

# Water Lines

MOUNT PLEASANT WATERWORKS

October 2016



MountPleasantWaterworks.com

## Going Solar!

Mount Pleasant Waterworks (MPW) delivers more than 8 million gallons per day (MGD) of clean safe water and treats more than 8 MGD of wastewater. Water collected from the Middendorf Aquifer is treated at one of MPW's four state-of-the-art Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Plants. MPW operates two wastewater treatment plants that can treat a total of 9.7 MGD of wastewater. In addition to the water and wastewater plants, MPW's collection system includes 160 pump stations. These plants and pumps require significant power which makes MPW one of the largest power consumers in the Mount Pleasant area. Electrical cost represents 10.5% of MPW's operating budget and approaches \$2 million per year.

Looking to save on these costs, MPW will be installing a solar panel system at the Operations Center. The roof mounted solar array will be Mount Pleasant's largest commercial system to date, and will participate in SCE&G's Bill Credit Agreement Program, which was developed to reward commercial and industrial power customers that build and own their own solar power plants. Operating under the Bill Credit Agreement provided by SCE&G, the solar array will allow us to reduce our annual energy cost by \$52,000. The solar project will cost \$480,000. Based on a projected annual savings of \$52,000, the project will pay for itself in a little over 9 years. With a life cycle of the solar system of at least 25 years, this investment will save customers a total of \$832,000.

This solar project will generate 382,900 kilowatts per hour (kWh) in its first year, which is enough electricity to energize 28 homes annually. The power produced from this renewable energy project in its first year will keep 269 metric tons of carbon from entering our atmosphere, which would require 255 acres of forests to naturally sequester.



The project is scheduled to begin in early fall 2016, and be complete January 2017. Once complete, our customers will be able to monitor the environmental benefits as well as the energy production of the rooftop solar project from a kiosk in the customer service lobby and on our website.

A local Charleston business, SolBright Renewable Energy, LLC was chosen to engineer, procure, & construct a roof mounted solar photovoltaic system. SolBright is driven by a professional mission to design, build and exceed expectations as a top tier, power-generating facility constructor in the Southeast, and nationwide and is excited to bring their talents to our local market.

## MPW Named One of the Top 25 Best Places to Work in SC!

Mount Pleasant Waterworks was recently named one of the *Best Places to Work in South Carolina*. This program was created by SC Biz News in partnership with the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce and Best Companies Group.



This survey and awards program is designed to identify, recognize, and honor the best employers in the state of South Carolina, benefiting the state's economy, workforce, and businesses. The list is made up of 60 companies with 36 companies in the small employer category. In its first appearance on the list, Mount Pleasant Waterworks ranked in the Top 25 Employers.

"It is important for Mount Pleasant Waterworks to provide employees a great place to work. We do this with the guidance of a committed and caring Board of Commissioners and Management Team, affording employees an opportunity to do their best work, and providing rewards and recognition that enhance their work lives," said Clay Duffie, General Manager. Mount Pleasant Waterworks' unique culture focuses on providing customers clean safe water while protecting the environment in which they live. Duffie noted that Mount Pleasant Waterworks' employees are a special group who appreciate being able to use their experience and education to serve their customers and community. "We go to great lengths to recruit people who are committed to our purpose of making the lives of our customers better by providing exceptional water and wastewater service. "We are very proud of our team's commitment and appreciate being recognized as one of the best places to work in South Carolina," added Duffie.

**WE'RE  
HIRING!**

**Visit our  
website to learn  
more about our  
open positions!**

## Keep Pipes Clean with Proper Disposal of Grease and Oil

### Properly Discard Cooking Oils and Fats

When poured down a kitchen sink, grease from cooking oils and fats cool and adhere to pipes like glue. That's bad for a home or business owner, who ends up with clogged drains and an expensive plumbing job.

### Keep Drains Clean to Keep Costs Down

The Commission spends more than \$25,000 yearly to respond to grease blockages in the collection system.

Much of the grease residue from home and restaurant plumbing makes its way through the wastewater collection system, where it clogs vital pump stations. Ultimately, the residue ends up at the wastewater treatment plant and drives up operating costs.

Grease also causes undesirable bacterial growth. These bacteria impede the efficient treatment plant process.

To learn more about what you should not put down your drain or toilet watch our informative video at [mountpleasantwaterworks.com](http://mountpleasantwaterworks.com).



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

## H2O2GO on the go

The H2O2GO program at Mount Pleasant Waterworks continues to be popular for local events. The portable water dispenser provides clean, cold tap water at local non-profit and charitable events and is used to support local school programs. Best of all this service is free.

The H2O2GO is unique and simple in design. Comparable units often require electricity and a direct connection to a public water supply. The H2O2GO requires neither. The dispenser is filled with approximately 600 gallons of water at the water treatment plant before traveling to an event. Because the water is cooled prior to arriving the water maintains a refreshing temperature. This allows the H2O2GO to be placed anywhere at an event and benefits event organizers who are often constrained in terms of space and accessibility.

The H2O2GO is a popular attraction at non-profit and charitable events and a way to provide a healthy hydration alternative while encouraging people to be "green". It also supports a healthy lifestyle and protects our environment, providing an alternative to sugary sodas and juice beverages through refillable drinking containers.

During the month of August, Mount Pleasant Waterworks and the H2O2GO kept our award winning Wando High School Band hydrated.

The H2O2GO is a highly sought-after service provided by Mount Pleasant Waterworks and supports a healthy and vibrant community. Let the H2O2GO keep you hydrated. To learn more about reserving the H2O2GO visit [www.mountpleasantwaterworks.com](http://www.mountpleasantwaterworks.com).



**MPW Operations Center**  
1619 Rifle Range Road  
Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
843-884-9626 (phone)  
customerserv-

## Learn More About Your Water and Wastewater Utility

Visit our Website:  
[www.mountpleasantwaterworks.com](http://www.mountpleasantwaterworks.com)

Attend our Monthly Commission Meeting: Meetings are typically held at 6:00 p.m. on the third Monday of each month. Call 843.884.9626 to confirm monthly meeting times.

Make sure your contact information is up to date. Emails and telephone calls are sent to customers who may be affected during construction or when there are updates about your account.



In observance of the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays, the MPW Operations Center will be closed on the following days:

- THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24
- FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25
- FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23
- MONDAY, DECEMBER 26

If you have a water or wastewater emergency, call 884-9626. Our answering service will page on-call personnel.

