

FREDERICK COUNTY SANITARY DISTRICT OF SHAWNEELAND MANAGER'S REPORT – AUGUST 2024

Lake Cherokee Update:

As we can all see the lake level on Cherokee Lake has been on a steady decline since June 6th. At that time the lake level was 1" above full pool. As of July 30th the lake level is minus 61". This of course is a direct result of the unusually dry and hot weather conditions.

Pipe Replacement:

The staff has been replacing and upgrading deteriorated drainage culverts throughout Shawneeland. To date the staff has replaced 525ft. of culverts. In places that have water flow most of the year we are using HDPE pipe instead of the galvanized metal that we normally use, this will increase the life of the culvert by 3 to 4 times. The life expectancy of galvanized metal is about 20 years. Over the long haul this will save on the cost of culvert replacement. The culvert replacements will continue until all the scheduled culverts are replaced.

Grader Patching:

Usually by this time of year the motor grader asphalt patching would be well underway. This process has not yet started. Once we have all the drainage culverts installed, the asphalt patching process will begin. This will be an ongoing project that will take us into next spring. This type of asphalt patching is not a process that can be done during the winter months.

Tar & Chip:

We are approved to tar and chip 8.11 miles of trails in this current budget year. There are several steps to take place to prepare the roads for the tar and chip program. This includes cutting low lying limbs, so the tar and chip machinery have clearance to operate. Replacing all the damaged culverts is also part of this process. Repairing shoulders and ditches is the next step, then asphalt patching any spots that the road surface is breaking up, dips, broken edges, and potholes. The staff is still working on these steps and will not be completed in time for the tar and chip program in September as we usually do, therefore the tar and chip program will be delayed until the latter part of May or the first part of June. This will allow the beforementioned tasks to be completed and ready for the contractor to start the tar and chip program at that time.

Mowing Trails:

The staff started mowing along the trails in the first part of May. At this point all the trails have had at least one pass with the mowing tractor. We will do a second round of mowing late summer and into fall.