

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FIRE AT HOPEWELL WATER RENEWAL

Hopewell, VA. At approximately 10:30 this morning, contractors working on the sludge holding tank at Hopewell Water Renewal cut a ventilation pipe to remove the pipe as part of a project. Sparks from that cut pipe were drawn into the ventilation system, causing a fire that spread throughout the ventilation system. Fire grew from the basement to the roof via the ventilation pipe.

Hopewell Fire Department, along with neighboring departments responded, and working with Water Renewal staff closed valves and shut down vent fans, and were able to extinguish the fire. The fire and damage was contained primarily to the ventilation pipe, which was in the process of being replaced as part of a capital project.

Water Renewal staff believes that the impact to treatment will be short-lived. There will be no interruption to sewer service to residential or industrial customers.

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