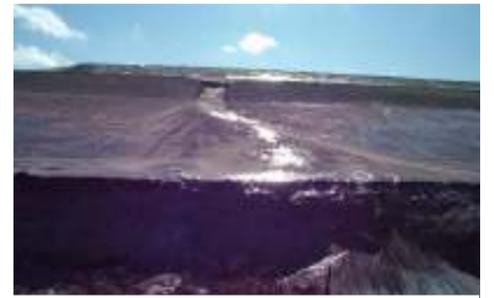




News from Public Works Board, Water Policy Board, Municipal Wastewater Committee, and Staff Meetings

- ✚ The Public Works Board approved a corrosion contractor to perform the annual inspection on the Fruitport Township water tower.
- ✚ Three change orders were approved by the Water Policy and Public Works Boards to close out the Quarterline Road water main replacement project under the contract price.
- ✚ Permission was given to farm staff to bid chemicals, fertilizers, a seed tender, and 1,200 acres of alfalfa.
- ✚ Permission was given to Wastewater staff to send out an RFP for the feasibility, design, and marketing of a brown grease facility.
- ✚ The bid on a conservation harrow for the farm was awarded.
- ✚ Permission was given to Wastewater staff to continue negotiations with a wind firm to determine the feasibility of locating wind turbines at the wastewater site on the fly ash hill.
- ✚ Public Works staff is working with Fruitland Township to assist them with their sewer planning efforts.
- ✚ A new floor was installed in our Meinert Park cabin. This facility has had several improvements in the last few years and is looking good.
- ✚ New software and hardware from the manufacturer has improved the automatic meter reading in our Regional Water System. The cold has been hard on some meters, and the pipes have burst in some vacant homes.
- ✚ There is no state funding for gypsy moth control this year, so it will be up to the communities to decide if they want to pay for it. We may be able to go in with Ottawa County.
- ✚ The new Rapid Infiltration sampling is going well, and bacteria counts have been low so far.
- ✚ We had an emergency culvert replacement done this month south of Apple on Swanson Road when the 30-year old pipe began to fail. Slip lining of another culvert at Swanson and White Roads is being done this week.
- ✚ Local dairy farmers report that they are being paid a low price for milk this year (half that of last year). We anticipate that the bids on our alfalfa will be lower as well.
- ✚ A leaking overflow valve at our Michigan's Adventure water tank will be fixed soon.
- ✚ The main sign is up at our Business Park North.



Landfill erosion from January flood



New business park sign



Parks employees Jeff Hiddema and Jeff Winters paint their new gate posts and brackets at Fleet Maintenance



New Solid Waste Disposal Site Operator Vincent Collins



Brayden Trebor Leverage



Grizz, Forrest, and Mark Stockwell practice CPR in training this week

- ✚ The oldest gas wells at the landfill appear to be out of compliance and may need replacement.
- ✚ Work has begun on the new communication towers at the landfill, foundry, and chemical plant so that our gas supply system can react quicker to changes in use.
- ✚ Significant erosion from the new landfill cap construction caused by the January flood partially blocked a lagoon interception ditch. A contractor was called in to fix the problem.
- ✚ The pilot light for our landfill flare has been installed and will be in operation soon.
- ✚ First Aid and CPR training is being held this week and next.
- ✚ New Lift Station C has been in operation for a couple of weeks without major problems. The contractor is working on some small issues, punch-list items, and requested changes in settings and programming. Demolition work will start on the old station in February.
- ✚ The Wastewater capital budgets have been submitted, and the O&M ones are due to Ellen at the end of the month.
- ✚ The Laketon Station diversion is in design and will hopefully be advertised by the end of the month.
- ✚ The pre-construction meeting for the Segment 2 (Egelston Township) portion of the 66-inch force main replacement was held this week. The contractor plans to start the demolition of the pre-aeration facility in February. The 60-inch ductile iron pipe delivery will start in mid-March.



Culvert failure under south Swanson Road



Pouring the communications tower base at our landfill compressor building



Collection System Operator Rodney Holland in new C Station control room

PERSONNEL

Welcome back to **Antione Williams** who is back to work after surgery. Congratulations to **Greg and Kerri Leverage** on the birth of Brayden Trebor on January 6th. Brayden weighed in at 8 pounds 15 ounces and was 20 inches long. **Mike Lorentz** had surgery on his elbow and will be out for 6-8 weeks. Welcome to **Vincent Collins**, our new Solid Waste Disposal Site Operator. We offer our condolences to the **Wally Wolting** family on the loss of his dad, to the **Anita Peters** family on the loss of her grandfather, to the **Brenda Glass** family at the death of her brother, and to the **Matt Burns** family on the loss of his mother-in-law. Thanks to **Randy Young** and **Mark Stockwell** for making gate posts and brackets for three double gates at our county parks. Thanks also to Solid Waste for providing a roll-off dumpster for cleanup work at the Patterson Park caretakers house.