



News Release for Colerain Fire

For Immediate Release

Date: **March 20, 2014**

Work on the oil pipeline leak in the Oak Glen Nature Preserve in the area of 9220 East Miami River Road continues around the clock. Agencies involved in the pipeline repair and cleanup of the affected area have set up a command center at the Obergeising Soccer Complex (Formerly Dravo Park). Colerain Township Administration was recently added to the Unified Command structure overseeing the operations. The Unified Command structure ensures each stakeholder opportunities to include area specific input into the overall operations.

Information from today's 10:00am media briefing included:

- The location of the pipeline break was identified overnight to be a 4-5 inch crack on the underside of the pipeline approximately one mile from the wetlands pond near East Miami River Road. The agencies involved are formulating a plan for the repair of the pipeline and how to restart their production. The plan has several steps to go before it is finalized by the Department of Transportation. There is no timeline on how quickly this plan can be developed and approved.
- Results from the water samples taken by Hamilton County Health Department will hopefully be back some time this afternoon. These results, if received, will be disseminated at the 6:30pm media briefing.
- The Great Parks of Hamilton County personnel have been working diligently with members of the EPA and other environmental organization to identify and protect any threatened wildlife, including various species of salamanders. An oil covered

“streamside” salamander was recovered yesterday and cleaned and is at a recovery center awaiting reintroduction to its habitat. Steps have been taken to capture any migrating “cave salamanders” to prevent them from entering the affected areas.

The command staff and operational personnel continue to work throughout the days and evenings with periodic operational briefing taking place throughout the days. Media briefings will be conducted shortly after the operational briefings to provide updates on the progress and any significant information that occurred throughout the previous operational period.

Media briefings at the command site on east Miami River Road will take place at 10:00am and 6:30pm each day.

The next media briefing will be at 6:30pm on 3-20-2014.

Questions or inquiries into this incident may be directed to Public Information Officer: Captain Steve Conn at 513-615-8698, sconn@colerain.org,