

Recognition Deserved



by Jim Bower,
Wastewater Trainer/Tech.

After several months of visiting wastewater facilities around the state, I can safely say that I'm truly impressed with the dedication that you operators show in maintaining your facilities. You take pride in both the appearance and mechanical condition of your plant, and those of you who are fortunate enough to be enjoying the benefits of a recent plant upgrade are quite vocal about the improvements in the operation of your treatment facility.

There are numerous facilities around the state that I haven't had the opportunity to visit yet, but I expect this impressive trend to continue, as operators as a whole seem to share this kind of dedication to their facility.

I'm sorry that I don't have the space to give the deserved recognition to each and every individual operator that I've met in my travels, but I would be remiss if I didn't give a pat on the back to one individual whose dedication and sweat has resulted in an awesome transformation of his plant.

Jeff Cragg of the Marion Wastewater Treatment Facility has made such significant improvements, both mechanical and cosmetic, that I was blown away on a recent visit there. While I must admit a year or two has passed since I last saw the Marion facility, before and after videos would demonstrate just how significant Jeff's efforts are. Jeff, like most operators, is constantly looking

for ways to improve the efficiency and appearance of his plant, but Jeff seems to have an uncanny knack for accomplishing this with little or no money to spend, and has accomplished so much in a remarkably short span of time.

There aren't many operators who would refuse the manpower or financial assistance to be able to cross off a few items on their "wish list" of things to do if they could. Unfortunately, most of these items end up on a "that isn't going to happen" list, unless they adopt an "if it's going to get done, I'll have to do it" approach to resolving what is feasible to fix.

Therefore, I'm giving a tip of my cap to Jeff Cragg, and to all the other operators who go the extra mile to improve and maintain the facilities they are responsible for. Keep up the good work – people do notice and appreciate your efforts. 💧