



CONNECTIONS

Western Ohio Chapter • National Electrical Contractors Association



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Studebaker Electric *revitalizing the earth*

Landfills are essential, but not for food waste.

Organic waste decomposes anaerobically in landfills, producing methane—a greenhouse gas 25x more potent than CO₂.

Food waste accounts for nearly 40% of landfill material, wasting valuable nutrients that could regenerate soil.

The solution? Redirecting your organic waste into BioDigesters reduces emissions, extends landfill capacity, and supports the circular economy.

Earth Peak Solutions, located in South Charleston, Ohio transforms food waste into regenerative resources using BioDigesters. These capture carbon and create fertilizer to support thriving farms, fields and gardens. Their Collections Service

offers a reliable and sustainable solution for restaurants and businesses generating food waste. They



provide clean, convenient containers and schedule regular pickups to ensure that organic waste is managed efficiently and responsibly.

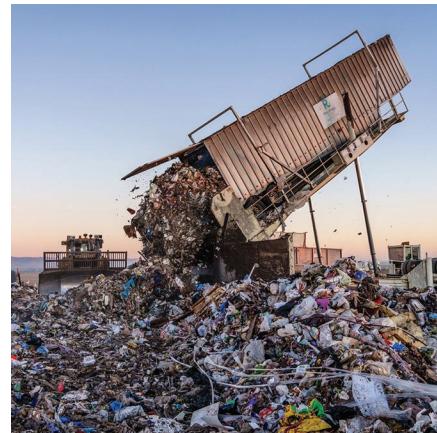
Studebaker Electric is the Electrical Contractor for the South Charleston EcoPark1, installing all the electrical components

including a 4,000 amp switch gear which is required to run the BioDigesters. A 120 ton crane was employed to set the

BioDigester. This is the pilot plant and three more will be built in the near future. As Earth Peak Solutions expands, Studebaker will continue installing BioDigesters, imported from Poland, all over the country.

Decades of synthetics have taken their toll. Overuse of chemical fertilizers depletes organic matter, leaving soil lifeless and compacted. The excessive use of nitrogen and phosphorus disrupts soil ecosystems and diminishes crop quality. Poor soil health disrupts the balance of

microbial communities, reducing beneficial microbes and creating conditions where harmful pathogens can thrive. And weak soil leads to erosion, washing away vital nutrients.



The bottom line is that degraded soils contribute to climate change and reduce agricultural sustainability. Earth Peak and Studebaker offer an alternative.

Maxwell Lightning Protection at Put-In-Bay

The Put-in-Bay Aquatic Visitor Center, located on South Bass Island, is currently undergoing a significant \$6.2 million renovation aimed at enhancing its educational offerings and preserving the historic structure. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Wildlife initiated this project in early 2024, with an expected completion and reopening in August, 2025.



Key Aspects of the Renovation:

Structural Enhancements: Addressing longstanding structural issues, improving waterproofing, and installing a new roof to ensure the building's longevity.

Accessibility Improvements: Constructing an ADA-accessible ramp and entrance to accommodate all visitors

Modernized Exhibits: Updating the facility with interactive displays and exhibits that showcase Lake Erie's ecosystem and its historically significant fishing species,

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Chapel Electric project DMAX expansion

General Motors is undertaking a significant expansion of its DMAX facility in Brookville, Ohio, with a \$920 million investment aimed at enhancing production capacity for its Duramax diesel engines used in heavy-duty trucks like the GMC Sierra and Chevrolet Silverado. DMAX also has another facility in Moraine.

The Brookville plant will expand from 250,000 square feet to approximately 1.1 million square feet, effectively quadrupling its size.

Chapel Electric, along with Superior Great Lakes Electric, installed the necessary electrical systems required for this expansion including: medium voltage lineup, 14 new 4,000 amp substations and a new central utilities plant. In

addition, Chapel installed all the general power, lighting, fire alarm system, and security systems.

Chapel also integrated BMS (Building Management

and life safety, and security and access controls. BMS uses sensors, controllers, and a central interface (software with a dashboard) that feed data like room



Maxwell cont'd

such as walleye, smallmouth bass, and yellow perch.

Climate Control Systems: Installing air conditioning and updating heating systems to enhance visitor comfort during varying weather conditions.

The renovation is funded by capital funds allocated by Governor Mike DeWine and the Ohio General Assembly.

During the renovation period, the center and its dock are closed to the public. Upon reopening in August 2025, the facility aims to provide an enriched educational experience, connecting visitors with Lake Erie's rich ecosystem and the efforts to preserve it.

During construction, Maxwell Lightning Protection installed the lightning protection system which does not attract, repel, or prevent a lightning strike. Rather, it

System) into the new facility. It's essentially the brain of a building, used to monitor, control and optimize various electrical and mechanical systems. This includes HVAC, lighting systems, fire

temperature, occupancy, and humidity into the system. Then BMS makes real-time decisions like lowering the A/C when a room is unoccupied or dimming lights when daylight is sufficient.

provides specified pathways on which lightning can travel, carrying the destructive power of the lightning strike safely into the ground.

Two seasoned installers Dylan Maggard and Dave Cochran led the crew. "This job presented more unique challenges than you normally would expect for a remodeled building. Being at the mercy of the

schedule is a challenge I wasn't used to," says MLP Technician Dylan Maggard.



MLP Dylan Maggard



Put-In-Bay Aquatic Visitors Center under renovation.

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Your comments, suggestions and questions are welcome! Contact the Western Ohio Chapter - NECA.

website: www.wocneca.com
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ESI Electrical Contractors *at WPAFB*

Wright-Patterson Air Force Base has been a leader in military aviation development from the time of airplane inventors Wilbur and Orville Wright to today's aerospace age. With over 30,000 employees, including military, civilian and contractors,

Wright-Patterson is the largest single site employer in the state of Ohio with an economic impact of \$4.2 billion per year. The base covers more than 8,000 acres of land (12.5 square miles) and provides operational support for more than 100 associate units located at Wright-Patterson.

The WPAFB Intelligence Production Center 3 (IPC3) Bldg. 10854 project was a partnership between ESI Electrical Contractors and Chapel Electric for the construction of a 250,000 sq. ft, 5-story SCIF office facility to expand the customer's existing



facility and mission capability/capacity. The General Contractor was Messer Construction and the electrical contract size was \$33.8M.

The ESI project team was responsible for installing new 12.5kV primary underground duct banks and cabling to provide a redundant feed

to the facilities new main-tie-main switchboard setup equipped with a new HMI/PCMS automatic control system. Backing up this facility, they installed the 5th 2MW generator and expanded the existing paralleling gear to tie them all together providing the facility with redundant backup power as well to avoid any impact to critical mission activity.

Utilizing vertical buss risers for each different power system to power

integrated switchboard setups to serve each floor. Allowed ESI to consolidate the footprint of the electrical rooms to provide the most usable space to the end user as possible.

Other electrical systems included installation of LED lighting and lighting controls system, fire alarm and mass notification systems, as well as working closely with the end users to further fit out



their specific spaces to fit their needs.

"ESI was also responsible for the installation of a first-of-kind fiber optic cabling network throughout the entire facility," says Project Executive Scott Howard with ESI. "Working closely with the engineering and sales

team from Corning, we were able to successfully deploy the cabling solution and customize it to fit the needs of the customer."

Additionally, there is a very extensive security system installed consisting of intrusion detection, access controls and closed-circuit television systems. The system had to provide 100% coverage of the surrounding area with overlapping PTZ

style cameras that could also be used with the capability of facial recognition. The ACS/IDS systems covered over 250 controlled access points within the facility.

The base is headquarters for a vast, worldwide logistics system, a world-class laboratory research function, and is the foremost acquisition and development center in the U.S. Air Force. Dozens of associate organizations representing a broad spectrum of Air Force and Department of Defense activities call Wright-Patterson home.

Maxwell Upgrades Crew Stadium

The Columbus Crew stadium, home to the Columbus Crew professional soccer team, recently underwent some upgrades, including a new roof.

Maxwell Lightning Protection had to remove their original Lightning Protection (LP) system and install a new lightning projection system on



the entire roof. "The biggest challenge was redoing our down conductors for the system," says Clay Wanamaker, the LP Technician for the project.

Clay started working in the industry a decade ago. His first construction job was at Dayton Fire Protection installing fire sprinkler systems. He also worked as an electrician on residential projects, both new and renovations. Clay has been a Journeyman with Maxwell for four years installing LP on commercial and residential jobs.



MLP Clay Wanamaker.



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