



Durham County UTILITIES NEWS



FOURTH QUARTER

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● CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT UPDATES ●

Chin Page Road Lift Station

A public hearing was held on September 9th at the Board of County Commissioners meeting to receive public comments and no comments were received. Chin Page Road Lift Station is the final stages of getting the ER/EID approved.

Slater Road and Page Park Lift Stations

The 50% design of Slater Road and Page Park Lift Stations is underway with delivery expected in October and the field investigations for the projects have already begun.

Wexford Sewer Improvements

The County has selected a consultant and is currently working through contract negotiations and defining project scope. We anticipate submission to the Board of County Commissioners in November.

Outfall Improvements Project

The County has selected a consultant and is currently working through contract negotiations and defining project scope. We anticipate submission to the Board of County Commissioners in November.

Triangle Wastewater Treatment Plant Phase IV

An electrical analysis was recently added to the project scope as part of the arc flash study. The biosolids conveyance analysis is currently still underway and preliminary proposals are being reviewed.

● OPEN POSITIONS ●

We are hiring! Pursue your passion for water quality and pivot into a career in public utilities. All of the County's open positions can be found and applied to at [County Careers link](#). Contact us with any questions you may have. Currently Utilities is hiring:

- [Operations & Maintenance Specialist II](#)



[Utilities Website](#)



919-560-9033



5926 NC Hwy 55 East,
Durham, NC 27713

WASTEWATER FACT

The alleged fastest man-made object ever launched was a manhole cover. In the 1950s the cover blew off a shaft housing a nuclear bomb at an estimated 130,000 miles per hour. The cover was never found and some suggest that it is currently floating around in space.

JOKE

Why did the toilet paper roll down the hill?
To get to the bottom.

TOP 5 REASONS DURHAM COUNTY UTILITIES PLAN REVIEW IS DELAYED

Incomplete Submittals

If the submitted plans are missing required information this will delay the review process. All information required for construction drawings and as-builts is outlined in the submittal checklist document on the [submittal instructions](#) page of the website.

01

Incorrect Fees/Unpaid Fees

New submittals are not able to be added to the review log until all required fees are paid. The current fee schedule and fee calculation documents can be found on the Utilities website on the [development review page](#).

02

Changing Design

Changing project design and not communicating the changes early may slow review. The updated design may not meet engineering standards or have flaws which may require significant revisions. This could include issues with hydraulic calculations, pipe sizing, or integration with existing infrastructure.

03

Not Addressing Comments

Comments from the initial review are intended to address deficiencies or concerns. If these comments are not addressed, the review cannot be considered complete. The plan may need to go through additional rounds of review, prolonging the process. Ignoring comments or not addressing them quickly often leads to more back-and-forth communication that slows the review process.

04

Installing Unapproved Infrastructure

Unapproved infrastructure may not meet required standards, codes, or regulations. When unapproved elements are installed, they might pose safety risks or operational issues, necessitating additional inspections, modifications, or even removal and reinstallation to meet compliance standards. Installing infrastructure without approval can violate permit conditions or contractual agreements. This can lead to legal and administrative actions, including fines, orders to cease work, or demands for corrective measures.

05

ANNUAL FOG MAINTENANCE FEE

Durham County Utilities has an important update regarding the management of fats, oils, and grease (FOG) in our sewer system. To better support the upkeep and efficiency of our wastewater infrastructure, we will be implementing an Annual FOG Fee and a FOG Reinspection Fee (when applicable) starting July 1, 2024. The Annual FOG Maintenance Fee covers the cost of administration and two required inspections each year. If an additional inspection is needed beyond the two required, a FOG Re-Inspection Fee will be charged. You can see the approved fee schedule effective July 1, 2024 by following the link at the bottom of this page. Please direct all questions and comments to utilities@dconc.gov or call 919-560-9033.

DETAILS

- **Fee Amount:** The Annual FOG Fee is \$230 and the Re-Inspection Fee is \$575. A 5% non-refundable Technology Fee applies to the Industrial User Fees listed in Section G.1 through G.5 on the fee schedule.
- **Billing Schedule:** The fee will be billed annually.

[Click Here to View Full Schedule](#)



[Utilities Website](#)



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Emerging Contaminants

PFAS

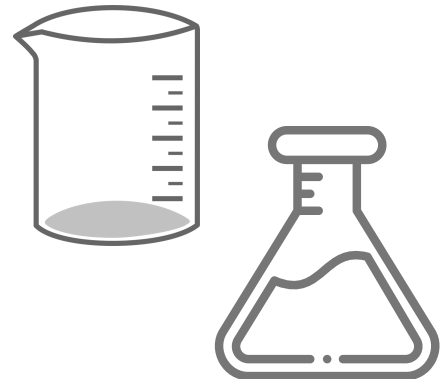
What are PFAS?

PFAS are synthetic chemicals that have been manufactured and used by a broad range of industries since the 1940s. PFAS are used in many applications because of their unique physical properties such as resistance to heat, oil, stains, and their nonstick characteristics. They are commonly used in products like cookware, waterproof clothing, furniture, and food packaging. Due to their widespread use, most people have been exposed to PFAS.

Maximum Contaminant Levels

On April 10, 2024, EPA announced the final drinking water standards or Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) to limit six PFAS compounds in drinking water.

- Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) – 4.0ppt
- Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) – 4.0ppt
- GenX Chemicals – 10ppt
- Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) – 10ppt
- Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS) – 10ppt
- The rule also regulates mixtures of GenX chemicals, PFNA, PFHxS and Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS) with a Hazard Index calculation to determine if the combined levels of these PFAS pose a potential risk to human health.



What is Durham County Utilities Division Doing?

Durham County Utilities is committed to complying with all regulations, remaining in compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit, and continuing to monitor all commercial and industrial users that discharge to the Triangle Wastewater Treatment Plant (TWWTP).



[Utilities Website](#)



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5926 NC Hwy 55 East,
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Meet Our New Staff!



Cameron Aitken
Plant Maintenance Technician



Dwane Byrd
Maintenance Technician



Jasmin Escobar
Plant Maintenance Technician



Brian Guarino
Plant Maintenance Technician



JP Hermann
O&M Specialist I