WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

After extensive rehabilitation, the wastewater treatment plant is running well. Part of the required work included emptying, cleaning and inspecting the liner for the recycled water pond. This picture illustrates the sheer size of the pond and the liner inspection underway. A similar inspection of the emergency storage pond liner was recently completed leaving one last step in the rehabilitation process which is the production of an Operations & Maintenance Manual for the plant, which now has some new components to ensure a smooth operation in the future.

FIRE HYDRANT FLUSHING PROGRAM

The water system operators, SUSP, have begun a fire hydrant flushing program to routinely remove as much sediment from the pipelines as possible. If residents see dirty water following the flushing, they are advised to flush their own systems until they see clean water, starting with an outside hose closest to the street.

SUSP is responsible for both the sewer and water systems to each property. Should residents experience sewer or water trouble believed to be a system issue, they should contact SUSP at (916) 283-8520 or e-mail: wildwings@suspinc.org. More information about SUSP and their operations is available on the website: www.YoloCounty.org/Wild-Wings-CSA.

WATERING SCHEDULE

It’s September which means the prescribed outdoor watering schedule has changed to Sundays and Wednesdays for a maximum of 12 minutes/station. For resources on how to reduce water usage, visit the CSA’s website: www.YoloCounty.org/Wild-Wings-CSA.
ARSENIC TREATMENT

The Wild Wings CSA has been collecting funds for arsenic treatment so that the Canvas Back well can be put back online for domestic use. As a reminder, the Canvas Back well has produced water with arsenic hovering around the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for several years, and thus put on standby status in which it can only be used for domestic use in emergencies.

A Request for Qualifications process was conducted this year with Ludhorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers (LSCE) chosen to analyze and design treatment options that address arsenic issues in the water system. LSCE was the original designer of the system and recently assisted with the lowering of the well pumps in both wells. More information to follow on arsenic treatment upon completion of their work.

GOLF COURSE PONDS

Besides contributing to the golfing experience, the golf course’s pond system is part of the Wild Wings stormwater drainage system. As such, management of vegetation in the ponds is critical to ensuring good drainage. One component of vegetation management is water management. As described in the Frequently Asked Questions section, the water in most ponds is kept low to minimize vegetation growth which has resulted in a significant savings to the community in vegetation management costs.

Recent vegetation management efforts have taken place in and around the ADB Pond at the Watts Airport to which many of the ponds drain. The inlets and outlets of the ponds are in good shape due to vegetation management work in the last two years. This fall, more attention will be paid to landscaping between inlets and outlets on the outskirt of the ponds on the homeowners’ side, i.e. removal of low limbs, dry weeds, dead trees and bushes, with the exception of ponds by the tennis courts which will be left fairly wild for native habitat, including some dry brush left for quail habitat. Last, there will be some work done to the front of the golf course along Hwy 16 to remove vegetation under the power lines and which is limiting visibility for drivers.

A RESIDENT ASKED: Why are we filling the front entryway’s pond when residents are being asked to conserve water?

ANSWER: Most of the water found in the golf course ponds comes from precipitation in the winter and irrigation from neighboring homes in the summer. One exception is the entryway pond where water is added to maintain a welcome entry to Wild Wings. Other exceptions are the few occasions in which water is added to some of the other ponds to reduce odor or maintain the mosquito fish population. This has resulted in a 92% reduction in pond-related water consumption. The golf operation has also reduced water consumption by 50% in the rough and native out-of-bounds areas.

The Golf Sub-Advisory Committee recently re-examined the pond water management strategies and again supported the practices described above and commended the golf operators for their efforts. Note: there is a vacancy on the Golf Sub-Advisory Committee. Residents interested in participating on this committee can find an application on www.YoloCounty.org/Wild-Wings-CSA.