

DISTRICT DIGEST

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BRUNSWICK SEWER DISTRICT *Protecting Maine's Environment*

ANNOUNCEMENT OF RETIREMENT

General Manager Leonard Blanchette has informed the district's Board of Trustees that he will retire effective December 31, 2021. In his letter to the trustees, he noted:

"Thank you for the opportunity to manage the district. It has truly been a great professional and personal milestone in my life. Over the years, the membership on the Board of Trustees has changed; but its caliber, professionalism, and attention to the needs of the district have not. It has been both an honor and a pleasure to have been associated with all of you."

Leonard began his career with the district when he was hired as the Assistant Superintendent (since retitled: Assistant General Manager) in August of 1987. In May of 2010 he was appointed General Manager.

The board and staff thank Leonard Blanchette for his 34 years of service. Best wishes on your new chapter in life, Len!



Leonard Blanchette

A FEW QUESTIONS TO OUR RETIRING GM:

You started at the District on August 17, 1987, correct? Yes.

Do you remember what kind of car you drove at that time? I believe it was a 1979 Dodge pickup truck.

What do you plan to do after you retire? First to spend more quality time with my wife, Debbie. Second, work on the house. Maybe sell it, would like a ranch. Want to travel the western states and visit my brother

in New Mexico. Then, not sure—teach, maybe run for the legislature, who knows. But clearly not sit on my hands.

What are your two favorite hobbies? Photography and carpentry. Really, almost anything hands-on.

What will you miss most about the district, if anything? Being a part of something important and the comradery of my fellow staff members.

What is your proudest accomplishment over the past 34 years? Working with staff and the board to make this the best district in the state and region.

What is your fondest memory? Going to my interview for the GM position in jeans and flannel shirt (as I had forgotten my suit at my father's place).

ERIC WALLING ACHIEVES CERTIFICATION

The district would like to congratulate Eric Walling for obtaining, on his first attempt, his Grade 2 Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certification presented by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. Eric started with the district in April of 2018. Eric has also obtained his Grade 2 Collection System Certification presented by

the New England Water Environment Association. We are very proud of Eric for his accomplishments and grateful that he is a part of our team.



NEW LOOK TO DISTRICT INVOICES

We have moved to a new billing system effective August 1st. Our colorful, new invoices now have the remittance at the bottom, and they are bar-coded for ease of getting payments applied to accounts. As our staff gets more familiar with this new system, we will be rolling out some customer-friendly web features soon. Please be patient with us as we make this transition. Thank you!

Recognition

Congratulations to our employees celebrating an anniversary in the 3rd quarter:

Ernest Bergeron II	<i>Senior Operator</i>	37 years
Leonard Blanchette	<i>General Manager</i>	34 years
Michael Jouver	<i>Senior Electro-Mechanical Technician</i>	26 years
Gerald Bibber	<i>Collection/Pumping Operator</i>	26 years
Thomas Mason	<i>Chief of Maintenance – Treatment Plant</i>	19 years
Daniel Munsey	<i>Safety Coordinator</i>	14 years
Lorraine Caron	<i>Finance Manager</i>	12 years

Thank you for your service to the district!

REMINDERS

2021 OUTSIDE WATERING CREDITS

Do you do substantial watering of a lawn or garden? Do you have a pool or hot tub to fill? You may be eligible for an outside watering credit. **TO REQUEST THIS ADJUSTMENT, PLEASE E-MAIL** info@brunswicksewer.org **or CALL 729-0148** in the spring of 2021 when you begin watering outside to be placed on the list for the entire 2021 season. **Your e-mail or call to us must be received before bills are processed. The district will NOT process any late notifications.**

POLICY AMENDMENTS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020

These two amendments require the installation of a sub-meter to receive an adjustment for outside water use. You may view the "Sewer Use Billing Adjustment Policy" which can be found on our webpage (www.brunswicksewer.org) under the "POLICY" tab.

New Construction/Connections: All new residential and commercial connections to the public sewer system who wish to receive a billing adjustment for water not entering the public sewer **MUST use a sub-meter** per the requirements noted in the "SUB-METERED use" section.

Property Ownership Transfers: All new owners of public sewer connected residential and commercial properties who wish to receive a billing adjustment for water not entering the public sewer **MUST use a**

sub-meter per the requirements noted in the "SUB-METERED use" section.

Please contact us should you have questions concerning these policy amendments.

OTHER REMINDERS

When experiencing a sewer system problem, please contact the district **FIRST**. The 24-hour emergency number is **207-729-0148**. Make sure your plumber calls Maine Natural Gas before any tools are placed in your line.

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.

Sewer bills may be paid by:

- Credit card or by e-check online, with a fee charged. (Fee is 2.75% of transaction amount with a \$1.95 minimum. Fee for e-check \$1.) Please visit our website www.brunswicksewer.org for instructions.
- Automatic deduction from your checking or savings account (no fee charged). Go to our website and select the "I Want To" tab, then "Set Up Direct Payment." Complete the form and mail it to us at 10 Pine Tree Road, Brunswick, ME 04011 to complete the set up. Do not send in paperwork as a form of payment for your **current** bill; we need to process the set up with the banking institution **prior** to the billing.

Please like us on Facebook. Follow us @brunswicksewer on Twitter and Instagram.



FUN FACTS FROM THE SEWER GUY

WATER CONSERVATION EDITION

There is the same amount of water on Earth today as when it was formed.

So why save water?

Water regulates the earth's temperature as well as the human body, along with removing waste and transporting oxygen and nutrients to cells for your joints, organs, and tissues.

Ninety-five percent of Earth's water is salty or undrinkable. Two percent is frozen in the glaciers and ice caps. This leaves 1% for farming, manufacturing, community, and personal needs.