

## Mount Pleasant Waterworks' Capital Improvement Plan

Customers are urged to learn more about MPW's proposed construction projects for the next 10 years during a series of Capital Improvement Plan Meetings beginning this month. Projects are divided into two categories for funding— Extension and Expansion (E&E), and Renewal and Replacement (R&R).

E&E Projects are funded primarily by impact fees charged to new developments. These projects extend infrastructure and expand plant capacity to accommodate more demand. The use of impact fees aligns with The Commission's objective that growth pays for growth.

R&R projects include the replacement of aging infrastructure. These projects are funded with a percentage of operating revenue and earned interest.

The planning and scheduling of projects is revisited annually and is subdivided into four categories:

**Administrative Projects:** Support both water and wastewater, and are therefore funded with both water and wastewater E&E and R&R dollars.

**Water Projects:** Support only water assets, and are funded with water R&R and E&E funds.

**Wastewater Projects:** Support only wastewater assets, and are funded with water R&R and E&E.

**Grant Projects:** Several CIP projects are kept on the MPW project list but rolled over from year to year because the projects are dependent on grant funding. MPW has pursued and completed numerous projects over the years in an effort to keep the environment safe and to protect natural resources.

### Recently Completed Major Projects

**Whipple Road— Phase II Water Main:** Responding to the widening of Whipple Road which required relocation of a 12" water main, MPW decided to abandon the 12" and to construct a 20" transmission main to improve service to the new hospital, Highway 17, Remley Point area, and ultimately the Patriots Point area. Whipple Phase II completed the portion of the

project from the ball field along Whipple to the hospital property on Mathis Ferry Road, and the existing 20" line under Long Point Road to the 20" line running through Snowden.

**Regional Pump Station #2 (PS 126) Piping and Valve Upgrade:** Located near Hungry Neck Blvd. and Venning Road, this wastewater pump station is the largest station in MPW's system. It pumps all the flow received by the main trunk line down Hwy 17 to treatment at Rifle Range Road. Excessive flow through the discharge piping was creating pumping issues and damaging the valves. Larger discharge piping and valves were installed to reduce maintenance and power costs.



### Major Projects in the Works

**Water and Wastewater Line Relocations:** MPW will be required to relocate water and wastewater lines along Johnnie Dodds Boulevard, Bowman Road, and Hwy 17 N to Hwy 41 as part of the Town's major roadway improvement projects. These relocations are funded by rates and are anticipated to cost over \$5 million.

**Center Street Wastewater Treatment Plant Dewatering Facility (CSWWTP):** The current sludge dewatering equipment at the CSWWTP is over 20 years old. This equipment, which is an important part of the wastewater treatment process will be replaced at an estimated cost of \$6.5 million. The project is funded by rates and is anticipated to begin construction in late spring of 2010.

**Hydraulic Improvement and Energy Reduction Project—Phase 1:** Due to the tremendous growth experienced in the Hwy 41 portion of MPW's service area the wastewater collection system and water distribution system must be upgraded. This project will ensure that the pump stations operate efficiently, thereby reducing operating costs now and in the future. Construction began in January 2010, and is anticipated to take approximately 8 months to complete. Project cost is \$2.5 million and is being funded by impact fees, which are fees paid by developers to ensure that growth-pays for growth.

# Poster Contest

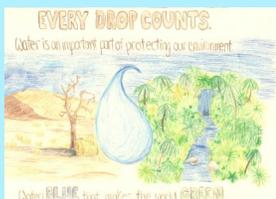
Calling all Children from Kindergarten through 8th grade!

MPW's Annual Poster Contest is underway. The contest is open to all students public, private, or home-schooled. The winners in each category will be presented with checks for \$100 (1st Place), \$75 (2nd Place), and \$50 (3rd Place).

Posters should be a celebration of our most precious natural resource -WATER. So get out your markers, crayons, or paints and be creative (all mediums are acceptable, there are no restrictions to your creativity). Poster size submissions should be 11" x 17".

PLUS, winning posters and artists will be photographed and published in the Moultrie News during Drinking Water Week, May 2-8, 2010.

All entries must be received by the end of the business day Friday March 26, 2010. For more information contact Nicole Bates at nbates@mpwonline.com.



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

# OSMO's TIPS

## Save Money on Your Water Bill



Leaking toilets are the most common cause of high water bills.

There are a number of signs that a toilet needs some repairs, but many toilets leak without conspicuous indication of trouble. Here are some of the obvious signs of a leaking toilet:

- 1. If you have to jiggle the handle to make it stop running.
- 2. Any sounds coming from a toilet that is not being used.
- 3. If you have to hold the handle down to allow the tank to empty.
- 4. If you can see water trickling down the sides of the toilet bowl long after it's been flushed.
- 5. If water drips out of the refill tube into the overflow device.
- 6. If a toilet turns water on for 15 seconds or so without you touching the handle (otherwise known as a phantom flush).

However, even if your toilet doesn't have any of these symptoms, it's still possible that it is leaking. These leaks are known as SILENT LEAKS, because they usually go undetected.



### The Dye Test

Remove the cover on the toilet tank and carefully set it aside so it can't be cracked. Remove any "in-tank" bowl cleaners that color the water and begin the test with clear water in the tank, as well as the bowl.

You can use a special dye, available at a hardware store, or use ordinary food coloring. Put enough dye in the tank water to give the water a deep color (several tablespoons). Wait 30 minutes and make sure nobody uses the toilet. In 30 minutes if you find any of the dyed water in the toilet bowl—your toilet is leaking. A properly operating toilet will store water in the tank indefinitely without any water running into the bowl.

If you have found your toilet is leaking, you now have to find out which part is the culprit—the flush valve or the refill valve:

1. Draw a pencil mark on the inner back wall of the tank at the water line.
2. Turn the water supply off.
3. Wait 20 to 30 minutes.

If the water level remains at the pencil mark, the leak is occurring at the refill valve, the unit in the left side of the tank. If the water level falls below the pencil mark, the leak is in the flush valve, the unit in the center of the tank.

**MPW Operations Center**  
**1619 Rifle Range Road**  
**Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.**  
**884-9626 (phone)**  
**customerservice@mpwonline.com**  
**Email requests will be processed**  
**the following business day.**

## Help a Neighbor!



Turn your pennies into DOLLARS to benefit East Cooper Community Outreach (ECCO) or Water Missions International (WMI). Just call 884-9626 and tell us you want to ROUND-UP your next bill payment to the next highest dollar and request the change go to either ECCO or WMI.

You can also sign up online by clicking the Customer Service tab on the navigation bar, then ROUND-UP on the dropdown menu.



## GO PAPERLESS, Sign Up For Electronic Billing This Month

Want to reduce your incoming mail and help keep your water bill at an affordable rate? Electronic billing through Mount Pleasant Waterworks' Easy Pay System is easy to use. After you sign up, you will receive a monthly email when your bill is available to be viewed. Electronic billing saves MPW money and that keeps your water and wastewater bill the second lowest in the tri-county area. To go paperless today, visit our website and sign up for Easy Pay Online.

