



TOWN OF

COLONIE CHRONICLE

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TOWN BOARD

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Deputy Supervisor

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Board Member

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Board Member

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Board Member

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Board Member

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Board Member

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR MAHAN



Dear Fellow Colonie Resident,

I think everyone is happy that spring has finally arrived after a long, hard winter. Speaking of winter, our DPW crews logged 9,500 hours on snow removal this season. Great job everyone!

First, it is an honor for me to have been elected your Supervisor for a fourth term, and I look forward to working with all of you to be sure Colonie continues to be a great place to live and do business.

I am proud that we have achieved a financial stability almost unthinkable a few short years ago.

Financially, we continue to move in a positive direction and we continue to focus on building our fund balance.

Now that our finances are stabilized, we have been able to begin moving more aggressively to rebuild the Town's aging infrastructure and enhance our recreational facilities. We have a beautiful Town and we want to be sure it stays that way for generations to come.

This year, we are making major investments in the facilities that provide our drinking water and our sanitary sewer collection system. These investments will replace infrastructure in place for many decades and ensure that we can meet the challenges of the future. You can read about these projects in this issue.

Also in this issue, you can learn about action undertaken in order to help mitigate flooding conditions in the West Albany area of Town, including the complete renovation this year of Sand Creek Road from Norbrick Drive east to Everett Road.

I am proud that last year we were able to enhance the Town's recreational facilities at a minimum cost to our taxpayers, including the fall opening of a new passive park on River Road and the Town's first dog park. This year we plan to open a second dog park, on Town land adjacent to the Town Golf Course, and make improvements at the Town Park on Schermerhorn Road.

Finally, I hope you will have a happy, healthy, and enjoyable summer.

Sincerely,

Paula A. Mahan

Paula A. Mahan
Colonie Town Supervisor

UPCOMING EVENTS

Farmers' Market at The Crossings
Saturdays, May 17 – September 13
9 am to 1 pm, The Crossings

Learn-to-Swim Program
Dates TBA
Call 783-2760 for info

Tennis Instruction Programs
July 7 – August 8
Various Locations
Call 783-2760 for info

Junior Tennis Tournaments
August 15 – 17
Shaker High School
Call 783-2760 for info

Summer Enrichment Program
Dates TBA
Arts, music, sports classes for K-12
Call 783-2760 for info

Drop-in Playground Program
June 30 – August 8
9 am to 2:30 pm weekdays
Various locations
Call 783-2760 for info

Concerts in the Barn
Wednesday Evenings, July 9 – August 6
7:00 pm, The Pruy House Barn

\$5.00 for adults; children 12 and under, free
For more information, call 783-1435

Thursday Night Concerts at The Crossings
Thursday Evenings, July 10 – August 28 (Free)
6:30 to 8:00 pm, The Crossings

Sponsored by Joseph Vellano & Vellano Brothers, Inc.
For information, call 456-2135

Old Fashioned Sunday
September 7 – Noon to 4 pm (Free)
Family fun for all ages. For more info, 783-1435

Harvest Fest
September 14 – Noon to 5:00 p.m. (Free)
The Crossings
For all ages. For more info, 456-2135

The Colonie Chronicle

Paula A. Mahan, Town Supervisor
Sara Wiest, Editor

The Colonie Chronicle is published periodically by the Town of Colonie to provide residents with information on Town happenings and services. For more information, call 518-783-2728 or e-mail the editor at: wiests@colonie.org



Safe Landing: Supervisor Paula Mahan joined Sen. Charles Schumer at the Albany International Airport in February to advocate for bringing JetBlue to the Capital Region. Pictured, from left, are Albany International Airport CEO John O'Donnell, Supervisor Mahan, Sen. Schumer, and Albany-Colonie Regional Chamber President and CEO Mark Eagan. Sen. Schumer returned to the Airport March 17 to announce JetBlue would begin service here in 2015, stating, "JetBlue has landed in Albany."

SUPERVISOR DELIVERS 2014 STATE OF THE TOWN ADDRESS

Earlier this year, Supervisor Paula A. Mahan delivered her annual State of the Town address at a Colonie Town Board Meeting and an Albany-Colonie Regional Chamber of Commerce event. Key points are summarized below.

- It's an honor to have been re-elected Supervisor for my fourth term.
- I'm proud that we've eliminated a deficit identified by the NYS Comptroller as \$29 million, built a \$1.45 million fund balance, and improved our bond rating.
- Our Town property tax rate remains one of the lowest in the region.
- We've adhered to Governor Cuomo's tax levy cap every year since 2012.
- We will continue to follow our Ten-Year Strategic Financial Plan.
- We finished the fourth year of our paving program, so far completing projects on 152 Town roads and 200 storm sewer repairs.
- We made major improvements to the Russell Road storm-water management system.
- With grant funding, we upgraded the school crossings at Sand Creek Middle School and Colonie Central High School.
- We opened a new passive park on River Road with support from the Colonie IDA.
- Private support helped us create the Town's first dog park at the Town Park on Schermerhorn Road.
- Two new bathrooms were constructed for the Colonie Town Golf Course.
- A new outdoor reading garden at the Town Library was created with the help of many volunteers.
- With support from the Colonie IDA, we installed ADA-compliant lifts and stairways at the Town Pool.
- This year, we will make major improvements to the Town Park on Schermerhorn Road.
- We will open a second dog park adjacent to the Town Golf Course.
- Also in 2014, we will renovate Sand Creek Road, from Norbrick Drive to Everett Road.
- For the future, we will keep working to achieve the \$4 million fund balance recommended by the NYS Comptroller.
- I look forward to working with all of you in 2014.

The State of the Town is posted at
www.colonie.org



FREE SENIOR HEALTH FAIR ON JUNE 6

The Town of Colonie will host a free Health and Wellness Fair from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at The Crossings on June 6.

Organized by the Town's Senior Resources Department, the fair will feature health screenings, exhibits, and refreshments.

The Senior Resources Department provides residents with a one-stop location to receive information, assistance, and referral to a variety of senior programs and services.

For more information about the Health Fair or for services available to seniors, call 459-5051, Ext. 2.

NEW ADDITIONS AT TOWN GOLF COURSE

This year some new changes are coming to the Colonie Town Golf Course, including a new food and beverage concessionaire.

Martel's Restaurant began moving into the clubhouse in March and has been making some major renovations to the restaurant.

In addition, two new on-course restrooms facilities will be opened this year, one on the 4th tee of the Green nine and one on the 4th tee of the White nine.

"We're very happy that we were able to have these new restrooms constructed for our golfers. The restaurant is also going to have a great new look," said Supervisor Paula Mahan.

Noel Gebauer, head PGA pro at the course, says he's looking forward "to opening soon for another great year, playing host to over 30 leagues and 50 golf outings and tournaments."

He also said he's excited that the course will be hosting several junior golf events this season in conjunction with the Northeast New York PGA.

They are the Junior Workshop & Clinic (June 27), Junior Championship (June 27 and 28), Junior Tour Event (July 11), and the Junior Drive Chip & Putt Local and Regional Qualifiers (July 12 and August 16, respectively). Call 374-4181 for details.

Finally, Gebauer says the course expects to host 65,000 rounds of golf this year, "assuming Mother Nature cooperates."

TOWN TO BEGIN SAND CREEK ROAD REHAB

This spring the Town will begin a major renovation of Sand Creek Road, the second project undertaken by the Town to help alleviate flooding in West Albany.

The effort started last year with the construction of new check dams and culverts to the Russell Road storm-water management system in order to better contain storm-water.

Both projects were presented to residents at town hall meetings held at the West Albany Firehouse. Town officials and engineers were present at each to discuss project goals and answer questions.

"We've had a very positive community response to these projects," said Supervisor Paula Mahan. "Both will help mitigate flood conditions, and the Sand Creek Road project will also beautify the entire neighborhood."

Work on Sand Creek Road will begin this spring with major infrastructure improvements to the water and sewer systems, including new mains.

Next, the roadway from Norbrick Drive east to Everett Road will be completely rebuilt with new curbing and porous concrete sidewalks.

"We're excited that these will be the first porous pavement sidewalks in Town," said Commissioner of Public Works John Cunningham. "They will allow for storm-water to be reabsorbed underneath them, helping decrease the runoff that contributes to flooding."

Work is expected to continue into the fall.



Heavy Lifting: Last summer Shaker High School student Josh Kullman took on a weighty responsibility for his Eagle Scout project – rebuilding portions of a stone wall along Shaker Creek at the Shaker Heritage site. Built in the 19th century, large sections of the hand-cut wall had collapsed.

Girl Scout Troop 1451 also organized two community work days at the site, recruiting more than 50 volunteers to paint fences and clear vegetation. Donations from several local businesses and volunteers from the Latham Rotary also helped support the project, which was led by Scouts Kaityn Bossert, Lauren Dentinger, Allie Lajeunesse, and Alison O'Keefe.

Said Starlyn D'Angelo, Shaker Heritage Society Executive Director, "The historic site looks fantastic!"



Park Place: From left, Town employees Chet Oliver and Michael Kennah with Supervisor Paula Mahan at the 2013 opening of Mohawk Riverside Landing Park, a new 12.3-acre passive park connecting to the Bike-Hike Path. The park was developed with support from the Colonie IDA and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.

CELEBRATE ARBOR DAY WITH FREE SEEDLINGS

The Town will celebrate Arbor Day on Saturday, May 3 with a free seedling giveaway sponsored by the Town's Conservation Advisory Council.

Residents may pick up seedlings on the grounds of the William A. Sanford Town Library from 9 a.m. to Noon, but are advised to come early for the best selection.

This year's seedlings are red pine, Norway spruce, Japanese larch, high bush cranberry, pussy willow, red osier dogwood, red stem dogwood, silky dogwood, and wetland rose.

Master gardeners from the Cornell Cooperative Extension will be on hand to answer questions about planting and other gardening queries.

INVESTING IN DRINKING WATER

The Town of Colonie is continuing to invest in the Latham Water District to ensure an adequate supply of safe, clean drinking water now and in the future.

"It's important not only to invest in the infrastructure we need for today, but to invest in the infrastructure we will need for generations to come," said Supervisor Paula A. Mahan.

Ultimately, 3.8 billion gallons of water are sped along more than 420 miles of water main every year and delivered through more 23,500 service connections. That's a big task requiring a lot of infrastructure, including five pump stations and 15 water storage tanks.

A major project for 2014 is a \$1.8 million pump replacement project at the Mohawk View High-Lift Pump Station. The station pumps about 60 percent of the water pumped into the Town's water distribution system – that's 2.3 billion gallons a year.

This spring, the Latham Water District will also begin a multi-year program to refurbish its water tanks. Work will begin with the tank on Miller Road, which holds one million gallons. The tank will be completely rehabilitated and repainted in 2014.

This summer, Latham Water will also replace approximately 4,500-feet of water main along Sand Creek Road stretching from Osborne Road east to Everett Road as part of the Sand Creek Road Renovation project.

John Frazer, Latham Water District Superintendent, said the new mains will "greatly improve water quality, pressure, and flow in the area around this portion of Sand Creek Road."

The new mains will be cement-lined ductile iron pipe 12 inches in diameter, replacing 10-inch mains made of unlined cast-iron. Those aging mains were installed in the 1930's and 1940's.

RUNNERS CLUB GIVES GRANT TO TOWN

Dedicated to promoting distance racing, the Hudson Mohawk Road Runners Club also has a strong commitment to "giving back to the community," said President Maureen Cox.

That's why in March, the Club presented the Town with a \$10,000 grant to help fund roadway improvements at the Colonie Town Park on Schermerhorn Road.

Each year, the Club sponsors a Half-Marathon there as part of its annual Marathon/Half-Marathon event. Runners circle the park, ultimately connecting to the Bike-Hike Path.

"We've been running the Half-Marathon out of that park for over a decade, and we're very familiar with the condition of the roadways," said Cox. "Seeing that some areas could use improvements, we decided to award a grant to help fund them."

"We really appreciate this grant. It will be especially helpful this year as we begin to make improvements at the park, and we send our sincere thanks to the Road Runners Club," said Supervisor Paula A. Mahan.



Smooth Road Ahead:

Hudson Mohawk Road Runners Club President Maureen Cox, second from left, presents a \$10,000 check to Supervisor Paula Mahan to support roadway work at the Town Park on Schermerhorn Road. Also pictured are Alicia Osur, the Town's Director of Community Services, and Road Runners Club Grant Chair Ray Newkirk.



Fast Action: Congressman Paul Tonko, front row left, came to Colonie in December to promote his legislation to exempt fire hydrants from new EPA drinking water regulations. Joining him, front, are Supervisor Paula Mahan and Commissioner of Public Works John Cunningham, and back row, from left, Latham Water Department employees John MacDuff, Chet Oliver, Stephen Mahan, Dan Seaver, and Latham Water Superintendent John Frazer. The legislation was passed unanimously by Congress.

FAST RESPONSE BY TONKO SAVES HYDRANTS – AND MONEY

After receiving a letter from Latham Water Superintendent John Frazer late last year, Congressman Paul Tonko took immediate action.

Tonko’s response not only saved Colonie \$50,000, it also saved many millions of dollars for municipalities all across the U.S.

Prompting Frazer’s letter was a new EPA requirement regulating lead in drinking water, an “unintended consequence” of which would have effectively outlawed fire hydrants containing lead.

“No one is getting a steady supply of drinking water from the fire hydrant at the end of their street,” said Tonko. “Reasonable fixes must always be considered if it looks like resources are going to be wasted.”

Tonko visited the Latham Water Garage on December 6 to underscore the need for passage of legislation he introduced to exempt fire hydrants from the regulation.

Without the legislation, which was passed unanimously by both the House and Senate, Colonie’s \$50,000 stock of reserve hydrants would have had to be replaced.

“We in Colonie know that Congressman Tonko always acts proactively on our behalf. But with this legislation, he’s acted on behalf of every municipality in the nation,” said Supervisor Paula A. Mahan.

SOME FRIENDLY ADVICE: DON’T FLUSH TROUBLE!

That’s the message from Superintendent Cretien Voerg of the Department of Pure Waters, which operates the Town’s sanitary sewer system.

Many products labeled “flushable” can clog sewer lines and damage pumps, resulting in backups of raw sewage into a house or the environment. These problems are expensive to fix and can result in higher sewer rates.

You should dispose of these items in the trash – baby, facial, and cleaning wipes, nursing pads, feminine products (including applicators), latex products, and diapers. Other things never to flush – grease and dental floss!

For more information, call the DPW’s Division of Pure Waters at 783-2766, Ext. 4.

COLONIE PHONE DIRECTORY

Main Line	783-2700
Animal Control.	783-2711
Assessor	783-2701
Attorney	783-2704
Building	783-2706
Civil Service	783-2721
Community Development. . .	783-2718
Comptroller	783-2708
Emergency Management & Planning	782-2609
EMS.	782-2645
Environmental Svcs.	783-2827
Fire Services.	783-2712
General Services	783-2726
Highway	783-2795
Historian	782-2601
Human Resources	783-2720
Justice.	783-2714
Landfill	783-2827
Latham Water Dist..	783-2750
Library.	458-9274
MIS	783-2895
Planning & Economic Development	783-2741
Police (Non Emergency)	783-2811
Pruyn House.	783-1435
Public Works Engineering . . .	783-6292
Pure Waters (Sewer)	783-2766
Recreation	783-2760
Senior Resources.	459-5051
Supervisor	783-2728
Tax Department	783-2730
Town Clerk	783-2734
Youth Bureau	456-2135



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE 2014



PRE-REGISTRATION INFORMATION

YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER BY CALLING TOLL-FREE 1-800-742-5542
MONDAY – FRIDAY 9 - 4 PM

*Reservations are accepted no sooner than 30 days prior to the scheduled drop off day.
Residents of the Town of Colonie will be accepted by appointment only.
Proof of Residency will be required at the time of disposal.*



DROP-OFF DAYS

APRIL 23

4:00pm - 7:00pm

JUNE 14

3:00pm - 6:00pm

SEPTEMBER 17

4:00pm - 7:00pm

WHERE

TOWN OF COLONIE LANDFILL • 1319 LOUDON RD. (RT. 9) • COHOES, NY 12047

SPONSORED BY

TOWN OF COLONIE DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
TOWN OF COLONIE DEPARTMENT OF FIRE SERVICES
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ANY MATERIAL WHICH IS NOT DEEMED ACCEPTABLE TO THE MANAGING CHEMIST ON SITE.
For more information call: 783-6292 | Division of Environmental Services Or visit www.colonie.org



ACCEPTABLE MATERIALS

REMEMBER THE "BEST METHOD" FOR DISPOSAL OF UNRESTRICTED PESTICIDES IS PROPER USE. IF NOT BANNED, RESTRICTED, OR OUTDATED, USE ACCORDING TO DIRECTIONS OR GIVE TO A FRIEND TO USE.

Acids	Hair Removers	Pesticides
Adhesives	Herbicides	Photo Chemicals
Aerosols	Inks	Pool Chemicals
Boric Acid	Insecticides	Rat Poison
Brake Fluid	Insect Repellants	Rust Solvents
Cements	Lacquers	Solvents
Charcoal Lighters	Lubricants	Spot Remover
Chlorine	Moth Balls or Flakes	Toilet Bowl Cleaners
Cleaning Fluid	Muriatic Acid	Tub & Tile Cleaners
Corn & Wart Remover	Nail Polish	Turpentine
Degreasers	Nail Polish Remover	Varnish
Disinfectants	No-Pest Strips	Weed Killers
Drain Cleaners	Oven Cleaners	Wood Pesticides (Some)
Dry Gas	Paints: Latex & Oil Based	Wood Polishes
Dyes	Paint Remover	Wood Stains
Epoxies	Paint Thinner	
Flea Collars & Powders	Permanent Solutions	

UNACCEPTABLE MATERIALS

ASBESTOS
ANTI-FREEZE*
BIOLOGICAL OR MEDICAL WASTES
DIOXIN SUSPECT PESTICIDES
(2,4,5T, CERTAIN FORMULATIONS OF WEED-BE-GONE AND SILVEX)
ELECTRONICS (TV AND COMPUTER)*
EXPLOSIVES AND FLARES
PCB'S
PENTACHLOROPHENOL
PRESSURIZED TANKS AND GAS CYLINDERS
(PROPANE TANKS)*
RADIOACTIVE WASTE (SMOKE DETECTORS)
WASTE OIL*

* THESE MATERIALS CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE TOWN OF COLONIE LANDFILL DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS FOR RECYCLING.

2014 YARD WASTE RECYCLING PROGRAM

Please Note

Regularly scheduled weekly pick-ups run from April 14 to November 7 in 2014. After November 7, the Town will continue to collect yard waste, but not on the regular weekly schedule. Unscheduled curbside collection will continue through December 12, weather permitting.

ACCEPTABLE YARD WASTE

- LAWN CLIPPINGS
- LEAVES
- PLANT DEBRIS
- HAY
- BRANCHES & BRUSH UP TO 3 INCHES IN DIAMETER AND 4 FEET IN LENGTH, TIED WITH STRING IN MANAGEABLE BUNDLES (NO WIRE)

UNACCEPTABLE YARD WASTE

- BAGS OR CONTAINERS OVER 40 LBS. IN WEIGHT OR 32 GALLONS IN VOLUME
- YARD WASTE IN PLASTIC BAGS (INCLUDING ORANGE PUMPKIN BAGS)
- WREATHS (BECAUSE OF WIRE)
- BRANCHES OR BRUSH NOT BUNDLED WITH TWINE OR IN BIODEGRADABLE BAGS
- BRANCHES STUFFED IN CONTAINERS
- YARD WASTE CONTAINING ROCKS, SOD, OR DIRT
- YARD WASTE FROZEN IN REUSABLE CONTAINERS
- TREATED WOOD
- CONSTRUCTION/DEMOLITION DEBRIS
- NON-ORGANIC MATERIAL, INCLUDING METAL OF ANY TYPE

Program Guidelines

For ease of handling, we prefer yard waste to be packed in biodegradable bags. The bags can be purchased at local supermarkets, hardware stores, and home centers.

Yard waste may also be placed in reusable containers no larger than 32 gallons in volume and weighing no more than 40 pounds. It is no longer necessary to identify reusable containers with stickers purchased from the Town.

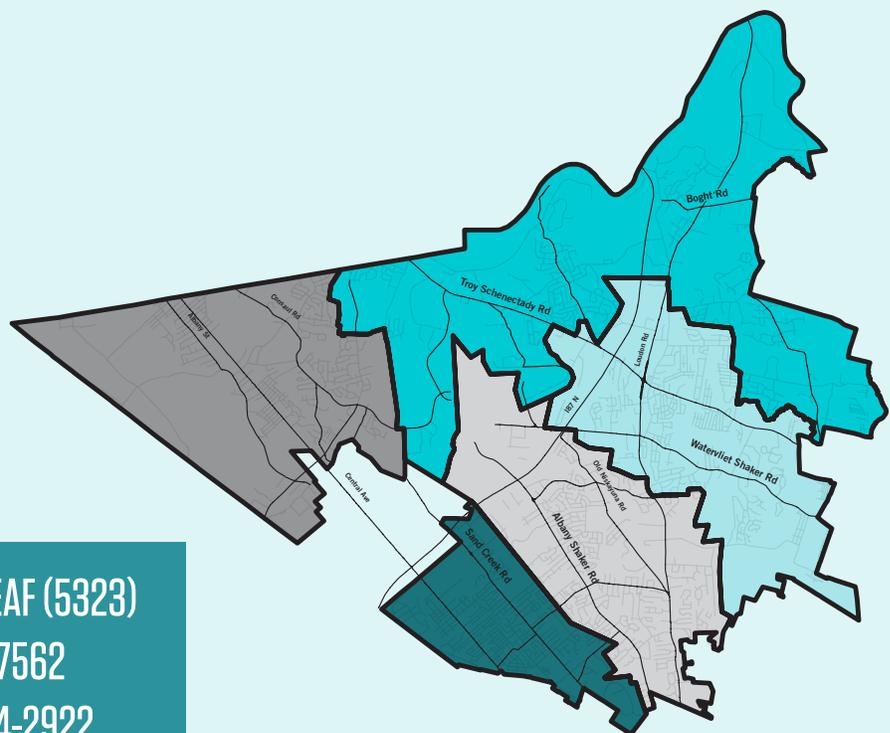
Residents may also bring compostable yard waste at no charge to the Landfill compost facility at 1319 Loudon Road, Cohoes, during normal business hours (Monday-Friday, 7 am to 3 pm; Saturdays 7 am-2 pm).

Holiday Collection

There is no regular collection on holidays. If your collection day falls on a legal holiday, place yard waste at the curb as you normally would. Your yard waste will be picked up on another day during the week. All other collection days during a holiday week remain the same.

WEEKLY COLLECTION IS SCHEDULED BY FIRE DISTRICT

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MIDWAY & STANFORD HEIGHTS	SHAKER ROAD/LOUDONVILLE	LATHAM AND SCHUYLER HEIGHTS	BOGHT, VERDOY & MAPLEWOOD	FULLER ROAD & WEST ALBANY



Town of Colonie at 783-LEAF (5323)
Village of Colonie at 869-7562
Village of Menands at 434-2922.



Office of the Supervisor
Town of Colonie
Memorial Town Hall
534 Loudon Road
Newtonville, NY 12128
www.colonie.org

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The Nitty Gritty: At left, Crews from Gallo Construction installing new grit elevators and washer systems at the Town's Mohawk View Water Pollution Control Plant on Onderdonk Avenue. At right, Pure Waters employees Shane Brino and Keith Kinnicutt make final process adjustments to newly commissioned equipment.

TOWN BEGINS ESSENTIAL UPGRADES TO SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM

A number of important infrastructure projects are in the works at the DPW's Division of Pure Waters, the department charged with maintaining the Town's sanitary sewer collection and treatment systems.

Pure Waters currently maintains 400 miles of pipe, 9,000 manholes, and oversees treatment of 3.5 million gallons of sanitary waste water per day at the Mohawk View Water Pollution Control Plant on Onderdonk Avenue.

Projects include a major upgrade at the Mohawk View treatment plant, upgrades to some of the division's 29 sanitary sewer pump stations, sewer rehabilitation projects on Sand Creek Road and Metro Park Road, and replacement of the pump station alarm system.

"I am glad we can now begin the process of upgrading the division's aging infrastructure, a goal we have worked toward for years," said Supervisor Paula A. Mahan.

A \$3.3 million upgrade to the Mohawk View plant's screenings and grit equipment is underway, replacing a system in place since 1978.

"Our dedicated staff has done a phenomenal job of extending the life of that equipment way beyond its normal life span," said Pure Waters Superintendent Chretien Voerg.

The screenings process is the first step in the treatment of sanitary waste water, removing heavy materials such as cleaning wipes, hygiene products, and rags. Next, the grit process removes materials such as coffee grounds, egg shells, and abrasive material. Finally, contaminants are removed and pathogenic microorganisms are deactivated through a series of chemical, biological, and physical processes before discharge into the Mohawk River.

The current pump station alarm system, essential for safe operation of the sanitary sewer system, is "vintage 70's equipment, for which we can no longer obtain repair parts," said Voerg. It will be replaced with a new \$500,000 system.

A \$5 million, three-year project for the complete overhaul of the Town's largest sanitary pump station at Lisha Kill is in design, a \$300,000 rehabilitation of the Fonda Road Pump Station is out to bid, and the division will soon be installing sections of new sewer pipe as part of the Sand Creek Road Renovation program.