Wastewater Response and Recovery

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Summary of Damages to Wastewater Treatment Plants from July 2023 Flooding. **Bold Facilities** had similar damage during December 2023 flood.

Impact	Damage	Facilities
High	Facility Flooded	Johnson (not as bad as July)
		Ludlow
		Hardwick
High	River Crossing Line Break from Debris in River	Johnson
		Burlington
		Springfield
Medium	Flooding or Overflowing Pump Stations	Middlebury
		Johnson
		Orleans
		Barre City
		Hardwick
		Waterbury
		Barton
		Bethel
		Richmond
		Fair Haven
		Jeffersonville
		Johnson
		Montpelier
Medium	Line Break in Collection System	Ludlow
		Marshfield
		Cabot

Summary of Damages to Wastewater Treatment Plants from July 2023 Flooding. **Bold Facilities** had similar damage during December 2023 flood.

Impact	Damage	Facilities
Medium-Low	Operate in "Storm Mode" - Reduction of Treatment Due to High Flows	Middlebury Barre City Waterbury Barton Bridgewater Brandon Randolph Quechee Cabot Richmond Poultney Plainfield Montpelier
Low	River Water Backing Up into Facility Through Outfall	Montpelier Orleans Plainfield Wallingford
Low	Equipment Malfunction from Overuse During Flood	Woodstock



Control Room - Blue arrow points to high water mark

Johnson



Generator - Remaining floodwater and silt on top



Programmable Logic Controller, white line at top is high water mark



Floodwater in Ultraviolet Disinfection Chamber

Johnson



River Road West Pump Station completed in 2022 - water levels were over the control panel



Sewer River Crossing – Blue arrow points to line break



Flood Debris in Oxidation Ditch



Generator built above current 500-year flood mark

Ludlow



Broken 15" sewer line going into facility



Headworks and control buildings



Flood Waters at Facility Buildings Slope to left is the lagoon Influent pumps in basement



Lagoon 1 beginning to flood

Waterbury





Same field after flood waters receded

Water from Lagoon 1 being pumped into adjacent field during flood

Barton



Lagoon overflowed into outfall building. Blue arrow shows high water mark above destroyed flow meter



Main Pump Station – water levels rose to overflow pipe



Blanchard Oil Pump Station Control Panel – finger pointing to high water mark



Primary Clarifiers – overflowed during flood



Grit pump – submerged during flood

Plainfield



UV System – recent high water marks in red, historical high water mark in green

Recommendations to Prevent/Reduce Future Flood Damage

- Install valves or duckbills to prevent river water from backing into facility.
- Install flood doors and flood barriers at windows.
- Electrical controls to be elevated above flood stage.
- Replace non-submersible pumps with submersible.
- Reduce infiltration/inflow into collection system.
- Have backup pumps and blowers and keep maintained and operational.
- Additional/back-up disinfection pumps that are maintained and kept operational for emergency use.
- Have portable or fixed pumps to discharge effluent if gravity flow is not possible during flood.
- Have backup and/or spare parts for key equipment.
- Replace river crossing with depressed sewer/siphon type crossing, if possible.
- Add additional protection of line at river crossing.
- Post-flood, inspect repair and remove debris that entered system from breaks caused by flood.
- Routine cleaning, inspection and repair of collection systems.

Post Flood Collection System Inspections



Johnson – blockage in pipe washed in from river during flood at line break



Ludlow – collapsed pipe and large rock washed in during break in line causing blockage



Barre – leak in pipe joint showing infiltration of groundwater



Cabot – broken seal where line was quickly repaired during flood



Hardwick – hole in pipe showing infiltration of groundwater