

DISTRICT DIGEST

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BRUNSWICK SEWER DISTRICT *Protecting Maine's Environment*

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Ernest Bergeron II



Known as EBII to those at the District, Ernest (a.k.a. Ernie) has been employed at the District for more than 32 years, 30 of which are full-time employment. Ernie started as a summer employee in the early 1980's. His hard work and devotion prompted management to hire him as a full time operator in July of 1984. Ernie served in that capacity until September of 1995 when he was promoted to senior operator.

In his capacity of senior operator, Ernie has taken the lead and initiative on many projects over the years. His oversight and suggestions

have led to thousands of dollars in savings on projects throughout the years.

Ernie serves as the go-to person for operating the District's CCTV video inspection van. The District owns and maintains more than 63 miles of pipeline. Ernie has seen it all, up close, most of it more than once.

The District wishes to congratulate Ernie on his 30 years of dedicated service. We appreciate his dedication, ingenuity, and reliability. Thank you Ernie for the past 30 years. We look forward to 30 more!

COLLECTIONS CORNER

The 2014 Spring/Summer months are here! That means the collection crew is busy starting its yearly projects. Here are some things that we will be working on this season:

- Replacement of 350' of sewer pipe on McLellan St. which includes 2 new sewer manholes.
- Replacement of 500' of sewer pipe on Whittier St.
- Replacement of broken sewer wyes on Patricia St, in preparation of town paving.
- 54,000+ feet of sewer line will be cleaned by our Jet-Vac truck.
- Pipe lining bad sections of sewer pipe.
- Continued video inspection of sewer pipe to look for any problems.
- Continued upkeep in and out of all pump stations and grounds.

When you see our trucks out on the street, be sure to give a little wave.



TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE UPDATE

The project design contract has been awarded to Wright-Pierce of Topsham. Their proposed design and construction schedule is as follows:

DESIGN PHASE

Preliminary Design:

June 2014 - Sept 2014

Final Design:

Oct. 2014 - May 2015

BSD/MDEP Review & Approval:

June 2015 - July 2015

Bidding Phase:

Aug. 2015 - Oct. 2015

Construction Phase:

Nov. 2015 - Nov. 2017

While the engineers are working on the design this year, staff will be focusing on the funding side. We will be asking our Board of Trustees to approve the filing of the application to the Maine Municipal Bond Bank for a State Revolving Fund loan (SRF) through the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. The SRF loan is typically 2% below the prime lending rate. The Board will need to adopt a bond resolution and then schedule a public hearing on the bond. Following the public hearing we will begin the formal process for the loan.

While the first payment on the bond will not be due until late 2017 or early 2018 we will need to increase the sewer rate incrementally over the course of the next few years to have the funds available for the projected \$1.2 to \$1.4 million annual payment. We estimate that the average household annual charge will go from the current \$375/year (\$32/month) to \$530/year (\$44/month).

2002 GEM CAR

A photo of the 2002 GEM (Global Electric MotorCar) electric street legal vehicle purchased by the District for use in gathering field data on our facilities in

the street. We are outfitting the GEM car with lights and decals. It will soon be seen working around town.



REMINDERS

- At any time of the year when you may be using water that does not enter the sewer system – such as watering lawns or gardens, filling swimming pools or flooding ice rinks - you may be eligible for an outside water use adjustment. Please call 729-0148 ext 110 to verify your credit. Remember you must call us each quarter to receive your credit adjustment.
- 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.

RECOGNITION

Employee anniversaries for the 2nd quarter 2014:

Gregory Thulen, Treatment Plant Supervisor - 40 years

Jason Prout, Treatment Plant Operator - 17 years

Darcy Dutton, Customer Service and Billing Clerk - 11 years

DID YOU KNOW?

- Every year the District removes more than 2000 cubic yards of solid material from the waste stream.
- If the sewer collection system and treatment plant did not exist, the solids would be deposited in the Androscoggin River
- That is enough material to fill nearly thirty, 27 foot diameter backyard swimming pools.
- To our knowledge, there have been zero three-eyed fish caught in the Androscoggin River.