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## Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority

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### Maintenance—Keeping Things Humming

Crews worked through the night for the first time in 2021 with high flows of over 5 inches of rain in just over three days. The teams worked hard keeping flows moving by unplugging pumps and clearing debris. During this time, a significant inflow that has eluded us for nearly two years was found and corrected. This was a great find by staff as it significantly reduced the impact at stations 110 and 102 in DeWitt Township.

Annual tree trimming has been done around the stations to help keep the trees from impeding the radio signals from the stations, which communicate needed information back to the plant. Thank you to the City of DeWitt for their help and access to their bucket truck.

Radio upgrades were completed at station 102 bringing it on to the new signal and system. It dramatically improves our ability to control the station remotely and increases the reliable transmission of accurate and timely data.

Several manhole structures were

raised in low lying areas to help prevent the possibility of infiltration and inflow.

Our initial test of the new radar technology for level control at the station has worked well. In the past, radar has not always been reliable, but like so many things, technology gets better. Staff is moving forward to evaluate this functionality in some of the higher flow stations as these stations tend to have more issues with transducers ragging up and being impacted by turbulent water.



LS 112—DeWitt Twp

### Administration

The job posting for an operator was extended and advertised in a few other locations to evaluate the interest. The job market is very interesting and makes things tough on employers trying to hire. It was determined that we have time to explore all the options and not rush to fill the position. Two additional candidates were interviewed on July 7 and an offer was made to one of them.

The Covid response plan has been updated to reflect the latest changes where most mandates have been lifted. A few protocols remain in place as 2021 continues to evolve; these protocols will be evaluated consistently.



Congratulations to Director Gurski for passing the "A" wastewater license exam!



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## Process—Making it Clean

NPDES Permit: All permit requirements were met. Total precipitation for the month was 6.59".

The staff has been keeping up on routine maintenance around the facility, such as oil changes, fresh grease, belts where needed, along with unplugging the occasional plugged pump throughout the process. The new storage tank is in the process of being prepped for new sealant over all joints. Since being installed, the original sealant has cracked and dry rotted away. Staff has built a tool to attach to the front of the bucket of the front-end loader to help with removing the remaining attached sealant. Once the remaining sealant is removed and the areas are cleaned, staff will install the new sealant.

Along with keeping up on PM work, staff has found time to freshen up some visual aspects of the facility, with sanding and starting to paint overhead doors. Major trimming of some pine trees in the dog park was completed and looks great! Our summer employee has been doing a great job helping maintain our grounds here at the plant; whether it's mowing, weeding, trimming, or brush removal, the facilities' grounds are being maintained nicely.

DMRQA Study 41 testing is underway. We have all but two tests complete and will get all results submitted upon completion. The DMRQA study is a state-facilitated test that measures our lab's accuracy (QA/QC). We are issued tests to

complete in all parameters that we test for daily. Instructions are given to complete the test that also includes measurement volumes, but is not provided with the test range that we should land within, thus our accuracy (QA/QC) will be measured by this study.

A low flow scenario had staff guessing for a couple of days on our secondary sludge pump. The low flow was somewhat intermittent, making it more challenging to identify the issue. After dismantling the pump many times, ensuring valve operations and head conditions, staff was running out of ideas when a noticeable noise was identified in the pump that had not been there. Upon pulling the pump apart, a large piece of roofing fabric was removed from the pump. Staff believes this piece has been in the system floating around, causing intermittent issues for some time.

## Inspections—The Scoop on the Poop

### **Miss Dig Totals:**

Miss Dig Requests: 609

Miss Digs Marked: 98

Inspection Services: 19

### **DeWitt Township**

Thomas Farms: Located between Clark Rd & Solon Rd, will contain a mix of condominium and subdivision development to be completed over multiple phases. Tentative plans have been submitted and comments were returned. Plans were submitted for phase 1 and they are under review.

Quarry Village: Pipe installation was completed last fall. The entire system passed the air test at that time. To allow construction to begin on the front buildings, testing was completed and passed on the front four reaches. The remaining three reaches have just been tested. One reach failed the mandrel test. The test was conducted using a mandrel for an 8" SDR 35 pipe, which has a larger interior diameter than SDR 26. The contractor retested the line with an 8" SDR 26 mandrel and the line passed. The CCTV video was reviewed. The point where the

first test "failed" is out of round (probably due to over compaction) but does not show any signs of leakage. Once the pavement is in place, the contractor will perform the manhole vacuum test.

### **Bath Township**

Webster Rd Extension: Installation and testing has been completed and passed. KEBS is working on record drawings.

Meadowbrook West II: No change. Testing has been completed and passed. Record drawings have been submitted and are under review.

### **City Of DeWitt**

Wildflower: Installation is completed and testing passed.

### **Watertown Township**

Deer Creek III: Testing has been completed and passed. KEBS has supplied electronic record drawings for the project. They will be providing the required hard copies soon.