



Weekly Reader

Public Works & Engineering Department

February 10, 2023

Department Updates

We're in for 6 more weeks of winter according to expert meteorologist Punxsutawney Phil, but it sure feels like spring with all of the rain this week. It's certainly kept the **Street Department busy clearing storm drains**. This is an essential service because storm drains are designed to help **prevent flooding** by diverting rainwater from our streets and parking lots into a natural body of water. Storm water that can't drain fast enough stagnates and can be a nuisance for drivers and property owners; it can also spread pollutants throughout the neighborhood. Especially in time of serious rain storms, **efficient drainage is vital to prevent contaminated ground water and erosion**.



The **Water Department** has been performing **preventative maintenance** at the well houses and booster station. This includes conducting **inspections** and making **repairs**, checking the **generators**, **changing the oil** of the well pumps and motors, and **greasing** all of the bearings of the motors. This regular maintenance is necessary to **protect these components against damage and corrosion** which ensures **safe and reliable drinking water** to our residents.

The **STP Department** has started preparations for the **South Plant Aeration Tank Diffuser Membrane Replacement Project**. The **aeration tank diffuser** provides fine bubble air to the **activated sludge process** and serves as the mixing system that **keeps the tank contents in suspension**. Using the air provided by the diffuser, **the activated sludge is then able to handle the breakdown of contaminants** in the wastewater.

City Updates

Conley Excavating & Construction is **fabricating a restrictor plate** for installation next week in **Maple Creek**. A restrictor plate is a component of a manhole that regulates the speed at which storm water leaves a detention area. The original restrictor plate was not the required thickness and had corroded over time, forming a large hole. This allowed too much water to pass in a short period of time which caused bank erosion at the entrance to Fiddyment Creek. **The new restrictor plate will restore the manhole to the original design specifications to minimize bank erosion**.