



# Pender County Government Update

## Department

### UTILITY OPERATIONS

#### PENDER COUNTY UTILITIES (PCU) & WATER DISTRICTS:

PCU currently has 2 staff vacancies and 3 new positions for FY23 that have yet to be filled. We are currently recruiting for the Solid Waste Maintenance Technician, Water & Sewer Locator (new), and WWTP Maintenance Technician (new) positions. We had to re-open recruitment for the new positions. Recruitment for a Utilities Clerk has closed, and we are evaluating candidates. We plan to recruit for the new Well Operator position next month.

Scotts Hill Elevated Tank & Wells project: Construction by Harper General Contractors still anticipated to begin in October. Awaiting financing approval.

Reverse Osmosis Water Plant & Wellfield: We are trying to finalize a plant site within the next 30 days. The following step will be to complete an engineering evaluation of the site (approximately 6 month process).

US 421 Sewer to Blueberry Road project: Design is ongoing.

WTP Generator/WWTP Berm project: Design is ongoing.

Pender Commerce Park Water & Sewer Extensions project: 274 Construction Group to begin construction within the next few months (delayed due to supply chain issues).

Maple Hill Water Interconnection with ONWASA project: We are still waiting on the County Attorney to finalize a related property acquisition. Project close-out and final payment is in process.

Interconnection is fully operational.

#### Field staff work and status updates since last report:

- Extensive water line flushing in the Hampstead area
- 5 new water taps completed by staff
- Water main leak repaired by staff; staff responded to 2 after-hours emergency calls
- 100 plus work orders completed; 21 water meter inspections completed
- Automatic flush valves on Riverland Dr, Michigan Ave, Old Landing Rd, Royal Tern Dr, and Bahama Dr.
- 150+ water disconnects for non-payment in Hampstead area
- Over 300 locates in last two weeks
- Some backordered parts and supplies were finally delivered
- Monthly Operating Reports completed and submitted

#### WATER PRODUCTION NUMBERS:

March 2022 Daily Avg: 1.32 MGD from WP, 0.223 MGD from Wallace, 0.835 MGD to Hamp/SH (thru 210 BPS), 0.007 MGD from Annex & Kiwanis Wells (Total 0.843 MGD for Hamp/SH)

April 2022 Daily Avg: 1.40 MGD from WP, 0.356 MGD from Wallace, 0.980 MGD to Hamp/SH (thru 210 BPS), 0.126 MGD from Annex & Kiwanis Wells (Total 1.107 MGD for Hamp/SH)

May 2022 Daily Avg: 1.50 MGD from WP, 0.480 MGD from Wallace, 1.019 MGD to Hamp/SH (thru 210 BPS), 0.393 MGD from Annex & Kiwanis Wells (Total 1.411 MGD for Hamp/SH)

June 2022 Daily Avg: 1.59 MGD from WP, 0.402 MGD from Wallace, 0.908 MGD to Hamp/SH (thru 210 BPS), 0.560 MGD from Annex & Kiwanis Wells (Total 1.467 MGD for Hamp/SH)

July 2022 Daily Avg: 1.68 MGD from WP, 0.059 MGD from Wallace, 0.751 MGD to Hamp/SH (thru 210 BPS), 0.444 MGD from Annex & Kiwanis Wells (Total 1.195 MGD for Hamp/SH)

August 2022 Daily Avg (thru 17th): 1.68 MGD from WP, 0.258 MGD from Wallace, 0.893 MGD to Hamp/SH (thru 210 BPS), 0.593 MGD from Annex & Kiwanis Wells (Total 1.487 MGD for Hamp/SH)

#### MAPLE HILL WATER SYSTEM & WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Monthly report has been completed. The wastewater plant and lagoon are running well. One of the actuator valves is acting up, but we have a temporary fix on it for now. I have been resetting some of the valve markers in the water system where lawn mowers have knocked them over. I still have 2 fire hydrants that are in need of repairs and I still need sampling points installed for the water system.

## WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Brush hog attachment for the new tractor was delivered and put to use. (pictured)

Backwashed GAC #4. BFPE was on-site to perform yearly testing of the Plant's Backflow Preventers.

State reports for July have all been completed and submitted. Overall, the plant is running well with no major issues.

Water production numbers for August through the 17th: 28.6 million gallons for an average of 1.68 MGD

PCP WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT - MKKAES (Melinda K. Knoezer Adaptive Ecosystem)

The wastewater plant has been running very well.

- We have been trenching conduit in the ground for the probe project
- We have mowed grass and bush hogged some
- Brian pressure washed the clarifier
- Received a load of chemical
- We have done some cross training so that our lab tech has a backup for sampling TSS
- Completed monthly reports

## SOLID WASTE

- The Transfer Station scale house is operating well.
- Waiting time at scales is about 3 minutes in and 4 minutes out.
- Toledo has been out to repair the scale several times in the past two weeks. There are still a few issues but it's working much better.
- We are still recruiting for a Solid Waste Maintenance Technician.
- We are still waiting on desks for the scale house.

## SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL TONNAGE FOR JULY 2022

MSW Kitchen trash collected 2,503.42 tons

Construction & demolition 534.55 tons

Recycling 108.96 tons

Tires recycled 25.84 tons

TV & Electronics 37.36 tons

Scrap metal recycled (shreds) 38.92 tons

Whitegoods recycled 58.37 tons

Out of County 5.84 tons

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Pressure washed clarifier at PCP\_WWTP



Trenching-in conduit



Mowing

Collage Maker



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### LIBRARY

- ◆ Pender County Library is currently running a community survey to learn how we can improve our services to better meet our community members' needs. The survey is set to run through at least September 30 and all those that take the survey are entered into a raffle to win \$50 cash! Staff members are setting up tables throughout the community to reach community members that may not currently use the library. Paper versions are available at both library locations as well as at Smart Start of Pender County. A digital version is available on our website at [penderpubliclibrary.org](http://penderpubliclibrary.org).
- ◆ The 2022 summer reading program has wrapped for the library and raffle winners were notified! Several participants were able to win prizes thanks to the generous local businesses and organizations in Pender and New Hanover counties. The library had 370 youth (ages 0-18) participate with a total of 6,590 hours of reading. This is an increase of more than 200 youth participants when compared to 2021 and more than double the number of youth participants when compared to the library's pre-pandemic numbers in 2019.
- ◆ The library is excited to announce we have board games available for patron checkout! Games are available for all ages and varying interests. Check out what is available through our library's online catalog or come in and check them out!
- ◆ The Hampstead Branch Library hosted its first of five gentle yoga for beginners programs on Saturday, August 13. Instructor Jess White provides a slow flow that is low to the ground and meant to center your body and mind. Join us at the Hampstead Branch Library for our next gentle yoga program on Saturday, September 10 at 11 a.m. This program is recommended for adults or children 8+ accompanied by an adult. Registration is required and can be done at [penderpubliclibrary.org](http://penderpubliclibrary.org).
- ◆ Pender County Library partnered with the Pender County Parks and Recreation for a Bigfoot story walk at Millers Pond Park. Participants listened to stories about Bigfoot, discussed the clues to look for when on a Bigfoot hunt, and then hunted for Bigfoot while walking around the pond. It was reported that some participants saw glimpses of the creature in the woods!
- ◆ The Main Library in Burgaw once again partnered with the American Red Cross to host a blood drive on Friday, August 19. Donors in the month of August will receive a \$10 e-gift card and be entered to win a chance for free gas for one year.
- ◆ Dr. Chris E. Fonvielle Jr., professor emeritus in the Department of History at UNCW Wilmington, will be at the Main Library in Burgaw on Tuesday, August 30 at 6 p.m. Fonvielle will be sharing about his new book, "Curious Tales from Old Wilmington and the Lower Cape Fear: The Truth Behind the Legends." In this book, Fonvielle explores five of the region's most famous legends through the eyes of a professional historian.
- ◆ The Mt. Calvary Center for Leadership Development will be in the lobby of the Main Library in Burgaw on Wednesday, August 31 from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Mt. Calvary Center is working to empower and improve the Pender County community's quality of life by providing programs and information about community health, transportation, food insecurity, and more. Free hand sanitizer, COVID-19 home test kits, and N 95 face masks will be available.





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HUMAN RESOURCES

HR recently welcomed four new employees to the Pender County family on Monday August 8, 2022 (see photo). These same individuals were treated to a post-orientation meeting on Wednesday, July 17 to check in and see how they were acclimating to their new roles.

HR recently launched the county wide quarterly training modules for completion by Pender County employees.

The Party Planning Committee has scheduled their first meeting to begin planning the upcoming holiday party.

HR staff continues to meet with the Pender County staff members for HR Huddles, striving to gain valuable employee feedback regarding their workday and positions.

