# The Pipeline



Spring 2011 Update

### **Contents**

- 1 Clay tile repair project
- 2 What not to flush!
- **2** Leave those manholes covered!
- 3 Clay tile repair project continued
- 3 Preventive maintenance
- 3 Lucky duck!
- 4 Charlie Dorton joins District Board of Directors

#### WCCD Board Serves You

Board members encourage WCCD customers to attend their open, regular meetings at 5 p.m. on the third Monday of each month in the District office. Meeting minutes are posted on the District's web site at **www.wccdin.org**. Board members are interested in what residents have to say and encourage them to share comments and concerns.



#### Collect. Purify. Restore.

243 South County Road 625 E Avon, Indiana 46123 Office (317) 272-2980 Fax (317) 272-2907 www.wccdin.org

**Office Hours** 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. **Emergencies** (317) 491-3593

## Old White Lick area slated for clay tile repair project

About 3.3 miles of sewer collection lines in the Old White Lick area will be repaired or replaced beginning around August 1st, but residents may already have seen some preliminary work being done in the area.

District Manager Debbie Sillery said the clay tile and truss-type plastic pipes in this area are some of the District's oldest, and some have cracked or become misaligned, causing what is called I & I. "This is inflow and infiltration of rain water into the wastewater system," Sillery



#### **Broken Clay Tile**

explained. "We need to prevent that, because rain water can overload the plant's capacity to purify the wastewater, especially when there are heavy rains."

Sillery said the first step in this process is being done now. "Residents may



### Hole in a misaligned Truss Pipe

see our new camera truck out in the neighborhood. Our employees are sending the camera down into the lines to assess their condition. This shows us where the sewer lines come into the collection line and identifies where there are cracks, misalignments and roots in the pipes." Using the information from the camera assessment, engineers will draw up work plans, and then bids will be submitted for the necessary repair work.

Steve Starek, project manager for VS Engineering, said residents will be interested to know that much of the planned work can be done without having to dig up the lines. "Only those few areas where the pipes are completely crumbled need to be dug up and replaced. Other repairs are done with equipment that is run through the manholes," he said.

— Continued on page 3

## What not to flush down the drain!

Many household products are potentially hazardous to people and the environment and should never be flushed down drains, toilets or storm sewers. District Manager Debbie Sillery cautions that the toilet is not a garbage disposer, and kitchen waste should not be flushed. Remember, too, that children need to be watched, because they will flush just about anything.

Some examples of other materials that should not be flushed are: medicines, dental floss, hair, disposable diapers, plastic tampon holders, and hazardous materials like motor oil, transmission fluid, antifreeze, glue, paint, paint thinner, varnish, polish, wax, solvents, rust removers, pesticides, rat poison, oven cleaner and battery fluid. Many of the hazardous materials can be recycled or safely disposed of at community recycling centers.





It's important not to flush these types of items just because it's convenient! Treatment plant workers can be injured and wastewater systems can be damaged.

District employees are constantly amazed at the things people will flush down their toilets. This includes towels, underwear and even bedding, as these photos show. Above, system operator Jake Snodgrass shows the sheet after it was untangled from around the pump at the Canterbury Lift Station. Plant superintendent Shawn Massingale said items like this can be very destructive to the equipment and result in the need for expensive repairs.

## Leave those manholes covered!

It's the time of year when heavy rains can become a problem for all of us, and for the District as well. You may be tempted to purposely remove a manhole cover during heavy rains or allow a downspout or sump pump to empty into a sanitary sewer manhole to keep lowlying parts of your yard from flooding. This can add a significant amount of rain water into the sewer system, which results in the District treating water that doesn't

need to be treated, negatively affecting plant efficiency

and operating costs.
Remember purposely removing a manhole cover is dangerous, and anyone who does so is subject to a fine.



## Old White Lick area slated for clay tile repair project - continued

For example, when a pipe is full of tree roots, a drill-powered rotary blade on the end of a flexible shaft can be sent down to cut out the roots. Realignment of the pipes can also be done through the manhole, using a proven technique called "cured in place pipe lining." A flexible, resin-treated, tube-shaped liner is inserted into the pipe and pumped full of hot water. Steam expands the tube, and it adheres to the inside of the pipe. As it hardens, it forms a new pipe inside the old one. The final step in this process is to send down the camera again, this time along with a tool which cuts open the ends of the tube, allowing wastewater to flow again through the now properly aligned pipe.

Starek said that while pipe replacements are not expected to be a major part of this project, the District wants to keep homeowners advised as the project proceeds. Sillery said that a community informational meeting will be planned



The District's new camera truck

for later in the Spring. "We want to assure homeowners that repairs will be done with the utmost care for their property," she added.

### Preventive maintenance

The District's operators are out with the gap-vac truck doing our annual program of cleaning sewer lines. We leave doorhangers in the neighborhoods where we will be working. The program prevents the sanitary sewers from becoming clogged and causing backups. During this period we strive to closely monitor our pressure and perform this operation as carefully as possible. If you have questions or comments, please call the Collection Supervisor at (317) 491-3593.

## Lucky duck!

A routine check of the SBR tanks on March 30 proved to be more than just routine, as plant operator Jon Love discovered that a duck had landed in one of the tanks. He was able to rescue the wayward water fowl, who was then cleaned up and let loose to fly again. Jon said the duck was fortunate to have been rescued before the tank went into react mode.





Collect. Purify. Restore.

## Charlie Dorton joins District Board of Directors



Charlie
Dorton is the
West Central
Conservancy
District's
newest board
member. He
is active in
the Avon
Chamber of

Commerce and Avon Rotary, serves on the Relay for Life of Avon board and attends Light and Life Free Methodist Church.

Charlie has owned Pip Printing and Marketing Services in Avon since 2002

and had been the store's manager since 1999. He has 15 years of experience in the printing industry, including three-plus years as the manager of Corporate Copy Print in his home city of Independence, Missouri. Previously he was the Youth Director for The Salvation Army in Kokomo.

Charlie is the father of four - Christina, 20, Steven, 16, Grace, 12 and Rebekkah, 10. He enjoys sports in general, especially fishing, golf, softball and bowling.

## WCCD 2011 Regular Board Meetings

Monday, May 16, 2011 Monday, June 20, 2011

#### **Board of Directors**

Paul Allen - Chairman William Holland - Vice Chairman Karl P. Buetow - Secretary W. James Webb - Financial Clerk Charles Dorton - Member

### **Recycled Newsletter**

The newsletter you're reading is printed on recycled paper with up to 10 percent post-consumer recycled content. This is part of WCCD's effort to be a leader in environmental responsibility.