

Water Quality



U.S. PAST

- Domestic & industrial sewage dumped straight in rivers and streams.
- As late as 1969 rivers were literally on fire due to sewage and toxins being dumped.
- Public outcry led to vast changes.

Springfield's Present

- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits issued by EPA.
- Inspections by Missouri Department of Natural resources to ensure quality being met.
- Monthly, Quarterly, Yearly Data Monitoring Reports to regulatory agencies to show accountability
- Keep up with ever changing regulatory requirements and trying to stay ahead through plant upgrades to newer technological treatments process to maintain a high quality Effluent that is discharged from the SWCWP.

Clean Water Act, The Process

Set Water Quality Standards



Assess Water Quality



Issue Discharge Permits



Enforce Permit Limits

U.S. Future

- 400 Billion gallons water used per day in United States
- 50 gallons of water per person daily.
- 2/3rds of household water used in the bathroom (tubs, sinks, & toilets)
- Limited resources of "Clean Water" in U.S. (~95% of earth's water undrinkable)

Options:

Water conservation – community working together to limit excess water usage to ensure resources available.

Recycled water – used as non-potable water for lawns, car washes, golf courses, & other industrial uses.

Toilet to tap – future option in drought stricken areas. Will require public education on process and strict regulations to ensure safety (existing facility in Orange County California).

Someone is always downstream

This is just one reason it is important to maintain a high quality Effluent. Other reasons are to protect the water resource, human health, and have as little impact on the environment as possible.

