# FREDERICK COUNTY SANITARY DISTRICT OF SHAWNEELAND MANAGER'S REPORT – NOVEMBER 2020

# **Tar & Chip Program:**

The Tar & Chip Program commenced on September 23, 2020 and was completed on October 5, 2020. Carroll Construction was the only company that submitted a bid and was awarded the contract by the Frederick County Finance Department. I had originally projected 12.19 miles of roadway to be treated but after the mild winter and careful reevaluation, we had 9.96 miles of roadways treated with the double seal of tar and chip. The amount budgeted for this project was \$309,499. The total end cost of the project was \$230,032.95 which equals \$2.45 per square yard to treat 93,891 square yards. We ended up coming in \$79,466.05 under the budgeted amount. Carroll Construction once again did a very good job with the project under very difficult circumstances pertaining to the challenging terrain of Shawneeland.

## **Grader Asphalt Patching:**

The Shawneeland staff started the grader patching project on May 19, 2020 and completed the 1<sup>st</sup> of 2 phases on June 25, 2020. During this phase, the staff placed 534.93 tons of SM 9.5A asphalt on 9 different trails (Jalapa, Indiana, Timber Ridge, Rockwood, Bear, Archwood, Wolf Spring, Duwamish, and Shenandoah). The cost of asphalt was \$62.15 per ton. The total cost of asphalt for phase 1 was \$33,245.90.

The staff started the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of this project on July 14, 2020 and completed the project on October 21, 2020. During this phase of the project the staff placed 1,013.37 tons of SM 9.5A asphalt on 13 different trails (Beaver, Cochise, Gilmore, Tecumseh, Hickory, Doe, Maple, Erie, Juniper, Pine, Birch, Cherokee, and Rosenberger. The total cost of asphalt for phase 2 was \$62,980.95.

The staff worked on a total of 22 trails over this time period. They placed 1,548.3 tons of SM 9.5A asphalt at a total cost of \$96,226.85. Grader patching is the costliest activity we do but has the most positive impact on our road system.

## Widening of Trails:

As many of you know, some of the trails in Shawneeland are very narrow. It is very difficult or impossible for 2 vehicles to safely pass on many of these trails.

It has always been my goal to make the trails as safe as possible for all of those that use them. We have worked very hard over the years to maintain and upgrade the trails in Shawneeland. It has been an ongoing task to remove trees and brush, widen shoulders, upgrade drainage, and then widen the driving surface itself. We will continue to widen the trails that have the most negative impact on traffic to ensure safety.

#### **Tree Removal:**

As many of you have noticed, we have lots of trees dying in Shawneeland. The staff will start the dead tree removal project sometime in November. This project will continue throughout the fall and winter months if the weather allows. We have many trees to remove from the right of way throughout Shawneeland. There are a few trees that the Shawneeland staff cannot safely take down therefore we will use the help of a licensed and insured tree contractor to remove those trees.

As always, the wood will be left on the right of way in locations that it is safe to do so. This wood is for Shawneeland residents to take for their own use. If anyone has questions about this, please call the office at (540) 877-1035.

#### **Cherokee Lake:**

On January 23, 2020 the water level of Cherokee Lake was minus 11'5", by May 1, 2020 the lake made a remarkable comeback and was plus 2". For the next 6 weeks the lake stayed around full pool. We experienced a dry spell and the lake level started dropping very rapidly. On July 6, 2020 the lake level was minus 17.5". We also noted that the leak had increased by 15 gallons per minute from 120 gallons to 135 gallons per minute. As of November 4, 2020, the lake level is at minus 10'. We continue to monitor the lake level and leak daily as we have for many years.

## **Emergency Parking:**

As we enter the winter weather season, we want to remind residents to remove vehicles from the right of way and the shoulder of the road as this can hinder the snow removal process. Unfortunately, vehicles parked in these areas can create a safety hazard during the snow removal process and will be towed. During a winter weather event there is emergency parking available at both

mailhouse parking lots and the lot beside the old mailhouse. We would like to thank the residents for their cooperation.

## **Winter Weather Preparations:**

As we do every year before the winter season gets a grip on us, the Shawneeland staff prepares all the snow equipment and stocks up on supplies for the winter weather. We go over every piece of equipment with a very close eye to make sure we are going into the season as prepared as we can be. All repairs that need to be addressed are done at this point. All the snow and ice control chemicals are now stocked up for the first winter weather event.

#### **Public Works:**

The Public Works Department has continued their constant support for Shawneeland by once again donating items that will benefit the Sanitary District. As you know, this past spring the Public Works Department gave Shawneeland about 400 tons of Rip Rap stone and delivered it to our site on Maple Trail at no cost.

Gloria Puffinburger, the Recycle and Solid Waste Manager for the Frederick County Public Works Department donated 18 Bin blocks to the Sanitary District. Bin blocks are concrete blocks that can be used for a variety of things. These blocks cost about \$100 each. In addition, Gloria also donated several hundred feet of chain link fence and gates that were removed from the old Clearbrook convenience site. At some point it is my intention to install the fence around the entire property at the Shawneeland Maintenance Facility. Gloria also donated a Dodge 4x4 pickup truck you see the staff using daily. This truck has been a big help in our daily operations.