

“Yemassee Sewer Project” set to bring needed infrastructure updates

By: Andy Ann

© 2023 Southern Business Digest

The Town of Yemassee has received a generous sum of \$243,000 through Beaufort County's "Good Neighbor" initiative, which will be used to fund the “Yemassee Sewer Project”. This vital project will address the town's pressing infrastructure needs, which have long been a concern for its residents. The funds will be used to enhance the quality of life for Yemassee's inhabitants, creating a safer and healthier living environment for all.

Town Administrator Matt Garnes expressed his gratitude to Beaufort County Council and lead program manager, Hank Amundson, for awarding the funding and recognizing the critical nature of the Yemassee Sewer Project. He called it a reflection of the county's commitment to improving infrastructure and the overall well-being of Yemassee's residents.

The “Yemassee Sewer Project” will focus on upgrading and expanding the sewer infrastructure in the low-lying area along River Road and Guess Drive. Currently, five homes and an industrial customer rely on septic tanks or inadequate sewer services, which pose health and safety concerns for the community. The awarded funding will enable the Low Country Regional Water System to install an engineered low-pressure sewer system, complete with individual grinder pumps and a joint force main. This will replace the existing septic tanks and shallow sewer lines, ensuring compliance with state environmental standards.

The Low Country Regional Water System has been a fantastic partner to the town, continuously improving its services. Their involvement in the Yemassee Sewer Project will undoubtedly benefit the community, creating a safer and more sustainable environment for residents and businesses alike.

This project also addresses a manufacturing facility, Vetrostone, with an outdated sewer infrastructure that's situated right in the heart of a wetland area. Not only does it pose a risk to the environment, it also increases the likelihood of sanitary sewer overflows.

However, to mitigate this risk, the project also involves the installation of Remote Terminal Units (RTUs) fitted with advanced radio equipment. These RTUs will be capable of monitoring the critical lift stations along Guess Drive remotely, thereby minimizing the chances of sanitary sewer overflows. In addition to improving overall

operational efficiency, this cutting-edge monitoring system will also help decrease the cost associated with maintenance.

With the right approach, it is possible to balance the needs of industry with environmental conservation. The RTUs will serve as an essential tool in this effort, allowing for real-time monitoring of the lift stations to prevent any potential damage to the surrounding ecosystem. Overall, this project represents a unique opportunity to balance the needs of industry with the imperative need to protect natural resources-and with the implementation of advanced monitoring technology, it is poised to be a success.

For more information call 843-589-2565, email towncommunications@townofyemassee.org, or visit the Municipal Complex at 101 Town Circle in Yemassee, South Carolina.