

Director's Report

Maintenance—Keeping Things Humming

Maintenance crews have been busy planning and getting parts for multiple projects in the SCCMUA service area. This year, our crews will be doing multiple rehab projects to increase serviceability to the users while maximizing the assets lifecycle. The start of these projects will include cutting in new check valves at station 301 in the City. The existing valves have been in place for many years and are past the point of effective repair. This causes longer pump run times and increased electrical consumption.

After the increase in flows from the past few months, much of the solids and floatable debris were washed into the stations. This debris, in many cases, is plas-

tics and other inorganic materials that are not easily broken down. Needless to say, our crews spent many days vacuor-ing out these items in the system. Once vacuumed out, the solids are disposed of accordingly.

This past month, preventive maintenance was completed on all the can stations in the system. This includes oil changes and greasing of the pumps. This maintenance is completed per manufac-tures spec or in the event the oil has become contaminated.

**Southern Clinton
County Municipal
Utilities Authority**

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Members of our staff were able to attend PACP (Pipeline Assessment Certification Program) training. This certification allows the operators the ability to code pipe line defects per the NASSCO standard. This standard was developed to create uniformity for the industry allowing for the ease of understanding and categorizing of defects without viewing entire recorded segments. The gathered data can then be stored and queried to create detailed lists for rehab or replacement programs.

With the 2017 Audit complete, the 2019 budget has been worked and reworked to maintain goals to pay down the unfunded liabilities in the pension funds. There will be continued management of expenses to maintain low operating cost.

SCCMUA staff was happy to attend the 2018 Community Showcase. Each year, this event continues to grow and impress. This gives us a great opportunity to contact many member / users in the community in one location. We spread our message of what is flushable and what is not. The kids love the SCCMUA mascot, which helps give children a memorable experience with the hope of them also remembering our message.



Process—Making it Clean

All parameters of the NPDES permit were met.

This month, staff has finalized the new biosolids transfer pump installation. Since this is a different pump with a different configuration, a few modifications were needed and anticipated. This included discharge piping modifications and a few electrical upgrades.

Staff has identified a few effluent system upgrades and have been working to get the parts and pieces to implement these changes. The effluent system is comprised of three small centrifugal pumps acting as the distribution system. These pumps maintain system pressure, which SCCMUA uses to transport chemicals and deliver them to the desired process location. We also use this water to wash down tanks and perform various plant maintenance activities. The planned upgrades are very simple and will be used as a moni-

toring / alarm set point. It involves a simple pressure transducer to monitor system pressures and SCADA programming work. Staff installed additional valving in the effluent system to better isolate the system upon a failure. The driver of this was indeed a pipe failure causing staff to shut down the entire system for a short amount of time.

Staff is patiently waiting for the weather to cooperate to start the RBC maintenance project. We are on the verge of taking one of the trains off line to begin the stripping process but we need warmer temps to avoid overloading the RBC's that will remain on line. Each year we typically operate all trains in the winter to help reduce the risk of overloading of the RBC shafts due to biomass growth. As warmer temps increase biological activity, we will reduce the number of RBC's on line by up to 33%.

With the Governor's initiative regarding the reduction/ elimination of PFAS/ PFOA, two members of SCCMUA attended a DEQ informational session on the topic. This did shed some light on the intended direction the DEQ is moving towards but there are still a lot of unanswered questions. The PFAS/ PFOA timelines set by the DEQ are rather short but extension can be requested. SCCMUA staff met with our two industrial users to begin the conversations regarding this topic. The intent is to begin the process of gathering data to evaluate if there is a potential of pass thru of the pollutants of concern to the waste stream and discharged to the collection system. Based on the information gathered, a plan will be developed for long term elimination / reduction.

Inspections—The Scoop on the Poop

The Oaks (City) has completed both air testing and the initial televising inspections. During the air testing portion, a damaged pipe was discovered. The pipe was damaged by a large rock that was mixed in with the sand backfill. The damaged pipe was removed and replaced by a new section of pipe. Once repaired, all testing passed.

Currently, the Quarry (DeWitt Twp) is waiting for better weather before continuing with the project.

Crowner Farms phase 3 (DeWitt Twp) is still on hold and plans for the next phase have been reviewed.

Lakeside Preserves (Watertown) engineers are still working on record drawings and plans are being reviewed for the next phase.

Plans for Wildflower Meadows (City) have been reviewed for the next phase.

During the month, we received a total of 269 Miss Dig requests with 82 that needed to be marked.

With a continued focus on progressive repairs in the collection systems, a prioritized list of repairs is being generated. This will help avoid more costly repairs in the future.

**Southern Clinton County
Municipal Utilities Authority
"The Clean Water People"**

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