



Water Works

February 2024



Spring is coming. Don't forget your backflow device!

The weather's getting warmer, which means it's a great time to make sure your backflow prevention device is working!

If your home has an irrigation system or a swimming pool, then it should

FIND OUT ABOUT:

[Backflow Testing](#)

[Current Job Opportunities](#)

[Southside Wastewater Plant Replacement](#)

have what's called a backflow prevention device or backflow assembly. This equipment keeps contaminants from your sprinklers or pool from flowing backward into the public water system.

You are responsible for having your backflow device tested annually and submitting your inspection report to CFPUA.

[Click here for a list of certified backflow testers operating in our area.](#)

Once your testing and inspection is complete, [submit your inspection results form at this link](#), or in person at CFPUA's Administrative Building at **[235 Government Center Drive, Wilmington, NC 28403](#)**.

[Sweeney Treatment Enhancements Project](#)



Click the icon above to sign up for news and alerts from CFPUA through [Notify Me](#).

CONTACT US

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Engineering: (910) 332-6560

Human Resources: (910) 332-6570

Water Conservation Hotline: (910) 332-6566

Water/Sewer Emergencies: (910) 332-6565

Email: communications@cfpua.org



If your home or business has sprinklers, a pool, or in-ground irrigation, then you also have a backflow prevention assembly. Learn what this equipment does and why you need to get it tested yearly!

CFPUA's Economic Impact on our Region

Each year, CFPUA invests tens of millions of dollars to ensure families and businesses in our community have access to safe, reliable water and wastewater services.

This spending has impacts that reverberate beyond treatment plants, pipes, and pump stations, as detailed in a [recently released report](#): “Economic Impacts of Cape Fear Public Utility Authority’s Water and Wastewater Services and Infrastructure Investments.”

The report analyzes changes in employment, economic output, and other economic activity in New Hanover County resulting from spending by CFPUA on water and wastewater infrastructure and operations, as well as the millions of dollars of economic output that would be lost each day from an extended disruption of water service. It examines economic growth in the region that also includes Brunswick and Pender counties facilitated by CFPUA’s system investments and the water and wastewater services they support.

Key findings from the report include:

- Every \$1 million spent by CFPUA from 2013-2022 created an average of 10.7 jobs per year in New Hanover County.

- Over the same 10-year period, each \$1 spent by CFPUA generated a total of \$1.66 in economic output in the local economy as that spending rippled through various sectors.

[Click here to read the full report.](#)

Average annual total value-added and economic output impacts of CFPUA operating and capital expenditures, 2013-2022 (\$M, 2023 USD)

Impact type	Total value added ^a	Economic output (output multiplier)
Direct	\$40.4	\$88.8
Indirect	\$19.9	\$38.6
Induced	\$17.6	\$30.4
Total	\$78.0	\$157.8 (1.61)

a. Total value added is one component of economic output (i.e., value added and economic output are not additive). It includes labor income, taxes on production/imports, and other property income.

Southside Project Awarded \$35M in State Loans



CFPUA has been awarded \$35 million in low-interest loans for the Southside Wastewater Treatment Plant Replacement Project, the biggest capital project in the organization's history.

The N.C. Department of Environmental Quality's (NCDEQ) Division of Water Infrastructure announced the loans this month. This was the second \$35 million loan that the Southside project has been awarded, for a total of \$70 million.

Opened in 1972, the Southside Plant is reaching the end of its useful life and is in need of full replacement. This project will also expand the plant's treatment capacity from 12 million gallons per day (MGD) to 16 MGD, allowing it to stay ahead of growth across CFPUA's service area.

Construction is expected to begin in 2025. [Learn more about the project here.](#)

Local Leaders Honored for Supporting Water



(Left to right): CFPUA Board Chair Jennifer Adams, Representative Deb Butler, Representative Ted Davis, Jr., Senator Michael V. Lee, and CFPUA Executive Director Kenneth Waldroup at the Wednesday, February 14.

This month the CFPUA Board recognized New Hanover County's delegation to the N.C. General Assembly for members' work to support our region's utility infrastructure, water resources, and environment. The 2023 Appropriations Act allocated \$35 million to CFPUA, including \$17 million to support regional utility consolidation efforts and \$18 million to extend CFPUA water service to areas dealing with PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) contamination in private groundwater wells.

[Learn more about our legislators' work here.](#)

Employee Spotlight

Each month we introduce you to one of the more than 300 employees at CFPUA who work to provide you with the best water and wastewater services.



Kylie Anthony
Meter Reader

Birthplace: *Wilmington, NC*

Department/Division: *Customer Service, Meters*

Position: *Meter Reader*

Length of employment: 2.5 years

Briefly describe your typical day at work: *First thing, I receive my work orders for the day, which could be meter re-reads, service moves, or other things. I don't have a set part of CFPUA's service area, so each day of the week could be in a totally different part of town. Throughout my shift I'm also reading Beacon, which is the technology that allows CFPUA to read meters remotely without going on to customers' property.*

What do you enjoy most about your job? *My hours and the fact that I work outside. Before this I've always worked in places where I looked at the same four walls, so it's nice to see trees.*

Tell us about one of your biggest accomplishments or challenges while working at CFPUA? *My biggest challenge has been learning the ins and outs of our meter-reading routes, especially in all the newly developed parts of Wilmington. I just maneuver them, map them out, and keep learning as I go.*

What advice would you give to recent new hires? *First, keep a positive attitude. Be consistent and thorough with completing all of your work orders.*

What's one thing you'd want customers to know about your department, position, or CFPUA in general? *CFPUA's staff strives hard to provide and maintain the best services.*

What do you like to do when you're not at work? *I spend all my free time with my daughter, who is 6. We're card game players and we love the outdoors, especially when it starts to warm up.*

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