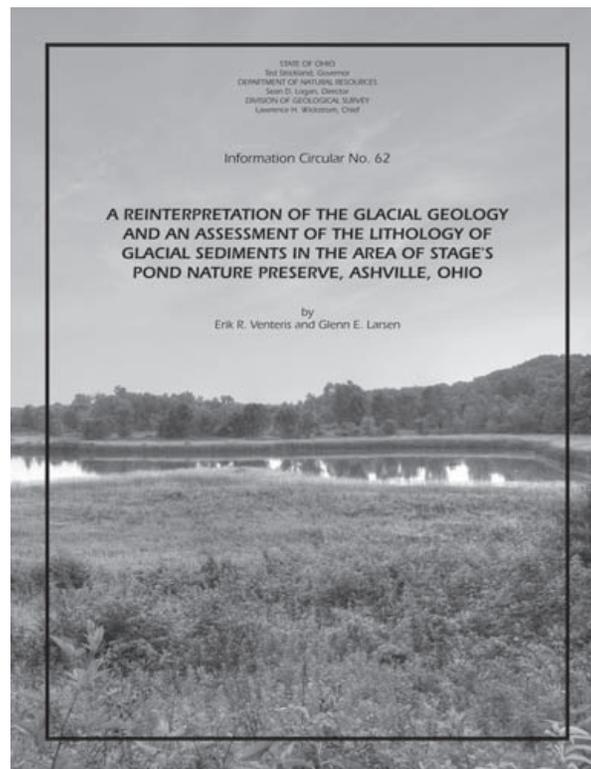


Available from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources,
Division of Geological Survey

A Reinterpretation of the Glacial Geology and an Assessment of the Lithology of Glacial Sediments in the Area of Stage's Pond Nature Preserve, Ashville, Ohio

IC 62
2009

By Erik R. Venteris and Glenn E. Larsen



A recent study conducted by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), Division of Geological Survey offers a new interpretation of how Stage's Pond, in Ashville, Ohio, was formed and an analysis of the glacial sediments in the surrounding area. The study, which was conducted at the request of the ODNR Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, includes an assessment of the sediments in and surrounding the pond and the ability of those sediments to transmit water.

Thought to be about 14,000 years old, Stage's Pond was previously interpreted as a glacial kettle lake, which forms when an ice block or glacier melts and leaves behind a depression. The new interpretation uses sediment analysis to suggest that Stage's Pond was formed by a moulin, a hole or shaft in a glacier scoured out by meltwater. The moulin acted as a conduit for meltwater to carve out a depression in the underlying glacial sediment where the pond is now located.

The sediment analysis was conducted to address public concerns raised by water wells previously drilled near the nature preserve and how these wells could affect the water level of Stage's Pond.

Information Circular 62 will be particularly useful to environmentalists, glacial geologists, and citizens interested in the geological history of Stage's Pond and how future water wells drilled nearby may impact the pond's ecosystem.

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