

The Columbus Dispatch

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Environment Runoff trenches ditched

By Spencer Hunt
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

State transportation officials will stop using fill meant to cut pollution from rain-soaked roads after study showed they do work.
Since 2005, the Department of Transportation has listed exfiltration as a pollution feature that could be installed in new highways in Ohio.
The trenches are supposed to reduce concrete rain runoff.



SleepPhones Audio Headband Sleep System

\$49.99 AT WWW.BROOKSTONE.COM

For anyone who sleeps with a snorer, headphones can be a perfect way to drown out the noise. Or the SleepPhones can simply provide a soothing melody for nighttime rituals. Developed by a physician to promote natural relaxation, the headphones are sewn into a lightweight fleece headband, making them more comfortable than ear buds and more convenient than a stereo.



High: 48 • Low: 39
Details on Page B10

Health-care site much improved, White House says

Two months after the launch of HealthCare.gov, Obama administration officials said yesterday that the maligned website's functionality is greatly improved. Officials said the site, which can now handle at least 800,000 users per day, still needs some fixes but should allow many more people to shop for health-insurance plans. • Page A11



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HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS

You've heard of the "12 days of Christmas," right? Today, we continue our 12 days of holiday gift suggestions — to help you embrace the season, not dread it. Our annual slate of ideas will run through Dec. 10.
Today: soothing gifts • Tuesday: gifts for music lovers



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Lush Bath Bomb
\$3.95 to \$9.95 AT LUSH COSMETICS, EASTON TOWN CENTER AND POLARIS FASHION PLACE (614-337-1952, 614-846-6353; WWW.LUSHUSA.COM)
The word *bomb* might not evoke the most relaxing of feelings, but the inventive bath bomb should tingle the senses of even the most stressed people. The handmade sphere fizzes and dissolves in the water, releasing mood-enhancing fragrances and moisturizing butter. To enhance the holiday spirit, the company offers festive bombs in the shapes of snowmen, Santa and gingerbread houses.



Umbra Aquala Bath Tub Caddy
\$44.99 AT WWW.MACYS.COM OR WWW.UMBRA.COM
Unlike typical bath caddies, the tub accessory doesn't hold shampoo or conditioner. It has a cup holder perfect for a glass of wine and a foldaway book support to keep that recent *New York Times* best-seller from getting wet. Expandable to fit most any tub, the caddy promises to be the perfect companion for any bath soaker.



Glossybox
\$18.33 TO \$21 A MONTH AT WWW.GLOSSYBOX.COM
The gift is sure to delight any woman who loves beauty products and continue surprising her throughout the year. With a year's subscription, Glossybox will send the recipient a gift box every month filled with five or six luxury makeup items (one box contained perfume, face cream, lip gloss, mascara and exfoliating gel) from top-of-the-line brands.



The Man Can
\$40.99 AT ORVIS, THE SHOPS AT WORTHINGTON PLACE (614-436-3422, WWW.ORVIS.COM)
Even the man in your life deserves some pampering. He can soothe his hard-earned calluses with a jar of Fisherman's Hand Butter or add zing to his shave with Spicy Shave, both of which are found in a collection of men's skin-care products from the Plum Island Soap Co. Packaged in a silver paint can, the gift includes a manly bar of soap and Bay Rum body oil.
— Allison Ward
award@dispatch.com

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