as the Lincoln Volunteer Fire Department, Helmville Fire Department, and Ovando Fire Department. This interagency corporation provides for rapid and effective wildland fire suppression in the Lincoln valley and the Blackfoot canyon.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

The Lincoln Volunteer Ambulance Service, a licensed non-profit organization, has been operating since 1964. The Lincoln Ambulance has been a licensed Advance Life Support Ambulance (ALS) since 2000. The service provides all levels of emergency medical service and transportation 24 hours a day, seven (7) days per week to an area that extends 38 miles east of Lincoln and 37 miles West of Lincoln. This area includes the communities of Helmville and Ovando. The ambulance currently is under the medical direction of an Emergency Physician at Benifis Health Care in Great Falls.

Since its inception the ambulance service has relied solely on unpaid volunteers. Currently (2005), the ambulance crew consists of one (1) Paramedic (NREMT - P), three (3) EMT Intermediates (NREMT 1-85), two (2) EMT-Basics with additional endorsements (NREMT-B), and two (2) EMT First Responders with additional endorsements (MT-EMT-F-3). Training for all ambulance crew members is extensive. The Paramedic level is a two year college degree program, at the EMT -I level about 600 hours of training are required, the EMT-B training program is 180 hours long, and the MT-EMT-F-3's require 100 hours of training. Training for the State of Montana endorsements varies at the direction of the medical director but these endorsements allow the EMT-B' s to administer limited medications, use advanced airway management devices and a manual defibrillator. The Ambulance Service also conducts approximately 100 hours of continuing education training for its members annually.

The Ambulance is dispatched by the 911-dispatch center operated by the Lewis and Clark County Sheriff's office in Helena. Notification of the volunteers is by pager.

The Ambulance responds to approximately 125 calls a year, each lasting an average of four (4) hours from 911 alarm to return to service in Lincoln. The majority of calls are attributed to illness, trauma, or motor vehicle accidents. From January of 2002 through March 2005, the Volunteer Ambulance Service had two (2) Defibrillation saves, two (2) CPR saves, approximately a dozen serious chest pain calls, and seven (7) critically injured motor vehicle accident patients, who without the rapid treatment provided would surely have perished before arrival at the hospital emergency department. Less than half of one (1) percent (0.5%) of ambulance runs end with the patient Dead on Arrival (DOA) at the hospital emergency room.

The Ambulance Service receives no governmental or agency funding and relies solely on fees collected for services and donations. The Ambulance Service operates two fully equipped ALS ambulances, a 2002 4X4 Type I ambulance and a 1989 2-wheel drive type III ambulance. Each ambulance is equipped with a Monitor/Defibrillator, Advanced Airway kit, ALS Medication and Drug kit, intravenous fluids, and all other basic and advanced life support supplies and equipment required by the State of Montana for the advanced life support level of care. The 1989 Type III, while still in excellent condition, will probably need replacement in the near future. Current (2005) replacement costs for a 2005 ambulance ranges from $140,000.00 to $162,000.00 based on the manufacturer and the vehicle configuration.

Emergency Helicopter Service

Aero medical support is provided by Mercy Flight from Benifis Health Care in Great Falls or Life Flight from St Patrick's Hospital in Missoula. Aero medical evacuation in this area is highly dependent on the weather and helicopter availability and service is frequently not available. Additional ground ambulance support is available from Helena, Missoula, or Great Falls if required, however the response times to the Lincoln area can exceed one and a half hours with an equal return time to the hospital.

Medical Services

The Parker Medical Center was located approximately four (4) miles west of Stemple Pass Road on Highway 200. As of April 2005, the Parker Medical Center no longer offered services. Medical services are available in cities of Helena, Great Falls, and Missoula. The County Cooperative Health Center in Helena is providing healthcare services to the Lincoln area, but only on a scheduled basis. The Health Center sends medical staff to Lincoln when sufficient numbers of patients are scheduled for healthcare.

LINCOLN LANDFILL DISTRICT

In June 1969, the Board of County Commissioners created the Lincoln Refuse Landfill District (Resolution 1969-7) to deal with the disposal of solid waste within the Lincoln and the Blackfoot Valley Area. The Lincoln Landfill Board administers

the District. This board consists of seven (7) members selected from the community at large, the Lincoln Community Council, and the Lewis and Clark Board of County Commissioners. This board has the authority to set the conditions of operation of the Transfer Site, subject to the approval of the Board of County Commissioners.

Solid waste from the Lincoln area is deposited at the Lincoln Solid Waste Transfer Site. The site is located 5 miles east of Lincoln on the south side of Highway 200. The site accepts all types of solid wastes: household and commercial garbage, metal, clean wood and compost, cardboard, and used oil. Metal, clean wood and compost are accepted at no charge. The Transfer Site is open for public use year round on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, except for posted holidays, from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Access to the Solid Waste Transfer Site is gained by displaying a Land Fill Card issued by the Lincoln Landfill Board or by payment to the attendant at the time of use. Residences and businesses in the Lincoln Refuse District, which has the same boundaries as School District #38, are issued access cards at a rate of $75.00 per card. This card entitles the holder to deposit 12 yards of refuge per year at the site. Beyond the 12-yard limit, the user is charged a fee of $7.00 per excess yard. Revenues for the landfill's operation are collected as special assessment fees. Table VI-2 shows the revenues and expenditures of the Landfill District from fiscal years 1995 to 2005. Revenues, less any refunds, include all special assessments, non-tax revenues, transfers and cash on hand. Expenditures include operation and maintenance cost; debt service, such as payment of principle and interest on construction loans; capital outlay; and operating reserve. Table VI-3 provides a detailed look at the Landfill District's revenues and expenses.

TABLE VI-2:
LINCOLN LANDFILL REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES BY FISCAL YEARS 1995-2005

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total Revenue	$136,379	$112,622	$129,649	$149,497	$121,765	$150,064	$135,658	$139,804	$106,769	$115,451	$114,706
Total Expenditures	$132,332	$140,128	$135,169	$ 86,946	$126,558	$110,743	$174,636	$105,723	$ 93,432	$119,352	$108,127
Net Income (Loss)	$ -	$(27,506)	$ (5,520)	$ 62,551	$ (4,793)	$ 39,321	$(38,978)	$ 34,080	$ 13,337	$ (3,901)	$ 6,578

(Source: Lewis and Clark County Treasures Office, 2005)

At the present time (2005), the Landfill Board has entered into a contractual agreement with Montana Waste Systems of Great Falls for the removal of commercial and household garbage. Montana Waste Systems also provides residential and commercial pickup of garbage within the District. This is arranged

between the individual user and Montana Waste Systems. The clean woodpile is burned periodically and the metal is periodically sold for recycling.

The Lincoln Solid Waste Board actively encourages recycling. It provides recycling bins for newspaper, clear glass, and steel cans. These items may be deposited in the "Binnies" located to the immediate east of the Lincoln Senior Citizens Center. Cardboard boxes, etc. may be deposited at a special location at the Transfer Site. The Landfill Board hopes to add facilities for plastics in the near future.

Table VI-3:
Lincoln Landfill Detailed Revenues and Expenditures
Fiscal Year 2003-2005

		Actual	Actual	Budget
		FY03	FY04	FY05
Revenues	Taxes/Special Assessments	$0	$0	$0
	Licenses & Permits	0	0	0
	Intergovernmental	0	0	0
	Charges for Services	5,572	8,249	20,200
	Fines & Forfeitures	0	0	0
	Miscellaneous	98,074	104,813	96,320
	Interest Earnings	3,123	1,619	1,500
	Other	0	0	0
	Total Revenues	**$106,769**	**$114,682**	**$118,020**
Expenditures	Personnel	0	0	0
	Operations	93,431	107,830	116,550
	Capital	0	11,522	10,000
	Total Expenditures	**$93,431**	**$119,352**	**$126,550**
	Excess (Deficiency) of revenues			
	over (under) expenditures	13,338	(4,671)	(8,530)
	Beginning Cash	**104,582**	**117,920**	**113,249**
	Ending Cash	**$117,920**	**$113,249**	**$104,719**

(Source: Lewis and Clark County Treasurers Office, 2005)

WASTE WATER TREATMENT

Within the Lincoln Planning Area two methods of wastewater treatment are utilized, the Lincoln/Lewis and Clark Sewer System and individual on-site waste water treatment systems.

Lincoln Sewer District

The Lincoln/Lewis and Clark Sewer System was constructed in 1983-85 utilizing state and federal construction financing grants. The community wastewater treatment system was needed due the shallow depth to ground water in the area and the inability to find suitable locations for treatment drainfield sites. Portions of the system became operational in 1984.

Figure 9 shows the service area for the system. The system is described as a facultative non-discharging lagoon system. Practically, the system has eliminated drainfields by functioning as an effluent collection and treatment facility. Solids are removed by pumping individual tanks and land application. The main components of the system are:

1) Individual septic tanks (1,000 - 2,000 gallon) located on the users property
2) Four inch lines connecting individual tanks to service collector lines located within public right-of-way
3) Four to eight inch diameter street mains
4) Two engineered lift stations with pressure mains where needed
5) Two facultative basins (six million gallons each) and a storage lagoon (fourteen million gallons)
6) Spray irrigation system.

Septage, or the solids, is collected in the individual on-site septic tanks. The septic tanks should be pumped approximately every three (3) to five (5) years depending upon use. The septage is removed by an employee of the District and applied on land owned by the Sewer District adjacent to the sewer lagoon.

In 1997, Lincoln was awarded a EPA grant and State Revolving Fund loan for $356,350 for improvements to the wastewater public facilities.

The Lincoln Sewer Board oversees the operation of the Lincoln Community sewer system. The Board consists of five members, who are elected by the popular vote of those registered voters within the sewer districts boundaries. Each member is elected for a three year term. The Board is responsible for the review of all applications for connection to the sewer system, adherence to financial contracts, collection of fees adequate to fund operating and reserve accounts, establishment of budgets, and the payment of the District's Financial

obligations. The Board is also responsible for hiring or contracting an operations manager and an accountant.

The operations manager is responsible for the daily operation and maintenance of the physical facility. He is also responsible for verifying that additional connections to the system are installed properly. The manager is on-call to address emergency problems.

The accountant is responsible for the day to day finances of the District. The accountant is responsible for the billing and collection of all fees and service charges, the payment of the District's debts, and general communication with regulatory and other government agencies.

On-Site Waste Water Treatment Systems

Those areas outside the Lincoln/Lewis and Clark Sewer Service Area are required to utilize on-site wastewater treatment systems. The type of system and size of drain field are governed by environmental factors such as slope of the land, proximity to surface water, proximity to groundwater, and soil characteristics. Typically, a minimum of a one-acre parcel is required to install an on-site wastewater treatment system. Smaller parcel size may be considered if evidence is submitted indicating no sanitary problems will result either on or off the site. The installation and use of cesspools or seepage pits is specifically prohibited by State Regulations. Sewage holding tanks may be used for seasonal cabins but cannot be used as a permanent method of sewage disposal.

The Lewis and Clark City/County Health Department is the primary regulatory agency permitting on-site wastewater treatment systems within the county. Newly created parcels, less than twenty acres in size, also require Montana Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, Water Quality Bureau review and permit. Most sites require a site evaluation to be conducted by a registered sanitarian. The site evaluation requires a test pit to be dug to the depth of eight (8) feet. Based on data collected during the site evaluation, the sanitarian will determine the suitability of the parcel for on-site waste water treatment, the size of septic tank required, the type of system, the size and location of the drainfield, and the 100% replacement area. Soils with a permeability of less than 0.06 inches per hour are unsuitable for standard subsurface on-site wastewater treatment systems. In areas that are questionable for high seasonal groundwater, depth to groundwater monitoring is required. Monitoring is usually conducted from the beginning of April until August. The monitoring period must be a minimum of (10) weeks in duration. No permit will be issued until the monitoring has been completed and the data reviewed.

Table VI-4 shows the minimum safe distances for siting the various component parts of an on-site treatment system.

TABLE VI - 4:
MINIMUM SAFE DISTANCES FOR SITING ON-SITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM (FEET)

	Sealed and Other Components	Absorption Systems
Public or Multi-User Well/Springs	100	100
Other Wells	50	100
Suction Lines	50	50
Cisterns	25	50
Roadcuts, Escarpments	10	25
Slopes > 25%	10	25
Property Boundaries	10	10
Subsurface Drains	10	10
Water Lines	10	10
Drainfields/Sand Mounds	10	10
Foundation Walls	10	10
Surface Water, Springs	50	100
Flood Plains	100	100

(Source: Lewis and Clark Co. On-Site Wastewater Treatment Regulations, 2003)

The sizing requirement for on-site wastewater treatment fields is based primarily on soil characteristics of the site and the estimated volume of wastewater flow. Soil texture, structure and type can be determined by using soil surveys published by the USDA Soil Conservation Services and soil data obtained as a result of the on-site evaluation. Construction of treatment fields in soils that are unsuitable, or having severe or very severe limitations is not permitted, unless the limiting factors are shown not to be present by field investigation. Table VI-5 shows the minimum length of pipe required, based on soil characteristics.

TABLE VI -5:
LINEAR FEET OF PERFORATED PIPE REQUIRED FOR RESIDENTIAL ON-SITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FIELDS

SIZING CHART - GRAVEL TRENCHES (gravity = 2 foot wide, pressure dosed = 3 foot wide)

				(225 gpd)	(300 gpd)	(350 gpd)	(400 gpd)	(450 gpd)
Soil Type	**Texture**	**App. Rate**	**Type**	**2 br**	**3 br**	**4 br**	**5 br**	**6 br**
II	Course to medium Sand	0.8	Gravity	140	190	220	250	280
			Pressure Dosed	95	125	145	170	190
III	Fine Sand to Loamy Sand	0.6	Gravity	190	250	290	335	375
			Pressure Dosed	125	170	195	220	250
IV	Loam, Sandy Loam, Silt Loam	0.5	Gravity	225	300	350	400	450
			Pressure Dosed	150	200	235	270	300
V	Loam, Sandy Clay Loam, Silt Loam	0.4	Gravity	280	375	440	500	565
			Pressure Dosed	290	250	290	335	375
VI	Silty Clay Loam	0.3	Gravity	375	500	585	670	750
			Pressure Dosed	250	335	390	445	500
VII	Clays, Silty Clays	0.2	Gravity	565	750	875	1000	1125
			Pressure Dosed	375	500	585	665	750

All 36" wide trenches must be pressure dosed Must be pressure dosed

(Source: Lewis and Clark County On-Site Wastewater Treatment Regulations, 2003)

Soils in Type VI may be easily damaged during construction of the trenches. Special engineering and/or construction practices may be required. Also the amount of linear feet of perforated pipe required in Soil Type VI may be reduced by 30 percent when using an approved pressure dosing system. Pressure dosing systems will be required for any site requiring more than 500 linear feet of drainfield regardless of soil type.

During the period between 1973 and 2005, the County Environmental Health Division records indicate 296 onsite wastewater treatment systems were approved and installed or replaced in the Lincoln Planning Area. Table VI-6 indicates the number of systems installed or replaced by year.

Table VI-6
On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems
Installation & Replacement
1973-2005*

1973	2	**1989**	9
1974	0	**1990**	5
1975	2	**1991**	8
1976	0	**1992**	12
1977	2	**1993**	14
1978	3	**1994**	NA
1979	5	**1995**	27
1980	3	**1996**	16
1981	4	**1997**	16
1982	5	**1998**	18
1983	2	**1999**	18
1984	5	**2000**	13
1985	7	**2001**	14
1986	4	**2002**	15
1987	5	**2003**	14
1988	16	**2004**	22
		2005	12

*Data for 2005 is through the end of July

(Source: County Environmental Health Division, 2005)

Lincoln does not appear to have any existing water quality problems from septic effluent; however, as most domestic water is drawn from the unconfined alluvial aquifer in the valley, on-site septic disposal will need to be managed carefully.

Proper installation and maintenance of on-site wastewater treatment systems is essential for maintaining the environmental quality of the area, especially in areas with shallow depth to groundwater. There are reasons that treatment systems fail. Failure could be caused by one or a combination of the following:

1. Failure to have septic tank pumped on a regular basis. Collection of sewage sludge and solids decreases the storage capacity of the tank and decreases storage time of effluent. Decreased storage time results in a higher percentage of untreated effluent, with a higher percentage of solids being released to the drainfield. This can be prevented by having the septic tank pumped every three (3) to five (5) years depending on usage and tank size.

2. Hydraulic overloading occurs when the application of septic tank effluent is at a rate higher than the rate at which the effluent can

percolate through the soil in the drainfield. This is caused by inadequate sizing or design of the system, or the additional loading of the system by the addition of appliances such as garbage disposals or the addition of additional bathroom or kitchen facilities to the system. This can be prevented by assessing the treatment system's capacity prior to additional loading.

3. Suspended solids clogging occurs when the septic tank is operating Improperly and a portion of the solids, which normally settle out in the tank flow to the drainfield in the effluent. This can be prevented or remedied by regular pumping of tanks.

4. Poor drainage allows the ground water table to reach levels, which intersect with the percolation area of the wastewater treatment system that will result in a reduction of the drainfield capacity. This may be caused by poor initial site selection or by development activity in the surrounding area that would result in the alteration of drainage patterns or in increased volumes of runoff.

Improperly functioning systems can lead to a myriad of public health concerns. Increases in bacterial or viral organisms could contaminate the soils and water and lead to disease outbreaks. Improperly functioning systems can also lead to elevated levels of nitrates in the soils and groundwater. The EPA limit for nitrates in public water supplies is 10 parts per million (ppm or milligrams per liter, mgll). Higher nitrate levels in groundwater are a concern primarily because they cause a condition called methemoglobinemia (poor oxygen uptake by the blood) in infants less than six (6) months of age and gastrointestinal problems in individuals of all ages.

Areas of elevated nitrates or other contamination due to improperly functioning on-site wastewater treatment systems are not documented in the Lincoln Planning Area. However; there have not been any investigations conducted to assess sub-surface hydrochemistry or regional septage handling characteristics of the alluvial gravels that contain most of the septic tanks in the valley.

EDUCATION

Public education has been taking place in the Lincoln community almost since the community was founded. Lincoln's first school was located at the original townsite in Lincoln Gulch. The school was built in the late 1860s or early 1870s. After the Battle of the Little Bighorn in 1876, the townspeople in Lincoln Gulch constructed a fort as protection from the perceived threat of an Indian uprising territory-wide. The new fort housed the school and served as a town meeting place. After Lincoln moved down to the valley, the new School District 30 built a school at the Cameron Ranch, south on Dalton Mountain Road, the principal

route to the new community. A few years later the school was relocated at the Spring Creek overflow, the site of Leeper's Motel today. School District 30 was split in 1890, and the new School District 38 erected a school on the Present day site in the early 1900s on land donated by George Miller. School District 39 built a school at the junction of Alice Creek Road and what today is Highway 200. The School District 39 School was later moved to the Mike Horse Mine.

In the 1920s the original school and teacher's home was removed from the property and a larger school building constructed. In 1957, Elementary School Districts 38 and 39 were consolidated to form School District 38. As the facility was an elementary school only, high school students in the Lincoln area were bused to Augusta.

In June of 1978, a fire destroyed the old elementary school building. The present facility was constructed between 1979 and 1980. The new elementary school was opened in the winter of 1980. In 1982 the Lincoln High School District was formed, and high school students no longer had to travel to Augusta to attend classes. An addition to the high school was added to the north end of the gymnasium and was fully usable by the end of the 1982-83 school year. In March of 1990, the District acquired additional property adjacent to and east of the existing property. In the summer of 1990, a large addition was added to the southern end of the existing elementary school building. This addition consisted of three (3) classrooms, a library, expanded office space, nurse’s office, bathroom, and a staff lounge. In the fall of 1994, the Industrial Arts Department completed construction of a 30’ by 30’ storage shed.

To accommodate an increase in high school enrollment, the district leased a modular unit in 1994. In 1997, the district purchased the modular unit. In the spring of 1995, a volunteer community effort was undertaken to develop the property acquired in 1990. The improvements added included a football field, track, and physical education area. In the fall of 1995, community volunteers and the Industrial Arts Department constructed a playground for the elementary school.

In 1997, a wing was added to the west side of the gymnasium, which was to house a weight room and physical education storage. In 1998, the wing was expanded to the north. This addition housed an additional classroom and an Interactive TV (distance learning) room.

Projected growth in the student population, and the results of a facility evaluation by an architectural firm, prompted the board to purchase 26.86 acres of land east of town in 1998. In 2001, District #38 was a successful recipient of a School Renovation grant. The grant was written for the development of a new water well with a well house for the school district on the newly acquired property. The project blossomed from a small well house structure to a 40’ by 60’ multi-purpose

building. The building was funded through the grant and the district building reserve fund and was partially constructed through volunteer labor and the high school Industrial Arts Construction class. The multi-purpose building houses a high school football dressing and storage area, junior high football dressing and storage area, track storage area, general school storage area, well pump room, concession area, and football crows nest.

The Lincoln Community has a long history of local involvement with school affairs. The Parent, Teacher, and Student Association (PTSA) is active in school social functions as well as athletic events.

The school's facilities have become an important community meeting place for the following: School Board, Community Council, PTSA, Lincoln Arts Council, Girls Scouts, Boy Scouts, 4-H, Hunter Safety courses, Bow Hunter safety classes, Cycle America, Lincoln Volunteer Ambulance and Fire Department training classes, various church and civic groups.

Besides the academic curriculum, the District's students participate in girls' and boys' basketball, track, and cross country, girls' volleyball and boys' football. Other extra-curricular activities for students in grades 7 through 12 include: Aviation Club, L Club, Student Council, Guitar Club, Chorus, Speech and Drama, Yearbook, Student Newspaper, and Arts Club.

Table VI-7 shows the student enrollment for all grades K-12 from the 1995-1996 school year through the 2004-2005 school year.

TABLE VI - 7:
LINCOLN SCHOOLS TOTAL ENROLLMENT
1995-2005

Grade Levels	1995-1996	1996-1997	1997-1998	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
K-6	131	135	154	155	130	119	111	102	94	80
7-8	38	43	39	38	44	42	46	44	44	31
9-12	68	65	79	84	68	72	68	84	88	81
Total Enrollment	**237**	**243**	**264**	**278**	**242**	**233**	**225**	**230**	**226**	**192**

(Source: Tweet, 2005)

School District #38 is governed by a five (5) member School Board, elected by majority vote of registered voters within the District. Each Board Member is elected to a three-year term. The terms of the members are staggered.

A superintendent is hired by the Board to oversee the operation of the school. In the 2004-2005 school year, the District's staff included 20 teachers, including the

high school principal; 2 office staff; 2 cafeteria staff; 1 school nurse, and 2 maintenance staff. The District also operates two school bus routes, which employ two drivers. The School District is one of the largest employers within the Planning Area and the 2004-2005 school year had a payroll over $893,380. Table VI-8 shows the annual budgets for District #38 for the school years 1996-1997 through 2004-2005.

TABLE VI - 8:
SCHOOL DISTRICT #38 YEARLY BUDGETS
(1996-2005)

	1996-1997	1997-1998	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
Total Students	243	264	277	242	233	225	230	226	192
Annual budget	$981,980	$1,067,362	$1,125,129	$1,187,787	$1,187,780	$1,226,726	$1,262,733	$1,242,858	$1,317,940
Per Student	$4,109	$4,043	$4,061	$4,908	$5,098	$5,452	$5,490	$5,499	$6,864

(Source: Tweet, 2005)

Educational Attainment

The percentage of individuals completing high school (12 years) within the Lincoln CDP is slightly lower than the State average. The percentage of individuals in the Lincoln CDP earning a bachelor's degree is less than the State and Lewis and Clark County. Table VI-9 provides a comparison of educational attainment for individuals 18 years old and over.

TABLE VI - 10:
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT,
18 YEARS OLD AND OVER

Educational Attainment	Montana	Lewis and Clark County	Lincoln CDP
Percent High School Graduate (incl. equivalency)	86.0%	89.8%	79.4%
Percent Bachelor's Degree or Higher	22.0%	28.8%	12.0%
Total Population 18 Years and Over	67,2251	41,466	808

(Source: U.S. Dept of Commerce, Census Bureau, Summary File 3, 2000)

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Lewis and Clark County is a political subdivision of the State of Montana. The county seat is located in Helena. A three (3) member Board of County Commissioners is responsible for the operation and management of the county's activities. Each member of the Commission is elected at large and serves a staggered six (6) year term. There are nine additional elected officials. The County government is made up of twenty (20) major departments and employs approximately 400 people. Table VI-10 lists the departments and number of employees by department. Only four (4) county employees, two (2) in the road department and two (2) sheriff's deputies, work full-time in the Lincoln Planning Area.

TABLE VI – 10: LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY EMPLOYEES BY DEPARTMENTS (2005)

Department	Employees
County Commission	3
Administrative Services	9
Technical Services	11
County Attorney	12
Clerk of Court	9
Public Defender	8
Justice Court	4
Sheriff's Department	68
Coroner	2
Treasurer	23
Superintendent of Schools	1
Road and Bridge Department	23
Building	12
Disaster and Emergency Services	2
Cooney Convalescent Home	98
Health Department	60
Planning Department	9
Extension Service	3
Forestvale Cemetary	3
Fairgrounds	4

(Source: Lewis and Clark County Administrative and Financial Department, 2005)

TAXBASE

Taxable valuation for Lewis & Clark County and School District #38 is detailed for fiscal years 1995 through 2004 in Table VI-11. In the ten year period shown, the County income has increased approximately 9.3 percent, from $80.4 million to 87.8 million. In that same ten year period, District #38's taxable valuation increased approximately 12.5 percent, from 2.1 million to 2.37 million.

TABLE VI - 11:
LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY AND DISTRICT #38 TAXABLE VALUATION
1995-2004

Tax Year	County Taxable Valuation	District #38 Taxable Valuation
1995	$80,425,942	$2,109,139.00
1996	$83,872,906	$2,050,831.00
1997	$85,805,813	$2,120,932.00
1998	$88,683,191	$2,316,435.00
1999	$87,271,626	$2,334,132.00
2000	$82,457,667	$2,217,487.00
2001	$83,323,679	$2,263,254.00
2002	$84,833,989	$2,313,861.00
2003	$85,216,857	$2,287,946.00
2004	$87,892,306	$2,374,246.00

(Source: Lewis and Clark County Treasurers Office, 2005)

Lewis and Clark County tax income is detailed by mill levy in Table VI-12. A mill levy is the level of property tax set by a local government. One mill equals one one-thousandth of the total taxable value of the particular jurisdiction.

TABLE VI - 12:
LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY PROPERTY TAX MILL LEVIES
BY FISCAL YEARS
1995 -2004

FUND/Fiscal Year	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
STATE UNIVERSITY	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
STATE EQUALIZATION	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
V0CATIONAL TECHNOLOGY	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50
WELFARE	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00				
COUNTY ELEMENTARY	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00
ELEMENTARY RETIREMENT	22.67	22.89	18.42	23.00	22.12	27.62	28.51	29.36	27.41
COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00
SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION	5.24	5.08	2.50	2.45	5.10	2.79	2.92	4.11	6.80
HIGH SCHOOL RETIREMENT	11.35	11.22	12.82	12.40	13.61	16.20	16.12	16.95	14.47
ALL-PURPOSE	25.00	40.80	23.38	24.79	28.11	28.57	29.31	30.76	31.91
ANIMAL CONTROL	0.89								
AIRPORT	0.59	0.33	0.13						
HUMAN SERVICES	3.00								
BRIDGE	8.00								
CITY COUNTY HEALTH	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.30	5.91	6.00	6.15	6.44	6.67
DISTRICT COURT	6.00	6.00	5.90	6.25	6.97	2.58	2.66	2.81	2.93
PARKS	0.16	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.09	0.09
LIBRARY	5.00	5.00	4.92	5.22	5.49	20.08	20.22	21.50	22.24
EMERGENCY DISASTER				8.40	6.60				
MENTAL HEALTH	0.56	0.56	0.55	0.48	0.54	0.55	0.56	0.59	0.61
NOXIOUS WEED	2.00								
SENIOR CITIZENS	1.72	0.72	0.71	0.75	0.84	0.85	0.87	0.91	0.94
COUNTY EXTENSION	1.08	1.08	0.89	0.94	1.05	1.06	1.09	1.14	1.18
PUBLIC SAFETY			20.00	21.44	45.28	46.08	47.11	49.26	50.93
HEALTH FACILITIES				3.00	3.07	3.00	3.00	2.07	1.80
WORKER'S COMPENSATION	0.36	0.36	0.35	0.37					
PERMISSIVE MEDICAL LEVY	2.58	2.93				9.00	9.00	8.55	8.55
FAIRGROUNDS	0.90								11.09
ENTITLEMENT LEVY						13.78	14.09	14.73	15.22
ROAD	14.39	16.23	15.65	16.62	18.28	18.19	18.47	19.05	19.60
PLANNING	2.00	2.00	1.94	2.16	2.47	2.45	2.49	2.57	2.64
EMERGENCY DISASTER	2.00				2.00			2.00	
SCHOOL DISTRICT #38	124.37	120.03	109.91	94.78	99.01	136.80	133.96	130.45	138.70

(Source: Lewis and Clark County Treasurers Office, 2005

CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL

Upper Blackfoot Historical Society

The Upper Blackfoot Historical Society is a non-profit 501(c) organization located in Lincoln. The Society compiled and issued a historical text, "Goldpans and Singletrees", detailing the economic and cultural development of Lincoln and its early families. The book was published in 1994 and is available locally.

Currently, the Society displays historical artifacts at a self-guided outdoor museum west of the Lincoln Townsite. The museum is ~~to~~ located on land furnished for that purpose by High Country Beef Jerky, a local business.

The Society enjoys wide support from the community as well as local business and governmental organizations.

Community Hall Board

The Lincoln Community Hall is a historical structure in the center of the Lincoln Townsite. The Hall, as it is known locally, is the center of many of the community benefits and activities. The Community Hall Board is a non-profit organization made up of volunteers who schedule events and provide maintenance and upkeep to the building.

The Board is responsible for the upkeep and operation of the Lincoln Community Hall and has actively cared for the facility for many years. Most recently, roof replacement, log chinking and painting projects were undertaken, largely with volunteer labor. Upcoming projects on the Hall include addressing drainage on the site that has been affected by nearby highway improvements over time. Also, replacement of some sill logs on the building is being planned. The Hall was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1987.

Lincoln Rodeo Club

The Lincoln Rodeo Club is one of the oldest community organizations in Lincoln, having been founded in 1952. The club has been sponsoring the Lincoln Fourth of July Rodeo annually for 53 years.

The rodeo, through the years, has grown to be a very popular event in Lincoln. Spectators and participants from all over the United States and abroad, including Australia and European countries, have attended this event. Volunteers, donations, and money made at the gate make the rodeo club a self-supporting organization. The rodeo has a large economic effect on the community due to the influx of out-of-town spectators. A concession stand helps support the rodeo grounds. The rodeo club purchased the land the rodeo grounds are on in 1995 and new fences and chutes were installed recently.

Lincoln Council for the Arts

The Council for the Arts is a group of local volunteers who actively seek out and engage various artists, musical and theatrical, to perform in Lincoln. Over the years many fine presentations have made their way to Lincoln due to the efforts of the Council.

Race to the Sky

The Race to the Sky is an annual 350-mile sled dog race that begins and ends in Lincoln. Race to the Sky offers one of the most varied elevation long distance sled dog races in the lower 48. With multiple peaks and valleys, the trail is a challenge for both the mushers and dog teams.

Public viewing areas are located near guest ranches, lodges and restaurants along the route that also serve as check points for the human and dog team competitors. These areas, as well as related events throughout the year, draw spectators and participants to Lincoln and the surrounding areas.