

# Water Lines

MountPleasantWaterworks.com



MOUNT PLEASANT WATERWORKS

August—September 2011

## Re-investing in Our Water and Wastewater Infrastructure *Now and for Future Generations*

To truly appreciate the value of clean drinking water, consider life before treatment technology and public water systems: waterborne illnesses were a major cause of death, fires commonly destroyed entire neighborhoods, and raw sewage polluted our surrounding waters.

Today, our public health and overall quality of life are much better, thanks in large part to public water and wastewater utilities like Mount Pleasant Waterworks (MPW).

Like many utilities across the country, MPW has aging infrastructure in need of replacement. Additionally, new infrastructure is necessary to meet the demands of our region and meet increasingly stringent regulatory requirements.

To determine and prioritize capital needs, MPW conducts periodic master planning studies, which look at future growth; infrastructure age, condition, and risk of failure; regulatory requirements, etc. Needs identified by this master planning are then included in Capital Improvements Programs.

In order to continue to meet our goals and fulfill our mission; MPW must invest and re-invest in our infrastructure each and every year to keep the system reliable, produce safe water and clean up our customer's waste to ensure we protect our water environment while preserving our natural resources.

MPW will need to reinvest a combined total of \$133.9 million or an average of \$13.9 million per year over the next 10 years in order to protect our environment; maintain water quality that meets the Federal Regulatory standards; and to ensure clean, safe drinking water is provided to our customers. The cost will most likely increase as new regulations are implemented; the cost of supplies and materials needed to maintain our infrastructure increase; and the cost of fuel and electricity continue to rise.

Included in the cost of the water bill we pay each month funds for the replacement and improvement of existing components of our water and wastewater system are included. By constantly reinvesting in the infrastructure that provides us with safe water, we do our best to ensure that the water service has minimum interruptions and that tomorrow's customers will appreciate the value we placed on the water supply today.

### Fiscal Year 2011 Infrastructure Re-investment Update

#### Highway 41 Service Area Upgrade (\$2.9M)

This project consisted of approximately 13,000 LF of 16-inch force main along Hwy 41 to separate flow from Pump Stations 72 and 109 off of the existing 12-inch force main. Thus reducing energy cost.



#### Parker Island RiverTowne Water Line

##### Interconnection (\$400,000)

This project consisted of directional drilling a 10-inch line under the creek from Parkers Landing Road to Fiddler Run Court. This new line will improve fire flow and provide a back-up connection to the RiverTowne subdivision.



#### Water Transmission Line Highway 41 to Park West (\$300,000)

This project completed a waterline loop in the Dunes West/Park West service area by installing a 12-inch water line from Hwy 41 to Park West. This will improve water pressures in the north part of the service area.



### Fiscal Year 2012 Infrastructure Re-Investment Plan

- Wastewater Treatment - \$2,832,500
- Water Treatment - \$703,576
- Wastewater Collection - \$8,284,715
- Waster Distribution - \$4,648,250

**MPW will re-invest 5.5% of our total asset base in FY2012**

# OSMO's TIPS



We have all had our summer fun enjoying the outdoors

## Learn to Be Water Wise



and now it is time to clean it up. September is the month when South Carolinians and visitors participate in Beach Sweep/River Sweep to clear trash and debris from our beaches, rivers, and waterways.

Join us September 17th, for the 23rd Annual Beach Sweep/ River Sweep 2011.

Beach Sweep/River Sweep is our state's largest one-day volunteer cleanup event of its kind. From 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., thousands of South Carolinians clear beaches, rivers, lakes, marshes, and swamps of debris. The cleanup, organized by the S.C. Sea Grant Consortium and S.C. Department of Natural Resources, has taken place annually since 1988 – when Sea Grant first started it. The Sweep takes place in conjunction with the International Coastal Cleanup, coordinated by the Ocean Conservancy. Once the Sweep is over, the Ocean Conservancy tallies all of the debris data. This data helps us learn the sources of litter so we can stop pollution before it starts.

### How to Volunteer

Volunteers, especially large groups from schools, churches, civic clubs, businesses, scouts and others are encouraged to participate.

Let MPW know your interest by calling 884.9626.

### Where to Go

Sullivan's Island Causeway (at the end of Ben Sawyer Blvd.)

### What to Bring

- Heavy work gloves
- Hats, sunglasses, sunscreen
- Mud boots or work boots
- Trash bags will be provided at each site

The MPW bi-monthly Commission Newsletter, Water Lines, is produced in-house and mailed to customers with bills and statements. Current and past issues can also be viewed and downloaded from our website.

### Water-Wise in the Kitchen and Laundry Room

- Wash only full loads of laundry in your washing machine.
- Run only full loads of dishes in your dishwasher.
- Don't pre-wash dishes! Check if your dishwasher can clean dishes without pre-rinsing them. Most newer dishwashers don't require pre-rinsing.
- Don't keep the rinse water running when washing dishes in the sink.



### Water-Wise in the Bathroom

- Fix leaking faucets and toilets. (Test for a leaking toilet by lifting the lid off the toilet tank and putting a few drops of food coloring into the holding tank. Wait a few minutes, then look in the bowl. If the food coloring has made its way there, you have a leak.)
- Don't use the toilet as a wastebasket!
- Consider replacing any older toilets in your home with new low-flow models that use 1.6 gallons per flush. Toilets ten years or older may be using three-and-a-half to seven gallons per flush.
- Shorten your shower by one minute to save on water and energy.
  - To really save, limit your shower time to five minutes or less, or
  - Install a water-saving showerhead that uses two-and-a-half gallons per minute.
  - Take showers instead of baths. A bathtub holds up to 50 gallons of water– much more than a normal shower would use. (A typical shower uses less than 20 gallons.)
- Turn the water off when shaving or brushing teeth.
- Replace older bathroom faucet nozzles (aerators) with new ones that are rated at 1-gallon per minute.



**MPW Operations Center**  
**1619 Rifle Range Road**  
**Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.**  
**884-9626 (phone)**

**customerservice@mpwonline.com**

Would you like to learn more about your water and wastewater provider?

Mount Pleasant Waterworks has speakers available who can be booked for your next meeting. Our "Clean Water Talkers" will speak on general information about Mount Pleasant Waterworks or more specific topics at your request. If you are interested in booking one of our speakers please contact Dionna Ebeling, Communications Coordinator, at [debeling@mpwonline.com](mailto:debeling@mpwonline.com) or call 843-884-9626.

### Important Contact Information Customer Service

Phone 884-9626 or email [customerservice@mpwonline.com](mailto:customerservice@mpwonline.com)  
Email requests received after 12 noon will be processed the following business day.

The MPW Operations Center will be closed on **Monday, September 5th for Labor Day.**

If you have a water or wastewater service emergency please call **884-9626**. Our Answering Service will contact on-call personnel to assist you. Have a safe and happy holiday!

