

Innovation in West Michigan

Wastewater Treatment



Proper treatment and administration of a municipal wastewater system demands constant vigilance to assure the public's health and safety. The Holland BPW fulfills this mission through the management of a sanitary sewer network that includes almost 190 miles of sewer pipe and 35 sewage lift stations spanning the City of Holland as well as portions of Park, Laketown, Fillmore and Holland Charter Township.

Recent Innovations

We work continuously to improve and update our wastewater management systems. Recent innovations include the first-phase launch of a recycled, non-potable water system to serve customers' non-drinking needs in the summer months and the kick-off of a pharmaceutical collection program designed to divert controlled substances from our water supply. We also manage to keep sewer back-ups and similar system disruptions to a minimum.

During our fiscal years 2006 through 2009, we replaced over 4 miles and installed more than 3 miles of sanitary sewer main.

Mercury Reduction Program

Our wastewater treatment plant in 2009 joined the nationally recognized Water and Wastewater Agency Response Network (WARN). The network maintains a mutual aid agreement between its members to come to the aid of their fellow water/wastewater utilities in the event of an emergency affecting water system management.

Personal Pharmaceutical Collection Program

We teamed with the Ottawa County Health Department in 2009 to conduct a Personal Pharmaceutical Collection program. This initiative amassed over 500 pounds of pills, 30 pounds of medicated creams and lotions and 50 pounds of controlled substances for incineration, effectively directing these materials away from the municipal water supply.



Maintenance & Upgrades

At the Waste Treatment Plant, storm drain improvements conducted in fiscal years 2008 and 2009 modified the East Plant's storm drain system so that storm-water discharges are directed into the sanitary sewer on-site rather than into wetlands north of the site.

The improvements were undertaken to prevent any accidental sewage discharge into the Macatawa watershed by sludge haulers loading their trucks at the site.