HOW THE CCMUA IS RESPONDING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Anaerobic Digester and Combined Heat & Power System
Reducing the carbon footprint of the energy-intensive wastewater treatment process is central to CCMUA’s climate goals. A 2.8 million gallon sludge digester has been constructed, providing renewable biogas to a new combined heat and power generation facility. This carbon-neutral and renewable energy source replaces 60% of the plant’s electricity needs. This, along with substantially reducing hauling costs, saves the county rate payers $3,000,000 annually.

Solar Panel Array
The 1.8 million watt CCMUA solar array became operational in 2012. Over 168,000 square feet of photovoltaic cells generate clean renewable energy replacing 10% of the treatment plant’s power consumption. In conjunction with the biogas and combined heat and power systems, the majority of the plant’s power is generated on-site. In the event of a power-grid failure, the plant can now operate on its own power, and so continue to treat sewage and pump stormwater out of the sewer system during increasingly powerful weather events made more intense by climate change.

Treatment Plant Wet Weather Capacity Upgrades
The dual threats of sea level rise and more intense rainfall will further stress the already aged stormwater infrastructure throughout Camden County. Increased precipitation will make flooding worse while higher tides will make it harder to divert floodwater to emergency river overflows. The CCMUA has invested in upsizing equipment and upgrading the treatment process to maximize the flow that can be managed through the plant, so that 185 million gallons per day of combined stormwater and sewage can be removed from streets and walkways.

Upcoming Camden County Events:
- Caregivers Virtual Support Group - 12/21 5:30pm - www.camdencounty.com/Caregivers
- Live At The Fillmore (The Definitive Tribute to the original Allman Brothers Band) - 1/29 8:00pm - The Scottish Rite
- An Evening with Graham Nash - 3/2 7:30pm - The Scottish Rite

For additional events and updates please visit camdencounty.com/events/