

# SHRWD

# SOUTH HENRY REGIONAL WASTE DISTRICT

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The Formation of SHRWD

South Henry Regional Waste District was formed in 1989. The purpose of the district is to reduce water pollution problems and to improve the living environments to Lewisville, Dunreith, Straughn, Spiceland and South Henry School Corporation by providing for the collection, treatment and disposal of sewage inside and outside of the district boundaries.

The district now provides this service to the town of Mays, which is in northern Rush County as well as the I -70 interchange along State Road 3 up to County Road 400 South including Fair Oaks Road.

South Henry Regional Waste District constructed the treatment plant and collection system in 1992 and 1993. The treatment plant is a Class II, .23 MGD biological system. The wastewater treatment plant's wet stream treatment includes influent pumping, screening, grit removal, biological treatment in an oxidation ditch. secondary clarification, ultraviolet disinfection and post aeration prior to discharging the plant's effluent to the Flatrock River. The waste and sludge's removed during treatment are stabilized in aerobic digesters and are dewatered in sand drying beds. Final disposal of the stabilized and dried biosolids is by land application. Plant performance is

monitored by automatic influent and effluent composite samplers.

The District began providing sewer collection and treatment on October 18<sup>th</sup>, 1993. The service area for SHRWD consists of 93 square miles of the townships of Spiceland, Franklin, Dudley and the town of Mays. Currently the SHRWD serves 973 customers.

There is 73,000 feet of gravity line and 194,675 feet of force main line with ten lift stations and nine grinder pumps.



Aerial View of SHRWD's wastewater treatment plant

Inside this issue:	
The Formation of SHRWD	1
Federal Mandate	1
Board member & staff INFORMATION	2
AWARDS	2
CLEANING RIVERS, STREAMS & WELLS	3
Your sewer bill	3
Goals	3
Plant Tours	4
WEBSITE	4

# **Federal Mandate**

In 1972 Congress passed the Clean Water Act, which is the primary federal law in the United States governing water pollution. A few years later Congress allowed for grant money to assist communities in meeting the requirements of the Clean Water Act. South Henry Regional Waste District was one of many communities to benefit from this grant. It was a 10 million dollar project and 75% of that was paid for by grant funds.

Today this same project would cost nearly twice as much with very little grant money available.



# **Staff & Board Members**

Presently, the District employs a full-time staff of four and one part-time clerk. Due to the size of the District's staff, cross training of employees to assist each other in the performance of their duties is very important. Jerry Libby is the plant superintendent, Nancy Harmon is the office manager, Rick McColley is district technician II and Patricia Haler is the part-time clerk. While each employee has specific duties, they assist with each other's duties when needed. This has proven to be a cost savings.

The District is governed by a Board of Trustees, represented as follows:

Lewisville	1 appointed by the Lewisville Town Board
Dunreith	1 appointed by the Dunreith Town Board
Straughn	1 appointed by the Straughn Town Board
Spiceland	2 appointed by the Spiceland Town Board
Mays	1 appointed by the Rush County Commissioners
At Large	1 appointed by the Township Trustees of Franklin,
-	Spiceland & Dudley

Board meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the district's office in Lewisville.

Special note: Each board member is a rate paying customer of South Henry Regional Waste District

#### Current SHRWD Board of Directors

Larry Protsman, President Straughn Representative Donna Tauber, Vice President At-Large Representative

Lila Mondrush Spiceland Representative

Tom Conley Spiceland Representative Brian Rogers Mays Representative Robin Minnemann, Secretary Dunreith Representative

Marcus Allhands Lewisville Representative



# SHRWD's Wall of Glory

South Henry Regional Waste District has earned numerous Indiana awards for Outstanding Operations and Maintenance, Treatment Plant of the Year, Utility Board of the Year, Management of the Year, Professional of the Year, as well as a First Place Award of Excellence in Region 5 from the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

SHRWD also placed Second in the Nation for Outstanding Wastewater Treatment Facility Operations & Maintenance in the Small Advanced Category.

# **Cleaning the Rivers, Streams and Wells**

For years there were actual signs of raw sewage running through Brook Beezer in Spiceland, Applebutter Creek in Lewisville and Flatrock River.

The reason raw sewage was getting into the rivers and streams was as the older septic systems failed, the wastewater was typically connected into a working storm drain or field tile. Although this would resolve the homeowners problem, it would create a bigger problem down stream.

Many of the septic systems in the towns of Dunreith and Straughn were directly connected to storm drains or field tiles that were piped out of town into farmers' fields and into the ditches along the roadside (which is illegal).

In the town of Straughn, the homes that were connected to the storm drains or field tiles were the lucky ones. At least during wet weather, they could flush their toilets. Most every other home had a failing septic system and no room to build a new one, therefore, making use of flushing toilets, doing laundry, taking a shower/bath or washing dishes very difficult.

This problem also meant that there was a good chance that property owners wells were being contaminated. Being connected to a sanitary sewer system means that everything that goes down your drains from your home is pumped through a sealed pipe to the wastewater treatment plant to go through the treatment process.

It takes 12-15 hours to complete the wastewater treatment process and allow the clean water back into the Flatrock River.

### What is included in your sewer bill

South Henry Regional Waste District obtained a low interest loan for \$3.5 million to be paid over a thirty-eight year period. This was the amount **not** covered by grants. Therefore, every customer of the District pays a portion of this debt each month.

Every residential customer of South Henry Regional Waste District pays a monthly base rate of \$25.48, with the exception of the Mays customers, their debt carries an additional \$6.73. Additionally, every customer pays \$4.93 per 1,000 gallons used. This is for the user charge and debt service.

Nearly half of the monthly receipts (sewer bills collected) is set aside for debt payment. The remainder goes to fund the Depreciation fund, electric (there are six different electric utilities), everyday operations and maintenance for the treatment plant and collection system as well as insurance, permit fees and payroll.

SHRWD's rates and charges must be "fair & equitable" with proper justification to the expenses and debt obligation of the district.



Just because we flush our toilets and it goes away or we *drain the water out* of the sink after washing dirty dishes; does not mean our septic systems are working properly. It is just "out of sight, out of mind.". Untreated wastewater poses a serious threat to public health and the environment.

# **Goals of South Henry Regional Waste District**

The board of directors and staff of South Henry Regional Waste District are dedicated to the daily implementation of the following:

- Protect our water resources, particularly our drinking water.

- Protect & strengthen the quality of life in rural south-

ern Henry County.

- Protect our lakes, rivers & streams for recreation & wildlife use.

- Encourage responsible land use decision-making in assisting in economic development & orderly growth, while at the same time, working on the preservation of local farmland.

- Consistently strive to provide the most cost effective and reliable wastewater treatment program. Our new website is now up and running! Go to www.shrwd.org

We encourage you to visit the treatment plant and take a tour. We are always proud to show our customers around, explain the daily routines and how the wastewater is treated before it is discharged back into the Flatrock River. South Henry Regional Waste District's business hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed on holidays.





**SOUTH HENRY REGIONAL WASTE DISTRICT** P.O. BOX 147 LEWISVILLE, INDIANA 47352

South Henry Regional Waste District is an equal opportunity employer