

We need another Operator

- to learn the layout and operation of the Treatment Plant as this a complicated set of Processes to learn:
 - the identification and function of the different and duplicate parts of the Activated Sludge Treatment process;
 - familiarity with the electronic control systems (SCADA and 10 PLC's) that we use to oversee, monitor, and run all the operating processes we have;
 - the 6 Pump Stations that handle City Flows, how they work and how we operate them;
- to learn our routines for thickening sludge on the Rotary Drum Thickener and how that supplies feed sludge for the Rotary Screw Press which goes to the Landfill;
 - we assign one Operator to each of these 2 processes, which normally leaves one Operator to perform routine inspections of running equipment, routine maintenance items like greasing bearings, cleaning out the baskets on our Plant Water System, cleaning off the screens in the supply streams for the 3 chemical feed systems, making a daily trip to the Landfill with a load of sludge, planning and executing modifications to select systems to improve performance, light housekeeping around our work areas, assisting Septic haulers with problems at the unloading station, working with the contract service we use to pump the grease pit, draining cleaning and repairing Clarifiers and Aeration Tanks when flows permit, oil changes on some of our equipment, mowing and light landscaping in season, shoveling out walkways and stairways at the Plant and the Pump Stations in season;
 - we will also assign this Operator to work with Maintenance where an extra set of eyes and hands are required, such as pump change-outs, electrical troubleshooting, air-system troubleshooting, re-calibrating level sensors where live flows must be managed while the work is performed, at confined spaces where an entry will be required;
- to be able to scale up the size of the work we can undertake by having extra hands available such as for Yard Piping modifications, surface flow modifications, landscaping, brush cutting and work on the fences and gates (Main Plant and 6 Pump Stations);
- at our present manning, as soon as we have a vacation or someone takes earned time off we are short-handed and can only perform the necessary work of Lab testing and sludge removal; we can use Maintenance as an additional Operator but it pulls him away from his routine work;
- we are all aging fast and, with retirements, much knowledge and experience that could be passed on to a new employee will be lost;