

2012 WASTE WATER DEPARTMENT YEAR END REPORT



- The Waste Water Plant treated a total of 349 million gallons this year. This averages out to 0.956 million gallons per day and represents a decrease of 225,000 gallons per day from the previous year. We recorded a total of 35.3 inches of precipitation this year compared to 52.2 inches for the previous year.
- The yearly average removal efficiency of the treatment plant in regards to Total Suspended Solids and BOD remained steady at 98%. Ammonia removal also remained steady at 99% and the removal of phosphorous decreased slightly from 88.8% to 87.9%.
- The wastewater department had no violations of our operating permit this past year compared to five in 2011 and none in 2010.
- Since establishing the yearly sewer rehabilitation program back in 2002, we have repaired and/or replaced over 33,000 lineal feet of sanitary sewers. Due to favorable costs the ten year program finished a year ahead of schedule and was completed in 2011. The emphasis for this past year was to develop a new ten year plan to carry the department out to 2022. To that end the department hired Fluid Waste Services to clean and televise sewers in the Colony Woods, Raintree, Sugarbush, Irongate subdivisions and miscellaneous sewers along Bloor, Isenhour, and Terrace Drive areas. These areas were targeted due to their age and a prevalence of older vitrified clay sewers. The results were analyzed by both my department and our engineering firm, BLN. A report was generated that provides the Town of Zionsville with a comprehensive plan of sewer rehabilitation, lift station rehabilitation and force main replacements for the next 10 years. I hope to have the plan available for review and reference on the Town's web site in the near future.
- IT upgrades were completed for the department in 2012. New equipment and software now enables plant personnel to monitor the status and perform some operation of key processes at the treatment plant and lift stations remotely via a lap top computer.
- Tertiary Pond #1 was emptied, the residual solids removed and disposed of, reshaped, and a new clay liner installed. The last time this pond was cleaned was in 1984 and it should last another 20 to 30 years before needing cleaned again.
- Needed repairs were made to the Main Lift Station this year. It involved the replacement of 2 twelve inch inlet valves. The project was difficult due to having both valves removed while the station stayed in operation. This was done by operating pumps on hand while personnel made confined space entries into the wet well in order to plug off the inlets to the valves to be replaced.
- Costs for the Waste Water Department have been monitored and contained within the approved operating budget for 2012.