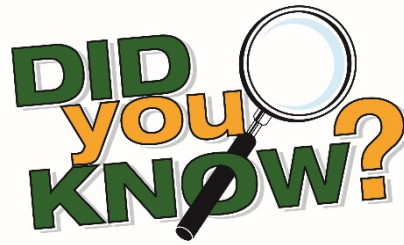


WASTEWATER TREATMENT



- The Wastewater Treatment Plant processes an average of 5.2 million gallons of sewage a day (based on staff reports).
- The volume of sewage processed on rainy days increases to as much as 22 million gallons due to broken pipes and storm drains that are improperly tied into the sewer (based on staff reports).
- The treatment plant is designed for a maximum capacity of 9 million gallons per day. The increased volume on rainy days can create an imbalance in processing chemistry and cause additional processing costs. Operators have a good system for handling this; however, it has been an issue in the past.
- Despite millions of dollars in capital investments and an ongoing city sewer assessment tax, many of the tanks, pumps, and processing equipment need to be replaced.
- Not all the city sewer tax/budget being collected is being used for operations and needed upgrades at the treatment plant. Some of the tax dollars are being diverted to the other funds.
- The city receives leachate waste trucked from our county landfill, and we ship back our solid discharge. Leachate is created by rainfall and liquids collected in the liner, stored in tanks, and pumped to lowest trucking bidder. Once we separate the solids and filter water, we take our refuse to the landfill.

- The department is staffed by two management employees, seven technicians, and one administrative assistant.

OBJECTIVES

- ✓ Create a 1-5 year strategic plan and a long-range master plan for equipment and system upgrades, which includes funding to implement the plans.
- ✓ Work with other municipalities with plants similar to ours to create a network of shared resources, knowledge, and parts to enable less costly and more timely response to equipment failures and emergency situations.
- ✓ Design equipment for redundancy to require fewer emergency backup parts where possible.
- ✓ Create a staff cross-training program for less outsourcing and more efficient operations.
- ✓ Create a fleet management and equipment repair plan. This can reduce costs and spread costs out more efficiently.
- ✓ Review odor discharge for its impact on the community. What can we do better to be good neighbors?
- ✓ Review how the city assesses (taxes) sewer and water to ensure fairness to all property owners and to promote economic development.
- ✓ Analyze and discuss all revenue source options. Potential sources include restaurant grease waste, rural sewer tank pump outs, and acceptance of farm refuse. Each of these would need to be reviewed for their impact on our system and community.

- ✓ Evaluate the possibility of a pipeline from the county landfill to allow better control of potent leachate discharge. This could benefit our county taxes by reducing trucking costs.
- ✓ Create a cooperative agreement between the city and county for the city's solid discharge and the county's leachate waste.