Did You Know?

The City’s East Plant is a Massachusetts ‘Grade 7’ Rated Treatment Plant and the second largest plant in central Massachusetts. Sewage flow is received from the 40,000+ residents and businesses of Fitchburg, as well as from portions of the towns of Westminster and Lunenburg. Our WWTF can treat up to 12.4 MGD of flow from residential, commercial, and industrial users everyday.

City of Fitchburg
Wastewater Treatment Facilities (WWTFs) and Sewer System
1 West WWTF
2 East WWTF
3 Cobbler Drive Pump Station (PS)
4 Sawyer Passway PS
5 West WWTF/PS
6 N Nashua River

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REPORT A CONCERN
Use the SeeClickFix app to submit non-emergency requests

TUNE IN
Every 3rd Tuesday at 7:40 AM for important updates given by the Deputy Commissioner of Wastewater

MISSION STATEMENT
The mission of the Fitchburg Department of Public Works (DPW) Wastewater Division is to convey and treat domestic, commercial, and industrial wastewater to a level that meets or exceeds water quality limits for the Nashua River as set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) in the most efficient and cost effective manner possible.
Fitchburg residents rely on the DPW - Wastewater Division to protect not only the community’s health but also the health of the environment.

The City is required to adhere to federal and state environmental laws and regulations to protect the health of Fitchburg’s residents as well as that of downstream communities, and to protect the health and viability of the environment against wastewater transmitted sources of human-caused pollution.

In Fitchburg, through compliance with the City’s regulatory operating National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, the DPW - Wastewater Division is the professional authority charged with this important responsibility.

The oldest sewers in Fitchburg were built in the late 1800s. Wastewater treatment began in the early 1900s, and was replaced with the present day Easterly Wastewater Treatment Plant, built in the early 1970s. The East Plant is located in the southeast corner of the City at 24 Lanides Lane, across the Nashua River from the Fitchburg Municipal Airport.

The East Plant provides preliminary, primary and secondary treatment of the incoming wastewater, and has a rated design treatment capacity of 12.4 million gallons per day (MGD). By plant optimization, the plant is capable of fully treating peak flow capacities of 20 MGD or more, before engaging surplus flow bypassing of secondary treatment.

Treatment removes pollutants including solids, organic matter pollution, nutrients, pathogenic microbes, and toxic metals, preventing adverse impacts to the North Branch of the Nashua River. Treatment also ensures that effluent discharge has enough dissolved oxygen and has a neutral pH (between pH of 6.5 and 8.3). Treatment also disposes of solids residuals in an environmentally responsible manner.

Aerial Site Plan

This tank of sodium hypochlorite, located in the CEPT Building, is used with both disinfection and odor control.