

The Utilities Department Newsletter

THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE CITY OF VALDOSTA UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

Star Employee

Max Ahner has been a valuable asset to the Mud Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant since beginning his employment with the City roughly 3 years ago. As a Wastewater Plant Operator, he is responsible for the daily operations of the Mud Creek facility ensuring a high-quality plant effluent that enhances our treasured water resources.

His initiative and resourcefulness were recently on display when during a routine inspection, operators discovered multiple holes in the floor of two major treatment basins at the plant. These holes were causing the basins to leak, rendering them unusable for treating wastewater. As a result, the plant's treatment capacity was greatly reduced.



Max took it upon himself to develop an innovative plan to repair the hole using dowels and waterproof epoxy. He coordinated the work with his supervisor and thoroughly prepped and repaired the holes in each tank. His effort brought both tanks back into service and the plant back to full operation. Max's creativity and hard work on this challenging project saved the City nearly \$3000 and possibly more in potential contract costs.

For these reasons and more, Max Ahner is the Utilities Department's Star Employee for February 2020.

Water Conservation Tip:

Select the proper pan size for cooking. Large pans may require more cooking water than necessary.

Also, cook food in as little water as possible. This also helps it retain more nutrients.

Utilities: This is Who We Are This is What We Do

If you have any exciting upcoming projects that would make a great addition to our video, please let Rebecca Williams know. The video will take time to complete, but if you have any questions, please ask.

MONTHLY BLACK HISTORY

Before Oprah Winfrey & Michael Jordan joined the billionaire's club, Robert Johnson became the first African American billionaire when he sold the cable station he founded, Black Entertainment Television (BET).

Lincoln University in Pennsylvania became the first degree-granting institution of higher education for African Americans. It paved the way for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)

YOUR TASTE BUDS WERE CALLING...
WE ANSWERED!



STEAK LUNCH

\$15
Please pay in advance
by Feb. 26th.

Lunch includes:
Steak
Salad
Baked or Sweet Potato

FEB. 28 | 12 - 2 PM

Proceeds will benefit Relay for Life.

Please contact Rebecca or Azhia to place your order.
(229) 259-3592

Save the Date

Biggest Loser Mid Weigh-In - Feb 10

Valentine's Day - February 14

Steak Lunch - February 28

Leap Day - February 29

Director's Corner

Over the next several months, the Utilities Department will be initiating a new and exciting metering technology.

Customers will have near real-time access to water consumption, leak detection, pipe bursts and other utility-related events at their home.



Once signed in to your personalized portal you will be able to determine when the sprinklers turn on, and with the use of advanced analytics when the kids likely arrived home from school. The portal will also allow you to set mobile alerts for better management of monthly water consumption and help all of us do a better job conserving water.

The technology also aids the Utilities Department. The new meter no longer requires access to your property to gather manual read data. It's all transmitted wirelessly back to the Utilities Department, stored on our servers and correlated at the end of the month. It also lets us know if someone is tampering with your meter so we can immediately respond.

If you have questions or would like a demonstration of this advanced technology, please contact us. We look forward to hearing from you.