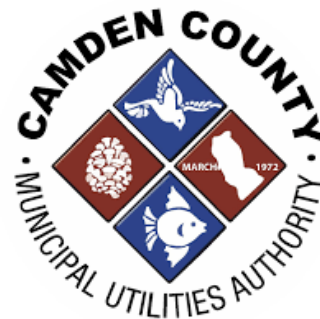


Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority

What's In the Pipeline?



Employee Newsletter

Summer 2024



A Note from the Executive Director

The CCMUA has experienced a lot of change in the last 4+ years. From Covid disruptions, to the retirement and passing of cherished long-term employees, to upgrades of process units at the plant and pump stations, to the renovations of the Administration and Services building – change has impacted each of us. And while change is constant and necessary -- especially in a complex industry like wastewater treatment -- I am personally looking forward to getting everyone back to a sense of normalcy when the buildings are finally complete. High on the priority list is an Authority-wide luncheon that is currently being planned and which will be formally announced soon. We will also be resuming in-person All Employee Meetings on a routine basis, with the first being in September. These opportunities will allow for folks to gather and share both formally and informally. With any luck, the union contract will be settled by that time as well, and we can all concentrate on getting back to our “new normal”.



Charging Ahead with Electric Vehicles!

The CCMUA has taken great care to be proactive and thoughtful in light of our world's rapidly changing climate. When we need to replace a segment of the sewer system, or make an upgrade to the plant, we consider how we can make these changes ready not just for 2025 but for 2075. We've come to understand that this forethought has to be extended to all aspects of our operations, and it's now time to put our money where our motor vehicles are!

The state of New Jersey has mandated that by 2035, all new cars and light duty trucks must be either battery electric, plug-in hybrid, or fuel cell vehicles; it makes good sense, then -- both for our own responsiveness to this new mandate and for the good of our environment -- that we work toward this goal now rather than in a decade. This transition will not happen all at once, but the Authority is planning for a strong start. Within the next year we plan to:

- Replace 4 vehicles in our fleet with all-electric models
- Install 4 standard charging stations and 1 high-speed charging station at the plant, in the parking area along the primary clarifiers
- Install 1 regular and 1 high-speed charger each in the admin parking lot for customer use (and for Waterfront South community usage in off-hours)

These represent significant investments amounting to about \$680,000. Fortunately, we have support! Governmental and utility partners have responded to this call to action and introduced programs that ease the transition for us. The NJ Board of Public Utilities' (NJBPU's) Clean Fleet Electric Vehicle Incentive Program and PSEG's Electric Vehicle Charging Program both offer generous incentives which will cover as much as the full cost of these investments. We recently received agreement language for these programs, so look out for these exciting improvements around the Authority sometime in 2025!

Inside This Issue:

Greening the CCMUA Fleet

The Safety Corner

2024 EMS Goals - Summer Update

Employee Spotlights



Safety Corner: Staying Safe in the Heat

We don't need to tell you that it has been HOT lately. In light of ever increasing challenges with over 100 degree days, the CCMUA is preparing guidelines with new state requirements for a Heat Illness Prevention Program including: timely breaks, access to cool potable water, shaded or climate-controlled areas for workers to cool down, emergency response procedures for any employee who suffers an injury from heat exposure, and a schedule that rotates staff throughout a hot day or moves work tasks to earlier in the day. In the meantime, on those sweltering days (and always), be sure to stay hydrated, take breaks as needed in a timely manner, and communicate these needs clearly with your fellow staff!

2024 Goals - Summer Update

Goal	Status Update
Dry-weather average CBOD and TSS less than 7.5 mg/L	Both are below 7.5; the average dry weather TSS is 7.3 and CBOD is 5.4 through May 2024
Maximize Biogas Production from Anaerobic Digesters	On average 60% of CHP Electricity is Produced Using Digester Gas. As of June, we have begun accepting high strength waste product to the digesters, which we expect to significantly increase production.
Zero Neighborhood Odor Reports Attributable to the CCMUA	5 odor reports have been found to be associated with the plant since January. Zero odor remains our clear goal and we're determined to continue to rigorously identify events so that they can be addressed and prevented
Commission Vehicles and Charging Stations Subsidized by NJ Board of Pub. Utilities' Clean Fleet Incentive and PSE&G EV Charging Programs	Applications have been submitted and quotes for both vehicles and charging stations obtained. Agreements with PSEG and BPU are finally here and being processed at press time.
Reach 40% of Solids Processed with One Sludge Dryer, 85% with Both Dryers	Year-to-date average is 42%, exceeding our target. The second dryer is expected to return to operation c. January of next year
Overhaul Existing EMS Manual to Fulfill Requirements of New NJPDES Surface Water Quality Permit	<p>1) CCMUA is awaiting its updated NJPDES permit requirements, which will be integrated into an updated O&M annual.</p> <p>2) A draft of the authority's Energy and Sustainability Master Plan is planned for completion by the end of August.</p>

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT | ALTTIEA JOHNSON



In June we shined the spotlight on Alttiea Johnson, our talented Sewage Plant Operator! Alttiea's expertise and dedication have been invaluable since she joined us in July 2022. She ensures our plant runs smoothly and efficiently, all while maintaining a positive attitude. Outside of work, Alttiea enjoys exploring new places and making memories with her loved ones. Thank you for all that you do, Alttiea!

Want to Nominate An Awesome Colleague for the Spotlight?

The response to the employee spotlight program has been fantastic. We're excited that you are excited to praise your fellow staff! Along these lines, we've gotten a few inquiries from folks curious about nominating a deserving colleague to be featured in the next spotlight. Please feel free to send the names of anyone you'd like to nominate, along with a brief message about why you're so impressed by them, to Lu Bivona at lbivona@ccmua.org or at x1271. Lu will keep a list of nominees and pass them along to team leaders who make the final call.

Contact Us!



Have thoughts for the next Pipeline? Want to stay up to date? Reach out to publicengagement@ccmua.org or follow and message us on LinkedIn, Instagram, or Facebook

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT | FRANCESCO SCALESE

And for July, we honor Fran, one of our dedicated Pumping Station Operators! Fran joined CCMUA in January 2023 and has been tirelessly working at our 27 pumping stations, handling pump operations and maintenance. Outside of work, he loves family vacations to Ocean City, the Poconos, and Florida, and enjoys fishing with his son, and cheering his daughter on the softball field. Thank you, Fran!

