

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

- Work by Grand River Construction is well underway for replacement of Montague pump station. The water is being moved by by-pass pumping in preparation for demolition.
- Tradewind Energy was selected as the contractor to study wind and solar energy at the Wastewater site. They have advanced to the second round of a Consumer's Energy solar bid request. We anticipate status updates in the near future.
- Soils removed from the Bear Creek project are being received at a steady rate with 40,000 tons delivered so far.
- Staff met with a Consumer's Energy representative to plan the disconnection of the sewer service line for the BC Cobb plant.
- Regional Water System personnel are reviewing our cross connection and lead / copper sampling programs in order to comply with MDEQ requirements.



Contractor initiating by-pass pumping - 3am



Sharp-tailed Sandpiper Photo Courtesy—Darlene Friedman

Birders came from as far away as Iowa and Minnesota to see the highly unusual Sharp-Tailed Sandpiper—The only one ever seen in Michigan!



Photo courtesy—Lynette Smith

- A huge amount of activity at the Wastewater site was triggered the weekend of 8/12 by the appearance of a Sharp-Tailed Sandpiper. This bird normally resides in Asia and Australia and the sighting here was only the 12th ever in the United States!
- Jackson-Merkey is wrapping up their contract to remove the biosolids from Cell 3. The drier material on the side slopes is being hauled directly to the Landfill.
- Dry weather in the early summer has been offset by the recent heavy rains. It is anticipated that irrigation shut down will be the second week of October.
- The fourth cutting of Alfalfa is complete and harvest of our soybean crop should begin soon.
- The Wastewater hunting and trapping programs were approved for this year with very few changes. Archery permits are \$25. Names are being collected for the trapping lottery, and that drawing will take place on October 3.



Lots of activity at C station as captured by one of our security cameras

- Contractors have been hard at work at our main pump station with coating the wet-well and head-works structures. This project involves workers setting up equipment in the underground vaults and chambers leading into the station. The walls are then power washed and coated with a special epoxy to prevent corrosion. The very tricky part was to set up by-pass pumping so the headworks could be dry for coating.
- Arrangements are still underway to receive sanitary waste from Michigan's Adventure.
- There were no instances of noncompliance with our NPDES permit during this period. During this time we averaged an inflow of 12.8 MGD.
- The roof replacement project for the Union Depot CVB office is nearly complete. Work has progressed well and the result is a nice improvement

- Hauled waste volume has been record setting this summer. With loads of raw milk, fruit processing waste and digester clean-outs making for large flows.
- Hauled waste flows for June, July, and August were 4.5, 3.7 and 4.0 million gallons respectively. The June flow was a monthly record



You can't see them all, but there are six trucks unloading at once!



Transforming the CVB roof

Personnel News

- Congratulations to Samuel Marble of Facilities on 20 years of Service!
- Congratulations to Mark Gatrell of WW Operations / Maintenance on earning his MDEQ Level A operator's license. This is the highest level available and is a difficult and multi-year effort!
- Best wishes to Britney Nicolai on her fast approaching marriage to Chad Andersen.



MCWMS received \$2,000 from the John J. Helstrom Memorial Fund of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County to improve our nature trail located near the Wastewater administration building. The nature trail was put in as part of our Wildlife Habitat Council Certification.