

## We're thrilled to share our newly renovated space!

After many months of careful planning and execution, we're nearly done with phase one of the administration second floor remodel project!

Here are some highlights of the new and improved second floor:

- **Engineering Service Desk Upgrades:**

The service desk now features sleek new countertops and security glass, enhancing both aesthetics and safety.

- **Fresh Flooring and Lights:** The addition of new carpeting and lights brings a cohesive and polished look to the entire space (and a lot less dust!).

- **Open and Bright Design:** With a reimagined floor plan, we've opened up the layout to allow more natural light to flow throughout the area, creating a brighter and more energizing environment.

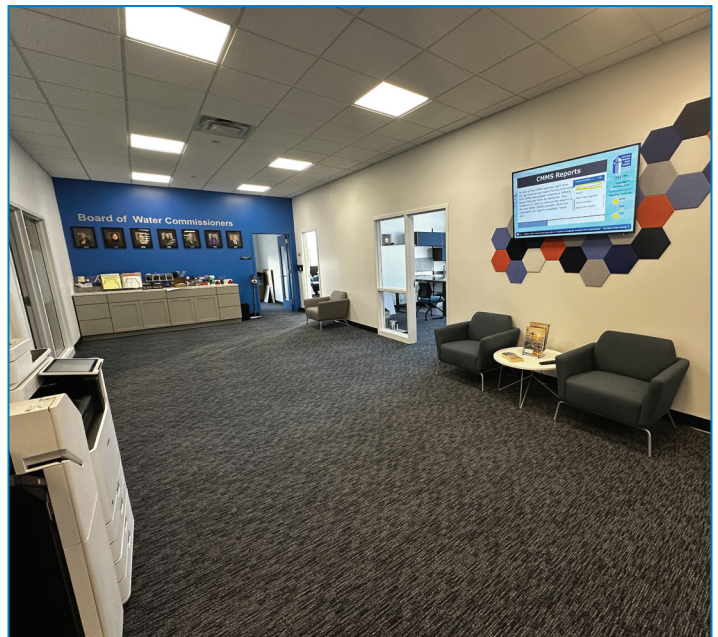
- **New Office Spaces:** A few new offices have been added to support our growing team and evolving needs.

Thank you all for your patience through the many noisy and messy days during the remodel process. We're grateful for your understanding and support as we worked to bring this vision to life.

Additionally, keep an eye out for updates on the start and progress of phase two, which will focus on moving the distribution administrative team into the Archive Room.

Huge shout out to the variety of employees involved in this work including Matt Stephenson, Arnett Hughley, Richard Keeney, Scott Thompson and many employees from the Vadnais team.

If there are areas of the facility where you would like to see future improvements, please share these ideas with Justina Ross!



*The newly remodeled second floor features fresh flooring and lights, an open and bright design, and new office spaces throughout.*

## Get ready for an inspiring employee conference February 26

Mark your calendars and prepare to be inspired!

The highly anticipated Employee Conference is just around the corner, happening on Wednesday, February 26th, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the welcoming El Rio Vista Community Center. This is your chance to connect, learn, and energize for the year ahead.

### **What's in store?**

#### **Complimentary Breakfast and Lunch**

Start your day with a delicious breakfast and enjoy a hearty lunch. It's the perfect way to fuel up for an exciting day of learning and networking.

#### **Engaging Guest Speakers and Presenters**

Updates on projects including the McCarrons treatment plant, Lead Free SPRWS 2025 plans, our new customer payment portal, the rollout of automated metering infrastructure and more!

In addition, speakers from McWane Ductile, Tyler Union, and Mueller will present on ductile 101, Into to Fittings, and Hydrant Repair and Maintenance.

#### **Other Special Guests You Won't Want to Miss**

**Dr. Jermaine Davis:** Our keynote speaker is known for his high-energy, motivational talks on leadership, communication, and success. Prepare to leave feeling empowered and ready to take on new challenges!

**State Demographer:** Gain unique insights into the changing demographics of our community and workforce, and what it means for the future.



*Justine Roe helps a group with the trivia portion of the team challenge during the 2023 employee conference at the El Rio Vista Community Center.*

### **Why Attend?**

This is more than just a conference—it's an opportunity to invest in yourself. Whether you're seeking professional development, personal growth, or simply a chance to connect with colleagues, this event is packed with value.

Don't miss out on this incredible day! Set your alarm, bring your enthusiasm, and join us on February 26th for a conference experience that will leave you informed, inspired, and invigorated.

We can't wait to see you there!

## Say hello to Treyson Davis, our new treatment plant operator

Please join us in giving a warm welcome to Treyson Davis, our newest water treatment operator! Treyson brings over ten years of experience as a senior chemical operator at Dow Water and Process Solutions, making him a valuable addition to our team.

His passion for the water industry and commitment to excellence make him an exciting new member of our organization.

Outside of work, Treyson loves to travel, spend

time with his family, and create content for social media. And if you're a football fan, you'll quickly learn that he's a diehard Detroit Lions supporter!

We're thrilled to have Treyson on board—be sure to introduce yourself and give him a warm welcome when you see him around campus!



*Treyson Davis*

## What are sacrificial anodes and why do we use them?

What in the world is a sacrificial anode and why do we install them on our water mains? This is a question I occasionally get.

From Wikipedia “A galvanic or sacrificial anode is the main component of a galvanic cathodic protection system used to protect buried or submerged metal structures from corrosion. They are made of a metal alloy with a more active voltage than the metal of the structure.”<sup>1</sup>

Ok, great, but what does that mean and why do I care? In more basic terms, a sacrificial anode is a chunk of metal that will corrode faster than the metal it is attached to. We install magnesium

or zinc alloy anodes attached via a wire that is welded to our cast or ductile iron water mains. When corrosion tries to occur on the pipe, the anode will begin to degrade first prior to the pipe. This anode will then protect the pipe from corroding as long as it still has metal left in it to corrode, hence the “sacrificial” part of its name.

The anodes we use are a 32-pound bar that in normal soils will take 20-30 years to use up and are relatively inexpensive at less than \$100 each. These anodes add 20-30 years to the useful life of the pipe for an extremely small cost!

1 Wikimedia Foundation. (2024, May 18). *Galvanic anode*. Wikipedia. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Galvanic\\_anode](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Galvanic_anode) Accessed 10 January 2025.



*Anodes in the white 32-pound bar can be seen in this image.*



*Anodes connected to the water main extend the life of the main.*

## Meter tech. lead worker, water utility tech. II and interns sought

The utility is seeking to hire a meter technician lead worker, two water utility techs, and interns in water quality and engineering.

The water utility technician positions are open to anyone

who qualifies and close on Monday, January 27.

The meter technician position is an internal promotional listing and closes on Monday, Feb. 3.

The internships are open to anyone who qualifies and close on March 14.

For more information about these positions with the utility, please go to [stpaul.gov/jobs](http://stpaul.gov/jobs).

All positions must be applied for online by midnight on the date the application is due.