



Thank you to all who helped with main breaks and emergencies

By Steve Schneider

The week of June 13 was certainly one full of events here at SPRWS. Summer construction is typically a time when our crews are concentrating on preventive maintenance and capital construction out in our distribution system. Last week, however, included some events more typical of January.

The week started with a bang on Monday, June 13, with a large water main breaking near 5th Street and Jackson in downtown Saint Paul.

On Wednesday, June 15, we had two large valves fail closed which impacted Saint Joseph's hospital on 10th Street. Also on Wednesday, we had two other broken water mains elsewhere in Saint Paul.

My thanks goes out to all those involved in dealing with these events. Once again, our crews and support staff throughout the utility performed their duties with the professionalism and efficiency that SPRWS is known for. The Director of Public Works commended our staff on how we carried out the necessary activities to restore water and get the roadways open again to traffic.

Our response to these events was nothing short of excellent and I wanted to tell everyone involved – THANK YOU! Your actions reflected extremely well on SPRWS and make me proud to be part of this organization.

Main break on 5th Street



Crews were kept busy the week of June 13 as a main break on 5th Street started the week. This image from the Pioneer Press shows water flowing down 5th Street on June 13 before crews were able to get the water shut off and repairs started.

Customer service rep position open to city staff

The utility has a promotional opening for a customer service representative.

This person will perform skilled and complex work to assist, direct, and respond to internal and external customers.

Qualified personnel will have a high school diploma or GED equivalent and four years of office support experience with two years of experience assisting the public in resolution of problems or concerns. They will also have two years of certified service to the city.

The position must be applied for online by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, June 27.

For more information, you can contact Sandy Kimbrough in human resources at 651-266-6510 or at jobs@stpaul.gov.

Dress code reminds us to wear appropriate attire

It's summer and the temperatures are rising. We all love to be comfortable and cool in our choice of attire. And the business casual atmosphere at the water utility accommodates most clothing choices.

Still, there are some items of clothing best left for the weekend or social events. They simply are not acceptable in the work place, here or elsewhere, at any time.

Our dress code is very specific about certain types of clothing that should never be worn at work. The following dress code applies to individuals not required to wear a uniform. Staff should not wear:

- Skirts or skorts 3" or more above the knee
- Leggings or tights worn alone without a covering garment such a dress, skirt or pants
- Clothing that reveals the stomach, full back, or chest



Visible foundation garments are a no-no.

- Visible foundation garments
- Spaghetti straps/tank tops worn without a jacket or cover up
- Flip-flop shoes
- Workout clothing: sweat-pants
- Shorts
- Hats or caps in office areas
- Clothing that contains offensive words, pictures, or messages

If you have to ask yourself if an item is acceptable to wear at work,



Leggings without a cover up are off limits.

error on the side of caution. You always want to represent the water utility in the best possible light. Keep that in mind when making your clothing decisions each day.

Staff with uniform allowances should wear full length pants in good shape along with a gray, navy or high visibility outer garment top with our logo.

The most recent dress code has been updated on Documentum.

Testing lead samples



Sarah Brown, water quality specialist, preps water samples from area residents for lead testing in the lab on June 14.

Water quality lab hires intern for the summer

The water quality staff added an intern to their ranks for the summer.

Sam Jordan started work on June 7 in the water quality lab. Sam is a student at the University of Minnesota majoring in bioproducts and biosystems engineering.

He will be on staff through August. He will be assisting with collection of total coliform rule samples and handling plant meter checks.

He reports to Justine Roe.

Please welcome Sam to the water utility.



Sam Jordan