

Water Lines

MountPleasantWaterworks.com



MOUNT PLEASANT WATERWORKS

June-July 2011

Special Assessment and Road Widening Projects Update

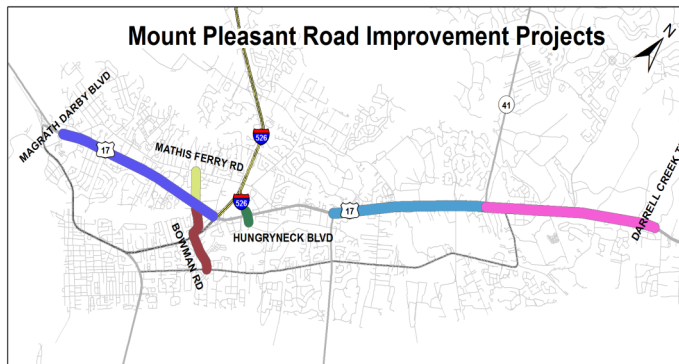
In July 2010, Mount Pleasant Waterworks (MPW) implemented a Special Assessment to cover the costs of relocating water and wastewater utility lines to accommodate the Johnnie Dodds Boulevard / Highway 17 Road Improvements. The relocation of water and wastewater lines is required to avoid conflicts with the new storm drain piping.







To date, relocation efforts have been successful. MPW crews have been coordinating with the Town of Mount Pleasant and project contractors to minimize the interruption of water service during the project. Most water outages are scheduled after hours to reduce the impact on local business and resident's daily activities.

The Special Assessment is based on Residential Equivalent Units (REUs). An REU is the amount of water an average single family residence uses. An REU correlates with the volume of cars on the roadway, making it a fair method for the assessment. Each customer, residential and commercial, pays \$3.00 per REU.

As of the end of April, MPW has collected a total of \$1,156,035 and expensed a total of \$3,098,479. The total funds expensed include encumbered monies related to open purchase orders and signed contracts. The Special Assessment will end once the Johnnie Dodds Boulevard/Highway 17 Road Project is complete.

MPW will continue with efforts to complete this project with limited impact on our customers.



	Johnnie Dodds Blvd	Project Cost: \$84 Million
	Bowman Rd Phase 1	Project Cost: \$12 Million
	Bowman Phase 2	
	I-526 Flyover	Project Cost: \$50 Million
	Hwy 17 Phase 1	
	Hwy 17 Phase 2	Project Cost: \$30 Million

Mount Pleasant Waterworks Commissioners Consider a Rate Change to Protect the Future

Mount Pleasant Waterworks (MPW) rates are established using industry standards. Our rate model was designed by a nationally recognized consulting firm. This ensures our rates are financially sound and adequately support our ability to maintain our infrastructure and meet regulatory requirements. MPW must invest and re-invest in our infrastructure each and every year to keep the system reliable, produce safe water and clean up our customer's waste to ensure we protect our water environment while preserving our natural resources.

In order to continue to meet our goals and fulfill our mission of providing safe, reliable, and affordable water and wastewater service; periodic rate changes are necessary. MPW Commissioners are considering a five percent rate increase for Fiscal Year 2012 (FY2012), which would begin on July 1, 2011. As a result of the proposed rate change, the typical bill based on 5,000 gallons of water usage for a customer in the Town of Mount Pleasant will see an increase of approximately \$2.41 per month. In addition, the Commissioners are considering:

- Out of Town Wastewater Rate Differential
- Debt funding of \$23 million
- Adding an ancillary fee for meter installations
- Amending the Cost Recovery Policy

FY2011 Total Operating Budget **\$20,558,320**

FY2012 Proposed Operating Budget **\$21,586,874**

Capital Expenditure Budget **\$14,394,695**

This proposed rate change will help pay for necessary updates and maintenance of the Commission's treatment and distribution system and annual capital expenditures. Even with the proposed rate change, Mount Pleasant Waterworks average bill will remain the lowest in Charleston County.

Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Budget Meeting Schedule

June 6, 2011 Public Hearing on Proposed Operating and Capital Budgets and FY2012 rates, fees and charges at 5:30 pm.

June 27, 2011 Annual Commission Meeting to Adopt FY2012 Budgets and Rates at 6:00 pm.

Hurricane Preparedness... Are you ready for the Hurricane Season?

During and after a hurricane, the water supply to your home can become contaminated and unfit to drink. To ensure your household has a safe and adequate water supply after natural disasters, take these precautions:



- Store enough drinking water for each family member and pet.
- Store in clean, noncorrosive, tightly covered containers.
- Store containers in a cool, dark location.
- Collect water in bathtubs for non-drinking uses.

HELP A NEIGHBOR!

Turn your pennies into DOLLARS to benefit East Cooper Community Outreach (ECCO) or Water Missions International (WMI). Just call 884-9626 and tell us you want to ROUND-UP your bill payments to the next highest dollar and request the change go to either ECCO or WMI.

You can also sign up online by clicking on Round Up under existing customers



The MPW Commission Newsletter, Water Lines, is produced in-house and mailed to customers each month with bills and statements. Current and past issues can also be viewed and downloaded from our website.

Learn to Be Water Wise



When you wash your car

Use the least amount of water necessary to get the job done. Close the hose on wasteful watering- use a bucket of soapy water to wash the car, then rinse with the hose. Never leave the hose running while you wash— the average garden hose can waste eight to 11 gallons of water per minute.



If you own a swimming pool

Always use a pool cover when not in use. An uncovered pool can lose more than 1,500 gallons of water each month, depending on weather conditions, sun exposure and water temperature. Covers help reduce water loss by as much as 90 percent and many brands also provide excellent safety ratings.

Check your irrigation system

Identify broken or plugged nozzles, broken or misaligned heads and any broken lines.



Turn off the sprinklers when it's windy as most of the water is lost to evaporation.

Look for the 2010 Consumer Confidence Report

Mount Pleasant Waterworks 2010 Water Quality/ Consumer Confidence Report is included with your bill. We compile this important drinking water report card each year from the results of the previous year's drinking water monitoring done by South Carolina's Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) and MPW's DHEC- certified Laboratory. If you are an E-Care Customer, the 2010 CCR is available on our website.

**MPW Operations Center
1619 Rifle Range Road
Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
884-9626 (phone)
customerservice@mpwonline.com
Email requests will be processed
the following business day.**

Please Don't Block



Access to Meters and Hydrants

Water meters and fire hydrants are installed in public easements and must be visible and easily accessible at all times to both water and fire department crews. Please don't cover meters or surround hydrants with plants, pine straw, etc. Plants and shrubs may also be hiding snakes, spiders, red ants, wasps and other biting or stinging creatures that lurk in the landscaping. Even the shrubs themselves can cut or stab. So please help us by leaving clear access around our meters and hydrants.

GO PAPERLESS,

Sign Up For Electronic Billing This Month

Want to reduce your incoming mail and help keep your water bill at an affordable rate? Electronic billing through Mount Pleasant Waterworks' Easy Pay system is easy to use. After you sign up, you will receive a monthly email when your bill is available to be viewed. Electronic billing saves MPW money and helps to keep your water and wastewater bill the second lowest in the tri-county area.

To go paperless today, visit our website and sign up for **Easy Pay Online.**

