

The Utilities Department Newsletter

THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
FOR THE CITY OF VALDOSTA'S UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

ATTENTION VALDOSTA

There is a mystery at the City of Valdosta.

A diabolically generous gift giver is among us spreading joy to random employees by leaving small tokens of thoughtfulness and cheer.

We, the ones who have received such gifts, appreciate the thoughtful gesture and would love to send you a virtual hug, so would the Real Mystery Gift Giver please stand up?



Willy's Greeting Grams

Want to send a message to your favorite City of Valdosta employees?

Send as many messages to as many city employee's as you'd like with a Greeting Gram! You can even send candy.

Order your Greeting Gram February 15 - March 5

*All proceeds will benefit Relay for Life.

The Director's Corner

A WORD FROM MR. MUSE

With the start of a New Year behind us, the Utilities Department has launched our 2021 projects and initiatives. During this calendar year, the department will introduce hydraulic models for both the water and wastewater systems throughout the City. This data, combined with GIS system files, will allow the utility to simulate varying conditions within the system. The software will predict where improvements are necessary and allow developers and City officials to see the effect of new subdivisions, industrial users, commercial activities, and potential weather events will have on our systems. This information will also aid the Fire Department and provide near real-time access to firefighting pressures and flow rates.

In addition to three new sewer lift stations, the department will also launch the City's southern water supply. This site will augment the existing water treatment plant, support further development, and serve as an emergency water supply in the event of significant damage to the primary water supply.

The Utilities Department continues to work towards hardening the City's infrastructure and provide cost-effective solutions to ensure a continual supply of environmental services.

THIS MONTH ON MYRTLE

VALENTINE'S DAY - FEBRUARY 14

WILLY'S GREETING GRAM FEB 15

BIGGEST LOSER
MID WEIGH-IN - FEBRUARY 16



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

N. ASHLEY ST & ALDEN AVENUE | JANUARY 13, 2021



The Utilities Department discovered there was a manhole on the corner of N. Ashley St and Alden Ave that had been covered with asphalt. Due to manhole guidelines, the manhole needed to be raised to grade. The Utilities crew had to shut down a portion of N. Ashley St to raise the manhole and unblock the sewer main that was caused by broken asphalt and debris. [Here's video](#) (video only supported in Chrome) of some of our amazing team helping keep Valdosta the brightest star in South Georgia.

To report a sewer blockage, please call the Utilities Department at (229) 259-3592.

Star Employee

LARRY SPENCER

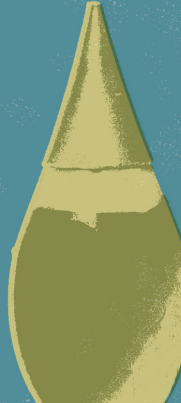
Larry Spencer has been employed with the City of Valdosta at the Withlacoochee Wastewater Treatment Plant since February 2015. He is licensed as a Georgia Class 3 WWTP Operator. Due to his preferred shift assignment, he has limited contact with other plant staff, but his work does not go unnoticed. Larry is responsible for the plant composite sample collections and startup for each 24-hour sampling period. He also records vital plant data, such as all sample refrigeration temps and plant flow meter readings used in calculating plant flows each day.

Larry is very dependable and self-motivated. He always works alone on his shift so his ability to stay focused, alert, and work safely is paramount when monitoring the plant during these hours. His efforts in helping with the housekeeping duties at the plant are also greatly appreciated. For these reasons and more, Larry Spencer is the February 2021 Star Employee.




Water Conservation Tips

WATER-SAVING DEVICE
#27



PUT FOOD COLORING IN YOUR TOILET TANK. IF IT SEEPS INTO THE BOWL WITHOUT FLUSHING, THERE'S A LEAK. FIX IT AND START SAVING GALLONS.

There are a number of ways to save water, and they all start with you. To learn more visit wateruseitwisely.com




Utilities In the Community

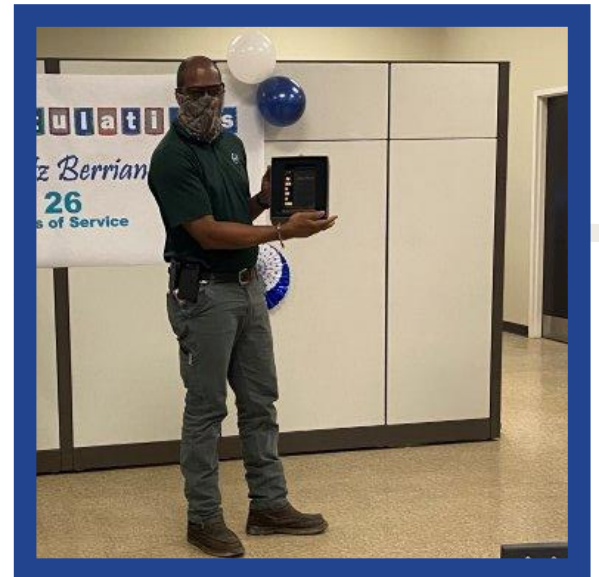
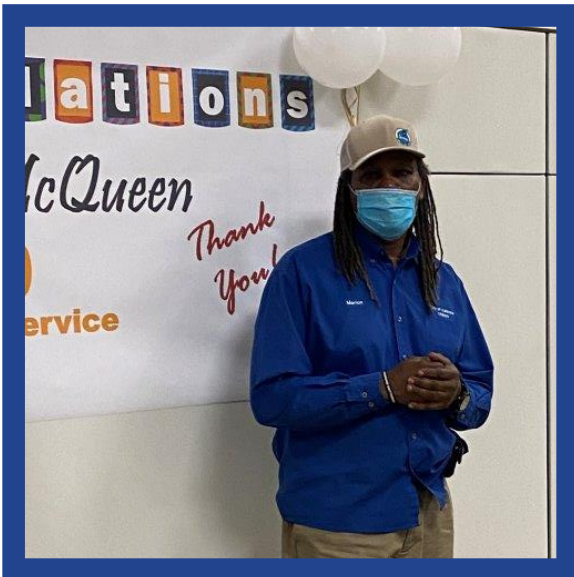
The annual Biggest Loser Challenge is something we look forward to every year. It's a wonderful opportunity to challenge ourselves to go a little harder, all in the name of some friendly competition. This year, we have partnered with businesses throughout our community to promote a more healthy and happy lifestyle. We are so thankful for the donations, and we look forward to seeing progress on everyone's journey.



HAPPY Retirement!

Marion McQueen, 20 Years

Feretz Berrian, 26 Years



Thank you for your many years of service with the City of Valdosta.

Congratulations!

BLACK HISTORY



Kamala Harris has made history as the first Black, first female, and first Asian-American US Vice President elect.

Harris was born in Oakland California. She graduated from Howard University, a Historically Black University, in Washington, D.C.

Madam Vice President is not new to making history. In 2010, she became the first Black woman to be elected Attorney General of California, overseeing the country's second largest Justice Department after the U.S. Department of Justice.

**"If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair."
- Shirley Chisholm**