

final thoughts...

Drivers Ed Classes don't have a chapter on cell phones.

PUT IT DOWN and DRIVE!

Office Report

The Front Line Safety Committee meeting will be April 20th at 3:15. The Front Line Safety video will be May 11th at 3:15 p.m. at the PPC.

Visitors at Public Works!!

Visitors in the last two weeks included Prince Hudson, Ken Baer, and Brent Buerck.

Happy Birthdays:

In April :

Kevin Buchheit 26th

Happy Anniversaries:

Robert Brown 19 years

Mike Comte 19 years

Wendell Valleroy 19 years

Floyd Cox 10 years



Perryville's Finest Tree Planters



coming soon >>>

In The Next Issue

Projects everywhere

Odorization Project

Spring storms and I & I

Meter Change-out Update

Summer temps & interns

And even some surprises!

Trees

We just got done planting about 1400 trees! It took a lot of work but we all survived! The guys did an awesome job of getting it all in the ground and proved me wrong. I didn't think the planter would help very much but it proved to be valuable to use. I would say we were able to plant half with the planter and hand dig the other half. Hopefully, the next article I can talk about how peaceful and just plain normal the last couple weeks have been. Knock on Wood!

Tree Planting w/Robert, Dave & Wendell



The gas department has been working on the annual cathodic survey. We found 28 low pipe to soil reads that we are starting to repair by installing new anodes on the service lines. The crew also found a couple locations where the mains and services are all low possibly, due to something shorting them out. I have Lindsey Enloe from USDI coming to use his machine that locates shorts of this nature. Gas Superintendent, Tim Britt and Water Superintendent, Charlie Mcleod have been working with Mark Brown, Tim Paulus, Angela Fields and Tracy Prost on the water and gas meter change out. Staff has also installed a couple new meters for 2 new customers. Weather permitting we are going to start the removal of the two in ground odorant tanks at the City Take Point. Our new customer handbooks have arrived, so we will also be busy getting these sent out to our gas and non gas customers as required by law to meet the Public Education Program Regulation. A couple of the gas staff has assured that all fire extinguishers in the trucks and buildings have been serviced and in their proper locations.

in this issue >>>

Driving Procedures

Erosion Control

Signs and Sinkholes

Water leaks and repairs

A Twice Monthly Update from Perryville Public Works

April 17, 2015

What's In The Works And More!

Guest Column: Brent Buerck

Many years ago as a young man, I had an accident "celebrating" my freshman year of college. Instead of staying in my dorm in Cape Girardeau, I decided I wanted to go home. Before even leaving the City limits of Cape, I fell asleep and had an accident. By the grace of God, no one other than myself was hurt. I remember waking up a couple days later, strapped to a bed with a punctured lung, whiplash, and having 7 of my teeth broke in half. Although we were able to fix two teeth relatively easily, the rest were shot. I went upwards of a year missing my five top teeth and I am sure more than one of you remember that.

Looking back, God used that moment of weakness to define the rest of my life. For example, I had reconstructive dental surgery the week I was supposed to register for my college classes one year later. When the meds finally wore off and I felt up to registration, every class I needed was full. Against the norm, my advisor suggested I complete my intern early. He suggested I do it at the Girardot Center (a place I never heard of) with the Division of Youth Services (an agency I never heard of). I did and LOVED every minute working with at-risk young people who were in the care and custody of the State of Missouri. I had found my calling. A couple months later, legislation passed which significantly expanded DYS and they were now hiring. Impressed with my work ethic, they wanted to know if I would be interested. Thus began my career with what I would come to learn to be the national model for youth corrections. After 5 years working directly with kids, I took a promotion to Central Office in Jefferson City. There I was able to complete my masters degree at Mizzou and acquire the skills necessary for what would later be an opportunity to come back home.

Here I am, back where I started and again missing a mouth full of teeth. Please bare with me. All I want for Christmas is my 3 front teeth...



From the Director:

Pay Attention to What Matters

Driving a car or truck or piece of equipment is an intensive test of focus, attention and skill. There are literally hundreds of things to pay attention to and to be aware of while performing this task. A study was performed to test how much eye focus was required while driving:

"Drivers can focus on only a single stimulus and effectively search up to three targets per second. When secondary tasks require visual resources such as fixations, a decrease in the amount of visual resources allocated to the driving task may occur"

This means that you should be moving your eyes every third of a second, scanning the front and sides, mirrors, etc.

"To minimize the increase in risk associated with the execution of secondary tasks, drivers use a safety mechanism limiting the amount of time during which focus is directed off the road to a maximum of approximately 1.6 sec. However, it is easy to envision situations in which the time required by in-vehicle devices may cause attention to be located away from the road for longer periods. The need for frequent scanning increases with the complexity of the driving conditions—When experienced drivers are presented with complex scenes (i.e., scenes with many details), the frequency of eye movements increases, with decreased fixation length. Thus, if in-vehicle devices force attention away from the road, and complex scenes require more frequent scanning, the joint effect of both can be potentially harmful."

Here, the study proves that a distraction of less than 1 second can lead to tragedy. This is a lesson for our work life and personal life. Pay attention!



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Water and Sewer Update

Daily lift station checks were completed, and water samples taken to Jackson for routine state sample reporting. Crews started their spring increase in work load in April.

Meetings with several meter suppliers are winding down with three strong candidates. Also on tap for the summer are two lift station guide rail and discharge line replacement, valve maintenance, hydrant flushing, sewer jetting and video work. Staff rodded several sewer mains, flushed a section of main on Trishia that was tapped for a new duplex. Samples were taken and sent to the lab in Jackson. Inspections were completed on both water and sewer lines and the sewer main and manhole. We disconnected the water service line at the old Shell Station on St. Joseph and capped the sewer service to the property. While there a broken storm sewer was found, an attempt to clean it and make repairs of petroleum products were discovered. MODNR was called and a response team sent to the site. City staff cleaned up the site to DNR recommendations, and has the contaminated soil and rock drying at Public Works for proper disposal. Kevin Buchheit helped the street crew with the concrete repair from the meter replacement in the Legion parking lot. Staff also helped out street crews with street repairs on St. Joseph Street. A water leak was repaired at 1204 S. Kingshighway and another leak identified at H and 51. This leak is out in a farm field that is inaccessible to City equipment. Joe Geile has been contacted for repair with a track hoe.

NATURAL GAS: THE BEST CHOICE!

Our natural gas system has been recognized by the Public Service Commission as one of the safest and highest quality systems in Missouri. Much hard work goes into that. Here is Ryan Bergman performing part of our cathodic protection survey.



Water Plant >>>

We have received our first shipment of coagulant from a different supplier. We should save around \$2200 by changing suppliers! We installed a new display on our well #4 sub monitor system. We also had both water supply lines blow apart over the weekend and gave the entire chlorine room a bath and Robert as well. We got them fixed and back in service and hopefully it will be a long time before they go BOOM again!

KNOW YOUR
H₂O

Project Directories

Street Dept.

Sinkhole projects – Cranking up.
Conc & Curb Repairs – All over town

Gas Dept.

Rambling Hills extension – Design –
Hope to bid in May

WWTP

Flow meter install upcoming
Engineering study – awarded and started

Water Plant

New UV – in final design

Water/ Wastewater Dept.

Elevated tank painting – Complete

Water System Renovation – Tasks

4-6 coming soon:Hurst-Rosche engineers

Manhole Lining: Planning stage



Refuse, Street, Airport & Maintenance

Maintenance Department: We just finished truck #601. We replaced the intake gasket, water pump and found other things wrong with it. We fixed the Truck #505 ABS light, right speed sensor was bad, and fix the air leaks. We have a few more services to do to the Park vehicles. We have the fire trucks to work on yet and service the city lift station generators in the next two weeks.

The Refuse Department: We are very busy picking up biodegradable bags. There are 400 to 500 bags per week, due to everyone cleaning up their yards and flower beds. We are still trying to get caught up on brush. Kyle passed his General Knowledge test and that was great. His next step for us, is to help him with his pre/post trip inspection, so that we can schedule him for his road test. The two new employees are learning the routes. Kyle will have to pick up trash all day, until he gets his CDL. He said he is ok with this. We lost a great employee. Scott Coppaway went to work for a firm in Cape Girardeau. We will miss him and we are advertising for this position. It is being advertised in the newspaper.

The Street Department: We are very busy patching water main and gas breaks on Saint Joseph Street across from Village Video. We concrete patched the hole at American Legion parking lot. This took two pours to complete this job. We took several tables, barrels and barricades to the square for the Cruise-In event and picked them up on the following Monday. We placed fines on Moore Drive and in a couple of alley ways. Installed one way sign up by Mary Jane's. We swept several streets. It seems that the same ones get dirty from gum balls or gravel washing into them. We cleaned catch boxes several times last week. We helped with brush several days. It seems that we have to help them every week with one or 2 personnel. We fertilized the planter boxes on the square and cleaned them as well as cutting the Ryopi's down. We repaired the storm water hole at 717 Bruce Street, repaired a few holes around the sinkhole grate at 64 Krieger Lane, placed 4" by 6" rock and dirt in the hole that is in the back yard of 704 N Water. It seems like a lot of holes have opened up around the sinkholes again. It usually does when we have a very wet spring. All I can is put them on the list to be worked. Joe Geile is working on the PDC property's sinkholes and has found several large openings down by Toohey and Wichern Road in that corner. The sinkholes had very little debris other than the normal trees and rocks, but the one sinkhole has some stalactites in it.

Airport: We cleaned FBO office. We checked the runway lights, beacon light, and the windsocks. The white beacon light is out and when Wendell gets a chance he will fix it. Eddie Ponder has started mowing again, but we have had several inches of rain.

Waste Water Plant Update

Boy oh boy have we been busy lately! There is nothing like fixing a 20 year old mistake. Apparently back in 96 our secondary pump station was partially rehabbed. They only replaced the pumps and the slide rails. Where they made the mistake or just cut a corner was not replacing the pump mounting bracket that was 20 years old at the time. The next mistake was putting a 3" pump on a 4" bracket. Not a very good fit! It has been leaking almost as much water as it pumps for hard telling how long. There is nothing easy about replacing something that has nuts/bolts that are 40 years old! But we did it and now there is no leakage and we should save some money on electricity. We have also replaced all 160 bulbs in our UV modules. This should hopefully eliminate some of the violations we had last year. We think some were due to decreased intensity from the bulbs. We have had ECC visit to troubleshoot some problems at our pump house. We did lose another VFD for pump #3 (it happens with 20 year old electronics!) and are awaiting the arrival of the new one. We also had to move a pump at the airport to another contractor because it went bad. We have also ran new wire from the plant out to the head works .to install the pH meter.



Update From the Building Department

By Angie Fields, CBO

Rain, Rain, go away..... I know this is what the majority of us are thinking right now. Yes it has rained ALOT lately. We have all seen the increased flow of water in our yards, ditches and creeks. Mud is everywhere. This is a great time to remember the importance of erosion control measures once grass is removed and site work has begun. I have made several phone calls to residents urging them to install silt fence and straw bales to keep any mud and sediment on their property. Once the land is disturbed the soil, rocks and debris are free to travel anywhere during a heavy rain. It will flow into our neighbors' yard, down the street or right in to a sinkhole. The city has many sinkholes around town that need protected due to the endangered fish that live in them. I will now be looking for erosion control devices to be installed during my footing inspections on new buildings. It is my job and the job of all homeowners and contractors to make sure the fish are protected, but we keep our surrounding areas free of mud, rock and debris.