

Water and Wastewater Treatment

Maintain the infrastructure at two large water treatment plants, one small water treatment plant, 64 facilities supporting the drinking water distribution systems, two large centralized wastewater treatment plants, one large biosolids plant, seven wastewater package plants, 124 lift stations, seven air scrubbers systems, and 3 wastewater tunnel fans. Within these facilities, 32,053 piece of equipment are maintained to ensure system reliability.

Services Provided--

- ◆ Treat water to meet all state and federal regulations to ensure safe and reliable drinking water.
- ◆ Control the distribution of the water to ensure optimal pressures to protect water quality and ensure pressures and storage for fire fighting.
- ◆ Continuous monitoring of water quality from water in the lakes through treatment process and distribution system to ensure optimal water quality at the tap.
 - 66,224 water quality samples analyzed per year.
- ◆ Operate more than 124 lift stations throughout the wastewater collection system to ensure proper movement of the wastewater while preventing sanitary sewer overflows.
- ◆ Treat wastewater to meet all state and federal regulations so that discharges back into the Colorado River system protect aquatic ecosystems and ensure protection of the environment.
 - Effluent from the wastewater treatment plants are also used to provide non-potable water supply into the reclaimed water system.
- ◆ Biosolids from the wastewater treatment process are treated for beneficial reuse.
 - Dillo Dirt™ is a compost product using biosolids and yard waste recovered by Austin Resource Recovery.
 - Land application with hay production is an alternative beneficial reuse on-site
- Continuous monitoring of the wastewater stream from the collection system to downstream of our discharge points. Testing includes the plant processes, the reclaimed water and the plant effluent waters.
 - 96,034 tests per year are performed on the wastewater system.
- ◆ Manage facilities to co-exist with sensitive environmental areas.
 - The Ullrich Water Treatment Plant includes many acres of Balcones Canyonland Preserve and protects several endangered species.
 - Austin Water supports scientific research and education through its Center for Environmental Research (CER) at Hornsby Bend.
 - Hornsby Bend Biosolids Management Plant is nationally recognized as one of the best birding sites in Texas – harboring over 370 species of birds and an abundance of other wildlife which is monitored through the CER's citizen science programs and university researchers

