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

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## Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority

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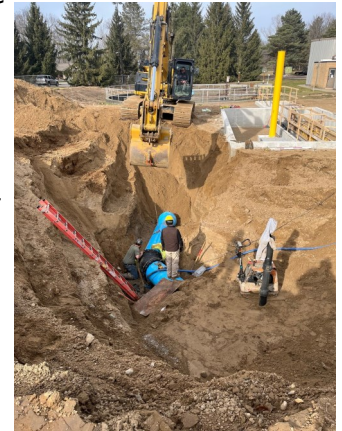
### Administration

The budget process is in full swing as we work diligently to prepare a draft of the 2025 budget. The 2025 budget has added complexity as we scale up to begin payments on the SRF loan and work through the full impacts of this payment as it relates to the budget. Also, because we prepare the budget very early in the year, it can be difficult to predict and capture all impacts of ongoing construction and the anticipated decrease in chemical usage. Because these factors are difficult to forecast, we will need to evaluate in a conservative nature.



TE wall removal

The Team continues to meet with contractors regularly to work through any project issues as they arise. The change in UV piping has had ongoing impacts upstream, which are now nearly completely ironed out. A hydraulic bottleneck was also exposed, which has slightly changed plans. Fortunately, a simple upsize in pipes and valves will be the solution.



Digging the UV bypass

The team has also been working on other managed systems projects. There is a significant project in Bath with the complete reconstruction of the Chandler Road corridor. This includes a master planned reconstruction of the sewer system which will eliminate multiple stations in that area. This will be a great project for the community and is planned to start in early 2025.

### Maintenance—Keeping Things Humming

During a routine generator run at the plant, a failed battery was exposed; the battery exploded, sending acid through the entire room. Thankfully, the operator who was working on the generator was not injured. The acid was neutralized, properly disposed of, and a complete set of new batteries was installed.

Part of our routine generator runs includes exercising the transfer switches to ensure proper function. This exercise while operators are onsite allows us to ensure that the transfers are synchronized and generators accept the load appropriately. This process takes more man hours but has proven beneficial as it has helped to find and diagnose mechanical or electrical issues before the system is needed in an emergency.

The maintenance team has started a new program for inspecting check valves. A properly operating check valve is essential for pump

performance and efficiency. This new process requires the operators to inspect wear items inside the valve visually. The team has been surprised at what they have found in a valve that appears to be functioning normally! With this new process they can address any concerns before they become a real problem.

Last month at station 113 in DeWitt Township, the team had to remove a pump that had a failed seal. That faulty pump was replaced by a pump that had been previously rebuilt and placed in storage. The pump that was removed will be taken into our shop and disassembled in order to determine its value and to see if it is rebuildable.



## Process—Making it Clean

The team has been keeping up with routine maintenance throughout the facility as well as any unscheduled items that may need attention. Staff have also been lending a hand to assist contractors with operational changes or any needed information to help keep projects moving without delay.

The team has installed five new radar **electromagnetic transducers** throughout the new digester and sludge storage tanks. These new radar electromagnetic transducers will take the place of the ultrasonic transducers that were previously installed. There are many benefits of the radar transducers and one key benefit is that they do not rely on air for transmission as the ultra-sonic units do. The new radar electromagnetic transducers are not hindered by foam or sound waves when penetrating a solid surface and communicating back to the transmitter, which was a concern with the previous ultrasonic equipment. This improvement in transducers will provide more accurate information and have fewer occurrences of interruption due to outside factors such as wind, temperature, vapor, gasses, and sounds.

In February, we also replaced the connections from the connecting rods to the vent louvers on the combustion air vents in the new digester. The previous connection pins were weak and had broken due to corrosion. These vents are used to supply air to the room to help with the proper combustion of the boiler. As the boiler is called to fire, the vent louvers open, allowing sufficient airflow into the room.

A new vector fill valve has been installed in the maintenance garage. These improvements will allow for more efficient filling when needed. Additionally, two new hose bibs have been relocated. This relocation of the hose bibs will eliminate the tendency for the well pump to short cycle when in use.

All parameters of the NPDES permit were met.

Total precipitation for the month of February was 0.676 inches.

## Inspections—The Scoop on the Poop

Inspections: 2

Miss Dig tickets: 422 (February)

Marked tickets: 69

Household Inspections: 11  
 - 6 new connections  
 - 5 repairs

Projects:

**Shadybrook phase III** work has been completed. Record drawings have been delivered. Home construction in the subdivision has begun.

**Saginaw Retail (Ace Hardware)** work has been completed, and all inspections have been passed. Record drawings have been delivered.

The staff has started reviewing the CCTV data from Plummer's Environmental. A total of 273 defects were observed. Many of the defects are minor and will require only continued observation. Others will

require a repair, usually in the form of a spot liner. Staff is working on a list of repairs for this year and a long-term repair schedule. A tentative cleaning and televising plan for 2024 and 2025 has been sent to Plummer's Environmental. The team has started work on a 2026 and 2027 cleaning and televising plan.

Staff have been working to improve the GIS mapping and data while reviewing the CCTV data from Plummer's. Other GIS updates include all the latest build-outs in the system.

Staff will continue to monitor problem areas and odor issues as they are reported.

