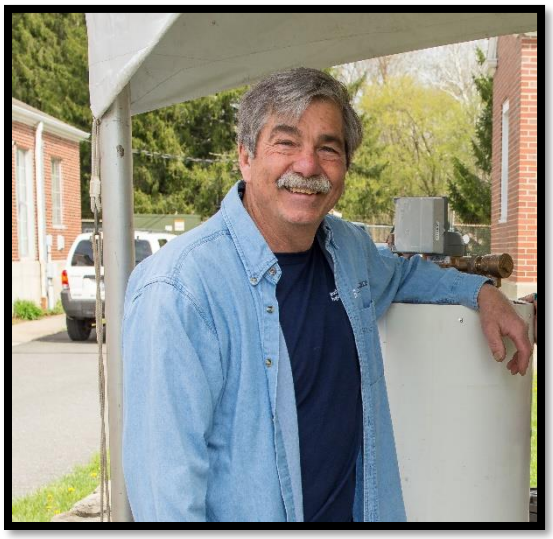
Brodhead Creek Regional Authority

Newsletter 2019

Retirement of Rick Mosier



One week after high school graduation in June 1972, Rick Mosier was ready to take the next step in his new life as an adult. As he considered a career as a mason or carpenter, Frank "Shorty" LaBar (our very own Randy LaBar's father) told him about an opening at the water company. At Shorty's suggestion, Rick went to the Stroudsburg Municipal Authority office at the Borough building and spoke to Don Williams about the job. Don offered him the job on the spot and told Rick he could start that day; Rick didn't need much time to ponder the offer – he asked for a day to put things in order and began work for the Authority the following day for $1.65 an hour.

Rick is fond of saying, "he who procrastinates is lost." This is truly an adage he lives by, as he works with an unmatched energy and go-getter attitude. Rick began as a laborer, enjoying being out in the field and getting work done. Always passionate about his work, he started off fixing service lines, repairing water main breaks, and installing water mains and fire hydrants with the distribution crew. He spent about 15 years in Distribution before becoming a licensed Water Plant Operator – Rick worked mornings at the plant and assisted Distribution in the afternoons. When Ken Brown became Authority Manager, he asked Rick to take on the role of Distribution Superintendent, taking him "out of the trench" and into a supervisory role overseeing the Distribution team. Rick's role has continued to evolve over the years and these days you are likely to find him in the office planning upgrades to the system and mentoring newer team members, graciously sharing his knowledge of the system he helped to build.

Rick recalls the feeling of accomplishment he has realized over the years: seeing homes connected to water mains that he helped place in the ground; locating and installing valves in the BCRA system, providing the ability to shut down streets by blocks and intersections instead of the entire street; establishing the new Distribution Optimization program, ensuring that the BCRA system will continue to improve in the years to come. Lately he is having fun reviewing plans and approving materials and supplies, and designing plans for new projects. As he nears retirement in the fall, Rick's goal is to identify at least seven years' worth of projects for the Authority to undertake to improve the system. He also intends to finish walking the system to make sure BCRA assets are properly identified and mapped.

Rick is equally accomplished at home, running his family farm in Stroudsburg with wife Karen, proud father to daughters Tara and Heather and doting grandfather to grandsons Kyle and Brett. Asked to describe himself in three words, Rick chooses fun, work, and family – when he is not working for the Authority, he is happiest working on his farm, spending time with family and enjoying good friends. When asked how he wants to be remembered for his years of service to BCRA, Rick would like to be known as helpful and dedicated to making things better for the future of everyone in our community. We will all certainly remember Rick as a leader, mentor, and friend.

BCRA Board of Directors

John H. Parker, Jr., Chairman (representing Hamilton Township) – Mr. Parker resides in Saylorsburg with his wife Mary Louise who is an attorney. He also serves on the boards of Monroe County Industrial Development Authority, Pocono Mountain Industrial Park and Hamilton Township Zoning and Hearing Board.

Charles A Garris, Treasurer (representing Smithfield Township) – Mr. Garris is a local businessman and a former employee of the Patterson-Kelley Co. Mr. Garris is a Monroe County Commissioner and has served as a councilman and as Mayor of the Borough of East Stroudsburg. He was also a member and past Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Pocono Medical Center.

Wm. Taylor Wenck, Secretary (representing Stroud Township) – Mr. Wenck is a certified financial planner who resides in Stroud Township with his wife Maureen. He is a Financial Professional Emeritus with Prudential/Pruco Securities. He also serves as Chairman of the Stroud Township Planning Commission.

Eric Scelza, Board Member (representing the Borough of Stroudsburg) – Mr. Scelza is a computer and business consultant for mid to large companies. He resides in Stroudsburg with his wife, Jennifer and his two sons, Jamison and Reagan. Mr. Scelza served 10 years on Stroudsburg Borough Council, including serving on the Sewer, Park and Recreation, Finance, and Policies boards.

Thomas Wise, Vice Chairman (representing Pocono Township) – Mr. Wise is a mechanical engineer and a former executive of SPX Heat Transfer, with thirty-three years of manufacturing experience serving the power market worldwide. He resides in Scotrun with his wife Kathleen and son Nathan. Currently, he is President of Pocono Sales Associates, an independent sales agency representing manufacturers in the Mid-Atlantic region.

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East Stroudsburg, PA 18301

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2018 Consumer Confidence Report (page 2 of 2)

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range if applicable	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Barium (IOC) DEP 1010	2	2	0.019	N/A	ppm	06/05/18	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharges from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Chlorine (Distribution Residual monthly average) DEP 0999	4	4	0.87	0.66 – 0.87	ppm	1/1/18 to 12/31/18	No	Water additive used to control microbes.
Trihalomethanes DEP 2950	80	n/a	37.2	8.2-37.2	ppb	2/14/18 5/14/18 8/15/18 11/14/18	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Haloacetic Acids DEP 2456	60	n/a	20.0	8.6 – 20.0	ppb	2/14/18 5/14/18 8/15/18 11/14/18	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Xylenes	10	n/a	0	n/a	ppm	4/11/18	No	Discharge from petroleum factories. Discharge from chemical factories
Manganese	0.05	n/a	0.004	n/a	ppm	10/09/2014	No	Discharge from metal processing facilities. Releases may also occur from other industrial facilities producing or using compounds of Manganese.
Ethylbenzene	700	n/a	0.0	n/a	ppb	4/11/18	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries

Disinfection Residual	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detection	Units	Sample Date	Violation	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine (Entry Point)	0.20 (plant) 0.40 (wells)	0.59 0.44	0.59 – 1.39 0.44 – 1.04	ppm	1/1/18 to 12/31/18	No	Water additive used to control microbes.

Lead & Copper	Action Level	MCLG	90th percentile value	Units	No. of sites above action level	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Possible Source(s) of Contamination
Lead DEP 1030	15	0	3.35	ppb	3	6/1/16 - 9/30/16	No	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper DEP 1022	1.3	1.3	0.309	ppm	1	6/1/16 - 9/30/16	No	Corrosion of household plumbing.

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected and Date	Violation? Y/N	Possible source(s) of contamination
Turbidity DEP0100	TT= 1 NTU for single measurement. TT= at least 95% of monthly samples ≤ 0.3 NTU	0	100% for 2018	No	Soil Runoff

Contaminant	Required removal %	Range of Removal Achieved %	No. of Quarters out of compliance	Violation? Y/N	Possible source(s) of contamination
TOC (Total Organic Carbon) DEP 2920	35%	47.8%-63.5%	None	No	Naturally present in the environment.

Glossary: PPM-Parts Per Million, PPB- Parts Per Billion, MCL- Maximum Contaminant Level,
MCLG-Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, NTU- Nephelometric Turbidity Units, TT- Treatment Technique

Distribution Optimization Program

One of the primary goals of the Brodhead Creek Regional Authority (BCRA) is to continuously deliver high quality water to all users throughout our system. This goal is something that we are committed to every day from the moment that untreated water is withdrawn from the source until the time the treated water reaches your house. It takes a lot of work to maintain the same quality of water throughout our entire distribution system, which contains approximately 117 miles of pipe. We all see fire hydrants located along our streets but there are other important pieces of infrastructure that are part of the underground piping system including curb boxes, valves, air release valves, pressure reducing valves, and meter pits. All of these items play an important role in maintaining the piping system and water quality. They also require a continued operation and maintenance program in order to keep the distribution system Optimized and functioning at its highest level.

As part of Distribution Optimization efforts, we field locate all of the above infrastructure items using historical system maps and GIS technology. Once located; the item is inspected, cleaned, and serviced to assure that it is functioning as intended; any necessary repairs are made accordingly. All of our 783 fire hydrants are painted as required and color coded to reflect system operating pressure and flow rates at various locations in the system. Fire hydrants are also exercised and flushed at scheduled times throughout the year in order to keep the water in the system fresh.

The next time that you see BCRA employees on your property or digging in front of your house locating one of our 4,451 curb boxes or in your neighborhood exercising one of our 2,727 valves there is a good chance that they are working on continued Distribution Optimization.

System Investments and Water Rate Change

The BCRA strives to continuously improve and upgrade its systems, infrastructure, and service to all of its valued customers. One way that the Authority can meet this goal and objective is to annually reinvest in its distribution system by replacing and/or upgrading older sections of its network. Historically older sections of a water distribution system can sometimes experience flow limitations, especially during fire-fighting or similar high-demand events. This is often times attributed to older systems being constructed with smaller diameter pipes, as compared to the current standards employed by Authority. In an effort to continue with its investment back into the distribution system, in 2019 the BCRA will redevelop a portion of its underground distribution system within the Borough of Stroudsburg. The improvement area will be along King Street (between Brown and Oak Streets), and along Oak Street (to a connection point at Queen Street). The work will include an upgrade of the water distribution mains (pipe size) as well as the hydrant systems along this route.

In 2019, the Authority will have a modest increase in its water rates which are designed to: assist the Authority in making annual upgrades to its distribution system; assist in accomplishing strategic capital improvement projects in order to meet its permit and municipal obligations; and to help cover the increasing cost of operations. The Authority's base rate remains unchanged in 2019 and the usage rate has been increased by $0.03 per 100 gallons. The result of this water rate increase effectively means that a typical residential customer who utilizes 15,000 gallons per quarter (i.e. 5,000 gallons per month) will see an increase of $4.50 per quarter (i.e. $1.50 per month).

The Authority is pleased to inform its customers that even with the above referenced rate change, charges for water from the BCRA remain 20% lower than the average public water system in Pennsylvania, and 112% lower than the average private water system in Pennsylvania.

Infrastructure Improvements – Aimed at Resiliency

The BCRA has taken the initial steps at increasing the resiliency of its distribution system through a multi-faceted approach. This approach includes the installation of additional water storage at the "top" of the system and the creation of a new pressure district within the Tannersville area.

Resilience is "the act of rebounding or springing back quickly" and this concept is an important one to employ when considering the operation of a complex water distribution system. This concept can be extended to include the ability to maintain a capable water system in the face of a disruption. Disruptions can occur within a water system in a variety of ways including but not limited to; water main breaks, mechanical failures, or natural emergencies. Water mains occasionally suffer from leaks or "breaks" as a result of the age and operating pressures of the piping system, along with quick changes in water temperature that is brought about by extreme weather conditions.

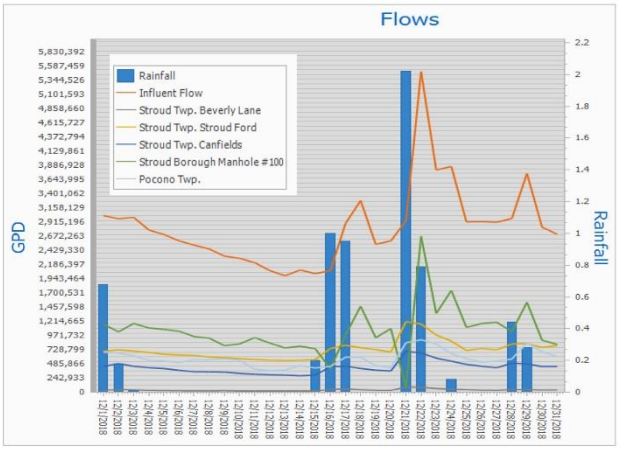
The Authority is in the process of designing, permitting, and constructing a new water storage tank at the top of its distribution system in Swiftwater. This tank will add approximately 1.7 Million gallons of additional water storage to the distribution system, which will be of critical importance in keeping customers with water when managing water main breaks or other system disruptions.

The Authority is also in the process of designing, permitting, and constructing a combination of pump stations and storage tank systems in the Tannersville area. The project is being designed in order to create a safer, lower, and more productive pressure district. The tanks and pump station will effectively split the existing high-pressure system in half, thereby making the system operating pressure safer for customer connections as well as for fire-fighting operations. The added benefit of splitting the pressure district will be an increase system capacity.

The High Cost of Rain Water

Most people don't spend time thinking about inflow and infiltration or what is commonly known as "I&I". I&I is excess water that flows into sewer pipes from groundwater, stormwater or unauthorized connections. It is logical to assume that sending additional water to a wastewater treatment plant is not an issue. However, all material whether it is rainwater, groundwater or sewage that comes to a wastewater plant must be treated as raw sewage. This can be very costly due to additional chemical costs, electrical pumping costs or hydraulic overloading.

In a perfect wastewater collection system, there is no I&I but in reality, all systems suffer from some level of I&I. The graph below shows the clear correlation between rainfall and BCRA plant flow for December 2018. This is why municipalities should be proactive in locating and minimizing I&I to reduce treatment costs for its customers. Many municipalities have ordinances against unauthorized connections such as sump pumps and rain gutters being connected to the sewer system. Unauthorized connections can contribute large amounts of water to the system and greatly increase treatment costs for all customers.



It is important for all customers to understand that unnecessary water into the system is costly. Additional water dilutes the incoming material and decreases the efficiency of wastewater treatment. In some cases I&I may cause a wastewater plant to exceed its design capacity or prevent future commercial growth by using up plant capacity.

Brodhead Creek Regional Authority (PWSID 2450034) 2018 Consumer Confidence Report (Page 1 of 2)

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, ó hable con alquien que lo entienda. This report contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate this information for you or speak with someone who understands the information in this report.

Water System Information – This report shows water quality data for 2018. If you have any questions about this report, or concerning your water service, please contact Mr. David Horton, BCRA Manager at (570) 421-3232 or Mr. Dean Johnson, Lead Operator at (570) 421-0998. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more please attend any of our regular scheduled meetings. Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 12:00 pm (noon) at our office located at 410 Mill Creek Road. Customers may visit our website www.BCRAwater.com for additional information.

Sources of Water – The Brodhead Creek Regional Authority (BCRA) draws surface water from the Brodhead Creek and owns two on-site groundwater wells (well #1 and well #2). A third groundwater well has been constructed along the McMichael Creek and is currently undergoing testing and modifications. BCRA's water filtration plant is located at 410 Mill Creek Road. State licensed operators utilize a state-of-the-art treatment facility to ensure the quality of water, through filtration and other sophisticated treatment processes before it is distributed to our customers. The distribution system covers over 100 miles of water lines serving the Borough of Stroudsburg, Stroud Township, Pocono Township, Hamilton Township, Smithfield Township, and Tobyhanna Township. Over the past decade BCRA has invested approximately 6 million dollars in upgrading its treatment facility, developing sources, protecting it underground aquifers and establishing a wellhead protection program.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Monitoring Your Water – We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. The table on the backside of this page shows the results of our monitoring for the period of 1/1/2018 to 12/31/2018. The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data is from prior years in accordance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. The dates have been noted on the sampling results table.

Required Lead Notice by EPA – If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Brodhead Creek Regional Authority is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential to lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Information regarding Nitrates – Nitrates in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

Microbial Contaminates- In 2018 all distribution microbials samples were non-detects.

2018 Violations- There were no violations reported for 2018.