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## Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority

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

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### Maintenance—Keeping Things Humming

After last month's generator ATS board failure at LS 401, we decided it was time to upgrade the ATS ( Automatic transfer switch). Buying a new board was 2/3 of the cost of the new ATS and not knowing if there were other unknown issues and the overall availability of parts (as the parts quoted were shelf stock and no longer supported), this was a better decision. The new unit was purchased and installed last week.

LS 102 in DeWitt Twp had a new impeller and wear plate installed on the #2 pump. They are both wear items and have met their useable work life. This station was installed in 2017 as a new station to help reduce SSOs at that location. The repair work on the pump increases the overall performance and capacity.

The crew spent some time repairing flow channels in 3 different manholes. These flow channels have been getting worse over the years and staff devised a plan and repaired them, which will help lower the need to vactor and clean them as often, with the hope of preventing blockages.

### Administration

With the project starting, every day is filled with questions and problem-solving as we get this off the ground as quickly as possible before winter weather settles in.

SCCMUA is still an operator short and we will fill that position very soon. The job market is still very tight and skilled workers are in demand. The ideal candidate would have some municipal experience in the utility field.

SCCMUA has been cleaning house and getting things to auction to sell, including the old sewer camera and other miscellaneous items. Items have been sold at auction and the old Vactor is on a municipal consignment auction up Oct 16<sup>th</sup>.

Every fall, the team drains and cleans the clear well; this helps keep algae and plant growth from overgrowing and reduces issues with the effluent and backwash systems.

The fall generator maintenance has started. Having 41 generators to maintain, this process keeps the crew busy ensuring they all get done before the snow flies.

Annual easement mowing and trimming is starting up. Every year, the crew brush hog, trim, and trim trees to keep easements accessible in case maintenance is needed.



Many of our operators have been attending training to prepare for the municipal certification exam next month. This is a tough test and we wish them all the best of luck.

Our admin position has been posted and we are hopeful to get a few good candidates to be interviewed.

The health insurance renewal was received with a 12% increase. This still is below the hard cap (barely). We are waiting for additional quotes from other vendors to compare rates.

## Process—Making it Clean

NPDES Permit: All permit requirements were met. Total precipitation for the month was 1.72".

Operations at the plant have been humming along nicely. Staff have been working out in the RBCs to ensure proper operation and maintenance of the RBCs. This includes keeping up on the greasing schedule of the bearings and visually inspecting the shaft ends to determine whether repair is needed. The RBCs are indeed the heartbeat of our treatment process, and ensuring they stay properly maintained is critical to successful treatment.

The fall Biosolids haul is complete; 986,000 gallons of Biosolids were land-applied in September. The land application process is very beneficial as it

gives the generator (SCCMUA) a way of disposal and gives the landowner benefits as it helps fertilize the soil with nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus to help with plant growth and root strengthening.

The plant upgrade project has begun. They started forming and pouring concrete to build the Vortex grit system. More than 1800 yards of sand have been brought in to raise ground elevation where the new grit system will be. Some digging near the chlorine contact chamber was done to find where piping is located underground in that vicinity. They are hoping to start on the UV building prep work soon.

Plant PM work has kept staff busy with greasing and regular oil changes, filter changes, motor work, and rotating assembly rebuilds. Most recently, a rebuilt rotating assembly for the #1 effluent pump was installed as the prior assembly showed signs of failure. This assembly will be rebuilt and placed on the shelf for future installation.

As the seasons change and the temperatures drop, we begin transitioning from lawn care to snow removal. Staff are starting to winterize equipment and preparing it for winter storage. They are also prepping snow removal equipment and ensuring proper operation for when it is needed.

## Inspections—The Scoop on the Poop

### **Miss Dig Totals:**

Miss Dig Requests: 384

Miss Digs Marked: 38

Inspection Services: 8

### **Projects:**

Shadybrook phase III work continues. The contractor has completed all testing. Installation of curb and asphalt has begun and should be completed in October. SCCMUA is waiting for lead sheets and record drawings.

Plummer's Environmental has completed this year's annual cleaning and televising. Plummer's should deliver the videos this month. Data from the videos will be used to update capital improvements to the system.

While the Miss Dig tickets have been down this past month, many were for large, boring projects. The staff has spent considerable



time staking and re-staking the boring projects within all the municipalities.