

ENVIROMENTAL PROTECTION PROGRAMS

WANTED!!

FATS, OILS, AND GREASE (FOG) ENFORCEMENT STAFF SEARCHING FOR THIS INDIVIDUAL.....

YOU CAN HELP!

BEWARE OF THE Grease Goblin

LAST SEEN:
Loltering in Sinks and Drains

WANTED FOR:
Causing Sewer Overflows

DID YOU KNOW...
Most sanitary sewer backups occur between your home and the town's sewer main? You can help prevent a costly and unsanitary overflow by following a few simple steps:

DO

- ✓ Scrape excess grease in a container and dispose of it in the garbage.
- ✓ Place food scraps in waste containers or garbage bags for disposal with solid wastes, or start a compost pile; promote use of scraping ware prior to washing.
- ✓ Place a wastebasket in the bathroom to dispose of solid wastes. Disposable diapers, condoms, and personal hygiene products do not belong in the sewer system.
- ✓ Promote the concept of "3 R's": Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

DO NOT

- ✗ Pour grease, fats, and oils from cooking down the drain.
- ✗ Use the toilet as a wastebasket.
- ✗ Use the sewer as a means of disposing food scraps.

The Grease Goblin and associated materials are provided by the U.S. Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance (DPP&EA) support to the Operational Sustainability and Pollution Prevention (OSPP) program at wastewater utility sites across the United States.

Environmental Commitment

The General assembly of North Carolina requires that all entities that operate a wastewater collection system make an annual report available to their customers.

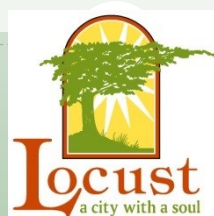
The following professionals are designated by the State of North Carolina as the Operator in Responsible Charge (ORC) and the Back-up ORC of the City of Locusts' wastewater collection system:

ORC: Tim Flieger, Cert# 994828
Backup ORC: Chris McLain, Cert# 1002246
 Robbie Pickler, Cert# 1009849

Copies of this report are available @ City Hall and on the City's website @ www.locustnc.com.

I certify under penalty of law that this report is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further certify that this report has been made available to the users and customers of the named system and that those users have been notified of its availability.

Timothy C Flieger
 Director of Public Works, City of Locust



City of Locust
2023-2024
Annual Wastewater
System Performance
Report



Wastewater Collections System
 Town Center North Lift Station #11
 Kerri Dawn Ln Locust NC



Wastewater Collections System
 Meadow Creek Vacuum Station #2
 Meadow Creek Church Rd Locust NC



2023-2024 Annual Report

What is Wastewater?

Wastewater is a term applied to water that has been used to bathe, wash dishes, do laundry, and flush toilets at home, as well as what is created as a by product through manufacturing, industrial or commercial activities. The City of Locust has an extensive system of pipes that collects both the domestic and industrial wastewater and transports it to the wastewater treatment plants in Oakboro, operated by Stanly County Utilities.

The City of Locust wastewater collection system has approximately 1,998 sewer connections that serve residential, commercial, and industrial customers. The system is unique in design, because it has all types of available sewer (gravity, vacuum, low-pressure, and force main) serving our city. There are approximately 48 miles of sewer line ranging from 4 to 12 inches in diameter. There are 647 gravity manholes, 266 vacuum pits, and 23 grinder pumps. There are 9 lift stations and 3 pump stations that convey the sewer through the system and on to the West Stanly Treatment Plant in Oakboro. Lift stations are located in areas where gravity flow can no longer be achieved and pump stations convey the sewer to the treatment plant.

During the reporting period (2022-2023) the City of Locust Utility collected approximately **126.13 million gallons** of wastewater.

PERFORMANCE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The City of Locust Department of Public Works (CLDPW) performs the operation and maintenance of the collection system and its stations. The department consists of 6 full-time employees, who are ready to respond 24/7 to all wastewater opportunities. While nearly increasing daily flow by 30,000 GPD, maintenance staff was able to reduce their call outs by nearly 40% from the previous year to **61 after hours service calls** during the reporting period.

Furthermore, during the 2023– 2024 reporting period, we continue to be busy planning/engineering/implementing significant improvements to the largest of our two vacuum sanitary sewer sub-basins, Meadow Creek (MCVSSSB). One of the greatest challenges in managing and operating a wastewater system is managing its system capacity. It takes steady forecasting of population growth, monitoring current infrastructure, and then planning upgrades to this infrastructure to meet the demands caused by the population growth. To assist us in this area we've continued installing/implementing the **FloVac Remote Monitoring Systems**. This new equipment allows us to **monitor incoming flows during wet and dry periods**, system vacuum levels, and notify our operators if there is a pit failure, assisting us in our **Energy Efficiency Program**, where the equipment is in place. This is a project that will take years to complete, but we are committed to seeing it to completion

In addition, **Increased Capacity** continues to take place in our 200N (Contract #1), Creekview (Contract #2), and Elm St. (Contract #3 & #4) Sanitary Sewer Sub Basins (**200NSSSB-CVSSSB-ESSSB**). Status of projects at close of FY is as follows...

Contract #1- 75% complete with an estimated completion date of December 2024

Contract #2- 60% complete with an estimated completion date of March 2025

Contract #3- 90% complete with an estimated completion date of October 2024

Contract #4- 100% complete

System capacity will greatly increase with these projects and put the City of Locust in great shape for the foreseeable future.

Inflow and infiltration is one of the largest obstacle in running an efficient system. We continue to manage this challenge with an aggressive **I/I Reduction Program**. During 2023/2024 we conducted visual manhole inspections and flow evaluations all to minimize the unwanted presence of storm water. In addition, through an aggressive and pro-active approach, we isolated areas in our vacuum system that were failing and allowing vacuum to leak out. These areas didn't cause SSO's, but they did contribute to our I/I and increase electrical consumption at our vacuum stations. By focusing on these opportunities, we've maximize our system capacity, reduced energy consumption, reduced financial burden, and most importantly protected our environment.

The City of Locust continues to enforce our **Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) Program**. We do this by conducting random **inspections of Food Service Establishment (FSE)** and their facilities. During the current reporting period, City of Locust Department of Public Works (CLDPW) staff conducted **50** site inspections. Education is the best tool we have in the fight against F.O.G. During FSE inspections we're constantly working with members to make sure they're using Best Management Practices (BMP). In addition, we continue to utilize our website for educational purposes.

EDUCATIONAL

Flushable and your wastewater system

Human waste and toilet paper should be the only thing going down the toilet. Unfortunately, over the years people have decided to turn the toilet into a trash can. From medication and sanitary products to deceased pet fish, if it fits, people flush it.

Flushing these items unnecessarily wastes water (up to 5 gallons per flush), can cause backups in the customers plumbing and the public sewer, excessive damage to pumps, and most importantly can create major impacts on our sewers, the **environment**, and the **water we strive to protect**.

The following is a list of items you should **NEVER** flush....

- Sanitary products
- Paper towels
- Diapers
- Baby wipes
- Facial tissues
- Condoms
- Dental floss

VIOLATIONS

The City of Locust had (0) zero reportable spills during the reporting period.