



News from Public Works Board, Water Policy Board, and Municipal Wastewater Committee Meetings

- Howard & Howard, our Wind Energy consultant, has recommended Gamesa and Scandia, and the Board has approved the recommendation. Work continues on finalizing contracts between the parties and the County.
- Staff has begun mapping out irrigation and electrical lines that are buried on the Wastewater site to aid in the Wind Energy project.
- A new digital projector and screen were installed in the Wastewater conference room.
- The Wastewater department was chosen as the pilot county department for the issuance of P-Cards.
- Corn harvest was completed with an overall average yield of 143 bushels per acre, the second highest on record. Soybean harvest also produced the second highest yield on record with an average 51.8 bushels per acre.
- The irrigation season ended October 3, and staff has been engaged in preventive maintenance and the removal of weeds and brush around the cells and lagoons.
- Hauled Waste flows have remained relatively stable with a 2.8 MG/month average for FY 2012.
- A pipe leak in the Wastewater Administration Building prompted replacement of the hot water supply line. New hot water heaters were also installed to greatly improve efficiency.
- Two new security cameras were purchased for installation at the Wastewater Operations Maintenance Building.
- A noise monitoring study is in progress at C Station to ensure staff is using adequate hearing protection.
- The newly-installed flow meters for the City of Muskegon were utilized for the first time to calculate billing for the month of October. The flow calculated from the meters compares very closely to the flow calculated by the old method.
- We have sold 199 hunting permits of the 300 available, plus an additional 26 for the firearm season. Overall the season has been going smoothly.
- A significant amount of obsolete computers and associated equipment were removed from Wastewater for recycling.
- Much of the confined space rescue equipment was replaced due to its expiration cycle.
- The Muskegon Michigan Area Rocketry club has been granted permission by the Board to hold a large event on the Wastewater site next summer.
- The landfill gas line will be cleaned as it has had issues with obstructions.
- The Board granted approval for Solid Waste to purchase a new compactor.
- The Evanston Avenue elevated water storage tank has had interior painting and structural repair work completed.
- Water line construction will extend service on Sheridan Drive to the new Christian Care site.
- The Deremo site boat launch is going to be receiving some improvements.
- The new soil erosion ordinance has been presented and recommended to the full Board for approval.
- Our Sustainability Office has been looking at options to retrofit the lighting at Heritage Landing.
- Jackson-Merkey has finished work on the new leachate pump station at Solid Waste. Leachate flow is now totalizing through this station to the Wastewater system.
- Household Hazardous Waste collection is available now by appointment only and will resume regular collection hours in the spring. These are the second and fourth Friday of each month, May through October, from 1:00-3:00 PM.
- **ATTENTION:** We would like to begin transmitting this newsletter via email, so if you could forward your email addresses to burnsma@co.muskegon.mi.us we will begin compiling a list. Thank you!

Personnel

- We wish all the best to **Ray Hamil** who will be retiring at the end of December, after 32 years of service with the County.
- Congratulations to **Susan Burmeister** who will be filling the vacant laboratory technician position.
- A special thank you to **Tony Dunn, Jake Butkus, and Rodney Holland** for their work in cleaning the scale pit at Solid Waste.



Corn harvest at Wastewater



Replacement of a 72" culvert on Yuba Street that runs under one of our Wastewater lines



Tony Dunn and Rodney Holland cleaning the scale pit at Solid Waste



Red-tailed hawk that was rescued from the Wastewater site and rehabilitated



Congratulations to Chris Vanderlaan, who took this nice 8-point while hunting on the Wastewater site