Wastewater Department
2014 Report

The Town received an Administrative Order from the EPA in April 2008 requiring the Town to come into compliance with new copper, total phosphorus, and total nitrogen requirements. The Town secured funding from NHDES and Rural Development and approached this project in four phases.

Phase I was the construction of an effluent pump station and rapid infiltration basins. This allows the treated effluent (210,000 gallons per day average) to be pumped to these basins where the effluent percolates down through the ground and into the groundwater. This allows further treatment of the effluent and allows the water to still recharge the Cocheco River. This phase was started up on July 8, 2010, and has been operating continuously and with excellent results. Our goal is to not discharge directly to the river under any conditions. This phase came in under budget so the funding agencies allowed the town to incorporate some of the work that was nearing design completion in Phase 2 to be added to this phase. These additions include two new digester blowers with all new aeration piping and electrical controls, new digester decant pump on slide rails, new headwork's screen, and stairs to allow us to get safely to the top of the digester.

Phase II was designed, bid and awarded to Apex Construction Inc. on October 25, 2010. This phase was for the construction of the new wastewater treatment buildings, treatment tanks, and remodeling and updating the existing building and tanks. We have met all of the milestones that were part of the Administrative Order. We have been operating the new treatment system since May 2012. The system is providing excellent treatment.

Phase III is for the removal of infiltration and inflow (I & I) from the sewer collection system. I & I is clean groundwater or surface water that flows to the plant and has to be processed as wastewater. Two separate contracts were awarded. Contract #1 was for repairs to individual sewer laterals and Contract #2 was for repairs to main lines. Contract #1 is complete and Contract #2 is complete and included the replacement of the Bay Road sewer main, several mainline spot repairs, manhole rehabilitation, and the installation of three manhole to manhole liners. There has been a 36% reduction in flows from 2011. One hundred feet of new sewer line was laid on Union St. to replace the existing 6 inch clay pipe in 2014.

Phase IV contract has been awarded to Apex Construction Inc. and they will start up in the spring of 2015. This phase continues with modifications to the effluent equalization tank, a new storage building, a new path out to one of the monitoring wells, a new truck and a new grit washer. This phase uses Rural Development grant funds.

If anyone wants to come by and see what has been done and how it operates, please call us at 755-4883 and we will be glad to show you around.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dale Sprague
Superintendent