

DISTRICT DIGEST

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BRUNSWICK SEWER DISTRICT *Protecting Maine's Environment*

THE DISTRICT'S COMMITMENT TO OUR ENVIRONMENT

The Brunswick Sewer District mission is to protect the health and environment of the communities we serve through wastewater collection and treatment in an environmentally responsible, efficient, and reliable manner. The district has been committed to environmental sustainability since our inception in 1948.

Recently we have made strides to become even more environmentally and socially sustainable. This past year the Brunswick Sewer District purchased a Nissan Leaf to replace a pickup for running errands around town. We have also placed the district on a waiting list to purchase a Ford F-150 lightning and an all-electric Chevy Silverado when they become available to replace our other I.C.E. pickup trucks.

Additionally, the district recently bought a 631 kilowatt share of the Soltage Acton solar project, which will generate over 800,000 kwh of clean electricity for our district annually.

For more information on our solar initiative, visit <http://www.brunswicksewer.org/sol.html>

While working on sustainability efforts, the Brunswick Sewer District has also started a wellness program initiative to boost rates of physical activity among staff members to promote their mental, physical, and emotional well-being, and to improve the social sustainability of the district.

In the near future, the Brunswick Sewer District will be working on removing invasive plant species such as Oriental Bittersweet and Morrow's Honeysuckle from the district campus to ensure that the invasive plants do not outcompete the native flora. Our aim is to continually work on and improve social and environmental sustainability among our staff, community, and the surrounding environment.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT – DISTRICT NEW HIRES

During the last few months, the sewer district has brought on a couple new team members:

Bryan Chonko

Bryan our newest operator, joined us on February 1st 2022. As part of the collection and pumping division his duties include maintaining and televising sewer lines and raising manholes when the Brunswick Public Works is repaving town roads. On rainy or snowy days, Bryan evaluates our company vehicles and equipment to ensure



that they are running properly. Brian is also diligently studying for his operation and maintenance of wastewater collection system's exam which he aims to take in 2023.

Kaia Williams

Kaia is our summer intern who has recently graduated from Dalhousie University with a double major in Spanish and Latin American Studies and Environment, Sustainability, and Society with a minor in Environmental Science. Kaia has been learning about wastewater



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Recognition

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

| | | |
|---------------------------|---|----------|
| Ernest Bergeron II | <i>Senior Operator</i> | 38 years |
| Michael Jouver | <i>Senior Electro-Mechanical Technician</i> | 27 years |
| Gerald Bibber | <i>Collection/Pumping Operator</i> | 27 years |
| Thomas Mason | <i>Chief of Maintenance – Treatment Plant</i> | 20 years |
| Daniel Munsey | <i>Safety Coordinator</i> | 15 years |
| Lorraine Caron | <i>Finance Manager</i> | 13 years |

Thank you for your dedicated service to the District!

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collection and treatment. She has also been a beneficial asset to our team by assisting with social media posts and writing articles for the newsletter.

Welcome Bryan and Kaia! Thank you for the work ethic and talent you bring to the District.

REMINDERS

2022 OUTSIDE WATERING CREDITS

Do you do substantial watering of a lawn or garden? Do you have a pool or hot tub to fill? Do you flood an ice rink in the winter? 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 2022 when you begin watering outside to be placed on the list for the entire 2022 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 TikTok, Twitter and Instagram.



FUN FACTS FROM THE SEWER GUY

TOILET EDITION

The average person spends three years of their life on the toilet.

Most toilets flush in the key of E flat.

We use an average of 57 sheets of toilet paper a day!

The average person uses a toilet about 2,500 times annually

About 75% of Americans place toilet paper on holders so the flap rolls over the top rather than rolling around the back.

The average life expectancy of a toilet is 50 years.

There is a World Toilet Day: November 19.