

# DISTRICT DIGEST

Vol. 7 / Issue 4 / Nov.-Dec. 2018

BRUNSWICK SEWER DISTRICT *Protecting Maine's Environment*

## BSD EARNS EXCELLENCE IN COLLECTION SYSTEM AWARD

The Charles Perry Award is given annually by the Maine Water Environment Association to a Collections Systems Operator, Municipality, District, Private Waste Water Collection System, engineer or educator in Maine. This award is given to recognize the outstanding efforts of the individual or entity for the excellence in Management, Operations and Maintenance of that collection system or the betterment of collection systems in general. While all facilities strive for compliance, this award recognizes the extra effort and originality that is put forth in the operations or design of a wastewater collection system to reduce the environmental impact on that community.



*From left to right: Ernie Bergeron, Jim Sonia, Wes Wharff, Eric Walling, Aaron Temple, Gerry Bibber, Mike Jower.*

## BSD EMPLOYEE GRADUATES FROM MANAGEMENT CANDIDATE SCHOOL



Ernie Bergeron of the Brunswick Sewer District received a diploma for his participation in Management Candidate School (MCS) which he attended one day each month from November 2017 to September 2018 with 22 other water professionals that participated in Maine's ninth management curriculum designed to prepare mid-level drinking water and wastewater treatment plant personnel for career advancement in utility management. The curriculum included personnel management, supervisory skills, labor relations, budgeting and engineering basics. Monthly classes were held at Portland Water District. The MCS was coordinated by the Maine Joint Environmental Training Coordinating Committee (JETCC) with support from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Maine Water Environment Association (MeWEA) and Maine Water Utilities Association (MWUA). Graduation ceremonies were held during the MeWEA annual convention on Thursday, September 20 at Sunday River in Newry, Maine.

# SEWER USE BILLING ADJUSTMENT POLICY CHANGES

At its October 18, 2018 Board of Trustees meeting, the Trustees adopted the following changes to the District's 'Sewer Use Billing Adjustment Policy'.

Effective upon adoption: Our rate payers need only call once a year to request an adjustment to the sewer bill to account for water use not entering the public sewer. Please note the call must be prior to the end of the current billing period for which the adjustment is being requested.

Effective as of January 01, 2020:

a. **New Construction/Connections:** All new residential and commercial connections to the public sewer system whom wish to

receive an adjustment of billing for water not entering the public sewer MUST use a sub-meter per the requirements noted in the "SUB-METERED use" section.

b. **Property Ownership Transfers:** All new owners of residential and commercial properties currently connected to the public sewer system whom wish to receive an adjustment of billing for water not entering the public sewer MUST use a sub-meter per the requirements noted in the "SUB-METERED use" section.

**Please visit our website and click on the "Policy" tab for more information.**

# NORTHEAST TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION AWARD



General Manager, Leonard Blanchette (center), flanked by representatives from Government Technology, accepts the award

In September the District received the 2018 Northeast Technology Innovation award for Special Districts from Government Technology ([www.govtech.com/districts/awards](http://www.govtech.com/districts/awards)). This group recognizes organizations that use IT innovation and leadership in their community outreach. We received this award for our use of technology in the public awareness and information campaign launched in 2015 to gain support for our Treatment Facility Upgrade Project, and for our use of various social media platforms to keep rate payers and local government informed and involved.

## Recognition

The following employees are celebrating an anniversary in the 4th quarter. They are:

**Matthew Densmore**  
Senior Operator - Treatment Plant  
24 years

**Lisa True**  
Staff Accountant  
10 years

**Robert Pontau Jr.**  
Assistant General Manager  
8 years

*Congratulations and thank you for your service to the District!*

## REMINDERS

### OUTSIDE WATERING ADJUSTMENTS/CREDITS FOR 2019

Do you do substantial watering of a lawn or garden? Do you have a pool or hot tub to fill? Or maybe an ice rink that you flood? You *may* be eligible for an outside watering credit. **TO REQUEST THIS ADJUSTMENT, PLEASE CALL US AT THE BEGINNING OF 2019**, to be placed on the list for a potential adjustment. One call will place you on the list for all of 2019. Please call 729-0148 ext 110 or e-mail [ddutton@brunswicksewer.org](mailto:ddutton@brunswicksewer.org) for more information.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Your phone call to us *must be received before* bills are produced. The District will no longer process late notifications. You may

view the policy on our website or request a copy be mailed to you.

When experiencing a sewer system problem, please contact the district **FIRST**. The 24-hour emergency number is **207-613-6221**. Make sure your plumber also calls Maine Natural Gas before starting any work on your line.

Thinking of doing some yard work? Before your contractor digs, call DIG SAFE (1-888-344-7233). It's free and it's the law.

At the touch of a button you can skip the checks and stamps by paying your sewer bill online. This free service can be found at: [www.brunswicksewer.org/odp.html](http://www.brunswicksewer.org/odp.html).

**Don't forget to like us on Facebook.**

## FUN WASTE WATER FACTS WITH THE SEWER GUY



### TOILET TRIVIA

Although the first flushable toilet was invented by John Harrington in 1596 it wasn't until the late 1800's that it became a common addition to most upscale homes. Thomas Crapper, an Englishman plumber, revolutionized the commode by adding an improved tank filling mechanism. This mechanism, better known as the ballcock supply valve, can still be found in many household toilets in use today. Crapper's name became synonymous with the toilet thanks to WWI American servicemen who brought the term back home after the war.