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# Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority

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## **Maintenance—Keeping Things Humming**

In DeWitt Twp, a new power distribution panel and supports were installed at one of the original can stations, LS 108. The original system had significantly degraded and was becoming a potential hazard.

The staff has taken on the project of painting stations that require cleaning and repainting. These systems are constantly exposed to the elements; proper prepping and painting help ensure that those assets will continue to be viable for many years.

An ongoing communication issue in Bath had staff scratching their heads. It would come in randomly and go away before anything of significance was found. Finally, by chance, a bad radio was found along with a connection at an antenna site that allowed moisture during early morning hours, disrupting the signal.

New impellers have been installed in a pump at station 114 in DeWitt Twp. Poor pump performance was beginning to show, causing a loss in efficiency.

UV damage has delaminated many of the generator transfer switchboards. The team has become somewhat expert in

replacing these. Many of our panels in the system are from the same era where they have these issues.

Staff will be doing some forcemain cleaning in some of the smaller force mains. Low flows allow grease to settle and restrict flow. The cleaning process will be jetting when able to and chemically treated in longer or less accessible reaches.



Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities

Authority
"The Clean Water People"

3671 W. Herbison Rd. DeWitt, MI 48820 517-669-8311 www.sccmua.com www.facebook.com/ sccmua

# **Administration**

The first reimbursement from the SRF project has been processed for covered costs incurred to get the project approved and moving forward. Next month at this time, we will see contractors start moving in to get things moving forward. The first project will be site work for the new Grit chamber and UV building.

IT services have been a bit of a struggle over the last year or so. We have begun looking into other options for this service.

Our combination sewer truck is back from warranty work. This will hopefully be a one-time issue. The blower was replaced due to a failure.

SCCMUA was fortunate enough to be able to attend community showcase. This event has grown and now that we can be outside, it has a similar format to touch a truck events. The kids love to see our equipment which allows us to have conversations with parents and attending adults about being good stewards of the public utility systems. Statistically, 90% of backups in the main line sewers are caused by non-flushable debris. This year, we had many folks come up and say "Thank you for helping us understand. We had no idea that grease and other so called "flushable items" cause so much havoc on the system". This is good news for SCCMUA and we look forward to continuing the momentum moving forward.

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## **Process—Making it Clean**

NPDES Permit: All permit requirements were met. Total precipitation for the month was .176".

The arrival of summer brings historically lower flows along with scheduled maintenance items due for servicing. The east primary and east secondary clarifiers have been taken out of operation to be serviced and ready for operation during the late fall. The staff has found our service intervals of roughly once every six months successful in operating our clarifiers.

Sandhill lift station pump #1 has a leak in the volute portion of the pump. Staff noticed this during their morning rounds. The pump has since been taken out of service and removed

from the building to be analyzed and repaired. The leak was generated by a crack that formed horizontally along the upper portion of the volute. SCCMUA staff will complete the repair for this.

DMRQA Study 43 is underway. Every year during the summer months, SCCMUA must participate in the DMRQA study. This study is a quality control-based study that measures the accuracy of our laboratory procedures. Staff completes a number of tests with an unknown result range for each test; we submit our results and wait to see if our results fall within the acceptable window. This study allows EGLE to deter-

mine if lab practices need to be altered or if good practices are in place based on the results provided.

In the Lab, a new water still was recently added. This new still generates up to 5 gallons of distilled water daily and offers 4 gallons of storage capacity. This gives us the ability to make water for testing and cleaning purposes. The new still offers our operators more consistent measurements while using the water for analytical purposes in the laboratory.

The Excel data entry program we rolled into operation is progressing nicely. It takes the place of the Hach Wims software that was previously used. Staff are still trying to familiarize themselves with the new system but are excited about what this Excel data entry program offers.

## <u>Inspections—The Scoop on the Poop</u>

#### **Miss Dig Totals:**

Miss Dig Requests: 643 Miss Digs Marked: 59 Inspection Services: 9

Projects:

Staff has continued to identify potential infiltration sources in the DeWitt collection system.

Shadybrook phase III has begun. The contractor is currently working on mass grading of the site. Sanitary pipe installation should begin mid-June.

DeWitt Twp and Bath Twp master plan work continues but is finally drawing to an end. Staff has continued to gather requested information for engineers and have been working on feasibility studies of future system expansion.

Annual drawdown tests at the lift stations have begun. Drawdown tests are another method to check the effectiveness of the pumps. Crews time how long it takes to fill

and pump down a certain amount in the wet well, typically one foot. Each pump is tested three times and then averaged to get the best representation of the effectiveness of the pump.

As Clinton County Road Commission contractors begin working on the 2023 road projects, SCCMUA crews are checking the manholes in the project areas for debris that may have fallen into the manhole.

Nottingham Fields development has re-

mained at a standstill for the past few months. The developer is working on a plan to correct all the deficiencies.

Staff has completed several Miss
Dig required
training modules
and many more
sub-modules.

