

Letter to the Editor – Mayor’s Perspective

Our waste water treatment plant (sewer plant), originally built in 1976, has been upgraded three times since then. The plant can purify two million gallons of waste water each day. We, the people of Perryville, flush almost one million gallons through our toilets, showers, washing machines, and sinks every day.

The plant crew of Foreman Neil Bert, Operators Mike Comte, Wendell Valleroy, and David Meyr work under the supervision of Jeremy Meyer. Theirs is a job that SMELLS at times – it is a sewer plant, after all. These men are a well-trained team dedicated to protecting the environment, especially our Cinque Hommes Creek watershed.

The plant is located on the banks of Cinque Hommes Creek at the end of Hidden Valley Lane, about one mile downstream of the Highway 61 bridge over the creek.

Waste water received at the plant is pumped through various screens, settling basins, filters, ultraviolet light, and other cleaning processes. The cleaned water is then discharged into this small creek at purity levels equal to the natural stream water. Fish, frogs, mussels, and other aquatic life thrive in this creek.

Material removed from the waste water in the cleaning process is neutralized and applied to farm land as nitrogen, phosphorous, and lime fertilizer. Recycling at its best. Well done Neil, Mike, Wendell, David, and Jeremy.

Ken Baer, Mayor