

DISTRICT DIGEST

Vol. 7 / Issue 2 / May-June 2018

BRUNSWICK SEWER DISTRICT *Protecting Maine's Environment*

MY SEWER IS PLUGGED! WHAT SHOULD I DO? OR: "WHAT PART OF MY SEWER LINE IS MY RESPONSIBILITY?"

It is important to understand this responsibility assignment when it comes to dealing with a plugged or a possible plugged sewer line.

Most ratepayers do not realize they are responsible for the maintenance and repair of their sewer line from the building to the connection point at the main. This means that even the portion of their line under the street is the ratepayer's responsibility.

The Sewer District owns and is responsible for the mainline sewer in the street. In other words, the sections of pipe that go from manhole to manhole in the streets. This is known as the 'public sewer'. By 'street' we mean the streets owned by the Town.

If you experience a plugged sewer or a slow draining line, you will need to make two (2) calls. One to your plumber, and one to the Brunswick Sewer District. The other option is to make sure your plumber calls the sewer district. Either way, we need to be notified for two reasons. One is that the cause for your



plugged or slow draining sewer may be because we have a blockage or partial blockage in our line. And we need to clean the line. The second is that if we are not called, and it is determined later that the cause of your blockage or partial blockage was a blockage in our line, the District will not reimburse you for the

plumber's cost. This condition has been in our User Rules and Regulations since 1997. The regulations can be accessed on our website: www.brunswicksewer.org.

In the next newsletter edition, we will discuss what to do if sewage backs up into your house or basement.

Recognition

The following employees are celebrating an anniversary in the second quarter of 2018:

Jason Prout

Lab Technician

21 years

Darcy Dutton

Customer Service and Billing Clerk

15 years

*Thank you,
Jason and Darcy, for your
service to the district!*

MILL STREET PUMP STATION REPLACEMENT

The District has contracted with Crooker Construction LLC for the replacement of our Mill Street pump station. The nearly \$300,000 replacement project will be through a design-build contract. Ransom Consulting has joined the team as our design engineer.

Construction is expected to start this summer. Although most of improvements will happen within a couple of weeks of the start, final cleanup and paving is expected in the fall.

The existing station is known as a “tin can” type station that has a wetwell to store the sewer flow and pumps that are in a separate, dry “tin-can”. Looking at the existing station, the wetwell is

below the concrete building. It has a depth of nearly 20’.

The new station will be a “submersible” style pump station. The pumps will be in the wetwell and there is a separate valve pit that controls the flow. All structures are below ground.

The new station will have less visibility and impact. We feel it will give a “park” like feel to the area. It is a perfect set up for the pump station location right next to the swinging bridge.

Smile and wave to the crews as you wait in traffic along Mill Street this summer!



Existing Pump Station.



Rendering of new pump station.

REMINDERS

When experiencing a sewer system problem, please contact the district **FIRST**. The 24-hour emergency number is 729-0148. Make sure your plumber calls Maine Natural Gas before any tools are placed in your line.

THINKING OF DOING 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 and pay your sewer bill online at: www.brunswicksewer.org/odp.html.

Want more Brunswick Sewer District information? **Check us out on Facebook.**

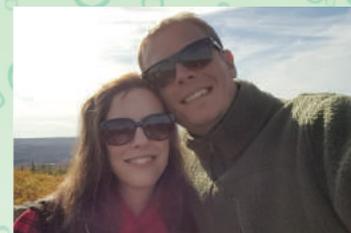
PAPERLESS BILLING UPDATE

Quite a few of you have contacted us to receive your invoice via email. We have been diligently working with our software company to get this feature up and running. We thank you for your patience and will keep you apprised of our progress.

You may continue to sign up for this service by going to our website at www.brunswicksewer.org, clicking on the tab “I want to” then click on “Set up paperless billing” and fill in the required information.



WELCOME NEW OPERATOR



The District is pleased to announce the addition of Erik Walling as an operator on our collection and pumping crew. Erik has a bachelor's degree in environmental policy & planning from the University of Southern Maine. He spent a few years working in construction and surveying before taking the dive into the water industry. Erik Lives in Lisbon with his wife Stacy and their newborn son Kase. We are confident that his technical skills and great attitude will make him a valuable addition to our team!