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MISSOULA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS

Official Newsletter

In This Issue:

Seeley Lake Refuse District
PAGE 01


Director's Highlights
PAGE 02


Road Division
PAGE 03


RSID's
PAGE 04

Building News
PAGE 05

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Refuse District Managed Record 3.5M Pounds of Trash in 2021

The Seeley Lake Refuse District is the only solid waste special district in Missoula County. Located off Woodworth Road near Salmon Lake in the Lolo National Forest, it was created in 1974 to address the improper storage, collection and disposal of refuse to limit the spread of disease and mitigate air and water pollution.

Fun Facts: The refuse district served a record number of customers with 19,000 total site visits, handled a record amount of recycling with 450,000 pounds (steel, cardboard, aluminum cans, and paper), and they purchased the first new piece of equipment in 22 years, a 2021 CAT 420 Backhoe, used for compacting garbage.

Meet your Seeley Lake Refuse District Crew!
(L-R) Kim Myre, Seeley Lake Projects and
Operations Coordinator; Sylvia Miller and Ray
McKinney, Republic Services Site Attendants
(and the new backhoe!)



DIRECTOR'S HIGHLIGHTS

SHANE STACK, P.E.

Public Infrastructure

Construction

Shane Stack started as Director of Public Works on April 1, 2019, after nearly 23 years with the Montana Department of Transportation, most recently as the Missoula District Preconstruction Engineer. At MDT, he planned, implemented and oversaw several high-profile, multimillion-dollar engineering projects in the Missoula area.



Public involvement is a key component to all the efforts at the Public Works Department. Missoula County's communications team recently unveiled Missoula County Voice, the latest communications and public involvement tool at Missoula County. You can view this new site by going to missoulacountyvoice.com.

The site features projects like the Sha-Ron Parking Access project and the Fairgrounds Redevelopment project. You can also check out the Myth Busters site, share comments on road, bridge and trail maintenance, or view several other projects and initiates. Please take the time to visit the site and feel free to share a comment or two on the many projects that are there.

Another important milestone, construction for the Mullan BUILD project, began. It has been close to two and a half years since the County was notified that they were selected to receive \$13 million in federal funding. Since then, the team that includes city and county staff, the DJ&A team and their subcontractors, and Kiewit Infrastructure, reached the point of construction in March of 2022. It seems like a long time; however, MDT will generally take five to seven years to reach construction on a project with the complexity of the Mullan BUILD project. I believe the project has been delivered very quickly in comparison to the time frame of a normal federally funded project. Construction of the Mullan BUILD project is expected to be fully completed by the fall of 2022; however we do have contract time that allows for work through June 2023 in case there are unexpected delays.

If you have questions about the project, please visit [Home](#) | [Mullan BUILD](#) (mullanbuild.com) where you can ask questions and sign up for regular updates.

As always, wishing you the best.



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Moccasin Lane Bridge

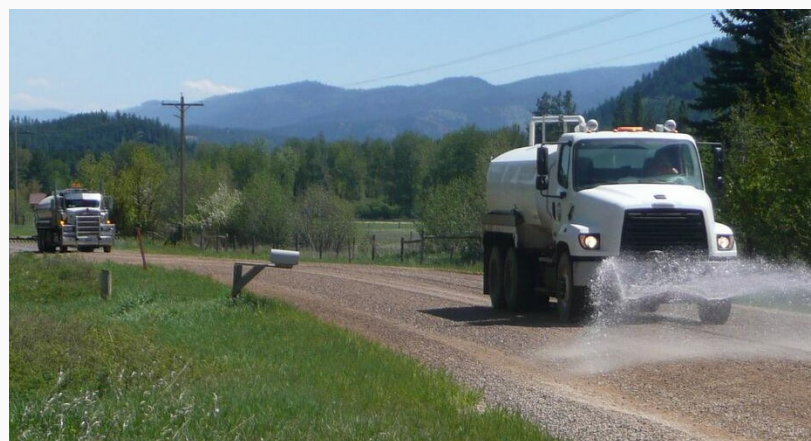
Moccasin Lane Bridge Closes

The Moccasin Lane Bridge over the Frenchtown Irrigation Canal closed on Friday, April 28, until further notice after a routine Montana Department of Transportation inspection showed deterioration of structural elements that could affect the bridge's load capacity.

Missoula County Public Works will place closure signs and barricades at each end of the bridge, which is located about half a mile east of Mullan Road. Crews placed advance notice closure signs at the intersections of Moccasin Lane and Mullan Road and at Moccasin Lane and Deschamps Lane. Drivers will need to use Pulp Mill Road or Deschamps Lane for access between Mullan Road and the Wye. The closure will impact school bus routes.

MDT will conduct a load rating analysis to determine the safe load capacity for the bridge, which could take up to 90 days. Public Works staff ask drivers to adhere to the closure while it remains in place.

For more information, call the Public Works Road Division at 406-258-3772.



It's Dust Abatement Season!

Dust abatement season begins in late June/early July. Due to a lower than normal budget this year and recent spikes in gas prices, the one bid that we received was over budget. We put a second bid request out to the public for "supply only" of magnesium chloride, the spray that we lay on the roads. Those bids came back and one was accepted. This year, Public Works will do all prep work as well as the actual spraying in order to still be able to do all of the miles we had planned. We will only be spraying at 60% of the normal amount due to these budget cuts. Our hopes are that this 60% will act as a good 'refresher' and that previous years of spraying will retain its effectiveness.

If you wish to have dust abatement done on your county maintained road, you can participate in our cost-share program. The price this year is 45 cents per linear foot. For information regarding the program, please contact Kris at kblank@missoulacounty.us.



STATISTICS

Amount of Water Pumped in 2021

- El Mar/ New Meadows - 77.62 Million Gallons
- Sunset West - 9.50 Million Gallons
- Lewis & Clark - 5.89 Million Gallons

- Lolo Wastewater Treated - 77.4 Million Gallons
- Lolo Potable Water Produced - 314.9 Million Gallons



Water/Wastewater Crew! (L-R) Greg Evison, Tami Quinn, Kelly McKeehan and Jasen Neese pre-Covid

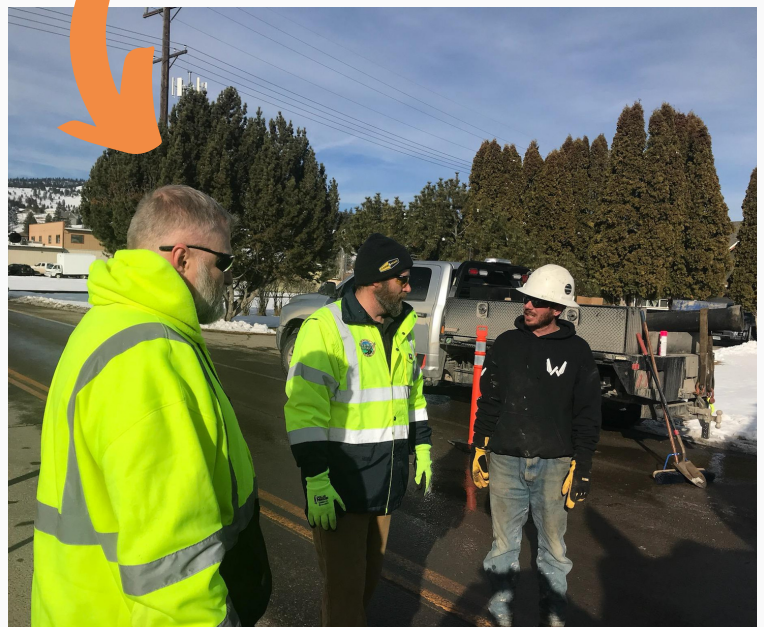


Highlights of 2021

- Completed the Lolo Wastewater Lab creating a healthier and more efficient work environment.
- Solidified Lolo Water Rights.
- Brought in Phase 4 of Ponderosa Heights which included an additional 39 homes and infrastructure, adding 3700 additional feet of water and sewer mains.
- Upgraded the Farm Lane water main extension that provided a second feed to the east of Highway 93 in the Lolo Water/Wastewater district.
- Kept the Assessments for Lolo, El Mar and Lewis & Clark the same for the past two years. Raised the Sunset West Assessments \$68.00 annually.
- Monitored the new septic tanks at Lewis & Clark and retained ARPA funding for a new membrane, filter, pumps and tank package.
- Repaired water leaks.



Kelly McKeehan and Jasen Neese discussing a water main break with a contractor.



THE BUILDING DIVISION



'Our Goal for 2022 is to drive the MCPW Building Division into a sustainable top-flight agency, in particular inspector qualifications, financial stability and permit processes.' - Dave Larkin

Meet your Building Division! (L - R) Land Hansen, Kevin Heisler, Susan Hopkins, Mark Price, Rita Hagler, Glenn Fraser, Jill Herrick, Dave Larkin

The Building Division employs two code veterans along with several new people. Rita Hagler and Jill Herrick have been essential in the successful orientation, training and motivation of all of the new employees. Once another fulltime permit technician is hired, the Division will be fully staffed to better handle the ever-growing responsibilities of the building industry in Missoula County!

SUB PERMIT SUMMARY TOTALS

Electrical Permits Issued = 859

Plumbing Permits Issued = 387

Mechanical Permits Issued = 782

Address/Approach Permits Issued = 342

Land Use/Zoning Compliance Permits Issued = 542

Building Permits Issued in 2021

