



February 18, 2025
Honorable Tony Roswarski
Mayor, City of Lafayette

Mayor Roswarski,

Attached you will find the detailed 2024 annual report for each division within Lafayette Renew. As you will see, the department continues to expand and provide essential services in an efficient and effective manner for the Citizens of Lafayette. The efforts show a commitment to the environmental stewardship by the employees of the department

Projects worked on during 2024 include the following:

- Vinton Woods Ponds Drainage Improvement Project – Complete
- WWTP/Ross Road Solar Arrays – Complete
- Raineybrook Lift Station Upgrade and Forcemain Project – Complete
- 2023 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project – Complete
- Prairie Oaks Sanitary Sewer Emergency Rehabilitation Project – Complete
- Wastewater Master Plan Update – Complete
- GSC Three Pack Construction Project – Under Construction
- Service Area 11 B Utility Extension Project – Under Construction
- CSO Long Term Control Plan Phase II D – Beginning Construction
- 9th Street Culvert Repair Project - Under Design

Service Area 11-B Utility Extension

This project includes the construction of a new regional lift station, force mains, gravity sewers, and water mains to provide utility service to Service Area 11-B which is located southeast of the City of Lafayette. The new regional lift station will initially serve approximately 1,000 acres of undeveloped land with the ultimate capacity to serve approximately 4,700 acres. There is approximately 5.5 miles of force mains and approximately 2.0 miles of gravity sewer included in the project ranging from 10-inches to 36-inches. Approximately 3.2 miles of water main will be extended as part of this project ranging from 8-inches to 18-inches. Portions of the water main installation will be utilizing READI grant. This project began in September 2024 and should be complete in early 2026.



CSO Long Term Control Plan Phase II-D

This is the final phase of the City's LTCP concluding more than 20 years of work to reduce CSOs in the City, fulfilling regulatory requirements while protecting public health and the environment and providing benefits to the community. The final phase includes the construction of a High-Rate Treatment (HRT) facility adjacent to the treatment plant, increases the wet weather capacity of the Pearl River Lift Station, and a force main connecting the lift station to the new High-Rate Treatment facility. The High-Rate Treatment facility will provide physical and chemical treatment of CSOs that are high intensity short duration events. The project will also include electrical, chemical, and mechanical upgrades at the existing treatment plant to ensure the proper operation of the entire system. This project is expected to begin in early 2025 and should be complete in 2027.

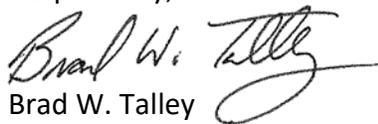
Lafayette Renew recognitions for 2024 include

- Water Environment Federation (WEF) Utility of the Future Today. Lafayette Renew was recognized in the area of "Energy Generation and Recovery" recognizing the City efforts in Solar Energy Generation.

The dedication and professionalism of the employees of Lafayette Renew was shown in 2024. The plant operations staff effectively treated an average of 17.34 million gallons of wastewater daily with no violations of the City's NPDES Permit. The maintenance staff maintained the wastewater treatment plant, as well as the 31 pumping stations throughout the City. The collection system personnel responded to over 15,000 service calls, as well as performed maintenance on over 486 miles of sewer within the City service area. Pretreatment personnel inspected industrial and commercial users, and working with lab personnel, managed the land application program which saw over 11.3 million gallons of biosolids applied to farm fields. The laboratory staff performed over 27,000 tests on various plant processes, industrial discharges, and other miscellaneous waste streams in 2024. The Stormwater personnel were responsible for erosion control inspections, illicit discharge investigation, street sweeping, and green infrastructure maintenance, all while maintaining the stormwater collection system. Department personnel corresponded with State and Federal agencies and submitted numerous reports in a timely manner in 2024. There is a strong dedication to the environment and specifically the Wabash River shown by all personnel.

Through the commitment of the Mayor, City Council, Board of Public Works and Safety, City Engineers, consulting staff, and our employees, we are confident that the City of Lafayette is more than ready for the changes and challenges in the water resource recovery profession that lie ahead. I would like to thank all the aforementioned for their generous work and support.

Respectfully,



Brad W. Talley
Superintendent
Lafayette Renew





2024 ANNUAL REPORT

PROCESS OPERATIONS

During the year 2024, the Operations department treated 6,314,500,000 gallons of domestic, commercial, and industrial wastewater. This was treated at an average daily flow of 17.34 million gallons. The annual removal of Total Suspended Solids (TSS) was 97.0%. The annual removal of Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD) was 94.0%, Ammonia removal was 96.0%, and Phosphorous removal was 81.0%.



Inside the Coarse Screen Room

In 2024, both coarse screens were replaced. The coarse screens remove any large debris from the incoming collection system that could damage the influent pumps. Also in 2024, we removed and disposed of 472 tons of inorganic and fine screenings combined from our incoming waste stream, slowing deterioration and possible repairs to the pumps and other equipment.

The primary portion of the treatment process removed 11,191,700 gallons of raw sludge; the bio-solids were treated in the digesters and during the digestion process pathogenic bacteria is destroyed. The bio-solids decomposition also converts mass into methane gas, which is used to fuel the boilers, buildings and the digesters. The gas production daily average is 98.83 ft³.

By maintaining the proper temperatures, mixing and pumping rates, the methane produced saved the City thousands of dollars. After the biosolids have been properly digested, it is then sent to the digested biosolids storage tanks. From there it is ready for our City's land application program.

The secondary portion of the plant is the waste activated sludge process. The biological mix in the secondary process contains living micro-organisms that consume the waste and bacteria as it is introduced to the wastewater. This process is very effective and efficient. There are many growth factors that impact this process. They include pH, detention time, oxygen levels, temperature, toxicity, and strength of waste. Excess microorganisms are sent to the gravity belt thickeners where a polymer is added, which causes them to flocculate (from 0.5% to 5.0% solids) during this process. This allows the excess water to pass through the porous belt and then travel to the primary clarifiers for treatment.

The thickened waste is then pumped to the anaerobic digesters for decomposition. 64,559,000 gallons of activated waste were sent to the gravity belt thickeners in 2024. Of the total number of sludge gallons sent to the gravity thickeners, 53,390,000 gallons were water which was removed and sent back to the primary process. The remaining 11,164,500 gallons were thickened and sent to the digesters.



Gravity Belt Thickeners

In addition to the Gravity Belt Thickeners, our Volute Press equipment thickens our digested storage tank sludge from 5% to 25% solids. This has been beneficial during inclement weather and the planting season when we can't land apply our bio-solids. This equipment can de-water up to 100,000 gallons of digested sludge per day. In 2024, 3,204,841 gallons were de-watered.

The City of Lafayette has one of the most advanced treatment facilities in the country. With the dedicated staff we have, we will continue to do our part to keep the Indiana rivers and streams clean.



STORMWATER

In 2024, the street sweepers continued to be a vital piece of equipment in our effort to get sediment off the roadways. It is imperative to reduce the amount of sediment on the roadways to keep it from entering our waterways. For 2024, the street sweepers removed an estimated 1,558.31 tons of sediment off the roads.

Stormwater has employees that are Certified Erosion, Sediment and Storm Water Inspectors (CESSWI) and Certified Inspector of Sediment and Erosion Control (CISEC). Stormwater employees conduct pre-construction, active construction and post construction inspections. These inspections are performed on a weekly basis year-round. In 2024, Stormwater inspectors performed 697 erosion control inspections.

Stormwater crews continue to perform annual inspections on all Best Management Practices (BMP's). BMP's trap sediment and other pollutants and prevent waterways from being contaminated. We inspect all BMP's located within the City; the structures that are currently owned by the City are inspected and maintained, if required. Privately owned BMPs are inspected and, if maintenance is needed, the owner is notified to do so and then they are re-inspected. In 2021, the Stormwater department started a maintenance program for the pervious pavers and concrete within the city limits and owned by the City of Lafayette. These areas will be cleaned at least annually. During 2024, Stormwater crews performed 89 BMP inspections. Of the 89 BMP's, 57 of these were City owned and maintained. Of those 57 owned by the City, three required maintenance in 2024.

We continued our efforts in monitoring the Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) program. In 2024, three illicit discharges were reported/discovered and of the three, all three were added to our IDDE list to be corrected. To date, 91 illicit discharges have been corrected.

Stormwater crews continue to perform inspections and maintenance on all City owned rain gardens, bio-swales and detention ponds. We currently have 56 rain gardens, 8.8 miles of bio-swales, and nine detention ponds within the City of Lafayette. Necessary maintenance is performed on a regular basis.

In 2024, we continued to work on our Preventative Maintenance Program for the Stormwater Collection System. All City of Lafayette owned storm structures are inspected and cleaned during this maintenance program. By being proactive and implementing this program, we hope to reduce the risk of potential costly issues in the future. This maintenance program was put in place and started in October 2013. The City is mapped into grids and currently there are 186 grids within city limits. It is the goal of the Stormwater Department to complete inspections and cleanings in all 186 grids in a five-year span, at which time we will start the cycle over. The Stormwater Department is currently performing it's second rotation of vacuum cleaning the catch basins within the city limits.

In 2024, Lafayette Renew Stormwater and Collections staff installed 642 ft. and repaired another 67 ft. of storm pipe ranging in size from 12-inch to 36-inch. Four storm manhole structures and two catch basins structures were also installed. The Stormwater staff also installed silt fence, rock check dams, inlet protection, construction entrance, and silt worm logs as BMP's, and continued to perform maintenance on them throughout the year.

Stormwater employees served on committees and attended several workshops and training seminars throughout the year:

- Indiana Local Technician Assistance Program (LTAP) Stormwater Drainage Conference
- Indiana Association for Floodplain Management (INAFSM)
- Contractors Training Workshop at Ivy Tech Community College
- Wastewater Operators Training
- Good Housekeeping for Stormwater at Ivy Tech Community College - Webinar
- Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System – MS4 Annual Conference (on-line)
- Wabash Riverfest
- Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) - Education Committee
- WREC - Sampling Blitz (river samples) and Steering Committee
- Tippecanoe County Partnership for Water Quality (TCPQW) - Co-Permittee
- Snowplow Training
- Safety Training
- Indiana Water Environment Association – Leadership Development Institute
- TICT – Tippecanoe Invasive Cooperative Taskforce

Daily work activities that Stormwater employees performed throughout the year:

- Vac-cleaned catch basins
- Raised storm manholes
- Repaired/patched storm lines and installed new storm lines
- Installed traps in catch basins for odor control measure
- Erosion and sediment control inspections performed
- Bank stabilization for erosion issues
- Roadside grading
- Televised and dye tested numerous storm lines
- Performed manhole bladder inspections
- Maintenance on conveyances channels, ditches, concrete and bio-swales, silt trap, etc.
- Monitored combined sewer overflow points
- Snow plowed areas assigned to Lafayette Renew Department
- Street sweepers assisted Street Department with leaf pick-up
- Performed river sampling at Wabash River with Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC)
- Weekly inspections and maintenance performed at Durkees Run Stormwater Park
- Grass mowed at various locations owned and maintained by our department

2024 STORMWATER CALLS	
Erosion Control Inspections	697
Stormwater/Street Flooding Calls	59
Sweeper Calls	115
Catch Basins Calls	41
Catch Basin Areas - Grate Cleaning	51 times
Storm Structures Cleaned – Vac Truck	1,107
Catch Basins Repaired	43
Catch Basins Installed	2

2024 STORMWATER CALLS	
Catch Basin Line Repaired	6
Storm Manholes Raised	2
Storm Manholes Installed	4
Ft. of New Storm Sewer Installed	642 feet
Ft. of Storm Sewer Repaired	67 feet
Storm Sewer Jet Cleaned	1,203 feet
Storm Sewer Televised	2,635 feet

In 2024, Stormwater continued to improve stormwater issues in the following areas:

- Perform maintenance duties on pervious pavers located through-out the City of Lafayette
 - Addresses street flooding, standing water and back up calls in these areas.



- Installed Dry Wells and convenience system on King Street between S. 11th & S. 12th Streets
 - Addresses flooding basements and backup calls in this area.



The Stormwater Department plays a key role informing and educating the public within the City of Lafayette. The Stormwater Department visits schools and discusses ways that families can help do their part (rain barrels, rain gardens, car washing, lawn fertilizing, etc.) Since the inception of the Rain Barrel Program in 2012, the Stormwater Department and Wabash River Enhancement Corporation has partnered together to help get rain barrels out to approximately 1,363 residences within our watershed. Throughout the year several tours were given at the Durkees Run Stormwater Park and various green practices. Riverfest is an annual event to help promote river awareness; it attracts a large number of people every year.

We also serve as a member of the Tippecanoe County Partnership of Water Quality (TCPWQ). The TCPWQ provides education, information, and outreach to improve the quality of the county's waters. The Wabash River, as well as all creeks and streams that feed it, are vital to maintaining an environmentally and economically viable community. The TCPWQ has produced and sponsored several videos stressing Stormwater requirements and protecting our local waterways, for public education and awareness.

Videos sponsored by TCPWQ:

- Stormwater Pond Maintenance for Homeowners
- MS4 for Elected Officials: Why is Stormwater Quality Important for Your Community
- Stormwater Quality: Inspections
- Blue is the New Green
- Proper Concrete Washout Procedures for Contractors
- Proper Refueling – Keeping Our Waterways Clean
- Proper Leaf Disposal
- Cigarette Butt Pollution
- Rain Barrel Installation
- What's in a River
- Construction Site - Best Management Practices
 1. What is the Practice? What does it do?
 2. Stormwater Runoff/Run On
 3. Surface Stabilization
 4. Outlet Protection & Ground Stabilization

SURVEILLANCE/PRETREATMENT

The City currently has 12 Significant Industrial Users and three General Industrial Users permitted with its pretreatment program. The City also monitors an interlocal agreement with the Town of Dayton and a Sanitary Wastewater Discharge and Maintenance Agreement with the Evonik Corporation. The Surveillance Department is responsible for permitting, inspecting, and monitoring these industries. This involves inspecting the facilities annually, monitoring their wastewater quarterly, reviewing the industries' self-monitoring data, and communicating with the industries on permit compliance and environmental topics. The City then reports to IDEM and the EPA on the industrial users' status.

The Surveillance Department is also responsible for maintaining a list of industrial users in the Lafayette area. Annually the Surveillance Department assesses the list of industrial users in the Lafayette area to determine if any industrial user meets the criteria to be classified as a Significant Industrial User. If an industrial user would be classified as a Significant Industrial User, the permitting process would begin to ensure protection of Lafayette Renew, its infrastructure, the City of Lafayette and the Wabash River.

Additionally, the Surveillance Department conducts Priority Pollutants testing, Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing, and Commercial/Residential testing as required by the City's NPDES permit. These tests are performed to ensure the commercial and industrial discharges are not negatively impacting the treatment plant or the Wabash River. The City's Surveillance Department also conducts river, ditch, and creek sampling, dye tests for commercial and residential billing audits, investigates and tracks down unusual discharges coming into the wastewater treatment plant, and responds to complaints of illegal dumping.



EPA Regulations for Dental Offices require the Surveillance Department to identify all dental offices connected to the City's sewer system and verify that they become compliant. Each of the 43 existing dental offices identified have been inspected and are currently compliant. Two new dental offices were established in 2024. They have been inspected and are currently compliant. New dental offices must undergo a plan review, inspection and submit a One Time Compliance Report (OTCR) prior to opening. The Surveillance Department continues to identify and verify that all dental offices are in compliance.

The Surveillance Department is also responsible for the Commercial Trap Program. This program involves inspecting and monitoring the City's commercial businesses. This includes plan reviews and installation inspections of new commercial businesses who have potential to cause issues with the collection system and wastewater treatment plant. The Commercial Trap Program is also responsible for inspecting over 500 grease interceptors and oil & grit separators at existing commercial facilities. This program aids in reducing the potential for sewers being plugged by grease, which reduces the amount of sanitary sewer overflows.

BIOSOLIDS LAND APPLICATION PROGRAM

The City's land application program provides a mutually beneficial service to both the City and the landowner. The City benefits by being able to land apply the biosolids on local farm ground and the landowner receives the biosolids as a form of fertilizer. In 2024, approximately 11.388 million gallons of biosolids were applied to 590 acres of available farm ground, which had a fertilizer value of \$140,946.

Biosolids that are land applied are tested to certify that they meet all State and Federal Regulations. The testing performed on the biosolids includes pH, pathogens, vector attraction, total solids, nutrients, and metals. This assures a beneficial byproduct for land application and provides the landowner with valuable nutrient information. The department is also required to soil sample each field in the program every two years. The soil sample results must meet regulations and are then provided to the farmer to help in crop planning. There are over 3,900 acres of farm ground potentially available for the City's land application program.



In 2024, the City volute pressed 2,090 dry tons of biosolids for when land application was not possible due to field conditions or weather. The volute press thickens the liquid biosolids into a solid material, which reduces the volume of biosolids, and the solid material can then be stored, land applied, or landfilled. Although the volute pressed biosolids are currently landfilled, Lafayette Renew continues to explore alternative disposal options instead of landfilling.

Lafayette Renew's other programs help play a vital role in ensuring the biosolids meet regulations for land application. These programs are responsible for monitoring the collection system, industrial and commercial establishments, and miscellaneous waste streams, to prevent pollutants from getting into the City's sewer system and ultimately into the biosolids at the Lafayette Renew Treatment Plant.

COLLECTION SYSTEM

The City of Lafayette added 4,144 feet of sanitary and 2,633 feet storm sewers within the collection system in 2024, bringing the total of sanitary, storm and combined sewers to 486.32 miles of collection system that serves the City of Lafayette and parts of Tippecanoe County. Currently, there are 15 employees that are responsible for the maintenance of the system, which includes cleaning, root cutting, repairing, televising and inspecting and responding to customer calls. There were six sewer line repairs made in 2024.

2024 Collection System Calls	
Backup	160
City Blockages	8
Sanitary	66
Odor	13
Rodent Baited Areas	0
Tap Inspections	390
Sewer Locates	14,430
Total 2024 Collection System Calls	15,067

Collection system employees completed various safety training courses. We are also responsible for snow removal in areas 8, 9 and 11, and assist the Street Department in other areas of the City as needed. Employees also assisted with snow removal at the plant and lift stations.

Ongoing preventative maintenance of sanitary sewers also includes water jetting each line for cleaning, manhole inspections, and map corrections. Preventative maintenance is performed annually to decrease the potential for sewer issues.

Preventative Maintenance 2024			
Regulators Inspected (# of days)	51	LF Sewer Jet Cleaned	11,322 feet
Sanitary Manhole Frames Raised	9	LF Sewer Cleaned in PM	389,526 feet
LF New Sewer Installed	185 feet	Total Manholes Cleaned	1,705
LF Sanitary Sewer Repaired	5 feet	LF Sewer Televised	10,665 feet
		LF Sewer Root Cut	3,993 feet

Storm and Sanitary Sewer Inspections

Lafayette Renew conducted storm and sanitary structure inspections on all projects and provided the contractors with punch lists for all structures inspected. They observed and approved all air, mandrel, and television inspections performed on the storm and sanitary sewer pipe. The following tables summarize storm and sanitary projects.

2024 Privately Developed Projects Accepted by the City for Maintenance	
Sanitary Structures	21
Sanitary Pipe	4,144 feet
Storm Structures	19
Storm Pipe	2,633 feet

2024 Privately Developed Projects to Remain Privately Maintained	
Sanitary Structures	61
Sanitary Pipe	13,444 feet
Storm Structures	181
Storm Pipe	19,164 feet



MAINTENANCE

The Lafayette Renew Maintenance Department performed routine maintenance at the wastewater treatment plant and 31 lift stations in and around the City of Lafayette.



Raineybrook Lift Station

In 2024, Lafayette Renew Maintenance department had the Raineybrook lift station replaced with a larger sized one, increasing the pumping capacity and reliability as well as opening the surrounding land for development.

Lafayette Renew had solar fields installed at Ross Road lift station and at the Treatment Plant. Ross Road is capable of generating 170 KW and the Plant can generate 660 KW. Along with the solar field at Pearl River, the three solar fields have a total generation capacity of 1.14 MWh.



Solar Field completions at the end of 2024: on the left is WWTP and on the right is Ross Road Lift Station.

The following projects and work were also completed in 2024:

- Weekly Lift Station checks for runtimes, and proper operation
- Seasonal mowing and cleanup of lift stations and various plant properties
- 806 preventive maintenance work orders completed
- The #1 and #2 coarse screens replaced
- Prairie Oaks force main and sewer repaired
- All floor and roof drains replaced in headworks building
- Sealed lift stations and repaired asphalt
- Replaced four big breakers in the primary switch gear to be sent for refurbishment
- Had the 1000 hp motor for #1 blower rebuilt
- 506 work orders completed
- Replaced both motor starters at Twyckenham lift station
- Replaced all three grit pumps
- Replaced the generator at McCarty Lane lift station
- Replaced 40% of all primary tank chains
- Rebuild the #3C draft tube mixer
- Rebuilt polymer pump for the volute press
- Rebuilt the #7 final tank sweep arm
- Continue upgrading lighting to LED throughout the plant including all the lights to LED in the vehicle storage building
- Repaired the MSA meters in the headworks building
- Replaced multiple motors on draft tube mixers
- Replaced gas valves on the #1 and #2 boilers
- Replaced the #1 breaker at 550 lift station
- Repaired the walls in lunchroom and large conference room
- Replaced the #1 pump at Greenbriar lift station
- The #4 raw sewage pump and spare pump rebuilt

LABORATORY

The Lafayette Renew Laboratory is staffed by two Lab Technicians and one Lab Chief. The Lab primarily supports the Operations and Surveillance Departments. The Operations Department maintains the Lafayette Renew plant in efficient working order. The Surveillance Department monitors local significant and general industrial users that discharge into the City's sanitary waste system.

Operations Support

The Lab operates seven days each week, and typically performs 54 tests daily on 22 separate samples for the Operations Department. Tests performed on plant samples taken from influent, primary effluent, and final effluent include Total Solids (TS), Volatile Solids (VS), Total Suspended Solids (TSS), Volatile Suspended Solids (VSS), Settleable Solids, Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), E. coli, Residual Chlorine, pH, Total Nitrogen, Ammonia, and Total Phosphorus. The results of these tests serve as a trending indicator of the plant's effectiveness at treating sanitary wastewater. The Lab also prepares influent and effluent samples for analysis by contract laboratories for metals such as Copper, Chromium, Nickel and Zinc.

Raw, digested, storage tank and field-applied biosolids are tested for pH, Total Solids, and Volatile Solids. Storage tank and land application biosolids are composited, retained, and prepared for third-party testing of metals and nutrients.

Samples from the influent, final effluent, and biosolids locations were prepared and shipped for annual required priority pollutant monitoring analysis to a third-party lab in July.

Each calendar quarter, known-concentration quality control standards are tested to monitor the accuracy of analytical methods employed in the Lab for each permit parameter. The results of all tests conducted in 2024 fell within acceptable limits for each standard.

Discharge Monitoring Report-Quality Assurance (DMR-QA) participation is required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Clean Water Act. The Lab completed DMR-QA Study 44 between May 17th – August 2nd . The DMR-QA program serves as a quality assurance check of the accuracy of both the Lafayette Renew Laboratory and contracted third-party laboratories. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) certified the Lafayette Renew Laboratory for all permit-required tests.

Surveillance Support

The number of tests performed daily increases by nearly 30% when the Surveillance Department is monitoring industries and during disinfection season (April 1 – October 31). The test results of each significant industrial user's discharge track that industries' compliance with their discharge permit. The Surveillance Department monitors 12 Significant industries and three General industries.

Through monthly and quarterly tests, the Lab monitors the health of the watershed within the City of Lafayette. Samples from four locations in the Wabash River are monitored monthly and six locations in Elliott Ditch and Wea Creek are tested quarterly.

E. coli analysis was performed on Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) samples from the Stormwater Department and as discharge source identification (sanitary or groundwater) for Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) elimination support.

Testing Completed in 2023

As shown in Table 1, the Lab conducted 27,197 tests in 2024. The Lab’s daily operations continue to run efficiently, and we are also able to help with special projects within other departments of Lafayette Renew.

Table 1. Test Prevalence

Ammonia-N	1,486
Biochemical Oxygen Demand	5,915
Chlorine/Bisulfite	1,187
TKN, Nitrate & Nitrite	382
E. coli	319
pH	1,634
Plant Phosphorous	1,994
Total Nitrogen	382
Settleable Solids	2,034
Special (QA/QC, DMRQA)	69
Total Solids & Total Volatile Solids (Sludge)	1,579
Total Suspended Solids & Volatile Suspended Solids	9,572
Waste Haulers	554
Miscellaneous	96
Total Tests Completed	27,197

2024 RENEW Safety & Accident Review

The primary focus of Renew’s Safety Committee in 2024 was a thorough analysis of hazards throughout the plant, which could result in slips, trips, and falls. To identify potential problem areas, the Safety Committee conducted an audit in each building and around the grounds of the utility. The results of each audit, as well as a list of corrective actions, were distributed to the Chief responsible for that section of the plant. Follow-up inspections will be conducted as part of the 2025 Safety Objectives.

Renew personnel sustained seven separate injuries over the course of 2024, as well as two exposure events. The exposures and injuries were the result of poor body mechanics, a lack of situational awareness, improper planning, and one insect bite. These injuries resulted in 5 days of lost time and 226 days of employees on “light duty”. This was a dramatic increase in lost time accidents compared to 2023. However, the majority of this increase, 220 days of “light-duty” and the 5 days of lost time, are the result of just one injury, the root of which lies in improper body mechanics and not poor safety planning.

Accident reviews were conducted by the head of Renew’s Safety Committee in each incident and corrective actions were implemented as a result. These corrective actions included the purchase of equipment that will prevent future injuries as well as reminders sent to each employee concerning the root cause of the injury. For example, one injury was the result of an employee stumbling while exiting a large truck. An email was subsequently sent to all employees reminding them of the importance of maintaining three points of contact when climbing into and out of vehicles.

There were four vehicle accidents in 2024, three of which were caused by a lack of situational awareness. One of the accidents was not the fault of the employee and could not have been avoided. None of the four accidents resulted in injuries and the overall cost associated with each incident was minimal. As with the injuries, a thorough investigation into the root cause of each vehicle accident was conducted by Renew’s Safety Committee and, when appropriate, reminder emails and corrective actions were implemented.

Renew staff completed all their annual safety training in January and February, In addition to the routine safety training, employees also received Trench Training, CPR, and First Aid training through the Lafayette Fire Department. Richard Doyle, a Surveillance Technician at Lafayette Renew, also conducted CPR training with individual Renew departments throughout the year in addition to that received by LFD. These smaller group settings allowed employees to ask more questions and have more hands-on experience than they would have otherwise been given.

In addition to this formal training, employees were sent informational emails each month on a topic chosen by the Renew Safety Committee. These topics were chosen based on seasonal safety issues, such as Working in Cold Weather, or based on issues we were having at the utility itself, such as Protecting Yourself Against Norovirus.