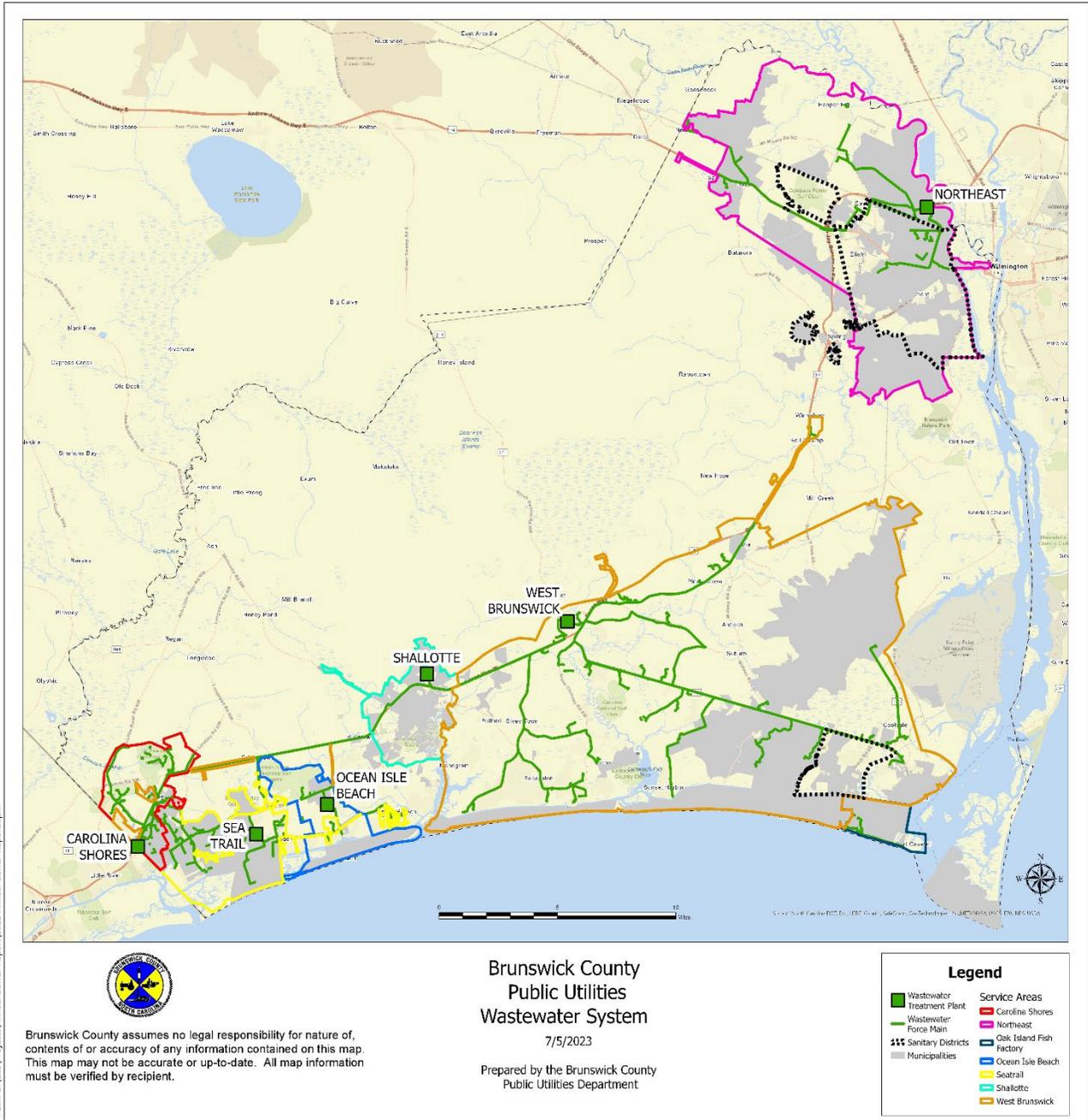


Brunswick County Public Utilities

Wastewater Collection and Treatment System Annual Report

July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023

System Overview



History

In the late 90s, Brunswick County began operating its first wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) to serve the Leland Industrial Park. Around this same timeframe, many developers constructed small metallic “package” wastewater treatment plants in order to treat wastewater from their individual residential developments. In early 2000, Brunswick County began designing and constructing the Northeast Brunswick Regional Water Reclamation Facility located in the Town of Navassa. This project was completed in the summer of 2003 with an initial treatment capacity of 1.65 million gallons per day (MGD). Due to the increasing demand for sewer, the Northeast Brunswick Regional Water Reclamation Facility treatment capacity was upgraded to 2.475 million gallons per day in 2013. High residential growth in the area served by the Northeast Brunswick Regional WWTP continued and an additional expansion was needed. In August of 2019, Brunswick County received both a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit renewal and North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality Authorization to Construct for an additional 2.5 MGD upgrade of this facility for a total capacity of 4.975 MGD. The construction of the 2.5 MGD expansion has now been completed and the facility was certified on June 16, 2022. This facility provides sewer treatment for Brunswick County, the Town of Leland, the Town of Navassa, the City of Northwest, and residents within Brunswick Regional Water & Sewer H2GO’s district (Town of Belville, part of the Town of Leland, and some unincorporated areas).

In 2004, Brunswick County acquired assets of the South Brunswick Water and Sewer Authority (SBWASA) and Carolina Blythe Utilities which provided sewer service to communities in the southern part of Brunswick County including the Towns of Calabash and Carolina Shores. Carolina Blythe Utilities’ Carolina Shores Wastewater Treatment Plant, originally constructed in the late 1970’s, is an extended aeration tertiary treatment plant with a sewer treatment capacity of 530,000 gallons per day. SBWASA’s Sea Trail WWTP originally served the Sea Trail development in the Town of Sunset Beach and had a 200,000 gallon per day sewage treatment capacity. In 2007, Brunswick County expanded the treatment capacity of this non-discharge WWTP to 300,000 gallons per day. In 2010, Brunswick County completed construction of a sewer collection system for those areas within the Town of Calabash not yet having sewer service. In 2012 the Sunset Beach sewer system was completed by the County. Both sewer collection systems convey wastewater to the Sea Trail WWTP. Since acquiring the aging SBWASA and Carolina Blythe Utilities systems, Brunswick County has made significant improvements to both the sewer treatment facilities and the sewer collection systems. Many of the sewer pump stations contributing sewer flow to these WWTPs have been rehabilitated and significant improvements to both WWTPs have been constructed including flow equalization, diversion pump stations with interconnection force mains, process improvements, and capacity improvements.

The largest of the County’s sewer treatment facilities, the West Brunswick Regional Water Reclamation Facility located in Supply, NC, was completed in 2006 to serve the unincorporated areas in central Brunswick County; the Towns of Supply, Bolivia, Holden Beach, St. James; and portions of Shallotte. Once completed, the existing ‘package’ plants serving Brunswick Community College, Winding River development, and the Town of St. James along with a facultative lagoon serving the Brunswick County Government Complex were taken out of service and all sewer flow was diverted to the new facility. As part of the agreement with the Town of Shallotte, Brunswick County assumed ownership of the Town of Shallotte’s WWTP. This WWTP is a facultative lagoon, non-discharge facility with a treatment capacity of 500,000 gallons per day. Due to subsequent piping improvements constructed by Brunswick County, excess flow to the Shallotte WWTP can be diverted to the West Brunswick Regional Water Reclamation Facility. A 3 million gallon/day expansion to the West Brunswick Water Reclamation Facility was completed in 2009 to accommodate sewer treatment for the Town of Oak Island’s sewer collection system. This brought the total sewer treatment capacity for the extended aeration tertiary treatment non-discharge facility to 6 million gallons per day. The plant contains a septage receiving station for septic haulers pumping wastewater from septic systems. In 2008, the City of Southport entered an agreement with Brunswick County and subsequently completed a connection to the regional transmission system to convey wastewater to the West Brunswick facility for treatment. An additional agreement with the City of

Southport in 2020 allowed them to join the West Brunswick Regional Water Reclamation Facility as a participant in the regional system. As part of the agreement, the City of Southport is funding a .75 MGD treatment plant known as the Mulberry Branch WWTP. The facility will be located on property owned by Brunswick County near the existing Shallotte WWTP. Upon completion of the facility, the total system capacity of the West Brunswick Regional Water Reclamation system will be 7.25 MGD. The Mulberry Branch WWTP has been designed, permitted and an authorization to construct has been issued. Construction will begin construction in the fall of 2023, it is anticipated the construction will be completed in 2026.

Brunswick County and the Town of Ocean Isle Beach reached an agreement in 2012 whereby the Town conveyed the Ocean Isle Beach WWTP to the County. This facility is permitted to treat 1.050 MGD and includes a diversion pump station and force main that allows a monthly average of 0.293 MGD to be transferred to the WBR Facility for treatment. There is currently a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) underway for a 2.0 MGD expansion of the OIB WWTP

In November of 2015, the Town of Caswell Beach conveyed its utility system to Brunswick County. The Caswell Beach sewer collection system is a combination of gravity, low pressure, and vacuum systems that conveys wastewater to the Town of Oak Island's Fish Factory Road WWTP for treatment.

In January of 2020, the City of Northwest conveyed its utility system to Brunswick County. The sewer collection system is a combination of low pressure and vacuum that conveys wastewater to the Northeast Brunswick Regional WWTP.

In July of 2020, the Town of Navassa conveyed its entire utility system (both water and sewer) to Brunswick County. The sewer collection system consists of gravity sewer that conveys wastewater to the Northeast Brunswick Regional WWTP.

Overall, Brunswick County currently operates six wastewater treatment plants with a permitted sewer treatment capacity of 13,355,000 gallons per day. The County provides retail sewer service within the municipalities of Boiling Spring Lakes, Bolivia, Calabash, Carolina Shores, Caswell Beach, Sandy Creek, St. James, Navassa, the City of Northwest, Sunset Beach, Varnamtown, and the unincorporated areas of Brunswick County as well as providing wholesale sewer treatment to Holden Beach, Oak Island, Ocean Isle Beach, Shallotte, Southport, and H2GO. The County sewer transmission and collection system consists of 710 miles of force main, gravity, low pressure, and vacuum sewer pipeline; 169 major pump stations; 4,084 manholes; and around 11,189 individual grinder pump stations.



Connection Program

New developments in Brunswick County located in proximity to a sewer line are required to construct sewer collection facilities in the development and all new homes must make connection to these facilities. Existing structures are not required to make connection to sewer collection systems when new sewer mains are constructed near them; however, property owners that would like to connect to the sewer system have several options available to them:

Rural Sewer Program – Allows existing structures adjacent to a high-pressure force main that have failing septic systems to connect to the high-pressure force main using a grinder pump system. Fees for this type of connection are available on the Brunswick County Web site.

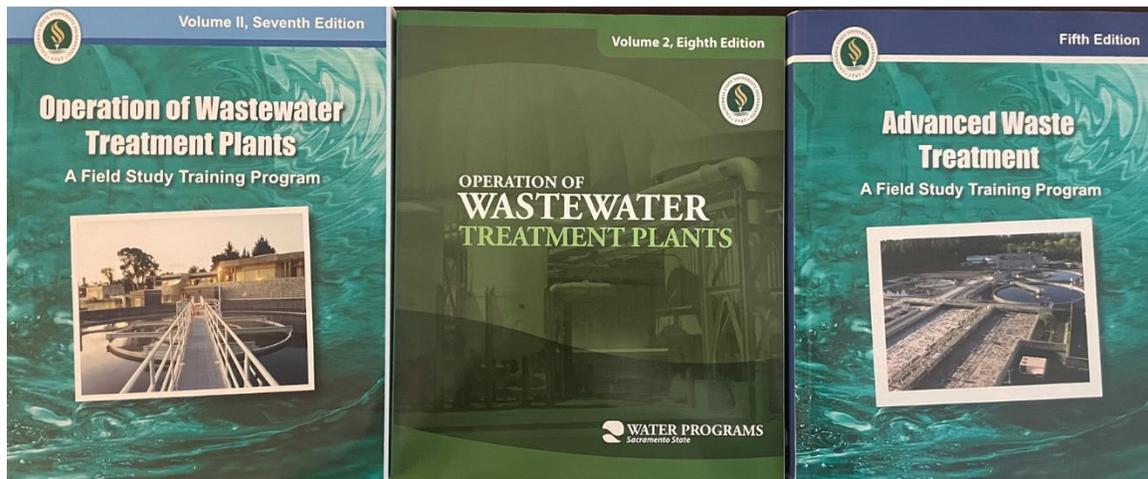
Additional information on this program is available at the Brunswick County Engineering Department located in the County Government Complex (910-253-2500).

Staff Training and Certification

The combination of large diameter, high-pressure sewer force mains, low-pressure sewer grinder systems, vacuum sewer systems, gravity sewer systems, pumping stations, SCADA system, and wastewater treatment plants requires a highly skilled and diverse staff for proper operation and maintenance. Wastewater Collection System and Treatment personnel are certified through the Water Pollution Control System Operators Certification Commission that is governed by North Carolina State law and administered through the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ). Brunswick County has 51 dedicated staff members within three divisions to provide operation and maintenance of the system:

- Sewer Collection Division (19) – 15 NCWPCSOCC Certified Operators
- Wastewater Treatment Division (29) - 19 NCWPCSOCC Certified Operators and (4) Certified Maintenance Technicians, 3 Certified Laboratory Technicians
- Instrumentation & Electrical Division (9) - 4 NC Licensed Electricians

To become certified by NCWPCSOCC and to become NC licensed electricians, individuals must meet certain education and experience criteria, complete required coursework, and must pass a State-administered exam. After initial certification, wastewater operators and licensed electricians are required to attend continuing education courses on an annual basis to maintain their certification. Additionally, Brunswick County provides frequent training in other areas: safety, valves, generators, HVAC, system maintenance, regulatory updates, and similar programs related to system operation and maintenance.



Laboratory Analysis

Over 13,800 laboratory tests are performed annually at the West Brunswick Water Reclamation Facility's Lab by certified laboratory staff to ensure compliance with Division of Water Resource's Water Quality Section requirements and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits. On-site laboratory analysis allows for expedient operational adjustments to ensure efficient operation of the plant to maintain permit limits for the treated water leaving the plants. Brunswick County has an extensive reuse program that requires a high degree of treatment prior to using the treated wastewater (reuse water) for irrigation purposes.



Treated Wastewater as a Resource

Historically, once treated wastewater leaves a wastewater treatment plant it has been discharged into a stream or river. Some of Brunswick County's WWTPs do operate this way, but a larger percentage of our WWTPs have been permitted as non-discharge facilities. Rather than discharging treated wastewater to a stream or river, a non-discharge WWTP uses the highly treated wastewater for large-scale irrigation. The highly treated wastewater is termed "Reuse Water". Brunswick County operates over 25 miles of reuse force mains that supply reuse water for irrigation to eleven golf courses and 1,040 acres of dedicated tree and turf farms at four different locations. Using reuse water for irrigation has several advantages. One major advantage is that in many instances reuse water can be used in lieu of potable water from the County's water system that would have been used for irrigation. This reduces the peak loading on the water system which ultimately reduces costs and helps to stabilize rates. Additionally, using reuse water for irrigation allows golf courses to reduce the amount of fertilizer utilized on the golf course. Golf courses utilizing reuse water for irrigation include those in Sea Trail, Winding River, and St. James.



Residuals Management

The Wastewater Treatment Division oversees the disposal of biosolids from each of the wastewater treatment facilities. In 2022, Brunswick County produced 876 dry tons Class-A Biosolids and 62 dry tons of Class-B Biosolids. The biosolids are land-applied as soil amendments on farm fields by the County's residuals contractor. The County is continuing to research additional disposal & treatment alternatives and has recently completed a study on long term Biosolids management to include design of a Biosolids Processing Facility at the WBR WWTP that will begin in FY24.



Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Highlights

- Installation of 1022 grinder pump stations in low pressure sewer areas
- Began preliminary engineering report (PER) for expansion of the Ocean Isle Beach WWTP by 2.0 MGD
- Completed a comprehensive Wastewater Master Plan that will guide expansion of our system over the next 20 years.
- Inspected and exercised 624 wastewater valves 6" or larger in the Collection System
- Completed required cleaning and video inspection of 10% of our gravity system (81, 234 feet).

Planned Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Capital Improvements

- Design of Sea Trail WWTP decommissioning and flow transfer to the OIB WWTP
- RFQ, Design build of a Biosolids Processing Facility at the WBR WWTP
- Bid, award, and begin construction of the 0.75 MGD Mulberry Branch WWTP
- Odor Control Replacement at 2 major Pump Stations
- RFQ, selection and design of an additional 3.75 MGD expansion of the NEBR WRF
- Design of a 24" FM from Midway Road to the WBR WRF for additional capacity in the Highway 211 corridor
- Rehabilitation of the Navassa sewer system for which the County received a \$2.8 M grant.

5 Year Forecast:

- Complete construction and compliance testing of the 0.75 MG plant (Mulberry Branch WWTP)
- Implementation of a Residential Reuse Program
- Design and construction of CIP projects identified in the recently completed Wastewater Master plan.
- Begin construction of the 2.0 MGD expansion at the OIB WWTP

Brunswick County Public Utilities

Wastewater Collection and Treatment System Annual Report

July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023

House Bill 1160, the Clean Water Act of 1999, requires entities that own or operate wastewater treatment and collections facilities in North Carolina to provide customers with an annual performance report. This report is available for viewing at the Brunswick County Public Utilities Operations Center or by logging on to our Web site at <www.brunswickcountync.gov>. Customers will be notified of its availability by printed notice on sewer bills. Questions, comments, or requests for paper copies of this report should be directed to the Brunswick County Public Utilities Department at 910-253-2657. This report has been completed by staff of the Utilities Department and is accurate to the best of our knowledge and belief.

Tim Costin

Wastewater Collections Superintendent

910-253-2681

Matthew Henry

Wastewater Operations Superintendent

910-253-2479



West Brunswick Water Reclamation Facility

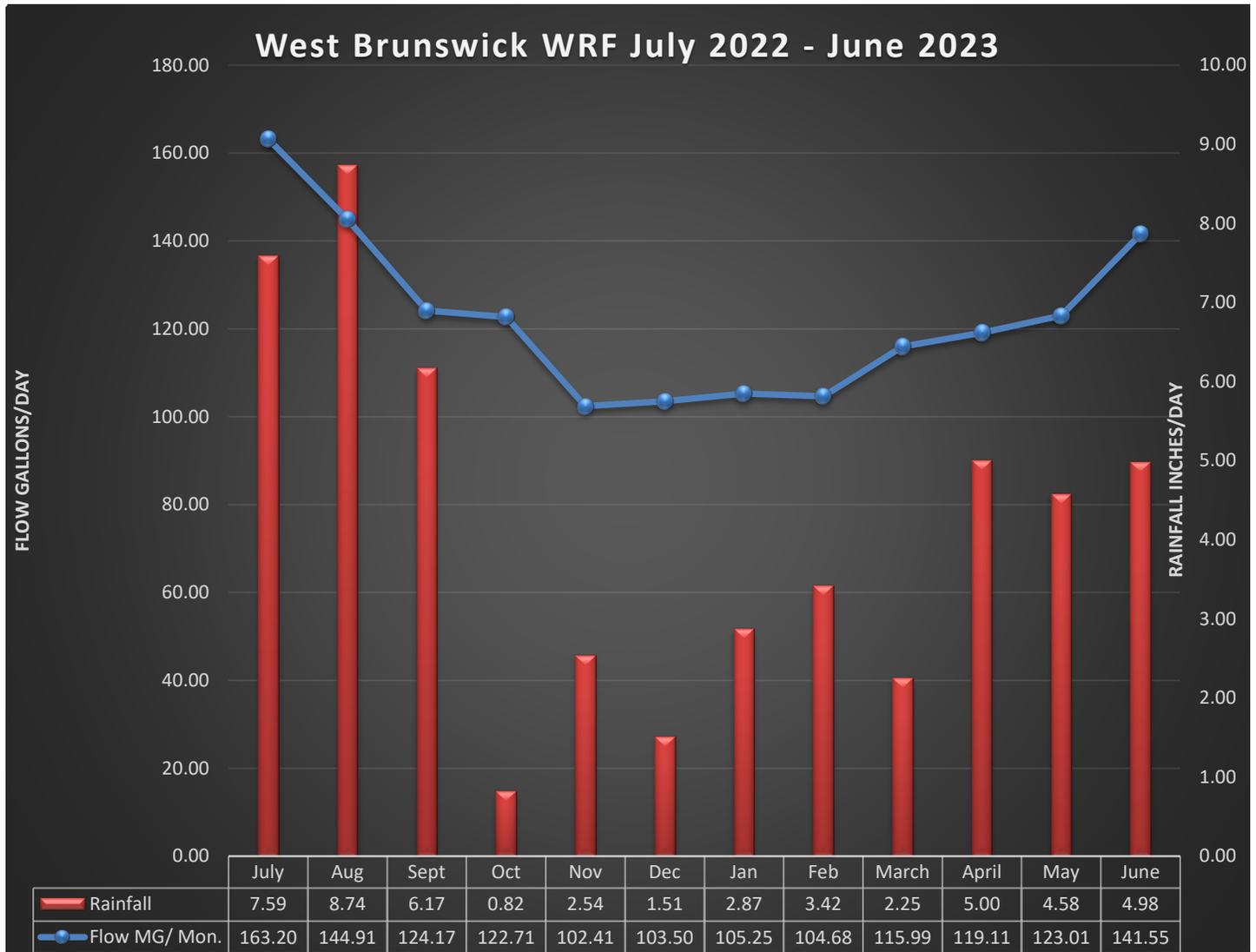
Operator in Responsible Charge: Matthew Henry
Phone: 910-253-2479
Permit(s): WQ0023693 (Non-Discharge)

Facility Description:

- Permitted Flow: 6.0 million gallons per day.
- Treatment Type: Extended Aeration, Tertiary Treatment, Biological Nutrient Removal with Autothermal Thermophilic Aerobic Digestion (ATAD) process for solids handling
- Discharge: Non-Discharge Permit – Reuse water applied to golf courses, infiltration basins, and dedicated tree farm surface irrigation sites

Performance:

Monthly Flow and Rainfall



- Annual Average Daily Flow: 4,026,702 gpd
- Maximum Daily Flow/Date: 5,900,079 gallons May 28, 2023
- Total Annual Flow: 1,470,476,368 gallons
- Total Rainfall: 50.47 inches

Notice of Violations (NOV'S)

- August 2022 (NOV-2022-LV-0783). West Brunswick Regional exceeded the monthly total phosphorus limit due to supply chain issues of Aluminum Sulfate.
- February 2023 (NOV-2023-LV-0302) West Brunswick Regional exceeded the monthly and daily total suspended solids (TSS) due to the inability to land apply solids.
- Exceeded daily fecal coliforms on September 26, 2022, and October 3rd and 5th 2022.
- Exceeded yearly irrigation average for the month of April 2023



Northeast Brunswick Water Reclamation Facility

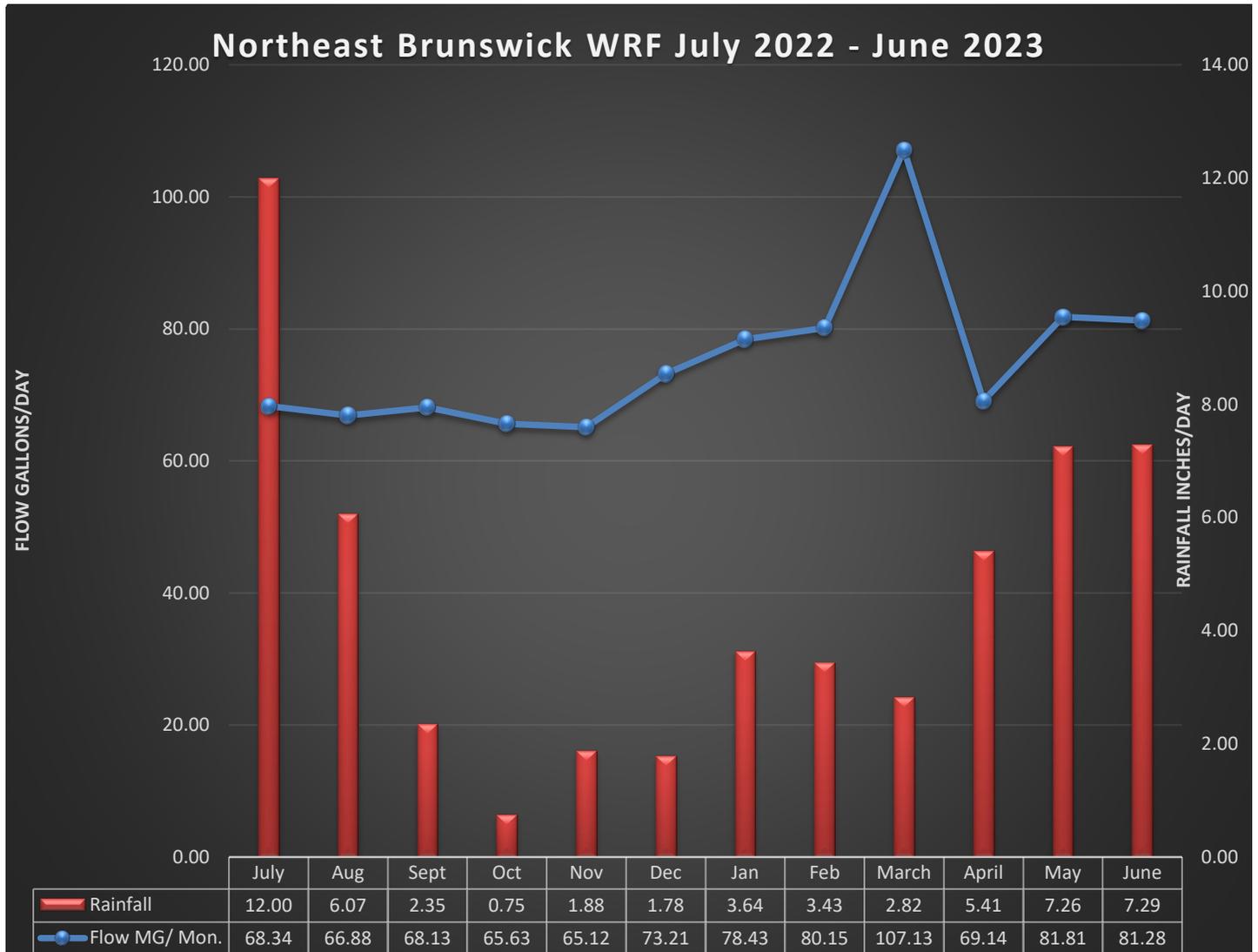
Operator in Responsible Charge: Craig Coleman
Phone: 910-383-2811
Permit(s): NC0086819 (Discharge)

Facility Description:

- Permitted Flow: 4.975 million gallons per day.
- Treatment Type: Extended Aeration, Tertiary Treatment, Biological Nutrient Removal with Autothermal Thermophilic Aerobic Digestion (ATAD) process for solids handling
- Discharge: Discharge Permit – Cape Fear River

Performance:

Monthly Flow and Rainfall



- Annual Average Daily Flow: 2,481,947 gpd
- Maximum Daily Flow/Date: 5,617,087 gallons May 19, 2023
- Total Annual Flow: 905,240,943 gallons
- Total Rainfall: 49.89 Inches

Notice of Violations (NOV'S)

- Exceeded Monthly Zinc Limit August 2022
- Exceeded Monthly Copper Limit July 2022, September 2022, and February 2023



Ocean Isle Beach Water Reclamation Facility

Regulated Entity: Ocean Isle Beach Water Reclamation Facility

Operator in Responsible Charge: Scott Leonard
Phone: 910-579-9365
Permit(s): WQ0006085 (Non-Discharge)

Facility Description:

- Permitted Flow: 1.050 million gallons per day.
- Treatment Type: Sequencing Batch Reactor
- Discharge: Non-Discharge Permit – Reuse water applied to dedicated tree farm and turf farm surface irrigation sites

Performance:

Monthly Flow, Diversion Flow and Rainfall



- Annual Average Daily Flow: 360,874 gpd
- Maximum Daily Flow/Date: 661,772 gallons June 12, 2023
- Total Annual Flow: 131,812,873 gallons
- Total Flow Diverted: 38,969,287 gallons
- Rainfall Total: 47.44 inches

Notice of Violations (NOV'S)

- Exceeded diversion flow to West Brunswick monthly limit July 2022 due to wet weather.



Carolina Shores WWTP

Regulated Entity: Carolina Shores Wastewater Treatment Plant

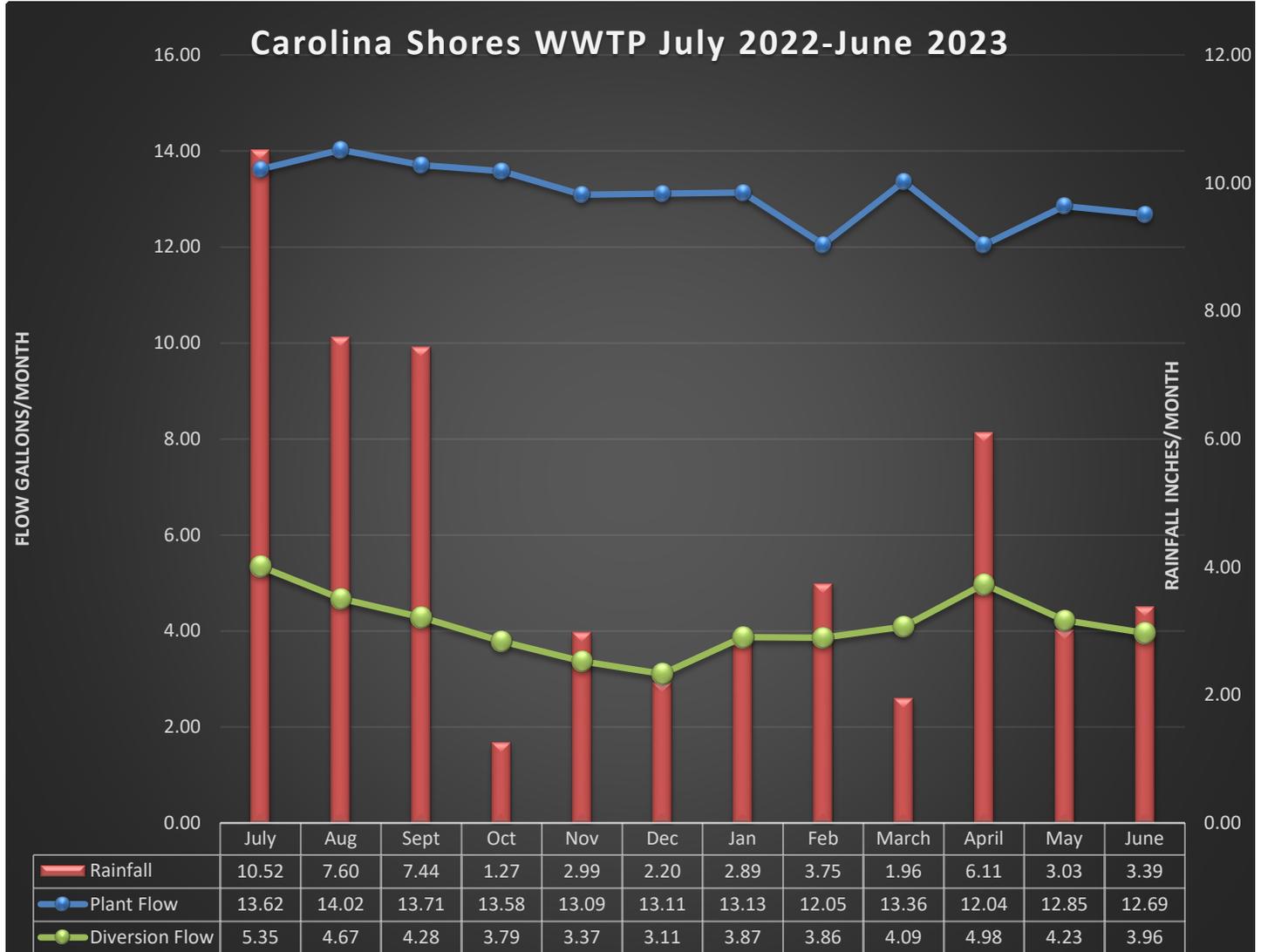
Operator in Responsible Charge: Aaron Hewett
Phone: 910-579-5323
Permit(s): NC0044873 (Discharge)

Facility Description:

- Permitted Flow: 0.530 million gallons per day
- Treatment Type: Extended Aeration, Tertiary Treatment
- Discharge: Discharge Permit – Tributary to Persimmon Swamp, Lumber River Basin

Performance:

Monthly Flow, Diversion Flow and Rainfall



- Annual Average Daily Flow: 370,231 gpd
- Maximum Daily Flow/Date: 486,000 gallons September 20, 2022
- Total Annual Flow: 157,265,554 gallons
- Total Flow Diverted: 49,544,317 gallons
- Rainfall Total: 53.15 inches

Notice of Violations (NOV'S)

- There were zero (0) Notices of Deficiency/Violation issued for this facility during the reporting period.



Shallotte WWTP

Regulated Entity: Shallotte Wastewater Treatment Plant

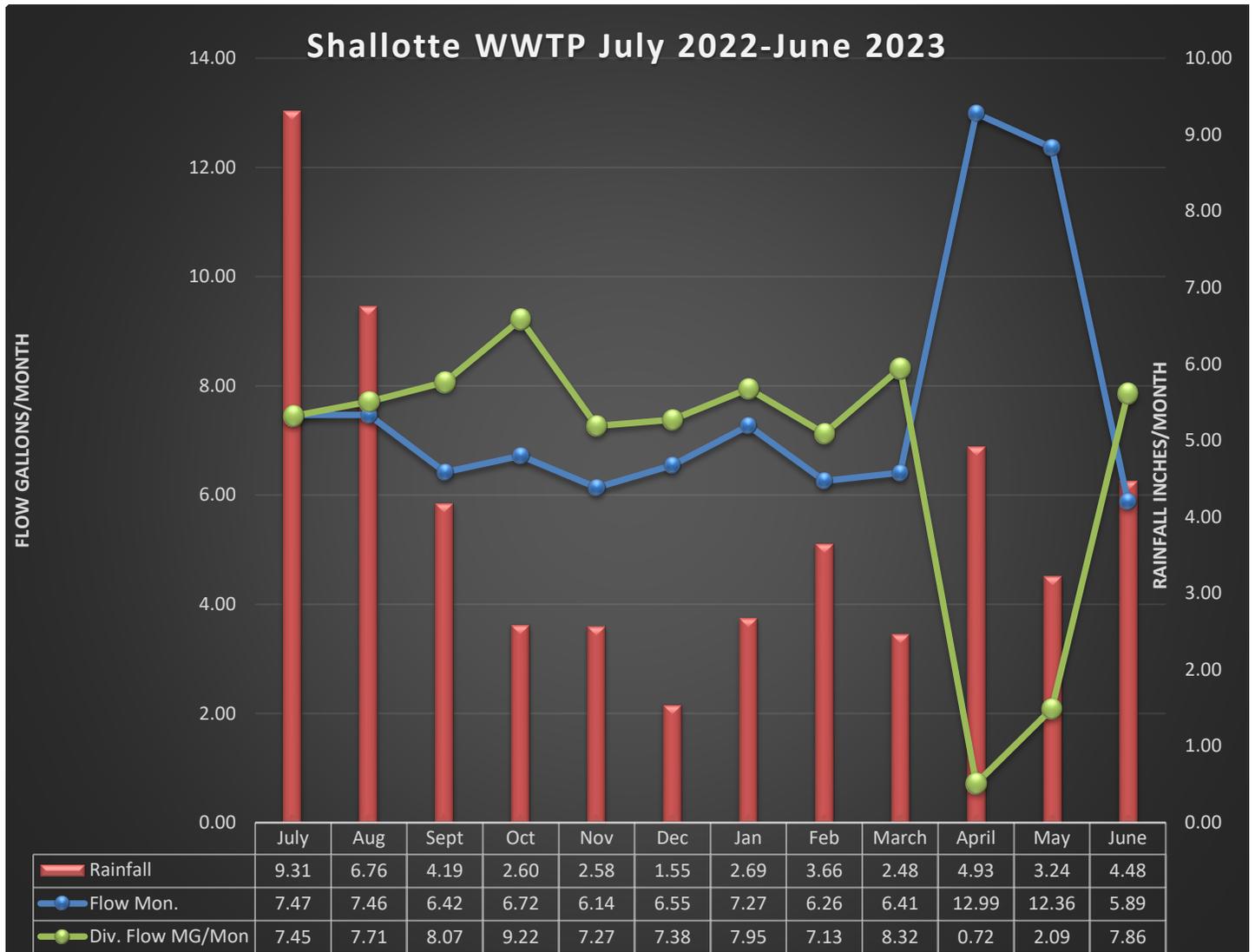
Operator in Responsible Charge: Christian Coddington
Phone: 910-253-2479
Permit(s): WQ0000798 (Non-Discharge)

Facility Description:

- Permitted Flow: 0.5 million gallons per day
- Treatment Type: Facultative Lagoon
- Discharge: Non-Discharge Permit – Effluent water applied to tree farm surface irrigation sites

Performance:

Monthly Flow, Diversion Flow and Rainfall



- Annual Average Daily Flow: 251,743 gpd
- Maximum Daily Flow/Date: 587,943 gallons April 14, 2023
- Total Annual Flow: 91,930,296 gallons
- Total Flow Diverted: 81,148,069 gallons
- Total Rainfall: 48.47 Inches

Notice of Violations (NOV'S)

- There were zero (0) Notices of Deficiency/Violation issued for this facility during the reporting period.



Sea Trail WWTP

Regulated Entity: Sea Trail Wastewater Treatment Plant

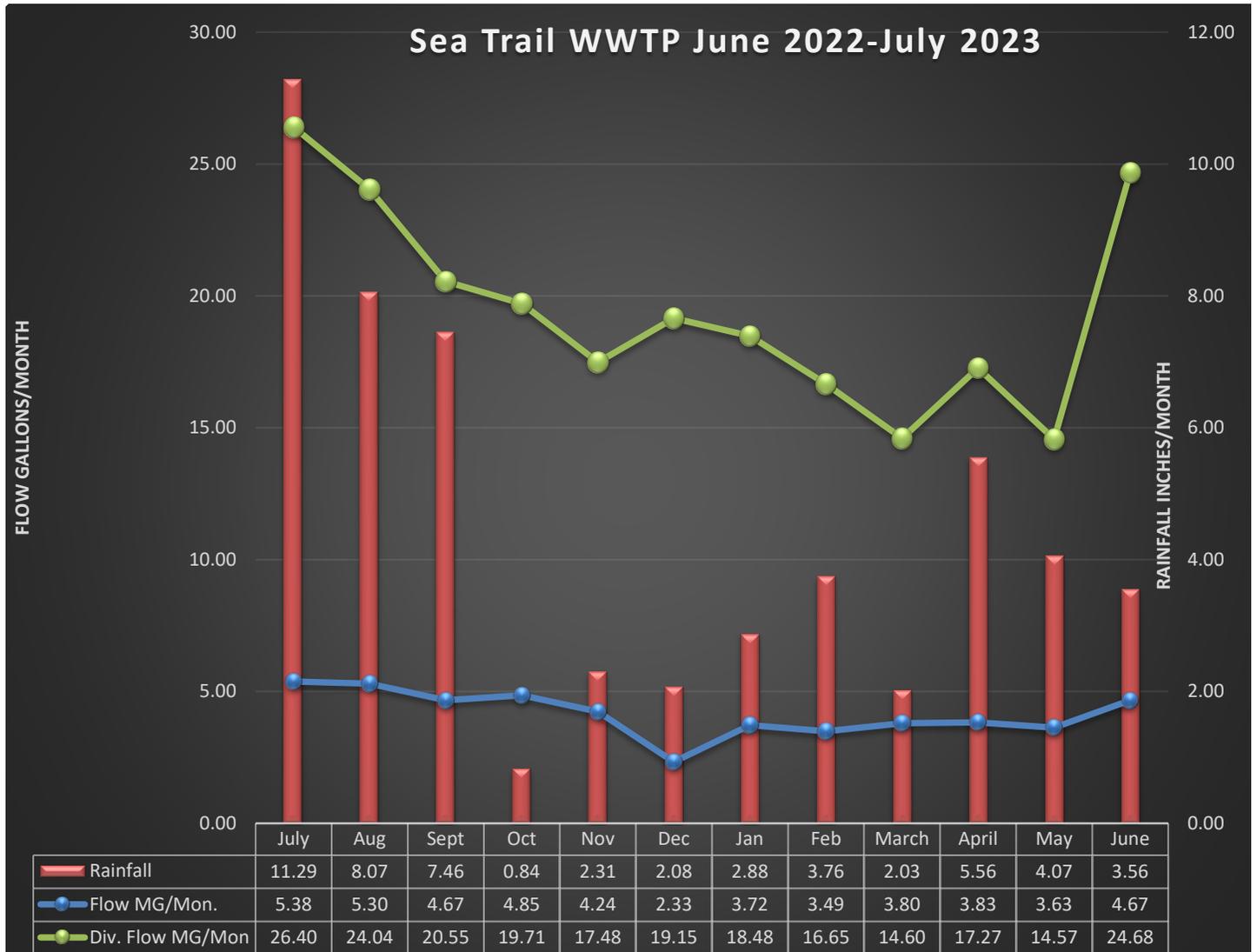
Operator in Responsible Charge: Scott Leonard
Phone: 910-579-9365
Permit(s): WQ0012748 (Non-Discharge)

Facility Description:

- Permitted Flow: 0.3 million gallons per day
- Treatment Type: Extended Aeration, Tertiary Treatment
- Discharge: Non-Discharge Permit – Reuse water applied to Sea Trail golf courses

Performance:

Monthly Flow, Diversion Flow and Rainfall



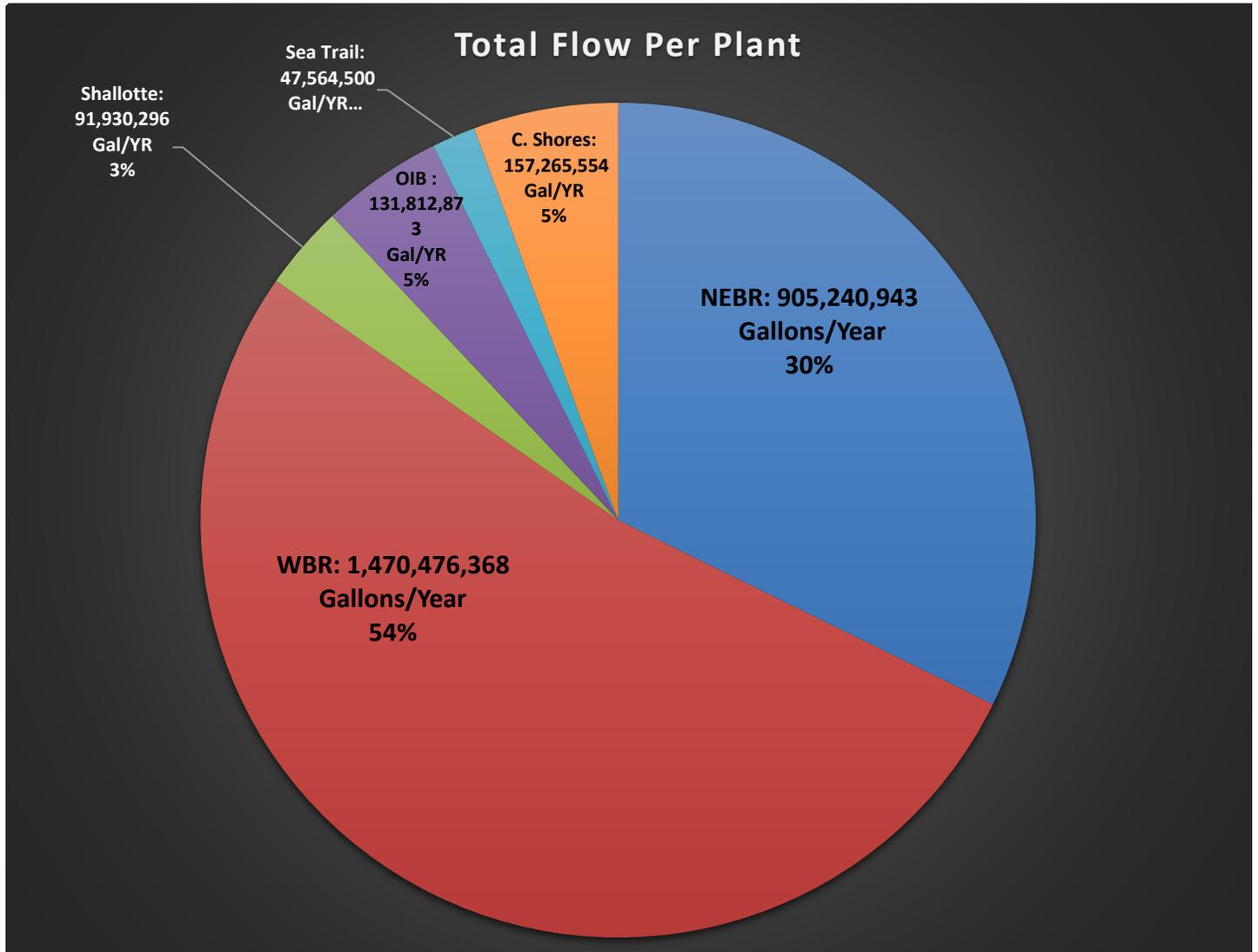
- Annual Average Daily Flow: 136,709 gpd
- Maximum Daily Flow/Date: 269,000 gallons October 23, 2023
- Total Annual Flow: 49,901,500 gallons
- Total Flow Diverted: 233,586,518 gallons
- Total Rainfall: 53.91 inches

Notice of Violations (NOV'S)

- There were zero (0) Notices of Deficiency/Violation issued for this facility during the reporting period.

Overall Gallons Treated and Percent Flow/Treatment Plant

2,804,290,534 Gallons Treated



Brunswick County Collection System

Regulated Entity: Brunswick County Wastewater Collection System

Operator in Responsible Charge: John Gregory
 Phone: 910-253-2706
 Permit(s): WQCS00284

Facilities Description:

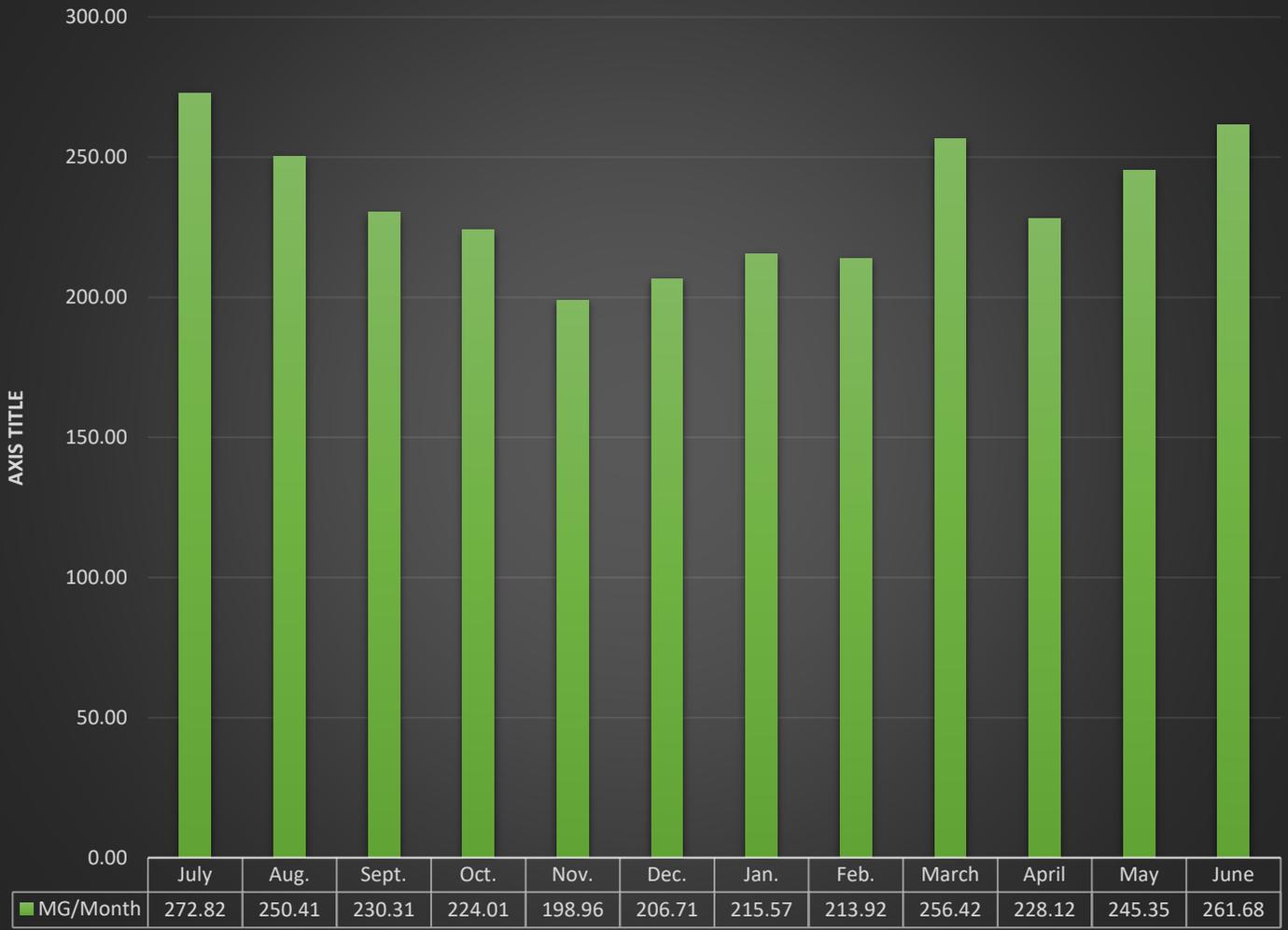
| | <u>Gravity Mains</u> | <u>Low Pressure</u> | <u>Vacuum</u> | <u>Force Main</u> |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Miles of Line | 660 | 226 | 21 | 262 |

| <u>Facility Type</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Traditional Major Pump Stations | 169 |
| Vacuum System Stations | 3 |
| Low Pressure Grinder Pump Stations | 11,189 |
| Manholes | 4,084 |

Performance:

Feet of Gravity Line Cleaned & Inspected: 84,058
 Percentage of Gravity Line Inspected: 10%
 Number of manholes inspected: 444

2022-2023 Collection System Flows



Reportable Sanitary Sewer Overflows

Brunswick County reports Sanitary Sewer Overflows in accordance with North Carolina General Statutes and NCDEQ guidance. Discharges of 1,000 gallons or more of untreated waste to the surface waters of the State require Publication of Notice of Discharge. When Sanitary Sewer Overflows occur, it is standard practice to inspect and remove the source of any blockages; repair, refurbish, and renovate collections facilities; and to clean up and disinfect spill areas.

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Volume (gallons)</u> | <u>Known Environmental Impacts</u> | <u>Corrective Measures Taken</u> |
|-------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 07/04/2022 | 611 Dartmoor Way Ocean Isle | 2,000 | None | Upstream/Downstream valves were isolated. Repair was made using 2" schedule 40 PVC pipe and telescoping repair coupling. Area was vacuumed and lime stabilized. |
| 07/05/2022 | 1601 Seaside RD Sunset Beach | 60,000 | None | Downstream valves were isolated and upstream lift station were turned off. The repair was made with 2- 8" Hymax repair couplings and a 6' piece of 8" C900 pipe. We also installed an additional 8" isolation valve for future isolation ease. Site was remediated by vacuuming up remaining sewer and lime stabilized. |
| 11/30/2022 | 112K Village Rd Ash | 4,250 | None | The flow was isolated by turning off the upstream lift station and isolated a downstream valve. We then replaced the broken ARV with a new one the area was lime stabilized. |
| 1/21/2023 | Carolina Farms Blvd Calabash | 1,200 | None | The flow was isolated by turning off the upstream lift station and isolated a downstream valve. The repair was made with a 4' section of C900 pipe and 2- 4" Hymax repair couplings. The area was lime stabilized. |
| 02/23/2023 | 8820 Old Georgetown Rd | 60,000 | None | Force Main was isolated and lift stations were shut down. Repair was made with 2- Restraint Hymax couplings and a piece of C900 pipe. All sewer was reclaimed by pumper trucks and the area was lime stabilized. |
| 04/10/2023 | 4305 Southport Supply Rd | 14,000 | None | Isolated valves and repaired line with a 4" piece of C900 pipe and 2- 4" Hymax couplings. The remaining sewer was pumped up and area was lime stabilized. |



What is a Sanitary Sewer Overflow?

A sanitary sewer overflow is a condition whereby untreated sewage is discharged prior to reaching sewage treatment facilities. Despite the best efforts of Brunswick County Public Utilities staff, sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) occur in Brunswick County, just as they do in every other sewer system. The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality Division of Water Resource's Water Quality Section defines a reportable SSO as any spill to surface waters of 1,000 gallons or more.

Causes of Sanitary Sewer Overflows

The most common cause of SSOs is due to grease deposits blocking sewer pipes resulting in the escape of raw sewage through manholes, sewer clean outs, and other entries into the sewer collection system. Sewer blockages also occur due to foreign objects being dropped into sewers and manholes, the flushing of non-biodegradable materials down the toilet, and the growth of roots into the sewer system piping. Excessive rainfall can also overload the sewer piping systems and pump stations. Additionally, the cutting of sewer mains by contractors and property owners during excavation has become more problematic as Brunswick County becomes more urbanized. SSOs may also occur due to the failure of pipe or other mechanical equipment.

What Brunswick County Public Utilities is doing to prevent and reduce Sanitary Sewer Overflows

All pump stations and plant sites are equipped with a Supervisory Control and Data Analysis (SCADA) system that provides automated reports and high-level alarms to operators tasked with monitoring the sewer system around the clock. Brunswick County staff is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week to respond quickly to emergencies to prevent SSOs from occurring. Moreover, Brunswick County Public Utilities staff provides daily checks and maintenance to the piping, valves, pump stations, treatment facilities, and other components of the sewer system to minimize failures and maintains generators at each pump station for backup power during outages. Additionally, Brunswick County employs a contractor specializing in televised inspection of sewer mains to analyze at least 10% of its gravity sewer system each year. When repairs and blockages are noted, County staff expeditiously make the needed repairs and maintenance using its wide array of construction equipment, jetting equipment, vacuum truck, and tanker truck. County staff constantly monitors system pressures, capacities, and conditions of the system to make recommendations for needed rehabilitation projects and capital projects to ensure adequate capacity. County staff also routinely mows utility easements to provide accessibility for inspections and repairs. As part of its Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) Program, Brunswick County helps to educate customers on the proper disposal of these items to minimize sewer blockages and encourages the public to contact Public Utilities if they see deficiencies or misuse of the sewer system. Additionally, Brunswick County is part of the NC 811 call system (www.NC811.org) that seeks to avoid utility damage due to excavation by the general public and contractors by providing proper notification and utility location services.

What You Can Do to Prevent Sanitary Sewer Overflows

1. Contact Brunswick County Public Utilities if you see a maintenance issue, SSO, or someone misusing the public sewer system.
2. Never pour grease down sink drains or into toilets! Put grease in a disposable container and dispose of in the garbage or recycle where available.
3. Put strainers in kitchen sinks to catch food and debris and empty them into the trash.
4. Put wipes, napkins, cat litter, cotton balls, hygiene products, and latex products into the trash; never flush these down the toilet.
5. Speak with your neighbors about how to keep grease and other materials out of the sewer. Sewer blockages from grease and other foreign materials do not just impact the person putting them down the drain!

When an SSO Occurs...

Through active monitoring, maintenance, repair, staff training, investment, and outreach programs, Brunswick County Public Utilities seeks to be a good steward of the environment; however, even with due diligence, all utilities providing sewer service will experience SSOs from time to time. When an SSO occurs, Brunswick County takes the following corrective actions:

- Notification of the public in accordance with Division of Water Resource's Water Quality Section guidelines
- Remove blockages from piping
- Repair, refurbish, and renovate damaged or inadequate facilities
- Cleanup and disinfection of spill area
- Increase inspection frequency as warranted
- Construct capacity improvements as warranted



Let's Tackle the Grease in This Kitchen!

Why should I help?



Do

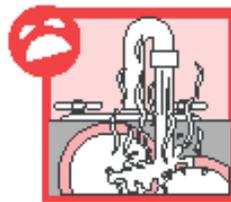


Don't

- Prevent grease buildups from blocking sewer lines.
- Stop sewer overflows into streets and storm drains.
- Reduce the number of times you have to clean your grease trap (food services)
- Save money spent on costly cleanups of sewage spills.
- Protect the quality of our water.



Put oil and grease in covered collection containers.



Don't run water over dishes, pans, fryers, and griddles to wash oil and grease down the drain. Don't rinse off oil and grease with hot water.



Scrape food scraps from dishes into trash cans and garbage bags and dispose of properly. Avoid using your garbage disposal.



Don't pour oil and grease down the drain.



Remove oil and grease from dishes, pans, fryers, and griddles. Cool first before you skim, scrape, or wipe off excess grease.



Don't put food scraps down the drain.



Prewash dishes and pans with cold water before putting them in the dishwasher.



Cover kitchen sink with catch basket and empty into garbage can as needed.



Cover floor drain with fine screen and empty into garbage can as needed.

More Ways to Tackle Grease

Use environmentally safe cleaning products instead of harsh detergents or cleaners that can damage sewer lines.

If you generate large amounts of used cooking oil, recycle it. To find a recycler, check the phone book under "recyclers" or "rendering companies."

If you generate small amounts of used cooking oil, pour it into a container you can throw away. Never pour it down the drain.

Start a compost pile at your home with scraps that are not meat. Find out about composting in the TCEQ publication, "A Green Guide to Yard Care" (G1-028)

¡Combatamos la grasa en esta cocina!

¿Por qué tengo que ayudar?

- Para evitar acumulaciones de grasa que obstruyan las tuberías de desagüe.
- Para impedir los desbordamientos del sistema de alcantarillado.
- Para ahorrar dinero que se gastaría en limpiezas costosas de derrames de alcantarillas.
- Para reducir la frecuencia con que se tienen que limpiar las trampas de grasa (servicio de alimentos).
- Para proteger la calidad de nuestra agua.



¡HACER!



¡NO HACER!



Poner el aceite y la grasa en recipientes cerrados para su recolección.



No enjuagar platos, ollas, sartenes ni planchas con agua para verter el aceite y la grasa en el desagüe. No enjuagar el aceite ni la grasa con agua caliente.



Quitar las sobras de comida de los trastes, tirarlas en bolsas de basura y desecharlas de la forma debida. Evitar usar el triturador de basura.



No verter aceite ni grasa por el desagüe.



Quitar el aceite y la grasa de los platos, ollas, sartenes y parrillas. Primero enfriar antes de tallar o limpiar el exceso de grasa.



No tirar sobras de comida por el desagüe.



Enjuagar los platos y ollas con agua fría antes de ponerlos en el lavaplatos.



Colocar en el fregadero de la cocina una canasta para depositar los desechos y vaciarla en el bote de basura conforme sea necesario.



Cubrir el desagüe del piso con un cedazo fino y tirarlo en el bote de basura conforme sea necesario.

Más maneras de combatir la grasa

Use productos de limpieza seguros para el medio ambiente en lugar de detergentes o limpiadores abrasivos que puedan dañar las tuberías de desagüe.

Si genera grandes cantidades de aceite comestible usado, recíclalo. Si desea encontrar un centro de reciclaje, busque en el directorio telefónico bajo "reciclaje".

Si genera pequeñas cantidades de aceite comestible usado, luego viértalo en un recipiente que pueda tirar. No lo vierta nunca en el desagüe.

Empiece a hacer abono en su casa con sobras de alimentos que no contengan carne. Infórmese acerca de la técnica de abonar en la publicación de TCEQ: Una Guía Verde para el Cuidado del Jardín (GI-028).