- The WPCA has undertaken the Wastewater Facilities Upgrade project to upgrade both its wastewater treatment facilities to meet current permit requirements and address the facilities aging infrastructure at the end of its service life.
- The WPCA carefully considered the least cost approach to the required plant upgrades and concluded consolidating the 2 wastewater treatment facilities at the South Street Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) was the best course of action. By combining the facilities, the WPCA is able to save both capital and operating costs overall.
- The upgrade to the facilities is required due to more stringent effluent limits being imposed by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEEP) and to provide reliable wastewater treatment to protect the Town's water resources.
- The treatment plants upgrades are overdue, as many systems and equipment are past their service life.   We are mandated by the State of Connecticut to keep these facilities in good operating order to meet wastewater effluent permit requirements.
- The WPCA has met the required deadline to be eligible for the DEEP 50% Phosphorus Grant program, by award and execution of the South Street WWTF Upgrade construction contract. The WPCA is working to secure an estimated $11.5 million in grants, and a low interest rate loan from the DEEP Clean Water Fund to reduce the cost of the project to the Town's ratepayers.
- As presented during the public information meetings held by the WPCA in Fall 2018 regarding the voter referendum on funding the Wastewater Facilities Upgrade project, the WPCA engaged a sewer rate consultant to evaluate various approaches to funding the upgrade. This evaluation concluded that the recent sewer rate increase of $280 per sewer use unit was necessary to fund the Wastewater Facilities Upgrade project.
- As always, we hope that the public is supportive of these efforts to provide ongoing wastewater treatment services that have served the Town well for many years and are designed to do so for many more.