



Wastewater Treatment Plant

1 Town Landing Road, Bath

(207) 443-8348

Monday - Thursday: 6am - 3pm

Friday: 6am - 10am



COMBINED SEWER SYSTEM

The City of Bath, like many other older cities, has a combined sewer system. This means that the underground lines collect both sewage and stormwater runoff which travel to the treatment plant. Catch basins throughout the City are used to take in excess rainwater to prevent ponding on streets and many of them are linked in with the sewer lines.

During periods of heavy rain or snow melt, the flows can exceed the capacity of the sewer system and the treatment plant. The result is a Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO). By developing a strategic plan that targets the most beneficial results, the City of Bath has, over the last 5 years alone, removed 80 catch basins from the sewer system and has reduced CSO flows to the river by over 40%.

Regulatory agencies consider CSOs from combined sewer systems a major water pollution concern and there are requirements in the treatment plant operating license to continue to separate the storm water from the sewage lines. The City is currently working on several projects to both remove storm-water as well as decrease the frequency of overflows at other locations.

The first stream to the Kennebec starts with you

As more catch basins get separated and become storm drains, these lines will carry the rainwater and melt off directly to the River. As runoff waters travel across paved areas and saturated grounds, it will carry anything that may be present in the area. Please remember, anything on a street or curb, or that may get washed into a catch basin/storm drain is a direct discharge into the River. Common pollutants are:

- Trash
- Pesticides/Fertilizers
- Soap and grime from car washing
- Leaf debris and grass clippings
- Cigarette butts
- Leaky automobiles
- Pet waste

Bagging leaf and lawn clippings, cleaning up pet waste, disposing of trash correctly and going to a car wash are a few different ways you can help stop water pollution.

COVID-19 and Wastewater

Visit the City of Bath Wastewater Treatment Plant webpage to learn how our disinfection process prevents COVID-19 from going back into the environment.

www.CityofBath.com/wwtp

Visit us online: CityofBath.com/wwtp

What do you do when you have a sewer problem?

FIRST* call Public Works at (207) 443-8357

IF OUTSIDE REGULAR WORK HOURS (Mon - Fri, 6:30am - 2:30pm) call (207) 443-8201

*By calling the City first, it can be determined if the problem exists within the sewer collection system or if the problem lies with the homeowner. Any unnecessary plumbing expenses will not be reimbursed if a homeowner does not call Public Works first.

What is Dewatering?

An important part of the wastewater treatment process is dewatering. The wastewater goes through various treatment processes and dewatering is the removal of excess solids from the system so that the plant can continue to provide a clean discharge into the river. So how is that accomplished?

All incoming wastewater has varying amounts of solids present that need to be removed. Biological treatment of the wastewater creates additional solids which also need to be removed. As the crew captures these solids from different parts of the plant, they are moved to holding tanks and then pumped through specialized dewatering equipment. This equipment removes the excess water from the solids by utilizing pressure and filters. Essentially, the material has the water “squeezed” out of it.

At the start of the process, wastewater typically contains less than 1% of solids. By the end of the process, it gets concentrated to 25% to 35% of solids. At our plant, we dewater a monthly average of 1,861,000 pounds of material. An average 1,817,200 pounds of water goes back to the plant for full treatment, and 43,800 pounds of solids are disposed into the Bath Landfill, instead of going into the Kennebec River.



Dewatering equipment



Processed solids ready for disposal



Clean Kennebec River!

Curious about how your wastewater treatment plant works? Call or email to set up a visit.

(207) 443-8348 | blevitt@cityofbath.com