

2004: A Year of Many Successes

Bill Snyder, Filtration Plant Manager

Throughout its many decades of service, the Water District has made sweeping changes and overcome great obstacles in order to meet the needs of its customers. Without a doubt, our greatest challenge has been to provide all of our year-round and seasonal customers with water that is equally low in cost and high in quality, while consistently complying with a wide array of strict State and Federal regulations.

As incredible as it seems, all of these standards have been met or exceeded through the dedication and ingenuity of people from our own community. Let's face it: PEOPLE, not money or resources, are the greatest asset of any organization.

Facilities Manager Rob Weymouth, assisted by Peter Jewett and Gerry Goulden have formed the core of an in-house technical team that at times included all Filtration Plant employees. In addition to myself and Mel Leedberg, this team includes Plant Operators Skip Dascanio, Ed Kilian, Lynn Mankin, Greg Pargellis and Matt Sampson. By working together, these talented employees have made innovative improvements to the water treatment process and to the electro-mechanical systems of our Plant, which few if any, water utilities could have accomplished without the expensive assistance of outside engineers and contractors.

The following is only a partial list of the many projects successfully implemented by our employees during 2004:

- ❖ All four rapid sand filters at the Plant were rebuilt and enhanced with the addition of a modern dual filter media.
- ❖ The new fluoride handling system, designed and built in-house, adds fluoride to our water system with a state of the art on-line monitoring system.
- ❖ The new ammonia handling system, also designed and built in-house, which provides for a reduction of disinfection by-products such as tastes and odors, is also controlled with a state of the art on-line monitoring system.
- ❖ The Filtration Plant passed stringent OSHA and EPA inspections with flying colors.
- ❖ The "York Interconnection" booster station was designed and built in-house, allowing for the implementation of a mutual aid, bulk water sale agreement with York Water District.
- ❖ A new chlorination facility at the Arundel Booster Station was also designed and built in-house. It will improve water chemistry compatibility when purchasing water from the Biddeford/Saco Water Company.

As you can see, it has been a very busy and productive year for your local Water District and next year will likely be just as challenging. For today, join us in congratulating our exceptional team of technicians and operators who have made 2004 a year to remember.