

Facility personnel rehabilitated all of the wet well valves at the Main Street Pump Station at a fraction of the estimated cost of \$14,000 proposed by a repair company and continued with efforts to improve plant efficiencies, maintenance, and weather proofing of buildings to decrease oil consumption. The plant treated an average of 4.1 million gallons of wastewater per day, processed 2,829.2 wet tons of sludge, and disposed of 741.5 dry tons of sludge at the South Hadley Landfill. The WPC Facility operated effectively during the past fiscal year.

Other areas of responsibility which fall under this department include Stormwater, Inflow/Infiltration, Industrial Pretreatment and the Fats, Oil & Grease (FOG) Programs. Components of the federal Stormwater Phase II program continued to be implemented, and a Notice of Intent and Stormwater Management Plan were completed for the WPC Facility under the Federal Industrial Stormwater Program. In conjunction with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, the Town received a grant from EPA to assist residents with disconnecting downspouts and sump pumps from the sanitary sewer system. This program is currently ongoing. The Industrial Pretreatment Program continues to oversee commercial and industrial discharges to the Town's sewer system. The Fats, Oil and Grease Program continues to be implemented, and was expanded to include external grease tanks, although this has not been fully implemented yet. There are five industrial locations included in the Program. Wastewater Discharge Permits for both the South Hadley and Granby Landfills were renewed. There were no significant issues or violations associated with these locations during the past fiscal year.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Labonte, WWTP
Compliance Manager

Mike Cijka, WWTP
Operations Manager

Recreation Commission

The Recreation Commission gratefully acknowledges the hundreds of volunteers who assisted us in implementing all of our programs and activities. These people include coaches, officials, board members and those who assisted in various fundraisers. Their time and effort allows the Recreation Department to provide a wide array of activities to meet the community's recreation needs.

The Joseph W. Taylor Volunteer of the Year award was presented to two individuals. They were Steven Scagliarini and the late Don Baker. Both have coached youth football for over 15 years, most of those years without any children in the program. They have also volunteered with other sports and on various committees benefiting the youth of South Hadley. Their service to South Hadley has touched many lives in a positive way.

Highlights:

The Recreation Department continued its work with the Beachgrounds Renovation project. During the past year, the final design was completed with the firm Stantec. Gardner Construction and Industrial Services was hired in October 2008 and began work later that month. Many improvements were made to the park including a new spray park, playground area complete with rubber mulch, river view picnic area, renovated storage/restroom building, new concrete walking paths and ADA access ramp, new perimeter fence, relocated basketball court, parking lot lights, and upgrades to the ball fields. Activity at this park has been at an all time high and is enjoyed by many.

The Recreation Department launched its new website in the fall. This website is part of the new Town website and allows the Department to effectively communicate with the community. There is information about our various programs and activities, parks and other related items. Using our online registration system, customers are able to register for selected activities online. The Department looks forward to expanded use of this site in future years.

Working with the South Hadley Youth Cheerleading Association (SHYCA), the Recreation Department held the annual youth cheerleading exhibition at South Hadley High School. Over 30 teams attended the event held in October and it was a huge success. Special thanks to Danielle Kotfila and Michelle Denault for their efforts on this day.

There were a few new programs offered during the past year. Co-ed K-2 flag football was a big hit! The kids participated in various drills to develop their skills and the season concluded with a season ending game. A Little Chefs program was added that provided children with the necessary skills to prepare a healthy meal. The children brought the meals home and cooked them for their families later that evening. Based on the success of this activity, the Recreation Department will continue to offer this at various times during the year. A few of our adult programs were redesigned based on feedback from our participants.

Programs and activities: *Youth sports offerings* included: baseball, basketball, softball, tee-ball, field hockey, football, soccer, cheerleading, swimming, team tennis, lacrosse and wrestling. *Summer sports camps* included: baseball, basketball, soccer, lacrosse, golf clinics/camp, tennis lessons and summer creations. *Adult offerings* included: Aquacise, yoga, body sculpt, ballroom dancing, volleyball, basketball, and softball. *Bus trips* took us to Fenway Park, Yankee Stadium, New York City for two holiday shopping trips, the Rogers Centre in Toronto and Nationals Park in Washington DC for Red Sox road trips, Foxboro for the New England Revolution and Tanglewood for James Taylor.

Special Events: The Annual Independence Day Fireworks Celebration was held on July 26, 2008 at the Michael E. Smith Middle School after the previous two dates were rained out. The Major Corporate Sponsor of the event was PeoplesBank once again and they are committed to be the sole Major Corporate Sponsor for years to come. Generous donations were also received from the following Major Sponsors: South Hadley Lions Club, Metras Insurance, and Easthampton Savings Bank. Our annual Easter Egg Hunt and Hat Parade was held at Buttery Brook and was attended by over 150 kids; it was quite an event. We would like to say thank you to Kim Du Bois for her special role at the event.

In closing, the Recreation Commission extends its fondest appreciation to all the Town departments who had a hand in our successes: Department of Public Works and Parks Departments, School Department and the Selectboard.
Respectfully submitted,

John Broderick, Chair

Amy Foley

Patrick Dawson

Marc Du Bois

Jane Gawron

Ron Michalski

Allan Tracy

Recreation Staff:

Andrew Rogers, Director

Elizabeth Steig, Assistant

Gert Sugrue, Senior Clerk

Report of the Public Schools

Personnel

In April Lorraine Liantonio was elected to a three year term on the School Committee, replacing Rochelle Calhoun who served on the committee for two years. Dr. Gus Sayer is completing his sixth year as superintendent.

Allison Rebello, Assistant Principal at the Michael E. Smith Middle School for the past three years, has been appointed Principal of the White Brook Middle School in Easthampton. Vince Napoli, formerly an English Teacher at Braintree Middle School, will replace her in August 2009. Lisa Bailly, 4th Grade Team Leader at Mosier School, has accepted a position as Assistant Principal at Wildwood School in Amherst.

Due to extraordinary fiscal conditions facing the state and the town in 2009, the FY10 school budget was level-funded. To address this financial constraint, it was necessary to reduce the number of positions in the budget by 5.9 teachers and 3.7 paraprofessionals. Some of these reductions were avoided by filling new positions funded by federal "Stimulus" grants from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Other reductions were accomplished by not filling vacant positions, but it was still necessary to partially reduce the assignments of three teachers and to lay off three paraprofessionals.

Facilities

South Hadley's proposal to the Massachusetts School Building Authority to replace the aging Plains School is moving through the State's process of review at a snail's pace. The Executive Director of MSBA visited the Plains School site in the winter and a team of engineers toured all four of our schools in May. The Elementary Schools Building Committee is waiting for a report from MSBA on its visit. That report will give us a sense of the priority that renovations or replacement of Plains School has for receiving State financial support, as well as the next steps that the Committee should take in the MSBA process.

In November the School Committee received a report from a landscape architect on the feasibility of creating a drop-off zone for students arriving by car at the middle school. The report presented several options, the most feasible of which was the construction of a second faculty parking lot on the west side of the school. This plan would then permit the conversion into a drop-off lane of 17 current parking spaces adjacent to the east end of the school. Town meeting approved funds to carry out this plan and the project should be completed by the opening of school in September 2009.

Using funds approved at the 2008 town meeting, the schools carried out several maintenance projects during the past year: replacement of the oldest section of roof at Mosier School; replacement of the siding on the Mosier School modular classrooms; painting the gym ceiling and replacing the gym lights at Mosier School; installation of a concrete sidewalk and stairs to the upper field at the high school; and replacement of rooftop air-conditioning units at the middle school.

Other actions

The School Committee approved a trip to Italy during April vacation week by members of the Cultural Exchange Club at the high school. Following a report on the success of this 10-day trip, the committee approved plans for the club to visit England, Wales and Ireland in April 2011. The committee also approved a Music Department trip to Civil War sites and music sites near Nashville, Tennessee in April 2010.

The School Committee conducted recognition ceremonies for the Golf Team, which won the Division 1 State Golf Championship in 2008, the Cooperative Hockey Team, which won the State Championship in its division in 2009, and the Percussion Section of the High School Band, which won a first place prize at the Northern State Finals Competition held in Allentown, Pennsylvania.

The committee approved a new high school course, Graphics III, which will capture the growing interest of students in use of contemporary graphics technology. A second laboratory of Macintosh computers will be installed this summer to facilitate use of graphics software by classes. To make it possible for all students to arrive at school in time for the start of the school day, the