



TOWN OF  
HILLSBOROUGH

**Utilities Department Status Report for Nov. 2025 (covering Oct. 2025)**

PROJECT/ CATEGORY	STATUS
WTP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dredging of the alum pond is completed for the year.</li></ul>
WWTP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Getting River pumping station back online is of top priority. Carolina Civilworks has begun work on this job.</li><li>Rep. Renee Price toured the plant and pumping station on October 17.</li><li>Deputy Utilities Director of Water Treatment Jeff Mahagan reports that the WWTP plant is running very well. The average Total Nitrogen concentration in September was 1.67 ppm and the Total Phosphorous was 0.218 ppm. So far in October continued with similar concentrations.</li><li>No credible information to report on the Falls Lake Rules Readoption. Currently, the State is reviewing the UNRBA lake model results to evaluate nutrient removal needs from the wastewater plants. We hope to hear something back from the State soon.</li><li>Some projects such as the treatment basins grit removal project and asphalt sealing project have been delayed until spring. We do not want these projects to interfere with the River PS repairs.</li></ul>
West Fork of the Eno Reservoir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The reservoir is at approximately 51' as it was lowered some in anticipation of another storm which ended up a non-event. 53' is the normal Phase 2 pool elevation.</li><li>On Oct. 6 inspections of both WFER and LBJ were performed by our dam consultant. WFER has some spillway washout which preliminarily will be costly to repair. Further investigations are warranted, and a CIP project will be added to the next budget.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Part of the noted issues were caused by TS Chantal. As such, we are including the information in our public assistance expected reimbursement request.</li></ul></li></ul>
Misc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Lawndale sewer rehabilitation project should be kicking off in late November, early December. Customer notices for the area should go out late next week.</li><li>Draft HMGP applications were uploaded to the state system for the River PS and the Starfield BPS.</li><li>We have received a valuation for the intended Starfield BPS site and will discuss with the property owner. Final easement exhibits have been received for River PS site and we are considering utilizing the property acquisition subconsultant to perform negotiations with the impacted owners, including the school board.</li><li>A request for FEMA public assistance was submitted to the state for TS Chantal damages. A scoping meeting and site inspections have been held with FEMA and state representatives.</li></ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Additional documentation for STAG funding for Starfield Booster Station has been finalized and will be submitted shortly.</li><li>• An annual notice is required to be sent to all customers with unknown service line material as part of the federal and state lead service line inventory requirements. The initial letters were sent a year ago and as we work to identify private side service line materials, have reduced the initial number of letters mailed. The next round of remaining unknown service line material letters is due by December 31 and will be to approximately 2,100 customers. The town is keeping an eye out for grant opportunities to assist with service line identification. The final inventory is due in late 2027.</li></ul>
Staffing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We are fully staffed yet a few staff members will be out on FMLA over the next few months.</li><li>• The Utilities Director will be out intermittently using FMLA or vacation and working remotely through the end of the year.</li><li>• Nathan Cates and Jacob Hamlin obtained their A-Surface water operator certifications! This is the highest certification for water operators and a very complex test to pass! Joey Smith obtained the highest level of biological wastewater operator certification (Grade IV) and has been reclassified to Operator 3!</li><li>• The Utilities Director and Deputy Utilities Director of Water Treatment attended the NC One Water conference to attend technical sessions, earn continuing education and network with peers.</li></ul>