



THE ClearView

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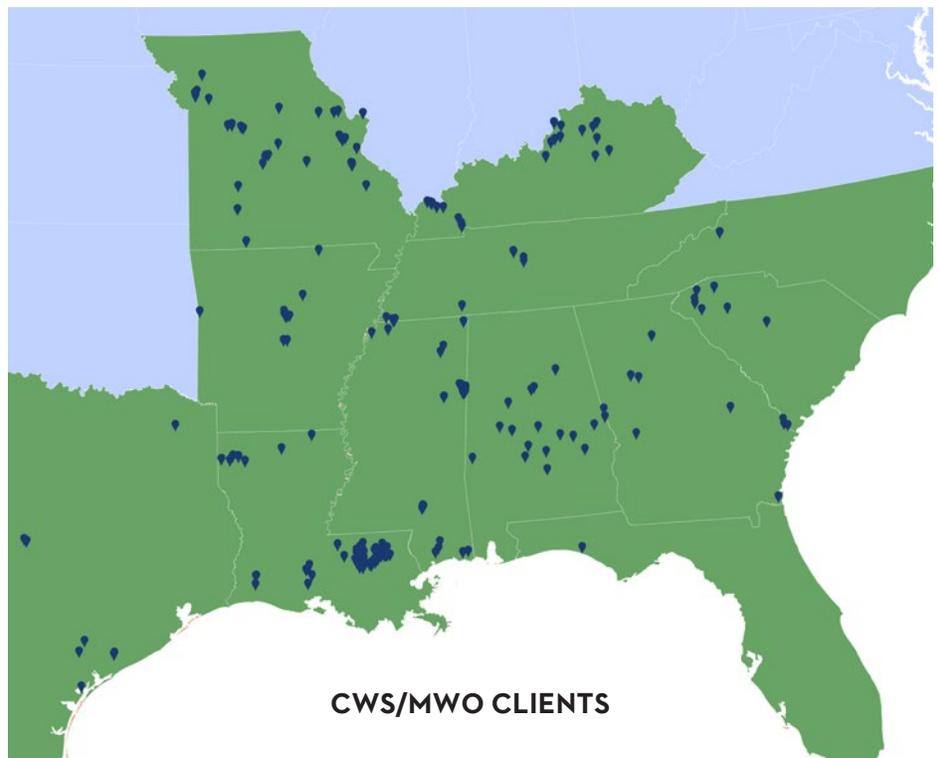
CWS WELCOMES MIDWEST WATER OPERATIONS

Less than a year ago, we sent around a memo announcing that CWS had aligned itself with Keystone Capital, a growth investor, to take our company to the next level. It's been an excellent year since - our best yet in fact - and we've never been more excited about our future. Our new partners have been incredibly supportive, giving us resources to improve and grow all while allowing us the freedom and autonomy to continue building this great company our way. While growth has always been a core element of CWS, we're now able to supercharge that in a new way - by acquiring other compatible O&M companies into the ClearWater family. With that, we are thrilled to welcome Midwest Water Operations into our company.

Midwest Water Operations (MWO for short) is a water and wastewater O&M company based in Washington, Missouri. Their focus is serving private utilities where they not only manage operations, but provide repair, maintenance, and construction services as well. MWO has 120+ people operating more than 200 systems across a 7-state footprint. They share our growth philosophy and have an impressive track record of expansion. We've gotten to know their leaders - Ben Kuenzel and Terry Merritt - over the past few months and couldn't be more impressed with their industry knowledge and leadership ability. They are quality people, and we're honored to call them our partners.

MWO is such an excellent fit for us. Together we're 400 employees serving both public and private utilities across 12 states in the greater Southeastern US. In addition to our presence in Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, South Carolina, and most recently Florida, we now have operations through MWO in Louisiana, Missouri, Tennessee, Kentucky, Arkansas, Texas, and North Carolina. The sky is the limit for us as we leverage our new partnership to pursue municipal work across a broader footprint than ever before. We never imagined we'd achieve this size and scale so quickly, and yet here we are. With it, we're all systems go on investing in our team - that's all of you - and providing more growth and relocation opportunities across the board. We've got big plans - investing in technology to drive efficiencies, adding to our administrative staff to better support the company, prioritizing business development and client retention initiatives to grow our footprint and strengthen our home base - and we've got a supportive team over at MWO looking to do the same.

This isn't our first merger and it won't be our last. As leaders of CWS, we're committed to building this great business the right way and investing in our collective future. There's a lot more to come as we navigate this combination and continue improving our game, so stay tuned, but don't hesitate to ask questions along the way.



Spring certification training begins soon!
Sign up now to be a part of the success!

CWS BEGINS WORK IN PICKENS, SC

The year 2022 started off with a new project in South Carolina as CWS began providing operations, maintenance, and management services for the City of Pickens' wastewater treatment plant. The facility is managed and operated by Zach Roper.



The Twelve Mile River WWTP is a 0.95 mgd extended aeration tertiary plant. The tertiary portion of the plant utilizes long retention time, dual-stage activated sludge process for removal of BOD & COD, and simple stage reduction of ammonia. According to the City's website, it was one of the first UV light plants for bacteria disinfection in the Upstate area.

TEAM ASSISTS WITH STORM CLEANUP EFFORTS IN KY

Team members from CWS's Lanett, AL and Fayetteville, GA projects recently traveled to Mayfield, KY to assist with storm damage repairs and cleanup. The Mayfield community was devastated by the tornadoes that struck the state overnight on December 11, 2021. Damage to the city's wastewater treatment plant was extensive. Debris littered the yard, the roof was ripped off the building, there was a semi-truck trailer in the clarifier. The CWS team - Claude Barber, Zachary Ewbank, and Tyrese Jones - worked for four days to help get the treatment plant cleaned up.

According to Houston Black, the CWS Chief Operations Officer, "Even though Mayfield isn't a client of CWS, we were proud to be able to assist them when they needed help. The 'Building Communities' statement that we speak isn't just words...it's what we work towards every single day. Midwest Water Operations (MWO), serves the Kentucky area and told us about the need for help there. So we stepped up, talked to our guys, booked hotel rooms, stocked the vehicles with water and supplies, and sent them on their way. A huge thank you to the guys for their willingness to help out."



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: HALL COUNTY, GEORGIA

This month's spotlight shines on the Hall County, Georgia project. The project is led by the Project Manager, Matt Collins, who has over 18 years of experience (5 of those with CWS) and holds both a Georgia Class 1 Wastewater and South Carolina Class A wastewater certification. Tyree Robertson holds a Georgia Class 4 wastewater certification and serves as an Operator for the project.

CWS is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Hall County Sewer System. This system includes the 750,000 gallon per day Spout Springs Water Reclamation Facility and 21 off-site pump stations. The facility treats mainly domestic sewage, but does treat some leachate from the county's landfill. The contract began December 2016.

In 2019, the Spout Springs Water Reclamation Facility received the "Wastewater Facility Gold Award" by the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP). WaterFirst communities are committed to excellence in watershed assessment, stormwater master planning, wastewater treatment and management, water supply planning and protection, water conservation, and water reclamation and reuse. Receiving this designation demonstrates Hall County's commitment to the stewardship of water resources for environmental and economic benefits.

The plant has been in compliance throughout CWS's history there. Under our operation, the plant has switched from using Alum and Caustic to using PhosSorb which has saved the client around 30% on chemical costs per year.



CWS Provides Increase in Revenue for Union Springs

When discussing privatization with city leaders, it is often asked how CWS can save the client money while still ensuring a profit for its business. Well, the Utilities Board for the City of Union Springs is a great example of how such savings can be achieved. A recent audit revealed to city leaders the financial benefits of partnering with CWS.

In 2021, the overall financial picture for the utilities budget looked good. Revenue was up and expenses were down. Water and wastewater services just about always break even, but the key piece of that revenue increase was based on the natural gas sales. In the early Spring months, the cost of natural gas was low, but was expected to increase later in the year. CWS made the decision to purchase extra dekatherms of natural gas each month at this lower rate. They would use their normal amount and store the remainder. And then a few months later... the price of gas soared. But having stocked up ahead of time, the Union Springs Utilities Board was in great shape. What was purchased for \$2.20 per dekatherm was sold at the new going rate which was nearly four times higher than the purchase price - to gas consumers such as Wayne Farms and the Bullock County prison. The sale generated an **additional** revenue of nearly \$150,000. From these funds, the City was able to purchase five pumps and repair a well before putting the remaining profit in the bank.

According to Gary Hyche the CWS Regional Manager for the area and a resident of Union Springs, "That additional revenue is a prime example of what partnering with CWS can do for a city. CWS has the resources to make investments - like bulk purchases at a lower cost and ahead of the need. Many cities and counties struggle to afford the cost of immediate purchases, much less have money to plan ahead to make a bulk purchase like this that won't be needed for awhile. It was a win-win for CWS and for the City - being able to fund necessary repairs AND put money in their bank account."

CWS has been serving the City of Union Springs Utilities Board since November 2018.

MORE HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 4th ANNUAL SERVICE EVENT



CWS Announces 4th Annual Scholarship Award Details

CWS is proud to announce that for the fourth year, our company will be awarding scholarships to deserving seniors across Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina. In addition, two scholarships are also available only to members of our CWS extended family.

If you have a child or grandchild who is graduating from high school this year and planning to attend a 2- or 4-year college or university, have them complete the new 2022 application attached to this email. The successful applicant will have a minimum 3.0 GPA, demonstrate leadership or community involvement, and provide clear and concise responses to a few short essay questions. Students are not required to declare a particular major or attend a specific college/university and it does not matter what high school they are attending (schools located outside of our project locations are acceptable). Please make sure the application is completely filled out, the required documents are included, and email all of that back to beth.turner@clearwatersol.com before the April 1st deadline. We will review all submissions, make a decision, and notify the recipient around the end of April.

It's just another way CWS continues to build communities and impact lives.

New HR Manager Named for CWS/MWO

We are pleased to announce that we now have an HR Director. Brian Tveitnes, whose last name is pronounced "tweet-ness" (because everyone always asks!) possesses three years of water and wastewater experience and 14 years of human resources experience. He holds a bachelor's degree in Business/Human Resources and multiple HR certifications. After leaving the water and wastewater industry briefly in 2020, he spent the last year and a half working for Winchester Ammunition in Independence, MO. In this role he supported over 1,600 employees in a manufacturing environment.



He is excited to get back to the water and wastewater industry and is looking forward to contributing in any way possible. Brian is passionate about HR because it enables him to help people while also serving as a partner for the organization, and he enjoys seeing the direct impact of effective HR in resolving employee concerns. Brian says that facilitating HR in the water and wastewater industry is especially fulfilling. "Clean water is vital to the people who work and live in the communities we partner with and being able to contribute to the success of those relationships is very rewarding." In addition to Brian's specialized training and years of experience, he has an innate talent for connecting with people on an individual level and a genuine desire to help them. He is excited to be part of the ClearWater Solutions and Midwest Water Operations teams and looks forward to contributing to the inevitable growth of these strong organizations. When not working, Brian enjoys spending time with his wife and two boys (4 and 6), rooting for the Green Bay Packers (GO PACK GO!), live music and anything outdoors.

Feel free to contact Brian anytime at brian.tveitnes@clearwatersol.com or on his cell (913) 329-4460.

MOVING ON UP...

Congratulations to those who have passed various certification exams in the last few months...

...**Jordan Trotter** who passed her Georgia Class 4 water certification exam in January. Jordan has been with CWS since June as the Environmental Safety Specialist located in the Clemson, SC lab. Way to go, Jordan!

... **Jonathan Harris** who is our newest water operator! He passed his Georgia Class 4 water test in December. Jonathan is a Field Technician at the Midlands project in South Carolina who has been a part of our CWS team since April 2021.

... **Jeff Aston**, our Project Manager in Lanett, just passed his Georgia Class 4 water exam. Well, he actually didn't "just" pass it - he smoked it, making a grade of 94! How awesome is that?!? In addition to Lanett, Jeff has worked at several other CWS projects including Beulah and Hoover, since he began work with CWS in April 2018. He also holds an AL Grade 3 wastewater certification.

... **Kendell Scott** passed his Georgia Grade 4 water exam! Kendell is a Maintenance Technician at the Fayetteville, GA project. He has only been with CWS since October 2020, but has already proven he is willing to work hard to succeed!

... **Tommy Beach** who passed his AL Grade 2 water exam. Tommy is the Assistant Project Manager at our Billingsley project and has been a part of the CWS family since August 2017.

... **Zach Roper** who passed his South Carolina Grade A wastewater exam. He is the Operator at our new Pickens, SC project...and has only been a part of the CWS family for just a month now.

Congratulations to each of you! Six successful participants since the beginning of the year. That's amazing!

Laurens County Plant Celebrates Start Up

It's been several years in the making, but the LCWSC's Water Treatment Plant is now fully operational. The plant start-up process started on December 8 when the CWS team started building the sludge blanket. They started pumping water out to distribution on Friday, January 21. It is operated by five South Carolina Class A water operators under the direction of CWS Project Manager Chris Lee. Chris also ran the Pilot Study 4 or 5 years ago which established a relationship with the client.

CWS will be providing professional services to manage, operate, and maintain the LCWSC potable water treatment facility and raw water intake on a 24/7 basis. The treatment plant features ozone pre-treatment for taste and odor, upflow clarification (Superpulsator), multimedia filtration (Greenleaf filters), two 750,000-gallon clearwells and high service pump station. Treatment operations are conducted from a 5,648 square foot, two-story administration building. The first floor houses the chemical feed pumps and day tank storage for the Water Treatment Facility. The second story is highlighted by a control room with a SCADA system to monitor and control plant operations along with a laboratory for running tests relevant to the treatment plant. The entire project was designed by our parent company, GMC.