



# City of Warrensburg

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## PRESS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: May 4, 2010

### **Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements**

The City of Warrensburg is currently completing improvements to their two wastewater treatment plants, the East and the West Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTP). The improvements will serve to increase the capacity of the plants in order to accommodate future growth, add new technology to meet State requirements for permitted discharge effluent limits, and to implement a new process for the disposal of the waste byproduct. The East and West WWTPs currently treat an average daily flow of 1.125 MGD and 0.91 MGD, respectively. New treatment facilities are being added to increase the average daily flow capacity of each plant to 1.5 MGD, utilizing their existing treatment process. The upgrades will increase plant reliability in meeting the new permitted effluent limits. The treatment process will be augmented with ultraviolet disinfection, a technology that inactivates/destroys organisms that have the potential to spread waterborne diseases. The City is constructing new facilities for the treatment of the waste byproduct, sludge. The new process, sludge reed beds, utilizes a natural plant system for the long term disposal of waste sludge and is considered to be a green alternative in biosolids disposal. In this process, native phragmite reeds are planted in beds that consist of sand layered on top of a pvc liner, geotextile fabric, and gravel layers. These layers act as a filter as the sludge is dewatered and an underdrain system returns the filtered water to the beginning of the plant for treatment. Dewatering sludge reduces the volume requiring disposal. The phragmite reeds remove nutrients and metals from the sludge and generate sludge with low pathogen levels. The sludge reed beds provide the City with a sludge disposal method that, when compared to the existing method, reduces the sludge volume, results in a higher quality sludge upon ultimate disposal, requires less supervision, reduces operational and electrical costs, and requires less land for sludge disposal.

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