

APRIL 2007

**LOWER BUCKS COUNTY
JOINT MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY NEWS**

Capital Improvement Projects Underway

\$500,000 Sewer Relining Project to Begin

This spring, the Authority will begin a long awaited sanitary sewer re-lining project. The project is designed to address problems in the 50+ year old sanitary sewers originally installed by William Levitt & Sons. As these clay sewers age, the joint gaskets deteriorate causing groundwater and storm-water to leak into the sewer, reducing the capacity of the system, in addition to increased pumping at the pumping stations and increased pumping/treatment costs at the wastewater treatment plant. Other issues such as illegal connections, breaks, etc. are typically discovered and addressed during this work.

The work involves the installation of a “cured in place” liner that is essentially a pipe within a pipe. This technique avoids costly and upsetting excavation work which is the traditional method of addressing Inflow/Infiltration (I/I) issues.

The initial phase of the project will be in Highland Park, where targeted sewer mains will be completely relined from manhole to manhole. There may be minor interruptions in service during the course of the work, however affected homeowners will be notified in advance. The work will be conducted during weekdays and the typical interruption of service is minimal.

In certain cases, manholes may be “lined” or replaced, depending upon the condition. It is anticipated that a small percentage of sanitary sewer mains will require replacement and/or local repair, as the relining technique cannot address serious deficiencies in a pipe.

Since the majority of sanitary sewers in Levittown are located in the back yards of the properties, the affected homeowners can expect crews to require access. Homeowners with manholes located on their properties are required at all times to provide 24 / 7 / 365 access. That means no locked gates, dogs left in yards unattended, and no debris, structures, vehicles, etc. on the manhole. The Authority also requires

a minimum of a 5 foot unobstructed (clear) radius around the manhole (measured from the center of the lid).

The Authority is planning to continue this comprehensive relining project each year, progressing through the system with an ultimate goal of significantly reducing the I/I to levels approaching those typically observed when the system was new. If you have any questions about this project, please contact Phil Smythe at the Authority Engineering Department (215-946-0731 x 201).

5 Points Generator Installation

The Authority has begun the installation of an emergency power generator at 5 points potable water storage and pumping station (pictured below).

During periods of PECO outages, this emergency generator will supply power to the station to ensure a continuous water supply. Uninterrupted power also ensures the required pressure for residential and fire fighting use. This is a capital improvement project that is in progress and scheduled for completion early this fall.



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Filling Swimming Pools

Every spring the Authority receives many calls from our customers regarding the filling of swimming pools. Swimming pool vendors have been advising our customers to notify the Authority that they have either filled or topped off a swimming pool and that the sewer portion of their bill will be adjusted. This is not the case. The Authority charges for both water and sewer for all usage that is registered on the water meter. The Authority is unable to differentiate what was used or not used in a swimming pool. Please note that it is unlawful to discharge chlorinated water into public storm sewers, it is preferred that it drain onto the customers property to allow the chlorine to evaporate.

Water Valve Inspection and Exercise Program

As a part of preventive maintenance of the water distribution system, the Authority will be continuing its program of inspecting and exercising the existing water valves located within the water distribution system. The program also includes replacement of any inoperable or damaged valves. Customers may notice a slight temporary discoloration in the water. The disturbance, if any, will usually be for a very short duration.

Rate Increase

The Authority's Board Directors approved a minimal 4% increase in its water and sewer rates effective April 1, 2007. The last increase was in 2003. The increase is due to the rising cost of insurance, fuel, chemicals, supplies to keep both the Water and Wastewater Plants operating efficiently, new plant equipment, repairs to plant equipment, as well as several capital projects projected to be started in 2007.

BILLING SCHEDULE

JANUARY-APRIL-JULY-OCTOBER

Lakeside	Indian Creek
Pinewood	Whitewood
Stonybrook	Snowball Gate
Greenbrook	Mill Creek Falls
Farmbrook	Red Rose Gate
Willowood	Cobalt Ridge
Elderberry	Green Lynne
Elderberry (Jubilees)	Laurel Bend
Birch valley (Jubilees)	Mill Creek Manor
Oaktree	

FEBRUARY-MAY-AUGUST-NOVEMBER

Magnolia Hill	Kenwood
Thornridge	Upper Orchard
Thornridge (Jubilees)	Junewood
Dogwood	Quincy Hollow
North Park	Red Cedar/Goldenridge
North Park (Jubilees)	Forsythia Gate
Plumbridge	Tullytown
Vermillion Hills	Paper Mill Village
Lower Orchard	Juniper Hill

MARCH-JUNE-SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER

Birch Valley	Goldenridge (Ranchers)
Crabtree	Deep Dale
Red Cedar Hill	Highland Park
Appletree	Twin Oaks
Goldenridge	Apartment Complexes
Holly Hill	Bloomsdale Gardens
Violetwood	Hollybrooke
Violetwood (Jubilees)	Private Fire Protection
Orangewood	Crestwood Condos
Yellowood	Fire Hydrants
Crabtree (Ranchers)	Drexelwood
Blueridge	Fairbridge

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE. . . .

Trivia Corner(answers on page 4)

- How many gallons of water does the following use daily and annually:
 10 minute shower
 leaky toilet
 leaky faucet
 brushing your teeth (2 minute avg. used)
 flushing your toilet
 a full bath
- How much does LBCJMA charge per gallon of water?
- How much of the earth is covered with water?
- How much of the earth's water is available for everyday use?

Simple Water Conservation Tips

DON'T. . . .

- Let the water run while washing dishes
- Run the water while shaving or brushing your teeth
- Water your lawn in the heat of the day, most of the water will evaporate before it has a chance to be absorbed by your lawn

DO. . . .

- Take shorter showers and save 3-5 gallons per minute
- Install water saving fixtures, appliances, etc.
- Run the dishwasher and washer only when they're full, unless there is a time/level adjustment
- REPAIR LEAKS!!!!!!**



LBCJMA FLUSHING OF WATER MAINS
IMPORTANT NOTICE - MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

<u>SECTIONS OF LEVITTOWN</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Levittown Water Plant, Tullytown, Levittown Town Center, Kenwood, Stonybrook, Victoria Garden Apts.	TUES	May 8, 2007
Farmbrook, Greenbrook, Lakeside, Pinewood, Creek Village Apts.	WED	May 9, 2007
Marion Village Apts., Junewood, Dogwood Hollow, Oaktree Hollow, Crabtree Hollow	THURS	May 10, 2007
Willowood, Elderberry Pond, Magnolia Hill, Birch Valley, Newport Village Apts.	FRI	May 11, 2007
North Park, Village of Pennbrook, Millcreek Manor, Holly Hill, Appletree, Red Cedar Hill	TUES	May 15, 2007
Thornridge, Galilee Village, Vermillion Hills, Pennsbury Woods Apts. Galilee Pavillion, Rue Court	WED	May 16, 2007
Goldenridge, Orangewood, Violetwood, Whitewood, Green Lynne, Roman Apts., Mill Crossing Apts., Orangewood Apts., Edgely Road	THURS	May 17, 2007
Indian Creek, Blueridge, Crestwood Condos, Yellowood, Bloomsdale Gardens, Avalon Court Apts., Mill Creek Apts., Mill Creek Falls, Brittany Spring Apts.	FRI	May 18, 2007
Quincy Hollow, Juniper Hill, Upper Orchard, Lower Orchard, Plumbridge, Rt. 413, Racquet Club Apts. North & South, Foxwood Manor Apts., Hamilton Park Apts., Bristol Plaza, Levittown Trace Apts.	TUES	May 22, 2007
Cobalt Ridge, Woodbourne Rd. & Apts., Elmwood Terrace, Red Rose Gate, Longview Garden Apts.	WED	May 23, 2007
Forsythia Gate, Snowball Gate, Chesterfield Apts., Country Club Apts., Hollybrooke	THURS	May 24, 2007
Highland Park, Twin Oaks, Deep Dale East, Deep Dale West, Twin Terrace Apts., Country Manor Apts., Dorilyn Terrace Apts., Business Rt. 1, Verizon Technology Center	FRI	May 25, 2007

DAILY FLUSHING OF FIRE HYDRANTS WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE AREAS OF LEVITTOWN IN THE ORDER SHOWN ABOVE (BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 7:00 A.M. AND 3:00 P.M.)

Areas being flushed and adjacent areas may notice a slight discoloration in their water during the period when flushing is in progress. The disturbance, if any, is usually less than an hour in duration. Residents are advised to refrain from using their water for drinking, cooking or clothes washing while flushing is in progress.

FLUSHING MAY BE POSTPONED AT ANY TIME DUE TO WATER RESTRICTIONS FROM INSUFFICIENT RAINFALL, WEATHER CONDITIONS, ETC.

YOUR LOCAL CABLE TELEVISION STATION WILL ALSO PROVIDE FLUSHING INFORMATION TO IT'S RESIDENTS AS LISTED ABOVE

WELCOME CORNER

Newly Appointed Board Director

(Below) Mr. James Chase was appointed to the Authority's Board of Directors in January of this year. He was appointed by Tullytown Borough Council to a five (5) year term on the Board. We welcome Mr. Chase to the Authority's Board of Directors and feel very confident that he will serve our Authority well by bringing with him over 30+ years of experience and knowledge in water plant process and operations.



Staff Update: Employee Promotions

(Above) William (Bill) Ottey has been an employee of the Authority for over 30+ years working as a Water Filtration Plant Operator during the majority of his employment. Bill was promoted and joined the Authority's management team in 2006 as Superintendent of the Water Filtration Plant.

Vincent (Vince) Capaldi has been an employee of the Authority for over 10 years. Vince was also promoted this year to the position of Assistant Plant Superintendent of the Authority's Water Filtration Plant. With Vince's many years of experience as a plant operator, he too brings with him experience and knowledge in plant operations to his supervisory position.

The Authority welcomes both Bill and Vince to its management team.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bristol Township

John Monahan
Chairman

Anthony Verduci
Vice Chairman

Tullytown Borough

James Chase
Secretary

Edward Czyzyk
Treasurer

Richard Adams
Asst. Treasurer

Questions? Comments?

The Authority's goal is to keep our customers informed and up-to-date on all we are doing to protect and preserve your water supply.

If there are any topics you'd like to see covered in future issues, please respond in writing to:

Lower Bucks County Joint Municipal Authority
7811 New Falls Road
Levittown, PA 19058
Attn: Deborah Magro
Administrative Secretary

Trivia Answers

1. Daily	Annually
50	18,250
up to 200	73,000*
8-15	2,920-5,475
4	1,460
3.5-7	1,278-2,555
70	25,550

2. \$0.00593

3. apx 75%

4. <1%- Most of the earth's water is salt water locked in inaccessible locations underground or frozen in polar ice caps and glaciers.

*A leaky toilet not only wastes up to 73,000 gallons per year but could cost up to \$432.89 a year!

**WOW! I
NEVER
KNEW!**

Moth Flies (Sewer Flies)



The Authority occasionally receives calls regarding moth flies, also known as drain flies, sewer flies or filter flies. Moth flies typically do not enter your house drains from the sanitary sewer main unless your drain trap is dry. Your drain trap will only be dry for two reasons; infrequent use or a leak. Any plumbing fixtures that are not used on a regular basis can dry up. Simply run water periodically so water continuously stays in the trap. Leaks obviously need to be repaired before they create bigger problems.

It is important to locate the breeding source in order to eliminate the infestation. To determine if they are breeding in your drain, place strips of masking tape over the drain leaving space between the strips for airflow purposes. If flies are exiting the drain some will become stuck to the tape. The eggs from the moth fly are laid in such places as garbage disposal units, water traps in plumbing fixtures and almost anywhere decomposing organic materials are found. Most of the activity of the moth fly occurs during the evening where they may be seen hovering around the sink areas in your home.

Moth flies can be prevented by keeping your drains clean and in proper working order. If you currently think you have moth flies, please consult your area exterminator.

Illegal Household Discharge

Yes, simple household products such as oil-based paint, paint thinner, spot removers, gasoline, kerosene, gas/oil mixture, heating oil, ammonia based cleaners, oven/drain/metal cleaners, pesticides, weed killer, pool chemicals, rust/paint remover, antifreeze, etc. contain flammable, toxic, caustic and hazardous chemicals and should **NEVER** be poured down any drain or thrown away in the trash, they should be recycled.

Remember, the treatment system at our Wastewater Treatment Plant is a *living system* - what is dumped in the sewer can *kill* the organisms used in the treatment process and become costly to our customers.

Always read the product label before disposing of any household product and contact Bucks County Planning Commission for question/comments at 215-345-3400 or at <http://www.buckscounty.org> for more information on their household waste recycling program.

ATTENTION

Levittown Homeowners

Recently there has been a barrage of problems associated with contractors "relining" original Levittown "Orangeburg" house sewer laterals.

The Authority, as well as most municipalities **do not** permit, recommend or approve of "relining" techniques for the original "**Orangeburg**" house laterals. If your Levittown home still has the originally installed sanitary sewer lateral, it is made of a paper composite with a bituminous (tar) inner and outer coating. These pipes were never intended to last 50+ years. As a result of the construction the laterals either completely fail or become "squashed" (egg shaped) over time due to the pressure of the soil load above the crown of the pipe. The "**Orangeburg**" pipes are also 3" in diameter, which is the absolute minimum for house laterals in most areas. Some areas recommend a minimum of 4" diameter. The process of lining an "**Orangeburg**" pipe further reduces the inside diameter to less than 3". This is not acceptable and when combined with other deficiencies in the pipe such as holes from roots, egg shaped sections, etc., it becomes a recipe for failure. And if this were not bad enough, the cost for relining is typically three (3) times the cost of replacement based upon recent charges reported to the Authority from various homeowners.

The only acceptable method of addressing deficient "**Orangeburg**" pipe is total replacement with new 4" diameter cast iron or Schedule 40 PVC pipe (check with your local municipality for specific material requirements.)

Any lateral replacements, including repairs to existing lines require an inspection from both the Authority and your local Township/Borough. The Authority also requires a permit if any of the work is on the sanitary sewer easement. Failure to obtain the required permits/inspections will result in the project being re-excavated at the contractors/property owner's expense. Only LICENSED MASTER PLUMBERS are permitted to work within the Authority easement and on Authority sewer mains. The Authority strictly enforces this policy.



"Orangeburg"
over time



what your
lateral should
look like

CONTACTING US

Please remember when leaving a message to include all pertinent information including:
name, address, phone number and reason for your call.

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

7811 New Falls Road, Levittown, PA 19055

Telephone: 215-945-7400

Fax: 215-945-7281

Business Hours: 8:00AM-4:30PM

Janet A. Keyser, Managing Director

Donna L. Farris, Asst. to the Director

Nancy Burnell, Meter Department Manager

Billing Questions, Water Service, Account Information, Certification Readings, Human Resources, Collection Dept., Accounts Payable, Meter Pits & Testing

WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY

7900 Route 13, Levittown, PA 19057

Telephone: 215-946-0731

Fax: 215-949-4634

Business Hours: 7:00AM-3:00PM

Vijay S. Rajput, Ph.D., P.E., Director of Operations

Gary A. Tosti, Plant Manager

Phil Smythe, Field Technician

Susan Wallover, Pretreatment Coordinator

Hydrant Problems, Sewer Back-Ups/Manhole Problems, Sewer Lateral Replacement Permits, Sewer Easement Construction Permits, Water/Sewer Connection Permits, Valve Box Problems, Bid Specifications, Pretreatment Dept.

WATER TREATMENT PLANT

60 Main Street, Tullytown, PA 19007

Telephone: 215-547-9581

Fax: 215-945-6935

Business Hours: 7:00AM-3:00PM

William A. Ottey, Superintendent

Vincent V. Capaldi, Asst. Superintendent

Water Pressure, Water Quality, Water Main Breaks, Low Water Pressure

