LANCASTER AREA SEWER AUTHORITY

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# *Lancaster Area Sewer Authority Highlights System-Wide Investments to Improve Reliability, Protect Water Quality*

**LANCASTER, Pa. – July 2026** – The Lancaster Area Sewer Authority (LASA) is advancing a comprehensive, long-term investment in its wastewater treatment and collection system, aimed at improving reliability, protecting public health, and enhancing water quality across the region.

The system improvements build on significant upgrades completed over the past five years and continues through an aggressive 10-year capital improvement plan designed to modernize the entire system focused on rehabilitating aging infrastructure, strengthening the collection system, and supporting the long-term needs of more than 125,000 residents and businesses.

A key component of this effort is the ongoing upgrade to LASA's Blue Rock Water Resource Recovery Facility (Blue Rock WRRF) in Washington Boro. Construction on the project began March 16, 2026, and is expected to be completed in 2029.

Originally constructed between 1965 and 1972, much of LASA's system infrastructure has been in service for decades. Recent and planned improvements include upgrades to treatment processes, pump stations, and major pipeline systems, along with rehabilitation of critical equipment. These investments are designed to reduce the risk of backups and overflows, improve system performance, and help protect homes and businesses from service disruptions while keeping local waterways cleaner for the community.

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Together, these system-wide improvements will enable LASA to meet today's environmental standards and reduce pollution entering local waterways without relying on the purchase of nitrogen credits, reducing nutrient discharge to local waterways and supporting ongoing Chesapeake Bay restoration efforts.

"This is a long-term investment in the systems our community depends on every day," said Michael Wolgemuth, Executive Director of LASA. "By upgrading aging infrastructure now, we're protecting public health, keeping service reliable for our customers, and improving water quality across our region."

LASA's capital improvements are funded through a balanced approach that includes existing revenues, reserves, bonds, and loans. To support these investments, LASA is implementing gradual rate adjustments of approximately 5% annually over five years.

While these upgrades focus on improving system performance and environmental outcomes, LASA's existing permitted capacity is expected to support continued community growth for approximately the next 20 years. These improvements are critical to maintaining that capacity and preparing for future needs.

**About LASA**

The Lancaster Area Sewer Authority provides wastewater treatment services to more than 125,000 customers across nine municipalities. LASA owns and maintains 944 miles of pipeline, 46 pumping stations, and two treatment plants, along with additional capacity at the City of Lancaster Treatment Plant. In total, LASA treats an average of over 15 million gallons of wastewater per day. LASA is committed to protecting public health, maintaining reliable infrastructure, and improving water quality in local waterways and the Chesapeake Bay. https://lasa.org/

More information about LASA's system improvements and rate adjustments is available at https://lasa.org/upgrades/

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