

One Water, One Collection System Sustainable Design

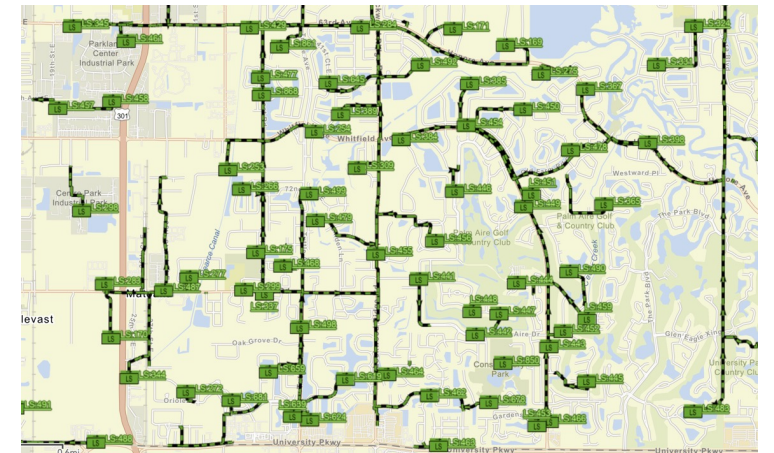
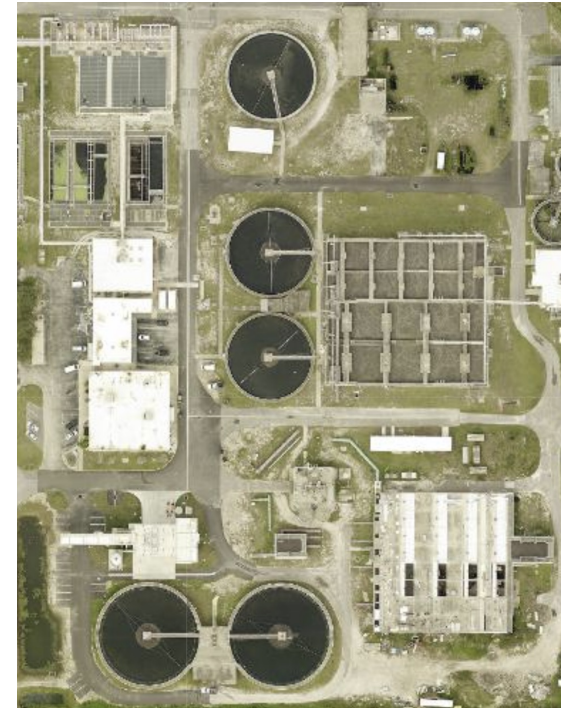
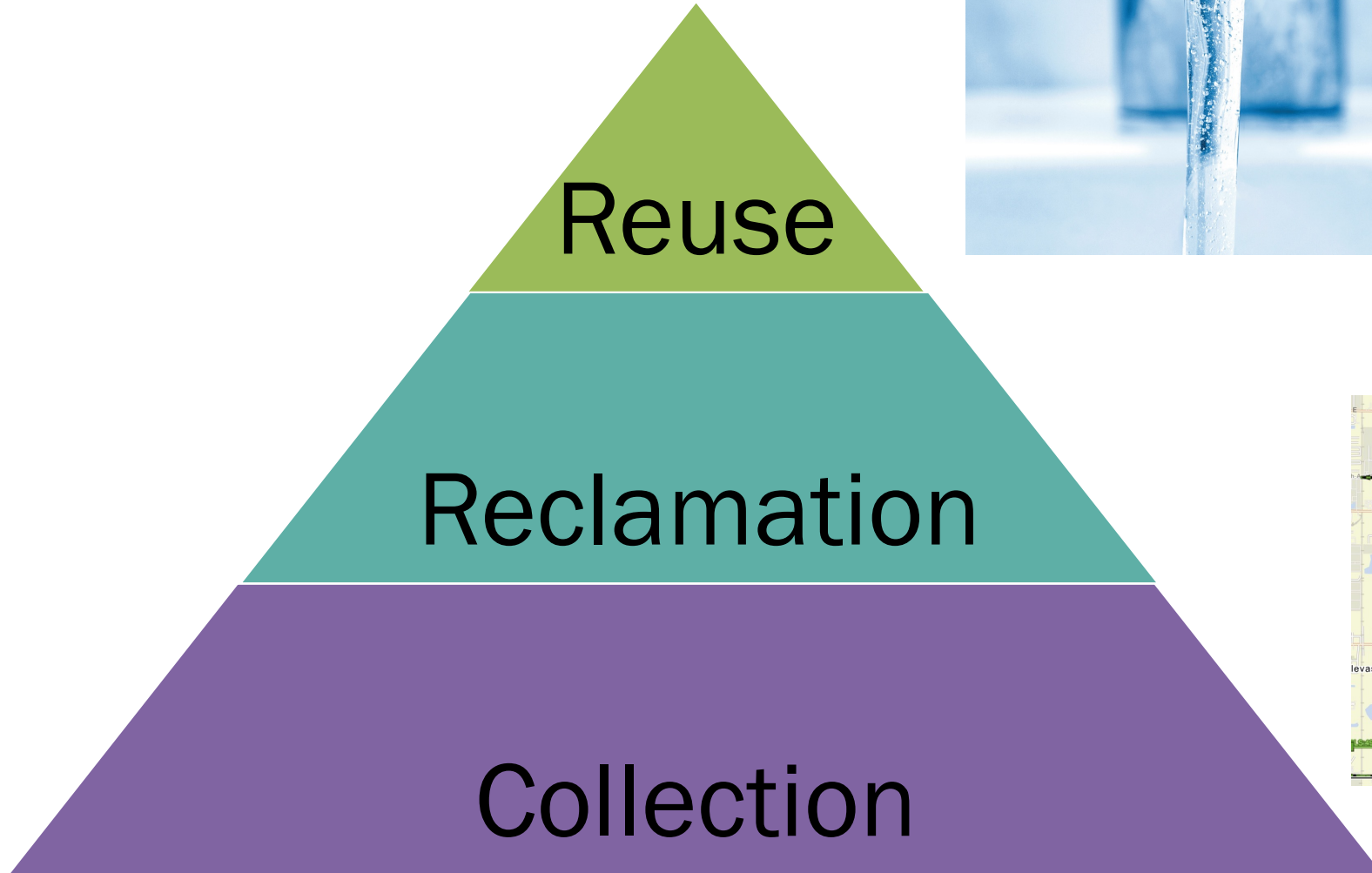
Vaughan Harshman, PE
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V&A Consulting Engineers



NEWWEA
WORKING FOR WATER QUALITY



Collection System is at the Core



Corrosion Risk

Camera probe shows downtown sewer main in danger of collapse



Sewer line collapse devours Lawton trash truck



Sinkhole swallows trash truck in Lawton (KSWO)



The portion of the sewer main that collapsed in December was built in the 1960s and had been heavily deteriorated by hydrogen sulfide gas, which is commonly referred to as sewer gas.

Odor – Public Nuisance



**‘The odor was just unreal’: J...
sewage issues**



City troubleshoots persistent sewer odor

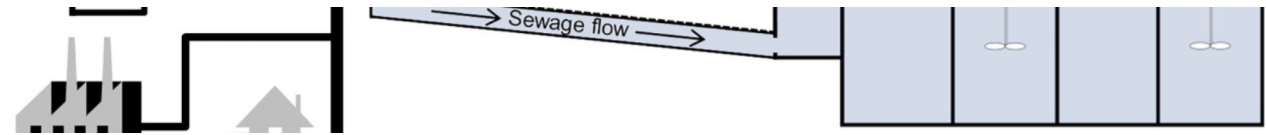


Greenhouse Gas Production



THE CONTENT

Manuscript: New GHG Methodology to Quantify Sewer Methane



THE CONTENT

Sustainability Within Collection Systems: Methane Mitigation as a Result of Odor and Corrosion Prevention Programs Utilizing Calcium Nitrate

Agenda

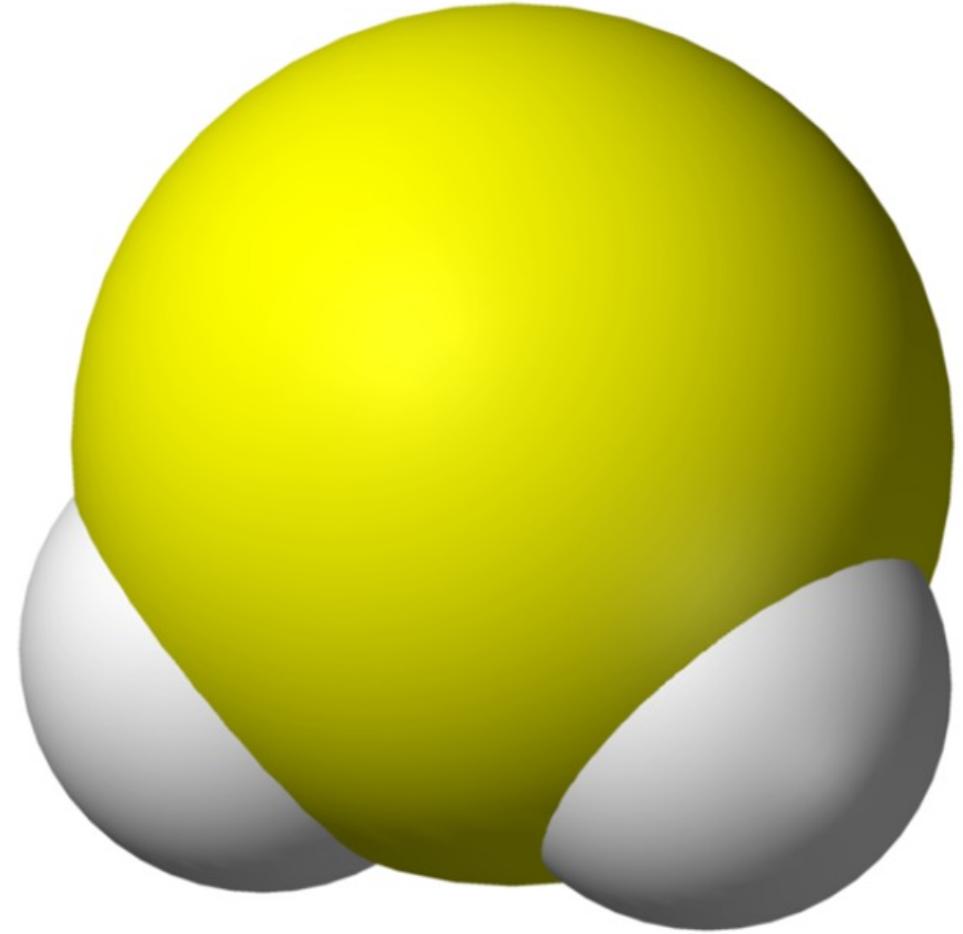
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 - Hydrogen Sulfide
 - Methane
 - Volatile Fatty Acids
- Why Does it Matter? ESG Impacts
 - Environmental
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Hydrogen Sulfide – H₂S

Safety concern in confined spaces

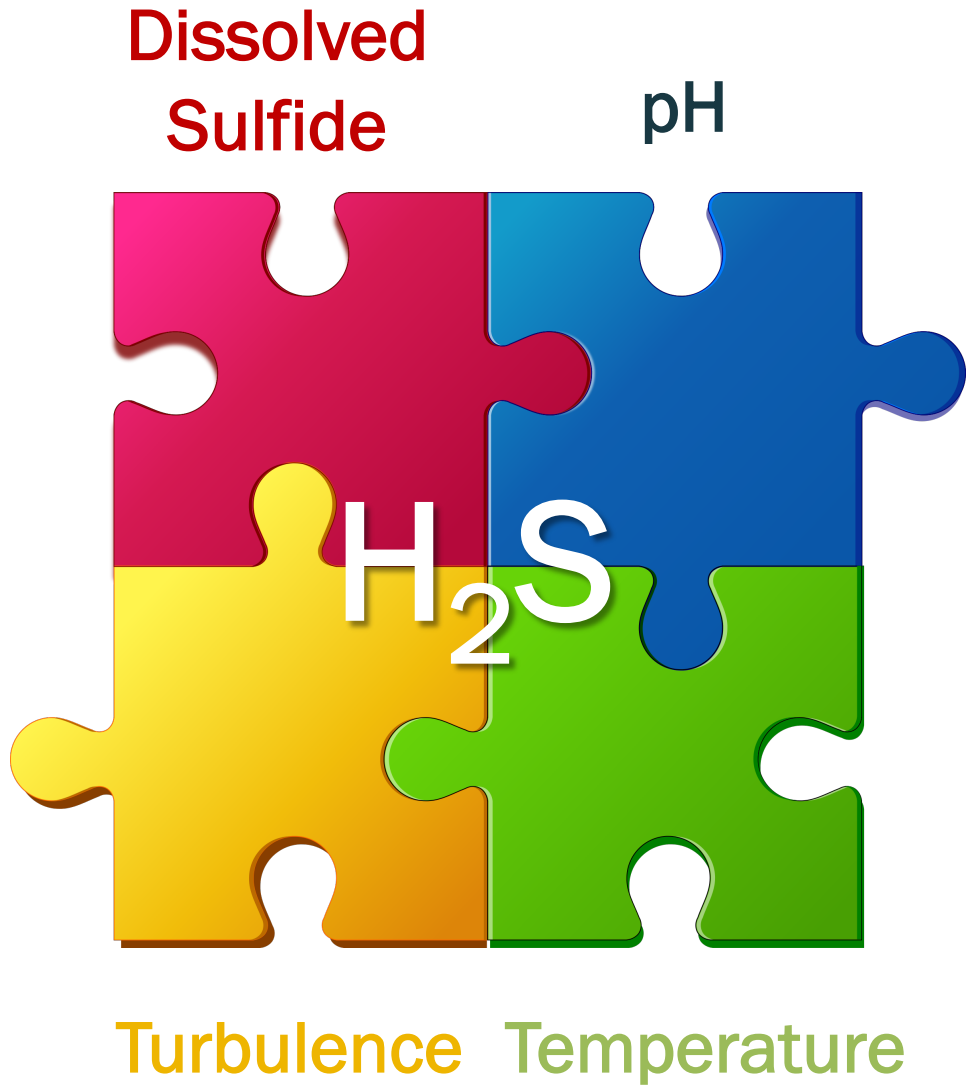
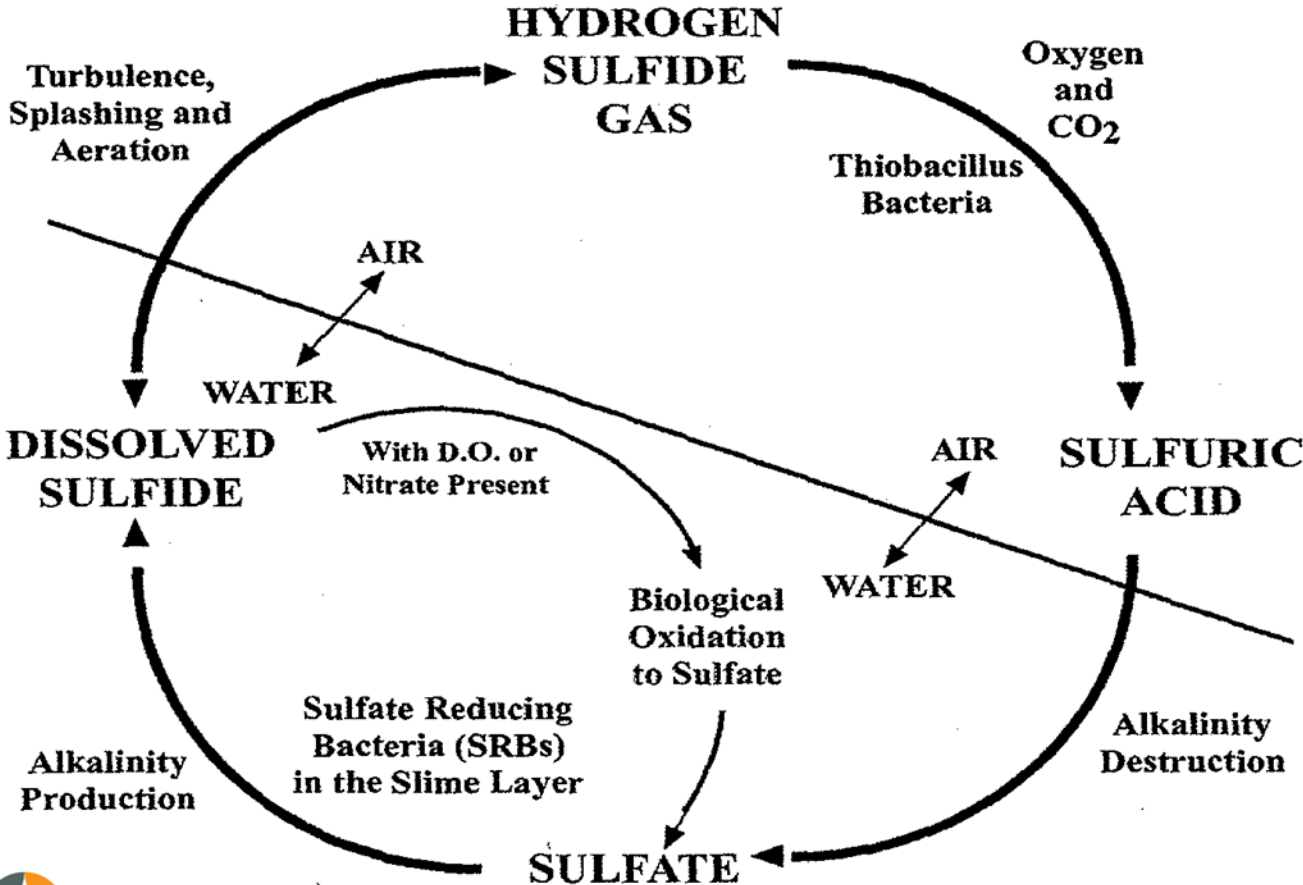
Major cause of wastewater infrastructure corrosion

Source of most (but not all) wastewater odor problems

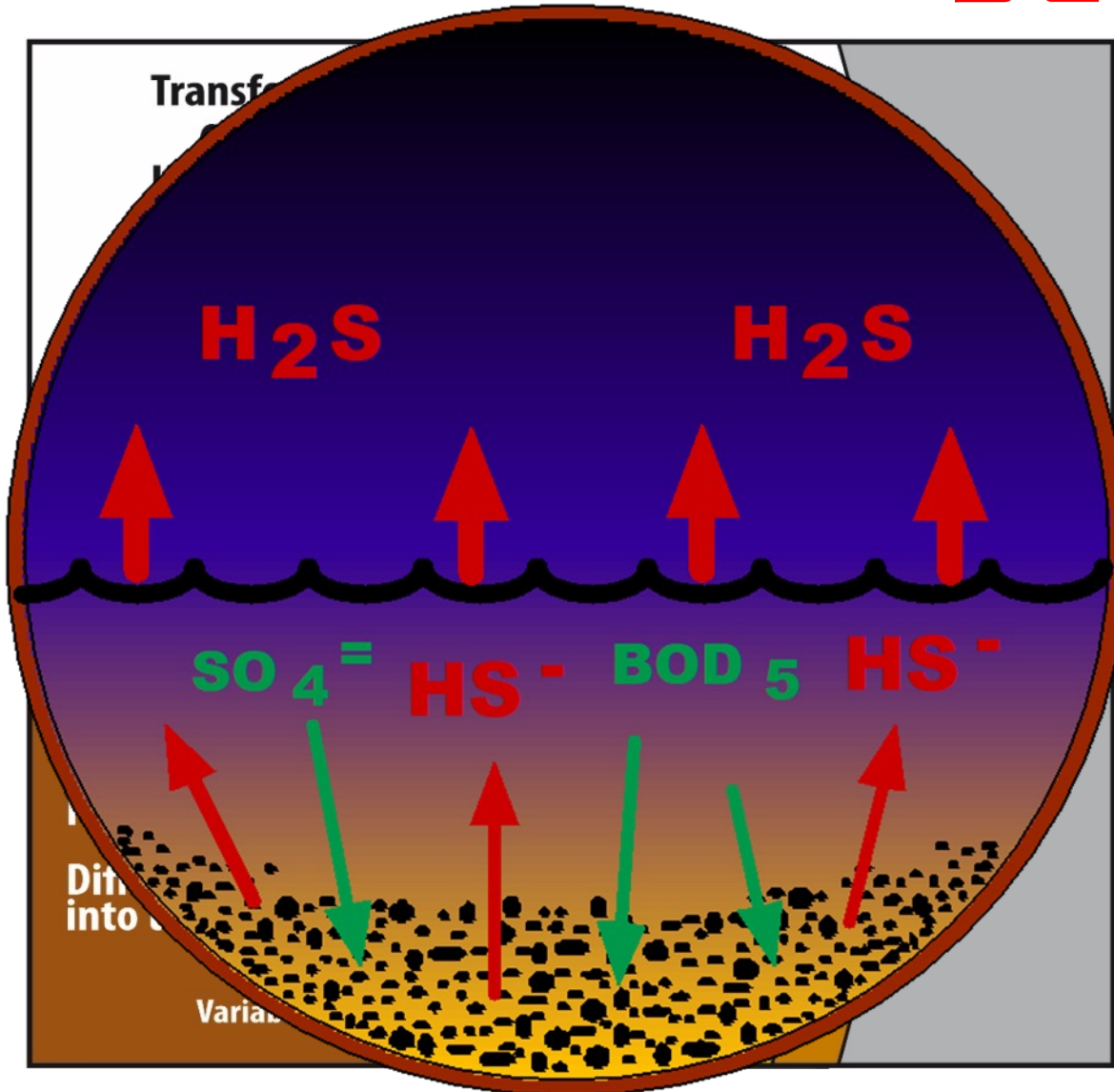
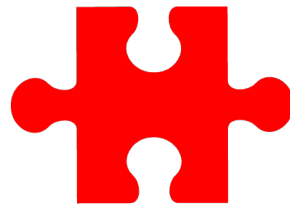


The H₂S Puzzle

The Sewer Sulfide Cycle



Dissolved Sulfide



Force Mains

- 360-degree Wetted Surface
- No Aeration

Detention Time

- Reaction is Time Limited
- More Time = More Sulfide

BOD

- More Food
- More Sulfate Uptake
- More Sulfide

Temperature

- Warmer Temps
- More Active Slime
- More Sulfide

Slime Layer Surface Area

- Debris
- All Wetted Surfaces Grow Slime
- More Slime = More Sulfide

GHG - Methane

BOD Reduction in Sewers (Methanol Basis)

Process	Reaction	CO ₂ e : CH ₃ OH
Aerobic (O ₂)	$3\text{O}_2 + 2\text{CH}_3\text{OH} \rightarrow 2\text{CO}_2 + 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$	1 : 1
Anoxic (NO ₃)	$6\text{NO}_3^- + 5\text{CH}_3\text{OH} \rightarrow 5\text{CO}_2 + 3\text{N}_2 + 7\text{H}_2\text{O} + 6\text{OH}^-$	1 : 1
Anaerobic (SO ₄)	$\text{SO}_4^{2-} + 4\text{CH}_3\text{OH} \rightarrow \text{S}^{2-} + 4\text{H}_2\text{O} + 2\text{CH}_4 + 2\text{CO}_2$	14.5 : 1

GWP = Global Warming Potential (CO₂e)

CO₂
GWP=1



CH₄
GWP=28



Graphic courtesy Evoqua/Xylem

Phosphorus Removal - VFAs

Phosphate Accumulating Organisms (PAO) Require Volatile Fatty Acids (VFA) as an energy source

VFAs are essential to Bio-P Removal

VFAs are formed via fermentation in anaerobic conditions

Design anaerobic stage in treatment process or depend on anaerobic conditions in collection system?

Align and Balance Collection System and Treatment Facility Needs

Impact of Odor and Corrosion Control Practices on the Influent Readily Biodegradable COD fraction and Biological Nutrient Removal System Performance, (Kobylinski, et al, 2010)



Agenda

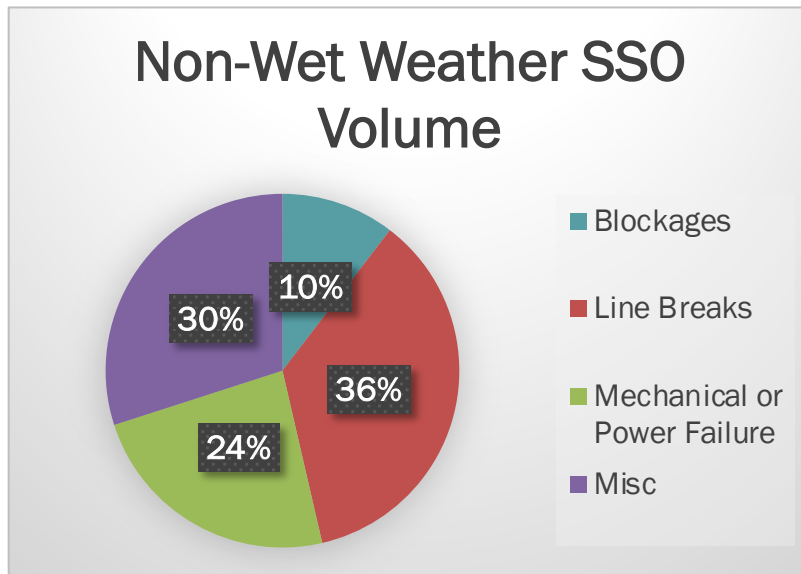
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Environmental Impacts

Sanitary Sewer Overflows

USEPA estimates
3 to 10 billion
gallons of SSOs
each year

Significant
fraction due to
line breaks -
Corrosion



Report to Congress, Impacts and Control of CSOs and SSOs (USEPA, 2004)

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Water infrastructure generates 4.7% of global methane emissions

Mapping Water's Carbon Footprint (Global Water Intelligence, 2020)

Sewer (collection system) methane is estimated to produce 45% of wastewater scope-1 emissions

Sector-wide GHG Emissions with Normalized Process and Effluent N₂O, Sewer CH₄, and Methanol CO₂ (Willis et al., 2020)

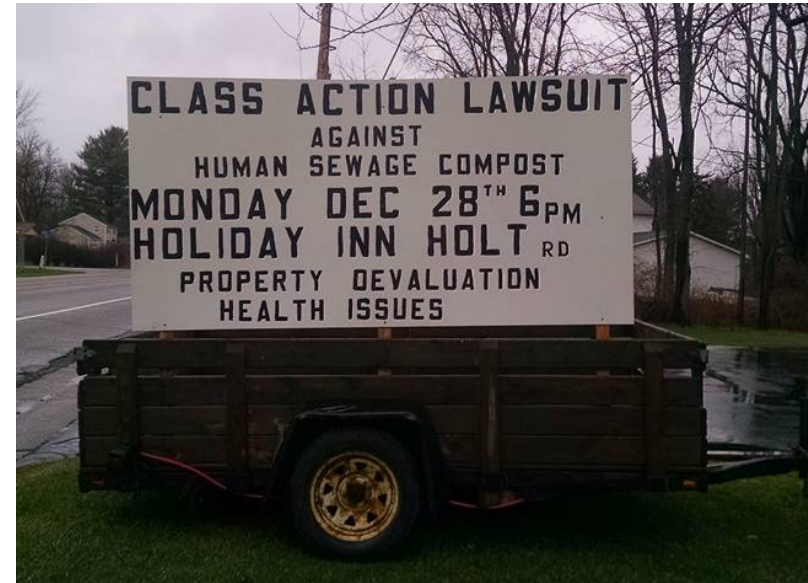
Social Impacts

Odor - Emotional

- Direct Connection to Limbic System
- Involuntary Memory Formation
- Emotional/Psychological Response

Disruption - Frustration

- Service
- Traffic
- Recreation



Governance Impacts

SSO Enforcement

The screenshot shows the EPA Region 1 website. At the top is the EPA logo and navigation menu. The main heading is "Enforcement to Address Sewer Overflows". Below the heading is a paragraph: "Preventing sewer overflows is a national enforcement priority for EPA. EPA's compliance goal is to eliminate sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) from municipal collection systems and to ensure that wastewater is being conveyed to treatment plants in accordance with the requirements of the Clean Water Act. To eliminate SSOs, EPA uses a mix of compliance and enforcement tools. As part of its efforts to achieve these improvements, EPA New England has issued a number of traditional administrative and judicial penalty actions assessing over \$2 million in penalties." To the right of this text is a box with the link "Do You Know the Condition of Your Sewers?". On the left side, there is a sidebar with links: "About EPA New England", "A-Z Index", "Eliminating Sewage Overflows Home", "Wastewater Collection System Toolbox", "Enforcement to Address Sewer Overflows" (highlighted), "Workshops and Training", and "Organizations and Associations".

“EPA New England has issued a number of traditional administrative and judicial penalty actions assessing over \$2 million in penalties.”

Odor Regulations

Nuisance Violations:

Location	Off-site standard or guideline	Averaging times
Allegheny County Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP)	4 D/T (design goal)	2-minutes
San Francisco Bay Area Air Quality District	5 D/T	Applied after at least 10 complaints within 90-days
State of Colorado	7 D/T (Scentometer)	
State of Connecticut	7 D/T	
State of Massachusetts	5 D/T*	
State of New Jersey	5 D/T **	5-minutes or less
State of North Dakota	2 D/T (Scentometer)	
State of Oregon	1 to 2 D/T	15-minutes
City of Oakland, CA	50 D/T	3-minute
City of San Diego WWTP	5 D/T	5-minutes
City of Seattle WWTP	5 D/T	5-minutes

Mahin, T., Measurement and Regulation of Odors in the USA, 2003

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Limit Septicinity – Limit H₂S and CH₄



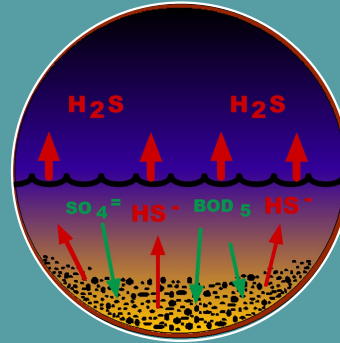
Minimize force mains, maximize gravity

- Capacity exceptions



Don't over-size

- Limit detention time



Keep lines clean

- Minimize debris, surface area



Design WRRF for VFA production

- Don't rely on collection system



Use chemical dosing as needed

- Consider GHG impacts of chemistry

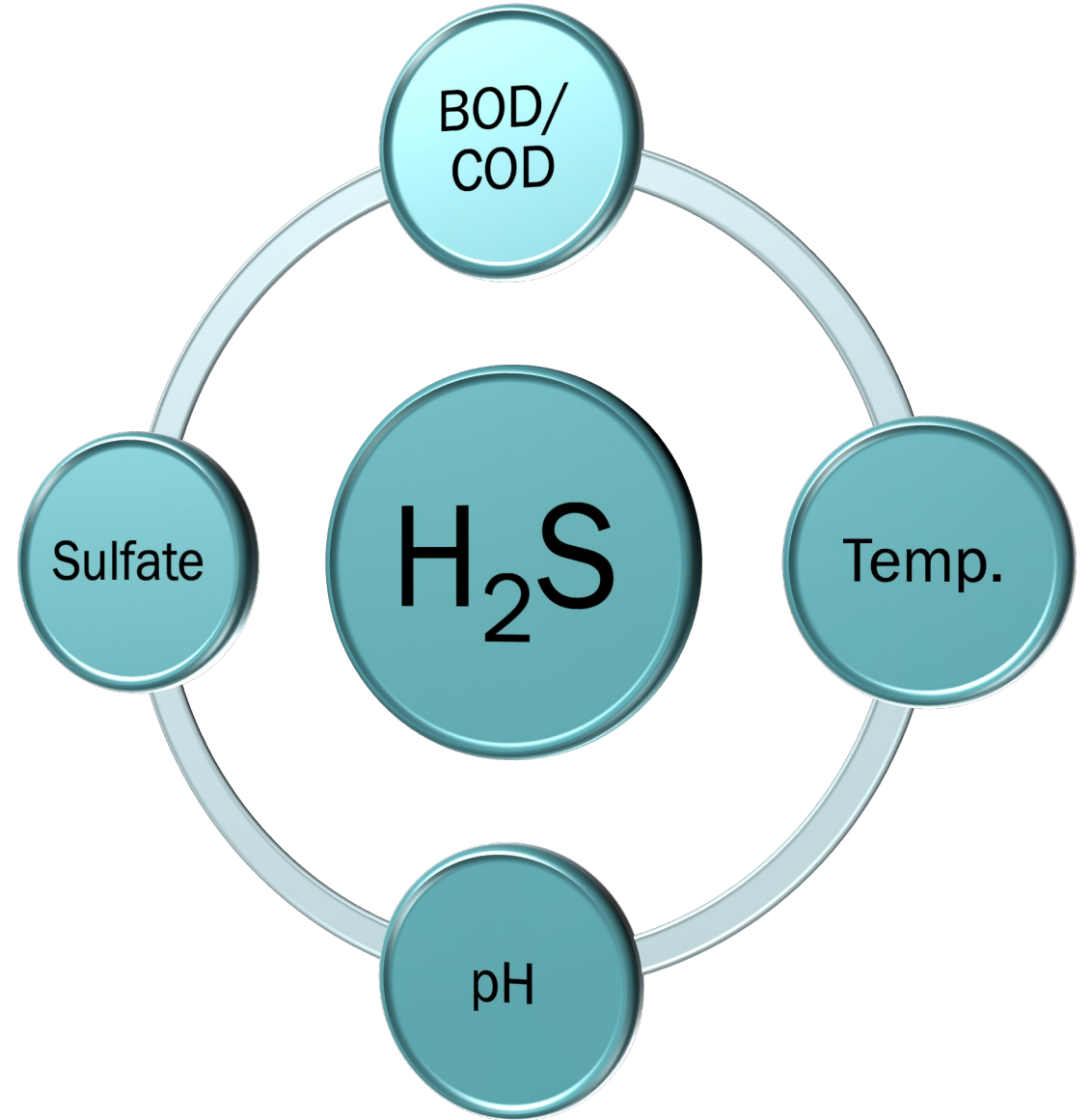


Minimize Turbulence

- Turbulence increases vapor-liquid surface area, accelerates gas release
 - Like CO₂ in a carbonated beverage
 - Turbulence strips H₂S
- Operate PS at inlet level
- Minimize drops
- Use drop pipes
- Wye flow connections



Enforce Pretreatment

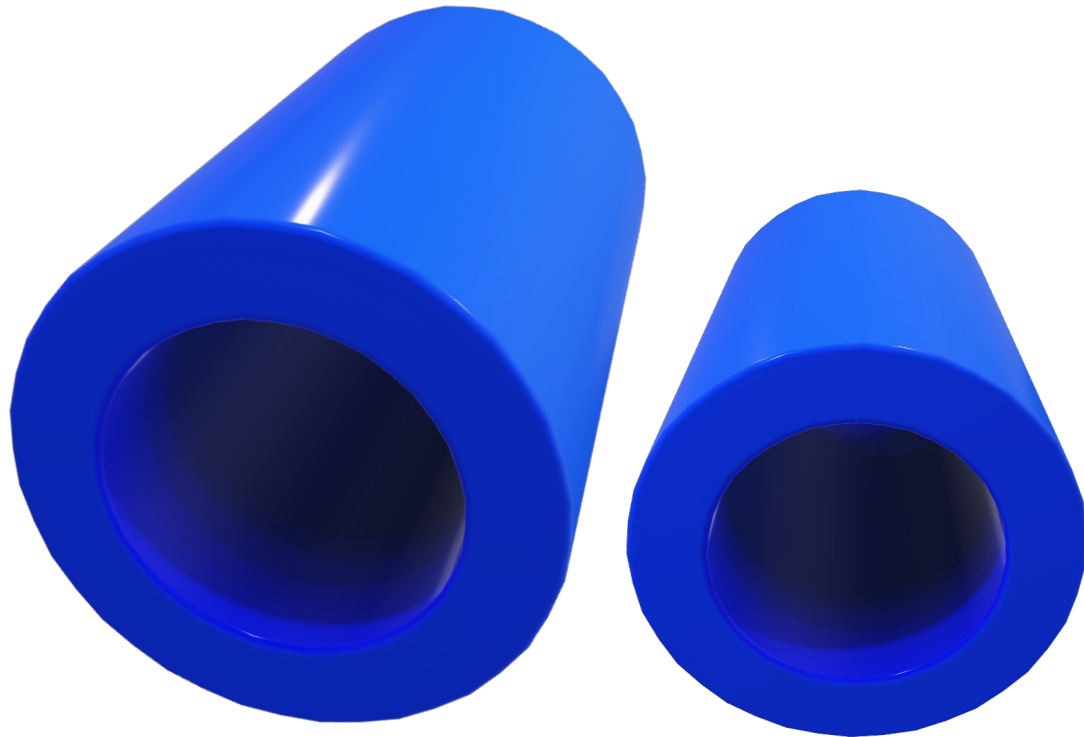


Design for Growth Curve

Parallel lines

Multiple pump sizes

Flush capability – clean and scour



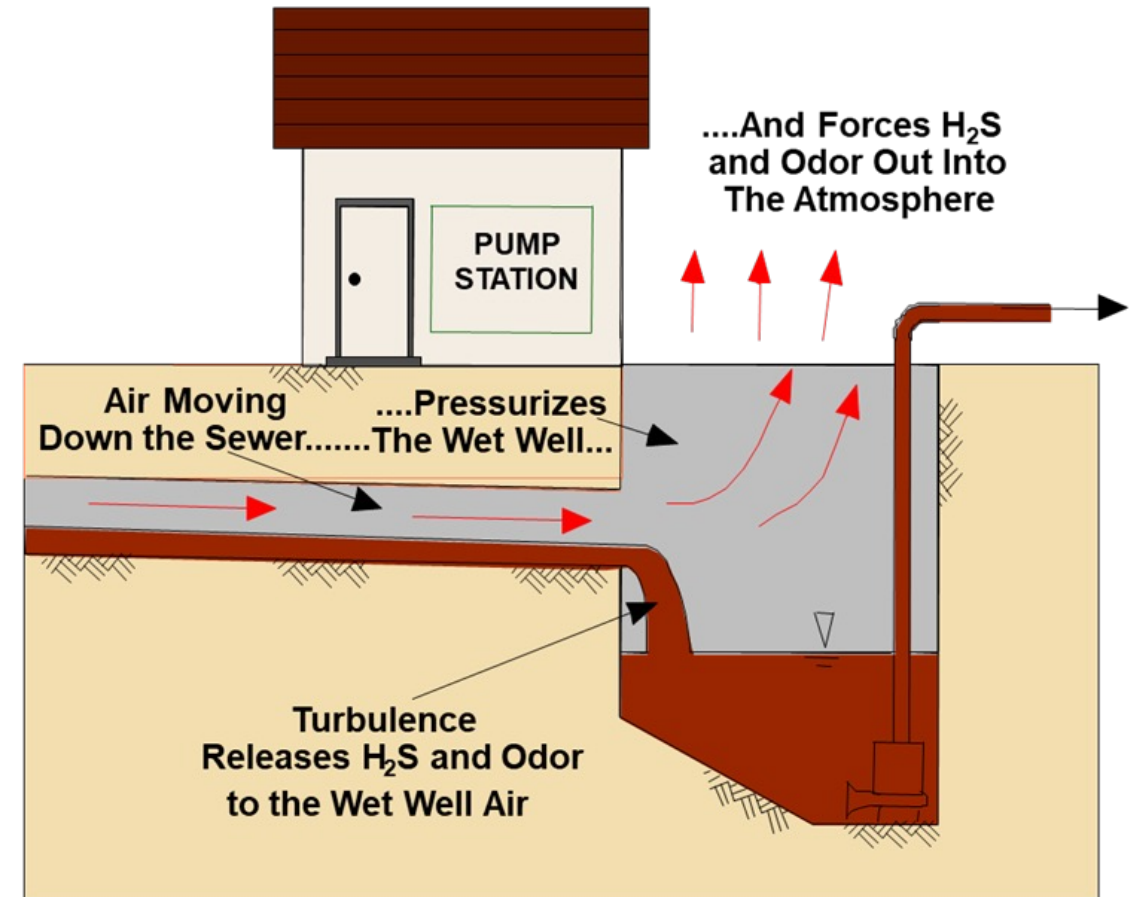
Design for Corrosion



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Ventilation

- Use natural ventilation
- Supplement with mechanical
- Consider make-up air source and quality



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Manatee County, Florida Collection System

Key Stats

- 100,000 customers
- Covers unincorporated area, majority of County
- Flat terrain → majority of flow has long RT
- Warm temperatures → wastewater quickly loses DO
- Sulfide generation extensive, H₂S release opportunity widespread



Manatee County Approach

Historical Approach

- Hydraulics
 - Prevent spills
 - Efficient operation
- Control odors
 - Sensitive areas
 - Tourism economy
 - Keep the phone from ringing
 - Odor control measures
 - Chemical dosing
 - Ventilation & treatment

New Approach – Building on History

- Infrastructure protection
 - Prevent corrosion
- Collection system as bioreactor
- New tools in toolbox

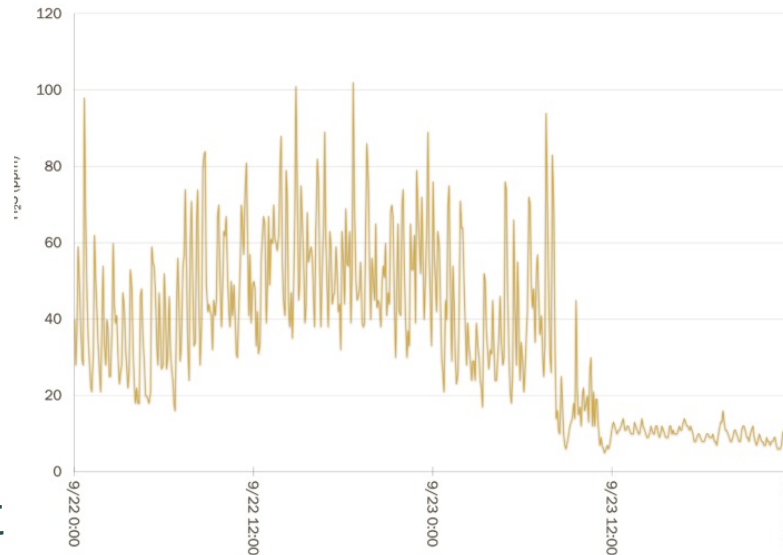


Manatee County New Approach

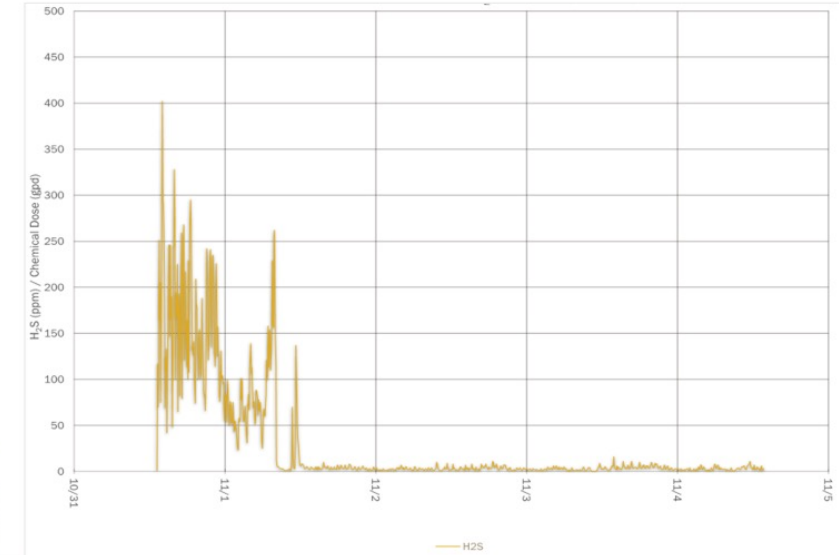
- Limit Septicity
 - Old and new chemistry
 - Clean lines
- Turbulence Reduction
 - Drop pipes
 - Raise wet well levels
- Design for corrosion
 - Plastic pipe
 - Polymer concrete
- Targeted ventilation
 - Pull from influent manhole instead of wet well



MLS CC6 H2S Before & After Covering Drop Pipe

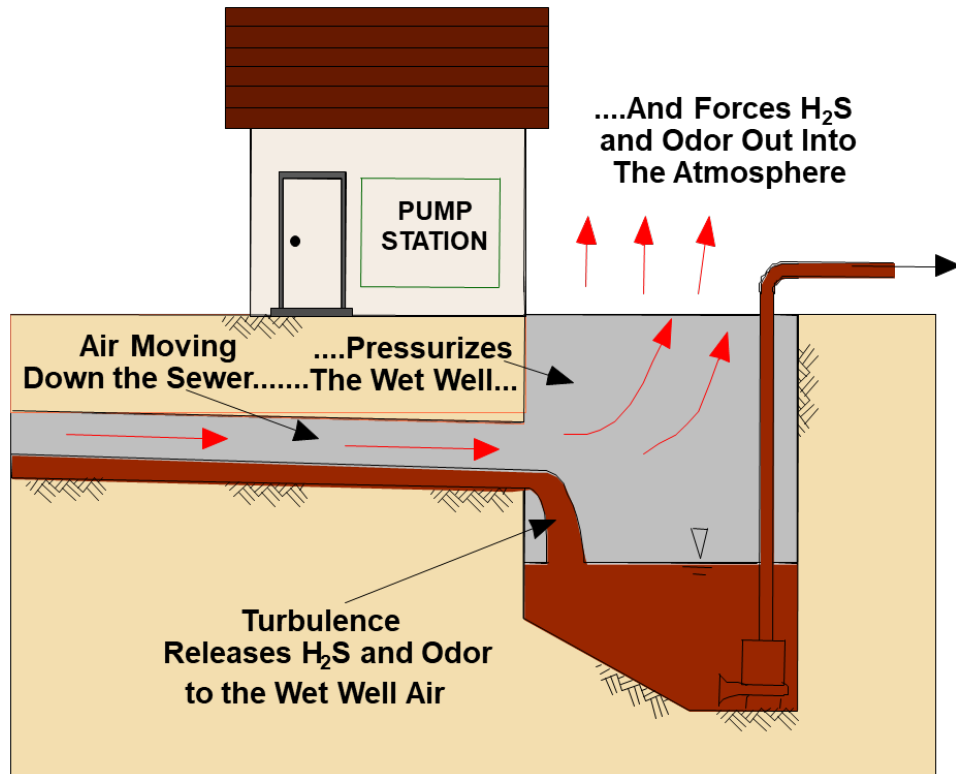


MLS Tara 20 H₂S Change With Well Level Rise

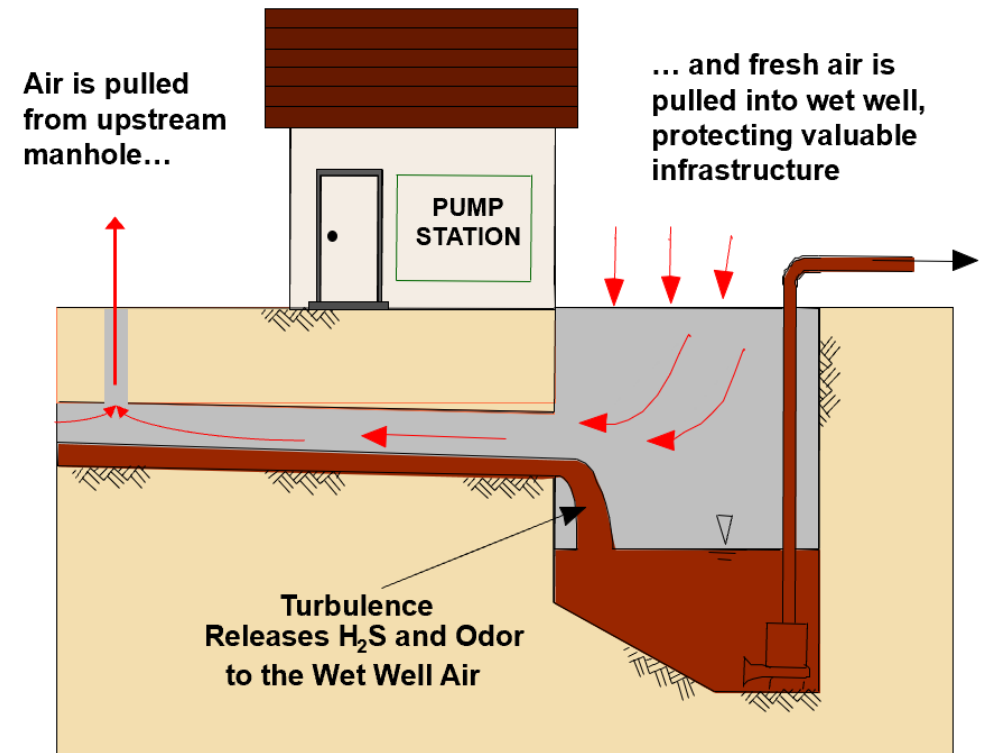


Targeted Ventilation

Old Approach – Capture Odor at Wet Well



New Approach – Capture Odor Upstream from Wet Well



Corrosion Control - Odor Control - Sustainability

Manatee County End Result

Environmental

- Fewer Spills
- FWEA Award for Environmental Stewardship in Odor Control

Social

- Odors controlled
- Fewer service disruptions
- Economic Stewardship

Governance

- Avoid SSO Fines
- No Regulatory Pressure for Odor Control

Conclusion

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- Hydrogen Sulfide
- Methane
- Volatile Fatty Acids

- Why Does it Matter?

- Environmental

- Design Topics

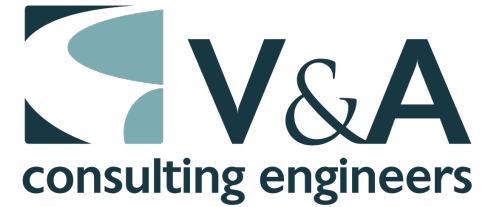
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Collection System is a Bioreactor



NEWWEA
WORKING FOR WATER QUALITY



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