# SUMNER REGIONAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY

## ANNUAL REPORT 2018

#### **SERVED BY THE NUMBERS - ANNUALLY**

#### 15+ SQUARE MILES from which collect waste

#### 28,700 RESIDENTS served

860,000,000 GALLONS of flow annually 391,000,000 from Sumner 469,000,000 from Bonney Lake

2,800,000 POUNDS of solids treated

98.2% of solids removed

Received 2017 Wastewater

Treatment Plant

**Dutstanding Perfor-**

338 TONS of biosolid given away



### **STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE**

- One of only 111 facilities out of 300 to earn this designation
- Sumner has won this award for seven consecutive years.

<sup>66</sup> It takes diligent operators and a strong management team, working effectively together, to achieve this high level of compliance. It is not easy to operate a wastewater treatment plant 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, without



violations. Ecology appreciates the extraordinary level of effort your plant operators demonstrated throughout 2017.... Your excellent record is a credit to the dedicated operators who are responsible for running this award-winning plant.<sup>99</sup>

- Heather Bartlett

Water Quality Program Manager State of Washington Dept. of Ecology

Nation-wide feature on Sumner's facility and innovations in Treatment Plant Operator magazine in late 2016.

## **RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Supplemented staff with a full time electrician and instrumentation technician for cost-effective solution to troubleshoot increasingly complex equipment; especially important to maintain the plant's power distribution systems and the electronic instrumentation.
- Both cities working to reduce inflow and infiltration reduction programs, including a comprehensive smoke testing program. Eliminating cross connections with stormwater can restore capacity to the plant and reduce peak flows entering the plant.
- Modified the biological treatment basins to prevent flow from short-circuiting through the basin, increasing the plant's efficiency.
- Significant rehabilitation of the non-potable water pumps that recirculate treated effluent water for use throughout the plant.
- Replaced centrifuge scroll assembly and retained existing unit to be rehabilitated for use as a spare part.
- Installed a movable access platform over the floating digester lid to greatly improve staff's ability to access equipment in this area and eliminating potential injuries.

### 2019-2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- Installation of a second and larger bio-solids dewatering centrifuge, which will require constructing a new work platform and hoist along with a conveyor belt system to move the material produced by the centrifuge. This improvement will provide equipment large enough to handle loads while also providing redundancy to continue processing even if one of the centrifuges need to be removed from service.
- Replacement of dump trucks to transport solids from the plant. By trucking loads of solids to local gardeners, the facility avoids having to truck solids to eastern Washington for disposal, greatly extending the life of each vehicle, yet current vehicles have reached their end of service.
- Investment in additional time and training to meet and exceed increased scrutiny of laboratory operations related to water quality testing. Includes adding software specifically designed to track and record laboratory records.
- Begin transition planning and recruitment for new plant superintendent in anticipation of the current superintendent's retirement in 2019; includes smooth transition of institutional knowledge as current superintendent has been at the plant since 1978.

## **FINANCIALS**

- Operations of the plant costs about \$2.7 million / year and is split between the two partner Cities based on the percentage of flow and nutrient loading required by each City's system.
- Investment of over \$26 Million into capital assets associated with the plant since 1973.



## LONG-RANGE PLANS

- Ability to expand at the request of one or both partner cities to accommodate additional regional growth with the addition of additional treatment equipment.
- Tracking of potential changes coming from Department of Ecology, possibly requiring further reduction of nitrogen and ammonia from wastewater plan effluents. Ecology is currently studying nutrient loadings in the Puget Sound and how those loadings are impacted by Water Treatment Plants discharging to the sound and tributary waterways. The study may launch regulatory changes that would lead to the necessity to install additional treatment process.

## **INNOVATION & EFFICIENCY**

- A computer system monitors and identifies process problems so they can be immediately addressed. Staff run tests daily on the influent and effluent, using the plant's laboratory.
- Staff periodically test the biolsolids to ensure that the desired level of treatment is being achieved.
- Waste is treated using gravity, U-V rays and micro-organisms. It is not treated with harsh chemicals.
- A ventilation system directs air to a biofilter composed of natural shredded wood on which microorganisms grow and consume odorous compounds, keeping the plant from smelling the area around it.
- Operates 365 days a year with 10 operators plus superintendent, administrative support and engineer -- a fraction of the staffing of other facilities of comparble size and service area.
- Free RV dump offered to community to discourage illegal dumping

**" T**he strenth of our staff comes from their ability to not only run the plant well but also complete projects in-house that most other plants have to contract out. They install equipment, process biosolids and ensure that our lab work is defensible in court."

- Greg Kongslie, Plant Supervisor



### **ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP**

- Proper operation of the plant protects the White River, the Puyallup River, Puget Sound and the water systems we rely on for recreation and sustainability.
- 100% of biosolids are processed to an Exceptional Quality Class A product that is provided free to the community and used for gardening. Biosolids area an alternativee soil amendment to chemical fertilizers and keep us from having to truck loads



### INVESTMENTS IN EFFICIENCY



#### **INFLUENT PUMP STATION**

Wastewater from both cities is conveyed through separate 36inch gravity sewers and discharges directly to the influent pump station, which lifts the incoming flows to the headworks.

#### HEADWORKS ####>

At the headworks, flow meters measure the influent flow from each city. Screening equipment removes and disposes of plastic items, rags and other large debris. Two mechanically cleaned fine screens and a sluice conveyor transport screenings to a disposal dumpster.

#### **PRIMARY CLARIFIER**

The screened wastewater enters the primary clarifier; some of the solids and organic matter is physically removed by gravity.

#### BIOLOGICAL TREATMENT SYSTEM



From the primary clarifiers, effluent flows by gravity to two aeration basins, mixing with a concentrated bacterial culture, called activated sludge, that is recycled from the downstream secondary clarifiers. Activated sludge provides microorganisms to stimulate biological removal of pollutants. Blowers supply the air flow that provides oxygen for the bacterial culture.

#### SECONDARY CLARIFIER

The mixture of treated wastewater and the activated sludge from the aeration basins flows by gravity to two secondary clarifiers, which provide optimal solids separation by gravity settling. Bacteria settle quickly to the bottom of the secondary clarifiers and allow clear effluent to flow to the top. The clarifiers are covered with aluminum domes to prevent growth of algae and to keep out leaves.

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Clarified effluent flows by gravity from the secondary clarifiers to the ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system, consisting of racks of UV lamps submerged in the effluent in open concrete channels. Exposure to UV light inactivates potentially harmful (pathogenic) organisms. After disinfection, the high quality effluent is discharged to the White River.

#### **RESOURCE RECOVERY**



Waste sludge from the clarifiers is thickened, digested, dewatered, thermally dried, and converted into a Class A biosolid available for direct pickup by the public for use on lawns, golf courses and gardens.

### REWARDS BEYOND A LIFETIME











