



WASTEWATER ACTIVITY BRIEFING FEBRUARY 2026

- Early in February, Schirmer Lift Station Pump #2 began showing a steady decline in daily runtime. After investigating, Terry discovered that the drive had faulted. He reset the system, restoring normal operation.
- On February 5th, during routine maintenance on the UVT channel, staff noticed water inside one of the tubes. The power attachment to the bulb had come loose, allowing water to seep in. A replacement tube and an older spare bulb were installed, as no new bulbs were available in storage. The system has been functioning properly since the repair.
- On February 9th, the Millpond Lift Station reported a high wet well level caused by a tripped breaker. Terry responded and restored the station to normal operation.
- On February 10th and 11th, Terry attended the Annual Joint Expo/Operator Day Conference in Lansing, MI. The event provided valuable training on wastewater operations and opportunities to network and learn about emerging technologies and industry updates.
- On February 17th, the facility's water heater was found leaking. Mike Baker inspected the unit and determined that, due to its age and wear, a full replacement will be necessary.
- Throughout the month, Superintendent Tom has been preparing staff to take their D-license certification exam in May, holding weekly hour-long classes and providing worksheets to support their study efforts.
- On February 20th, students from Buchanan High School toured the plant to learn about the water system upgrades completed last fall. The visit gave students insight into the variety of career paths available in the water and wastewater field.
- On February 25th, the generator unexpectedly ran a cycle outside of its scheduled time. The resulting power surge caused the SCADA system to lose communication with the wasting system. Terry recognized the symptoms from a previous incident involving a blown fuse. After replacing the fuse, a burning smell was detected, and recalibrating the valve did not resolve the issue. James from Windemuller was contacted and quickly identified the problem: the entire system required a full recalibration cycle. After Mike Baker completed the recalibration, SCADA communication returned to normal.
- Finally, new nuts and bolts were installed on the plow after several pieces broke during the most recent snowfall and plowing operations.
- The facility completed 150 preventive maintenance work orders. These ranged from routine equipment checks to complex repairs requiring significant labor.