



CHAPIN UTILITY NEWS SPLASH



Information for the Customers of the Chapin Utilities Department

Volume 2, Issue 3 Fall 2017

Chapin Utilities –Where we are, and where we are going.

As many people in the Chapin area are aware, the Town of Chapin's Utilities have experienced growth over the last several years. Many years ago, the town was designated by the Central Midlands Council of Governments as the wastewater provider on this side of Lake Murray. This designation obligates the Town to the responsible management and provision of wastewater service to the area.

With the establishment of the Chapin Utilities Department, systematic collection, treatment, and disposal of wastewater began, slowly eliminating septic tanks around the lake, which contribute to the pollution of one of the area's most scenic and utilized recreational settings. In early 2015, the town decided to cease outsourcing its utilities operations and hired a staff of experienced operations professionals. In less than three years, the dedicated staff has been recognized TWICE with SCDHEC's **Facilities Excellence Award**. The newly created department began to focus on *proactive maintenance* instead of *reactive repair* of the aging system. This shift in philosophy has paid huge dividends in the daily operations of the system and in environmental compliance.

The town is currently undertaking the expansion and upgrade to its existing wastewater treatment facility (WWTP). The existing WWTP is an aerated lagoon, one of the most basic treatment systems in use, a technology that is functionally obsolete, in that it will not be able to meet effluent discharge quality that has been mandated by SCDHEC. Because of this, and the demand for safe, efficient wastewater service, the Town is receiving bids for the construction of a new 2.4 million gallon per day (MGD) wastewater facility, adjacent to the existing lagoon on October 31, 2017.

The new WWTP will be more than capable of meeting the required parameters for discharge of treated wastewater, which is being mandated by SCDHEC. This will ultimately result in less pollution and a cleaner environment. The new technology will also be more efficient and cost effective in treating the town's wastewater.

In moving forward, rest assured that the Town of Chapin is not taking its responsibilities to its customers lightly. We are not, as some have wrongly implied, providing "free sewer taps" to developers. We are not building infrastructure for the purpose of facilitating developers. Developers that build within the town's service area construct infrastructure at their own expense and make improvements to the town's existing system as necessary to facilitate their developments. Furthermore, developers compensate the town for capacity in its system and WWTP by the purchase of Sewer and Water Tap Certificates for EACH unit that is constructed within the town's system.

Our top priority is to provide the highest quality service to our customers at the lowest cost possible. If you have questions about utility operations in the Chapin area, you are encouraged to call (803) 345-0416 and talk to us to find answers to your questions!

Water Use Rate Increase

You may notice that your water bill is slightly higher this month. Effective October 1, a 4.75% rate increase went into effect to offset a rate increase to the Town of Chapin by the City of Columbia. The Town of Chapin purchases a majority of the water used in the Chapin system from Columbia, and this increase is merely a pass through to offset the additional expense incurred by the town. Thank you for your understanding.



Utilities Department Contacts

Main Office (803) 345-0416

Emergency Response (803) 605-9711
(After Hours and Weekends)

Andy Metts - Director
Susan Wright – Utilities Coordinator
Theresa Hiott - Billing
Dan Lambert, PE – Town Engineer
Rey Angoluan – Inspections
Richard Young – Water System Maint.
Russell Wright – Operations Supervisor
Eddie Gable – Lead Operator
Matt Cameron – Maintenance Supervisor
Jeff Smith - Maintenance
Anthony Andrade – Public Works
John Walston – Public Works

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday, October 26 – Shred360
Free Shred Event @ Town Hall
(10AM – Noon)



Tuesday, October 31 - Halloween



Tuesday, November 7 – Town of
Chapin Municipal Elections)



**Friday, November 10– Veterans
Day (Town Hall Closed)**

Wednesday, November 15 – Town
Council Meeting (Town Hall –
6PM)



**Thursday, November 23 –
Thanksgiving (Town Hall closed
Thursday and Friday)**



**Monday, December 25 –
Christmas Day (Town Hall closed
Monday and Tuesday)**



Monday, January 1, 2018 –
New Years Day (Town Hall
Closed)

Town of Chapin Utilities Department
157 NW Columbia Ave.
PO Box 418
Chapin, SC 29036



**KNOW WHAT'S BELOW!!!!
CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!!!!**



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM
THE CHAPIN UTILITIES
DEPARTMENT!!!**

UTILITY DEPARTMENT NEWS

The week of October 22 through October 28, 2017 has been proclaimed in the State of South Carolina by Gov. Henry McMaster, and in Chapin by Resolution of Town Council as Environmental Systems Operator's week. Town of Chapin Utilities Department staff monitor the collection, transportation, treatment, and disposal of wastewater that is generated throughout the Town's service area, taking every precaution to protect sensitive environmental elements of our surroundings. They also monitor the potable drinking water supplied to their customers, to insure that the safest, purest, and cleanest drinking water is provided to the public. Regardless of the time of year, stop and take a moment to contemplate the effects that environmental systems operators have on your daily life. Then take the opportunity to thank them for a selfless job well done!

