

THE METRO UPDATE



VECTOR TRUCK REPAIRS

Metro Water's Vactor truck was purchased in 1995 and has been used many times for projects including replacing the media in filters and potholing around existing pipes and structures. Unfortunately, the truck has reached the end of its designed life; however, a new Vactor truck is upwards of \$800,000. After a thorough inspection, it was confirmed that Metro Water's current truck is still in good condition. The truck's tank was sand blasted and cleaned, patches were welded, and a new epoxy coating was applied. With some additional mechanical repairs, the Vactor truck is expected to last another 10 years.



ACCOMODATING GATE REPLACEMENT

The intake gate replacement project at Deer Creek Dam has made it necessary to cut flows during the day while divers are in the water completing the replacement. This required water systems in the Salt Lake Valley, including Metro Water, to minimize outlet flows at Deer Creek reservoir and maintain Utah Lake levels while continuing to utilize Provo River water via energy absorbers at the Jordan Narrows Pump Station. Metro Water also adjusted the treated flows at Point of the Mountain Water Treatment Plant several times during the month of September in order to meet water demands. These efforts, and collaboration with other water entities, provided safety for the divers and contributed to the success of the project. Our Operations staff did an excellent job of adjusting in order to maintain sufficient water supply.

OZONE ASSESSMENT

The ozone generators at Little Cottonwood Water Treatment Plant (LCWTP) recently underwent an assessment, as they were projected to be reaching their end of life. Xylem completed the assessment by running the generators at 10% concentration while closely monitoring readings on the equipment. The numbers are then used to calculate the efficiency values. Ozone is a primary disinfectant at LCWTP, so it is critical to ensure the generators work properly. Xylem's report recommended some replacement parts, but overall, the generators are running as they should. This ozone assessment will be added as a preventative maintenance task to be completed every five to ten years. We are grateful each department at Metro Water does their part to keep the ozone generators in good condition by maintaining the system and being proactive to prevent an accident or emergency.

FINANCIAL AUDIT

Metro Water is required to have an independent financial audit completed every year to conform with state law. Our independent auditor reviews financial records to obtain reasonable assurance that our financial statements fairly present the financial position of Metro Water, in all material respects. It is a process that takes several months to complete by our Accountant, Josh Croft, in conjunction with our accounting consultants. This year, the auditors have once again issued an unmodified opinion, or a "clean audit," meaning they believe the financial statements fairly present our financial position. The audit process is highly involved and we truly appreciate the hard work and effort that contributed to another successful year.

HUMAN RESOURCES

New employee:
Anthony Wallace - Facilities Technician

Anniversary:
Jeffery T Matheson - Maintenance Technician: 10 years

Metro Water will be hosting a donation drive for food and supplies in the month of December. Donation drop off will be at the LCWTP. More information will be shared when available.

GEOSMIN SPIKE TREATED WITH OZONE

In mid-August, Salt Lake City and Sandy City received calls from customers complaining of odor in their drinking water. Many described the odor as musty or earthy. It was later determined that this was caused by an unusual spike of Geosmin (4, 8a dimethyl-decahydronaphthalene-4a-ol). Geosmin is a naturally occurring taste and odor compound. While it does not pose a threat to health, it can cause unpleasant taste and odor issues when present above sensory thresholds.

Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District (JVWCD) monitors for Geosmin in Deer Creek Reservoir throughout the summer, but the high levels and persistence of the compound in mid-August was unexpected. The reservoir is one of our two main sources of water for treatment purposes to supply drinking water primarily to Salt Lake City and Sandy City. Laboratory staff sampled Deer Creek and Metro Water's finished water for Geosmin during this event and JVWCD increased their monitoring of Deer Creek to every week.

The determination was made to increase the ozone disinfection at both our Point of the Mountain Water Treatment Plant and Little Cottonwood Water Treatment Plant in order to minimize the taste and odor effects on the finished water supply to our customers. We maintained this enhanced ozone disinfection for 20 days until we determined that the Geosmin event was diminished. At the point of having minimal Geosmin results, we returned our treatment process to normal operational modes.