

## WASTEWATER COMMISSION

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of the Town of Oak Bluffs:

Our busiest day at the treatment plant was on August 21, 2015 when where we processed and treated 278,028 gallons of wastewater. Our average daily flow for the summer months of June, July and August 2015 was 208,176 gallons per day. Our average for the same period in 2014 was 146,890 gallons per day. The total number of treated gallons of wastewater for 2015 was 39.84 million gallons while the total number of gallons treated in 2014 was 30 million gallons.

MONTH	DAILY AVERAGE
January	42,946
February	42,205
March	47,345
April	68,431
May	98,744
June	154,903
July	232,029
August	237,597
September	155,656
October	98,648
November	66,136
December	59,029

The treatment plant opened April 1, 2002 with a customer base of 503 customers and has grown to a current customer base of 704 now. The highest flow in 2002 was 152,949 gallons. The total number of treated gallons that year was 15 million gallons.

The Department again asks for everyone's help with the removal of fat, oil and grease from the collection system. We ask that residents put these items into containers and into the trash rather than pouring them down the drain. Please note that doing this, for those of you with a septic system, will add many years to your septic and for those on sewer it will help alleviate operational problems both at your residence as well as at the treatment facility. We would also like to remind everyone that during power outages the grinder pumps will not run and that you should refrain from using water as much as possible. We would also ask that users refrain from flushing disposable items such as baby wipes, cleaning pads, dental floss etc.

This year we received a coastal community resilience grant from the State for \$187,500 to fund pump station hazard mitigation projects. This grant enabled us to elevate some of the electrical components for the Lake Ave. and Dukes County Ave. pump stations. We were also able to permanently install a elevated generator and run underground power from the Dukes County Ave. pump station to the Lake Ave. pump station for its power needs. Although this funding wasn't enough to remedy all of the pump station potential flooding issues, it opens the door to future grant money that can be applied to other potential flooding issues.



The Department is also in the process of developing plans for the future expansion of both the treatment facility and the sewer areas, while prioritizing locations that include the Lagoon and the Sengekontacket watersheds. The intended expansion will be dependent upon developing a funding strategy acceptable to the town and its taxpayers.

A garage was built to protect the portable generators and other equipment from being stored outside in the harsh environment.



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This year we also received a new discharge permit which allows for an additional 250,000 gallons per day discharge to the Leonardo effluent beds which will be necessary when the treatment plant upgrade takes place to allow for the processing of more gallons per day.

I would like to thank the Commissioners Hans von Steiger, Bob Iadicicco and Gail Barmakian as well as the Selectmen for their confidence in me to manage this department effectively. I would also like to thank Lisa Merritt the Administrator/Lab Tech, Gary Jardin a Mechanic Operator and Jared Meader a Junior Operator for doing a great job in supporting me in all we do to continue running such a successful department. Lisa, Gary and I all have grade 6 operator licenses, and Jared Meader has a grade 2 license. We all work well together to continually meet our State permit requirements as well as the town's wastewater needs.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Monteith

Facilities Manager