

Headworks

The headworks is the first line of defense against the onslaught of materials flowing into the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The device removes material larger than 1 mm from incoming wastewater. The system consists of three channels with different types of screens. The manual screen is where a plant employee physically separates the material. There is a cylindrical rotating drum screen and a continuous traveling screen constructed of stainless steel screening elements inside a heavy duty box.

“The headworks is the first location in the process of all the waste coming from the collection system before it goes through the rest of the treatment plant,” said Public Works Director Delora Kerber. “It is a very important piece because it is taking out inorganic items that can’t be processed.”

The waste stream comes down and goes through one of the screens. The large particles are removed and the liquids continue flowing through the processing of the plant. The waste is then put into a compactor then disposed at the landfill.

Improvements to the headworks will consist of adding an additional channel and screen for grit removal, enclosing the structure to assist with odor control, connecting to the SCADA system to allow monitor via computer and providing more redundancy in the system.

“During the upgrade we want to add a process for grit removal,” said Kerber. “Because what happens is the grit goes into the digester and over time we get grit buildup which reduces the overall capacity of the digester tank”

The Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade and expansion project will increase capacity and implement more efficient equipment and technology.