



CITY OF WESTMINSTER

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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, June 17, 2009

New Cranberry Water Treatment Plant Grand Opening

The new, state-of-the-art Cranberry Run Water Treatment Plant will be having its grand opening ceremony on Friday, April 24 at 9 am with officiator Robert M. Summers, Deputy Secretary from the State of Maryland Department of the Environment. In addition to a ribbon cutting and tour of the new multi-million dollar facility, there will be refreshments and handouts for attendees. This is part of the Maryland Capital for the Day program that Governor O'Malley started.

Constructed in 1921, and retrofitted during the mid-60s and -70s, the original plant was operating well past its life expectancy. A comprehensive study was performed in 2004 to identify the upgrades necessary for the plant to operate efficiently and meet long-term water quality requirements, after which it was decided to replace the plant.

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The design of the plant, by Watek Engineering Corporation, took into account future growth capacity, while minimizing operation and maintenance costs. The Plant is designed to currently supply 2.75 million gallons per day (MGD) of potable water into the City's distribution system. Simply increasing the number of membrane modules--part of the technological advancements noted as "Best Available Technology" by regulatory agencies--could easily increase the Plant's treatment capacity to 5.0 MGD.

Construction of the new plant started in May 2007. Through the bidding process, Siemens Water Technology was selected as a manufacturer for the equipment and membrane technology, and Conewago Enterprises for the civil work, and building construction and installation of the equipment. In February 2009, the Engineer and the Maryland Department of the Environment accepted the Plant as substantially complete, and since the beginning of February has been consistently producing drinking water that meets and surpasses all state and federal drinking water standards. The City operators are extremely pleased with the plant performance, automation, and product water quality.

Remaining site work, including final pavement and landscaping, are expected be complete by end of May 2009.

For more information, please call Kelley Martin at 410-848-4363.

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