No Odor! Great Taste!

If you hadn’t noticed that your tap water didn’t have a musty/earthy odor and taste this summer, we worked hard so you wouldn’t notice.

From June through September, during the algae season, we added 40 tons of powdered activated carbon (PAC) to our water plant’s raw water process. That’s an investment of $80,000 ($650/day) so that you could really enjoy a refreshing drink of water, shower/bath, or dip in the pool.

Lake Erie’s central basin, the source of supply for our water plant, supports algae growth due to the level of nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus) entering the water. Algae are microscopic organisms that are found naturally in surface water. As the algae begin to decompose, they can leave our beaches looking unsightly and produce gases that have a “swampy” or “freshly cut grass” odor.

At our water treatment plant, raw water is tested daily for the presence of algae and the appropriate amount of PAC is added to adsorb the algae odor and taste. Alum is added and the solids are allowed to settle out before the water is filtered and chlorine is added to kill any remaining...
New Year Wishes
By Todd Danielson

Warm wishes for 2012! We hope your 2011 was all that you wanted it to be and that 2012 meets or exceeds your expectations.

Avon Lake Municipal Utilities has set its expectations high for 2012, which will mean some disruption for you, but much better overall service once the disruption is complete.

There are three projects/programs that will be undertaken in 2012 that we want to highlight here.

The first is Stormwater Stay Away program. During 2011, 65 homes were identified as having sumps that pump foundation drain water into the sanitary sewer. Homeowners are addressing these issues, which will prevent over 100,000 gallons of water from entering the sanitary sewer during a 2” rain event. An additional $36,000 has been authorized for 2012, which means another 120 homes can take part in the program and prevent an additional 200,000 gallons from entering the sanitary sewer and potentially backing up in basements. ALMU is working with the City Council regarding potential landscaping and property transfer ordinances to further help reduce the volume of stormwater entering the sanitary sewer.

The second is the Redwood Blvd. water main replacement between Duff and Crestwood. In 2011, there were 5 main breaks on Redwood. The replacement will help improve service and will reduce the potential waterline breaks that will occur when the sewer separation takes place.

The third is the Belmar Combined Sewer Separation, which covers parts of Belmar, Ashwood, Mooreland, Artsdale, Redwood, and Electric. The project will prevent combined sewage and stormwater from this area discharging directly to Lake Erie during storm events and allow residents to connect their properties to the storm sewer to improve drainage.

Follow us on twitter @AvonLakeWater, like us on Facebook, or visit our website www.avonlakewater.org. We will keep you well informed as these projects move forward.

Whitmer, Dzvonczyk, Phillips elected to Municipal Utilities Board

Charles D. Whitmer was elected to his fifth term, and John G. Dzvonczyk and Paul R. Phillips to their third and second terms on the Avon Lake Board of Municipal Utilities.

At the Board’s 2012-2013 organizational meeting, Chuck Whitmer was elected Chairman, Dave Marquard and John Dzvonczyk Acting Chairmen, Todd Danielson Clerk, and Rick Eberle as Acting Clerk for two years. Eberle was also re-appointed as Chief of Utilities Operations for a two-year period.

Avon Lake’s Board of Municipal Utilities is unique among public Utilities. Its five-member board is organized as an independent legislative body under Avon Lake’s Charter. Board members are elected to serve four-year terms by the citizens of Avon Lake.

Its primary responsibilities are to oversee the Utilities’ operations and finances, employ staff, establish policy, and implement the Utilities’ strategic plan. One of the Board’s primary goals is to grow both the bulk water and wastewater treatment business. Currently approximately 85% of the water and 10% of the wastewater processed are services sold to customers outside the city.

Thanks to the independent action of the board members, both past and present, Avon Lake has a water and wastewater system that provides high quality drinking water and safe wastewater treatment at one of the lowest water and sewer rates in Ohio.

No Odor! Great Taste!
FROM PG. 1 bacteria. The algae/sludge is pumped directly to our wastewater plant where it is compressed into dry cakes and hauled away to an EPA-approved landfill.

The finished water is then stored and pumped through the city’s distribution lines to your tap as needed – another example of how your Avon Lake Municipal Utilities invests your water and sewer dollars wisely so you can enjoy high quality drinking water and safe wastewater treatment at reasonable rates.