

# DISTRICT DIGEST

Vol. 5 / Issue 1 / Feb-Mar 2017

BRUNSWICK SEWER DISTRICT *Protecting Maine's Environment*

## OUTSIDE WATERING ADJUSTMENT POLICY

### *Draft Sub-Meter Program and Survey*

The Sewer District is in the process of reviewing its outside watering bill adjustment policy. We are considering converting to a sub-meter program. Under this program, the only adjustment to the sewer bill, for water that does not enter the sanitary sewer system, will be based on a sub-meter reading. All water the sub-meter registers will be deducted from your sewer bill. As such, those desiring an adjustment for outdoor water use will need to install a sub-meter. Purchase and installation of a sub-meter would be at the rate payer's expense.

The review is still in the early stages and the District's Board of Trustees is asking for ratepayers' comments and thoughts

regarding this new program. To that goal, a DRAFT Sub-Meter Watering Adjustment Policy has been posted on our website ([www.brunswicksewer.org](http://www.brunswicksewer.org)). Please send written comments to us at 10 Pine Tree Road, Brunswick, Maine. Email comments may be sent to the general manager at [lblanchette@brunswicksewer.org](mailto:lblanchette@brunswicksewer.org). The comment period will remain open until June 01, 2017.

We want rate payer involvement in the review and development of this new program. Please go to our website, review the draft policy, and provide your comments. Thank you.



## 2017 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Every year the District budgets improvements to its infrastructure. Maintaining the sewer lines, pump stations and treatment plant play an important role in the performance of an efficient sewer system. For this calendar year, the District has budgeted for the following three projects:

- 1) The District will be replacing 850 linear feet of sewer main on Union Street. This will be a joint project with Brunswick Topsham Water District. Cost: \$127,500.
- 2) 305 linear feet of sewer main will be replaced on Coffin Street. This will be a joint project with Bowdoin College. Cost: \$52,000.
- 3) An upgrade to River Road pump station #1. Cost: \$265,000.

# Recognition

The following employees are celebrating anniversaries in the first quarter 2017:

**Wesley Wharff**

*Collections Supervisor, 29 years*

**Jennifer Nicholson**

*Treatment Plant Supervisor, 23 years*

**Bonnie Shippen**

*Administrative Assistant, 5 years*

*We thank you for your service to the District!*

## REMINDER OF RATE CHANGE APRIL 01, 2017

On December 15th the District's Board of Trustees took the first of two required votes to implement a proposed new rate schedule. The notice of the January 19th public hearing, along with the proposed rate schedule, was mailed to each rate payer, placed on the District's website and published in the Times Record. The public hearing was held as advertised. On February 16th the Board of Trustees will take the second and final vote to implement the new rate schedule for all sewer use beginning April 01, 2017.

## RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Daniel Munsey was acknowledged by the Maine Water Environment Association for his work by receiving the 2016 Young Professionals Award. The award recognizes Dan's "outstanding achievement in, and notable contributions to, the water environment industry." Dan finds the District to be a "great workplace" and believes that "every one of us throughout the District has a part to play in making this place run and protecting our environment." Congratulations, Dan!



*Daniel Munsey Receives MeWEA's Young Professionals Award*

Jason Prout has earned the Grade 5 level Waste Water Treatment Plant Operator Certification from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. This is the highest level that can be achieved. He has also passed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's laboratory DMRQA (Discharge Monitoring Report Quality Assurance) Proficiency Test. Kudos to Jason for these personal and professional achievements! Jason will be celebrating his 20th anniversary of employment with the District in April. He cites that his longevity is due to interesting and challenging work – "You never know what the (treatment) plant will throw at you." He also cites "the great working relationship that the crew has makes it a fun place to work." Congratulations, Jason!



*Jason Prout receives recognition for passing the DMRQA test*

## REMINDERS

### OUTSIDE WATERING ADJUSTMENTS/CREDITS

When you are using water for your lawn, gardens, pools, or ice rinks you may be eligible for an outside watering credit. **TO REQUEST AN ADJUSTMENT, YOU MUST CONTACT US PRIOR TO THE END OF EACH QUARTERLY BILLING PERIOD.**

Since the quarterly billing periods vary with your location you may contact us to determine your specific billing schedule. Please call 729-0148 ext 110 or e-mail [ddutton@brunswicksewer.org](mailto:ddutton@brunswicksewer.org) for more information. **PLEASE NOTE: Credits will no longer be given after the bill has been produced.** You may view the policy on our website or request a copy be mailed to you.

When experiencing a sewer system problem, please contact the District **FIRST**. The 24-hour emergency pager is 580-3175.

**THINKING OF DOING SOME YARD WORK?** Before your contractor digs, call DIG SAFE (1-888-344-7233). It's free and it's the law.

At the touch of a button you can skip the checks and stamps by paying your sewer bills online. This free service can be found at: [www.brunswicksewer.org/odp.html](http://www.brunswicksewer.org/odp.html).

**Don't forget to like us on Facebook.**

