

DISTRICT DIGEST

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BRUNSWICK SEWER DISTRICT *Protecting Maine's Environment*



The wastewater treatment plant staff was honored in September by the Maine Waste Water Control Association with the Richard B. Goodenow Award. This award is presented annually *In recognition of excellence in operations and the maintenance of a Municipal Wastewater Treatment Facility.* The namesake of the award, Mr. Goodenow, began his career with the Brunswick Sewer District before moving on to become superintendent of the treatment plant in Falmouth.

Front row, L to R: Operator Tom Mason, Lab Technician Jennifer Nicholson, and Operator Dan Munsey. Back row L to R: Operator Jason Prout, Supervisor Greg Thulen, and Senior Operator Matt Densmore.



REMINDERS

- For those of you still watering, remember you still may be eligible for the outside watering adjustment. Please call 729-0148 ext 110 to receive your credit.
- Before your contractor digs, remember to call Dig Safe (1-888-344-7233). It's free and it's the law.
- When experiencing a sewer system problem, please contact the District first. The 24-hour emergency pager is 580-3175.

TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE

In 2012 the District selected Wright-Pierce of Topsham, Maine to conduct an evaluation of its Harry G. Shulman Water Pollution Control Facility to strategically plan its infrastructure needs and improvements...for the next 20-plus years.¹

Located on Pine Tree Road, the original wastewater treatment plant was constructed in 1966 to provide primary treatment only

(sedimentation) of incoming wastewater. The facility was expanded in 1983 to provide an additional primary sedimentation basin (increasing the capacity to its current 3.85 million gallons per day) along with septage receiving improvements. The first major upgrade was undertaken in 1989 to add secondary treatment consisting of trickling filters, secondary clarifiers, chlorine contact

tanks, sludge dewatering systems, odor control facilities, and the Pumping and Process Buildings. While other minor improvements have been implemented since that time, most of the treatment facility is between 22 to 45 years old and some of the existing process equipment and building systems are reaching the end of their useful lives, in spite of meticulous maintenance and upkeep.²

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¹Wastewater Treatment Plant Evaluation for the Brunswick Sewer District, Wright-Pierce, November 2012

²Excerpted from the Executive Summary, Wastewater Treatment Plant Evaluation, Wright-Pierce, November 2012

TRENCHLESS PIPE REPAIR



Last year the District took on a new type of preventive maintenance construction, called "Spot Lining". This newer technology includes fixing a

spot in the sewer line that has a small hole or crack, without digging up the ground!. The collection crew has been training in this technology and has already completed 37 liners to sewer pipes in the past year. The process might seem simple but it has some calculations that need to be factored in. For example: Pipe size, size of hole or crack, and temperature.



RECOGNITION

- We received a \$4,048 dividend check from the Maine Municipal Association as a result of our good loss experience and loss prevention programs in the Workers Compensation (Calendar year 2012) and Property and Casualty (7/1/2011 – 6/30/2012) insurance pools.
- We are proud to announce that for 2012 we have gone accident free!

We are on a roll to continue this streak through 2013. Thanks to our superb staff for being safety conscious!!

- Employee anniversaries for the 4th quarter 2013: Matthew Densmore 19 years, Lisa True 5 years, and Robert Pontau Jr. 3 years.

TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE

(continued from front)

The report notes three significant water quality permitting issues that could affect the District's MEPDES permit limits in the future: 1) change in receiving water classification from Class C to Class B; 2) recalculation of facility discharge dilution factors; and 3) application of nutrient criteria. Each of these issues could result in significantly lower discharge limits and increased monitoring frequency which may require new treatment processes added to the Plant. With proper planning for, and engineering of, the district and its ratepayers can provide efficient and effective solutions for the Androscoggin River.

The study, completed in November 2012, recommends a two-phase improvement and upgrade time frame. The District is embarking on implementing the Phase One portion. A public hearing with its Board of Trustees was held on October 23rd to review the study recommendations, time frame, estimated costs, and the impact on the user rate.

SEWER LINE MAINTENANCE TIPS

Did you know that you do not have to wait until your sewer line has a blockage to call us? If your house plumbing is draining slowly and/or making gurgling noise while draining, this may be an indication of a partial blockage in either your service line, or our main line sewer. If you are experiencing some sewer odor in the house, you may have

a blockage in the vent pipe. While not common, some birds will build a nest on over the top of the vent pipe. **PLEASE CALL US. OUR 24 HOUR EMERGENCY NUMBER IS 207-580-3175.**

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO CALL US IF YOU ARE HAVING A PROBLEM WITH YOUR SEWER.